



Kindergarten Lunch Bunch

Kindergartners selected for Kenston's Timmons Elementary Lunch Bunch for their Honesty in April were (back row, l-r) Maverick Ricard, Dylan Eubank, Noah Hlinovsky, and Miles Hagen; (front row, l-r) Paige Iannarino, Jacob Desjardins, Mark Smith, Henry Smith, and Miles Lovich.



First Grade Lunch Bunch

First Grade Lunch Bunch students in April were honored with Honesty Awards. They are (l-r) Ava Ricco, Gianna Brewer, Henry Morgan, Kylie Emerick, Alex Coates, Hunter Snelson, and Connor Arsenia.



Second Grade Lunch Bunch

Congratulations to the Timmons Elementary School Second Graders who were selected for their Honesty in March. They are (back row, l-r) Emma Trimble and Catherine Swiatek; (front row, l-r) Jacob Miskiewicz, Adelynn Schiros, Elyse Misko, Johnithon Veazie, Martin Fuller; and Wyatt Catania.



Third Grade Lunch Bunch

Timmons Elementary third-grade Lunch Bunch students were selected for Honesty in April. Congratulations to (back row, l-r) Nolan Streck, Wells Mitchel, and Jaxson Toth; (front row, l-r) Jonathan Seegott, Emma Hulme, Sebastian Angel, Clara Gloer, and Lacy Snavely.



Fourth Grade Students of the Month

Kenston Middle School fourth-grade students were selected for Honesty in April. Congratulations to (back row, l-r) Jack Lawrence, Kannon Beach, Scarlett Young, and Elijah Maldonado; (front row, l-r) Albin Larsson, Elizabeth Kaldon, Owen Hansen, and Shea Fitzgerald. Not pictured is Landry Currutt.



Fifth Grade Students of the Month

Kenston Middle School fifth-grade students were selected for Honesty in April. Congratulations to (back row, l-r) Sofia Volokh, Ainsley Townsend, Alexander Stover, and Zachary Rim; (front row, l-r) Kate Moore, Avery Risker, and Gianluca DiDonna. Not pictured is Liliana Calabrese.

Could your business be a sponsor of Kenston Scholarship page in our June, July or August editions? Call us at 440-478-2950 for details!



Making History: Four Kenston Speakers Earn National Academic All-American Honors

Congratulations to Zoe LeFeber, Marin Carlson, Grace Voudris, and Will Turner for receiving the National Speech and Debate Association Academic All-American Award, which is only earned by 2% of Speech and Debate competitors. Their hard work and success, both academically and competitively, throughout their long careers made this achievement possible. Only 19 students in Kenston's 27-year team history have qualified for this award. Way to make Kenston proud!

Sixth & Seventh Grade Students of the Month >

Kenston Middle School's sixth and seventh grade students were chosen for Honesty in April. Congratulations to (back row, l-r) Dmitri Monger, Levi McArdle, Ember Clemens, Gianna Dallas, and Kaylee Conway; (front row, l-r) Henry Hansen and Dylan Hoch. Not pictured is Brynn McBride.

Kenston High School Senior Brenna Zak Receives High Honors

Kenston High School senior Brenna Zak won the Promotional Video/ PSA / Commercial category in the Central Great Lakes Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Student Production Awards. Zak created her winning commercial for Alani Nu as an assignment in her Digital Media class last year, showcasing exceptional creativity, hard work, and problem-solving skills. The prestigious contest draws entries from across Ohio, Indiana, and Pennsylvania. Zak is only the fourth Kenston winner since Bomber Media began submitting entries in 2019, marking the school's third consecutive year with a winner.



