



THE BANNER

North Brunswick Township High School
98 Raider Road North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Volume 33, Issue 01

Heritage Day

Abhie Maharana, Staff Writer

From a distance you can see the large, green, inflatable gecko standing tall, waving in the autumn wind. Kids are running around, engaging in activities such as outdoor laser tag and soccer with the North Brunswick High School's Varsity soccer team. Accompanied with these activities are cultural music, hot and delicious food, and booths in which people can visit to see what the various businesses, high school clubs, and establishments have to offer. Horse carriages carry smiling kids and jubilant parents, and a cheerful atmosphere overcomes Community Park. This is the 35th annual Heritage Day in North Brunswick.

This day is celebrated to expose people to the cultural heritage of our town, North Brunswick. On this day, people dance, eat, sing, and have fun together while learning about the history of our town. Heritage Day Chairman Andrew Zastko along with many committee members are behind the success of the event. Thanks to them and the Parks and Recreation Department, the residents of North Brunswick can truly experience the heritage of their town.

Opening ceremony began with the North Brunswick High School Choir singing the "Star Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America" and the elementary school students playing the drums using buckets. After the event kicked off, bands took the stage and blasted amazing music that got people grooving on the dance stage! Kids engaged in the various activities Heritage Day had to offer. At 7:00 PM, the winner of the Ann Marie Chandlee Heritage Day Award was announced as "a township resident who has been dedicated to improving the quality of life in North Brunswick as a volunteer with a non-profit group or civic organization for an extended period of time." The night ended with fireworks illuminating the night sky.

Overall, this is a day to enjoy with family and friends, while still learning something new about North Brunswick. Even if you're just looking forward for a relaxing day with your loved ones, Heritage Day fits the description. It is amazing to see such a tradition continue throughout our town of North Brunswick!

Walmart Expansion

Lisbeth Martinez Burgos, Staff Writer

The Walmart expansion has been one of the most recent developments in North Brunswick. The well-known store has managed to become one of the places where huge sales yielded nationally and internationally. Thanks to the great variety of items and products offered in Walmart, many people come and are interested in shopping at Walmart. The expansion took months to complete, but it is finally open for consumers.

Not to mention the expansion of Walmart resulted in many differences with the place that was before which is obvious. For example, the original main entrance is now closed, while the new entrance is on the right side of the store.

The expansion of the place has increased sales along with customer satisfaction. However, it received negative opinions too, which is normal when making

changes and expansions of that magnitude and good as it is to know there are always positive and negative impressions on people.

Many people were waiting for the day when the expansion of Walmart was finished. Finally they could visit the the new Walmart spend the day with family and friends. Some of the advantages that the place has after being expanded are the following:

- * It is more spacious; it has more space for people and room to add more items for sale.
- * People are interested in shopping in a spacious place with so many product varieties.
- * Walmart became more recognized and frequented by people.
- * The store will gain greater profits, stimulating business.

