Remembering 2012-2013 School Year….

It has been quite an adventure this school year. A lot has happened both inside and outside of our school and community. Do you remember…

August/September 2012:

September 6th - School began after Labor Day for the 2nd year in a row.
Glen Este changed lunch procedures from 3 lunch periods to 2 lunch periods, however the lunch periods were increased from 30 to 40 minutes. Much more time to eat and relax.
For a 2nd year in a row, we still have:
- School pictures taken in late August when we could come in and get our schedules early.
- No busing, while the traffic jams coming in and out of school are still an issue. Follow the arrows around the school and that will get you out.
- Café Poetica, still going strong. It alternated between A and B lunch every other Wednesday.
The $500.00 sports fee is still affecting the size and talent of our GE sports teams.
Principal Spieser was relocated to the West office from his original spot in the East Office from last year.
The football team once again beat our rival, Amelia, by a score of 41-7.
Mr. Ayers began this year with an office in the East building, was moved over to the West Office, and then back again to the East Office. He must be exhausted!
Student Council renamed the Glen Este hallways after our Trojan origin! These hallway names include: Sparta Court, Iliad Avenue, Trojan Way, Odyssey Street, Homer Road, Troy Lane, Athena Boulevard, Zeus Corner, Diana Parkway, and Hera Drive.
Since our school levy still didn’t pass, the pain was felt in the classrooms. Class sizes averaged 28+ students, with some classes in the mid 30’s.
The library is only open three days a week: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, because Mrs. Vater is split with the middle school as well. She can’t be in two places at once!
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At the beginning of the school year, late arrival students were to sign in at the East Café lunch tables.
School lunches were changed and prices were raised to $2.60. French fries no longer come with the lunch, and they now charge you more for condiments such as ketchup and salad dressing.
There were many new lunches for students to eat this year, including sweet potato fries, smoked turkey wraps, iced tea, and Hawaiian fruit punch, as well as 3 types of pizza: big daddy, stuffed crusted, and regular pizza.

Mr. Spieser decided that Glen Este should have quarter exams compared to last year’s semester exams.

Sports teams at Glen Este are in a newly named conference—the ECC which is the Eastern Cincinnati Conference. The league consists of: Turpin, Milford, Walnut Hills, Anderson, Loveland, Kings, and Glen Este. We are no longer in the FAVC.

Mr. Mason organized an assembly for history classes. These classes were enthralled by a speaker from Germany, mesmerizing the students with her tales of living as a youth in Nazi Germany under the fearful reign of Adolph Hitler.

**October:**

Thanks to Student Council, GE had their first Pep Rally in two years right before Homecoming and the Homecoming game!

Homecoming spirit week consisted of: Monday– Tie-Dye day, Tuesday– Fashion Disaster, Wednesday– Nerd Day, Thursday– Trojan of Troy, and Friday– Spirit Day. The FRESHMEN class won the award for Most Spirited! SOPHOMORES won the Best Float for 2012.

October 5th– Our Homecoming parade made it's way from Eastgate Walmart all the way back to the GE parking lot! After that, everyone watched and celebrated with the Glen Este Football team. That night, the Homecoming Court was announced and the Prince and Princess were Conner Katsanis and Bailey Miller; King Rickey Gerwe and Queen Kristen Godfrey were named the reigning royalty.

October 6th– Our 50th Anniversary Homecoming was celebrated with the theme of “A Walk Through Time.” Old yearbook pictures from 1964 all the way up to 2012 were posted up and down the hallways. Great hairdos!

October 22nd– Hurricane Sandy killed 209 people from the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and the Bahamas.

Color guard placed 1st place in the Western Brown Band Invitational!

At the end of fall, the boys football team ended their season with a record of 4-6.

Girls' Volleyball ended their season with a record of 10-14.

The boys soccer team ended their season with a record of 6-9-2, while the girls' soccer team ended the season with a 7-8-1 record.

There was no girls golf team this year, although Olivia Nicholas did play on the boys team because she was the only girl that signed up to play! The golf team ended their season with a record of 8-7.

Girls' tennis ended their season with a 1-11 record.

In Cross Country, Kyle Luccasen ran 18:13.48 at District Finals in Mason!

Jamie Thomas placed the best time in Cross Country for the girls' team, with a time of 19:58.10.

October was Bullying Awareness Month which occurs in all schools. During October teachers tried to make students more aware of it while also trying to decrease the effects of bullying in school.

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month the Glen Este volleyball team sponsored “Volley for a Cure” in a volleyball game. There were T-shirts sold and a bake sale; all the proceeds went to the Cancer Society.

The Thespians had a Trick- or-Treat event for 50 kids; The Thespians dressed up for Halloween and went around to houses asking for donations for needy families so they could have food for Thanksgiving.

On October 28th the San Francisco Giants won the second World Series in three years, defeating the Detroit Tigers, 4-3 in ten intense innings.

The Bengals lost in the Wildcard game to Houston, Texas for the 2nd year in a row.
The Reds headed to the playoffs after being Division Leaders. In the playoffs they were up 2 games against the Giants, and were then swept 3 games straight.

