



# The Northern Bark

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## ANOTHER HUGE VICTORY FOR NORTHERN!!!



Logan Yommer [Center], Cayleb Broadwater [Right], Ryan Weimer [Left]

### Hurricane Matthew destroys Haiti in its path of destruction

By Heritage Hamp

Hurricane Matthew is proving to be as ruthless as Katrina was 11 years ago. It is a category 4 hurricane and went through Haiti, just passed through Cuba, and is headed for mainland US. Matthew has started to affect Florida early Thursday. Newscasters everywhere are calling for flash flooding and mudslides.

The death count is over 280 people so far; most of them being in Haiti and 4 in the Dominican Republic. The missing number is also increasing with an unknown count. Hurricane Matthew is turning over cruises and occupied boats. The cruise ships that have not been hit (continued on page 2)

The homecoming game was a huge success to all the players and the coaches, as Northern ran trampled Brunswick last Friday night. A big thanks goes out to the student section from the players for cheering them on through the rain and cold. On the night of October 1st the boys headed into the game with smiles and confidence and a 4-0 record, which is now a 5-0 record. Coach Carr's view of the game was, "It is always a great feeling to win the homecoming

game! We did a great job preparing for the railroaders as was evident by the score. It was a great opportunity for all of our players to contribute to the victory." Some of the stats of the game included Caleb Broadwater leading the offense with 3 touchdowns and 144 yards rushing. Logan Yommer also connected with Ryan Weimer on a 22 yard touchdown pass. Caleb King, Keygan Broadwater and Nate Durst also ran for a touchdown in

On defense, Peyton Carr returned an interception 50 yards for a touchdown and James Lewis recovered a fumble in the end zone for 6 points. Leading tacklers were Ryan Weimer and Sam Beeman with 9 each. According to team member Peyton last name-"It went well, fun despite the rain, and this is what we prepared for all week." "The student section was lit", says senior quarterback Ryan

Ryan Weimer, "It's the best reason our side of the bleachers is always packed because our school and team spirit is what gets the boys and any team sport pumped for a big game." Being prepared for this game and knowing what to do made it so that the boys were alert and didn't let a single thing the railroaders did slip through their fingers. The final score was 63-0. Good job boys!"

By Karen Beiler

## Hurricane Matthew

(continued)

have declared a state of emergency and changed courses to keep out of the storm's path. The small houses on land are being torn to shreds as people are forced to flee to shelters, as their homes are no longer safe. The storm is moving upwards of 120mph, and 40 inches of rain are expected to be dropped on Haiti by the time the storm passes. All of the standing rain will cause hoards of mosquitoes to swarm in and potentially spread zika and cholera across the nation again, right after the people just got over a cholera epidemic from six years ago, caused by an earthquake. Military families have been to be airlifted from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to Florida to avoid the risk of exposure to the storm. The entire East coast is expected to be affected by the storm, even if Matthew does not hit land. People are evacuating from Florida to South Carolina and the surrounding areas just to remain safe.

## Northern Spotlight: The New King of Northern

By Abby Burdock

If you went to the homecoming game or attended the dance you probably saw Howard (Hao Fang). You might not have known who he was or where he came from but you definitely saw him crowned homecoming king. Although Fang has only been a student at Northern for a little over a month, he was crowned homecoming king by the student body. Howard says he was "very surprised" he won the vote. Hao Fang, more commonly known as Howard, is one of two foreign exchange students new to Northern this year. Howard is originally from Taiwan and impressively speaks multiple languages. When asked how he likes his new school Fang responded simply, "It's perfect here. The people are nice, kind, and generous". Howard was quick to make friends in this new country, winning over both peers and teachers. Olivia Bennett, senior, describes him as "nice, friendly, and a good sport". Olivia is just one of many friends he has made this year. His Theatre I teacher, Mrs. Virts, says, "He is very upbeat and willing to look foolish. He dances and sings throughout the entire class". At the dance on Saturday, Howard danced in front of a cheering crowd to Justin Bieber's song "As Long as You Love Me" making both the students and the DJ smile. Along with singing and dancing, Howard also enjoys sports. When asked what his

Howard Feng seen here with Homecoming Queen Jinny Warn



favorite pastimes were he instantly responded, "Sports. Basketball is my life". Fang hopes to join the rest of the Huskies on the court this basketball season. After only a month on a new continent, along with being immersed into a new culture, and country that speaks a completely different language, Howard has quickly assimilated. Fang went from new student to new king.

