

The CHOICE



Student Of The Month

Harrison Eng



Getting Student of the Month made Harrison very proud of himself. CHOICE, having no bullies, Harrison automatically wanted to come to CHOICE. Since CHOICE is such a great school, it makes him really love this school.

Thinking ahead, he already has plans for the future. Harrison knows that he was born to be a writer someday, which is good because he is a great writer.

Gabby Durante



Gabby Durante was born to make people smile. Having her teachers acknowledge her, and appreciate her work, makes her extremely happy. Next year, Gabby will still be going to CHOICE with high grades and improving even more. As a middle school student, Gabby still has a while until college.

But when the time comes, Gabby will want to be either a fashion designer or a Cosmetologist.

Conner MccKitrick



Conner definitely feels surprised that he got student of the month for a second year in a row. After high school, Conner plans to be a librarian. He knows he was born to read, so a librarian would be perfect. Going to CHOICE next year is a good question, Conner almost wants to go to Kennedy.

Conner almost wants to go to Kennedy.

Mandy Johnson



What are your plans after high school? " Not sure yet, I want to go to college for sure though! Probably dance also, that would be fun." Mandy told me. Mandy feels pretty happy and glad about getting student of the month. When I asked her what she was born to do, she told me that she

was born to live. Pretty good answer.

3D PRINTING

To most people, the idea of 3D printing seems futuristic, like something out of an episode of the Jetson's, but it's not. 3D printing is happening right now, across the globe. It's creating guitars, jewelry, shoes, food, and much, much more. In some places you can print a copy of your unborn child, using ultrasound images. Makerbot is the most well known 3D printer company.

How It Works

There are two ways to create a 3D model that can be printed. The first way is to buy a scanner to scan objects that you own and make copies of them. NextEngine is one of the few companies that produces these scanners.

3D scanners are one piece scanners that don't need to rotate the object it scans. It takes multiple photos to replicate the object that it is scanning. The average time per photo is two minutes and the average number of photos is twelve. So, all in all, you can scan an object in your house that is smaller than 22.5"x 16.75" in an average of twenty four minutes.



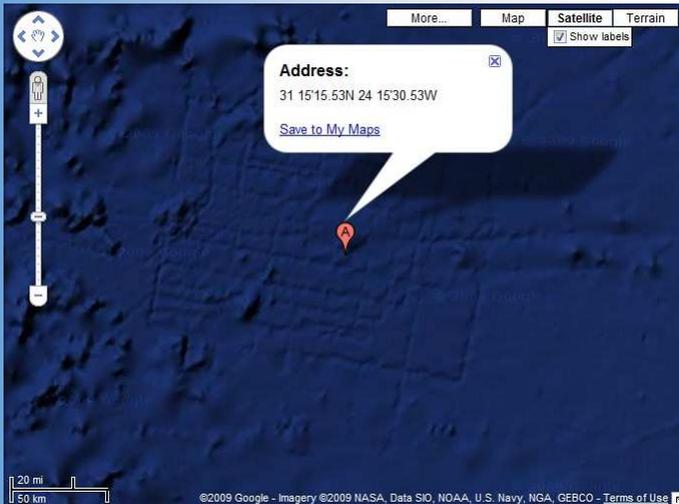
Another way to create a virtual 3D object to print is to create it yourself. There are plenty of programs to use and the Makerbot even comes with its own Makerware! The great part of this is the limitless creativity. You can make anything and print it as many times as you want.

3D printing is becoming more and more popular every day. Scientists predict that in the near future, people will be able to 3D print human body parts! Some people have arranged to have their body preserved, just in case we become able to print out all the body parts needed to make a functioning body. One day, death might only be an option. All because of Makerbots. In time, most homes will have a 3D printer. So learn all about it now, and have the upper hand on the future!

Atlantis Lost at Sea

Rachel W.

Atlantis



Atlantis was supposedly the grandest, most technologically advanced land of its time. Imagine a place larger than Libya and Asia combined. Imagine a place of golden palaces and extravagant statues. Welcome to Atlantis.

A major misconception is that Atlantis was one city. Actually, Atlantis was a large Kingdom that had many cities inside it.

The mysterious "city" of Atlantis should have existed over 11,000 years ago. The only problem is that the only information we have about Atlantis comes from one source, a Greek Philosopher named Plato.

The question is whether the information he recorded is true or false. This topic has been argued for over 2,000 years.