**November:**

November 6th– Barrack Obama wins his 2nd term as President of the United States against his opponent Mitt Romney.

November 11th– Glen Este’s Marching Band participated in the Veteran’s Day Parade.

The West Clermont School District lost their tax levy again for the third time in a row.

The Americanism Test was given to all Sophomores, Junior, and Seniors around the test. The winners from the school who took the test were; Zach Jeschke (who came in second in the state) and Britt Armstrong, who are sophomores, Austin Lotz and Rachel Durst, who are juniors, and Andy Sigmon and MaryBeth Smith, who are seniors.

**December:**

December 14th– Adam Lanza entered Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut and shot himself after shooting 20 children and 4 adults including the principal.

A middle school girl wrote something inappropriate on Facebook and many students from the middle and high school stayed home the next day.

December 21st– We all survived Doomsday! The Mayans were obviously wrong.

The Holiday Assembly consisted of the ugly sweater contest, the door decorating contest, and student council also announced that Glen Este students had raised $3,800 and over 1,700 canned foods for the food pantry and the battered women’s shelter!

Student Council seniors visited Eastgate retirement village with Santa to sing songs and have sweet treats!

**January:**

Glen Este hosted their 2nd pep rally of the year in the gym to celebrate winter sports and the first winter Homecoming!

With the Winter Homecoming right around the corner, Student Council created another spirit week for students to compete in!

“Dancing on Ice” was the theme of this year’s Winter Homecoming, and it was the first one Glen Este has had in 14 years!

The court for Winter Homecoming was much different compared to Fall Homecoming because only girls were on the court! Ashley Keith won Princess while Bailey Fryman won Queen!

January 15th– Cyclist Lance Armstrong lost all of his titles when he admitted to drug use during all of his races.

Glen Este’s Ski Club went to Perfect North to work on their skill on the slopes!

**February:**

Mr. Mason and his History Club visited the National History Museum.

The Glen Este Boy’s Wrestling Team was crowned league champs. Go Trojans!

Girls basketball ended their season with a record of 16-7, while the Boys Basketball Team ended their season with a 4-18 record!

By the end of February, Glen Este students received one snow day and 2 two-hour delays. Last year, we didn’t get any snow days at all!

Student Council and National Honor Society students worked the fish fry at the American Legion.

National Honor Society participated in another fundraiser called “Pennies For Patients.”

Clash of the Classes was hosted by Student Council for the 2nd year in a row, and the Junior class took the trophy!
March:
March 13th– A new Pope was named in Rome; Pope Francis, the 266th Pope and the first Pope from the Southern Hemisphere.
March 15th- The talent show created by three members of the “Devine Dreamers” took place in the PAC to raise money for African Refugees.
The High School Musical Performance took place in the PAC on 3 different nights and was a huge success for the cast and the school! Starring: David Michel, Maegan Winters, Jordan Large, and Brad Young. Directed by Mrs. Erwin.
OGT week consisted of stressed out sophomores and happy juniors and seniors who got to come in at 10 a.m!
Mr. Devine’s students raised money to buy yoga balls to sit on in class compared to regular, old, boring desks and chairs.
Now other teachers are getting a bit jealous!

April:
April 1st-8th– Spring Break!
Dance Company took a spring break cruise to Mexico!
New safety provisions were put into place at Glen Este when the students came back from Spring Break: There is no longer ISS and old ISS teachers were assigned to a door during their free period to let students/teachers/parents into the school since all doors are now locked. Also, against the seniors liking, the late arrival “sing in” was moved over to the West Café for safety reasons.
During spring break, the cashier and attendance secretary moved over to the West Office.
Two brothers (known as the Tsarnaev Brothers) set up bombs at the end of the Boston Marathon. When the bombs exploded, it killed 3 people, and injured 282, with about 20 limbs lost. The brothers were from Chechnya, and several days later, the police killed the older brother, and eventually got the younger brother in handcuffs.
The Powder Puff game took place in the school gym because of the rain, and the juniors got the big W!
April 27th-29th– West Clermont District Art Show was held at Amelia High School.
April 28th– The Tough Mudder took place up in Cleveland. The Tough Mudder is a 13.1 mile long marathon, where you must sign a death waiver. Mr. Reveal participated this year, and did live!
The Coach’s Classic Tennis tournament was held at Glen Este for the first time.
Honoree Kyle Keszie was selected to represent GE in a regional youth leadership program. Congrats Kyle!

May:
May 4th– Junior/Senior Prom held at the Oasis in Loveland at 7:30 p.m. After prom was held at Five Seasons starting at midnight.
The Prom Queen this year was Paige Evans and the King was Logan Shannon! The Princess was Maddie Jutze and the Prince was Tim Shepler. “Old Hollywood” was the theme of this magical night at the Oasis.
May 5th– The Flying Pig Marathon went off without a hitch.
May 9th—New Oaks students for the fall visited Scarlet and Live Oaks campuses to get an idea of what their respective programs will be like.
May 16th– Senior awards day in the PAC! Slide show extraordinaire!
May 17th– History Day at Glen Este showcased inventions and highlights of America’s past. This year’s theme was “Turning Points.”
May 17th— The Physics field trip to Kings Island takes place. Measuring velocity and “stuff” while riding roller coasters all day. What a fun exam!
May 17th – Last day for seniors— Good luck everyone!

