

Lions Roar



WINTER 2013 EDITION

SPECIAL SECTIONS

- Sports
- Restaurant Review
- Movie Reviews
- Horoscopes
- Middletown News
- Snapple Facts

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Restaurant 4
Reviews

Movie Re- 4
views

Sports

News 1

Book Re- 5
views

Snapple 5
Facts

Student 6
Creativity

Horoscopes 5

Southern Baptists Help Middletown

By Gianna Todaro

This past Thanksgiving, my family and I had two very special dinner guests; Ken and Jerome of Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Disaster Relief. This group volunteers all over the country. Whenever there is a disaster, like a hurricane or tornado, the volunteers drive sometimes hundreds of miles to offer their help. They will stay for days and even weeks helping out. Maybe you saw their trailer parked at the New Monmouth Baptist Church parking lot. SBC Disaster Relief volunteers must be active members of a local Southern Baptist church. They must be 18 years old or older and in good physical condition.

Ken and Jerome explained all of the training they received.. First, every volunteer is required to be

trained on the feeding team: cooking and serving meals to the hungry people. Feeding people is the first priority in a disaster. After completing that training, they can choose other areas of service to train in, such as laundry and child care.



Some of the jobs are difficult. One is Mud-Out Removal. If a house has been flooded and has a lot of debris and dirt, it needs to be cleaned out before it can be repaired. This is dirty, messy

work and sometimes can be dangerous. Both Ken and Jerome were doing this in our area. Another job is chain-saw. The team removed trees and branches that have fallen on or around a house. The team needs a lot of training to learn how to safely do this.

Ken and Jerome explained that the Southern Baptists feel that they have a moral obligation to help people in need. Inviting them over for Thanksgiving dinner, when they were far away from their homes in Oklahoma, was the least we could do. We were very thankful that people like this would come all the way to Monmouth County NJ to help after Hurricane Sandy.

Hurricane Sandy

by Julia Fuchs

Hurricane Sandy of 2012 caused severe damage in New Jersey. It is said that Hurricane Sandy was the biggest hurricane to hit New Jersey. The hurricane was a tropical cyclone that swept through the Caribbean and up the east coast of the United States. This storm left dozens of people dead, thousands of people homeless and millions of people without power. A few days be-

fore the storm hit Governor Chris Christie came to Middletown. He told anyone in the area near the firehouse to evacuate homes. A lot of people underestimated what would be one of the biggest storms that hit New Jersey. Hurricane Sandy was a category 2 hurricane with winds up to 75 mph.

Most of NJ was devastated, but to all those members of Thorne

who lost their homes or a big part of their homes STAY STRONG. For members of Thorne who were not devastated, try your best to help out the people who were devastated. You can donate items people need to your local church or the Red Cross.

The Truth About Thanksgiving

By Julia Fuchs

Thanksgiving is a holiday we all love. Thanksgiving is a time to see your family and think about what you're thankful for. The story of Thanksgiving is traditionally told that the Pilgrim men were hunting and they ran into some Indians. The Indians helped the pilgrims by getting them crops then later joining them to have a feast. We now call it Thanksgiving.

The true story about Thanksgiving is actually a little sad. The native Americans were having their annual green corn festival. Hundreds of women, children and men were dancing, singing, and



just having a good time. Then out of no where Dutch and British settlers attacked the Indians. The new settlers took the Indians food and forced them to join them in a feast that is now called Thanksgiving.

Port Monmouth Spy house by Emily Yeager

The spy house or the Seabrook-Wilson House is located at 119 Port Monmouth Road, New Jersey. Built in 1648 it was nicknamed the Spy house because during the revolutionary war the British troops went there and talked about their plan around the tavern owner, then the tavern owner told the colonial troops the British plan for attack. The house then came into possession of the Seabrook family and stayed in the family for 250 years.

