

WDHS CHRONICLES

The Golden Horseshoe Music Festival

By Jenny Fu

This past February, our musical Warriors were at it again. Our immensely hardworking and talented Waterdown District Band was accepted into the Golden Horseshoe Music Festival to participate in the official regional affiliate for MusicFest Canada.

Taking place at Christ the Redeemer College and University from February 17 to 19, student music ensembles from all over Ontario gathered together to perform and experience the wonders of music. The Golden Horseshoe Music Festival is an annual, non-competitive event run by a team of dedicated music educators and supporters. The Festival places a major emphasis on providing a high-quality educational experience for all participating groups. The Festival began in 2006 with esteemed musicians who strived to create a positive and enhancing educational experience for young, musical Hamiltonians. To this day, it still acts as a pivotal event for the enrichment of music all across Southern Ontario schools. The GHMF has a mission: to bring an opportunity for educators to meet, demonstrate and share their musical achievements and creativity.

Our own Waterdown District Band students have been tirelessly working on two complex pieces for this special event. Week after week they have been endlessly practicing and improving their music through group sessions, individual practices and sectionals. The intricacy of these pieces was unlike what they had ever attempted before. The arrangements chosen were “Greek Folk Suite”

by Franco Cesarini and “They Came Sailing-Jacques Cartier Suite” by Andre Jutras both of which proved to be immense challenges. The Greek Folk Suite told the stories of ancient Greek celebrations of joy, sorrow, and love, which created emotional movements in the music. The Jacques Cartier Suite was captivating of his journeys and quests in the build up to his triumph. As all the parts and aspects of the music came together, it truly began to sound like a strong musical ensemble. Working together, the band was able to seamlessly create a melodic unison in both songs.

Come the night of the event, the band was buzzing with excitement; anticipation was seen in everyone’s movements from the tapping of the drummer’s sticks on the stairs to the flutes air-playing and the trombones counting their beats. After being called to stage and tuning all the instruments, the real performance began. The ambiance of the room changed with every shift in the music; the emotions, brilliance and beauty of the songs were projected onto the audience and judges alike. Tremendous applause was received; afterwards the band was put into a workshop and they had the extreme honour of working with a professional clinician who offered astounding insight, improvements and inspiration to the students. The band was complimented on its “astounding working and deliverance of the music” as well as its “dedication to playing and beautiful sound.” A proud second place silver was received.

It still remains as evident as ever that music plays an enormous role in the lives of many from students, educators and supporters alike. The Golden Horseshoe Music Festival was able to bring together the hard efforts and wonderful talents of these students. It brought together a community and showcased the true wonders of music.



The District band playing at the Golden Horseshoe Music Festival.

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Congratulations!

Improv Club

By Tyler Pegg

WATERDOWN- The Improv leaders for next year have been chosen, and the future of Improv rests in their fully capable hands.

A big congratulation goes out to Regan Redshaw and Alex LaPort who have been chosen as the successors of the Improv Club for the 2015 to 2016 year. The current leaders of Improv club- Tyler Pegg and Tobi Stilwell- are now in grade twelve and anticipating their departure from Waterdown High and their arrival to University.

When asked how he felt about choosing the new leaders Pegg said, "With months of thought and debate, Tobi and I decided that Regan and Alex were the best and most logical choices for a duo in leadership. We are confident in our decision and next year should be a great year for Improv."

Stillwell stated, "Both Regan and Alex had shown so much potential in the years we have watched them grow as Improv actors. Ty and I are so excited to have them take our place after we leave."

With that being said, congratulations once again to Regan and Alex, and we wish all the best for Tyler and Tobi in their future endeavors.

It's In You To Give

By Sabrina Elewa

WATERDOWN- Canadian Blood Services took over Waterdown High's school gym as students and teachers took the initiative of donating their much needed blood. On Friday, February 6, CBS came to Waterdown and transformed the gym into an amazing blood clinic!

Much to our despair, the last blood clinic we held did not make it even close to the quota of blood that was required. Thankfully, things went much smoother this time around and we fulfilled our quota with much support from WDHS's Warriors.

When asked what he thought of this year's blood drive, WDHS's student Prime Minister Michael Arnason said, "I'm ecstatic that we were able to meet the quota for donations for the first time in WDHS history."

The blood collected will be distributed to hospitals all around to give to patients. There is a constant need for blood, and when the fact that one unit of blood can give doctors the ability to save three lives is taken into consideration, it becomes easy to realize just how much of an impact we are able to make in other people's lives.

