

A BITE OF BAY HEAD

BHS NEWS, ARTICLES, EVENTS, AND
MORE!



BHS Holiday Weekend

By: Seamus Dolan

The holiday season inspires people all across the globe to join hands in celebrating everything we are thankful for. Recently, Bay Head took part in that tradition by holding their annual Christmas in Bay Head Celebration on Friday, December 1.

The entirety of Bridge Avenue was light up with holiday spirit. Local businesses facilitated open houses, allowing for people to roam in and out spread the joy among their neighbors. Carolers at Charlie's performed many different holiday tunes and underneath hot chocolate and holiday cheer was exchanged between the citizens of Bay Head. You could even say "hi" to Santa or meet Elsa from *Frozen*!

And of course, the Bay Head School Performance brought a large crowd as the new BHS music teacher Mr. Espinosa played a number of Christmas classics such as *Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree*, *Feliz Navidad*, *Hallelujah*, and

Christmas Baby Please Come Home at the Firehouse along with some of the students of BHS. Mr. Espinosa believes that the event was a success and has stated, "I think continuing the tradition of a small ensemble at Christmas in Bay Head would be really cool."

The very next day BHS got even more involved in spreading holiday cheer. On Saturday December 2nd

the annual Santa Breakfast, a fundraising event for an 8th grade trip to Radio City, brought in many families ready to be served by 8th grade students giving back to the community they know and love.

The event lasted from about 9 am to 11 am and it was completely run by 8th grade students and parents. Mrs. Fallivene, the 5th grader teacher at BHS and the 8th grade advisor has stated, "All in all I thought it was a great success," about the event. And about the student volunteers, "The 8th grade did an excellent job setting up this year. I got a lot of compliments from parents and community members saying the students were extremely polite, respectful and very helpful."

The ways in which Bay Head celebrates the holiday season brings together the entire town into one festive event that benefits the businesses, citizens, and students and allows people come together as a community, embrace the holiday spirit, and live life to the fullest!



Overview of Events

The Bay Head School has had a fantastic couple months. We have done so many activities to bring us closer together and put us into the holiday spirit. The 8th grade went on a trip to Washington D.C. with the Lavalette, which was a great bonding and educational experience for everyone! December 1 was the annual Christmas in Bay Head Celebration, and the 2nd was the Pancake Breakfast to raise money for the 8th grade. Using the money that they earned from the breakfast, they went to Radio City to see the rockettes perform, which was an enjoyable day for all. The BHS Positive Partners did an activity together to promote giving to others during the holiday season by creating shark ornaments, and designating the gift someone should buy for someone in need. The winter concert was a huge success, and all of the classes are having holiday parties. Everyone at BHS is in the holiday spirit!

Hidden Figures Day

By: Seamus Dolan

Protecting people's rights is important, but it is also just as important to spread that message of equal rights and to remember the times when things weren't perfect in order to prevent those events from happening again. Bay Head took part in this movement by having an entire day focused on that idea where the material came from several different perspectives and topics. From Mahasta Kooshi's inspiring first hand experience of inequality in the workplace to Tom Timko's interesting lecture about the NASA space program to the hidden Figures movie, it was a great experience that brought together many people's personal stories and a large historical movement together to teach one simple idea: equality.

The day was centered around the Hidden Figures movie, telling the story of three young black women working at NASA, each with their own story of persecution and mistreatment by white male superiors. Katherine Johnson, the main character, goes from being just another human computer at 1960s NASA to working on trajectory calculations that contributed greatly to the launch of the first American, John Glenn, into our planet's orbit. Dorothy Vaughan becomes the first black female supervisor for NASA working with a coding division whose job was to program new and advanced IBM supercomputers. Mary Jackson becomes the first black female engineer who helps design the spacecraft that John Glenn uses to fly out and back into the Earth atmosphere.

