



THE DEVIL'S HERALD

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AG LIFE

TAG, YOU'RE IT!



- Photo by Meredith Haas

Ben James and Alex Zurl smile, knowing the button they hold has much meaning. The TAG symbol represents community and friendship.

Students seek new friendships with everyone

By
Meredith Haas
Staff Writer

Inclusivity, friends, meaningful connections, these are some of the messages Ben James and so many others who have come together through TAG try to radiate within Avon Grove.

TAG stands for "Together at Avon Grove." It is a message being spread to make everyone feel part of a community that is kind and involves everyone.

James, one of the main advocates for TAG, explains that it isn't a club, it is more of a message.

"It all began sitting with some kids at the lunch table who were alone, so I sat with them," James stated.

Alex Zurl has been another main proponent of this message.

Zurl had his own struggles in the past, as well as the present. Zurl is capable of bringing his own perspective to TAG where he focuses on sitting with autistic kids.

"On the third day of school I

saw someone sitting alone at lunch, so I decided to sit with him and talk to him as much as I could," Zurl stated.

Zurl and James collaborated and came up with TAG to help others.

"The name came from the idea that we wanted to encompass Avon Grove," James explained.

James says that TAG is for everyone; it is an all inclusive place to join a community and become better for it.

In order to spread the messages TAG conveys, Ben and Alex have been handing out pins with the TAG slogan. Students and teachers alike now wear these pins to honor the meaning of this movement.

Leaders like Mr. DeShong and Mrs. Houghton have worn these pins, and Mr. DeShong has personally met with James to speak on what this movement is.

James hopes to change the way the community is as a whole, but he knows that it can't be just a few who participate.

"It's tough to change people's mindset, but we can only try."

As a senior, James is leaving for college and hopes to make an imprint on the community in order to enrich the lives of younger students who may be struggling.

From a personal view, James has struggled in the past. Now, he is capable of seeing everyone's perspective and putting those perspectives into consideration.

James and Zurl hope to see this movement spread far and wide through the community.

They want people to know that there is no club, no special members; you are who you are, and you try to be kind to others as much as possible.

"It feels amazing to sit with someone new almost every day, or become friends with someone I never thought I would be friends with. I hope that people can follow in these ways and understand that you don't have to be part of a club in order to be kinder to the person sitting next to you," James expressed.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board approves new school

By
Lara McKinnon
Staff Writer

The building of a new school has been a very large issue throughout the Avon Grove School District over the past year. On Thursday, April 26, the Avon Grove School Board met to vote on whether or not the school district will be getting a new school.

All nine members of the Avon Grove School Board of Directors voted to construct a new high school and make other necessary changes to the district.

The new high school, which is going to be built on a 150 acre site near Sunnyside Road that was purchased by the district in 2007, may not benefit the current Avon Grove High School students, but is expected to be fully built to accommodate and enhance the ex-

perience of high school students in the very near future.

The current high school will be turned into a middle school, upgrading the amount of space for grades six, seven, and eight.

Additionally, "The current high school will receive about \$20 million in maintenance repairs and improvements," said Dr. Marchese, Avon Grove's superintendent.

During the April 26 school board meeting, board member Bonnie Wolfe said, "It's time that we've moved on and get those students in classrooms and I just think this decision is going to be a good one and I hope everyone is on board," referring to the portables and lack of classroom space at the current middle school.

Avon Grove is, as of May, "to begin engaging in the pre-design

phase," said Dr. Marchese.

The new high school will additionally have a significantly bigger space to accommodate the growing amount of Avon Grove students expected to attend the high school in the next few years.

Prior to the vote on funding, board member John Auerbach stated, "I do not support the resolution to fund the school project at \$127 million because I believe the burden this places on the Avon Grove School District's finances and our community is too great."

Ultimately, the school board decided in a 5-4 vote that the final budget for the new high school will be \$127 million.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Elementary to high school: Students present technology use AGSD Innovates showcases student use of technology

By
Meredith Haas
Staff Writer

AGSD Innovates is a new way the Avon Grove School District is showcasing the technology that is accessible to every student and person in the community. Friday, May 10 marked the first function as the community came to Avon Grove High School to see the displays and demonstrations.

The displays included 3D printers, laser printers, Ozobots, and drones.