## Slice of Advice

By Emily James

Congratulations, you've stumbled onto our advice column! Is dad not letting you go to the football game? Did the dog eat your homework, again? Well, you've come to the right place. All the advice you could ever need can be sought out right here. Need some advice? Send an email to [emily.james@garrettcountryschools.org](mailto:emily.james@garrettcountryschools.org) and our newspaper staff will do our best to provide you with some answers. Remember to keep all questions school appropriate. Student contributors are allowed to remain anonymous, but you must inform the newspaper staff in your email.

## Watch, Look, Listen

What's New on Netflix

It's official, fall is finally here. With the weather getting cooler there is no better way to spend your nights than watching movies and TV shows. At the beginning of (and during) each month Netflix adds new shows and movies to its library. Here are some of the most anticipated releases for the first 2 weeks of October.

Coming your way this week in TV shows includes new seasons of American Horror Story: Hotel, Arrow, Supernatural, The Originals, The Vampire Diaries, The Flash, and iZombie.

In movies, several classics are making an appearance this month including Titanic, Breakfast at Tiffany's, Dazed and Confused, and How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days are all appearing on Netflix for the first time. In addition to these, some movies you may have watched as a child are also coming back. Hilary Duff's A Cinderella Story is now available to watch, along with Picture This and Dr. Dolittle.

These aren't the only movies and shows that are being added. In fact, nearly 40

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## Watch, Look, Listen

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movies are being added just this week, with over half of them already available to watch. So if you haven't already, head over and check it out!

## Science Now

### Bone 2.0

By Heritage Hamp

Accidents happen to everyone, we get it. And sometimes, these accidents can cause bone injuries, some severe enough for surgery.

Prosthetics are expensive and can be hard to find. Bone grafts are painful and expensive, and even run the risk of causing infections and can be rejected by the body.

But, a group of researchers at Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois have come up with a way to 3D print a bone scaffold called autografts.

The scaffold is printed and made up of hydroxyapatite and polycaprolactone. The hydroxyapatite is made up of the stuff that is in our teeth. The polycaprolactone is a biocompatible polymer that can be used with the hydroxyapatite to create a hyper realistic bone

replication. It allows the blood vessels to grow within the autograft and tells stem cells to grow as calcium over top of the autograft.

The best part about these grafts is that the grafts can be made on the same day the patient needs a graft.

Take an x-ray, print the bone, then go into surgery. It is a much cheaper alternative method to real bone grafts and has been shown to be safer. The autograft is still being tested on rats and monkeys, but with astonishing progress. It is hoped that these 3D prints can be available to people in hospitals soon.

## Strange Happenings: Hoia Baci Forest

By Karen Beiler

This strange happening is a frightening, spooky one, and for those who like things like this you'll love this story. Personally, I would love to go visit this place. It's a forest that most people who live near it are afraid of, but not



### A Look Through The Lens: Homecoming

Front Row; Left to Right: Megan Knox, Holly Schlossnagle, Olivia Bennett, Lauren Derato, Cassidy Overstreet, Ashley Meyers, and Emily Mayles

Back Row; Left to Right: Coach Tina Jones, Emaleigh Gale, Alexis Burow, Emily Frazee, Coach Lisa Carr

## Looking Back at History: The Great Chicago Fire

By Kristen Kight

The city of Chicago had an insane population growth before the 'great fire' happened. In 1837 they had just reached their city status with a population of 4,000 people to a population of 330,000 people in 1871. The bad part about rapid growth is sloppy planning. Most of the buildings were made out of wood because it took less time and was cheaper than other materials. The streets and sidewalks were also constructed of wood. This was of poor design because that summer (July-October) there was only a few inches of rain

and that left the city vulnerable to fires which they had almost every day for the few weeks before the "great fire".

The fire, often called the Great Chicago Fire, began on October 8th at approximately nine o'clock at O'Leary's barn. The cause was never determined but many people like to believe that one of the cows in the barn kicked over a lantern that started the fire. The fire spread to the north and to the east of the origin. The fire continued to burn until October 10th when it began to rain giving the fire fighters the help they needed to put the fire out. By the time the fire was put out, more than 300 people were dead, 100,000 people were left without homes, and \$200 million in (continued on page 4)

## Fire

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buildings alone were destroyed.

The damage was significant but there were parts of the city that were left untouched. The business section of the city was all but gone. The stockyards and the new packing plants on the South Side were left untouched. As were most of the lumber yards and mills along the Chicago River. The industries surrounding agriculture and trade kept the city's finances from crashing completely. Almost all railroad tracks were not damaged and they provided the city with a way to get aid from across the country.

Some of the good things did come out of it. The city put in strict fire and building codes stating that all the new city buildings had to be built out of fire resistant material. They put in place Chicago's first library from the books sent to them from Europe. In 1956, the Chicago Fire Academy was built on the site where the fire was said to have started; they still train new firefighters there to this day.