The movie brought together all the different viewpoints and historical events the middle school students were learning about in class into one fun, relaxing, and extremely educational day that everyone enjoyed. In addition to that it shows the hidden brains behind one of the largest operations in our country's history, the Mercury Space Program. In class the middle school students at BHS have been learning about this and so much more. They have learned about the Civil Rights Movement, inequality in the workplace relating to women in the 1960s, the characters in the movie, the Baha'i Faith (talked about extensively by Mahasta Kooshi), and the beginning of NASA and our space program.

8th grader Haley Nelson says, "We've been learning about the Civil Rights Movement and the Mercury Space program extensively in class so it was a great experience for us to be able to relate this information to guest speakers and the movie, which allowed me to view history and my life differently."

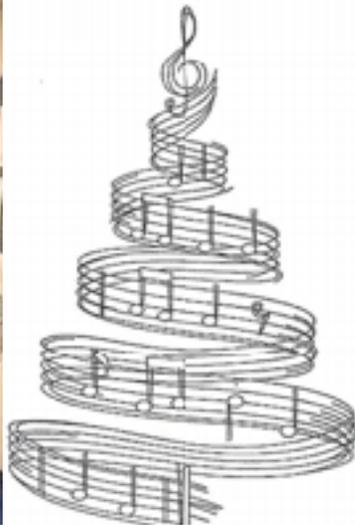
The speakers added a new level of realism as they could share their individual stories with the students and share their knowledge with them. Tom Timko from NASA shared his knowledge of the space program and just exactly how the space program works. His fascinating experiment also kept the students' interest up. Mahasta Kooshi's inspiring story of breaking down barriers and never giving up left everyone in the audience thinking. She spoke about how the persecution of the Baha'is in Iran forced her out of her home and to the U.S. where she slowly worked over many years of struggle for an education, a career, and finally respect.

The breakout discussions were an interesting part of the day which split the Bay Head students and visiting Lavalette 8th graders into groups to answer a series of questions about the day and its contents. One such question was, "How does the treatment of the African Americans during the Civil Rights Movement relate to how the Jews were treated during the Holocaust?" This gave the students time to reflect on what they had learned throughout the day and socialize with other students they may not be familiar with. Mr. Kennedy, the middle school social studies teacher has said, "The breakout groups were great because now we could take what Mahasta Kooshi was talking about and share our own ideas about these topics with other students."

Overall the day was a great success because the students enjoyed it, everyone learned something new and we all came out thinking how we could help prevent persecution in our own community. The whole idea of the day is summed up in one quote from 6th grader Nick Solarte stating, "It's important to recognize a problem so we can overcome it." At the end of the day this whole event was to teach the students that persecution can come in many forms and everyone, even us, can make a difference in our community and impact the lives of others.



The BHS Basketball teams are off to a great start! Make sure to show your school spirit by cheering our teams on! You can find a schedule of the games on our school website. Go Sharks!



Letter From the Editor

I can't believe how fast the year is going so far. We have done so many great things, and learned so much. Among my favorite things were the trip to Washington D.C., the Positive Partner Giving Tree Activity, and the Winter concert. The newspaper team wants to wish everyone a happy, and healthy holiday, and many opportunities in the new year!

- Emily Jones

Winter Concert

Bay Head School winter concert was held on Wednesday, December 13 and everybody was filled with fantastic holiday spirit! To start off the event the BHS band played "Jolly Old St. Nick", "Silent Night", and "Rudolf the Red-nosed Reindeer". This generated a great amount of positive energy and really got people in the holiday spirit. Fifth grader Abigail Jones, a percussionist said, "I think that the concert was a huge success. I think that the band sounded great and that we really got people in the holiday spirit," about her experience at the concert.

Next the kindergarten through second grade chorus sang "Jingle Bells", and "Frosty the Snowman." They really lit up the stage with their festive holiday attire, and big smiles! They were a real treat for everyone in the audience! Next to take the stage was the third through fifth grade group. They performed "Jingle Bell Rock" and "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch". They certainly put a smile on everyone's face with their winter spirit and funny song lyrics.

