



MARINER CHRONICLE



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MANISTEE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Vol 2 Issue 1

Written by Gabby Senters

WINTER FUN IN OUR COMMUNITY

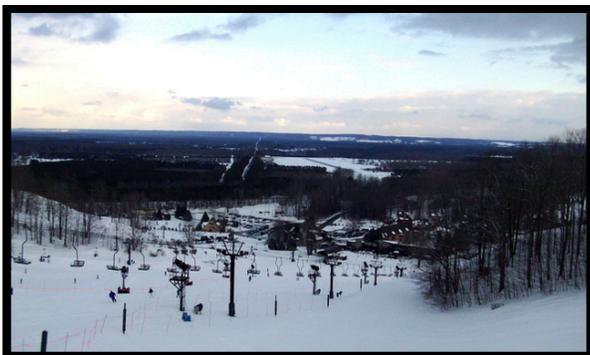
We've all heard it: Winter in Manistee is unpredictable. One day, there is green grass, and the next day, we have a snow day. Winters can be long and dreary, but there are still so many fun activities to enjoy! Many people avoid going out in the winter, but our town offers so many opportunities to make the most of winter.

One may go to the teen center to check out the outdoor ice skating rink. This weekend, take your friends or family and check out a great way to interact with the community. Ice skating is a safe, social place for students of all ages to hang out and spend time together. Even if you have never ice-skated before, you can learn. They will provide you with skates for free! You just have to make sure the weather is nice and chilly for a fun day of skating.

Another option this winter is to check out the sledding hill behind the High School! This is another fun, free choice with little equipment needed. All you have to do is bring a sled and a good attitude, and a friend or family member, and you are ready to have a blast. Sledding has been proven to create lifelong memories and encourage outdoor play for all ages. As a high school senior, I have made many fun memories with my family and friends sledding down the hill behind the school, and I hope someone out there will do the same. Time is precious, so we should make the most of the time we have.

Want a good workout? Try skiing or snowboarding at Crystal Mountain. While this may be a little pricey, the memories you make will be unforgettable. This is one of the most exciting ways to take advantage of the winter weather this year. Even if you are a beginner or have never been interested in skiing or snowboarding, it is always good to make new memories.

There are many benefits to all of these winter activities. After participating in these events, you will also be participating in physical exercise that you just cannot get from watching TV at home. There are also many cases of seasonal depression disorder in the wintertime, and staying active and experiencing new memories, socializing, and building friendships will keep your mind healthy this winter season. All in all, make the most out of your winter season and try a new activity.



ALL ABOUT ASM TECH:

ASM tech is an early college program that allows students to attend college a year early. Students will spend their Senior Year and the following year attending West Shore Community College. It is completely free, including tuition, textbooks, class materials (welding tools, computers, pencils, notebooks, etc.), and lunches.

Students who join ASM Tech will be able to attend college and earn an Associate Degree a year early and completely free. Students who feel ready for college or who would like to save money can apply for ASM Tech and save time and money. It can also help make the transition to college easier. The program offers lots of support and resources that are readily available whenever a student may need them. There are multiple staff members on campus daily who you can talk to for help. You'll also receive support 3 times a week with a specific ASM class with your ASM graduating class. Your teachers and peers in your class will understand exactly what you're going through during your time at the college, which will provide the support you need to excel in your classes. The class is purely based on finding ways to become more successful, both academically and professionally. You will also still be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at your home high school. You can still participate in sports, plays, clubs, and other activities. Lastly, students can transfer the credits they earn to bigger universities and save thousands. Even though ASM students will have spent 2 full years attending WSCC, they will still be eligible for the same scholarships as incoming freshmen. This means they can earn two years' worth of credits without missing out on any scholarship opportunities.



Students may not feel ready to leave their high school. It can be hard to leave early when the students you may have grown up with are still in high school. It can be hard to attend different classes and not see them nearly as much. Especially during their Senior year, students may not want to give up the time they have left with their classmates. They also might be worried about staying an extra year in their hometown while their former classmates head off to college. They might be worried about being left behind while they are stuck here for another year. A student may also be worried about transportation. Though ASM pays for almost everything a student could need, the one and only thing they can't pay for is transportation. Though students can ride the CTE bus to and from the high school, that doesn't always work out with their schedule. It can also be hard for a student to be ready for the new workload. College students are expected to spend a lot more time outside of class studying or doing homework, which can be a hard transition for students who aren't prepared.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Throughout your life it is important to be on time. Being on time shows you are respectful, dependable, and you care. It is important to build a routine. Start small with simple changes like not snoozing your alarm, build your way up slowly. Eventually landing you with a secure routine. If you are in a rush, prioritize the important parts of your routine. It is important to also keep important events in a calendar or planner, or to even set a reminder if you may forget. With the winter here it is also important to take weather into consideration. If it snowed the night before or is snowing, leaving earlier may be the better option. Set goals for yourself, what needs to be done before leaving. It is important as we form into young adults that we learn how to be on time for school, work, practices, and other events.

