People’s Choice Awards

Recently the People’s Choice Awards took place on January 11th. The People’s Choice Awards is a show recognizing the people and the work of popular culture and is voted on by the general public. This event has been held annually since 1975.

The creator of this awards show is Bob Stivers. One of the sponsors of the show “Proctor and Gamble” bought the show from him in 1982. This year marks the 39th anniversary of the award show. The host for this year is Kaley Cuoco from the Big Bang Theory.

Some of this year’s categories include favorite movie, favorite movie actor and actress, etc. This year’s nominees for favorite movie were The Amazing Spider-Man, The Avengers, The Dark Knight Rises, The Hunger Games, and Snow White and the Huntsman. The Hunger Games won 5 trophies. The best actor and actress were Robert Downey, Jr. and Jennifer Lawrence, respectively. There were 30 different categories to be voted on.

Some people just can’t wait for it to come around again next year!
Source: http://www.peopleschoice.com/pca/

By Krystal Kvidera

Northeastern Iowa January Weather

January winter weather in northeast Iowa can change in a blink of an eye. Any native Iowan can relate to the weather changes. It can go from 3 foot snow drifts to a barren tundra with just a dusting of snow. The temperature can change just as quickly. On January 21, 1996, Harry J. Hillaker, State Climatologist Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship, recorded Tripoli, Iowa to have a record low of -32°F not including wind chill. In 2009, http://www.iowaagriculture.gov, recorded that temperatures got down to -52°F with wind chill. Just this year, it went from being 56°F one day and changing to -2°F within 3 days. This shows how drastic the temperature can change throughout the month.

For Waterloo, Iowa, the average high for January is 27°F and the low is 19°F, published by www.currentresults.com.

Precipitation, snow, is also a major part of our Iowa January winter weather. The NOAA National Climatic Data Center has stated that the average snowfall in January for Waterloo is 8.2 inches. As of January 18th, the snowfall total for 2013 is 11.3 inches. Just last year the snowfall total for January was 9.1 inches, posted on Schnack’s Blog. This year, 2013 is just a little above average with precipitation. However, in 2009, when it was close to record low temperatures, the precipitation was about average. In January 2009, the snowfall, recorded by Harry J. Hillaker, State Climatologist Iowa Dept. of Agriculture & Land Stewardship was around 2-8 inches of snow. Not only was there snow that fell in 2009, but also freezing rain. This storm that produced freezing rain and a large amount of snow traveled over three-fourths of the state, including northeastern Iowa.

By Alyssa Foelske

Teachers with Guns

How would you feel about teachers being able to carry and being trained to properly use guns in school in cases of self-defense when an intruder enters the room and attempts to harm or injure anybody in the school premises?

That is the question of the interest in this article. Thirty-one people including school students and staff have taken a survey that states how comfortable they are with the idea that teachers could use weapons in school if there is a threatening of health and safety from an outside source. There were 3 choices listed on the survey.

One response option was as follows: Yes, I am completely comfortable with teachers being able to carry and trained to properly use a gun/weapon in school, only in cases of self-defense against intruders that are willing to or attempting to harm a person that is on school premises. The second option is as follows: No, I am completely uncomfortable with teachers being able to carry and trained to properly use a gun/weapon in school only in cases of self-defense against intruders that are willing to or attempting to harm a person that is on school premises. The third option is as follows: Other, please if you choose this option write only logical reasons why you feel this way.

Most of the students/staff that had chosen Other had listed that they like the idea, but they are nervous about the drawbacks; for example, if a teacher is mentally unstable, then he/she can use the weapon against the school on students or staff members. If teachers can carry and properly use weapons, then that increases the amount of security in the adolescents’ minds in ages 11-13 years old.

Although most teachers are actually against it or chose the ‘other’ option according to the survey, one staff member of the Tripoli High School chose “no” because it is against the law in Iowa. A student teacher that is also at the Tripoli High School chose other, because it does increase the amount of safety that is possible, but it does also make a very unstable situation for staff members that aren’t mentally stable and don’t show any signs of being mentally unstable.