A WDHS student said, "I'm proud to go to a school where a cause as noble as this one gained so much support from teachers and students alike."



PRELIMINARY REPORTS

Progress reports for semester two classes are going home March 5th.

MEET THE TEACHER

On March 12 from 5-7 pm, parents can meet your new semester two teachers.

SPRING DANCE

On March 11 at 7pm, Waterdown will be having a dance to welcome Spring back!

MARCH BREAK

Ready for another long break from school to kick back and relax, or go on an exciting trip, or just enjoy the fact that spring is finally coming back? March Break starts on March 16th.

LITERACY TEST

Grade 10's, get ready for the Literacy Test on March 26th!

SWITZTERLAND/ ITALY & ENGLAND/ IRELAND/SCOTLAND TRIPS

Say goodbye to all the students who were able to take the amazing opportunity to go to Switzerland and Italy or England, Ireland and Scotland over March Break!

Make A Difference

By Kaitlin Devine

WATERDOWN- Mosquito Nets. Two words that seem so irrelevant, but actually have the potential to save millions of lives.

On February 10th 2015, WDHS Interact students sold muffins in the atrium to raise money for an organization called Spread the Net.

Spread the Net is an organization that aims to reduce malaria in the African nations. It only costs \$10 to buy one mosquito net. To some that price may not mean that much, but to others it could mean the world.

“As a Rotarian, I’m very excited by the enthusiasm of our Interactors. They jumped at the idea of supporting Spread the Net and immediately started brainstorming about how to raise money and get the word out. I think the muffin sale was a great idea, and gave the students an opportunity to support the project within their budgets,” Sue Collins, representative from the Waterdown Rotary club, commented.

The Interact students and advisors worked hard the day



B. Luxon
Kaitlin Devine, Sabrina Elewa and Mackenzie Boers baking muffins.



Molly McCleary and Sarah Thomas baking muffins.

before their fundraiser by baking fresh muffins in the Family Studies kitchen for the next day.

Overall, the muffin sale was a huge success. The students of Interact had a great time selling muffins,

especially because they got to witness their peers and teachers show support for not only WDHS, but also for Spread the Net. “Lots of students came to buy muffins which I think they found to be delicious!” said Sara Binnie, a student from the Interact club.

So far the Interact Club has raised quite a bit of money through the muffin sale and the donations from the community. “Both Rotary Clubs have donated,

and individual Rotarians have also gone online to contribute. I’m hoping that the community will get excited by the article in the Review and will want to contribute as well,” Collins said.

If you are interested in donating to Spread the Net, you can donate online at www.spreadthenet.com. Also, the Interact Club is always looking for new members. They meet every first and third Monday of the month, room 1237.



Mr. Draksler and Ms. McEniry enjoy muffins from Interact with Lauren McLennan.

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The Sudden Death Round

By Kaitlin Devine

BURLINGTON- “The Queen of Hearts” took the WDHS Senior girls hockey team to Burlington for a fast-pace hockey tournament.

The girls played in three games and won their division. When they realized they had made it to the semi-finals, the team had to rush to North Wentworth arena, a flurry of excitement.

After a long day of playing in the tournament, the girls were exhausted. However, despite the long and tiresome day, the girls played an amazing game against Westmount’s hockey team.

First to score a goal for WDHS was Jamie Riselay. By the end of a heated game, the score was tied 1-1. Because the score was tied, the game went into a ten minute sudden overtime period Scoring the winning goal was Jamie Bullied.

The coach, Mrs. Long, commented, “I’m very impressed with the girl’s work ethic. Despite the slow start to the beginning of the season, the team really came together at the end by showing great communication and really gelling together.” Unfortunately, the team lost to Saltfleet at the city championships.

Saltfleet is hosting this year’s Southern Ontario Secondary School Athletics tournament (SOSSA) on February 25th, 2015. Since our zone is hosting, the senior girls hockey team received the lucky opportunity to participate in the tournament.

Overall, the girl’s hockey team had a great season, especially by coming in second at the end of the championships! Great job, Warriors!

SOSSA Swimming

By Selah Bishop

HAMILTON- Three selected Waterdown students went head to head in the pool with a group of talented swimmers from all of Southern Ontario’s high schools. On Wednesday, February 11, 2015, Chantell Procnier, Selah Bishop, and Alex Nicu took a trip down to Brock University to compete in 2015’s SOSSA Swimming Competition.