Atlantis is said to have disappeared in the middle of the Atlantic ocean. Five brothers first ruled Atlantis, and the eldest, Atlas was its first King.

Atlantis is lost

It is said that when the Atlanteans became greedy, the Gods decided to punish them. Atlantis sunk below the ocean in just on day and one night, and it was gone forever. Some say the Gods sent a large tsunami to destroy the island, but scientists think it probably would have been a volcanic eruption that swallowed Atlantis. Whatever the cause, it did a pretty good job of making sure no one would ever find it. Some scientists think that refugees from Atlantis may have settled a second island.

New Discoveries

Recently, a picture from Google Earth has been circling the internet and has been rousing questions everywhere. A group of scientists think that the Azores Islands were one of the mountain ranges on the island Atlantis.

As you can see, the picture above shows an image of faint lines deep below the ocean. Could this be the great, lost kingdom of Atlantis? You decide. Is it a myth? Or will we someday make one of the biggest discoveries of our time? Just remember, sometimes truth is stranger than fiction...

CHOICE Reacts To Cat Jump Fail

Caelan F.

TheFineBros is a very popular YouTube channel with over six million subscribers. They are mostly known for their react videos where they interview people after they watch a chosen video. TheFineBros have inspired me to do the same thing. I decided to get two people from each grade up to tenth, from this school, to watch Cat Jump Fail to Music: Sail by AWOLNATION. I chose this video because, as Alelia M. put it, "Everybody loves cat videos!" Also, this video has reached over ten million views!

Out of the students I interviewed, most of them think the video went viral because the cat was in perfect sync with the music, and the cat's jump was hilarious too. Also, as Harrison E. said, "Personally, I think the jump by itself wouldn't have been enough to go viral. The music, however, added to it, and gave us a hilarious episode of comic relief that prompted us to bestow this glorious gift upon those we consider acquaintances. Translation: It was funny." Or as Erin D. put it, "It is hilariousness."

Although what happened to this cat remains a mystery, the seven people I interviewed think that the cat landed safely (hopefully) but possibly broke a few bones or as Mina C. thinks, "It landed on somebody and ruined that person's face or it landed on the ground and lost one of its nine lives." For this cat's sake, I hope they do really have nine lives.

Mina's comment made me wonder where the idea that cats have nine lives originated from. Though there are many theories about that, in one fable by a woman named Zora Neale, it is said that a cat has nine lives because one day it ate nine fish that belonged to nine children. The next day those nine children died of hunger. The cat then was said to have the lives of the nine starving children in his stomach, which is why he must die nine times before he stays dead.

Many people love cat videos like this but as Joy J. states, "I think they're hilarious, but I begin to worry for the cat." Maddy Z. agrees with Joy, saying, "I like them, but I feel bad for the cats, though." Radlee B. seems to have a similar opinion too, expressing, "I think they're funny, but I wish they would show us what happens to the cat."

To watch this awesome cat video go to <http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Awf45u6zrp0> and to read the full fable and for info on the famous author, Zora Neale, visit www.ustrek.org/odyssey/semester2/013101/013101stephenzora.htm .



Special thanks to Alelia M., Erin D., Harrison E., Maddy Z., Mina C., Radlee B., and Joy J.

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire

By: Anna G.

Have you heard?! The sequel to the Hunger Games movie is coming out and everyone is so excited! The new movie Catching Fire is coming out November, 22, 2013. I interviewed **Rachel W.** to see what she was hoping for and expecting in the movie.

Rachel's Interview:

- Q1. What do you think of the new director, Francis Lawrence?

A. I think he is going to bring something new to the series. I liked the old director, but it will be nice to see what he changes and how he converts the book into the movie.

- Q2. Who is your favorite character in Catching Fire? Why?

A. Of course I would say Katniss, but, besides Katniss, I would choose Finnick Odair as my favorite. He is like comic relief to this dark book.

- Q3. Who is your least favorite character in Catching Fire? Why?

A. My least favorite character is President Snow because he is Katniss' enemy . The actor is superb but I really hate the character.

- Q4. What changes do you dislike that the director is making in the movie?

A. The one thing I wish the director hadn't changed was Gale's whipping scene. They added some dialogue that changes the dynamic of the entire scene.

- Q5. What are three things you are hoping/expecting in Catching Fire?