## Hoia Baci Forest

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that most people who live near it are afraid of, but not me.

The Hoia Baci forest is known to be the world's most haunted forest and it is located near Cluj Napoca. The forest has a reputation of intense paranormal activity and unexplained events.

Reports have included ghostly sightings, unexplained apparitions, and faces appearing in photos that aren't visible to the naked eye.

People who visit the forest report intense feelings of anxiety and the feeling of being constantly watched. The forest was named after a shepherd who disappeared in the area with his flock of sheep of about 200. People are afraid to go anywhere near the forest because of the rumors and stories being told.

They believe that whoever goes near or enters the forest will never be seen again.

Many who have dared to go complained of physical harm, including rashes, nausea, vomiting, and other unusual sensations. There are many stories explaining why the forest is the way it is, for example, one person claims it was because of a shepherd who got lost with his sheep, while another account is that the forest is haunted by the roman soldiers that were murdered here. It is said that the forest is beginning to compete more and more with the Dracula legend in Hotel Transylvania because of its unexplained phenomena.

Hoia Baci forest is a very interesting place with its own personality that strikes fear in the local people. When you go out places or on adventures

the local people. When you go out places or on adventures you want to feel good and happy not scared or afraid, you also want to see sights that are breathtaking and memorable but this forest won't provide either of those sights. What Hoia Baci has to offer is far more sinister, and that leads to the stories being told about it.

## Read All About It: The Girl on the Train By Abby Burdock

The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins, has developed a large readership and held a spot on the best-seller list for what seems like ages. The book has been described countless times as the new Gone Girl, even earning itself a film adaptation hitting theaters on October 7th, 2016. Although the plot lines are similar, characters are unreliable, and the narration style is similar, The Girl on the Train is miles behind Gillian Flynn's best-selling Gone Girl. Although the plots are very similar, The Girl on the Train is not as cleverly written and does not have as much depth. The Girl on the Train is about the story of Rachel, an alcoholic who loses her job but still takes her train to "work" everyday. Rachel watches the house she used to live in with her ex-husband everyday. She watches the young couple that lives down the street from her old home everyday, feeling like she knows them and their perfect life. One day she sees something out of the ordinary at the house and the woman who lives at the house goes missing. Rachel, an unreliable witness, tries to understand what she saw and solve the mystery of the woman's disappearance. The story is told through the eyes of characters Rachel (the girl on the train), Megan (the woman Rachel watches out the train's window), and Anna (Rachel's ex-husband's new wife). None of the narrators are reliable or even likeable. Rachel is an (continued on page 5)

## Girl on the Train

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alcoholic who has been talking to her ex-husband and his ex-wife. She is drunk for nearly all of the book, and it makes a reader question whether or not she can be trusted. Megan, at first an innocent character, is actually leading a much darker life. Anna is a boring character who is actually a little proud of the affair she had with Rachel's husband before marrying him. The reader does not know who to trust or what the truth is throughout most of the novel. This adds to the suspense and pulls readers to the edges of their chairs. This also makes it hard for readers to figure out who is the protagonist and to root for any of the characters. However, the plot was irresistible. It was a creative take on the tired "girl goes missing" storyline. The fact that the whole story relies on a woman who is drunk and does not know what she saw makes solving the mystery seem impossible. Readers are hooked from the beginning because they do not know if they can trust anyone in the story. The Girl on the Train leaves the reader feeling slightly unsettled. This novel is worth the read but don't expect it to surpass Gillian Flynn's Gone Girl.

## Offhand Opinions A Walk In The PARCC: Are The Expectations Too High?

By Emily James

The Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers, better known by its acronym of PARCC, is a test designed to set the standard for K-12 assessments per the Common Core State Standards. New Jersey has already decided that passing the PARCC exams are a graduation requirement, and more states may be soon to follow. Are our students or our state prepared for this exam? After taking a look at Maryland's PARCC scores, it is safe to disagree. The average of students who have failed the PARCC exams during practice runs, is rising gradually from elementary school to high school. In Maryland schools, 62% of children in Grades 3-8 failed the English PARCC, while 68% of children in Grades 3-8 failed the Math PARCC. This is an exceptionally high failure rate, and unfortunately, these percentages are no different for Maryland's high schools. In English 11, 63% of high school students failed the exam. In Algebra II, this percentage rose to 73%. If roughly two-thirds of the entire state's population of kids in Maryland cannot pass these exams, we have proven that we are setting unreasonable expectations much too soon. This is a ridiculous expectation to be placing on students, who come to school in order to learn the skills and processes



be successful in life, not to be taught how to pass an assessment.

