

The Survey

Reporting Wildcat News Since 1922

Fall 2023 Edition

Welcoming Mrs. Diopoulos to the High School

Written by Brenna Belasco

Edited by Olivia O'Brien



Last year, WVCSD announced that there would be changes in administration for the 2023-2024 school year. In an article posted on the district website, Ms. Diopoulos was named principal of WVHS, and her former associate principal, Mr. Yapkowitz, was named principal of WVMS. In addition, there is a new associate principal at the high school, Mr. Emanuele. I had the wonderful opportunity to be able to sit down and interview Ms. Diopoulos about her new job, and her answers to my questions gave me a new perspective on what life is like as an administrator.

What was the biggest change from middle school to high school?

I think the biggest change from middle school to high school was getting to know the teachers & the different requirements. I am very well versed in the requirements for students to graduate middle school, & now I just need to make sure that I really understand all of the requirements for students graduating high school.

What support have you been given?

All of the teachers have been really, really helpful. [Associate principals] Mr. Fiorentino & Ms. Hill-Lewis have been extremely helpful in helping me get to know the building, some of the teachers, and understanding some of the history of why some decisions were made, so they've been phenomenal.

Are there any aspects of the high school that you like better than the middle school?

I think the best part about this transition for me is the students and being with all of you again. I had you all in middle school and I loved seeing you there. Now, [I get] to see you when you're on this next phase of your life getting ready to go to college. I know it's scary and really exciting. You guys have been the best part and you're the reason why I did it.

Are there any aspects of the high school that you'd like to see integrated into the middle school?

I'm really excited that the Wildcat Ambassadors moved up to the high school. That was one of my favorite projects, creating that program at the middle school. To see that it has progressed & that there are Wildcat Ambassadors at the high school level is very near and dear to my heart; I'm very excited about that. As far as seeing what's happening up here, there are so many incredible courses that occur up at the high school. Mr. Yapkowitz and I have been in constant conversation about what we can do in order to link the two buildings. I'm excited about the possibilities for the future, especially being able to partner with Mr. Yapkowitz and the middle school to see what we can do to create more flow between the high school and the middle school: getting high school kids down to the middle school to work on projects with middle school students, getting middle school students up here more to take advantage of "Wild Cuts" and the Communications and T.V. Production Studio...

What about you outside of school? What do you like to do beyond these four walls?

What do I enjoy outside of school? Well, I have two children that I've enjoyed hanging out with when I'm not at work and you know, I'm kind of like you guys. I enjoy hanging out with my friends, going out to dinner, going on a hike, relaxing...yeah, just being with the people that are most important to me.

Ms. Diopoulos is kind, personable, and an all-around great person. I greatly enjoyed getting to speak with her again, and I'm glad her transition to this new environment has been so smooth.

Meeting Mr. Emanuele!



Every year, many new people enter the Warwick Valley Central School District, whether they are students or a faculty members, and they try to find their way in a new atmosphere. That is the situation of the new Warwick Valley High School Associate Principal, Mr. Emanuele. A lifelong Orange County resident, Mr. Emanuele shares the influences in his life that have got him into this position, his alma maters, what he likes to do outside of school, and how he is becoming accustomed to the school environment. I got the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Emanuele and talk to him, and here's what he had to say:

What did you participate in when you were in high school?

I played football, so that was my major focus, which was an all-year thing.

Where did you get your education from?

I went to East Stroudsburg University for my undergrad, and then for my masters I went to New York Institute of Technology. And then for my administrator certificate I went to Long Island University.

What is your life like outside of Warwick Valley High School?

Well, I'm a big time golfer, so I do that a lot. I try to get in at least one round a week. I have a lot of friends that I've had for a very long time...[and] I still hang out with them, which is really fun!....We like to watch sports, and right now we have football going on, so we like to watch some college football, some NFL. During the winter, some college basketball. So, a lot of just hanging out with good people that I've known for a really long time.

Where was your prior job?

I come from Minisink Valley, which I know is a big time rival, but I come from there and I went to school there my whole life. I had a job there coaching and teaching, and now I'm here.

How do you get to know the school atmosphere and the students and faculty while being new to the district?

Warwick isn't necessarily a strange school to me. I grew up 20 minutes from here, so it's not like I'm not familiar with it. I would say I already had a little background of what it was like. As far as getting to know people, that's definitely the toughest part, coming into a school where you don't know anybody. So, I'm trying my best to just be out and about and have conversations with teachers and kids as I see them. And really just being visible and being there is the thing that's going to help me make that adjustment. I think it is really important.

Who has been your biggest influence in your life?

[The biggest influences in my life are] my friends and family, and I have to group them together because they've both been super supportive with everything that's gone on in my life. I couldn't put one above the other so I'd say both of them have definitely been an influence for me. As far as professionally, I would say the people that I work with. I worked with my former football coach, so he's been a major influence on me. And then, the other principals at Minisink really helped mold me into who I am. I've been fortunate to have a lot of really good mentors, starting from coaching, teaching and into the administration world. I'm super lucky to be a part of that.

Mr. Emanuele is committed to engaging with this new atmosphere. He is excited to take all his past experiences and knowledge and apply it to making his transition into the Warwick Valley Central School District as successful as possible. I'm thankful I had the opportunity to sit down and talk with him, and I can't wait to see all the ideas he will bring to our school.

WRITTEN BY LENA JODRY, CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
EDITED BY LYDIA BINGHAM, STAFF EDITOR

Reducing Loneliness One Letter at a Time

Written by Molly Hewitt, Co-Editor-in-Chief Edited by Ava Sheils, Staff Editor

I had the opportunity to interview a fellow student of mine, Kayla Ludovicy, about the club that she is starting. Letters for Rose is a national organization, but Kayla heard about it and wanted to bring the wholesome idea to the high school. The club is designated to writing letters and making artwork for elderly people who may be struggling with loneliness or who need a friend. Regardless of age, people love to know that they are admired and cared about, so writing to them is an easy and fun way to make people feel connected and important.

Tell me about the club.

Letters for Rose is an organization that was created during COVID-19. It was made so that elders in nursing homes and hospitals wouldn't have to feel so lonely because there are really strict visiting hours and restrictions. So even though we are past COVID-19 and everything, it's still really nice to write letters so they feel that they are cared for and that people are there for them.