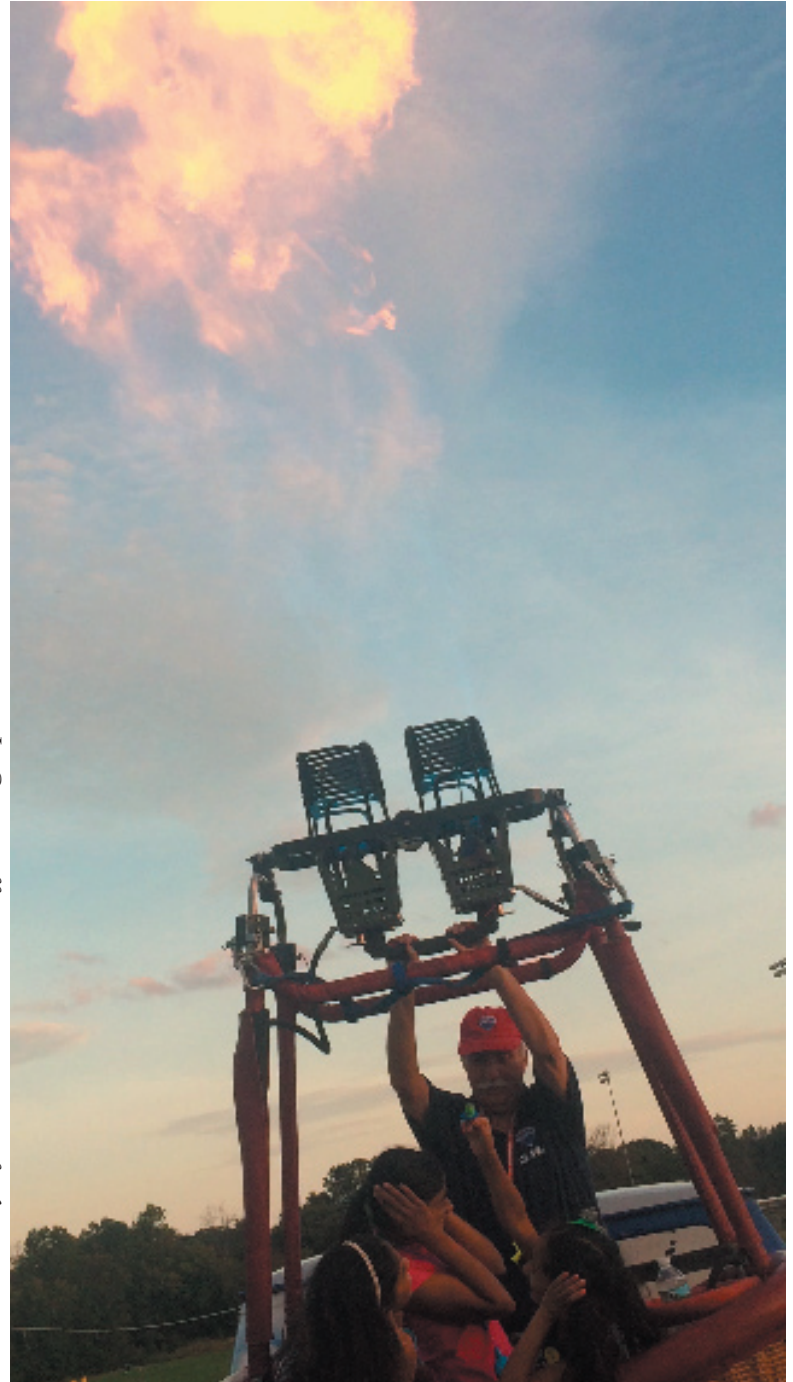


Photo courtesy of Shaniah Stokes, Staff Photographer

At Heritage Day students enjoyed the hot air balloon provided by Remax.

Hurricane Frenzy

Iftikhar Ali, Staff Writer

The year of 2017 had many hurricanes that it is almost hard to keep track of them. Nevertheless, let us start with Hurricane Harvey. Harvey destroyed an area of land from Houston to Louisiana, leaving many cities underwater. It also hit a chemical plant, leaving the hazardous materials to permeate the waters of the flood. Unfortunately, about 39 people have died in the hurricane. In a way to assist those that were affected negatively, many organizations and relief groups provided support to the victims including our high school with the poster for "Hands for Harvey."

Another hurricane was Hurricane Maria, which was centered in Puerto Rico as it came from the Caribbean. It also struck the Turks and Caicos islands. The entire island lost power! It is said that it would take months for power to return in Puerto Rico. To make matters worse, about 15 people died in Dominican Republic and some remain missing. This hurricane truly took its toll on the people in those areas.

Hurricane Irma invaded Florida and the Caribbean Islands. Furthermore as a category 5, the hurricane invaded Cuba. Along with destroying many buildings and leaving rubble in its path, Hurricane Irma resulted in many power outages. Many people did not have power for a week. Moreover, about 34 people died in the hurricane, which does not even include the people from the nursery homes.