All three students were accepted due to their amazing times in the previous swim meet. They arrived at Waterdown bright and early, 6:45, still half asleep, but excited to swim. Mr. Allen graciously led the team through the day to replace Mr. Carr, their usual swimming coach, who could not make it. Thanks, Mr. Allen!

“It was really intense,” said one of the swimmers. “The atmosphere was a little intimidating. You could tell these people were totally serious about winning. Despite that, it wasn’t as scary as I thought it would be. It was a very interesting experience. I’m really glad I went, it was fun to be with Mr. Allen and the girls.”

Another swimmer felt similarly, “SOSSA was a great experience. It wasn’t as pressuring and as overwhelming as I thought. We just tried our best!”

Chantell Procnier came in 3 out of 11 swimmers in the 50-meter freestyle with a time of 32.23. Wow! Selah Bishop came in 6 out of 11 swimmers in the 50-meter backstroke with a time of 44.76. Alex Nicu, although finishing with an amazing score, was disqualified due to not hitting the wall with both hands in the 50-meter breaststroke. All three swimmers did amazing! However, none will be advancing to the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) championship.

Waterdown is proud of you, girls! Well done!



Selah Bishop, Chantell Procnier, and Alex Nicu at the swimming competition pool.

Outbound's Wanakita Trip

By Molly McCleary

WANAKITA, HALIBURTON- WDHS's Outbound class went on an exciting trip to Camp Wanakita for four-days, from February 17th to the 20th. The trip was full of fun winter activities that helped the class bond and expand their teamwork and leadership skills.



The Outbound class.

The class participated in snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, Quinzee building and much more.

The trip started off with building Quinzees with piles of snow taller than the tallest person in the group. Quinzee's are similar to igloos, but instead of being made with blocks of snow, they are

hollowed out from piles of snow. Later, after dinner, the class participated in a drum circle. The students shared a mess hall with another school from Milton, Ontario and made some friends.

The next day, they cross-country skied, hollowed out the Quinzees and did high ropes. The high ropes course consisted of a tall pole with a teeter-totter on top. Two people went up at a time and bonded through teamwork. After dinner the class went on a ski trip across the lake, which was lit by lanterns. At the end of the ski trip, they built a fire and made hot chocolate.

On Thursday, the class went on a half-day snowshoe trek and built fires for lunch. After snowshoeing, they went skiing, and skating on the lake. Later, they went through another high ropes course. The high ropes course was a tall pole with a platform on top that was a bit larger than a pizza box. Four people had to fit on the platform, which caused the class to bond even more.

Thursday night was supposed to be the night

that the students slept in their Quinzees, but, unfortunately, the instructors did not allow them to. The temperature had dropped to forty below that night. The next day, the class packed up, played a few games and headed home.

A Message from the Student Parliament

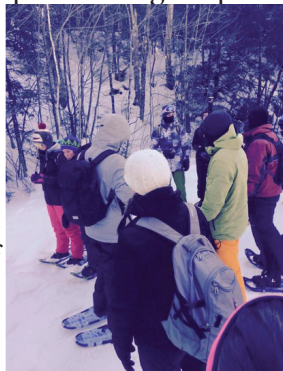
By Tiana Hunter, Minister of Public Relations

Welcome to second semester, Waterdown! Here's to conquering the first half of the school year and all the best wishes for the next few months ahead. Student Parliament took a brief break for the month of January to make time for exams, but we are once again in full swing. February brought a wave of Valentine fever over WDHS, and Student Parliament celebrated by festively decorating the atrium and selling beautiful carnations the week prior to the holiday.

As March brings the first tidings of spring, Student Parliament plans to kick off March Break with our second school dance this year: the spring semi-formal. Wednesday, March 11th from 7pm to 10pm prepare to dance the winter chill away in your spring finest. Tickets will go on sale the week before the dance both lunches in the atrium. Due to the massive success of first semester's homecoming dance, tickets are projected to fly out the door. Buy your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Along with the spring semi-formal, plans are already in the works for the much anticipated May Day celebrations. Get excited, Waterdown!

Student Parliament wishes you an amazing second semester, Warriors!



The Outbound class on their snowshoe trek.

Tips & Hacks

Drive Away This March Break

By Sara Binnie

Bored on March Break? Always doing the same repeated activities? 2015 is the year to try some new activities! These tips for exciting activities will refresh your mind, body and soul, give you a great rush for excitement, and can include friends and family!

