

Talking Heads

By Jadelan Cartwright & Montana Goad



Affirmations

by Calora Cain

My pain is real, but so is my resilience.

I remember my lost loved ones with love and gratitude.

I find comfort in the memories and legacy left behind.

My grief does not define me, but it helps me grow.

I am strong enough to face this pain and find peace.

It's okay to seek help and share my feelings.

I honor my grief but also embrace the joy in life.

My heart is open to healing, acceptance, and new beginnings.

I am grateful for the time and experiences shared with my lost ones.

I trust that time will ease the pain and reveal the lessons.

Grief has its place, but so does joy, love, and life.

Today, I choose to take a step forward, with love and hope in my heart.

Current Events

By Maddy Marson-Compton

Monday the 11th

11th-15th Elf Shelf Holiday Store

5th/6th VS Asher

School Board Meeting

Tuesday the 12th

3rd/4th VS Asher

Wednesday the 13th

3rd/4th VS Asher

7th/8th @ Mason

Thursday the 14th

7th/8th & HS @ Bowlegs

Friday the 15th

PreK/ Kindergarten Movie Trip @ Strother Cinema

Employee Christmas Party

Saturday the 16th

Alumni Game-Freshman Fundraiser @ 4 p.m

Lunch Menu

Monday

Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Dinner Roll, Fruit, Milk

Tuesday

Pizza, Caesar Salad, Baby Carrots, Fruit, Milk

Wednesday

Chicken Spaghetti, Green Beans, Side Salad, Bread Stick, Fruit, Milk

Thursday

Cheese Burger, French Fries, Coleslaw, Fruit, Milk

Friday

Nacho Bar(Beef, Queso, Tortilla Chips), Chili Beans, Salsa, Fruit, Milk

Fun Facts

By Emma Bruce

Italy is the fifth most visited place in the world.

Italy is one of Western Europe's youngest countries

Rome itself is over 2,000 years old

The country was under a dictatorship for 20 years

Italy's last king ruled for just 36 days

Tourists throw €1,000,000 into the Trevi Fountain each year

13 of Shakespeare's 38 plays are set in Italy

Pinocchio was first published in an Italian newspaper

Italy has more World Heritage sites than any other country

Italy is home to Europe's only three active volcanoes

E-Sports

By Maddie Schatz

This week for E-Sports we interviewed Coach Self, Gareth VanWinkle, and Zeke Hilton. We interviewed Coach Self first with a starting question of “How was your last match?”. Self claimed that they had won 2-1. Coach also explained he was looking forward to their next season in the spring beginning in February. His goals are to get a greater diversity in students and trying to get more people involved.

Next we interviewed Zeke Hilton. He is looking forward to winning in the spring and his favorite player to play against is Isaac Wind. Zeke also plays basketball and says sometimes it’s hard to juggle playing E-Sports as well but he wouldn’t let that stop him.

Lastly we interviewed Gareth VanWinkle, his favorite player to play against is Mikey and he mentioned his last match went very well because he fatalitied somebody in the game Mortal Kombat. In his next match he is looking forward to keep training and using his same character. Gareth isn’t involved in sports other than E-Sports A fun fact about “Gary” is that his preferred game system is a PS5!



Basketball

By Myhayv Salceda

The past weeks of basketball have gone really well. There are so many events as well as games that have been successful. The High School Whippets and Lady Whippets have played two awesome games since the last Whippet Weekly. For JH, the boys basketball team was supposed to have a game after the girls played, but due to some unfortunate circumstances they didn’t get to play. I’m still going to discuss the girls’ game because they did awesome. On November 15th, JH girls played Dewar. Sadly I do not have scores, but I watched the game. There were a couple of great steals and a lot of scored points. They did many wonderful things. I have not seen a JH team better than this group of girls in a long time. Moving on to High School, both teams played Roff and Pittsburg over the newspaper break. Against Roff, both teams played impeccably. For the girls, they of course won 67-48. For the boys, they won 82-35. Great games! Many of the team members had doubts of beating them, but they won very well. This night, something very exciting happened. Senior Hailey Mack scored her 1000th point. It was a very thrilling moment for everyone, especially her. I know one thing that’s for sure about Hailey, and it’s that she is a hard worker. She’s very dedicated to basketball as well as her school work. She is an astonishing girl that can put a smile on anyone’s face in a second. Going into the Roff game, Mack only needed six points to reach her 1000th point goal. She scored those points by shooting two three pointers. In just the first quarter she made it happen. Now, enough bragging about Hailey, even though I could go on forever. On December 1st, they played Pittsburg.