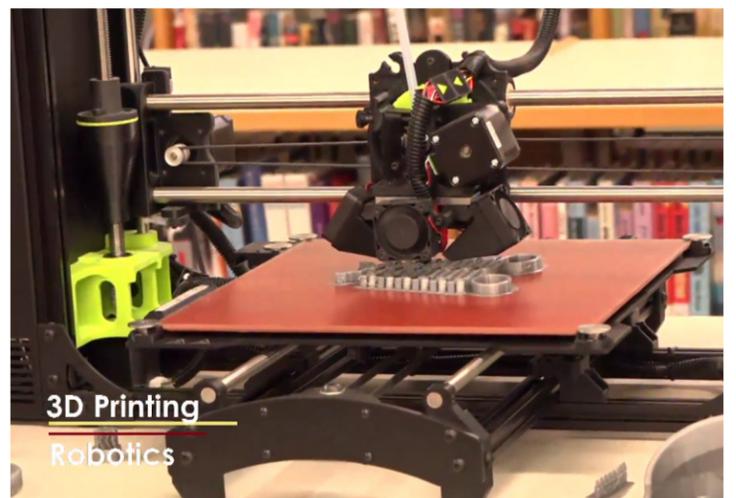
Avon Grove Intermediate School brought their 3D printers,

ed. One robot included in the display was a go-kart, built in two days. Robotics members were able to drive students and teachers around the gym and through the halls.

Children of all ages were able to submerge themselves in technology they may have never used before.

Ozobots were set on tables where kids could make them do certain moves on the table by drawing code and having the robot follow it.

Children were also capable of driving sphere-like robots around



- Photo courtesy of AGTV

AGSD Innovates showcased the variety of technology available to all students in the district including this 3D printer.

an interactive game called Makey Makey, Ozobots, and virtual reality.

Fred S. Engle Middle School showcased a t-shirt and mug press.

AGTV made it possible to live stream the event, showing the innovations to people who did not attend.

Kids huddled around the robots and printers to observe and interact.

"Just like AGTV, the function was student run and student driven. Kids of all ages helped out to make this possible," said junior Chris Berger, AGTV's producer.

The high school robotics team was there to show off their prize-winning robots.

"I thoroughly enjoyed the night, being able to interact with kids, and teachers too. The innovative night was a massive success in demonstrating the district's technological advancements," robotics member, Lucas Ramsey stat-

with phones and iPads that had specific controls to help maneuver them around.

Virtual reality headsets were put in one corner, so many kids could try them on and experience the technology.

Before the night began, Avon Grove School District board members and school leaders assessed the technology the district is providing.

"We were able to speak to members of our community, including board members, which really allowed us to help them understand what technology we use here at Avon Grove, and why we use it," AGTV leader, Mr. Jones exclaimed.

Children of all ages left with goodies from the night—either something they printed on a 3D or laser printer, or a mug pressed by Fred S. Engle Middle School students.

AG CLUBS

AGTV travels to Philadelphia news stations

By
Meredith Haas
Staff Writer

Students from AGTV found an exciting day on May 3 when 19 of the members visited 6ABC and CBS3.

Exuberance filled every room as they walked with their club leader, Mr. Jones, from station to station meeting the real newscasters and writers of today.

Students met well known CBS3 journalists like Meisha Johnson, Jim Donovan, Rachel Solomon, and Pat Gallen.

Johnson and Gallen took time out of their busy day to give ad-

vice to the high school students.

"Don't stress about finals, yes they are important, but if journalism is worth it, then stick it out, but don't do this because you want to make a lot of money, do it because it's your passion," Gallen expressed.

"Every single person is born with an innate gift, and I always feel that when you harness that and you know what it is, it will work because you either have something and you use it to help others, or you find that gift. Once you start to use that gift, life becomes so fluid," Johnson said.

After all was said, the students and Johnson posed for a photo,

said their goodbyes and were on their way to see the radio newsrooms.

The members of AGTV were able to see live traffic reports as the walls were filled with TV screens, the air filled with silence as reporting went live, and the reporters were glued to their microphones and computers.

The group was led through the station by Danielle Nick, a recent graduate of Temple University and web producer for the CW Philly, a news associate, and public affairs coordinator.

Nick recalls that she began interning for CBS3 last January thanks to her mentor.

"I got my foot in the door because of her. It's all about who you know," Nick said.

The AGTV members enjoyed the authentic experience.