Starting at the bottom of the excitement, a relaxing March Break may be exactly what the doctor ordered! To refresh your mind, body and soul, try taking a trip to the spa. Spas can be costly, but can make one feel amazing inside and out. If you're looking for a less costly option comparable to a spa, try an at-home spa experience. All you have to do is buy a bath bomb and a face mask! Face masks are a great way to refresh the face depending on what kind you buy. If you have time to take a bath in the middle of the day, try a 7-day detox that will recharge and refresh your system! Don't forget to do a lot of research to find the best product to buy or the best spa to go to. Now, guys don't be afraid of partaking in any of these ideas as well. Although, you may have a different way of relaxing during this March Break, find some time to go to the gym or maybe play some video games; there is nothing more relaxing than staring at a screen, unless you rage at the game...

Now, address your excitement part and try a day trip! Seeing as winter is here to stay for a while, take a trip to Glen Eden or Blue Mountain to snowboard or ski. While these sports are fun, they help keep your body fit as well. However, if you are not into the whole ski or snowboard trip, try winter camping! Camping brings you into the wild to be one with nature. There is nothing more fun than camping with your besties, even if it is only in someone's backyard. If none of this thrills you, you are definitely an indoor person, which is great for this time of year. There are many different activities to do indoors this season to pump up your adrenaline, for example, indoor skydiving! In Niagara you can go skydiving indoors; you put on a suit and go into a vertical wind tunnel. It is a great activity to do with family and friends! Check out this website to find out more information: <http://www.niagarafreefall.com/freefall/ff-about.html>

If you are going away this March Break somewhere warm, everyone is jealous of you! But in reality, you need to pack! All of your summer clothes are packed away and totally last year... What to do? Well, just mix and match! Do a little shopping and mix and match with "last years" outfits to create your own style! Make sure to pack only the necessities first to get those out of the way to make room for that cute bathing suit you bought to hopefully impress someone on your trip!

I hope everyone has a great March Break this year and don't forget to relax, unless you receive homework...

It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

By Sara Binnie

Option sheets have snuck their way into our lives once again, when we must choose what our whole life will be like next year. Such a big decision... However, we must pull through it and choose our courses wisely. Here are some tips for picking your courses for next year and some advice on which courses are best for you.

First, a student has to pick which academic level they want to study at for their mandatory courses. For Grade 10's, mandatory courses are English, Mathematics, Science, Canadian History, and Civics and Careers. For Grade 11's, English and Mathematics and for Grade 12's, only English is mandatory. Starting in Grade 11, courses are measured by U (university), M (university and college, mixed), C (college), and E (workplace). Throughout Grade 9, 10, 11 and 12, O (open) is used. Most students judge which level they will choose depending on what mark they received on that same course last year. For example, if a student received a 55% in Academic English in grade 9, then they may choose to take Applied English in Grade 10. However, if you choose to drop to an Applied or College level, you cannot level up to Academic or University the next year unless you take that previous course in a higher level in the summer.

Continued on next page

Make sure to choose wisely in these courses, especially for English and Mathematics because they will most likely be courses that you will need for University or College. Most Universities require a 70% in English.

The next step is to pick electives which are the non-mandatory courses you would like to take. Electives can include, but are not limited to: Food and Nutrition, Physical Education, Fashion, Cosmetology, Construction, etc. When you start to pick electives for grade 11 and 12 you should at least have a slight idea of what you want to do later on in life so these courses can prepare you for University, College, or the Workplace.

The last piece of advice for all of the students picking courses for next year, DON'T be afraid to try online courses! Online courses are a great way to be independent! Also, if a course that you would like to take is not available in class, then your guidance counsellor can check to see if that course is being offered online! This way is a great way to take the courses you want!

Be sure to find out what courses you need and if you need certain prerequisites as well. Choose wisely and have fun!

Extra-Credit Courses

ConneXions

By Sabrina Elewa

ConneXions is a program offered at WDHS. The program gives senior students the opportunity to explore social justice and go on a journey of self-discovery. The program is made up of three grade twelve courses offered in both university and college level. The courses are World Geography, Interdisciplinary Studies and English.

In Interdisciplinary Studies the students will learn about the history of South America by studying Columbus and his case. The students will also look at multiple movies and discuss the social issues that these movies cover. Meanwhile, in World Geography the students will learn about the different political spectrums, and they will take a hard look at capitalism and hyper capitalism and try to understand what roles they play in our world. Lastly, in English the students will read two books, *The Book of Negroes*, where the students will make connections with the book to other social justice issues they learn about, and a book of their choice with which they will do the same.