These individuals are doing a great job at making everyone in the stands proud. The boys also made us proud, even though they lost 46-31. So, a new thing has been made this year. There are now student section themes. The recent themes were Neon Night and Green Out. The upcoming themes are Camouflage on 12/2, Hawaiian Night on 1/9, For Homecoming night you should wear your homecoming shirts. Lastly, the last home game, Senior Night’s theme is to support your favorite senior. Also, congratulations to the Whippets for ranking seventh for OSSAA Rankings, and the Lady Whippets for ranking fifth. This concludes everything for these past couple of weeks. This week high school played in the LRC tournament. Scores and teams played will be discussed in next week's issue. Thank you for reading and we’ll see you next week!



Baby Picture Round-Up

by Faith Cornett

Can you match up these little Whippets with their current teacher selves?

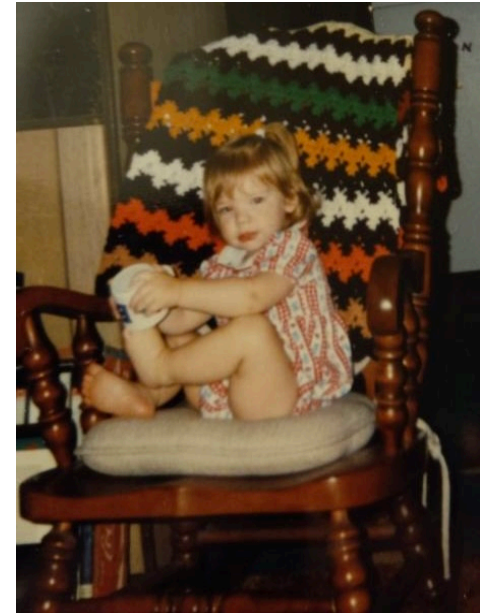
Check back for the answers in next week's Whippet Weekly



Whippet 1



Whippet 2



Whippet 3

Staff Bios

by Dazia McCulley



Today I interviewed Hallea Votaw. She wanted to become a teacher/principal because she always knew she wanted to work with kids and she gets such joy seeing the kids reach and exceed their goals, being a principal she gets to see her staff do the same. She loves being a Varnum Whippet and believes in green. Hallea's favorite thing about Varnum is the sense of family in the school. She is the elementary principal and special education director. She got her bachelor's degree for elementary education at ECU in 2014 and got her masters degree in educational leadership in 2021. When asked if she would do anything differently she replied with no, just help anyone and everyone she can. She thinks people see her as loud and outgoing. Her discipline style is more about understanding the kid and the kids choices, she said as adults we need to understand why they make those decisions. For her motivational words she said "You are preparing for a future job and at any given time you can be looking at your future boss so always be the best person you can be". One challenge she had to overcome was learning the bus routes when she has to fill in because she's not from around these areas. She has two kids, Bryxton Votaw who is five years old and Nixon Votaw who is 2 and in daycare. Her significant other is Blake Votaw and they have been together for ten years and married for six years. She has been part of Varnum for 3 years. She is super thankful to be a part of such an amazing community of staff and students

Senior Spotlight

By Julieauna Marson



Name

Julieauna
Marson

Favorite teacher:

Hailey Self

Favorite

subject: Math

About me

Julieauna Marson came to Varnum in sixth grade. After high school, Marson plans on going to college to become a Nurse. Marson's favorite memory from high school is all the times she spent with the people she loved.

Family/accomplishments

Step Mother: Christie Kier
Mother: Amanda Marson-Kier
Siblings: Zoey-Lea Kier, Tristan, Brantley, Mason Ryan, Maddyson Marson, Jakob Cowett, Kaleb Cowett
Accomplishments: Senior Editor

Congratulation class of
2024!

Two Truths and a Lie

By Julieauna Marson

Can you sort out the truth from the lie from these Varnum staff members

Check back for the answers in next week's Whippet Weekly!



Tara Lena

1. I played college softball.
2. I'm the youngest of my siblings.
3. I was once a princess.

Coach Gunter

1. I have six kids.
2. I was a professional drummer.
3. I have visited all 50 states.



Jack Horn

1. I was born in California
2. I had a 4.0 GPA while attending the University of Oklahoma.
3. I have earned over 300 cars.



World Wide Whippets

By Maddie Schatz

For this week's World Wide Whippets, Maddie Schatz took a short trip to Canyon Lake, California for Thanksgiving. She claims that Canyon Lake, California is where she grew up and her dad owns a house in the little community. Canyon Lake was built in 1927 when rain water coming from the San Jacinto mountains surrounded the valley and supplied the lake with rain water until 1955, when an agreement between Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District and Temescal Water Company brought a more stable supply to the reservoir. After Canyon Lake Community was built they established it as an incorporated city and all the areas outside of the gates are under the jurisdiction of the city council. This big gated community has over 100 roads with houses, restaurants, parks, beaches, and docks.

