

BIG BLUE NEWS



A New Face in the Elementary

REBECCA PELLEGRINI

Ms. Hardesty is very young, she graduated from college in the spring of 2022 and this is her first full year of teaching. Her love for this job and for kids is what makes her so determined.

What made you decide to be an elementary teacher?

I've actually known that I wanted to be an elementary teacher since I was very little, it was my third-grade teacher that inspired me to become a teacher. She was very funny and always kept us engaged. I really loved how she taught kids which made me love to go to school.

Why did you want to teach at this school as your first full year of teaching?

Well honestly I felt welcome in my interview. I came from a small community as well and I really just love this small school atmosphere and how it's a big family. Everyone truly cares about you and can lean on each other. Since I arrived here I felt so welcome, I just felt a very good energy and support.

What do you like about the kids you teach?

I love how they are so funny so kind and helpful. The relationships I have built with them are the reason why I love coming to school and the reason why I do this.

What do the kids add to your day?

They truly are the reason I keep going, their silliness and their questions, brighter each day.

Most important teaching that you have learned from your students?

I've learned to take things day by day, even further than that hour by hour. I've learned to be present and appreciate when I am with them. I just find it really important to be present in their life and build a support system here at school and make that enjoyable.

What is the biggest challenge when it comes to teaching?

Hard question... There are a lot of things going on so it's important we take care of each other. The most challenging thing is just not knowing if what I'm doing is enough. I want to be able to give them everything I have and be able to help them to reach their full potential.

What do you plan to be doing in five years? in ten?

I'm engaged now so by next summer I will be married and starting to build my own family. Right now I'm building my new family here at Freeman and in the next 5 years I hope to still be here and have created many relationships within this community. I also want to get into coaching. I'm going to be the junior high girl basketball coach this year so I'm very excited for that. One of my goals is to also get involved in high school softball and basketball. I truly just want to make an impact on this community.



A Brief Overview of Our Reptilian Overlords

HAILEY FORD

According to a public polling survey taken in 2013, around 12 million people in the U.S., or more than 4% of the population, believe that interstellar lizards in people suits rule our country. Another 7% are unsure. Lizard people are cold-blooded, humanoid reptilians who have the power to shape-shift into human form.

I know there is a question that all of you might be asking yourselves; "How do people who believe in lizard people know when someone is a lizard person?" There are many different theories that human-lizard believers post on forum sites such as Quora, Reddit, etc., that will tell you ways to find a reptilian. Certain characteristics such as red hair, green eyes, low blood pressure, good eyesight and hearing, love of personal space, a great sense of not belonging to the human race, and unexplained scars on the body are all ways you can identify a lizard in disguise. Some other key identifiers can also include having a smile where bottom teeth show, eyes that change in size, and abnormally small or large pupils.

Reptilian-people-believers also think that a large percentage of A-list celebrities and highly ranked world leaders are actually lizards in disguise. The list includes Queen Elizabeth- which explains why she's lived so long-, Bill Clinton, international pop star Madonna, Britney Spears, Angelina Jolie, Hillary Clinton, and Katy Perry are just a few among the thousands that have infiltrated our media.

The final question you might ask yourself is, "What do the lizard people want?" There is only one answer: world domination.



SCHOOL NEWS

Let's Talk FFA!!

BARON ROGMAN

FFA is just one of the various things you can join in this wonderful school of ours. But some people may not know exactly what people in FFA do. Well luckily, we've found a member of FFA to talk to. Freeman's very own Thies Richardson. I've asked him a few questions about FFA that I hope will help you decide if you want to join or not. Here's the list of questions and what he had to say.

What, in general, is FFA?

"So, FFA is both the system and advocating for agriculture, whether that be plant science or speaking and being an advocate for all aspects of agriculture. Like systems, management, and education."

What do you do in FFA? What are some events?

"There's two main categories of events. First is the career development events. Like agronomy where you identify plants and soils. And welding. Where you weld. Obviously. Second category is leadership development events. These events are more focused on advocacy and education. In these events, you either educate or persuade people on a certain topic. This can be done in events such as natural resources and agricultural extemp speaking."



In your opinion, what is the most fun thing to do in FFA?