Putting the in-class learning aside, the ConneXions

program gives the students the opportunity to learn and get experience through a variety of trips. The ConneXions class will have the chance to visit Simpler Thyme Organic Farm in Flamborough, visit the Mission Services and get a tour around Hamilton, and go on a two-week volunteer trip to a host community in Latin America with Canada World Youth.

For more information about the ConneXions program visit: <http://www.connexionswdhs.org/> or speak to Mr. Smith or Mr. Bishop for questions.

Outbound

By Molly McCleary

Outbound is a four credit outdoor course for grade twelves. The credits are science, English, geography and outdoor phys-ed. The course is filled with leadership, teamwork and outdoor experiences. The course includes three four-day trips; Camp Wanakita, Algonquin Canoe trip and Bruce trail hiking trip. The course offers many certifications including Wilderness first aid. The Outbound students also run a day camp for grade five students called Earthkeepers. If you are committed to study and are enthusiastic about the outdoors, this is the right course for you. There is an application process for this course including a questionnaire and interview. The prerequisites are a 3U science and a 3U English.

Compass

By Mackenzie Boers

Compass is a similar course to Outbound, but for grade elevens. It is a two-credit course, the credits consisting of geography and outdoor gym. Included is two trips: one being a canoe trip through Algonquin and the other a trip to an Ecology centre. Through this course, students will learn to use and understand the environment to the best of their abilities, learning how to geocache and how to use night goggles. Students will connect with the environment and their class throughout the course.



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♻️ Please recycle this newspaper.
#savetheworld

Editorial

After High School

By Mackenzie Boers

Next year, many Warriors will be leaving high school and will be going off into the Big World. Some might choose to take another year of high school. Some might want to take a gap year and some might become an apprentice. Others will be going to university and college. By this time, most students will probably have decided what they want to do next year- school, gap year...- and that choice all depends on what you want to do in the future.

What you do in your future has to be your own choice. Many adults like to push students towards attending university right after high school, but sometimes university doesn't suit students. University is a lot of academic and independent work while college is more hands-on. Finding out what you love to do is the first step to deciding what course you want to take and after that comes the decision between whether or not you want to go to college or university, then what school you want to go to, plus a million other choices concerning your future, not just including school. While choosing what to do after high school, you shouldn't rush into a choice or be pressured into going to school right after graduating secondary.

Gap years are becoming more and more popular, because of a variety of reasons. Students might not know what they want to do with their lives, or they might want to work to save up more money for school or for a house. Even wanting to travel, to experience the world, is a nice reason for wanting to take a gap year after high school. There can be many other reasons why taking a gap year is a good idea too. That year will give students a much longed-for break from school, plus other perks, but most of all, a gap year will help to determine who you are and what it is that you really love to do that could turn into an enjoyable career.

However, if a student doesn't want to stop their education for a year or two and wants to figure out possible career choices while still attending school, take a Victory lap in high school. Don't spend carefully saved money on going to college or university for a program that you aren't even sure you're interested in. During a Victory lap, one could retake a course, because he's interested or because he wants to raise his previous mark, or take a Co-op and see what the workplace is like for something that he's interested in. If you know what you want to do though, but you don't want to go to school, Apprenticeships are always another option. Apprenticing is like taking a Co-op, but you can "earn while you learn". It's a good way to really gain experience in the workplace that you're interested in.

Overall, we are free to choose what we want to do with our lives after high school. We'll need help along the way into the Big World, with taxes or maybe just laundry, but that doesn't mean others can plan our whole, entire futures out for us. We need a career that we'll enjoy, not a career that someone chose for us. Our future belongs to us.

Creative Corner



Poetry

Hard to breathe
Weird to touch
Acting normal
Think too much

Trying hard
To figure out
Moving onward
Engulfed in doubt

Don't look back
Too much pain
And in fact
Nothing to gain

Filled with knots
Wasted time
A penny for my thoughts
I deserved a dime

Who's to say what's true
I never said I was right
Guess I never knew
It's not worth the fight

Thinking about before
Don't know who I was
Could have closed the door
And never been an "us"

Said you would stay
Promised you could
Chose to walk away
I knew you would

Everything was fine
Said we'd never part
Knew it was a lie
But gave you my heart

I'll take the blame
I always do
I played your game
You lost too

I know you know
There's more to give
You were a stepping stone
I have a life to live

Hard to love
Weird to trust
Have to move on
I'm over us.

By Tyler Pegg, Grade 12

Living things are mysterious:
Humans and their secret thoughts
locked away from prying eyes.
The howl of a wolf running free,
Trees growing strong, reaching for the skies.