When did you have the idea for this club and what inspired you to start it?

I learned about the organization from my mother who is a teacher at Putnam Valley. She actually learned about the club from some of her students and told me about it and I was inspired by them. I am in contact with them, and I am friends with them, so that's why I started it.

What is your goal for this club?

I'm hoping that once we get it started to just have a constant flow of letters and artwork to send out. I don't have anything specific in mind like a certain amount of letters because I feel like even if there aren't that many to send.. it is still doing something nice for others.

What do you hope an average club meeting looks like?

We will definitely meet at lunch and probably after school sometimes. The other club advisors and I will provide supplies and papers so that you can make whatever you would like and have it ready to be sent out. Our members don't have to bring anything other than an idea and a heart.

How can someone join this club/ What days do you meet and where?

At this time I am not sure, but we will put out flyers with a QR code so that people can scan them and get all the information they need to join and meet.

Not only will this club make a difference in the community, it will make our students feel better as people. Nothing is as fulfilling as making someone smile. Look out for papers and flyers coming soon for more information if you are interested in joining!

THE HISTORY OF POWDERPUFF

Written by Abigail Broking

Edited by Madison Pacelli

The annual Powder Puff Girls Homecoming football game is an eagerly anticipated event to look forward to. Held on the C. Ashley Morgan Field, junior and senior girls, ranging from skilled athletes to novices, apply to join this time-honored tradition. Coach Sirico, one of the organizers for the Powder Puff girls, explains this: “I think it’s a really important tradition that we have been able to carry on since the 1980s... There are a lot of parents that played this game when they were at Warwick and it’s nice for them to have our girls have the same experience in 2023.” Both the players and watchers join together to support a fierce game of football, then go and enjoy the annual bonfire right after, with all of the proceeds from T-shirts going to breast cancer research foundations.

While the Powder Puff game is a tradition at Warwick Valley High School, it’s worth noting that it’s not just local; it has expanded across the world with a great history. During World War II, many campus activities, including football, were put on hold. In 1945 when the war ended and normalcy returned, so did the homecoming games. With a shortage of men due to wartime, homecoming football was out of the question. However, the girls decided to create their own version where the year’s homecoming football game would be female players only. These games focused on lightheartedness and fun instead of

competitiveness. Interestingly enough, there’s even earlier information about the Powder Puff tradition. As early as 1931, there had been photographic evidence of girls participating in the sport at Western State Colorado University, and the first well-documented game was played in 1945 at Eastern State Teachers College in Madison, South Dakota. Since then, the event has spread from high schools and universities, all creating their own traditions and rules. Even the Samaha Bowl game, the longest running Powder Puff Girls game, still continues to take place every Wednesday with thousands of people showing up to cheer on the players (en.wikipedia.org).

The Powder Puff Girls go back decades, the annual traditions going from district to district. At Warwick Valley High school, there is no doubt that the seniors and juniors went all out this year: “It goes, Pep Rally, to Powder Puff, to Bonfire, to football game, and the parade... It’s just a really nice, fun and exciting highschool experience” (Coach Sirico). The turnout of this year’s game was amazing; many students showed their support by wearing blue for juniors and pink for seniors. Like always, the seniors took the win with the score of 28-21. Yes, they may have won but the powderpuff game is always a lighthearted activity.



DOWN, BUT NOT OUT

Written by Olivia O'Brien
Edited by Kaya Lehrer

In the NFL, injuries are extremely common and awfully disappointing for teams and their seasons. With injuries also comes rehabilitation, mental work, and a lot of time and effort for players to get back to where they were before they got hurt. In most recent history, on Monday night, September 11, 2023, star quarterback of the New York Jets, Aaron Rodgers, went down with a tear to his achilles tendon. It was only the fourth snap of the year and he played a total of 75 seconds. This specific injury hits very close to home being a New York Jets fan myself and leaves us fans wondering, what's the next step for the team? In this article, we will take a deeper look into how the teams move forward with player replacements and training, how the injured move forward with rehab and getting back into the game, and finally how the organization works out the contract of the injured player.

Normally, when a player gets hurt teams scramble and search for a replacement player to fill in while they are out. An NFL team consists of 53 people, but only 22 people play in a game. Eleven offensive players and 11 defensive players. Before the season starts, all 32 teams go through organized team activities and then training camp. Each team starts with about 90-95 players, but when cut day comes they narrow it down to the 53-man roster. Each position usually has about 3-10 players depending on how many are on the field at once. For example, the quarterback room would have only three or four players as opposed to the wide receiver room because there is only one quarterback on the field while there are 2 or 3 wide receivers. Every position has extra players just in case someone gets hurt. NFL coaches are very efficient when it comes to backup plans. When someone gets hurt across the league they usually have an idea of who will go in for them and the player is warming up within seconds. For the New York Jets, that replacement was QB2 Zach Wilson. When Aaron Rodgers went down, everybody knew that Zach would be the next one up. In those types of situations, you can only imagine the stress on the coaches, players, fans, and most of all the man of the hour, the backup. In this time of uncertainty, the most important thing is the injured player and the journey of rehabilitation they are about to endure.

All NFL teams have a medical staff whose main goal is to get each and every player 100% healthy for the season. These same people are the ones who tend to an injured player when they get hurt during practice or a game. Unlike non-athletes, if a player broke their ankle they would not go to the emergency room or urgent care, they would get all their medical attention from the team's training

staff to make the process go quicker. For example, when Aaron Rodgers got hurt and needed to be checked out he used the team's x-ray and MRI machines at the facility and knew what was wrong about one hour later. Once a player knows what's wrong, they start a reconstructive journey for their specific injury. The most severe injuries need surgery and the recovery time would take a lot longer. After surgery, the players need a ton of rest and relaxation before they start to exercise again. After about 2-4 months of rest and recovery, players start to work either with a team trainer or a personal trainer. They start slow with basic drills such as throwing/catching the ball, sit-ups, push-ups, and cardio. When they start to feel better and get back into the groove of things they will do more heavy duty workouts like lifting weights and scrimmaging with the team. This whole process takes about 3-6 months depending on the injury. Many injuries that require surgery, unfortunately, are season-ending.