"It's really cool. We get to experience all of the different things the TV studios do. We get to see all the lighting and how the production is made," member Jill Boyer stated.

AGTV travelled across the city to 6ABC where the students quickly toured the studio and met with meteorologist David Murphy.

Murphy started as a regular news reporter and a part-time anchor. He moved back to Philadelphia from Allentown where he was an assignment reporter.



-Photo by Meredith Haas

The AGTV members toured the CBS3 studios.

After two years as an assignment reporter on Action News, he was asked to become a meteorologist.

Murphy started as the weekend morning meteorologist where he then got promoted to weekday mornings and the noon show, a position he still holds today.

"My favorite part of the job is informing the people of Philadelphia metropolitan area about severe weather and the weather in general," Murphy stated.

As the members of the club continued their tour upstairs, they heard breaking news that a stab-

bing had occurred at the airport in Philadelphia.

A rare sight it was, so the members leaned over the balcony to watch the journalists in a huddle, passing notes, watching the news, and making a game plan.

Walking away from this sight, the students went on to see the rooms where all the reporting, weather, and radio updates are done.

CBS3 and 6ABC were able to create a clear outline of what the real world of journalism brings, which is something these students look forward to.



-Photo by Meredith Haas

AGTV met CBS3 anchor Meisha Johnson (center).

AG LIFE

Teachers reminisce on their teaching careers

By
Madison Turner
Staff Writer

8,190 minutes.

That's how many minutes students spend with their teachers in one school year.

That's how many minutes they spend teaching their students.

As the school year comes to a close, students start to check out while their teachers are still checked in.

But in all that time, do the students really know why their teachers started this career in the first place?

Some teachers did not plan for this career.

"Growing up, I wanted to be a pediatrician and then I took chemistry and said, 'This ain't for me,'" said social studies teacher Miss Cahill.

"By the end of high school, I knew I liked social studies so I went to UD as a history major. After my freshman year, I added the education component and began taking courses for teaching."

Some on the other hand, like music teacher Mrs. Wilcox, always knew they were going to be in the education field.

"When I went to school, my degree program was officially Music Education K-12. This meant I could teach instrumental or vocal music at any grade level.

"I student-taught at elementary school and high school, and I knew I was not necessarily interested in elementary school. When I graduated, I took a position at a middle school teaching all choirs, and I loved it, but I was ready to move on to high school."

Why they wanted to become a teacher didn't just pop into their mind, something inspired them.

"I have been volunteering at a camp for children with Type 1 diabetes every summer for years now. I realized that I wanted to spend my days in a profession founded on helping people. Once I decided that, it didn't take long until I settled on teaching, and I love coming to school every day," said Mr. Pizzini, who teaches English.

Though many teachers love their jobs, they do have their least favorite moments.

"Sometimes, I find that it is hard to watch students when they don't care or see as much potential in themselves as you do. I grow very attached emotionally to try to help my students be the best that they can be, and it can be really difficult when you care more than they do. It doesn't happen often here at AGHS, thankfully, but I've had it happen at various points in my career and it can be really difficult," Mrs. Wilcox stated.

The end of the year can be an emotional time for many teachers.

"My absolute favorite thing about being a teacher is seeing the students that I taught freshman year graduate AG," Miss Cahill stated.

"It is bittersweet. I am sad that they are leaving the high school, but I am so excited for the next steps in their future. I think about all their successes and how they overcome their challenges over four years. I am so proud of them and it is amazing to see how

much they have grown academically, socially, and personally over the years. This reflective moment really makes every day of teaching worth it."

Many teachers want nothing more than to help their students succeed.

"Seeing students go through

the tough times, not just in school but outside of school [is hard]. If we could fix their problems for them and make their life easier, we would. However, I know that they can tackle it and these tough times would be a thing of the past," Miss Cahill stated.

News Briefs

Minneapolis museum to display mummified monkey

According to ABC News, the Science Museum of Minneapolis plans to display a mummified monkey found in an air duct. The monkey's remains were found last month in the air duct of the former flagship store for the Dayton's department store chain. Dayton remembers the days of when the store was filled with live birds and monkeys in a separate display.

~By Anton Bilski

Dimes consume Nevada highway

A semi-trailer truck headed south on I-15 about 50 miles from Las Vegas was hauling \$800,000 worth of dimes when it hit a guardrail. According to AP News, the money was being hauled from the U.S. Treasury to Las Vegas. There was a driver and passenger both taken to the hospital, but had only minor injuries. State troopers set up a crime scene to investigate.