A. Something I really can't wait to see are Effie Trinket's outfits, Katniss' Mockingjay dress, and finding out who was chosen to portray "Young Haymitch"

The Hunger Games Victors:

District 2: Brutus and Enobaria are careers. Brutus had volunteered for the Hunger Games. After Enobaria won the Games, she had her teeth cosmetically altered to resemble fangs.

District 4: Finnick Odair won the 65th Hunger Games at only 14. He was sent a trident, which became his weapon. Mags volunteered for Annie Cresta, who was driven to insanity in the Games.

District 12: Katniss and Peeta acted as rebels against President Snow in the Games and are being punished by being sent back into the Games.



Fall Fashion

By: Erin. D

Fashion has been around for a long time but not all of it is still fashionable today. In the past, children used to wear exact versions of grown men's or women's clothes! Also, in Russia there used to be a beard tax! If you wear "saggy" pants, you should know that trend was started in a prison; the inmates weren't allowed to wear belts!



I have noticed that lots of people like to wear either bright colors or sweaters, or both!

<http://www.target.com/p/mossimo-supply-co-juniors-v-neck-new-hem-sweater-assorted-colors/-/A-14603985#prodSlot=1>

Back in style!

I have noticed the 50s/60s are back in style (translation: letter jackets, high ponytails, and muted pink and blue clothes). But if you're not all girly, you can still look like you're from the 50s if you wear black leggings, Converse or any kind of shoes that look like them; a polka dot top is a good way to replicate the style.



<http://www.oasap.com/button-down-shirts/28648-fashion-polka-dot-print-long-sleeve-shirt.html>

http://www.amazon.com/eVogues-Plus-Patent-Leather-Fashion/dp/B00AVT2QCU/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1383786305&sr=8-1&keywords=red+belt+wide

http://www.target.com/p/merona-women-s-plus-size-pencil-skirt-assorted-prints/-/A-14369897#prodSlot=medium_1_23&term=polka+dot+skirt

Caught My Eye



Caelan caught my eye because she dresses in a vintage style but never dresses too old-fashioned. Another reason I chose Caelan is that she always dresses up to go to school, even if it's just a faded sweatshirt and looks laid back. She also has just the right amount of jewelry, which is typically a silver hair clip and a necklace. Caelan "upcycles" her clothes, which mostly come from her sister. I think everyone can agree that fashion runs in the family.



Erin Glaman



By Haley H.

Erin Glaman is just one of our many talented students here at CHOICE. She is exceptionally talented in dance and theatre. When talking with Erin about these two activities, it is clear they are much more than just a hobby. They are a passion and a way of life for her. Her days are filled with countless classes and rehearsals, even on the weekends. But you can tell she truly enjoys her two art forms.

Dance found its way into Erin's life first. Against her will, her parents took her to her first dance class at the age of three. Three-year-old Erin wanted to be anywhere but that dance studio. Fast forward many years later, and dance is one of the biggest aspects in her life. Just as dance is a tremendous part in her life, theater is just as important. Theatre has been with Erin for nearly three years. During the summer after eighth grade, she had wanted nothing more than to sign up for a summer theater group that had finally arrived in Washington. Unfortunately, at the time, she wasn't able to sign up. This led to her finding the Hi-liners. Erin loves the fact that this theater group is like a second family, and that everyone is free from judgment.



Erin's time during the week is filled with many classes and rehearsals. Classes are a time to practice technique, and rehearsals are a time to practice learned dances, choreography, stage directions, and singing. Erin is skilled in tap, jazz, contemporary, and ballet. To maintain her high skill in these dance styles, she attends ten classes each week, which are an hour long. Currently, she has rehearsals for two competition routines, which are also an hour long. Erin attends around five competitions a year, which are accompanied with a convention. A dance convention is a workshop where dancers learn from highly skilled and well trained professional dancers. Some of the dancers teaching include those from the highly rated TV show, "So You Think You Can Dance". Erin was recently in a big Hi-Liners production, Shrek: The Musical. I had the privilege of watching this production and seeing her musical theater talents come to life on stage.

Dance and theater have always been a tremendous part of Erin's life, and she plans on keeping it that way. After high school, she wishes to be a professional performer. One day, after spending time as a performer, she wants to share her love of dance with others and become a teacher.

Goodbye Mold!

By. Joanna A.