Many questions arise when a big-time star succumbs to an injury. If you are Aaron Rodgers, the main question everyone across the nation is asking is, will he return? Many people would assume it's a simple answer, either yes, he still wants to play football at the professional level, or no, he is taking this injury as a sign to finally hang up his cleats and stop chasing the dream of one more Lombardi trophy. But as we all know, money is a huge factor in these life-changing decisions. It all comes down to the type of contract that the player has with the organization. A very crucial part of a player's contract is the NFLPA, also known as the National Football League Players Association. Being a part of this association means players are covered by the CBA, but that is basically all they can do. The CBA, or Collective Bargaining Agreement, is an agreement to ensure that they will get some type of profit while they are injured, but protecting themselves through player-specific contracts that they sign with the organization is very important. Most players have something called a guarantee clause in their contract that allows them to get paid when they get injured. This type of clause only applies when the injury is football related. When players are costly and are out of the game for an extended period of time, the franchise doesn't pay like they would if they were on the field. Instead, insurance pays for it which is all a part of the player-specific contract. The National Football League can be an unforgiving business so it is key that players are able to make money while injured. Overall, the NFL as a whole is prepared for these types of situations and has many agreements and deals to make the players, franchises, owners, and the commissioner happy.

RACCOON TOUR



*Photo by Raccoon Tour
www.arbiteronline.com*

Raccoon Tour is an alternative pop-punk band originally based in Boise, Idaho. Their music features themes of loss, existential dread, and rebellion. The band's first song "Sofarinrunning" was originally created by Nate Burr, the founder and frontman of the band. Burr wrote the song when he was fourteen years old and ended up recording and producing the song for his senior project. The song begins with a fast paced chord progression on the ukulele over brutally sad soft spoken lyrics which builds into loud power chords and screaming vocals. The band's debut album, *The Dentonweaver*, was released in 2021 and was recorded in only five days with the band's new members, Trey Wells (lead guitar), Jeremy Abbot (rhythm guitar), Angus McBangus (bass), and Randy McCurdy (drums).

The album features a variety of moods and sounds throughout, and features a collaboration with underground artist Heccra on the song "Horrorshow." Some of the most prominent songs on the album include "Mt. Hekla," a song that uses lots of synth and pop sounds while depicting an apocalyptic romance. The song "Nightmare Eyes" creates

spooky soundscapes using an acoustic guitar alongside chimes and ambient noises. The album also features an extended and rewritten version of the song "Sofarinrunning" with more instrumental depth and more emotion put into the lyrics at the end of the song. The final song of the album, "Funeral Song," is an extremely powerful track with beautiful soundscapes and bluntly sad lyrics about battling the loss of a loved one that ends with a guitar solo that fades into gentle ukulele chords.

Since the release of *The Dentonweaver*, Raccoon Tour released three singles. "All Skin and Bone" was originally written in the book *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* and follows the story of an old woman who realizes she will one day die. The song "Happy New Year I'm Still a Piece of Garbage" is about New Year's Eve and features screamed lyrics and distorted guitars. Their latest release, "The Future Didn't Amount To Much," was made in collaboration with alternative artist Mattstagraham and discusses the disappointments of the modern age of emotionless corporations and late stage capitalism.

Written by Robert Kennedy
Edited by Julia Cimino

Should high schools do more to prepare students for careers?

Written by Joel Andoh

Edited by Kyle Gluckstein

In the American school system, most kids go to public high schools. This is the last stop for students before they enter the real world, but does high school make sure students are prepared? Sure, many high schools offer electives and other resources for students that aid them in their preparation for life, but is it enough? H&R Block surveyed 2,000 adults and found that 84% of people learned things in school that they've never used after graduation. Should schools invest time teaching students things they may never use, or should schools focus on career planning, money management, and other tools that students need?

Students may not know what they want to do when going into high school, but schools could help students figure out what they want to do afterward. College isn't for everyone so students should have all the tools they need to make the decision on whether they want to go to college or go directly into the workforce. Alyson Klein, a writer from Edweek, stated, "High schoolers believe that their educational experience is getting them ready for college. But they're less certain that their coursework is preparing them for the world of work" (www.Edweek.org). According to Bestcolleges.com, 61.8% of recent high school graduates were enrolled in college. This means that 38.2% of students didn't go to college. Sure, some students may take an extra year to figure out what they want to do, but, the majority of that 38.2 percent will go into the workforce. If high schools better prepare students for life after high school then there would be more students who know what they want to do and whether or not they want to go to college. High schools need to do as much as

they can to provide students with all the resources they need to make the decision on what to do afterward.

Some high schools do a great job at giving students the assets they need for the future. Warwick Valley High School is a great example of how high schools can better prepare students. Aside from the regular curriculum, Warwick has many programs that give students the experience of doing things that they may do as a career. Warwick has electives and clubs such as Bio-med, Robotics, Culinary, Journalism, Criminal Law and Justice, and many more. These clubs and electives act as simulators or trials for future careers. Even though a student may not know what they want to do, they can try these electives to see if they enjoy them or can see themselves making a living doing them. Another resource that Warwick offers students is the BOCES program. BOCES gives students an experience like no other. Students can really expand their knowledge about careers while going to school. Their website states, "BOCES also provides special education, career and technical education, adult education, professional development, instructional services, educational technology support, library services and a number of management services for component school districts" (www.0uboces.org). This organization has amazing programs that allow students to get ready for their future.

Overall, Some high schools do a great job at preparing students for the future but some don't. They should learn from each other so that they can create the best learning environments for their students. If students are well prepared for the future, they can focus on achieving their goals and making the world a better place.

Youngest ~~Only~~ Child Syndrome

Written by Penelope Bieling, Staff Writer
Edited by Lena Jodry, Co-Editor-In-Chief

How do people identify themselves? Many people may identify themselves as athletes, musicians, or artists. What about being part of a trio your whole life and then being left behind? When it comes to school, everyone seems so focused on seniors: college planning and preparation, their last homecoming, senior prom, graduation, and then, their adult lives. It isn't often that you hear concern about the siblings left behind.

I am the youngest child of three. I have two older siblings, Maya who is four years older than me and Oliver who is five years older than me. Both graduated from Warwick Valley High School in 2021 and 2022, respectively. Throughout my entire life, my identity was Oliver or Maya's little sister. Now that they are graduated and living college lives at Brown and Penn State, this has changed. My initial emotion as my siblings went to college was emptiness. Over and over again, people ask me how it feels to be an only child. In all honesty, I don't have an answer. I am not an only child. I still identify as Maya and Oliver's little sister, but it is different now.