~By Meredith Haas

Ohio couple awakens to find stranger asleep on couch

According to the Associated Press, authorities say a couple in Ohio was startled to find a stranger who had helped himself to leftover Easter candy and then fell asleep on the couch in their apartment. Rittman police say a 36-year-old man climbed through an unlocked window, got his sugar fix and fell asleep overnight Friday in the couple's living room. A male resident called 911 around 6:00a.m. to report that "some random guy" wouldn't wake up and could be heard yelling at the guy to get out. The man left and was arrested nearby, and officers found prescription medications and two knives on him. Police say the man is being arrested with aggravated burglary.

~By Ashley Murphy

Tons of chocolate spilled on a Polish highway after truck tipped over

Clean up crews were left with a giant, sticky mess after a truck full of about 12 tons of chocolate overturned on a highway near Slupca, Poland. According to the USA Today, the chocolate spread across two lanes that connect Poznan and Warsaw, blocking traffic in both directions. The truck driver suffered a broken arm and no one else was injured, but it's unknown why the truck turned over. The chocolate is hardening on the highway, making clean up a difficult task. They're using hot water to wash away the chocolate, which will take a long time.

~By Stephanie Paglia

ELECTION 2018

Wagner, Wolf victorious in gubernatorial primaries

By
Anton Bilski
Editor

Pennsylvania voters will choose between incumbent Democrat Governor Tom Wolf and Republican State Senator Scott Wagner this November, as each won their party's primaries on May 15.

Pennsylvania State Senator and businessman Scott Wagner won 44.3% of the Republican votes, as he defeated former serviceman and political outsider, Paul Mango (36.9%), and lawyer Laura Ellsworth (18.8%).

Wagner will try to beat Governor Tom Wolf, who ran unopposed in

the Democratic Primary. Wolf, according to Real Clear Politics, has a 46% approval rating and a 35% disapproval rating.

"If Democrats in Pennsylvania want your school taxes eliminated, I'm the guy who's going to get it done, along with Jeff Bartos. This governor's not, trust me, you can take that to the bank. Governor Wolf is going to come back for more tax increases. Governor Wolf has been in office for three years, and a lot of Democrats are starting to realize he has a report card... he hasn't done anything. You go to the inner-city Philadelphia and talk to the people living

in poverty, they're starting to realize that always pulling the Democratic lever, they're pulling the lever for more poverty," said Senator Wagner during a PennLive.com interview.

Jeff Bartos will be Wagner's running mate as he earned the Republicans' bid for Lieutenant Governor with 46.8% of the primary vote.

Bartos is from nearby Bucks County and owns his own contracting company and several real estate acquisition and development companies actively operating in the greater Philadelphia market.

AG Life

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PROFILES

Work, work, working moms

More mothers are leaving the house for work than ever before

By
Stephanie Paglia
Staff Writer

Everyday mothers across the globe go to work and come home to care for their children. The number of working mothers has increased dramatically throughout history and this is shown in our own school district.

At AGHS there are staff members that are also mothers to children outside the classroom.

AP World and AP Psychology teacher, Mrs. Moschetto, is one of the working moms at AG. She has two girls, ages 4 and 8, and being a working mom gives her sanity, though "someone is always calling my name," said Moschetto, referring to her students.

Going from school to home with her kids can be exhausting; it's two full time jobs.

Before Moschetto had children, she said she was more "self-absorbed," but now she is responsible for two kids and the education of her students.

She can't go out with her friends

on a daily basis and now she has to care for two other lives while teaching over a 100 students.

Being a mother and having a job is hard work, but Moschetto states that she is glad to represent working mothers and women.

AP Environmental and biology teacher, Mrs. Coffman, is another staff member who goes to work and comes home to children. Coffman is the mother of two daughters, ages 5 and 8.

Mrs. Coffman is honored to be a working mom, "It means I can be a role model for my daughters by showing them I'm not just Mommy."

Coffman wants to show her daughters that she has goals in life and going to work everyday also creates interesting dinner conversations in the Coffman household.

Becoming a mother is one of Coffman's best life experiences, even though there is some added stress, she is able to find a balance between work and home.

"I needed to become more efficient at decision making, prioritiz-

ing and compromising."

