



MARINER CHRONICLE



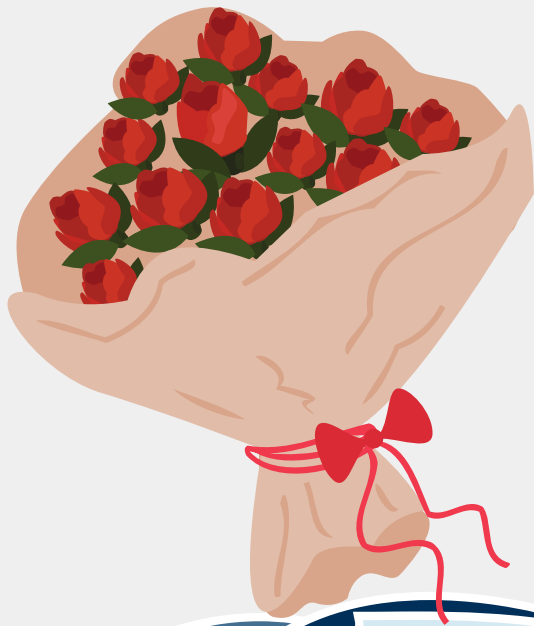
February 26th, 2025 MANISTEE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Vol 2 Issue 3

Written by Piper Eskridge

VALENTINE'S HISTORY!

Valentine's Day has a cool history that mixes old traditions with the current days celebrations. It all started in ancient Rome with a festival called Lupercalia in mid-February. Back then, Romans celebrated fertility and new beginnings with fun rituals, including little gifts and ceremonies to chase away evil spirits. As Christianity spread, leaders began replacing these pagan traditions with Christian ones, and that's when St. Valentine came into the picture.



St. Valentine was a priest from the third century who went against Emperor Claudius II's rule. The emperor had banned marriages for young men, but Valentine believed in love so much that he secretly married couples. His daring act eventually landed him in trouble, and he was martyred. Over time, people started honoring him on February 14th, linking the day to romance and affection.

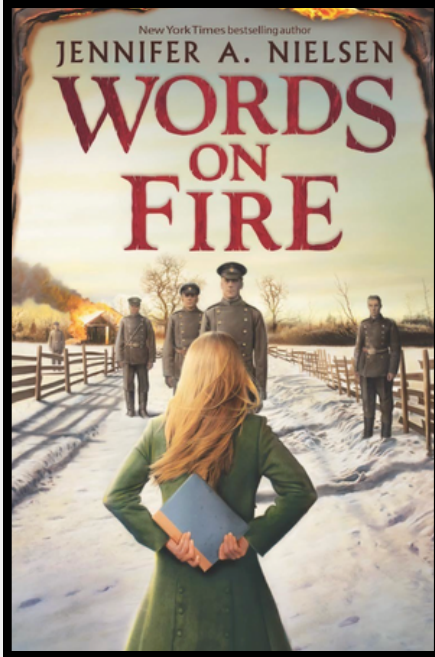
By the Middle Ages, Valentine's Day had become a day for celebrating love with handwritten notes, small gifts, and tokens of affection. Poets and writers added extra sparkle to the day, turning it into a celebration of courtly love. Today, Valentine's Day is a blend of history and modern fun, with people worldwide sharing love in all sorts of ways. Whether through a card, a text, or a small gesture, the day still brings people together.

Written by Audrey Huizinga

MARINERS' BOOK RECCOMENDATIONS!

Reading is a hobby people of any age can take place in! The genres are vast, accessibility is easy, and you can read anywhere! Here are some of your peer's favorite books and why:

Layne Piper (9) - Scythe by Neal Shusterman. He liked it because "it helps us realize the value of life and how lackluster some people's lives are."