Goodbye Mold! The mold in the office and lab are finally gone! I sat down with some teachers and parents to ask them their take on this dilemma, here are some of there responses:

Teachers Say:

Mr. Wheeler found out about this ten years ago, but action was finally taken when there was a big leak in the work room at the beginning of the school year. This did not affect **Mr. Wheeler** personally, but he feared for other people because some people are sensitive to mold. **Mr. Wheeler** helped solve the problem by filling out an environmental form. **Mrs. Browning** was affected by this situation because she got sick, she described her sickness as " Itchy eyes, runny nose, just really sick." She personally took care of the problem by moving her office so she wouldn't get even more sick. She also filled out an environmental form. She says that the mold began at the end of August starting early September. **Mrs. Browning** said that other teachers were affected during all of this, like: **Ms. Love**, **Mrs. Powers**, and **Mrs. Dolly**. All those teachers got sick at one point.

Parents Say:

Lynda L. was informed about the mold when her daughters brought home a letter stating there was mold in the office and it was moving down the hall. She says that she felt sorry for **Mrs. Browning**, the other teachers, and the students that were affected by it. She said she was not as worried for her children's health for two reasons. One, because her children don't go to the office very much, and two, because she knows that the school was doing something about this problem. **Heidi L.** says she personally took care of the problem by avoiding the room and sometimes not even going. Now that this problem is over she says "I feel relieved that this is it, and happy for **Mrs. Browning**, just glad it's over" Some concerns that these parents had were that our school building is a bit old, and they are hoping that everything is now all clear.

JanSport!

By: Rosa F.

As we all know, JanSport is known for making high-quality and sometimes fashionable backpacks. What we don't know is that JanSport has unique history, and many people have worked hard to make the brand as successful as it is today.

JanSport actually grew out of a design contest, and was founded in Seattle, Washington in 1967. A man from Seattle named Murray Pletz won the competition with his unique, flexible frame backpack. With his winnings, he decided to start a company making backpacks with his brother. But there was one problem; neither of them knew how to sew. Pletz's girlfriend, however, did know. She offered to help, under one condition; she would get to be a business partner as well. Not only did Pletz agree, but he was so grateful that he named the company after her; her name being Jan Lewis.

JanSport got started by releasing panel-loading backpacks that were different and helpful, and they grew from there. In 1975 they came out with the daypack which became instantly popular and was favored by high school and college students. JanSport continued to do well over the years, and in 1986, the company was sold for \$755 million dollars.

Later, JanSport experienced strong growth in backpack and briefcase divisions, which expanded the company's production capabilities. But in the 1990's, competition such as *The Northface*, increased. From 1995-2000, JanSport worked on improving their backpacks, and trying to beat the competition. They added things like a waterproof, rubber-bottom backpack and new designs that the younger generations might like. They made all the right moves, because they continued to get more popular over the years.

JanSport is still an extremely popular brand today, and more students actually prefer their backpacks. When you look at a backpack, you might see just a backpack, but what adds to its worth is the hard work that was put into it and its history.



Origins of Nike

Mina Carroll



Before the Nike + fuelbands, before there was Nike Air; before there was the swoosh, and before there was even Nike, there were two men with a dream of creating shoes for athletes.

Bill Bowerman, coach of the Oregon Ducks track and field team, was looking for a way for his athletes to have an advantage during races. He tried changing the track surfaces, creating sports drinks, and making training shoes with a waffle iron (eventually it did work).

A talented runner named Phil Knight joined the Oregon Ducks in 1955. After graduating in financing with an MBA, he decided to write a letter to Japan saying they could manufacture quality running shoes and beat Puma and Adidas in Germany. They did not write back, but he kept going. He asked the manufacturer of Tiger shoes to make him a distributor in the United States. After he became the distributor, he tried to sell his shoes to his former coach, Bill Bowerman. Knight was shocked when he said "no", but was even more shocked when Bowerman offered ideas for footwear and wanted to become his business partner!

They continued with their dreams to create a shoe company in 1964. They named their store Blue Ribbon Sports, which sold mostly Tiger shoes. In the beginning, Phil Knight sold shoes out of his green Plymouth Valiant, while Bowerman ripped apart Tiger shoes to see how he could improve them. It was pretty easy for Bill to get people to test his modified Tiger shoes since he ran the Oregon Ducks track and field. The business got harder to run as it got busier so they hired Jeff Johnson, also a runner, to become a full-time employee for Blue Ribbon Sports.