The Spy house is said to be one of the most haunted places in America. For years people have been saying that there is a female ghost that would appear from time to time and come down the stairs

of the attic and walk into two rooms called the blue and white rooms. She then appears to lean over a crib and straighten a quilt. She disappears into thin air. It once was home to twenty-two ghosts.



Elf on the Shelf by Gianna Todaro

Have you ever wondered how Santa knows if you are good or bad? Well he has a messenger, the Elf on the Shelf. Many of them, actually! Is there one in your house? Everyday the elf looks after you. Every night they fly to the North Pole to tell Santa if you were good or bad. Then they return to your house and sit in a new place for you to find the next day. You can not touch the elves, or they will lose their magic.

These little elves go back hundreds of years, supposedly to Scandinavia. The Christmas tradition disappeared until the 1950s, when it reappeared in Japan.

There is no set date to when the Elf on the Shelf appears, but he or she normally comes soon after Thanksgiving.



Many people think elves are adorable and add fun to the holidays, but many think it is just some creepy elf doll. What do you think? Is the Elf on the Shelf really Santa's messenger, or is it just a doll or add fun for little children?

Holiday Gift Guide by Logan Smith

Out of 136 students/people polled, these are the most anticipated gifts for the holiday-

I PHONE—73
I PAD—15
I POD—20
WII U— 18
LAP TOP—9
NONE—1

Holiday Gift Guide

By Maura DeRose

Gift Giving:

When deciding what's the perfect gift, remember that you do not need to spend a fortune. The best gifts come from the heart. You do not need to break the proverbial bank to show someone you care. Correspond with family to ensure no one gives the same gift.

Friends:

Great gifts for friends are things that remind you of a wonderful memory. Some ideas are a CD of songs you think they would like or that they represent how much that person means to you. A framed picture of the two of you is another idea.

Moms and Aunts:

If you want to make your gift for your mom or your aunt, artwork is a great option. It shows you care and that you gave your gift thought. If you want to spend money, pampering products are great because they remind these hardworking women to care for themselves too.

Dads and Uncles:

If your dad or uncle likes sports, it is a good idea to get them a gift related to their favorite team. Some ideas are mugs or ornaments. Another idea is what I am giving my dad... a huge jar of hot chocolate. It is a fun, inexpensive gift.

Grandparents:

Grandparents will adore anything you make for them. Some ideas are: baked goods, pictures and artwork.

Brothers or Sisters:

Here is where you should ask your parents for ideas and maybe even money. They can tell you some things your siblings may want



School Dances by Hailey Drake

Do you want to go to the school dance? Well keep listening to the announcements during homeroom for the date and time of the next dance. Mrs. Knouse tries to have the dances around different holidays to make them more festive. If you have not been to one yet, you really should check it out.



Movie Reviews



Les Miserables
By Maura DeRose

The most recent adaptation of the book turned mega-musical Les Miserable's hit theaters on Christmas Day. The film starts Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway, Amanda Seyfried, Samantha Barks and Eddie Redmayne.

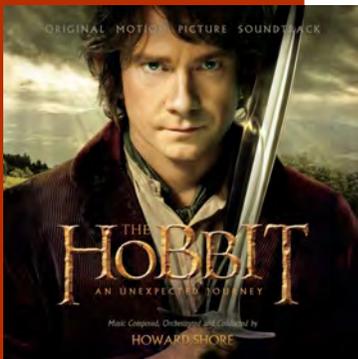
The story takes place during the French Revolution. A prisoner known as #24601

named Jean Valjean breaks his parole and begins a new life as a kind leader of a French town. When another man is accused of being prisoner #24601 he confesses that he is actually the prisoner they are looking for but escapes again. He promises a sickly woman that he would act as a father to her daughter Cosette. Together they escape from inspector Javert. Years later Cosette falls in love with a rebellious wealthy boy named Marius. A war between the French and

rebels breaks out and Marius and the rebellion must fight to save the Republic.

The film was beautiful and very well done. I have never seen the musical, but hear the film stayed true to the musical. The movie will appeal to most audiences because it includes action, adventure, and romance.