A little outside of Canyon Hills is a golf cart shop to maintain the 800+ golf carts that families and children drive around all year. There are even specific roads that you can drive just for golf carts, whether that's to the equestrian center, the golf course, or the pool. There is an age limit on how old you have to be to drive a golf cart around the community and you only have to be 14 years of age. Maddie mentioned that she really enjoyed her trip because there's always something to do like playing "ding dong ditch" or playing pickleball with her cousins. She also said her favorite part about this trip was eating good food and seeing her grandma and grandpa.

Dear Whippet

Dear Whippet,

Thanks a million for writing to us. Your question was "What are some red flags to look out for?" When talking about red flags nowadays we are quick to assume that it's always involving a romantic relationship between people. However, that is not always the case. It can just as easily apply to friendships, family, and even work relationships. Not to mention that those red flags could also include your very own habits. Having said that, there are some red flags that are more obvious than others. While some are very clear, many might present themselves more as a clue or a hint that there's an underlying problem that you haven't yet noticed. Along with the fact that it can take some time for a red flag to really show itself in a relationship. Being aware of these red flags is always better than not knowing at all or learning about it too late. Obvious ones such as, displaying violent tendencies, history of infidelity, having an alcoholism or drug addiction, a controlling nature, lack of emotional intimacy, and gaslighting are the easier ones to spot. Signs that are not as obvious include, mismatched relationship goals, persistent jealousy and distrust, having no friends, and love bombing. These are just a few that you wanna be on the lookout for if you plan to keep yourself away from such negativity or even danger. This list of red flags isn't all that exists, there are surely others. Ultimately, it's important for you to trust your gut and walk away from a partner who demonstrates one or more cautionary signs. In some cases, it might make sense to try to salvage your bond. But if your partner shows no sign of self-correction, it is probably best to leave. If you ever struggle with knowing what to do, reaching out to friends, family or maybe even speaking with a therapist or trusted adult can help. Remember that you are your own best friend and looking out for yourself should always be your first priority.

Calliope's Corner

By Calora Cain

DO NOT WEEP by Anonymous

Do not stand at my grave and weep;

I am not there, I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.

I am the diamond glints on snow.

I am the sunlight on ripened grain.

I am the gentle autumn rain. When you awaken in the morning's hush

I am the swift uplifting rush

Of quiet birds in circled flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry;

I am not there, I did not die.

Separation by W.S. Merwin

Your absence has gone through me

Like thread through a needle.

Everything I do is stitched with its color.

"Tears shed for another person are not a sign of weakness. They are a sign of a pure heart."

-Jose N. Harris

This week's corner is all about grief and loss.

PEACE MY HEART by Anonymous

Peace, my heart, let the time for the parting be sweet.

Let it not be a death but completeness.

Let love melt into memory and pain into songs.

Let the flight through the sky end in the folding of the wings over the nest.

Let the last touch of your hands be gentle like the flower of the night.

Stand still, O Beautiful End, for a moment, and say your last words in silence.

I bow to you and hold up my lamp to light you on your way

Talking to Grief by Denise Levertov

Ah, Grief, I should not treat you like a homeless dog who comes to the back door for a crust, for a meatless bone. I should trust you.

I should coax you into the house and give you your own corner, a worn mat to lie on, your own water dish.

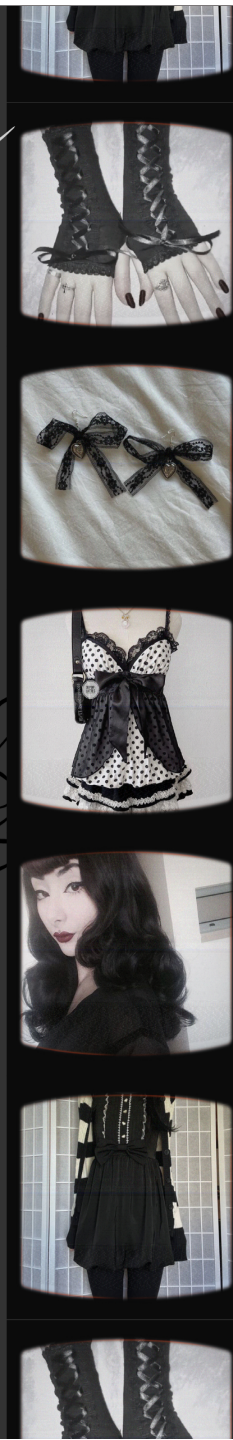
You think I don't know you've been living under my porch. You long for your real place to be readied before winter comes. You need your name, your collar and tag. You need the right to warn off intruders, to consider my house your own and me your person and yourself my own dog.

Varnum Vogue

MONOCHROME EDITION

Bright, bold, and colorful outfits can be undeniably fun, but a black and white combination is unmatched. The adaptability of monochrome attire is perfect for any occasion. Big event? Dress it up with a black dress and pearl accessories. Just going to grab coffee? Easy, dress it down with black jeans and a simple white top. If that seems boring, play with patterns like stripes and polka dots, or play with textures like lace and knit. Don't be afraid to experiment!