"One thing I look forward to each year in FFA is going to the state FFA convention. It's one of my favorites because I get to compete in it and it's fun to meet different people from across the state that all share a similar interest in agriculture."

There you have it. Now you know some of the things that FFA does. If this isn't enough to persuade you, then I don't know what will. FFA is fun for all and you get to learn some new things. So if you haven't joined yet this year, you should go and join. But if it's too late, there's always next year.

STAFF INTERVIEW

Our New Media Specialist – Mrs. Weyer

OLIVIA GOULDIE

At Freeman, there's been a list of new staff joining our school. For this interview we were tasked to get to know them better. I formed a bunch of questions I found most important to get to know Mrs Weyer our new librarian.

When looking for a new position, she chose our school because she saw the spot opened up and it would be a great opportunity to meet new students and staff of all ages and a new opportunity for change.

Before coming to Freeman, she was a librarian at Southern and was there for a total of 16 years.

The last book Mrs. Weyer read was The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors which is a children's book. Her favorite part about being a librarian is getting to talk to all ages of students and getting to know and form a connection with them.



ONE-ACT

Break A Leg (Or A Heart)

REBECCA FORD



ADAMS - School is underway and so are One Act auditions. With students vying for their preferred roles, the week of auditions can be a tense one. From studying scripts, engaging in readings, and doing background research, students engage in all sorts of rituals to better themselves and achieve their ideal role.

However, no amount of preparation can calm the nerves one often faces when faced with a script and a couple of judges. Nerves are fried, and how a student handles this anxiety can make or break their performance. Will they utilize their nervous energy to put on the perfect performance, or will it prompt a performance that leaves something to be desired? One such judge has something to say on the matter.

"This year's auditions... We had more kids than we've had, we had 23 total auditions, which is awesome, and we had over 40, close to 45 kids who are interested in being in One Act overall, which is really cool. I would say that this year's auditions were some of the best auditions that I've seen and a lot of the decisions were very difficult to make. I would say that there are many talented actors who could have probably played four or five different roles very, very well, so I'm excited about the season and I'm excited about the opportunity to work with such an outstanding group of 23 actors," says One-Act coach Brett Sales. Actor Summer Buss had similar sentiments.

"I loved speaking like the Wicked Witch!" She says. Auditions have since closed, and with the release of the cast list, actors are equal parts excited and anxious for the upcoming One Act season.



shutterstock.com · 1306027312

Cooking With Rebi – the Italian Way

REBECCA PELLEGRINI

Lasagne alla Bolognese is an institution, typical of Italian Sunday lunches. This dish is from the Emilia Romagna region, specifically, from the city of Bologna. Layers of egg pasta, dressed with the classic traditional “ragù”, béchamel, and grated parmesan cheese. Obviously, lasagna has numerous variations.

INGREDIENTS

Egg lasagna sheets ½ lb (250 g)
Grana Padano DOP cheese 5

For the **bechamel** sauce

Whole milk (1L)
Butter 7 tbsp (100 g)
Flour 00 2.6 cups (100 g)
Nutmeg to taste
Fine salt to taste

For the “**ragù**” sauce

Sausage (200 g)
Minced beef 10 ½ oz (300 g)
Tomato puree 7 oz (450 g)
Celery 1 stalk
Onions 1
Carrots 1
Red wine 1 glass
Extra virgin olive oil
Fine salt, black pepper to taste

Preparation

To prepare lasagne alla Bolognese, start with the meat sauce. Prepare the vegetable broth and keep it warm. Then take the sausage, cut it into strips and separately, finely chop the carrots, onions, celery. In a saucepan, put oil and the sausage. Spread it well and let it brown for a few minutes. Then add the chopped vegetables and the minced meat. Deglaze with red wine and let it evaporate completely before adding the tomato puree. The Bolognese sauce must be cooked for two hours. When it starts boiling again, you can add some hot broth and let the sauce cook for another couple of hours at least. As soon as the Bolognese sauce is ready, adjust with salt and pepper. Meanwhile, prepare the béchamel sauce. Heat the milk in a saucepan, separately, melt the 7 tbsp (100 g) of butter, then add the 11 tbsp (100 g) of flour all at once and cook until the mixture turns golden. You will have obtained what the French call “roux”, pour a little hot milk on the roux to dilute the bottom, then add the rest. Cook for 5-6 minutes until the sauce thickens and starts to boil. Flavor the milk with nutmeg 5 and a pinch of salt. Then you are ready to compose your lasagna. Take a large 12x8 inches (30x20 cm) pan and add a thin layer of béchamel and one of Bolognese ragu sauce. Then place the first sheet of pasta, add a layer of béchamel and a layer of meat sauce. Add grated Parmesan cheese and place another sheet of pasta on top. Continue like that until you have 5 layers. After placing the last sheet, add the Bolognese sauce. Sprinkle with grated parmesan cheese and bake in a static oven at 338°F (170°C) for 40 minutes.