How can I go from spending around three hours each night with my sister at dance class to none? Fortunately, my relationship has stayed strong with Maya from the time she left. I was expecting Facetime calls daily but that is not reality. Both Maya and I have separate lives in separate states so calling does not always fit into our schedules. As often as we can, we will squeeze in a call. However, one constant between us is tex-

ting almost daily. I am so thankful to have my sister as a mentor and inspiration my entire life.

Not only do I consistently follow Maya's footsteps, but I also follow Oliver's. Like a stereotypical family, siblings argue. My brother and I have very similar personalities so we would argue all the time when he was in high school. Now that Oliver has graduated I have noticed a very big change in our relationship. My bond with my brother really grew

this past summer. We both had the same goals for our two separate sports, which was to come back stronger from injuries. We would go to the gym together and I would always catch us in conversations where Oliver would help me become the best version of myself. I now know that if I need help with anything in the world, my brother would be right there. People used to tell me, "As you get older, you will become best friends." That saying was nothing but the truth.

If I could give any youngest sibling advice

it would be to cherish every moment before your brothers or sisters leave for college. Although Maya, Oliver, and I would annoy each other at times, I would do absolutely anything to have at least one more year with them at home. The thought that I may never live under the same roof as them again makes me so emotional, especially when I look at old photos. Knowing that our bonds have strengthened, the physical distance between us will not affect our relationship. When I am talking to my siblings, I am not talking to other kids anymore. I am talking to life-long friends.



Taken by Catarina Bieling. Pictured Left to Right: Oliver Bieling, Penelope Bieling, Maya Bieling

The Dark Side Of Family



*Pictured above: The Franke Family
Insider.com*

An event that appeared shocking for some, but had been long anticipated by others unfolded in early September. Former vlogger Ruby Franke has been placed under arrest for six counts of child abuse in Utah. To truly understand the significance of this arrest we need to examine her channel from the beginning. Ruby Franke uploaded her first video to her family channel “8 Passengers” on YouTube on January 7, 2015. The channel featured Ruby and her husband along with their six children, hence the name 8 Passengers. These children grew up with a camera that broadcasted their lives to whomever was watching them. As their subscriber count increased, so did viewers’ concerns about the six children.

YouTube videos showcasing the family’s most criticized moments started popping up, such as “Ruby

Franke being terrible for 5 minutes” and “8 Passengers’ worst moments.” These videos would focus on showing clips of Ruby’s controversial parenting style. This content introduced me to the family and how I met them about two years ago. I would witness Ruby refuse to feed her children, give them zero privacy, and even take away a bed from one of them for seven months as a punishment for a prank. The comments were filled with people saying how they feel bad for the kids and how strict their mother is. YouTube user @Lilyspears8392 commented, “I think the parents need a taste of their own medicine. They should sleep on the floor and lose the ‘privilege’ of eating. Their parenting is ridiculous and absurd!”

Suddenly, about eight years after the channel appeared, it vanished. Shortly after deleting the channel, Ruby was back on the internet, but without the other seven members of her family. Instead, she was with Jodi Hildebrant, a licensed therapist. Then business partners, the two women focused on giving parenting and mental health advice.

It was August 31, 2023, when Ruby’s oldest, Shari Franke, posted to her Instagram story captioned “Finally.” It’s a photo of police cars in front of Ruby’s home in Utah. Not long after, Shari made another post: “Today has been a big day. [My family and I] are so glad justice is being served. We’ve been trying to tell the police and CPS for years about this, and are so glad they finally decided to step up.” Now news outlets are gaining and posting the story to the public. It’s reported that Ruby and her two youngest children, Eve, 10, and Russell, 12, were staying at Jodi’s home with Ruby when Russell escaped from a window and ran to a neighbor’s

Parasocial Relationships

You may have had a parasocial relationship and not have realized it. The term parasocial relationship refers to the one-sided connections we form with people in the media. These include actors, YouTubers, and musicians. As viewers consume a creator’s content they begin to form these parasocial relationships, and it’s understandable. A parasocial relationship often leaves people feeling like they understand the public figure’s life, and, if given the chance in the real world, they could be friends. We can start to feel this way after viewing lots of media surrounding the influencer, like watching all of a YouTuber’s videos or listening to all of a musician’s songs. This leads to a deep sense of familiarity. Even though there is no real life interaction, these relationships fulfill some emotional needs, provide companionship, and often inspire the viewer.

With this said, it’s still important to be self-aware and keep perspective as well as keeping your real-life relationships a priority; those are the ones that bring true connection and fulfillment. By not keeping reality in check, some start to take these bonds too far. Some struggle to comprehend that they are only viewing a glimpse of an influencer’s life. A good example of this in recent media is the tremendous amount of criticism and judgment comedian John Mulaney received after his drug issue became known to the public. Many fans shared their disappointment and other strong opinions via Twitter, TikTok, and other social media sites. Fans felt let down by the comedian’s actions. The parasocial relationship fans had with Mulaney made them feel like they had a say in his well-being. Keep in mind that even though it’s usually the fans that take the relationship too far, don’t let yourself fall victim to creators

Family Vlogging: 8 Passengers

home asking for help and food. Because of Russell's physical state, a 911 call was made. He was physically malnourished with duct tape around his hands and ankles and past existing ligature marks. When the police arrived and investigated the scene and home, his sister was found in a very similar state; the room he escaped from was "bunker-like." According to People magazine, a neighbor told police, "We were concerned that we might see kids coming out in body bags." It is evident that Eve and Russell suffered detrimental mental, emotional, and physical trauma in the Hildebrant household. Investigations and trials are still underway as of press time.