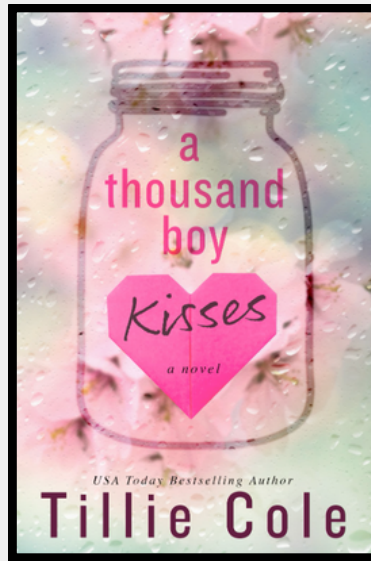
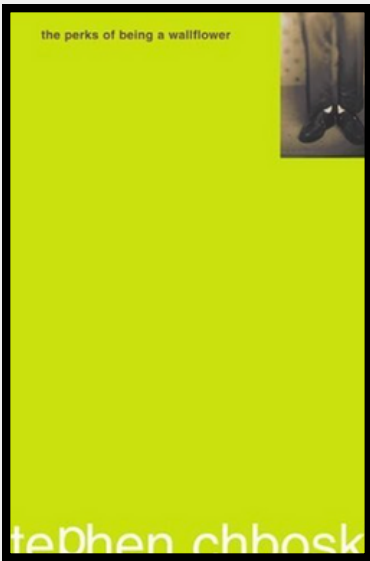
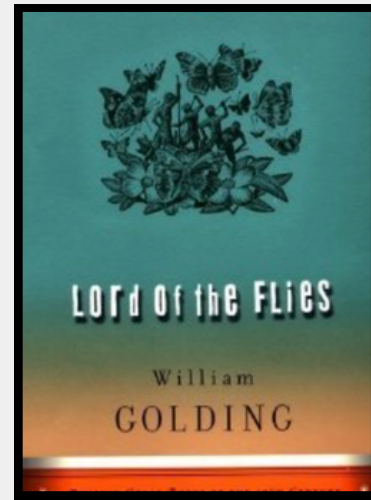
Bella Cramer (12) - *Words on Fire*, by Jennifer A. Nielsen. She liked it because "it shows resilience and rebellion. It's a great book for some history and suspense."



Aubrey Rischel (12) - *The Secret Language of Sisters*, by Luanne Rice. She liked it because "it was the first book I ever read that really got me into reading."



Rudy Shearer (12) - *Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding. He liked it because "I remember the first time I ever read it in sophomore year. I loved this book so much because it took you on a trip as if you were on the island with all the boys. It also really does a great job demonstrating how humans can eventually resort to savagery if given the circumstances."



Alayna Edmondson (11) - *A Thousand Boy Kisses*, by Tillie Cole. She likes it because "it opens your eyes to a different part of life, and I like how it's not a typical romance story with a happy ending."

Ava Sielski (9) - *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, by Stephen Chbosky. She likes it because "I relate to it when you read it so many times, it's like you find out something new."

UPCOMING MUSICAL!

Written by Kate Somsel

This year, the Manistee Theatre chose to put on Shrek for their spring musical! The showing dates are:

Friday (3/14) @7

Saturday (3/15) @2 and @7

Sunday (3/16) @2

Tickets are \$10 or \$15, depending on seats!

Show up and support your peers as they put on their hardworking production!

STAFF OF THE WEEK:

MRS. NOWICKI

Written by Alayna Edmondson

Staff Spotlight is an easy way for students to learn more about the familiar and new faces around the school. This time, we have Mrs. Nowicki! Mrs. Nowicki has been around the school for some time, but this is her first year being principal! We are so lucky to have her throughout this year regardless of the position! Here are some things to know about her:

How long have you been a staff here at MAPS?

- I have been a part of MAPS since 2008, beginning my journey as a 2nd-grade teacher at Jefferson Elementary. After several years, I transitioned to Manistee Middle High School, where I taught 7th and 8th grade English Language Arts. In 2021, I stepped into the role of assistant principal, and this school year (2024-25), I am honored to serve as the principal of MMHS.

What was your dream occupation as a kid?

- As a kid, I absolutely loved weather and wanted to be a meteorologist. I even dreamed of being a weather girl on TV!

What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?

- Currently, my favorite thing to do in my free time is to go snow skiing as much as possible. It's a great way to stay active and enjoy the fresh air!



What is your favorite part about your new position?

- One of my favorite parts of being a new principal is supporting student voices, building a strong school community, and implementing positive changes. I love seeing students take ownership of their school experience and find ways to make MMHS a place where everyone feels valued and supported.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: HAILEY JOHNSON

Written by Aubrey Rischel

Each week, we select a boy and a girl in the senior class to answer some questions about themselves so that we can all get to know them just a little bit better. This week, we selected Hailey Johnson and Christopher Eilers!



Do you have any extracurricular activities or hobbies you'd like to share?

- I wrestle and cheer at school as well as snowboard and drag race outside of school.

If you could give advice to incoming freshmen, what would it be?

- Don't give yourself missing assignments!

What are your plans after graduation? College, work, gap year, or something else?