Jeff Johnson was an asset and is one of the reasons Nike exists today. He worked very hard on marketing for the company, opened up the first real Blue Ribbon Sports store, designed several shoes, and was the man who came up with the name Nike. While Nike was growing, they grew farther and farther apart from Tiger shoes. Eventually Bowerman, Johnson, and Knight became independent from them and created their own shoes. In 1971, Carolyn Davidson designed the iconic Nike swoosh on a piece of scratch paper.

The last step Nike needed to get to greatness was to find an athlete to endorse them. Steve Prefontaine was an amazing runner on the Ducks' team. He never lost a race that was over a mile in distance. Thanks to Sports Illustrated, they featured him on the front cover for his fourth place finish on the 5,000 meter race in Munich, Germany.

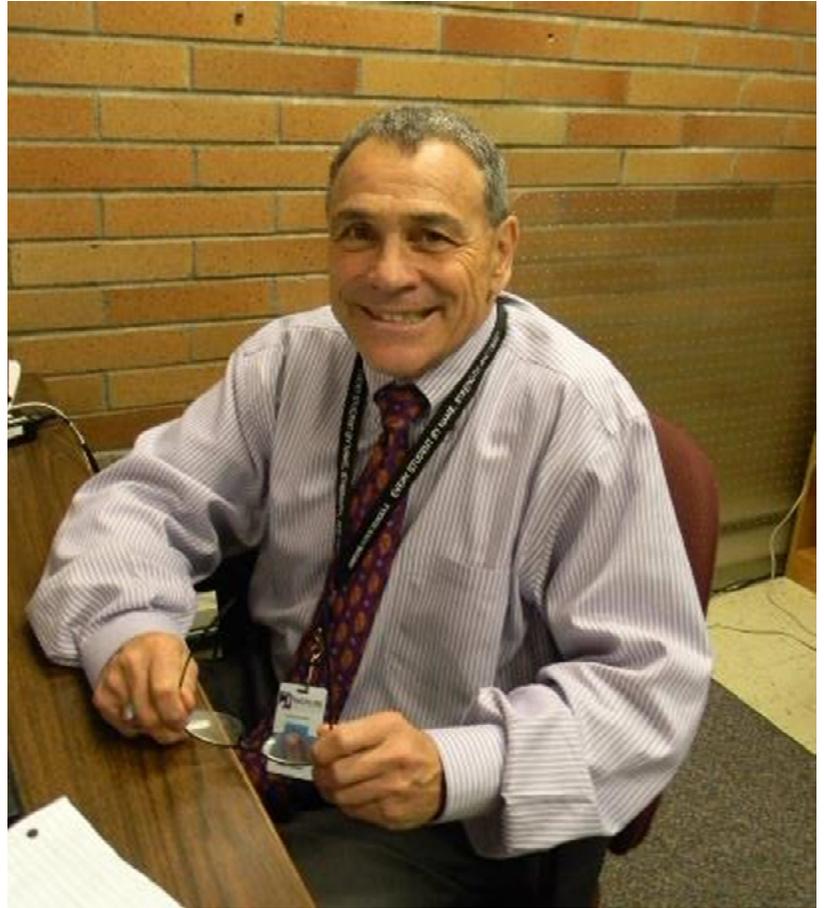
Prefontaine died in a car accident on May 30, 1975. He had just dropped his friend off from a party, and he was a little drunk, but no one seemed to notice that at the party. He turned too sharply on a curve on Skyline Boulevard and his car flipped over. He suffocated from the car crushing his lungs. All throughout this time he was not wearing a seat-belt. Prefontaine may be gone, but his spirit lives on. Knight has said multiple times, "Pre is the soul of Nike."

Nike continued to grow after Pre endorsed them. Nike grew more popular due to their launch of the Nike Air technology. In 1988, a relatively young athlete named Bo Jackson was featured in a new marketing campaign with the tagline, "Just do it." In 1996, Nike Golf found young golfer Eldrick "Tiger" Woods and paid him 5 million dollars to endorse them. Competing brands and critics laughed at Nike. But a year later, Tiger Woods won the Masters by a record 12 strokes! So why is Nike so successful and popular? Well, I guess you could say they "just do it."

Mr. Cantwell

By: Julia W.