The children are now all safe and had a court hearing on the eighteenth of September to determine where they would be staying. Their father, Kevin Franke, has not been arrested and intends on keeping his children together. Ruby is being charged with six felony counts of child abuse, but as of now, it's not clear what Ruby's sentence will be. Jodi Hildebrant has been charged with aggravated child abuse and is being held without bail. This case opens up new questions when it comes to the family vlogging lifestyle. Will this lead to changes in the operation of family channels and the creation of new laws to restrict them? We hope that the six children will get the justice they have long deserved and that they will be able to heal from the trauma inflicted. Through an ongoing investigation, I do have questions about this case that I hope get answered. Firstly, will Kevin Franke see any sort of punishment, or be found guilty of any crime? He was clearly a witness to the abuse that was unfolding in the household over the eight years. Even if he didn't physically or mentally harm his children,

he was still a witness. A witness who does not report abuse is an accomplice in my eyes. Another question I have is, will laws protecting children being recorded without consent start to appear? For example, Eve, now 10, wasn't even born before it was decided every bit of her life would be recorded and posted regardless if she wanted it to or not. According to ReedsSmith.com, a website specializing in business law, "Specifically, this law amends the state's Child Labor Law by requiring that vloggers set aside a portion of compensation they receive in connection with their video content if the content contains the name, image, or likeness of a minor."

Vlogging children for their whole lives for profit shouldn't be normalized in today's technology-driven society. As individuals we need to look at the content we consume and we should question it. Is it right, both ethically and morally, to be watching a child's embarrassing, private, angry, and happy moments so their parents can make a profit? A child is still learning to regulate emotions and explore how they feel, imagine trying to do that in front of thousands if not millions of strangers. The *8 Passengers* is a horror that unfolded over eight years of family vlogging, and ended even more tragically than what we saw on camera. I don't think this will be the last case we see where a family channel's children become mentally traumatized.

Written By Madison DeSantis

Edited By Julia Cimino

Written By Grace McGrogan

who use their fame and platform to take advantage of and get close to their fans. For example, Colleen Ballinger, also known by her stage name, Miranda Sings, has been recently involved in a scandal where ex-fans have been calling her out for reportedly preying upon her minor audience. Colleen would allegedly pressure them into performing actions and answering questions they were uncomfortable with. She was able to get them to do this by abusing the parasocial bond that was formed between Colleen and her audience.

In summary, it's important to keep your real-life relationships a priority as well as maintaining a healthy perspective with your media idols. We must understand that we only see a glimpse into influencers' lives and we shouldn't overstep the line between creator and consumer.

Edited By Madison DeSantis



*Artwork By Izzy Pipa
Vtcynic.com*

Barbenheimer

Written by Kate Gobinski, Staff Writer

Edited by Harrison Gratzel, Staff Editor

If I asked you to name one movie that came out over the summer, I guarantee you would list either *Barbie* or *Oppenheimer*. Over the summer of 2023, these two monumental movies were released which coined the popular phrase, Barbenheimer. *Barbie* and *Oppenheimer* were released in theaters on July 21, 2023, becoming the most popular double feature. Both movies contain incredible messages that I feel are important for each viewer of the movies to take away. ***This article contains spoilers!***

BARBIE

Directed by Greta Gerwig, *Barbie* stars Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling. In this movie, we follow Barbie and Ken's journey to restore Barbie Land from the dangers of the real world. Barbie Land depicts a world where women (Barbies) are in charge and hold jobs that in our world, men mostly possess. Everything is great until Stereotypical Barbie (Margot Robbie), notices that her life starts to become a little less perfect. She goes to see Weird Barbie, in which she is told that she must go to the real world and cure the sadness of her Barbie's owner. Many consequences come from Barbie traveling to the real world. Ken sees how men have the upperhand in the real world and wants to bring male patriarchy ideas back to Barbie Land. Through the duration of this movie, Barbie learns the importance of imperfection and individual identity.

Many important messages are seen through the execution of the *Barbie* Movie. I think the most important is the unfortunate view of women in this world and Barbie's realization of it. When she goes into the real world, she learns that the whole goal of the Barbie Doll has not served its purpose. When she becomes aware of her imperfections, she feels that she can't go on with her life and that her minor flaws will prevent her from doing anything important anymore. Gloria, Stereotypical Barbie's owner, gives a moving speech about the expectations that are held to women and how they are virtually impossible to comply with. It helps restore Barbie's original purpose as well as highlighting women and how we are all perfect in our own ways. We don't need to have the perfect bodies, perfect attitudes, or perfect lives just to be successful and happy. This movie also touches on gender roles in society and how they differ from the two worlds. We see that in both worlds, extremes are present where one gender has the obvious authority instead of the gender roles being equal. The main point the movie tries to get across is that the gender roles in

society should be equal, with no unfair advantages in terms of gender when it comes to something like getting a job. It also teaches basic but important life lessons like to dream big, be yourself, and that you are "Kenough."

OPPENHEIMER

Directed by Christopher Nolan, *Oppenheimer* follows the life of the famous physicist, J. Robert Oppenheimer, and the creation of the atomic bomb with the Manhattan Project. They witnessed the first ever nuclear war and got to watch what they produced, decimate an entire civilization. We get a glimpse of how the world was like post World War II and can see how the motives of certain politicians clashed with the scientists.

The importance of this movie is the aftermath of the bombing of Hiroshima. Oppenheimer realizes what he has done and feels that his morality is tarnished because of it. The little instruction that he was given for the project led to his late recognition of what he had created. All of the press conferences and speeches he gives after the bombing makes him feel worse and worse leading to a slow progression of hallucinations.

The ending scene between Oppenheimer and Albert Einstein is one of the most chilling and best self-realization moments in cinematic history. Both begin to understand that the bomb Oppenheimer created was not a solution to one problem but would actually set off a chain reaction, eventually causing the end of the world. People now have the blueprint to create catastrophic weapons that can be used to wipe out any civilization, whenever they please. This held to establish the hidden message of the movie that the death of the world will be by the man's hand.

This movie also brings attention to mental health and how Oppenheimer's mental status changed after the bombing. Because of the consequences of what he created, Oppenheimer experiences flashbacks, hallucinations, anxiety, and overall emotional distress. This is a sharp contrast to how he was prior to the bombing. He was very lively, charismatic, and enjoyed attending social gatherings. After, he turns very cold and tense, constantly reliving all his past mistakes. Even though this movie seems to be filled with action and intensity, it surprisingly touches on many deeper meanings.

Despite the drastic differences in genre and tone, these two movies drew in audiences and became big summer hits.

H2 Oh! Which Water Wins?