May 17th-19th – Evening of Dance performed by the members of dance company in the PAC!

Teachers are retiring! Mr. Mason, Mrs. Mansfield, Mr. Hall, and Mrs. Garrett are all retiring after many prosperous years of teaching/counseling. Good luck with everything! We’ll miss you!

Gilder Lehrman donated one hundred tri-fold boards to the History department this year along with 60 tickets to go see the movie “42.”

Some teachers from Glen Este will be re-assigned to other schools in the West Clermont School District. This is a definite loss to GEHS but a win for the schools they will be going to. Good Luck—you will be missed!! Mr. Riordan, Mr. Devine, Mrs. Napier, Mrs. Korfhagen, and Mr. Sexton are going to GEMS while Mrs. Jordan and Mr. Baughman are headed to Amelia.

May 20th-23rd – Underclassmen awards day in the PAC!

May 31st – Graduation! The last official day all seniors will be together!

June:

June 6th – Underclassmen’s last day!

This year concludes the 50th year of Glen Este High School being in existence and it also marks the 50th year of Glen Este’s High School News Publication.

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**TROJANS ARE THE BEST!**

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**PROM 2013**

**Congratulations to**

**Queen Paige Evans**

**And**

**King Logan Shannon**

**also**

**Princess Maddie Jutze**

**And**

**Prince Tim Shepler**

**King/Queen Court:** Baylie Fryman, Kaitlyn Sturgeon, Liz DeJohn, Brad Young, Nick Scardina, and Joey Spiegel.

**Prince/Princess Court:** Katelyn Maynard, Maranda Melton, Kenzie Hall, Tyler Burdick, Jake Panek, and Jake Simon.
Fly Pig, FLY!

It’s time again for the Flying Pig Marathon! The Flying Pig Marathon, named after Cincinnati’s mascot, has occurred every year since 1999. This nonprofit event has been going on and raising money for charity for 15 years now. It is now the third biggest marathon event in the country, bringing in over 33,000 participants this year alone. It is always held on the first Sunday in May, so it was held on Sunday, May 5th this year. Participants started on Mehring Way and ran twenty-six miles, finishing at US Bank Arena. However, the full marathon isn’t the only thing that was going on. There were other various events the entire weekend. Many people did the half marathon instead of the full, running thirteen miles instead of the twenty-six. It’s at the same time as the full. On May 4th, there was the 5K race and the 10K race. There was also a four-person relay on May 5th. There was even a kids marathon and a high school challenge, along with other various events.

Many of our very own GEHS staff have participated in this year’s Flying Pig Marathon! Mr. B participated in the marathon, making him one of the few in the country that has participated in the Flying Pig since 1999! He is one of the 102 “Streakers” that has run this year and during every Flying Pig. Mr. Curless ran his third full marathon and Mr. Whitford also ran the marathon. Mr. Spieser ran the half marathon, as did Ms. McKissick. Mrs. Rademacher ran the relay with Ms. Yuskewich and two others. Ms. Schwalbach and Mr. Hall also participated. We hope all of our Glen este teachers and all the other participants had a wonderful time!

-Victor Cave Takes Off…

Glen Este Senior Victor Cave is a great athlete who’s on his way to play football in college. He worked hard to get to the point he’s at, but he also had fun along the way. The Torch had the opportunity to interview the star athlete.

Victor Cave will be attending University of Toledo and will major in International Business and Spanish. Toledo’s sports teams are known as the Rockets. Victor will be playing defensive end while at Toledo. His next goal is to, “Go wherever God takes me.”

Most athletes are recruited by colleges in order to bring them to their school. Victor was recruited by Kent State, Buffalo, and Toledo. He decided on Toledo because of the family atmosphere. Victor received a full ride scholarship, which is a scholarship that pays for all your books, room and board, and class fees. His favorite part of being recruited was, “Being noticed and sought after.”

Vic’s favorite high school football memory was beating Anderson 35-27 on their senior night. If he could go back in time, he would want to relive all four years of his high school career again. His advice to underclassmen wanting to go to college is, “Attend college camps.” College camps get your name out there and allow you to showcase your talents in front of college coaches.

Victor will be missed but we can all watch him playing for Toledo on National TV. Victor is excited to play on TV, “To prove the haters wrong.” Good luck at Toledo in athletics and in academics. Go Rockets!

-Zach Jeschke

Bowling Awards!!!

