

THE NEWSHAKER



LET'S SHAKE THE NEWS!

St Marc High School newsletter

EDITO

USA here we are!

February, for the international section means flying to the United States of America! A special newsletter, for a special month and our special readers. This month, we have a lot of things to share with you, consequently, The Newshaker will be longer. For example, you will discover some secrets of American highschools or break the clichés you have in mind. Also, there will be 7 brief interviews instead of one! However, in France, February means crepes and ski! Guess who will cook a ton of crepes for her host family? Me!! Enough talking, let's dive right into our extra American newsletter, written for you from Washington state! Maelle L.

*Readers are encouraged to email responses for publication
newshakersaintmarc@gmail.com*



FESTIVITIES IN THE USA



Bee my Valentine

Valentine day is a very important day in the United States of America. It does not only celebrate love, but also friendship and affection. In supermarket, an entire section is dedicated to this festivity and it offers a plethora of themed decoration and food such as cookies, cupcakes, cards, heart-shaped balloons, chocolate boxes, flowers and many other festive treats. Americans celebrate Valentine's Day by sharing their love and support with their loved one. This holiday is even celebrated in primary and elementary schools, where children give each others candies, like Fundips or sweethearts candies. It is a way for them to show their joy and love to each other.



The first Valentine's Day occurred in 496. It's a really old tradition coming from a Roman festival called Lupercalia. It officially celebrated the beginning of spring. It is said that during that festival, boys drew the name of a girl from a box, and they were boyfriend and girlfriend for as long as the festival lasted, and eventually they would get engaged. Valentine's Day gradually became a day people would use to express their love for their significant other. Valentine's day became more popular among young children in the early 1900s. What used to be a mainly adult and purely romantic festivity is now wider based and is a major event for kids. Since then, Valentine's Day acquired considerable significance and it is more common to celebrate love in the US than in France.

Margaux N.



THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION REVIEWS

The Evergreen State

On February the 8th, 8 students of the 2nd international section, together with Miss Barret, met at 5 a.m. at Saint Exupery airport to take off to Seattle. When they arrived in the State of Washington, a snow storm was waiting for them, enabling them to skip school for half a week, and a whole week for some of them. Unfortunately, these days are not lost as the students will have extra school at the end of the year to make up for the lost time. Each in a different family, they followed their American friend in their daily life, visiting their towns and the big city of Seattle. They went to school with them, and discovered the American High Schools.

Sharing with them the solidarity of the American Culture and speaking only English, in total immersion. Unfortunately, it will be over soon! On March the 2nd, the students will have to say good bye to their amazing second family and leave behind the American dream, to come back to their French lives. No need to tell you that it will be hard for them to go back to St-Marc with all these wonderful memories...

Juliette B.



LATEST US NEWS

Snowmageddon in Washington state



This week, from the eighth to the thirteenth, an enormous snow storm plunged Seattle and its surroundings, such as Bremerton and Bellingham – where most of us were staying– into a great white kingdom. Between 10 and 15 inches of snow, which is 25 to 38 centimeters, fell on the Evergreen state. Indeed, Bellingham had more than 10 inches of snow, causing big damage on the road. Consequently, schools closed for an entire week, and the governor declared the state of emergency. It didn't stop us from having fun with our American friends! Gabriel R



Bremerton under the snow



What's left from old America

The educational philosophy of Northwest Indian College is based upon the acknowledgment that Tribal values and beliefs are the foundation of education and must include a study of Native American culture, language, and history within the Tribal community. The College's extended campus sites participate by identifying the values and beliefs that underlie the educational approach appropriate to their communities' needs. Their strength comes from old people. From them, we receive their teachings and knowledge and the advice they need for their daily lives. They are responsible for protecting their territory. This means that they take care of the land, the water and everything that is on and in their reservation. Their culture is their language, they should strengthen and maintain their language. Lummi beliefs are also to take care of themselves, watch out for themselves, love and take care of one another.