POLITICS

Candidate for Texas Governor Gives Illness the Horns

BARON ROGMAN



Representing the Democratic Party, Beto O'Rourke said Wednesday that he will resume campaigning for Texas governor after pausing everything because of an unspecified bacterial infection. Beto said that he would return Friday September 2nd.

He returned home to El Paso last week after getting some help for his bacterial infection. Which just consisted of antibiotics. With him returning home to El Paso he has done some virtual campaigning but was not traveling. Most likely due to the illness.

“It’s the working people of Texas who power our economy — yet 40% don’t make a living wage today. As governor, I’ll fight to improve wages and benefits, bring great jobs to every part of this state, and create an economy that works for all Texans.” This man is fighting for the people and he’s gonna make sure he wins by any means necessary.

He is running against current governor Greg Abbott. The general election will be held November 8th, 2022. Will O'Rourke also give the horns to Greg Abbott? Will his campaigning backfire? Will Greg be victorious and be governor yet again? Well, we'll just have to wait and see.

BIG BLUE NEWS STAFF:

*Hailey Ford
Rebecca Ford
Baron Rogman
Olivia Gouldie
Hayleigh Shubert
Rebecca Pellegrini*

SCHOOL NEWS:

The Ever-Changing Curriculum

OLIVIA GOULDIE

The world is evolving, that includes our school system where we used to have Home Ec. we now have computer classes. Parents and grandparents may see classes like this as useless but with our world, evolving computer classes fit most jobs. Whether it's a desk job or a school teacher every job today requires at least some technology experience.

As for our curriculum, you need at least one computer class to graduate and this goes for most middle schools. Although cooking isn't as important with all the easy access to fast food nowadays Home Economics would be a very good class to teach life skills and the safety and importance of learning how to cook for yourself and others. It also teaches problem-solving skills which are very important for the real world.

Now that Home Ec. is gone and new classes are in place there is now room for more opportunities. New classes will always arise either agricultural classes or something of the sort that helps learn about where you live, or shop classes such as welding or mechanic classes which is important if that is an interest of yours.

School curriculum will always change and evolve with our world so we never know how it will evolve 10 to 15 years from now.



The man folded his paper when he was done, when the sun shifted from amber to watery yellow. He washed out his coffee mug and started the dishwasher. He shrugged on a jacket. It would be a playfully nippy morning as winter slouched towards them. He slid on his loafers, shouldered on a backpack, and off he went, to work.

Isn't that the worst thing you've ever heard? Isn't that horrifying How could this man not care? How can he go on with his life, when the world is dissolving beneath our feet? You should be sad. You should be angry. You should be afraid. You should hate.

SATIRE

BREAKING: MAN READS NEWS
Horrifying: He Doesn't Let That Stuff Affect Him

REBECCA FORD

BIG BLUE NEWS REGION - The reports are in. A local Adams man received the newspaper on Thursday. He sat down on his chair by the window with the golden morning sun streaming in through narrow slits through the blinds. The lounging room smells of lazy Thursday mornings, aftershave, and coffee. It is bleary-eyed and washed in amber. He sipped on a scalding cup of black coffee. He took out the morning paper. And he read it.

“CHILD BLOWN UP IN FREAK ACCIDENT,” Says one headline. “PRESIDENT MAKES GENERALLY UNPOPULAR DECISION,” Says another.