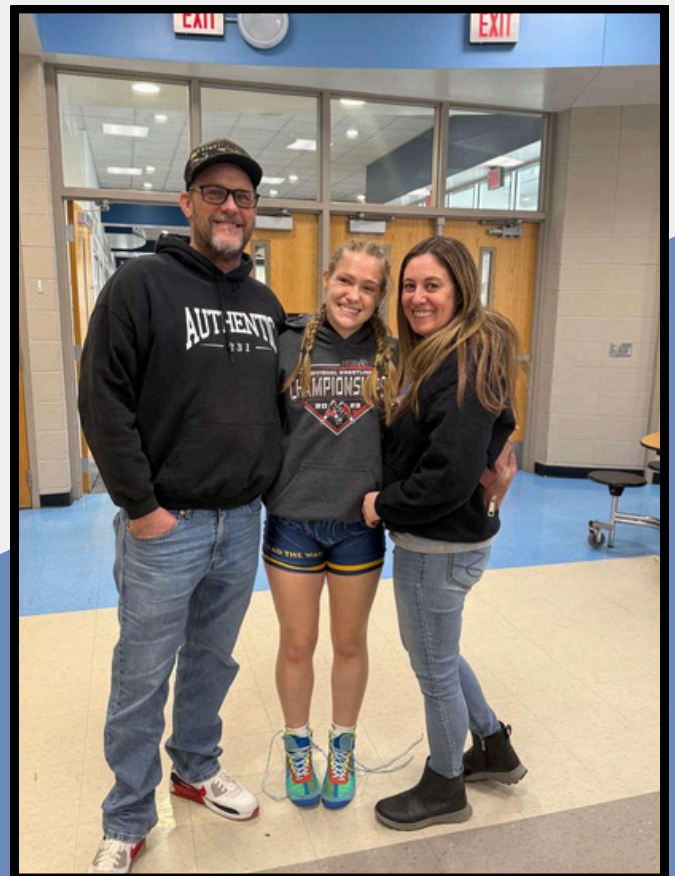
- I am going to an undecided college next fall to pursue something in the medical field and own my own business.

What's your favorite high school tradition or event(s)?

- My favorite school events are homecoming and prom.

What do you think you'll miss most about high school?

- I'll miss my friends and being at home the most.



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: CHRISTOPHER EILERS

Written by Aubrey Rischel



Have you grown as a person over your high school years?

- If you ask me? Nope. But my family says I've grown a lot.

Do you have any extracurricular activities or hobbies you'd like to share?

- I snowboard in the winter, but I don't do much other than that

If you could give advice to incoming freshmen, what would it be?

- **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!**

What do you think you'll miss most about high school?

- Easy classes and general tomfoolery

What's your favorite high school tradition or event(s)?

- Mock rock by far! I love an excuse to be extra weird

What excites you most about the future?

- Food. That's it. I just love food.

What are your plans after graduation? College, work, gap year, or something else?

- I'll be going to NMC for the culinary institute. From there, I hope to get a job cooking professionally on cruise ships.



MARINER BASKETBALL

Written by Alayna Edmondson



The JV girls team played Whitehall, Montague, and Fremont and

came up short for each of the games. **Annabelle Kieszkowski (10)** led against Whitehall with 7 points. Against the Wildcats **Maya Goodspeed (9)** added 9 points. Lastly, against Fremont, **Marah Miller (9)** tallied 4 points.



The Varsity girls played Whitehall and came out winning 58-27. **Hattie Driver (9)** led the team in points with 15! **Alayna Edmondson (11)** contributed 7 assists, 9 rebounds, and 7 steals. **Avamae Fett (11)** also added 9 rebounds, while **Lindsey Gardner (11)** tallied 7 steals. However, against Montague, they ended with a loss of 43-31. Edmondson led the team with 24 points, 6 assists, and 4 steals! Driver led the team with 5 rebounds. Next, against Fremont, the Varsity lost 63-38. Driver led with 19 points. Edmondson contributed 5 assists and 11 rebounds. **Kate Somsel (12)** had 5 steals.

The JV Boys came out losing against Whitehall with a score of 64-36. **Aiden Luomala (10)** and **Xavier Goodspeed (9)** led the Mariners with 8 points each. Goodspeed also led the team with 6 rebounds, as **Wyatt Protasiewicz (10)** led in steals and assists contributing 2 for each.

BASKETBALL CONT...

Another hard loss for the boys to Montague with a score of 53-45. **Adam Olson (9)** led the team with 22 points! **Eddie Huizinga (9)** led in rebounding, contributing 8, **Morgan Banicki (9)** added 8 assists, and **Hudson Cole (9)** had 3 steals. Lastly, they played Fremont and ended up losing 43-40. Luomala and Huizinga both came out with a double-double. Luomala had 23 points and 11 rebounds. Huizinga also contributed 11 rebounds and 13 points!