Students enjoy going to NWIC because of the support and opportunities that are available. For them, attending a tribal college was what was best for them. It has provided them with opportunities to network in the native community, and get the degree they want. Being part of a tribal college is important and beneficial because it allows natives, to be educated while embracing who they are as native people.

Moreover, this education shows their children, nieces, and nephew that if they can, so can they. They also chose to attend NWIC because it is so close to their home. They are inspired by all of the things they have learned while attending NWIC and they can be proud to be one of the first students to graduate. So let's keep in mind that whatever happened in the past, Native Americans are still there to fight for what they have and just like us, live for freedom and equality. Claire B.



ZAPPING



Bremerton H.S.

Bremerton High School, now located in East Bremerton, Washington, was originally founded in the 1930s. The School's mascot is a Knight carrying The Sword of Justice and The Cape of Truth. The building is home to 1,143 students .
Victoria J



Bellingham H.S.

Sehome is a public school. With almost 1000 and 2000 students, Sehome High School just renovated its buildings. It was originally built in 1966. The Green and Gold colors illustrate the Mariners. Their motto is "Sehome high school anchored in excellence"
Naemi A.



Sedro Wolley H.S.

But, there are more than 1,400 students all over the campus of the white and blue bears. Two buildings, sport fields and a gymnasium compose this campus. Its motto is "Every student graduates with the knowledge and skills for future learning and success"
Maele L.



O'Neal School

The O'Neal School in North Carolina was founded in 1971. All over the campus of the falcons, there are 461 students currently attending the school. The campus is composed of the Lower School, middle school and high school. Its motto is "One Community. Every Student. Every Day".

Sebastien F.



PEG-WAY

Sehome High School

I interviewed a special guest, **Peggy Fogarty**. She is the campus security monitor of Sehome High school. She has been working here for eleven years and loves her job because she can hang out and with students and help them go through high school. Her job consists in helping students in case of personal problems, she listens to them and she cares for them. She also makes sure they follow the rules of the school.

She enjoys her work so much that she doesn't see any drawbacks.

Because of her knee injury, and the size of the new school, Mrs. Fogarty owns a **Segway**. It allows her to act quicker in case of emergency, for example. She also has an outdoor golf cart! A 2.0 invigilator!

We enjoyed meeting her, she has always been helpful and caring towards us.

Léo B.

Trump's wall is falling apart



As we all know, since December, Trump is in a delicate position. After, the shutdown, he declared a national emergency, and provoked a constitutional clash. Basically, he put in place a national emergency on the border with Mexico in order to access billions of dollars that Congress refused to give him to build a wall there. President Trump will likely have to issue his first veto to keep in place his national emergency declaration. Trying to regain power after losing a grinding two-month battle with lawmakers over funding the wall, Trump asserted that the flow of drugs, criminals and illegal immigrants from Mexico constituted a profound threat to national security that justified his actions.



"It's an invasion," he added. "We have an invasion of drugs and criminals coming into our country." However, votes and people are still against him. Finally, let's remember that Trump was among those Republicans who criticized President Barack Obama for using his executive authority to spare millions of illegal immigrants from deportation after failing to persuade Congress to do so. Would Trump ever succeed or learn from previous mistakes?
Victoria J.



West or East Coast?

The east coast hosts about 120,000,000 Americans whereas only 50,000,000 inhabitants live on the west coast. The eastern part is composed of some of the 13 founding states as well as a few others. These states are Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. On the other side, the west coast is only composed of Alaska, California, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii. However, the easterners are less diverse than the westerners where the idea of melting pot and multiculturalism is more important. The eastern population is less diverse than it used to be with European immigrants while the west coast hosts more Asian immigrants. The proximity of the coasts to their respective continents has influenced the food. There are more Italian restaurants and upscale restaurants on the east coast, when in the opposite there are more Mexican and Asian restaurants on the west coast.



The mentalities are also unlike, in the public opinion, a westerner is more relaxed "going with the flow", which means doing what you want and not to live with constraints. On the other side, an easterner will be more competitive and ambitious with the mentality of "dog-eat-dog", which means that in order to succeed, they must rise above others.