Then, the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades joined the fifth grade to sing "Light a Candle." This was definitely a crowd pleaser because it embraced many different religious holidays into one great holiday song.

Then, the fifth grade left and the sixth through eighth grade sang, "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree". Their last song was "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town", which was complete with a wonderful saxophone solo from Trevor Kalb. The eighth grade class had input into the songs they got to sing for their last concert, so everybody enjoyed listening to them. Lastly, the entire school sang "Run Rudolph Run" as their finale song.

The concert was a perfect demonstration of organization, planning, and holiday spirit. Mr. Espinosa put on a fantastic show, and when he was asked about the event he said, "I was very pleased with the participation and performance of all students throughout the school in both the band and the choral section of the show. I would like to thank everyone including the faculty for helping make my first holiday concert the best it could be."

Interview with Mr. Venero

There have been a lot of new faces at BHS this year. One of them is the Spanish teacher, Mr. Venero. I interviewed him so that we could all learn more about him!

Q: How long have you been a Spanish teacher?

A: This is my 11th year as a Spanish teacher.

Q: What is your favorite part of being a teacher at BHS?

A: The students. Not only trying to teach them Spanish, but hopefully trying to instill a love of learning a different language, acceptance of how other people around the world are, and for them to understand although there may be differences there may be more similarities that connect us.

Q: Was Spanish or English your first language?

A: My native language is Spanish. I was born in a tiny, farming village on the coast of Spain. I learned English when I was 6.

Q: What are some of your hobbies and favorite activities?

A: I love to travel, go to new places, meet new people, and cook. I have my favorite recipes from Spain, but I enjoy making new recipes from all parts of the world.

Q: What do you think is the best reason is for someone to learn Spanish?

A: It's a language that is spoken in many parts of the world, it is nice to know it for travel in the Americas, and in the US it is important for both social and business reasons. This is because the US would rank third in the world if it were a Spanish-speaking country in total population of Spanish speakers. Another reason is that even if we just teach Spanish at Bay Head students may want to pursue other languages as well which is a good thing to do.

Q: How does teaching compare to your other jobs?

A: I have had non profit, government, corporate, and small business jobs, but teaching is probably one of the most rewarding and challenges jobs I have had.

Bay Head Beat

What is one of your favorite holiday traditions?

K- (Charlotte Recchia): Spending time with family, decorating my Christmas tree, and singing holiday songs!

5- (Abigail Jones): Having all of my family come over and exchanging presents!



7- (Trevor Kalb) One of my favorite Hanukkah traditions is playing dreidel with my family.

8- (Haley Nelson): Making m&m pancakes on Christmas morning with my family before opening gifts!

Staff- (Ms.Wills): Decorating the Christmas tree with my family!

Winter Themed Jokes

By: Karris Robertson

1. What did the snowman order at Wendy's?
- A Frosty
2. What do you get when you cross a Pine Tree with an apple?
- A pineapple
3. Where do Frosty and his wife go to dance?
- Snowballs!
4. What do reindeer say before telling a joke?
- This one will sleigh you!



Fun Facts About Winter

- Every snowflake has six sides.
- The coldest temperature ever recorded on Earth was -128 degrees. The temperature was measured on Antarctica in 1983.
- In 1836 Alabama was the first US state to recognize Christmas as a holiday.
- In Hebrew, the word Chanukah means "dedication."
- Kwanzaa has seven symbols that represent concepts of African culture. The symbols represent faith, unity, collective responsibility, creativity, purpose, cooperative economics and self-determination.



Riddles

1. I can swim or walk for miles. I'm big with thick, white hair. I live up in the Arctic. I am a _____
A: Polar Bear!
2. I'm usually made of colored yarn, by someone who is knitting, unless one's lost I come in pairs. Of course I am a _____
A: Mitten!