Olivia Scotto, Staff Writer Edited by Molly Hewitt, Co-Editor-in-Chief

It may seem as though all brands of water will hydrate you the same, and maybe even better your health. Either way, it all comes down to your personal preference and your opinion. A refreshing bottle of water with more minerals, a higher PH, or simply what tastes best to you is the type of water you'll drink, right? There are so many varieties of water in the market, both by type and price point. Why is one water better than the other? Marketing can be very convincing when you go to the grocery store. Is there a reason Fiji water is more expensive than mineral water or a regular water bottle? It could be because of the pretty packaging or because it's considered "tropical" or even because on the back of the bottle it says "natural electrolytes," or it could be that it comes from the other side of the world. There are many types of water options at your disposal; below is a bit of insight on just a few of them.

Fiji water is best known for being "Natural Artesian Water," or water that streams in an underground chamber beneath layers of volcanic rock. This gives the water a different type of mineral profile which tastes better to some people. It's alkaline, which means it has a higher pH. According to Waiakea.com, a higher pH provides health benefits to those with diabetes, high cholesterol, and high blood pressure.

There are plenty of water brands that cost less than Fiji water, but how do they differ? Spring water, such as Poland Spring, comes from a spring well. It flows underground naturally through to the earth's surface. This type of water flow ensures that there are minerals from the earth being released into the water. Poland Spring is so popular because it is more reasonable in pricing and has a fresh taste. Spring water has good sources of minerals like calcium and magnesium, which are both beneficial to our bones. "The World Health Organization states that the prevalence of heart disease and osteoporosis could be reduced with consumption of magnesium and calcium-rich water" (Shopkablo.com).

Poland Spring and Fiji Water are very popular for those who prefer minerals in their water. It is also commonly disliked by those who prefer distilled water because distilled water has a distinct 'flat' taste. According to various sources, distillation is the process of

evaporating water to purify it. The contaminated water is heated to make steam, and the unwanted bacteria and substances do not evaporate, and are left behind. The steam that cools and condenses forms the purified water that you consume. Distilled water is said to be safest from any bacteria. In the end, to most consumers it isn't about how healthy the water might be, it's really all about the taste.

I did a taste test on my mom, dad, and sister; I made them try alkaline, spring, and distilled water. According to my mom, the spring water tasted the best. She described it as refreshing and crisp. She said that the Fiji water was very similar. As for the distilled water, she thought it tasted like a plastic bottle. Her reasoning for that is that depending on where the bottle of water was stored, in a heated truck or outside in the sun, that could have altered the taste.

My dad's perspective on the water test was that Fiji was the best. He said he could faintly taste the minerals in the water and it was different from the other two. He actually said now that he has tasted Fiji water, he is going to buy it more often, especially since his job requires hard labor and he needs the minerals to restore his body as he works. The spring water was his second favorite. Last was the distilled water; he thought it tasted flat. Although he did say that it was interesting that it had the least bacteria.

Madison, my sister, also agreed with the spring water tasting the best. She said it was thirst quenching. She thought that the Fiji and spring water tasted almost the same but if he had to choose one, she would buy the spring water knowing that it contains magnesium and calcium. She also thinks that for the similar taste, the price is better too. She did mention that the Fiji water bottle had a cool shape and the packaging was really pretty.

No matter what water you like drinking, it is the healthiest thing you can drink for your body rather than sugary drinks. Water does taste different to most people and some have better health benefits than others. Next time you buy water, remind yourself that water does vary and it's important to find the one best for you.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TEMU

Written by Lydia Bingham and Kaya Lehrer
Edited by Milo Shaw-Smith Gendelman



PNGfind.com

Enticing cheap prices have caused fast fashion brands to dominate online shopping websites. With consumers tired of overpriced clothing, they seek out cheaper options for convenience and saving money. These websites include Shein, Romwe, Zaful, Temu, and many others. Specifically, the most downloaded shopping app in America, Temu, is so alluring to customers because they offer incredible discounts on the wide varieties of products they sell. They offer free gifts to users who promote the app on social media and to their friends and family, getting more people to use the app every single day. Yet, this is too good to be true.

This fast fashion website does not only sell clothes, they sell just about everything, from shoes to hardware. With an extremely wide variety of items and the promise of free gifts, people go crazy adding to their cart on Temu. Although it became popular so fast, it was alleged that Temu was passing off counterfeits, illegal goods, and stealing people's card information. According to the site, Yoursustainableguide.com, "Temu was accused of stealing consumer data and utilizing this information to monitor user's activities across various apps and websites, in order to expertly target them with its advertisements. The company faced these allegations from the US government due to concerns about potential data risk." Not only that, but there are many

complaints of packages not showing up for months, with no customer service attention to the issue. As customers get fed up with unsent orders, unwarranted charges on their cards, and incorrect items being delivered, they attempt to stop Temu with complaints to the Better Business Bureau. Temu customer Julie Roper Malloy says, "Still waiting for my order from November! Thanks Temu, you've ruined Christmas!" in response to an unsent package. As inflation is at an all time high, it is easy for businesses to take advantage of customers in a way, knowing the enticing prices are pulling them in. Further researching Temu we find out it's a "sister company" of a Chinese online retailer Pinduoduo, a similar site that offers deals just like Temu and uses the same methods to convince customers to buy (Nypost.com).



ZDNET

Knowing the truth behind Temu's (and thousands of other fast fashion sites') insane marketing schemes is extremely important. The *NY Post* says, "If it's free, you are the product," meaning when advertising for Temu and trying to get friends to join the app for "free" products, you are giving a free unsolicited promotion to the company. Even those who are aware of Temu's deceitful marketing may still continue to use the app; however, there's no shortage of facts to prove Temu is not a safe or a reliable retail website.

Influencers Fueling Overconsumption

By Andrea Scott, Staff Writer
Edited by Jaralynn Cruz

When we're on the internet, many of us can agree we get bombarded with influencer clothing hauls, from their new thrifted pieces, to people spending excessive amounts on fast-fashion brands, or PR unboxings of companies like Hollister. But are these content creators normalizing the overconsumption of clothing?