Mrs. Moschetto and Mrs. Coffman are part of the 70 percent of mothers who participate in the workforce according to the US Department of Labor Blog. Forty percent of working moms are the household's sole earners, compared to 11 percent in 1960.

The number of women in the workforce and moms in the workforce has grown throughout history. Described in the Huffington Post, an analysis performed by Ancestry.com in 2014 showed that the proportion of working moms has increased by 800 percent since 1860.

During World War II there was a rapid increase of women in the workforce due to men being sent to war, and since then, the number of working women has increased and declined.

There has been a constant shift of percentages, but it averages out to an amazing growth of working moms compared to earlier times.



- Photo by Stephanie Paglia
Social studies teacher, Mrs. Moschetto, brings motherhood to work as she cooks pancakes for her students.

CLASS OF 2018

Student artists paint their way to college

By
Meredith Haas
Staff Writer

Ethan Carroll and Devon Thoms are two driven Avon Grove senior artists who express two contrasting styles, but bring one similarity to the table. They have chosen to attend college to study art.

Ethan Carroll will be attending the Tyler School of Art at Temple University.

"I am beyond excited to go there. People who go there just can't keep quiet about it," Carroll stated.

As of now Carroll is undecided but is going for his bachelor's of fine arts officially. Next year will be his foundation year where he does not do exactly what he wants to do, but he is showed what his options are.

Carroll recalls the hard work that has led to his travel to the city. Carroll has been working on his portfolio that he says has ev-

ery form of art, not just the type that he likes to draw.

Though he had tremendous guidance from his art teacher, Ms. Watson, Carroll found his calling with art when he was very young. He gives credit to his brother who always did drawings.

"I started to keep a sketch book, did drawings of animals, went into the woods and did some drawings there."

As Carroll starts drawing up plans for his future, he says he could see himself going towards illustration or graphic novels.

"I'm very excited to get more involved in the community, especially the community in Philly where things are always happening."

Devon Thoms is another senior aspiring to attend art school, and has finally achieved that goal.

With inspiration from Ms. Watson, Thoms will be attending Uni-



Devon Thoms' favorite artwork is this photograph of himself.

versity of the Arts in Philadelphia.

"For the longest time I was not planning on going to art school, because of the money aspect, but then I talked to Ms. Watson and

she said, 'You know, what you do is so different and art schools would love that,' so I listened," Thoms said.

So Thoms took the leap and applied. He stated that it was hard work having to create a portfolio with all different types of art and mediums.

He incorporated pictures of his own makeup designs, but he also needed traditional art as well. Getting that all together within one month, Ms. Watson gave Thoms the best piece of advice he could hear at the time.

"You're only as good as your worst piece," Watson expressed to Thoms.

He is used to creating makeup pieces that he says are mostly inspired by flowers. Thoms also says his biggest influence is the television show, *Rupaul's Drag Race*.

Thoms' love for art was sparked almost a year ago.

"I was always doing some type of art, but it never drew me in as much as makeup does. My sketchbook is my face, and I paint it every single day," Thoms exclaimed.

Makeup consumes Thoms' life, driving him to push aside a social life for what he loves, and he says he does not mind that. He says his friends always know what he's up to if he is not with them.

Now gaining prestige on social media, Thoms looks forward to gaining a following and continuing his art career in Philadelphia.

For both of the artists, it is inspiration from Avon Grove and their families that has pushed them to do what they love most, and that is their own form of art.

SENIOR PROM 2018

Seniors, juniors to set sail at After Prom

By
Ashley Murphy
Staff Writer

Upperclassman will have the opportunity to go on a "cruise" after Senior Prom on June 1, as juniors and seniors are invited to After Prom from 11:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.

The Parent Action Committee (PAC) continues to host the After Prom at the high school to "provide a fun event that also keeps students safe and off the roads on prom night," said Kerry Wright, a member from the Parent Action Committee.

This year they will transform the high school into a cruise ship.

The event is held after Senior Prom at the high school.

It is open to all juniors and seniors and their guests attending prom.

In addition, any junior or senior can attend even if they did not attend prom.

Some notable opportunities that will be offered include large inflatable games, a magician, skeeball, air hockey, hypnotist, tattoo artist, photo booth, Kona Ice, a Starbucks coffee bar, and an ice cream sundae bar.



-Photo courtesy of Cindy Murphy
Last year's After Prom was a carnival theme for the class of 2017 and this year will be a cruise theme.