“PEOPLE ARE SAD. THEY ARE ANGRY AND SCARED. YOUNG GENERATIONS HAVE NO HOPE FOR THE FUTURE. WE ARE RIOTING. WE ARE PROTESTING. WE ARE BOYCOTTING AND BLOCKADING. THIS IS THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE. HERE’S THE WEATHER,” Says a third.

The man did not flinch. He did not clench his fists. He did not fight a rush of anger, or a rush of fear, or despair. He did not pull out his phone to inform his friends and family of the state of the world with his own glossy spin. He did not take to Twitter, or Facebook or Instagram.

The man sipped his coffee. The lounging room was heavy with morning warmth and coffee heat, and was heavier with the sounds of the routine. A chattering slurp of astringent coffee. The delicate flip of paper. The settling of a house on its foundations.

MOVIE REVIEW

Barbie as The Princess and The Pauper

HAILEY FORD

Barbie as the Princess and the Pauper is a 2004 computer-animated musical fantasy film. It was released to video on September 28, 2004, and made its television premiere on Nickelodeon on November 14, 2004. Based on the story by Mark Twain, *Barbie as The Princess and The Pauper* features Barbie in an exciting dual role as a princess and a poor village girl - two girls who look amazingly alike. The girls' paths are fated to cross when Princess Anneliese is captured and Erika, her look-alike, must try to save her.

The movie is located hugely at Queen Genevieve's Kingdom, which is a location in *Barbie as The Princess and the Pauper*. It is where the movie is set. The kingdom is ruled by Queen Genevieve. Her daughter, Princess Anneliese and her husband Prince Julian are the heirs to the throne.

This movie is the best movie in the animated Barbie movie series. It has great songs, it has a powerful message, the main characters Anneliese and Erika are both determined to fulfill their duties and follow their dreams plus the love interests Julian and Dominick both have good personalities such as Julian being a science lover and Dominick being a music lover. I also like how all of the animals also have personalities. Overall, this movie is worth a watch and a re-watch. 5 stars.



SPORTING NEWS

Why You Should Learn How to Swim

HAYLEIGH SHUBERT

Many animals are born with the ability to swim, but humans must learn and practice before being able to swim easily. Some people never learn how to swim, which often causes them to fear water. Learning to swim is important for several reasons, and mastering this skill at a young age can benefit you throughout your life. In this article I will talk about why you should know how to swim, and what the different perspectives are of knowing and not knowing how to swim.

An obvious reason for learning how to swim is the ability to survive in water. At one time or another, you are bound to find yourself in or near water, whether you're on a cruise, boating trip, fishing or lounging by a pool with friends. If the water is deeper than your height, and you find yourself in it, knowing how to swim could save your life. Another reason why you should know how to swim is because doctors say that swimming is a healthy exercise.

As said by an anonymous source "It's hard but it's not impossible." This shows that everyone can learn how to swim eventually. If you're scared of learning how to swim, like Nike once said, "Just do it." You can even look up videos on YouTube that give step by step tutorials on how to swim. Just look at this video on YouTube, called "Swim in 5 Minutes for Beginners."



Swimming enthusiast, Hailey Ford said, "It's pretty nice, you don't drown all the time, and you get to go in the deep end." As a person who knows how to swim I also agree that it is pretty nice because you can have a lot of fun at a lake and on hot summer days you can cool off in the pool and not worry about drowning.

In the wise words of Mr. Anderson, "Don't drown." In this article we discussed how to swim, and the different perspectives on knowing and not knowing how to swim.



FOOD NEWS

Carbonara's Pasta

REBECCA PELLEGRINI

Carbonara is an Italian pasta dish from Rome. The dish arrived in the middle of the 20th century. As with many recipes, the origins of the dish and its name are obscure; however, most sources trace its origin to the region of Lazio. The dish seems to have come from the period of the pre-Second World War.

Ingredients (for 4 people)

- 400 g pasta (spaghetti, mezze maniche, rigatoni)
- 280 g guanciale
- 200 g pecorino romano cheese
- 5 egg yolks (medium size)
- Q.b. black pepper (Q.b. means "quanto basta" which literally translated means how much is enough)

Carbonara purists do not compromise: they only use these ingredients and parmesan is banned instead of pecorino, pancetta or bacon instead of guanciale or, even worse, cream or onion or garlic. Everyone is free to cook as he wants at home, but I want to leave you the original recipe for this dish.