And dying things are mysterious:
Leaves falling, crunching under heavy feet.
A river, once strong, running dry.
The fading notes of a melancholy song.
The final heaving sigh.

By Mackenzie Boers, Grade 12

sharp metal screeching
crawling down the empty corridor
a blooming golden iris withering-
imploding upon itself on the showcase for all to see
a shriek of distress
muted by a deep mechanical requiem
stinging on the skin-
scrubbing ferociously into raw skin
sunlight soars through the skylight-
frozen in the fluorescent haze

By Matt Gergyek, Grade 12

The moon holds a certain light
That saves the damned on their darkest night
When the claws of despair,
rip you 'till you're bare
When the teeth of pain
pick at your brain
When the candle has diminished
And you feel you are finished
The moon will wrap you in it's arms
To keep you away from all life's harms.

By Rachel Lee, Grade 12

The waves crash the shore
strong and hard
white capped they consume
all those aboard.

tossing and turning
Filling all open space

A once sturdy vessel
gone without a trace

Eyes open wide from a deep sleep
Tired yet panicked

Just a dream
it's just a dream

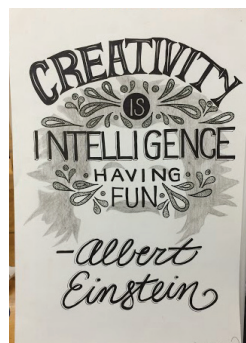
By Mike Howlett, Grade 12

Art By The Students

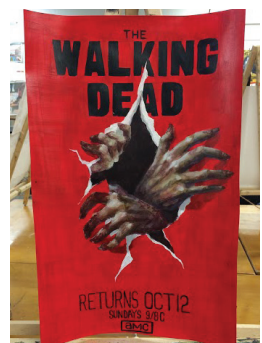
By Haylie Dittrich, Grade 12



By Sonya Chen, Grade 10



By Sam Hewick, Grade 12



By Maddy Kenney, Post-Grad

Horoscopes

By Tyler Pegg

Aries (March 21st to April 19th)



When it comes to love and desire, and even money, there is a lot going on behind the scenes and much focus on the past this month, dear Aries. You are reconciling and processing your feelings, and you might have a strong feeling that you are on the verge of an important change - something big. Because of a mix-up involving a friend, dream, or plan, everyone may be confused. After this confusing period of time, you should feel more confident and “in the know” about what to expect (and what not to expect) from people around you, and clearer about your goals as well.

Taurus (April 20th to May 20th)



The month is busy both professionally and publicly for you, Taurus. There is a lot of sizzle and creative energy with friends and friends of friends, and for some of you, romantic opportunities through connections. You want to shine both personally and professionally with your loved ones and with your reputation with others, and both drives are strong. However, there is only so much you can do in a day, a week, and a month. You can't be everything to everyone without something suffering, so find ways to strike a compromise.

Gemini (May 21st to June 20th)



The month can begin with a fair amount of indecision and a state of limbo, dear Gemini. The tense part of this month may have to do with a desire to take charge, lead, and direct, and you may need to tone things down a little if some friends feel unconsidered. This is also a very ripe time for “birthing” new ideas, plans, and goals that are especially unique, creative, and innovative. Your desire to start something new, to innovate, and to go your own way is powerful.

Cancer (June 21st to July 22nd)



This month brings nice energy for attracting good things to you, Cancer, but while you're coming across as more confident than usual, there is a lot going on under the surface of things. For some of you, there could be a tug of war going on with money or power. If either has been mishandled, you'll see it clearly now and recognize the need for change. Perhaps you want to leave something behind and start fresh now. If conditions have been difficult or intolerable, you might come to a quick decision to go in an entirely new direction. You certainly have more spunk and creative power at this time, and you can really benefit from putting yourself “out there”.

Leo (July 23rd to August 22nd)



Relationships, and especially partnerships, can be in strong focus this month, dear Leo. Recent excesses can come to light, and you may discover that some people in your life are feeling left out or unconsidered. This is a strong month for putting things back into balance. An impulsive new attitude can stimulate a sweeping decision, as the desire to start fresh is strong, and putting an end to a difficult situation may seem to be the only option. You are becoming more and more disciplined these days, particularly when it comes to creative efforts, and the benefits of this are especially evident now.