In all of these events, many are trying their best to rebuild the broken constructions and return the country to a normal and safe state from the blow of the hurricanes. Although many natural catastrophes took place, it is uplifting to know that the world has not forgotten about the victims and those in dire need of help.

CLUB UPDATES

Care to Walk

Care-To-Walk hosted their 19th annual 5k walk/run on Sunday, October 15th at NBTHS. This year's new route went through Veteran's Park and around JUDD elementary school, and ended with a final lap around the track at Steve Libro Stadium. The club grossed around \$18,000 with sock and T-shirt

sales, as well as club registrations and donations. Over the past 19 years, the club will have raised over \$250,00 for breast and ovarian cancer research. All proceeds from the club are donated to the Rutgers Cancer Institute. Our 20th annual event is scheduled to be held on Sunday, October 28th. You don't want to miss it!

Class of 2019

Greetings from the Class of 2019! The year has just begun and we have already accomplished a lot and planned numerous activities and fundraisers for the school year of 2017-2018. This is the year of Junior Evening, which will take place on Friday, May 18th. The Class of 2019 has a Winter Festival planned for Friday, December 15th which will encompass holiday festivities

such as ornament making, Menorah making and festive food and drinks as well. We have numerous fundraisers set up for the 2017-2018 school year such as various Chipotle fundraisers and our Five Below fundraiser the weekend before Easter. Our t-shirt sale went well this year and to all those who support the Class of 2019, thank you and have a wonderful school year!

Film Production Club

Film Production Club held it's first meetings and elected Drew Richardson President. Students began working on personal projects with other club members or by themselves. As we get closer to the end of 2017, students will begin working on public service announcements for the county contest.

Human Rights Coalition

Human Rights Coalition has been talking about the issues affecting the world today. We started the year with a project called "Hands for Harvey" where students paid \$1 to put their handprint on a poster to raise money for hurricane relief. We are currently discussing how to have a toiletry drive for the victims of Hurricane Maria.

Stay Tuned For
Our Next Club
Updates Next
Time!!!

Latin American Club

Starting in October members of the Latin American Club have been going to Linwood Middle every Tuesday to tutor the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders with Math, Science, English or Social Studies.

About The Banner

As a news publication of North Brunswick Township High School, *The Banner* serves to provide students with interesting, timely and important information about the school and community. Its staff covers events and stories that are pertinent to the student body at NBTHS.

While honoring the provisions the school has established to maintain a safe environment for its students, the staff upholds freedom of speech as ruled in *Tinker vs. Des Moines*.

The Banner runs online; throughout the year, the staff maintains a circulation of an electronic publication among NBTHS, the Board of Education and other areas in the community.

Advisory Board:

Rebecca Rouantree

Editorial Board:

Keshav Mukundhan
Shaniah Stokes
Oleado Ukanwoke

Staff:

Iftikhar Ali
Alisha Alkias
Keris Calhoun
Ricardo Figueroa
Yarely Galindo
Abhie Maharana
Lisbeth Martinez Burgos
Paola Rodriguez

STUDENTS OF THE MARKING PERIOD

Bruno Andino
Paulina Baidoo
Tykeisha Burrell
Nicole DeMato

Luis Fernando Morocho
Yaziana Guzman
Baljit Singh
Cory Taylor

Yomaira Velez Rodriguez
Bernard Pereda
Dior Whitfield
Samantha Zielinski

OPINIONS

Point \leftrightarrow Counter-Point*It was Good*

Keshav Mukundhan, Staff Writer

This terrifying clown movie constructs horror from fear itself. *It* is a horror adventure in which a group of kids goes to fight a monster who isn't noticed by adults. Based on Stephen King's 1986 novel but only covers the first part of the book.

There are lots of scenes from the movie that were similar to the book. That made lots of fans of the book like the movie. Also, the film doesn't feel rushed, instead it takes its time with important scenes.