Moving on, our Varsity boys had an amazing win against Whitehall with a score of 55-54. **Kaden Kott (12)** led the team with 20 points, 6 steals and 3 assists! **Max Scharp (11)** contributed 5 rebounds for the team! Adding another win to their season against Montague, they won 57-48. Kott led the team again with 16 points, 6 assists, and 4 steals! **Landin Sowa (11)** added on 6 rebounds for the boys. They tallied a third win, against the Fremont Packers with a score of 56-42. Kott led with 19 points and 4 steals. **Braylen Zimmerman (11)** had 3 assists, and **Dayvion Neal-Berry (10)** tallied 10 rebounds.

These have great couple of weeks of basketball for both boys and girls. The boys now move on to districts. They played on Monday at Shelby and again Wednesday against MCC! You can purchase tickets through GoFan. The girls have one more week of regular season play where they play Pine River on Tuesday and Big Rapids on Thursday.

BOYS SWIM LEADS WITH NEW COACHING!

Written by Adah Korzeniewski

Following Corey Vanfleet's retirement, the boy's swim team has begun the season under new leadership. Mac Huston has taken over as head coach, with Ajae Gouker stepping into the role of assistant coach. Under their new leadership, the team has grown to include nine members. It is steadily growing and building a strong foundation for future teams.



At a recent meet against Fremont, the team showcased their determination. **Oliver Holtgren (12)** and **Layne Piper (9)** stood out in the 500-meter race, securing impressive first- and second-place finishes. Their efforts highlighted the meet, demonstrating the team's growing competitive spirit. **Avery Cook (12)** reflected on the meet, calling it "one of the best of the year." He praised the team's overall performance, noting that every swimmer contributed to the meet's success through their dedication to the team.

With a solid start to the season, the boy's swim team feels confident about the future. The combination of strong leadership and the continued improvement of each swimmer sets the course for a promising season ahead.



8TH GRADERS GO TO SLEEPING BEAR!

Written by Hailey Johnson

This year, the 8th graders had their “Winter-White-Out” at Sleeping Bear Dunes! Sleeping Bear is most often visited in the summer and is an attraction to all! Our 8th graders got a chance to visit during the winter months! Here is **Hoyt Edmondson**’s view on the trip!

Have you been there before?
Or was this your first time visiting?

I've been there before but only during the summer time.

What was the most exciting or challenging part of the trip?

The snow was deep while running down the hill which was challenging.

Were there any fun or unexpected moments that happened during the trip?

Watching everyone fall while running down the hill.



Did you do the dune climb? If so, how hard was it?

Yes, it was light weight.

What was your favorite part of the trip to sleeping bear dunes?

Running down the hill.

What did you learn about the history or nature of sleeping bear dunes?

The natives and the story behind sleeping bear dunes with the islands being cubs.

How would you describe this trip in 3 words?

Cold, tiring and educational.





STAFF



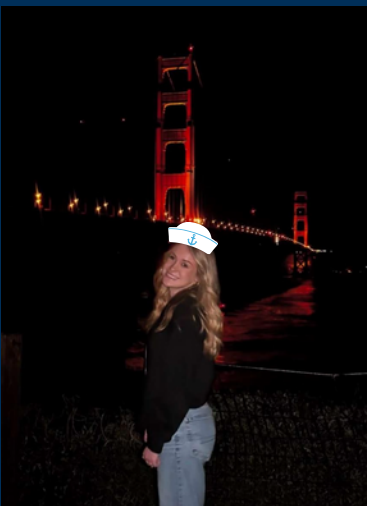
Alayna Edmondson (11)
Writer



Kate Somsel (12)
Editor/Writer



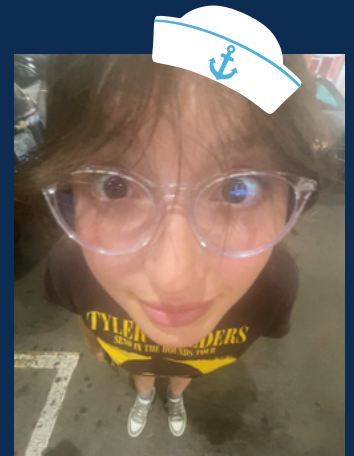
Audrey Huizinga (12)
Writer



Hailey Johnson (12)
Writer



Aubrey Rischel (12)
Writer



Piper Eskridge (12)
Writer



Mr. Quakkelaar
Advisor
"You've got to be kind"

GUEST WRITER

Email Mr. Q or Kate Somsel if you are interested in writing for the Mariner Chronicle! Your help is wanted!