Virgo (August 23rd to September 22nd)



There can be a strong focus on work, health, and relationships this month, Virgo. Health and/or work matters can be a concern, and there can be some muddle, confusion, or feeling as if you are falling behind. Sooner rather than later it becomes easier to handle these things directly and confidently. This can be a time when you're finding new ways to express yourself. If you're hungry for excitement in your life, this can be the time to find it, as there will be some drama and plot twists occurring now, there can also be some impulsiveness and friction. You can't do it all, and you'll need to find ways to live a healthier, more balanced life.

Libra (September 23rd to October 22nd)



There can be a strong focus on work, health, and relationships this month, Virgo. Health and/or work matters can be a concern, and there can be some muddle, confusion, or feeling as if you are falling behind. Sooner rather than later it becomes easier to handle these things directly and confidently. This can be a time when you're finding new ways to express yourself. If you're hungry for excitement in your life, this can be the time to find it, as there will be some drama and plot twists occurring now, there can also be some impulsiveness and friction. You can't do it all, and you'll need to find ways to live a healthier, more balanced life.

Scorpio (October 23rd to November 21st)



The delicate balance between attention to home and family life and focus on professional or “outside” responsibilities can be in strong focus this month, dear Scorpio. Ease up on the pressure you put on yourself to shine in both areas. You have stronger energy and motivation for really getting things done. The goal is to make your everyday life more interesting, pleasurable, creative, and exciting. If you've been undecided about a project, a move, or a personal change, the energy of an impulsive month will push you forward.


Sagittarius (November 22nd to December 21st)




In some ways this month, the cosmos are asking you to slow down a little and to curb recent excesses in order to get yourself back on track, Sagittarius, particularly if you've been focusing a little too much on activities that take you away from daily responsibilities and friends to focus on yourself. You've taken on so many extra projects that you're close to a point of burnout. You're being encouraged to stir up some excitement, especially in your personal life, on the home front, with family, in your creative pursuits, and for some, romantic relationships so take advantage of this period for expressing your more playful side.

Continued on next page

Capricorn (December 22nd to January 19th)


 You are bringing extra creativity to your communications and mental pursuits this month, Capricorn, and you're ready to mix things up a little. In fact, you might often take the lead when it comes to reaching out to others to make a connection and initiating conversations. There can be times when you're a little too quick or anxious to present new ideas, the important thing is that you're feeling inspired. Even so this month, there can be some reality checks if you've been over-estimating the time and energy you have for some projects. If you've been overshooting, particularly in your intimate life, or you've been spending or borrowing too much, it's a time for making some important adjustments to get yourself back on track.

Aquarius (January 20th to February 18th)

 February can be an exciting and impulsive month for you, Aquarius, and it's a time for new beginnings. Relationship drama is possible, but let's face it, there has been a lot of focus on you and your needs, and it's time to balance things out a little. Be careful with money this month. Although you're getting wonderful new ideas about what you want, how to make money, and how to spend money, you're inclined to overdo

in these areas. Your more impulsive side is alive and well. Within this month, you want to come out a winner on a mental level, with your studies, and in your communications. This is a competitive time, ideally pleasantly so, and you can use this to your advantage by pushing yourself mentally to succeed in school and with your interests, to learn more, and to begin new and exciting projects.

Pisces (February 19th to March 20th)

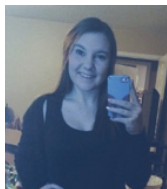
 Much of the month, the focus is on you, dear Pisces. Your desires, needs, and wants seem crystal clear. Your personal magnetism is through the roof. It's powerful, and palpable. You're giving much of yourself, taking on a lot of work and daily activities, and enjoying the process, but there will come a point when you realize something has to give. Even though you are not necessarily seeing the full picture in terms of where you're headed, you're carrying yourself as if you do, and everyone else seems to think you do. People want to be around you and share some space with you this month.



CLASSIFIED



Birthdays



Kennedy Hartmier,
February 4, 1997

*"Happy birthday to the craziest and funniest girl out there!! We love you Kendawg."
~The Cult*



Quinn Johnson,
February 6, 1997



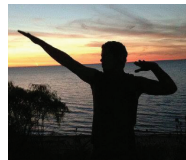
Tyler Pegg,
February 12, 1997

*"Four years of knowing each other, and we still can't get along perfectly. But maybe that's why this friendship is so fun. But you're a partner, a friend and a big part of my life, as well as others. Happy Birthday, and welcome to the adult world."
~Tobi*



