

8TH GRADERS FAREWELL

BY ANA MUNOZ

This school year is coming to a close, sixth and seventh will be expected back at Merrill. But for eighth graders, next year they'll be starting their first year at High School. So, do the eighth graders have any memorable moments at Merrill? Favorite teachers or school lunch food?

"I've always loved language and literature, the teachers from each of my grades were really cool. I also had a really fun time with Meals For The Heartland, it was great to be in." - *Olivia Marsh*

"I really enjoyed the 'freedom' eighth graders had, since we were more mature than sixth and seventh, the staff at Merrill gave us more opportunities than other grades. It was probably the best thing we got here at Merrill." - *Araceli Munoz*

"I loved success for sixth grade, it let us interact and see our old friends again from elementary school. I've met new people here that are my best friends today." - *Layla Sturdevant*

"My favorite class was language and literature, Ms. Johnson was a very cool teacher. For lunch, when I'm having school lunch food, I usually pick my favorite school lunch food, little smokies." - *Chloe Irvine*

Opinion: Should teens be allowed to carry their backpack to their classes? By Chloe Irvine

Teens are carrying more and more things these days; homework and studying becoming an everyday thing. Students are losing room in their binders to study items and school work they need to complete. If students carried their backpacks around, they would have more room to fit in study objects and homework. If the student is devoted enough to their grades, this is a very helpful option. For some people, carrying a backpack around would become a distraction for the working student. And that the backpacks would take up room in the already crowded hallways. That is not always the problem if the student cares about their work then they would not play around with their backpacks. Most teachers would catch them in the act of the student messing with their backpacks. And though the backpacks take up room in the hallways that is going to happen with kids and their binders and folders anyway.

MERRILL GAZETTE MAY EDITION



MINI FEATURE

Mr. King's Acapella Club

Written by Layla Sturdevant

Interview by Hannah Roberts and Phoebe Link

Recently, we interviewed Merrill's up-and-coming acapella club! Although we were only able to sneak in a few questions, it does raise some hopes for the future!

Merrill Gazette: What genre of music do you all do?

Acapella Club: Acapella (meaning, music done completely vocally.)

MG: Do you have any plans to perform this year?

AC: We are going to perform at the end of the year.

MG: How many members do you have?

AC: Around five.

Keep your ears "tuned" for more information about the Acapella Club's upcoming performances!

Summer Music 2017

By Araceli Munoz

The children are on break and the temperature is perfect, which is perfect for musicians to release new songs to their listeners. Some may be bad, and some may be good, but it differs from person to person. But this article is supposed to tell you some upcoming music and dates to get you prepared for your favorite artists or artists to start listening to. In the end, music is just a great thing to get happy for.

Gorillaz; Humanz: April 28th

The Beatles; 'Sgt. Pepper' 50th Anniversary Celebration: May 26th

Blondie; Pollinator: May 5th

Lana Del Rey; Lust for Life: May 26th

Snoop Dogg; Neva Left: May 19th

Roger Waters; Is This The Life We Really Want: June 2nd

Lorde; Melodrama: June 6th

TLC; Unnamed: June 30th

Fall Out Boy; M A N I A: September 15th

Aretha Franklin; Unnamed: Fall 2017

Kanye; Turbograft 16: TBA

Melvins; A Walk with Love and Death: July 7th

Alice Cooper; Paranormal: 2017

Vince Staples; Big Fish Theory: May 19th

Sources:

<http://www.metacritic.com/browse/albums/release-date/coming-soon/date>

<http://sgtpepper.thebeatles.com/>

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MAY FLOWERS

Lulu Marsh

You've all heard the famous saying "April showers bring May flowers" and I'm going to educate you about five flowers you can easily grow this May.

Sunflowers

Location/Time: A sunny spot hopefully outside because they get BIG but you can start out inside and move it outdoors. Sow them after danger of spring frost has past. (continued on page 3)

STUDENT FEATURE- Temple Landry by Phoebe Link and Layla Sturdevant



Temple Landry is an eleven year old, level eight gymnast for Chow's gymnastics. We interviewed her about her gymnastics experiences and accomplishments. We are proud to call her one of Merrill's Mustangs!

Q: When did you start gymnastics?

A: When I was 7.

Q: What is your favorite event? Why?

A: Probably bars. Because I just like flying and being on the bar.

Q: What is the best part of gymnastics for you?

A: Being able to stand on the podium and knowing that I did my best

Q: What is the hardest thing for you?

A: Having hard days, but in the end, knowing the hard ones will make the good ones better.

Q: What would you consider your best accomplishment/any recent ones?

A: This year, at level 8 regionals when I won all of my events.

May Flowers Continued

Directions: Plant seed in a sunny spot and remember to water. Provide something to support the flower once it gets tall enough. They can grow up to 14 feet tall

Nigella

Location/Time: Plant them in bare soil after spring frost is over.

Directions: Scatter their seeds on bare soil and let them do the rest of the work. Nigella or Love in a mist are very tough plants and as the flower is dying it scatters seeds for next season.

Sweet Peas

Location/Time: A sunny spot with a supportive fence. Make sure to keep slugs and snails away so they don't eat the young shoots.

Directions: Plant the large seed in a sunny spot around something that can support the plant. Don't forget to give it plenty of water.

Marigold

Location/Time: Plant marigolds at the start of spring in a nice sunny spot.

Directions: You just plant and take care of the plant. They grow very fast so you don't have a long wait till you see their beautiful bloom. They're many different types of marigolds so you have your choice.

Pansy

Location/Time: you can plant them in late winter or early spring.

Directions: plant them in a sunny area and water them frequently.

With Gratitude...

As the 2016-2017 school year comes to an end, we would like to present you with our final issue. This year's Journalism Club has been nothing short of an adventure and we have enjoyed bringing you the stories that matter to us.

We would like to thank all of those we interviewed, all of those who were loyal readers, and all of those who made this possible!

Thanks to all of you, from all of us!

The 2016-2017 Merrill Gazette Staff