The exam's failure is primarily rooted in its design and execution. Northern High School teacher Mrs. Deem expressed that PARCC is a "very challenging test and requires students to think outside the box, not just in simple computations". It is true that complex thinking is a very important trait for students to learn and possess. The questions students are subjected to through the PARCC tests are often trick questions with convoluted answers, however, and when coupled with the issues concerning the execution of the exam, it makes the test unfair. Students haven't been properly prepared to search for these answers. Northern High School student Kristen expressed her frustration over this lack of preparation. "The content on the [math] test was not what we have been taught in class," she says. "And on the English exam, multiple answers seemed appropriate."

Both students and teachers have acknowledged the extensive gap between what students are being tested on versus what is taught in the classroom. "We have a ways to go," Deem adds. "It requires a change, and until we do [the test] for a few years, we wouldn't have had these changes". This brings me to my next topic, being the validity of the exam. The test has not yet been officially qualified, and yet, it is still being administered to students as a means of assessing how well they have acquired skills, or to track progress. The question that students, parents, and teachers are asking is why? A test should not be allowed to have any effect on any student if it has not yet been validated in its final format. The test and its corresponding requirements have changed multiple times, and are still the subject of confusion. A commonly expressed argument is that the test is in its early stages of development, and is prone to (continued on page 6)

## A Walk in the PARCC

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changes that will make passing an easier and more realistic goal. This statement is easily one of, if not the only, support that the PARCC has seen from Maryland. If this is true, then these test runs should be solely experimental, and used only to tweak the exam. It should not be allowed to have any effect on the graduation of students, or on the jobs of teachers. The PARCC does not accurately reflect anything to do with the student's or teacher's abilities, because what is expected from both parties in order to prepare and pass the exam is completely outrageous at this time. If the exam is to be simplified and changed, then it should be administered for experimental purposes only. Nothing more, nothing less.

The opposition extends higher, much higher than Maryland's high schools as well. Frederick County delegate David Vogt encourages students to opt out of the exam, which he calls "a policy failure that reduces students to test scores and wastes valuable classroom time". The Maryland delegate sent a strongly-worded message to parents, advising they opt their kids out of the exam "while you still can". If even lawmakers are opposing this assessment, that is a clear indication that PARCC is lacking in multiple fields. It has become an incompetent waste of time. The abilities of students and teachers are defined by more than the grades that appear on a

.standardized test. Reducing both parties to nothing more than a number is as dehumanizing as it is senseless. As a student myself, I can only hope that this failed, forced experiment comes to an end, for both the sake of my peers, as well as elementary students whose futures may eventually be affected.

## Tech Today: Self-Driving Cars Are No Longer a Dream But a Reality

By Kristen Kight

By now everyone has heard the news that multiple companies are working hard to put a self-driving car on the road. Multiple companies already have a few of these cars on the road. Self-driving vehicles are able to make getting from one place to another safer by taking out human error when driving. People that may be too old to drive or have bad eyesight would be able to still have the freedom to get around easily.

Google started their autonomous car project back in 2009 and has been making extreme progress ever since. With one of their cars already having two-million public miles on it, most of them being highway miles. In 2014 the cars were sent out into the city, where they had to fight for space with cyclists, pedestrians, and other obstacles. Most of the people and the journalist that have had the opportunity to ride in the modified Lexus RX450h said, that the ride was smooth and relaxing. All in all, Google

## Student Art Spotlight



(Left)  
Artist-Heritage  
Hamp  
Title- Gaia  
Medium-  
Watercolor

(Below)  
Artist- Jenna  
Ruggerio  
Medium-Acrylic

said, that the ride was smooth and relaxing. All in all, Google is driving in the right direction with the self-driving cars.

Volvo, being one of the many in the race for consumer ready autonomous cars, has self-driving vehicles cruising through the city of Pittsburg, under the Uber driving company. This is one of the only companies that have put themselves out there for consumer use at this point. Uber's Pittsburgh fleet, which is under the supervision of people who are in the driver's seat, consists of specially modified Volvo XC90 sport-utility vehicles. They have already run into a few problems, such as driving the wrong way on a one way street. This has some people questioning the safety of these types of cars.

Google and Volvo are only two of the many companies to get their cars on the road and for the most part the future of not having to drive ourselves is getting closer and closer. The future of driving is looking safer than ever with human error being taken out of the equation. Does this mean that we are getting lazy and rely on technology too much or is this our way of making the roads safer?



(Below)  
Artist-Mckenna  
Fazenbaker  
Medium-Acrylic