Mike Howlett,
February 21, 1997

*"Happy Birthday Mike!! Love you and hope you have a fabulous birthday! You have to get older, but you don't have to grow up! One more great year, and so many memories! Happy Birthday!"
~Sam Hewick*



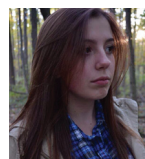
Ben Hepburn,
February 27, 1997



Haylie Dittrich,
March 19, 1997



Cody Shilliday,
March 19, 1997

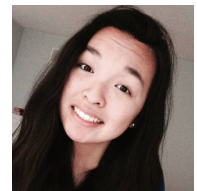


Rachel Johnson,
March 23, 1999



Allie Rowe,
March 29, 1997

*"Happy birthday Allie! Love you and hope you have the most amazing birthday!"
~Raelene Rohr*



Jenny Fu,
March 30, 2000

*"Happy birthday. Jenny! Hope you have a chicken nugget filled day! Loads of love, xoxo."
~Storm, Saskia, Rebecca*

ENTERTAINMENT

Book and Movie Reviews

The Imitation Game

By Jenny Fu

“The Imitation Game” - your typical, big Hollywood movie about the most atypical man. Benedict Cumberbatch and Keira Knightley star in the Oscar winning film exploring the difficulties in Alan Turing’s life, predominately in the relationship between his awful childhood and decoding of “Enigma” during the Second World War.

Based on the real life of legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing, the film gives a nail-biting performance of Turing and his intelligent team of code-breakers along with Joan Clarke at Britain’s top-secret Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, during the dark days of WWII. Turing faces an endless struggle against a homophobic society, which eventually leads to his early death. His life consisted of one mission: creating a ‘universal machine.’ Without Turing’s work on his Enigma breaking machine, we would not have modern artificial intelligence.

Bold and extremely complex, Benedict Cumberbatch represented the torturous life of Alan Turing very well. He portrays arrogance so true to the character, yet empowers his weaknesses and vulnerabilities- a perfect mess of a man. Keira Knightley, though playing one, is anything but a supporting role. She brings a dangerous atmosphere to the film; her character is challenging, proud, stubborn and independent- a great contrast to Cumberbatch’s otherwise lonely act.

The Imitation Game is exhilarating and dramatic: from its screenplay to music to film techniques and character development. This film will engage you on three levels: the way the Nazis managed to deceive the rest of the world until Turing came along, how his giant machine (essentially the world’s first computer) will work, and what will happen to him and everyone he knows when his past is finally discovered.

Half-Blood Blues

By Sabrina Elewa

Half-Blood Blues is a fictional novel written by Canadian writer Esi Edugyan. The book is a narrative focused around the journey of Sidney Griffiths. Half-Blood Blues is a Holocaust story with a twist, the novel shows how war doesn’t only kill people, but it also kills creativity. Half-Blood Blues is a story of the human desire to belong, the lengths jealousy can drive us to, and the artistic urge to create, even in the face of terror.

The story is told by Sidney Griffiths, a black jazz musician who lives in Europe as WWII begins. Some readers may find Sidney a very difficult character to like because of his personality and actions. Sidney gets extremely jealous of any musician who is more talented than he is and he is always trying to find a way to push himself to the top.

All throughout the book, Esi Edugyan has a well-drawn narrator who openly acknowledges his flaws and mistakes, yet the character does not stir any emotions in the reader. The one thing that stops the reader from giving Half-Blood Blues five stars is the rushed ending.

Upcoming Music and Art Festivals

Digital Dreams -- June 27 & 28 2015, Ontario Place, Toronto
Digital Dreams is one of the largest events of EDM music in the country, with talented amazing DJs, a fun and positive atmosphere and a great crowd. Armin Van Buuren will headline this year’s event.

VELD -- August 1 & 2 2015, Downsview Park, Toronto
VELD music festival brings electronic artists for a two-day concert to Toronto. Deadmaus5 and Hardwell will headline this year’s event.

WayHome -- July 24-26, 2015, Burl’s Creek Event Grounds, Barrie, Ontario

WayHome is a new event; the festival will have special performances by Sam Smith, Kendrick Lamar and alt-J.

Field Trip -- June 6 & 7, 2015, Fort York, Toronto
Field Trip is an international relevant Toronto music and arts festival. Alabama Shakes and My Morning Jacket will headline this year’s event.

Osheaga -- July 31-August 2015, Parc Jean Drapeau, Montreal
Osheaga is an indie music festival; the festival takes place on five stages with various audience. Headliners include Arctic Monkeys, Skrillex, Lorde and many more.