Brenna Zak



From the Capital to the Battlefield: Kenston Eighth Grade Students Explore American History

Kenston High School eighth-grade students traded in their textbooks for walking shoes earlier this month, embarking on a multi-day trip of unforgettable learning as they traveled to Washington, D.C., and Gettysburg. This annual trip brought history to life, allowing our students to walk the very grounds where history was made. While there, students visited the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial, explored the halls of the U.S. Capitol, and learned about the legislative process. The trip also offered time for reflection at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, among other activities. The students also observed the

solemn Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, visited Arlington National Cemetery, and saw the eternal flame. They listened to stories about service, sacrifice, and the importance of honoring those who gave everything. The trip concluded with a visit to Gettysburg, where students stepped back in time by walking the historic battlefields and learned about the events they studied in their social studies classes. These firsthand experiences of American history gave the eighth graders knowledge and understanding that will stay with them long after they return home.



Thank You, Chagrin Falls Transportation!

A special thank you to Mr. Jim Yarcusko and the Chagrin Falls Schools Transportation Department for the outstanding care they provide our students each day. Pictured with Mr. Jim are second grader Evelyn Kuenzig and her sister, Vera, who is in kindergarten. We also extend our appreciation to Mike Morgan and Michelle Hall at Chagrin Falls Schools for their continued support throughout the school year.



Celebrating One School, One Book

Students celebrated the completion of One School, One Book with exciting pig races inspired by the novel "Babe: The Gallant Pig." Congratulations to the second-grade class and their winning pig, "Mr. Peanut!" Students ended the day with a special viewing of "Babe" in the gym.

Save the Date: VBC 2026

Vacation Bible Camp will be June 15-19 this year. The theme is Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God. Your child will embark on a wild, creature-filled Amazon adventure where kids learn that Jesus is Creator, All-knowing, our Refuge, Love, and Forever. Campers age four through sixth grade are welcome. Teens in seventh grade and beyond are welcome to volunteer. They must be present for all five days of camp.

SJA Alumna Visits the Classroom

St. Joan of Arc School was delighted to welcome back alumna Allison Romanini, currently a senior at Walsh Jesuit High School, as she worked on her Senior Experience Project. During her visit, Allie spent time assisting students in the classroom and sharing encouragement with the younger learners. Pictured here, Allison works alongside fourth grader Paige Trucco in Miss Elliott's classroom. It is always special to see our alumni return and continue making a positive impact within the SJA community.



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Film Focus

By David King

Marty Supreme

B

One of the most anticipated movies of last year was *Marty Supreme* which opened in theaters on Christmas Day. The film's interest was that it would be another award-winning performance by Timothée Chalamet who won the Academy Award last year for playing Woodie Guthrie. This year he won the Golden Globe and Critic's Choice Award but lost out on the Academy Award to Michael B. Jordan for *Sinners*. This film is fictional but inspired by a true story of a table tennis (ping pong) player back in 1951 named Marty Reismann. In this version of the story, we find Marty Mauser working as a salesman in his uncle's shoe store. Marty is a local legend at playing ping pong and believes in every fiber of his being that he is the best in the world. After winning all of the local levels, he is invited to play at the World Championship in London, England. To get the money to make the trip, he must resort to all sorts of schemes to afford the flight.

When he finds out how meager the players' living quarters provided by the tournament are, he schemes to check into a suite in the best hotel in London and charges it to the Championship. While there he meets and beds a once-glamorous movie star Kay Stone (Gwyneth Paltrow) who is slightly past her prime. She is married to a wealthy financier but thinks that she might benefit by being seen with a world champion athlete. Marty ends up losing that final match to a Japanese player named Koto Endo but qualifies for a rematch in Tokyo.

The film moves at an exhausting rate as Marty faces an unending number of obstacles which he faces by making instant decisions with no thought to their consequences. Very often his decisions will take him even further from his goals. There are no humiliations too low for him to endure and never a slight faltering of his confidence in himself. Marty is actually not a very good guy and most of the characters he encounters are also not good people. But despite what a miserable person he is, it is humorous and endearing to see him trying so hard.