Glen Este’s very own Leslie Campbell was selected as the “Bowler of the Year” in the Cincinnati Enquirer for the 2012-2013 season. Leslie averaged a 206.6 for the season, and a 212.3 average overall. In the post season, Leslie averaged a 176.5, which is still an awesome outcome! This ECC “Player of the Year,” bowled a 300 at the Madison Bowl with a two game total of 511. Leslie is a role model for other underclassmen bowlers, and she certainly set a new bar for future Glen Este bowlers to come.

Another Glen Este student, Blake Huber, was named “First Team” for bowling. Blake bowled an average of 218.8 for the season, and a 227.4 overall. In the post season, Blake bowled an average of 182, along with a high game score of 290, and a two game score of 567. Blake is another role model on the team, and has shown his talent throughout the bowling season.

These two students are not the only ones who showed their talent this year. The Glen Este bowling team (both girls and boys) placed first in the ECC. Each student pulled together and participated as a team. Good job Glen Este Bowlers!!!

-Jessica Forney & Tyler Farrell
National Teacher’s Day!

Do you have a favorite teacher from elementary, middle, or high school? If so, May 7th was National Teachers Day, and it would be a great time to show your appreciation! National Teacher Day is part of a week-long celebration honoring our teachers. On Teacher Day, be sure to honor the special teachers in your life for the hard work they do each and every day. For National Teachers Day you can get gifts for your favorite teachers like classroom supplies, a gift card or candy. If you don’t want to spend money on your teacher then you can at least come in to their class and thank them for their hard work and commitment to helping students. Mark your calendar for May and make it a great day!

-Brandon Brooks

Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is the day of remembrance to all of those who gave their lives for our country. Since no one really knew its origins of this holiday, President Lyndon Johnson declared New York the birthplace of this day in May of 1966. It’s very hard to prove this, however, because it’s said that Memorial Day had many different beginnings, but there are some who do know the date.

On May 5th, 1868, General John Logan proclaimed this day when flowers were put on the soldiers gravestones for union and confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery, the day for Memorial Day. Now Memorial Day is celebrated on the last Monday of May. In 1915, a women by the name Moina Michael wrote a poem called “In Flanders Fields” inspired by Memorial Day. Her poem speaks of “poppies” (a flower) which we now wear to celebrate Memorial Day. At 3 pm local time, all Americans should have a moment of silence to remember all of the brave men and women who gave their lives for our country.

- Keegan Gregory

Grab your Tickets to Hot Summer Concerts!

Riverbend Music Center is an outdoor amphitheater, on 6295 Kellogg Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45230. There are many concerts and artists coming to Riverbend this summer, so get ready to jam it out for the 2013 summer break! There are many genres and favorite artists to go around for this Riverbend Music Center.

Saturday, May 25th – Tim McGraw, Brantley Gilbert & Love and Theft
* Prices: $39.35-$81.60
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 6 – Brad Paisley with Chris Young and Lee Brice
* Prices: $39.35-$76.95
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 14 – Toby Keith and Kip Moore
* Prices: $31.25-$102.80
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 26 – The Go-Gos and B-52s
* Prices: $45-$87.95
* Starts at: 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 27 – LL Cool J with Public Enemy
* Prices: $29.70-$102.80
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 28 – Kenny Chesney with Eli Young Band
* Prices: $48-$106.85
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 30 – Matchbox Twenty and Goo Goo Dolls
* Prices: $32.80-$109.45
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 14 – The Jonas Brothers
* Prices: $30.75-$93.10
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 23 – Daughtry and 3 Doors Down
* Prices: $50.30-$87.95
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24 – Bad Company with Buckstone Cherry
* Prices: $28.70-$115.60
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 28 – Blake Shelton with Jana Kramer
* Prices: $30.35-$69.80
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 30 – Vans Warped Tour
* Price: $47.55
* Starts at: 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 4 – Honda Civic Tour, with Maroon 5 and Kelly Clarkson
* Prices: $39.35-$114.05
* Starts at: 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 6 – Lil Wayne with T.I. and 2 Chainz
* Prices: not available
* Starts at: 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 11 – Wiz Khalifa and ASAP Rocky
* Prices: $32.80-$71.10
* Starts at: 6:00 p.m.

- Ashley Myers
Boston Strong

On April 15, 2013, an act of terrorism was committed on American soil when two devastating explosions erupted near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. Two suspects, Tamerlan Tsarnaev and Dzhokar Tsarnaev, were seen fleeing the scene rather calmly empty handed, although they had appeared to be carrying two backpacks when arriving at the Boston Marathon. By the end of the race the backpacks were gone. The backpacks were used to carry the explosives and when the surveillance cameras showed the two brothers with nothing on their backs, it gave the FBI a huge lead into finding the two suspects. By Friday, the FBI and Boston Police Department had announced that there was a manhunt in progress and a shootout had occurred which left older brother Tamerlan dead. Boston Police and the mayor issued a curfew and an order for all residents to stay in their homes until it was safe. By 6:30 p.m. the mayor said it was safe for citizens to leave their homes and carry on but almost 30 minutes later a tip was called in stating that the second suspect was injured and hiding in an owner’s boat, just two blocks away from the perimeter search. A two hour standoff finally ended with Jahar being taken into custody while the people of Boston cheered on the Police Department for their act of bravery. The Boston Police also made sure that there were no other explosion threats at the marathon by having the bomb squad defuse two more potential devices.