Fashion is an outlet for many, especially for those on social media. Not only does it help express one's personality, but it can also be used as a confidence booster. With TikTok becoming more and more mainstream, however, more people are dressing up; people are paying more precise attention to the styles of people like Bella Hadid and A\$AP Rocky, and more people are becoming influencers. But at a rapid rate, the latest trends are now more highly in demand. Companies like Shein, H&M, and Zara all fall under the category of fast fashion. Fast fashion is low priced clothing pieces that are produced at breakneck speeds to keep up with the media's new fashion demand. Many influencers profit off of all these trends. Videos like "Dressing as different aesthetics for a week" or "Buying my dream wardrobe" can seem innocent at first glance. I mean, everyone is entitled to express themselves and treat themselves to new things, but many are spending loads of money on 10 to 20 more pieces of clothing at these problematic retailers and normalizing

an overconsumption of clothing items.

But exactly how are retailers influencing overconsumption of clothing? Micro-trends. People are purchasing popular pieces, but once the trend is no longer "in," those pieces are likely getting thrown away almost like the trend didn't exist. According to Abby Hyken, a writer at *The Southerner*, she says in the article titled "Fast Fashion is ruining our consumer culture" that "an average American throws out 60-80 pounds of used clothing in a lifetime." A result, there is an increase of fast fashion clothing at secondhand stores and the prices of those pieces can be ridiculous sometimes. Those pieces can end up in landfills and negatively impact the environment as well. "Second-hand store volunteers and workers are working harder having to sort through cheap clothing to get to items that are good enough to put on store shelves," says writer Shannon Corvo at ABC News Australia in the article "How second-hand stores are adapting to increasing fast-fashion donations."

In summary, the overconsumption of clothing is getting worse and worse. Micro-trends are getting more and more "micro," and influencers are adding fuel to the fire. By normalizing the overconsumption of clothes, people are caring more about their "fit check" than the environment.

BCKGROUND: TIM BOYLE//GETTY IMAGES

MEET THE

Yashveer Alagh-I was in Ms Taylor's ELA class for freshman year and now I get to take one of her classes again for my sophomore year. I enjoy producing my own music in my free time, and I've started to put more of my time into this because it's like putting my imagination onto a track. I'm excited to see what this class entails.

David Alaie-I enjoy video games and playing with my dog. My favorite class is math because I find it easier than other classes, and my least favorite class is English because I'm terrible at reading comprehension. I have two dogs, Pepper, the Labradoodle, and Phoebe, the toy poodle; Pepper has had puppies recently.

Joel Andoh- I enjoy playing soccer and hanging out with friends and family. I am looking forward to Journalism 1 this year.

Kathleen Baird-I'm in journalism 1 because I love reading and writing. I also enjoy hanging out with my friends and with my dog Lola. In my free time when I'm not going to school or work, I'm watching TV.

Shane Banta-I enjoy outdoor activities like hikes or jogs, and I also like to play the guitar/drums. Another thing I like to do is motocross.

Brenna Belasco-I've been dancing for 13 years and enjoy reading in my spare time. I'm excited to take on a new position on the journalism staff.

Jayden Benoit-I love music. I'll basically listen to any music, but I really enjoy listening to punk rock like Green Day, The Descendants, The Misfits, Metallica & Van Halen. I also race dirtbikes and ride a Honda CRF250R. I play guitar and drums too.

Penelope Bieling-I play travel and school softball as well as school volleyball. I have two older siblings who are both alumni of Warwick. My sister was the editor-in-chief in '21-'22. I am excited to follow her footsteps and become a better writer.

Lydia Bingham-I am a senior in Journalism 2 this year. I cheer for WV's varsity team and have been on the team since eighth grade. I love to write and occasionally read. Some of my other interests include hanging out with friends, swimming, driving, and playing with my dog Brutus. I'm also in the cosmetology CTEC program. I love doing hair and learning new things entailing cosmetics.

Johannah Bradley-I am a sophomore and I am excited to be a part of Journalism 1 this year. Some of my interests include soccer, track, and skiing. I participate in track in the spring and play soccer for the school in the fall. Outside of school, I play club soccer all year round.

Connor Brogan-I am a senior.

Abigail Broking-I love music, writing, and video games. My favorite subject is English and I'm excited to be in Journalism 1 this year.

Tyler Calabro-I have three siblings, one brother and two sisters, who are all younger than me. I work as a waiter at a restaurant in Florida, New York.

JP Cerulli-This is my first year taking journalism. I currently play for the Warwick boys varsity soccer team. I also enjoy history; it is my favorite subject.

Julia Gimino-I am a five-year varsity cheerleader and this is my third year in journalism.

Evangelina Colon-I am a senior at Warwick Valley High School. The subjects I like the most are science and English. I joined journalism to learn more about the topic. I also wanted to improve my writing and editing skills. I am now in Journalism 2 still exploring the subject.

Kristina Correa-I love to read and write, and decided to take journalism to help improve my grammar and writing skills. I also love to keep up on current events and social media and pop culture happenings. I am very excited for this year.

Jaden Cresseveur-My favorite sports are baseball and hockey. I used to play baseball as a kid until I threw my right shoulder out. I like to ride my quad and go to the gym. I have a 2006 Yamaha Blaster. I like to sleep in my free time.

Jaralynn Cruz-I'm 17 years old and the youngest of five siblings. I'm currently a senior and a Journalism 2 student. Regarding journalism, I'm interested in writing articles about psychology, especially regarding behaviors of students in school and online.

Kiley Cunningham-My favorite thing to do is hang out with family and friends! I love to play volleyball and am on the varsity team for school. My favorite season is

ME STAFF

summer because of the warm weather and vacations. I am taking Journalism 1 because I had Mrs. Taylor freshman year and it was super fun!

Chris Degroot-I ski and I work at the Renaissance Faire in Tuxedo.

Madison Desantis-I am excited to continue my journalistic passion and work with Mrs. Taylor again. In my free time, I'm either at work or enjoying a book and hanging out with friends. Recently, I have been enjoying a pumpkin spice latte while I anticipate the new fall season.

Dylan Felter-I play football and I like to hang out with my friends.

Aleyah Furman -I am super excited to be in journalism this year. I love to hang out with my friends, read, and go for runs in my free time. Writing has always brought me joy and provides me with a creative outlet to express opinions and facts with others. I am a fanatic for watching and writing about sports and hope to share some great stories!

Hannah Gardiner-I am currently a Journalism 1 student, a competitive dancer, and an employee of Penning's Farm and Cidery. In my free time I like to read, spend time with family and friends, and watch TV.