As for fashion, the west coasters adopt more of a streetwear casual style whereas the east coasters are preppier and sophisticated.

However, the east coast is also more diverse in political views, with many people holding conservative and traditional values, whereas the west coast is more liberal. I went to the east coast two years ago, and I was surprised by the landscapes and that Americans were so welcoming. However, this month I travelled to the West, and had the best time of my life. My family was just amazing, as were my friends and Seattle!

Leo C.





SNAPSHOTS



Henrique

Henrique is an exchange student coming from Brazil! His name is Henrique Catel, and he is 16 years old. Henrique told me that he wanted to do a year as an exchange student because he enjoys English,

that he started studying 10 years ago, and was influenced by his sister. He thought it would be a great way to improve his English and visit North America. I asked him if he was homesick and he answered he misses his family, friends and dog a lot. He also explained to me some differences between the USA and Brazil. For example, he believes that food taste way better and school is harder back home. Finally, he thinks it's too cold in Washington but loves it anyway!



Madame Erickson

Madame Erickson is the fabulous French teacher of Bremerton H.S. Back in high school, she took Spanish classes, but had to take French ones once in University, and literally loved it!

She had been a teacher assistant in Normandie, France, and a substitute here, then light bulb, she told herself, "that's what I want to do!" However, she told me that French can be both hard and easy and that her students mostly struggle on the pronunciation of French words. Mme Erickson is also a musician and plays the piano, the drums and sings. Therefore, she enjoys listening to French speaking artists, such as Stromae and L.E.J.



Bremerton H.S. amazing crew

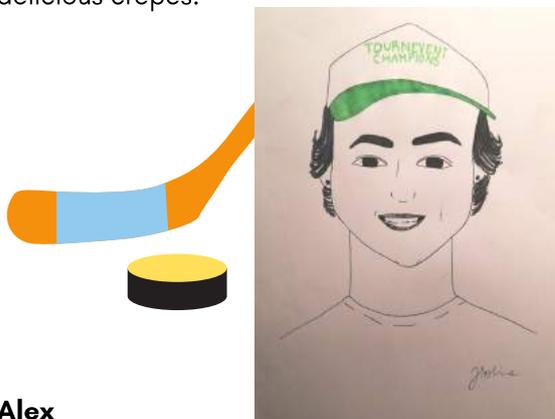


Mister Karler

Mister Karler is an amazing band teacher. His first instrument was the trombone, and wanted to make it his job, but recognized it was a hard life to live. He then realized that he loved teaching youngs more than playing instruments, and became a high schooler teacher! In addition of being a great musician, Mister Karler is a passionate athlete. He tries to exercise an hour and half everyday, three to six hours on weekends to succeed in his next Triathlon! And finally, he told me that the thing he liked the most about France was the various delicious bakeries everywhere!

Brenden

Brenden is a smart student qualified as a "Teacher Assistant". He could have graduated last year at only 17 years old, but instead, he spread his schedules on two years, to have more time for himself. Basically, Brenden completed all his credits and requested to be Assistant. It would help him a lot, as he would like to study abroad after high school, and be a linguistic teacher. He speaks English, French and Spanish fluently and knows a little about Portuguese. He'd love to visit France and taste our delicious crepes!



Alex

Alex is a cool 16 years old student from French 2. I asked him why he took french classes and answered me that he was really interested in French because his sister took it and welcomed a Belgium student for a month which he really enjoyed. He also told me that he would like to design clothes for his future job, and that learning more about France and its culture would helped him a lot, as he likes French fashion. Anyhow, Alex likes skateboarding, and is a big fan of ice hockey, which he has been practising for 10 years.



Daria

Daria, 16, is a nice girl passionated by all kind of literature. She is in French 2 and loves to know everything about French authors' lives, references and books. She likes to compare French and English authors, old and new languages, and every difference she can find between our books and the one she reads. However, as much as she is interested, she feels a little insecure about reading French books, and thinks she won't understand the story. One of Daria's biggest wishes is to visit France one day, and eat Macarons!