While Dzhokar lay in serious condition, the city of Boston joined together to send the message that nothing will hurt their city and they will overcome anything. The entire country had been praying for those who were injured and killed in the tragic explosions. The toughness and strength that the United States of America showed during the time of loss and even during a frightening manhunt shows that we will never be defeated and nothing will bring this country down.

-Austin Perry

Has Bullying Improved At Glen Este?

Unfortunately, bullying is a common thing among students in school, but have bullying incidents decreased since last year? Officer Brown has started to keep statistics and records on the bullying incidents and he said, “I think it is improving because the staff has been educated on it and working with counselors, so we can help the students.”

Bullying is decreasing, and when Mr. Hatfield was asked, “Do you think there is anything that has helped to decrease bullying?” he responded with, “Educating the kids involved.” He said it helps to make them aware of what they’re doing [to be considered bullying to others] which they may not realize. When Officer Brown was asked “Has bullying here at Glen Este been worse in the previous years, if so, what was done to decrease it?” He responded with “I think it has gotten better in the high school, but the middle school is out of control. The sixth graders have had a hard time adjusting to the new social scene in the middle school.” To help decrease bullying incidents in the previous years Officer Brown said, “We had committees and met to make, keep, and look at records.” This way they can keep track of how many bullying incidents occur through out the school year, who was involved, and when it took place.

The most common type of bullying here at Glen Este, Mr. Hatfield says is, “Name calling or slandering, often done over electronic devices.” Mr. Hatfield said it is most commonly done over social media sites like, Facebook, Twitter, or by text messages.

Overall here at the high school bullying incidents have decreased and improved. With teachers making students more aware of what is considered to be bullying, it has helped to stop the bullying before it starts. We can all help to improve bullying by reporting it when we see or hear it, and by treating others the way you want to be treated.

-Ashley Lorenzen

Yearly Exams?

Next year they are considering having a yearly exam; therefore there will be no quarter or semester exams to take. Some students already find it hard enough to remember what we learned those quarters or those semesters. Now we might have to remember everything we did all year! This could bring a lot of students’ grades down. Students already stress out about studying for their exams. When it comes to the end of the year next year students will go crazy trying to remember and review everything they did from the beginning of the year. When we take quarter exams it’s not only easier, but it is less stressful, because there is only one quarter worth of information that we have to know. Students don’t have to stress all night trying to figure out what they learned the first few weeks of school. Some students would not try on the yearly exams because they no longer have that information needed from the first month or so of school. Taking quarterly exams is a teacher reflection of how the teachers taught the students. Yearly exams would not be good because most students minds aren’t expanded enough to remember back from first quarter, setting there education to a low level. It is best to keep the exams the way they are, by having quarter exams.

-Whitney Brand
What if the Constitution was never written and the U.S. was a dictatorship? Obviously we'll never know what would've happened in this situation, but we can guess. First of all, if the U.S. became a dictatorship around the time when the Constitution was written in 1787, World War I and II wouldn’t have turned out the same way. Since the U.S. was at least a big strength factor in the victory of the Allies, the Allies might not have even won the war – assuming that the U.S. didn’t join their side, of course. If anything, the losses would’ve been much more significant than they already were for everyone involved and the war probably would’ve gone on for much longer.

The U.S. definitely wouldn’t be the power it is today either. Dictatorships aren’t typically allowed to be involved with the rest of the world. In fact, the U.S. wouldn’t even stretch from coast to coast since we wouldn’t have had those presidents that believed so strongly in Manifest Destiny. Perhaps the dictatorship version of the U.S. may have taken some land around it by force, but as far as we know, the U.S. would still be the thirteen original colonies, maybe with a few others like Vermont and Georgia. Instead, England would still probably be the world’s biggest power. Take that as you will. They’d been doing it for hundreds of years before we came along, so the world wouldn’t be too different with England once again in charge.

As for being a citizen of the U.S., you probably wouldn’t be considering the dictatorship U.S. wouldn’t be able to keep up with even a third of the population we have now. However, if you were, life would be very different. It probably wouldn’t be as diverse, for one, since a lot of the U.S. diversity comes from the West and not the East. Citizens obviously wouldn’t have as many rights as we do today. The Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, was never written, so that means that we were never given unalienable rights. We wouldn’t necessarily be able to speak when we wanted to, we wouldn’t have the right to a fair trial, we wouldn’t have the right to bear arms, and so on. We wouldn’t have a lot of the technology we have today either. We wouldn’t be as far along in technological advances as England and wouldn’t have things like iPods and such. Places like Apple and Microsoft might not even exist. Nor would Ford, Starbucks, Disney, or Pixar. Other companies would surely take their place, of course, but it wouldn’t be the same as the world we know. Nothing would be the same, in fact, and we’ve seen proof of that. It’s a good thing that never happened!