***** five out of five stars



The Hobbit
By Gianna Todaro

I recently went to see the long awaited movie, the Hobbit. I was not disappointed. The movie was a little long and it was slow to get going but then the action picked up. The scenery and special effects were great!. Martin Freeman, the actor who played Bilbo

Baggins, really captured the characters true spirit. He was both afraid and adventurous. The dwarves and trolls were very funny.

The second Hobbit movie is scheduled to come out in December of 2013. Expect to see a lot of fiery dragon action

If you go to the Rave Cinemas in Hazlet and bring your student ID, you will get a discount on tickets. Also on Tuesday, movies are 6.00 all day.

***** 5 out of 5 stars



Snapple Facts by Justin Kroeper and Mae Bowden

- 1— a goldfish’s attention span is three seconds
- 2— animals that lay eggs do not have belly buttons
- 3— beavers can hold their breathe for 45 minutes under water
- 4— slugs have 4 noses
- 5— camels have 3 eyelids
- 6— a honeybee can fly at 15 mph
- 7— the average speed of a housefly is 4.5 mph



8— mosquitoes are attracted to people who just ate bananas
So here is what true and what is false.

- 1— false 2— true 3— false 4— false 5— true
- 6— true 7— true 8— true



Horoscopes by Hailey Drake

Aries: March 21-April 20—

You will get anything you want someday

Taurus: April 21-May 20—

You will see yourself on TV one day

Gemini: May 21-June 21—

You will find a 100 dollar bill on the floor

Cancer: June 22-July 22—

You will win the lotto

Leo: July 23-August 22—

You will break your sunglasses

Virgo: August 23-September 22—

Someone will do something for you.

Libra: September 23-October 22—

Good luck is coming your way.

Scorpio: October 23-November 21—

You will go shopping

Sagittarius— November 22-December 21—

Life will be more exciting this year.

Capricorn: December 22-January 20—

You work so hard. Soon you will be able to relax

Aquarius: January 21-February 19—

You may find some bad luck but good luck will come soon.

Pisces: February 20— March 20—

You will find your true love

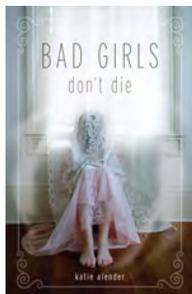
Book Reviews

HOLES—by Gianna Calerone

In the book Holes, Stanley (the main character) is sent to Camp Green Lake because he was found guilty of stealing. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. Soon Stanley finds out they are not just digging to build character.

4 out of 5 stars ****

Bad Girls Don't Die by Katie Alender by Maura DeRose



Strange things are happening to Alexis. The class president is showing an interest in her despite her “too-cool-for-school” attitude. She has odd visions of a girl who lived in their house long ago. Her sister Kasey’s blue eyes are turning green on and off. Kasey is forgetting what happened during large periods of time. She even periodically speaks like she is from another time. Doors open and close themselves and appliances work without being turned on.

Then these strange occurrences turn dangerous when her mom’s car brakes are cut. What is happening to Alexis Warren?

This story will appeal to readers interested in eerie ghost stories and anything that goes bump in the night. Late night readers beware!