The film was made by director/writer Josh Sefdie who is best known for the film *Uncut Gems*, and is well produced with a very authentic version of 1951 settings and costumes. The movie's score is made up of needle drops of music from the 1980s (such as "Everybody Wants to Rule the World" by Tears For Fears). This gives the film a comic tone to let you know not to take the film's gritty crimes too seriously. Chalamet gives an excellent performance as a person with an unending belief in himself and absolutely no regard for those he will step on along his way. This includes another married woman who he left back in New York (Odessa A'zion) who may or may not be carrying his baby. There are a surprising number of cameo performances including Fran Drescher as his mother and Kevin O'Leary from the television show *Shark Tank* as a 1950s version of himself. The film races at a breakneck speed which may have your head swirling by the end of its two-and-a-half hour run time. But if you watch it, as it is now playing on HBO, you may want to hit pause to catch your breath.

The Testament of Ann Lee

A

My wife and I have long had an interest in religious sects in American History and have visited many museum locations over the years, including the Moravian Settlement in Winston Salem, N.C., the Shaker Villages near Lexington, Ky., and the Shaker Museum in Hancock, Mass. There is very little left of those who founded Shaker Heights in Ohio. But we never would have expected to learn the history of these movements in a musical motion picture. In all fairness, this is not really a standard form of "musical." The songs in this film are adaptations from some of the actual hymns that these Shakers used in their services. The choreography seems to combine the old music with a more modern interpretive style than they probably used. But the entire film pays great respect to these people who were able to overcome a great deal of persecution.

The film was written and directed by the Norwegian-born Mona Fastvold who was nominated numerous times for Golden Globes and Academy Awards for last year's *The Brutalist*. This film tells the true story of the founder of the Shaker faith based upon her own diaries. The tale begins in England where a young woman, Ann Lee (Amanda Seyfried) is married and loses three children in childbirth. She has visions directing her to form a faith where married couples must practice abstinence. Her husband finds this hard to accept but he will follow her. As new members join in the faith they become victims of abuse and persecution for their religious beliefs until they eventually set sail on a small ship to America. The film shows this sailing to be a calamitous voyage with a crew that will continue to mock and try to stifle their music which is a major part of their services. Finally when the crew is sure they are about to sink due to a rupture in the hull, a wave pushes the fault back into place and all believe they were saved by prayer.

When they arrive in America, the group is taken in by a wealthy man who will follow their beliefs. But even in this new land that constitutionally allows for religious freedom, they are not welcomed into the society. Led by the visions of Ann Lee, they will travel out into the wilderness where they will be able to establish their own communities. However even here there will be people who beat and torture them. Of course, we know that they were eventually able to construct churches and common living quarters where the sexes were separated. They did things like inventing seeds in envelopes which they sold widely, and were known for simple yet beautiful chairs, etc. that are still admired today. But any religion that practiced abstinence would eventually die out. However, this film does not go that far into the future as it was just based on Ann Lee's journals.

This film with lots of musical numbers woven through the text might be strange or silly to some viewers but for people like us it was a very intriguing story. The only well-known actress in this film is Amanda Seyfried who has a truly lovely voice, which we have heard before in *Mamma Mia* and the movie version of *Les Misérables*. She is very effective in both the singing and her acting performances. I think open-minded *Spirit of Bainbridge* readers will find this an unusual yet good choice to view on Netflix.

A Dads and Grads Haiku

There should be great dads
behind all of this year's grads.
Cheers to both. You rock!

Cecil West
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Vacation Bible School at Lord of Life

Registration is open for Lord of Life's Vacation Bible School program Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God being held June 8-12. Kids ages three years through fifth grade will learn who God is. They will participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, enjoy yummy treats and experience one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures at Rainforest Falls VBS! Along the way, kids will discover that God is our loving creator.

This fun-filled Vacation Bible School experience is for kids ages three (potty trained) through fifth grade. All are welcome! The fun starts daily at 9 a.m. and ends at 11:30 a.m. You can register your children for this incredible experience by going to the Lord of Life website, www.loloh.org/VBS2026

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is located on Chillicothe Road just south of Rt. 422. For more information regarding Vacation Bible School or any other ministry at Lord of Life, please contact the church office at (440)543-5505 or visit their website at www.LOLOH.org.



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