- Ali Miller

Getting a Divorce was Illegal???

When you get married, you are making a promise. That promise is saying that no matter what you will stand by your significant other's side. Sadly though, this promise does get broken, a lot. Divorce can be a cruel and ugly process, or it can be a relief to some. Technically, when you do get married, divorce is not supposed to be an option. You and your partner made a commitment that you would stay with each other through thick and thin. People end up getting a divorce for all sorts of reasons. What is divorce was illegal though? What if you got married to someone and later on down the road something went wrong? Now you want a divorce but you can't get one because divorce is illegal.

If divorce was illegal, there's not really any set in stone answer on how people would react to this law. It mainly depends on who you are and what the situation that you are in is. If divorce was illegal, couples could still become "separated". Legally, you're still married to that person, but you're not really together.

People could secretly get a divorce. Maybe someone illegally helps you two to get a divorce but if you, your partner, and the person setting up the divorce, get caught, you all have to suffer the consequences. Then again, divorce could be so illegal to the point that it's not possible to get one at all.

If divorce was illegal then a lot of couples would be stuck together, for the rest of their lives, unhappy. On the other hand if divorce was illegal, maybe it would save some couples marriages. It could give the couple some time to figure out things and work everything out.

There are some negatives and some positives to getting a divorce. As American citizens, we have the freedom to do what we want and what we feel is right. Whether or not someone wants a divorce is their choice, not somebody else's.

- Tatiana Alejandro
Yoga Balls

Every year there is a new item that everyone has to have. This year that item seems to be yoga balls. Mr. Devine, the AP History, and Social Studies teacher at Glen Este replaced his classroom chairs with yoga balls. He says the purpose for using them is, “they are supposed to help a student focus.” The yoga balls were paid for by teacher funding. Yoga balls, or exercise balls, can help improve balance, posture, and more people are using them, even if they do not use them for stretching exercises. If you want better posture and balance, you should look into getting a yoga ball!

--Ashley Lorenzen

And the Award goes to… Mr. Riordan!

Mr. Riordan, an AP English and Creative Writing teacher at Glen Este High School, was recently recognized and given an award for being the favorite teacher of two of his former students. The Torch has the scoop on his day of recognition.

The award he received was the “Favorite Home School Teacher” award from two former students who now attend Live Oaks. When asked about his reaction to receiving the award Mr. Riordan responded, “I’m always a bit surprised at the positive impact a teacher can have on a student, even when the teacher and student only work together for one year. In this case, the students who nominated me were former 9th grade English students of mine. I rarely even believe my 9th graders are ALIVE in my classroom, much less paying attention enough to remember me in a fond way. So, yes, I was surprised.”

Mr. Riordan was nominated by Katie Conaty and Carrie Schneider. Both Katie (aka He Can’t Hit, He Can’t Hit, He Can’t Hit) and Carrie (Carl) are quiet kids in the classroom, but very animated and quirky people in school which is real life. “I think they both really benefitted from my over-caffeinated approach to instruction!” Riordan says.

Riordan also commented about his day and the activities he did while on campus. “Live Oaks is a beautiful and stunning campus; I enjoyed touring the campus, a campus I’d never before visited. Mr. Hatfield joined Katie, Carrie and I for a Frisch’s lunch. Afterwards, each student presented the award to the teacher, providing a brief explanation as to why the teacher received their nomination. Finally, we all toured the campus. I got to tour the animal wing where I got to pet a chinchilla, dialogue with a cockatoo, and helped an alpaca sit up.”

Congratulations on your award Mr. Riordan!

--Julia Bishop

Favorites of the 2012-2013

It’s almost the end of the 2012-13 school year. When we asked students what their favorite part of the year was; they came up with the following. Some Fav responses were from multiple people.

My favorite part of the school year was.....

-Singing Christmas songs before winter break in the café during B lunch and Mr. Ayers bought us pizza for doing it. –Zach
-Being in yearbook class and creating our 50th Anniversary edition for this year. –Ashley
-My 1st period class- they argue with each other and it is quite entertaining. They are funny! –Mrs. Lach
-Having a good amount of time off for Christmas and becoming the Homecoming Princess. –Bailey
-Seeing Lauren Bell at lunch. –Jake
-When we had good lunches. –Sam
-Seeing my friends every day. They make school bearable.
-Getting whipped with homework each night and not being able to have a social life. So much fun! –Anonymous
-Lunch! –Ben et al
-Homecoming! –Sam, Connor
-Christmas break! -Bohi-Jo
-Winter homecoming! –April
-Snow days! –Dori
-Sitting next to Jen Jen in English (: -Brittany
-Sitting next to Britt Britt in English :( -Jensen
-Graduating!! –Emily
-Performing in High School Musical and before winter break. It was a great experience! -?
-Trying to leave school for lunch and failing to succeed. –Brandon
-Skipping school with Pelcha and going to Walmart but then I learned from my mistake and never did it again. –Abbi
-Going to my second math class right after my first one every single day of the year. –Max
-Having Mrs. Schmidt yell at me everyday. –Nathan
-5th bell with Mrs. Dohrmann!! –Jackson
-Dance class. –Erik
-Serving my AA because I had my phone out in Mrs. L.’s class. –Brandon
-Leaving…. Just kidding!! Being in Dance Company! –Zoe
-When I got to body slam the CPR dummies. –Jacob
-Everyday because I see Ty Pilch. –?
-The new teachers and upperclassmen. I have a lot of classes with them. And also the new fun classes like dance. -?
-The breaks and Mrs. Dohrmann’s class. –a freshman
-Going on my nature walks. –Brandon
-June 6th, and spring break! –?
-Spring break. –Ashley et al
-The last three days of school because our staff is so smart and put year exams on those days. –Tyler
-Getting out of school in the near future. -
-Having pep-rallies and assemblies to get out of class.
-Mrs. Garrett’s art class 5th bell 1st semester. We worked but we also had a lot of fun. –?
-Having pep-rallies for homecoming, the winter formal, and donating money during the holiday assemblies. -?
-My trip to Chicago with National Honor Society! –Molly