Mr. Cantwell is our new principal here at CHOICE. Mr. Cantwell, or more commonly known as Frank, has been a teacher for 20 years. He got his inspiration for being a teacher after he joined the Air Force. When Mr. Cantwell was younger, he was a very active guy. Mr. Cantwell enjoys biking, hiking, camping and pretty much anything else you can do outdoors. Something most people probably would not know, is that Mr. Cantwell was the top tennis player in his hometown, along with playing rugby and football competitively. When Frank got a little older, he went to the Air Force Academy where he learned to fly airplanes for the military. After having his own business for awhile, Mr. Cantwell decided on becoming a teacher. Mr. Cantwell has always had a passion for flying. It was a way for him to escape and see the world from a different point of view. That made it better, but even though flying is very safe, if you don't pay attention to detail you can very easily die. When Mr. Cantwell came to CHOICE he was surprised with how well every member of the staff and student body worked together. Not just that, but also about how many people were excited about learning. When Mr. Cantwell came to CHOICE, he was very impressed with our student body but would also like to help the school move a little smoother. As most of you may know, Mr. Cantwell is our teacher for seventh grade math as well as being our principal. His favorite part about being a teacher is when "the light bulb comes on" which is an achievement for any teacher because they feel a sense of accomplishment because their students' understand their teaching.



When Mr. Cantwell is in principal mode, he has to be patient, organized, and creative to come up with ways to help the school.

Superstition

By Makena H.

Most of you have heard the saying 'Step on a crack, break 'yo Mommas back'. But did you know that this is on the long list of things called Superstitions? So, what is a superstition? A superstition is a belief that certain things and actions possess supernatural powers. These could be either seeing into the future, predicting the choices of others, or creating something from nothing.

Superstitions often portray animals, graveyards, ghosts, non-living objects, numbers, and even people. Superstitions are found all over the world, and some are much more interesting than others. For Example; in Japan, it is bad luck if you don't hide your thumbs when a funeral hearse passes by. So if you are ever in Japan, check up and down the street before you give someone the 'thumbs up' sign! Another example also comes from Japan; the superstition states that if one goes to sleep right after eating, they will become a pig, cow, or an elephant. Let's hope that superstition doesn't apply to the U.S.A. or else I'd eventually be turned in to one of these animals!

Superstitions around the world

Some superstitions are known all around the world, so you might recognize them. The most well known superstition is the following: If one breaks a mirror, they will receive seven years of bad luck. I'll bet it sounds familiar, right? Another well known superstition is that the action of walking under a ladder brings bad luck. It's not specified for how long one receives bad luck, but I wouldn't try it out. The third really doesn't have to be considered a superstition, but would be more of a way to cure a jinx. Let's say you are feeling fine and dandy, and you want to tell someone. You go up to your friend and say "Hey! I'll bet you five dollars that I won't get sick for three months". According to the myth, it is likely that you will get sick within the next few days. The superstition is, after you bet your friend, you must knock three times on any form of wood, and say "knock on wood". This way, the jinx won't follow you, and you won't end up getting sick in the next three months (Knock on wood).

Superstitions involving bad luck

Most superstitions are associated with bad luck. An example of this would be the action of opening an umbrella indoors. Another example would be the number thirteen. Have you heard of the movie *Friday the Thirteenth*? That movie title created a bad superstition in itself. Now, if the thirteenth of the month falls on a Friday, it is considered an unlucky day.

I haven't had any experience with any of these superstitions, and can't say if they're true or false. Have you?

Warning: If I mention something that you do every day is associated with bad luck, don't worry. There is no factual proof that these superstitions are real.

Should Abortion Be Legal?

By: Vilma E

Definition: An abortion is the termination of a pregnancy by the removal or expulsion of an embryo or fetus from the uterus, resulting in or caused by its death. An abortion can occur spontaneously due to complications during pregnancy or can be induced. (Definition from Wikipedia)

The debate over whether or not abortion should be legal continues to divide Americans in America. 87% of the our states do not provide abortion services which in my opinion is great. User "RichardPHSReed" who is from Hampton, VA wrote an article about abortion on TeenInk.com explaining how he believes in abortion and gives good points in it. Some of his words were "I believe that abortion should be an option for those who are rape victims. What if a teenage girl was brutally raped and was impregnated by her assault? Would you want your young teenage daughter to have that baby? That young girl shouldn't have to keep the baby because someone forced her to have sex." He has a good point, but abortion involves killing a human being, which breaks The Sixth Commandment of the Bible's Old Testament (Exodus 20:13)"Thou shalt not kill." Yet, not everyone is religious.