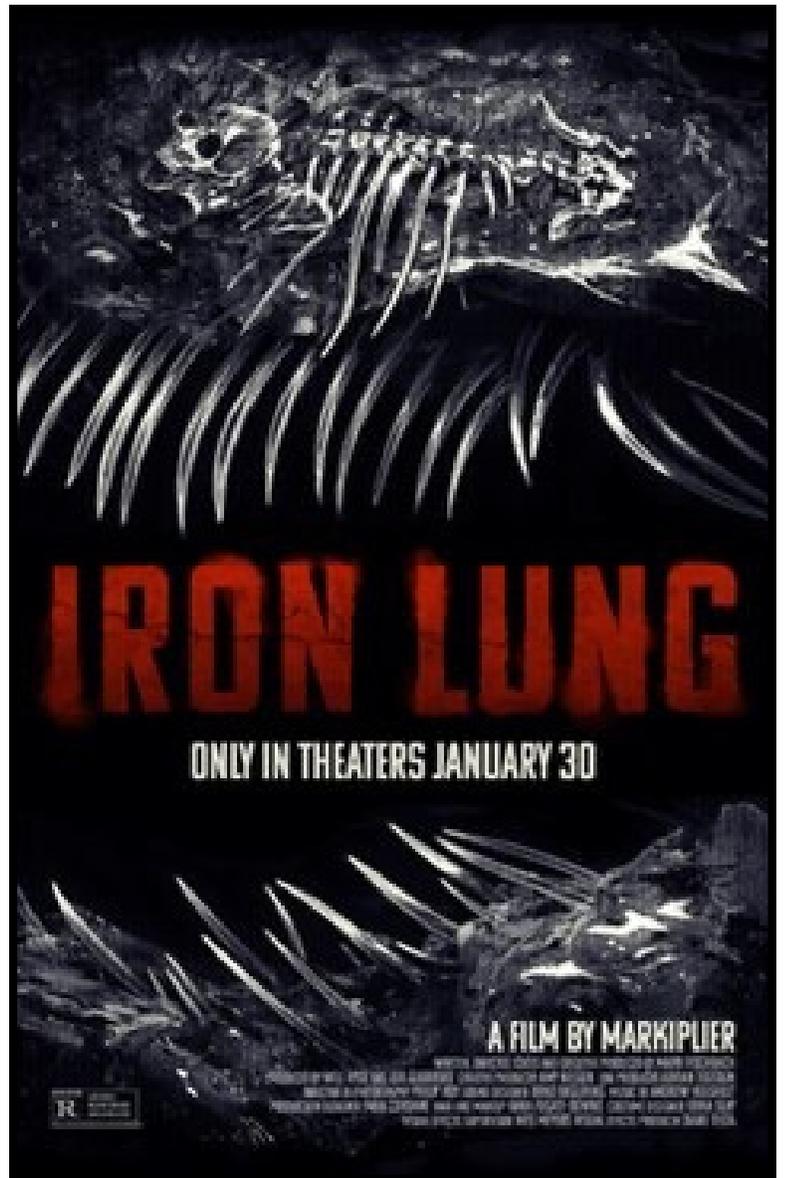
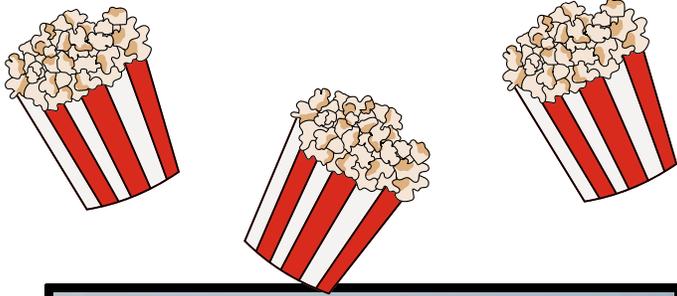


WINTER CARNIVAL WEEK

Written by Alayna Edmondson

Winter Carnival is right around the corner! Make sure you get involved in Mock Rock, Powerpuff, banner painting, and the dance!