--Jessica Bratton
Smokey Mountains Trip, SO incredible. - Alana Boso
Being on stage performing in chorus with all my friends. - Sarah Thomas
Playing baseball with my teammates and having a great coach (Mr. Hatfield). - Tyler Sloan
Senior year! - Miranda Miller
During winter homecoming when Mr. Adkins played "Don’t Stop Believing" and we all sang at the top of our lungs. -Jessamine Paurillo
Going to all the dances. -Cassidy Williams
Mr. Riordan performing for the class. –Courtney Krista
My greatest memory was going to the football games Friday night. - Tyler Farrell
Falling down the steps in room 117 with all the textbooks in my hand falling everywhere as I crawled back to my seat. - Ashley Myers
Pulling out of school every year on the last day. - Josh Borwn
I'd say that I had a lot of great memories in choir, I made so many great friends and learned so much. - Kaitlyn Sturgeon
Meeting my best friend Micaela Mountel my junior year of high school. –Rachel Tracy
Switching from Info Tech into piano class junior year because I met one of my best friends. -Nick Renier
When the bell rang at 2:15 pm. –Brittany Brate
Ken Dick's English class. - Jake Velton
Senior Prom and burn outs in the parking lot. - Jerdon Lousio
The last WECIPA assembly. -Gabrielle Truitt
Being on prom court and then becoming Prom Queen. -Paige Evans
Sophomore year Prom. - Jess Brenes
Having a marker fight with my friends after AP government-Katlyn
Football and sticking Corti Pullens hair in a fan. -Brandon Jones
Senior year and last years football. - Macon Overcast
All the times in marching band and in competitions. -Marybeth Smith
My greatest memory is when I was walking back from my friends lunch table and my friend had to sit on the floor to keep from peeing my pants. - Justin Wright
Prom 2012. -Joe Randazzo
Dear Torch readers,

I hope you have enjoyed our articles, and the hard work that we have put into each and every issue. All year, our staff has worked hard to research topics and come up with articles that will grab the attention of most Glen Este students. We spend our time on the Torch because we want to reach out to each student to inform and entertain them. Thank you for being a frequent reader; we appreciate your time and your interest.

- Rachel Tracy, Editor

Torch Staff:

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HAVE A SAFE SUMMER.
SENIOR THOUGHTS, MEMORIES & FAVS

What teachers impacted you the most?

Brooke S. - Mr. Shelton because I want to be like him when I’m old, and Mr. Ayers because he has swag.
Macon Overcast - Mrs. Yarchi; her class helped me structure my thoughts.
Justin Wright - Mr. Devine, because he has been there to help me whenever I needed it and to give me advice whenever I ask, he just all around great.
Joe Randazzo - Click, relax and chill out, everything is okay.
Kristi Merritt - Mr. Grippa, I’ve only had him for one year, but he has actually taught me the most throughout my high school career.
Heather May - Mr. Devine always was a nice teacher to have and was always there to help when I needed it.
Zak Sands - Mr. Shelton because of his immaculate sense of humor.
Brandon Jones - Mr. Dicks, a fun teacher who you learn from at the same time.
Nathan Tilley - Mrs. Garrett because she cared about people the most and would go out of her way to help anyone.
Jess Brenes - Mr. Dicks is the best teacher, inspirational, perfect.
Jeremy Luecke - Ms. Mansfield, she is kind and nice.
Gabrielle Truitt - Mr. Devine, he seems to really care about all of his students and I could talk to him about anything. He treated us like adults, and his class was fun but still challenging.
Will McDonald - Mr. Spiro made me enjoy reading and writing.
Denise Gelter - Ms. Mansfield, undoubtedly impacted me the most.
Kaitlyn Sturgeon - The teacher that impacted me the most was Mr. Riel, he taught me so much about life and helped me grow through music; I’m going to miss him.
Nick Renier - Mr. Taylor had the greatest impact on me throughout my career at Glen Este. Mr. Taylor has been my track coach and taught me many life lessons.
Megan Logue - Mr. Grippa, his class has always been enjoyable.
Beckah Danner - Mrs. Napier and Mr. Dicks, extremely good people with big hearts.
Jake Velten - Ken Dicks prepared me for the rest of high school in my first year. Todd Gee for a great year of chem.