I ask myself for those who aren't religious how the choices they make affect them and their unborn child. The website wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_and_abortion tells how Religious ideology should not be a foundation for law in the United States, and that the anti-abortion position is not based on religious beliefs and should have separation of church and state. Another fact that explains why abortions should be illegal is because abortions cause psychological damage according to the Southern Medical Journal. More than 173,000 American women who aborted were 154% more likely to commit suicide than women who carried to full-term.

Will this be put on forever? Will we never come down to a decision? From what you just read what would you vote for? **Yes** or **no**?

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1) An abortion can cost anywhere from around \$350 to more than \$1,000. In 2009, it was estimated that a total of \$831 million is spent on abortions annually.
- 2) "Back-alley" abortions cause 68,000 maternal deaths each year in the 33 countries where abortion is not legal or available according to the World Health Organization in Oct. 2006.
- 3) African American women are 4.5 times as likely as white women to have an abortion, and about 1,876 black fetuses are aborted every day.

SOURCE FROM ~ <http://abortion.procon.org/>



Abortions worldwide this year:

36,315,123

One more is added every second of the day

The Big Year



By Joy J.

The Big Year is an event where birders all over the country, amateurs or professionals, travel nationwide to view as many species of birds before the year ends. There is no prize involved, but you get the achievement of year-long birding and will be known as an incredible birder. However, there are records to be broken. Winning a big year doesn't always make you the best. So far the birder who has seen the most species in Big Year history is held by Sandy Komito with 745 species. This mission to find hundreds of birds clearly needs dedication. Although this record is unbeaten, if you're ambitious enough, you might be able to top Komito's 745 Bird find in one year. But are you willing to take the risk? There is a very high probability that if you participate you'll be distracted from work and life. (I'd make sure your partner is okay with this).

The history of The Big Year begins in the early 1900's. In this time people would compete to kill as many birds as possible. Imagine that whole year of murdering the animals that should be admired alive. However, society began to believe that birds should be counted alive instead of dead. So from then on, it was required that birds are watched instead of killed.

The year is closing and 2014 is on its way! If you're interested in who will be the big winner this year when 2013 ends, go to 10000birds.com and search the results!





By Alelia M.

"We wanted an animal that is beautiful, is endangered, and one loved by many people in the world for its appealing qualities. We also wanted an animal that had an impact in black and white to save money on printing costs." The **World Wildlife Fund** wanted an animal that was recognizable and could pass through all language barriers. In the early 1960's, the cute, black and white, furry Panda Bear became their logo. The **World Wildlife Fund** is amazing, because they give a hand to help endangered animals, even letting the community help them with their work, and give more than a hundred and ten percent each and everyday.

In the year 1961, one of the first animal protection organizations was assembled. Before they came, there were very few organizations that did the same things as them. The **World Wildlife Fund** (also known as the **WWF**) is dedicated to accumulating funding for the protection of wildlife. The **WWF** has made a huge difference in our society by gathering money to help save endangered animals.

The **WWF** has begun many projects, but their most famous project is the **International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources**. Their mission is to encourage everybody throughout the world to conserve all of nature. The **WWF** has goals to boost the public appreciation for nature, fund research for issues about the environment, and impact environmental policies and local conservation efforts.

This organization uses their funds for many types of animals ranging from marine animals and primates to big cats! Besides that, they have nearly five million members that work in more than a hundred countries and six continents in the world. Everyday, they get more and more members to help their organization.

What are some ways that you can help? You can become a member by giving donations and or symbolically adopting an animal. For more information on how to help, go to this link: <http://worldwildlife.org/how-to-help>

What does symbolically adopting an animal mean? Many people think that you would adopt one animal, but it doesn't just focus on one animal or family. The donation goes towards field programs to support science, research, and animal study. It is symbolic, because many animals benefit from your support. When you symbolically adopt an animal, you get a gift for your generous donation! You can also get a plush version of the type of animal you donated towards and an adoption paper.

Madeline R. is only one out of the substantial number of people who have symbolically adopted an animal. She related to me that she helped out the Snowy Owl. She felt great about donating, because she loves animals and was happy that she was able to help them! I asked her if she would ever consider adopting more in the future and she said that she wouldn't "consider" it because she knows that she will!

The **World Wildlife Fund** has done many remarkable things to help nature and they will continue to do so for many years to come. Now, don't you want to help out?