Preparation

Start by putting a pot of salted water on the burner to cook the pasta. In the meantime cut the guanciale first into slices and then into strips about 1/2" (1cm). Put the pieces into a pan and brown for about 15 minutes over medium heat, being careful not to burn it. Meanwhile, put pasta in boiling water and cook for the time indicated on the package. Then pour the yolks into a bowl add most of the Pecorino cheese needed for the recipe and the remaining part will be used just before serving. Add black pepper and a tablespoon of cooking water to dilute the mixture. The guanciale will be cooked. Drain the pasta directly into the pan with the guanciale. Remove from heat and pour the mixture of eggs and pecorino cheese into the pan. Mix quickly to combine To make it very creamy, if necessary, you can add a little cooking water to your pasta. Serve it immediately with the remaining pecorino cheese and ground black pepper on top.



SCHOOL NEWS - HOMECOMING

BARON MIND... He may be the RogDog, but now he's the GOAT

Why Baron Rogman Deserves to be HoCo King

REBECCA FORD

Homecoming is upon us, and so is the voting for the Homecoming court. With this in mind, there is one very special candidate that deserves to win more than anyone else, objectively. The man, the myth, the legend, Baron Rogman, deserves your vote. And here's why.

1. He's the underdog.

Baron Rogman is, undoubtedly, irrevocably, the underdog. The RogDog is the underdog, even. The votes are rallied against him. We all want to see a success story. We want to see the underdog win. We want to see the RogDog win.

SCHOOL NEWS

A Trip to Lauritzen Gardens

HAYLEIGH SHUBERT



On Wednesday, September 7th we got to go on a field trip to Lauritzen Gardens. Students that are in arts 2-4 (sophomores-seniors) got to participate in the trip. We first got to walk around the greenhouses and all the visiting areas outside, then we went to get our lunches and eat anywhere we wanted outside. The last thing we did was sketch anything we thought was cool there and we had lots of free time during the day.

2 He's the people's candidate.

Rogman is a man of the people. The boy king. Baron Rogman deserves to win because he's the people's man. Everyone loves Baron. He stays humble, he's relatable. He gets along with everyone. Quietly popular. Vote for him.

3 He deserves it.

C'mon guys. Just vote for the guy. He's funny, he's nice, he's honest, he's charismatic, he's interesting, he's entertaining, among other adjectives. This article is not biased. Baron's the GOAT. Vote for the guy.



After a long, hour and a half on the bus, we finally got to Lauritzen Gardens. When we got off the bus we headed inside for our tour of the gardens. The first place we went to tour was the greenhouse with all of the plants and water features. This picture above is one of their many water features and the fountain part is made of metal and stained glass. There was another fountain in the greenhouse that had an elephant spewing water out of its trunk into the pond. There is another part of the greenhouse that has a coffee shop in it, and let's just say that was a very popular spot. When we went outside there were beautiful memorials that had a ton of flowers and plants on them. There was one spot that even had a lake with a whole bunch of goldfish in them.

After we were done walking around the gardens, we headed back to the bus to get our lunches. We all got to pick spots to go eat with our friends and got to walk around. My friends and I chose to eat outside on some limestone rocks next to a flower bed. While we were eating we asked fellow students on the trip if the coffee shop was any good and they said it was good so we headed that way. After we got drinks from the coffee shop, we walked around the gardens again and just looked at all the cool scenery and art.

The last thing we did on our trip was to get our sketchbooks out and pick out things we could sketch. My friends and I stayed outside and found some shaded benches and started sketching away. For my sketch I used a leaf that I found on the ground and put it underneath the paper and color on top of it with colored pencils, it made a beautiful leaf pattern and texture on my paper. After a while, my friends and I started getting hot from being outside, so we went inside to find our other friends. They were in the cafe area and over there was a koi fish pond with fish almost two feet long.

To sum up the trip, we got to see a lot of different plants and cool trinkets in the gift shops. We got to walk around the greenhouses, and go walk around their outside attractions. I highly suggest going to the Lauritzen Gardens, this is a very beautiful place and there are many things to look at.