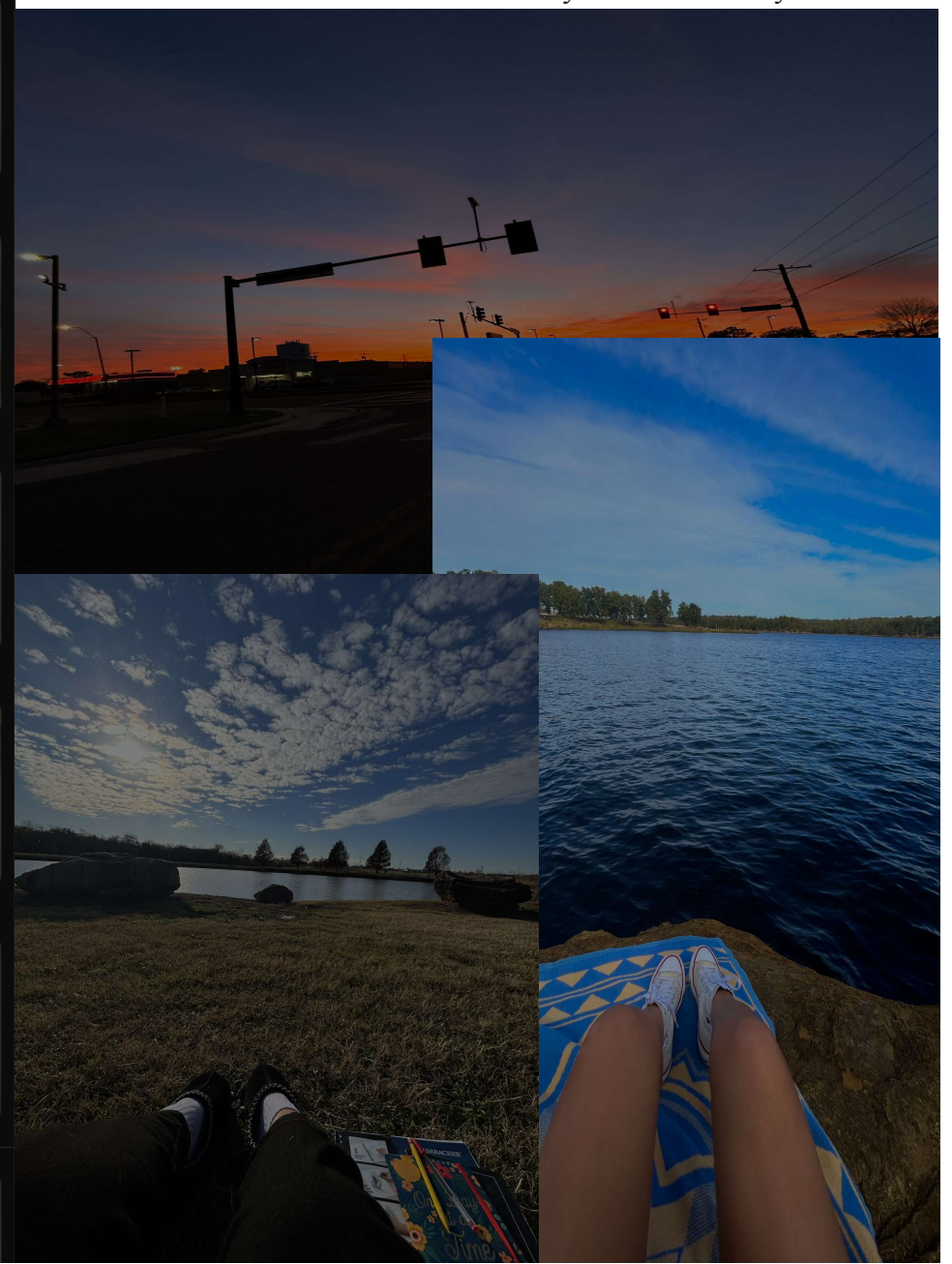
Let's not forget accessories! Earrings, necklaces, bracelets, even hairstyles can drastically change an outfit. Now I'm not saying go dye your hair a crazy color, but style it in a way that compliments your look. Research some styles for your hair type, and have fun!



Nature Photography

By Mvhayv Salceda

Photos submitted this week by Dazia McCulley





In order to add our brand new art page you hopefully just enjoyed we needed five pages of space. However, the program we use only allows us to add four pages at a time which leaves three extra pages. It isn't feasible for us to put out an eight page paper every week so we are leaving these pages blank except for this brief PSA and occasional pictures that are cut for space. So sorry for any inconvenience to your reading experience.

-The Whippet Weekly Staff





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