Priscilla Gaspari-I'm so excited for my first year in Journalism. Some things I enjoy are theater, art, and writing.

Thomas Gentles-My favorite classes are history and study hall. Over the summer I spent a lot of time with my family and friends. I think I would describe myself as a pretty nice person but that's always open to interpretation. I love watching sports. My favorite teams are the Giants, the Mets, the Rangers and the Nets. I love attending their games, even though most of the time it is extremely depressing. I grew up in Warwick and I've lived here my whole life. I have one older sister who's at college now.

Kyle Gluckstein-My name is Kyle, but you can call me Kyle.

Kate Gobinski-I am a Journalism 1 student and have always enjoyed writing! Outside of school, I enjoy dancing and spending time with my friends and family.

Harrison Gratzel-I participate in soccer and track. I am

embarking on my second year of journalism because last year I found the class fun and interesting. I enjoy working out and hanging out with my friends in my free time.

Thomas Hamersma-I like to go to the gym and drive my car. I have been working out for three years at Anytime Fitness. I also like to do Brazilian jiu jitsu, and I have been doing it for two and a half years.

Molly Hewitt-This is my third year taking journalism, and I am a Co-Editor-in-Chief of *The Survey*.

Abigayle Hoye-Writing is something I was always happy to do and ELA is my favorite subject. I like to write about different topics and events or really just anything that is interesting to me.

Breia Jaeckel-I enjoy reading and writing, which is why I decided to take Journalism 1 this year, and I'm so excited to get started! I'm also interested in playing and listening to music, and I enjoy spending time with my family and two dogs.

lena Jodry-I'm so excited to be one of the Co-Editors-in-Chief this year! I have been taking Journalism for three years, and I absolutely love it! I also participate in theater, Meistersingers, and Youth in Government. I'm looking forward to a great year with my friends, and creating amazing new editions of *The Survey*!

Robert Kennedy-My main interests are music and fantasy stories. I play Dungeons and Dragons and have been playing the guitar for ten years.

Marissa King-I am in Journalism 1 because it pricked my interest, and I needed another English credit. Some activities I enjoy are singing, drawing, writing, and voice acting. In the summer my family goes up to Maine and I perform plays at School House Art. I have done five shows so far.

Jessie Lacher-I love going to concerts, the beach, skiing during the winter, and traveling whenever I can. At home I have three dogs named Jonny, Louie, and Bailey, and they are all dachshunds. I am so excited to be a part of Journalism this year because I love to write!

Kaitlyn Larney-I play three sports: soccer, basketball and lacrosse. As well as playing sports, I enjoy going to the beach and hanging out with my friends!

MEET THE STAFF

Kaya Lehrer-This is my second year in journalism. I am on the varsity cheer team and do chorus and dance too. Outside of school, I love going to concerts, playing the piano, and hanging out with my friends.

Reese Macfarlane-Senior

Grace McGrogan-I love to hang out and see new places with friends, go to car shows, listen to music, and go on backpacking trips.

Francesca Mikos-I'm looking forward to Journalism 1 this year. I love spending time with my friends and I'm on the JV cheer team.

Olivia O'Brien-I like music and sports. I am a junior and a cheerleader for the Warwick Valley Cheer program. My favorite subjects in school are history and English, and I love writing and researching.

Joliana O'Neill-I am on Warwick's varsity cheer team, and I am taking Journalism 1 this year because it seems like a fun class.

Madison Pacelli-This is my second year taking journalism. I took journalism because I love writing. I am the varsity cheer captain and have been cheering for 13 years. I love it so much!

Allie Perez-I've always had a passion for writing and making a statement for myself. I enjoy passionate discussions, and I am looking forward to what this year has to bring for me.

Daniel Ranaudo-I play basketball and lacrosse. I work as a lifeguard in the summer. My hobbies are fishing and playing golf. This is my first year in journalism.

Sean Reynolds-This is my first year as a journalism student. I also like to exercise and go snowboarding.

Jalyn Rosario-Hi, my name is Jalyn Rosario and I'm a sophomore. I like reading, writing, baking, and spending time with friends and family. I've been on the varsity softball team since freshman year and enjoy being on the field. It's my first year in journalism and I'm delighted to share my passions and ideas throughout *The Survey*.

Blake Schreiber-I'm a diehard Seattle Seahawks fan and I love watching them play football every Sunday.

Andrea Scott-Some of my hobbies include reading and

writing, fashion, baking, and listening to R&B. I am very excited to take this class, and I am also looking forward to meeting the people within it!

Luca Scotto-I play baseball, basketball and soccer.

Olivia Scotto-This is my first year in journalism and I am really excited. I joined because I like voicing my opinion and writing. I enjoy singing, acting, and cosmetics.

Milo Shaw-Smith Gendelman-I have seven names.

Ava Sheils-I have been cheering for 13 years, and I am captain of the Warwick varsity cheer team. I like taking journalism because I enjoy writing, and English has always been my favorite subject.

Isabella Simpson-I was born in Warwick, but grew up in Greenwood Lake. Coming to high school in Warwick made me feel uneasy because there were a bunch of people I didn't know. I quickly adapted to the change and made lots of new friends. This year, I decided to join Journalism 1 because my friend told me that Ms. Taylor was very nice.

Mih Teskera-I am very excited for my approaching school year because I'm in my second year of medical CTEC. I enjoy listening to music and spending time with friends and family the most.

Juliet Thomas-I can't wait to start writing for the school newspaper. I love ELA, and one of my dream jobs is a journalist. I also love performing arts such as dancing, singing, and acting.

Amanda Torres-I enjoy anything having to do with beauty such as makeup, nails, and hair. I also enjoy writing, baking, and listening to music. I play volleyball on teams and in my free time. I'm a libero and I do anything and everything I can to improve my skills.

Brenna Walters-I am a sophomore in Journalism 1. I enjoy running, shopping, and hanging out with my friends. I took journalism because I love to write and I am interested in a career in editing.

Asania Williams-I take journalism, and I work at Dunkin'.

Jasmin Vail-I'm senior in Journalism II.

"Meet the Staff" page editor: Brenna Belasco

The Survey Advisor: Ms. Taylor

STAFF PHOTOS




Period 2



Period 4



Period 6



The content of this paper reflects students' writing efforts and views which do not necessarily represent WVCSD or *The Survey* staff.