Written by Achilles Eckerson



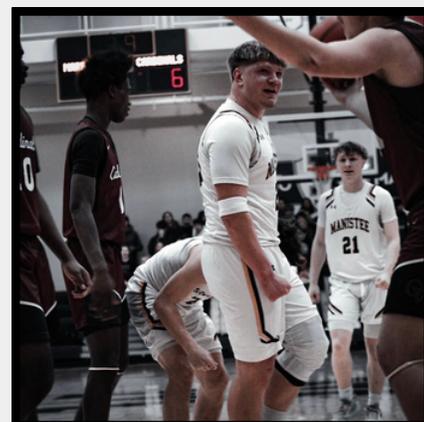
Iron Lung is one of the most talked-about horror sci-fi movies of 2026. Directed, written, and starring Mark Fischbach – better known online as Markiplier – this film marks his first feature-length theatrical release. It’s adapted from a popular indie horror game and drops audiences into a bleak future after a cosmic disaster called “The Quiet Rapture” wipes out all stars and planets. In this world, humanity clings to survival, and a risky mission is launched to explore a mysterious ocean discovered on a distant moon. A submarine known as the Iron Lung becomes the center of the story, creating an eerie and claustrophobic atmosphere that keeps viewers on edge. The movie is designed to be intense and unsettling, blending science fiction with horror elements. Iron Lung premiered in theaters on January 30, 2026, in a limited independent release that excited fans worldwide and was featured at The Vogue.

CONFERENCE WINS!

As the season carries on, the Mariner basketball teams have been busy! On January 29th the ladies faced off with Orchard View down in Muskegon, while on January 30th Orchard View came here to the Mariner gym!

The girls won with the score of 61-30. **Lindsey Gardner (12)** led the team with scoring and rebounding, with 18 points and 12 rebounds. She also chipped in 4 assists, and 7 steals. **Alayna Edmondson (12)** scored 10 points, 9 assists, 9 steals, and 6 rebounds. **Maya Goodspeed (10)** also added 8 points, 7 rebounds, and one steal.

The next day, the boys also won against the Cardinals with a final score of 42-28. **Landin Sowa (12)** scored 15 points, 8 rebounds, and 3 steals. **Braylen Zimmerman (12)** added 9 points and 3 rebounds. **Adam Olson (10)** chipped in 8 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, and 1 steal.

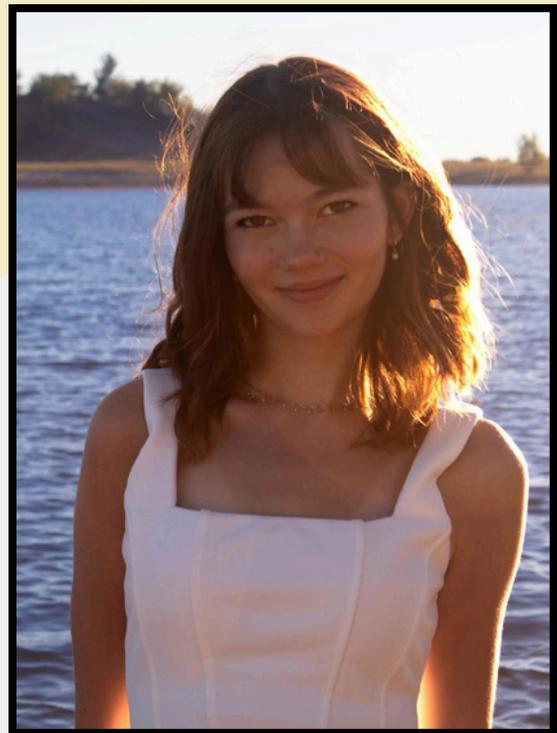


SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: VALERIE WAGNER

Written by Gabby Senters

The senior spotlight is a great way to get to know your MHS seniors. The graduating class has a big responsibility to lead their younger peers. If you want to learn more about your senior **Valerie Wagner** read about her below:

- **What is your favorite subject?**
- **AP Psychology or DE philosophy**
- **What advice would you give to underclassmen?**
- **Get assignments done right away so you aren't stressed out about it. Also stay engaged in the class because if you like the class you will learn easier. AND TAKE DUAL ENROLLMENT CLASSES! There are so many great options.**
- **What teacher has had the greatest impact on you as a student and why?**
- **Ms. Watkins because I've had her for a long time and she has built up my confidence both academically and personally.**



- **What will you miss most about high school?**
- **Seeing the people I grew up with everyday.**
- **What are your plans after high school?**
- **Attend U of M and get a dual degree in neuroscience and gender & health. Then, get a PhD in neuroscience.**
- **What's a fun fact about yourself that others may not know about you?**
- **I was a model in a baby magazine.**