THORNE'S STUDENT CREATIVITY

ART WORK BY JOAN KANG

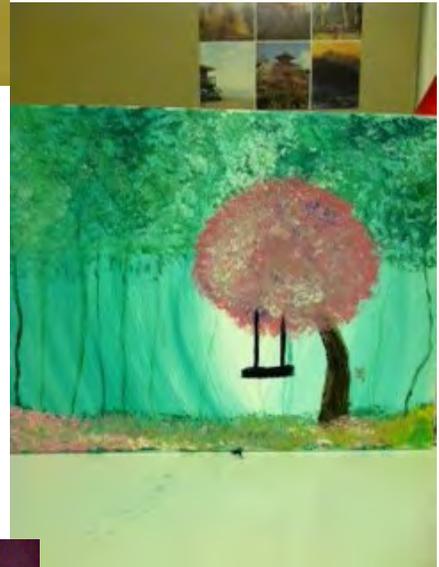


**THE PURPOSE OF ART
IS WASHING THE DUST
OF DAILY LIFE OFF
OUR SOULS.**

Pablo Picasso

**“IF YOU HEAR A VOICE INSIDE
OF YOU SAY ‘YOU CANNOT
PAINT’, THEN BY ALL MEANS
PAINT AND THAT VOICE WILL
BE SILENCED.**

Vincent VanGogh



THORNE COMMENTARY

ZOO'S: ARE THEY GOOD FOR ANIMALS OR BAD FOR THEM?

By Julia Fuchs

I recently read an article about zoo's in Mrs. Tatem's Honors Language Arts Class. The article was about zoos and the assignment was to decide how you feel about them. Do you think they are good or bad for animals? At first I thought that zoos were good and helped out the animals and even taught them different things. Then my fellow classmates Jonathan Nickel and Brooke D' Antonio pointed out that they do not get a lot of room to roam around in the zoos.

I did a little more research on the topic and decided that I feel neutral about zoos. I wanted to see how other people felt about this topic. I found an article from GlobalAnimal.com. The writer said that zoos do serve an educational purpose for the animals and for people. It also said that zoos are beneficial for science tests. The animals are kept in good care and they help animals with their medical needs.

On the flip side, it also stated that some of the animals are not kept at the right temperature and that they do not get a lot of room to roam around. After reading this article, I interviewed a few people about how they felt about zoos.

First I interviewed my mother, who is a former member of the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Q: Do you think zoos are good or bad for animals?

A: "I like zoos and I do think they try to help animals that are injured and also they try to preserve species that otherwise may cease to exist."

Q: Do you think zoos give animals enough space to roam?

A: "It depends on the animal. I think certain animals would be better off at a wild animal preserve but I understand that there might not be a lot of room in certain places of the world."

Q: Do you think zoos serve an educational purpose to children and adults?

A: "I think by going to zoos you can learn about different culture, and geographies. They can be very helpful."

I also interviewed Jessica Kobilas and Mallory Salazzo to see what my peers may feel about the subject. I asked them the same questions I asked my mother.

Do you think zoos are good or bad for animals?

J.K: "I think they are bad because animals should be free and they should be with their families. They live in the wild and should be left there."

M.S: "I feel that zoos are pretty bad especially when animals are taken in for no real reason. Unless if they are hurt, they should not be in zoos."

Do you think zoos give animals enough space?

J.K: "Yes, I think that zoos are really trying to provide animals with the space they need."

M.S: "Yes, I am aware that some zoos are actually trying to make their areas like a natural habitat. I do understand that some of the habitats just may not be possible to recreate."

Do you think zoos are helping animals with their medical needs?

J.K: Yes, the zoos do recognize the animals medical needs, but I still think they should be kept in the wild."

M.S: "Yes, most zoos do give them enough medical attention but others just keep animals in a small cage and aren't treating them. It really depends on the zoo."

Do you think zoos serve an educational purpose to children and adults?

J.K: Yes, I learn a lot about animals every time I visit a zoo.

M.S.: "Yes, I do think they can teach a lot. However, I don't agree with how sometimes the zoos use the animals as test dummies for entertainment."

Between my interviews and the article I read, I learned a lot about zoos. I never thought that zoos can be actually bad for animals in some cases. I also learned about how some people feel different about zoos and how animals should be kept. All in all, the answer may vary. It all depends on what you read, and who you ask.

In the past few days I have been really thinking about how I feel about zoos. That is why I said I personally feel neutral about zoos. I think they are good for some reasons but I think they are bad for other reasons. I do think animals should be in the wild, but the zoos do keep animals safe and in some cases give them a good home.

After reading this, what do you think about zoos? Are zoos good or bad for animals?

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Thornems.com

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