James Hallie - Mr. Beshashi, because he showed me how to be cool and get stuff done.
Jacob Powers - Mr. B. He taught me how to start on my own and be myself.
Ashley Myers - Mr. Ward, he always never let me give up, so I got better. Mrs. Jordan, always showed me that nothing is impossible by having me keep trying for everything.
Tyler Farrell - Mr. Dicks impacted me by helping me with everything freshman year including school work, English, and life. He’s the reason I even try to do my work.
Courtney Krista - Mr. Riordan taught me to be myself.
Cassie Williams - Mr. Grippa, he has taught me lots of things I will actually need to know because of me becoming a nurse.
Jessamine Paurillo - Mr. Riordan and Mrs. Lach, Mr. Riordan has taught me so many helpful tips when it comes to my writing in AP English. Mrs. Lach has taught me to become more organized and to be a good leader/team player.
Miranda Miller - Mrs. Schmidt and Mr. Grippa, always positive and helpful also I learned the most in those classes.
Tyler Sloan - Mr. Devine because he is always so funny and we learn in a different way.
Sarah Thomas - Devine and Lach, they have taught me so much about myself and are more like friends.
Brittany Tungate - Shelton, started out my high school years in a fun, positive way. He made me see that school wasn’t a drag.
Sam Conaty - Mrs. Dohrmann and Mr. Devine, they always made class fun and interesting, they’re the best, I'll miss them.
Nick Longbottom - Mrs. Burris, my favorite teacher because she teaches so well.
Alex Benjamin - Mr. Curless, he is an awesome man.
Martin Baker - Mr. Shelton, he is hilarious, and brought a lot of humor to the class. Mrs. Keeler, she was good at teaching the class and was cool to talk to.
Inspirational Thoughts for Underclassmen:

Do not mess your life up - Carly Chaffin

It gets better. - Jake Velten

High school really does go by extremely fast, so don’t screw yourself up too much before it’s over. – Beekah Danner

Stay in school you are almost done. – Brittany Brate

Don’t stand in the middle of the hallway and walk faster. – Megan Logue

Use this time to find yourself. – Joe Killebrew

Stay in school and take advantage of every opportunity; it will be over before you know it. – Logan Hinton

Just be yourself and don’t let anyone or anything change you.

– Nick Renier

Always be yourself and accept the fact that you are going to make mistakes, and learn from them. – Rachel Tracy

Don’t waste your lives worrying about silly stuff like relationships and drama. Your life is best in your high school years. Don’t wake up one day senior year and go “where’d my life go?” – Brandon Abner

Stop thinking about what people think of you and just be yourself.

– Kaitlyn Sturgeon

Work hard; the harder you work now the easier your future will be.

– Denise Gelter

Know your place! – Jess Brenes

When times are tough just keep on fighting. – Nathan Tilley

Don’t worry about the drama. It’s not worth your time and it all works itself out. – Katlyn Fite

Work hard for your first three years, the senior year is easy.

– Brandon Jones

Get out. – Zack Sands

Do your work and get through high school with good grades and don’t slack off. Make sure you graduate, it will be worth it. – Heather May

Don’t take high school for granted! Before you know it you will be ten days away from your last day in high school and wishing you were a freshman again. – Kristi Merritt

Learn and have fun, but know the difference. – Joe Randazzo

Don’t rush; make the best of being young and a kid because it all creeps up on you really fast. – Justin Wright

Educate yourselves! Be the education you want or the education you don’t want. It will shape a better mind. – Macon Overcast

Keep on pushing; it will all be worth it soon. – Paige Evans

Don’t be afraid to express yourself and expose yourself to new interest... Focus on what’s most important in your life and don’t let others define you. – Hannah Klump

Stay on track throughout high school. – Tyler Sloan

Though something might be a huge deal now, ten years down the road it won’t matter. Don’t stress about every little thing, life isn’t perfect, if it was perfect it would be boring. – Jessamine Paurillo

Don’t just fly by high school. Have fun with your friends or make new friends. Have as much fun as possible. High school can last as long as a blink of an eye. – Tyler Farrell

Even when you feel like it’s the end, know to always keep going.

– Ashley Myers

Keep up with your work and always give the teachers a hard time. – Sam Conaty

Take it one day at a time it won’t be long before its gone.

– Lauren Mather

Don’t be so stupid and ignorant. Shape up and don’t act like you are hot stuff! That won’t get you anywhere. - Brittany Tungate

Get your work in on time. – Kaitlin Corrill

Life changes faster than you think don’t waste your time.

– Nick Longbottom

Keep trying your best! Don’t give up because it is too hard, it will pay off in the end.

– Sarah Thomas