The main change in *It* is

that it takes places in the 1980s instead of the 1950s. Usually, when remakes comes from books they don't live up to expectations, but this movie does. Even the author Stephen King was shocked by how excellent the film was portrayed.

This is one of the better Stephen King adaptations. The filmmaking allows the audience to feel as if they are in an alternate reality where there is no escape. The movie *It* is only part one of the two parts, with more horror to come.

It was Terrible

Keris J. Calhoun, Staff Writer

Since September 8th 2017, everyone has been raving about the latest scary movie, *It*. As in "it" was terrible. It was a remake of Stephen King's 1990 film *It*.

I had just recently seen the movie with my 11 year old brother Darius, and he loved it, but he also had nightmares about it.

The beginning of this scary movie was normal and gave viewers the tension that is a characteristic of scary movies, but somehow this movie didn't keep me on the edge of my seat. First off, the movie wasn't even scary, and the total point of a scary movie is to be scary. Second, the supposed "blood" looked like strawberry jam. And don't even

get me started on the clown. Bill Skarsgård literally looked like a man that would actually eat people in real life. Bill Skarsgård had the great opportunity to play in that role. As far as the kids and the adults, they always wind up dead in one of the worst places and get themselves almost killed.

When I watched it, I wanted to leave, but then it would be a waste of my \$7 dollars. It was as boring as the first one. *It*, was just a the most terrible, appalling, atrocious, awful, disastrous, and disturbing movie of all time. Do not, I repeat do not watch *It*, if you don't want to. It was an overall waste!!!

Middle School in The Renaissance

Abhie Maharana, Staff Writer

Recently, a referendum to build a middle school by the Renaissance Community on Renaissance Boulevard, has been passed. When the residents of North Brunswick Township were asked to vote for the referendum, the majority of residents were in favor of having the school built (vote was 1,807 to 1,648). Costing a total of \$77.3 million, this school is projected to be completed by 2021.

After the completion of the school, a major issue will be the control of traffic in the area. The school is built right beside a neighborhood in which residents are constantly entering and exiting. With the buses halting near the middle school, halting in existing bus stops

all around the Renaissance, and interfering with common traffic, residents will have a tough time driving in their own neighborhood.

Additionally, with the construction of the middle school, property taxes will increase for residents in the area. Not only will they have to pay for the schools, but also for the train station being built opposite from BJ's and the movie theater. Property taxes are already at an all time high in North Brunswick due to the construction of many new buildings such as Panera Bread, Target, Costco, and The Green Turtle. With the addition of a new middle school and the train station, residents would have to pay a relatively

large amount of money.

With the influx of children from every school, North Brunswick High School, the new middle school, Linwood Middle School, and all four elementary schools, there is bound to be much more noise than ever before. Also, with so many children walking home and crossing roads, cars driving by can accidentally hit children.

Overall, the construction of the new school will create an unsafe environment, increase property taxes for residents in the area, and increase the amount of traffic in the Renaissance.

The Good Doctor

Shaniah Stokes, Staff Writer

On Monday starting at 10/9c P.M., a new show called *The Good Doctor* comes onto television. The show centers the main character Dr. Shaun Murphy (Freddie Highmore) a surgeon who has autism and savant syndrome.

In my point of view, this medical drama is similar to the abc

show *Grey's Anatomy*, however the concept is different since it shows that you can be anything that you put your mind to and achieve your dreams regardless medical needs/ restrictions. Although the medical drama is very diverse it upsets me when they don't allow

Shaun Murphy to perform surgeries because they feel like he is not capable of working with blood.

Based on this analysis, the show demonstrates that autistic people aren't capable of doing most things, however since he is part of the surgical

staff then he should be allowed to perform surgery as the others.

The main character really stands out to me because he is capable of finding a problem and analyzing the body and its function.

Overall, the show is pretty great and I can't wait to see what more the show has to offer.