STELLAR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT: PAYTON RICHLEY

- **What's your favorite color?**
- **Blue.**
- **What's your favorite food and drink?**
- **Sushi and redbull.**
- **What do you do outside of school?**
- **Outside of school I dance.**
- **What's your favorite subject?**
- **None.**
- **Who is your favorite teacher?**
- **Mr.Hendges**
- **What is a goal you have?**
- **To go to Michigan University.**
- **Do you have pets?**
- **Yes, I have 32! Some of their names are: Little Foot, Finley, Fred, Max, Caseoh, Trapper, Toulouse, Vanessa.**



Payton was described by staff members her at MAPS, here is what they had to say :

“Payton is always on the money when it comes to doing the best work she can. She is a great English student!” - Mr. Q

“Payton is a fantastic, highly respected student. She is well liked through her 8th grade class.” - Mr. Hendges

“Payton can always be counted on to work hard and be a good friend. It is a joy to be her teacher.” - Mrs. Olson

“Payton Richley is a student at Manistee middle school. Payton Richley has two sisters.” - Mr. Saylor

FACTS FOR YOU!

FUN FACT #1 GORILLAS!

Gorillas can actually learn and use sign language, which surprises many people who think only humans can communicate complex ideas. One of the most famous examples was a gorilla named Koko, who learned hundreds of signs to express needs, emotions, and even jokes. This fun fact matters because it shows how intelligent gorillas really are. In the wild, gorillas already communicate using body language, facial expressions, and sounds, but sign language helped scientists better understand how they think. Gorillas can show sadness, happiness, and curiosity, proving they are emotionally complex animals. This fact is interesting because it challenges stereotypes that animals act only on instinct. Learning about gorilla intelligence also reminds us why conservation is important, since losing gorillas would mean losing a species capable of deep communication. Overall, gorillas are not just strong animals; they are thoughtful, social, and surprisingly expressive in the natural world today.



FUN FACT #2 PYRAMIDS!

Cleopatra lived closer in time to the first moon landing than to the building of the Great Pyramid of Giza! The Great Pyramid was built around 2560 BCE, while Cleopatra ruled Egypt around 30 BCE. That's over 2,500 years apart! Then, humans landed on the moon in 1969 CE, which is only about 2,000 years after Cleopatra. Most people think of ancient Egypt as super, super old and far away, but this fact shows that some “ancient” events are actually closer to us than we imagine. Cleopatra's world was already connected to Rome, trade, and politics, not just pyramids and deserts. So next time you think about ancient history, remember: the moon landing is technically closer to Cleopatra than she was to the builders of the pyramids—a crazy way to time travel in your mind!



MAP WIZARDS

Being a map wizard is a huge accomplishment. To be a map wizard means you must memorize every map you are tested on during your sophomore year. Map wizards are not just a title you are given, but you are also an award given at honors night with a Dairy Queen gift card by Mr. Bennet and Mr. Harrigan! Honors night is an award ceremony at the end of the year. Those with a 3.5 gpa (grade point average) and higher get a certificate and a title of being a cum laude (3.50 - 3.69 gpa), magna cum laude (3.70-3.84 gpa), and summa cum laude (3.85-4.00 gpa). They also award certain students with certificates for each class for students who stick out and go above and beyond, such as those who are map wizards.

Although we still have a semester to go, the map wizards have completed two of the four quizzes that they studied all of first semester in hopes of getting a perfect score on each quiz. “Two map quizzes in, Middle East and Asia, I have six students still in the hunt. They still have two quizzes to go next semester.” Mr. Bennett. In both Mr. Bennett's and Mr. Harrigan’s classes, students who are on their way to becoming a map wizard

are: Natalie Cameron, Hattie Driver, McKenna LaFarve, Layne Piper, Willa Soloweij, Lara Woodruff, Fable Wiseman, Gia (Lap) Nguyen, and Faith Ferguson. So good luck to all of those who have been working hard this past semester, and keep it going for the next one!





STAFF



Alayna Edmondson (12)
Editor/Writer



Jorren Edmondson (12)
Writer



Macaela Bruce (12)
Writer



Achilles Eckerson (12)
Writer



Lilith Vela (11)
Writer



Andy O'Donnell (11)
Writer



Gabby Senters (12)
Writer



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



If you would like to join
the Mariner Chronicle or
guest write, email
Mr. Quakkelaar or **Alayna
Edmondson!**