For every 25 out of 31 students that were given the survey, they chose otherwise. The student body had chosen that they are completely comfortable with teachers being able to carry and trained to properly use a gun/weapon in school, only in cases of self-defense against intruders that are willing to or attempting to harm a person that is on school premises.

Some people might think that this is being mean to the pet but some would disagree. The pet show would make the bond between pet and owner stronger and they would have a healthier relationship. Owners and pets can even get matching outfits including, matching hats, scarfs, or owners can go all out and get a full outfit. Have fun this day and dress your pet!

By Melissa Bass

Dress Up Your Pet Day

This month, on January 14 is Dress Up Your Pet Day. While your pet is laying around being all boring and such, put him in a cute little sweater. Pets are so much cuter when you put them in little outfits that fit their personality.

There are many things that could be put on a pet to diva them up, including, sweaters, hat, scarves, skirts, dresses and sunglasses. Neighbors could even have a block competition on who has the best dressed up pet.

There is no limit to just dressing up your pet one day a year, or any day of the year.

A pet could be dressed up according to the season too. Like a reindeer for Christmas, cupid for Valentines Day, a pumpkin for Halloween, a pet could be festive for Fourth of July or Saint Patricks Day, Easter bunny for Easter, or casual days out on the town. Another thing to look into putting a pet into would be pet fashion shows like the Barkinis-tias pet fashion show.

Some people might think that this is being mean to the pet but some would disagree. The pet show would make the bond between pet and owner stronger and they would have a healthier relationship. Owners and pets can even get matching outfits including, matching hats, scarfs, or owners can go all out and get a full outfit. Have fun this day and dress your pet!

By Melissa Bass

January’s Namesake

January, a time for new beginnings. A time for resolutions (that usually last for about a week) and a time for extremely cold weather. But what or where does the name January come from?

When someone brings up mythology, most people usually go to the Greeks, but the Romans were equally as adept in their creation and reverence of their respective gods. According to Lindeman, Janus is the Roman god of beginnings and transitions, fitting that he would be the god presiding over the beginning month of the year. Janus is a two-faced god, and I mean that literally because he has two faces that are supposed to look to both the past and future at the same time. Janus had an extraordinary life, according to the Roman mythology. Janus was from Thessaly. He was married to Camese and they ruled the kingdom of Latium. They fathered several children, and after Camese’s death, Janus ruled Latium by himself. He brought an age of prosperity to Latium that hadn’t been before; he introduced money, field cultivation, and laws into their society.

After Janus died, he was deified and became the protector of Rome. Janus stayed as the protector of Rome for all of it’s years, helping whenever they needed him. Janus had many temples dedicated to him in his honor, one of which in particular was left open during times of war so that Janus could emerge from the temple and intervene as needed. Janus continued to watch over the city throughout the years and protected it as needed. His name and legacy carries through the modern age in the form of the month of January. By Dakota Gaede

Teachers with Guns (Continued)

To make a mandatory mental health assessment, the rates on school intruder fatalities will actually decrease in large amounts. With guns being able to be in a teacher’s possession at school and the teacher being successfully trained to use the gun/weapon properly, then this does actually create a sense of more security in the students’ and adolescents’ minds.

If you completely disagree with the previous statements, then let’s repeat the question. If students are feeling more safe with teachers having permission to carry armed weapons and be trained how to use them properly in the case of self-defense, why would we deny them their right to a feeling of security? Think of the everyday life and how much we all are afraid of various things; feeling that sense of security does soothe the average person and helps them relax and focus on the tasks at hand and be able to succeed in their daily life.

Who are we to say that adolescents are less of a sophisticated being and don’t deserve the right of being able to have the feeling of being safe?

In conclusion, teachers should be allowed to carry and be trained successfully to properly use guns in school in cases of self-defense when an intruder enters the room and attempts to harm or injure anybody in the school premises.

By Cady Walsh

Martin Luther King Day

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. He grew up having to deal with the differences between black and white people, and how the black and white race was completely separated from each other. Growing up he saw his father fight against racial prejudice; he fought not just because his race suffered, but because he considered racism and segregation to be an affront to God’s will.

Martin Luther King Jr. became a civil-rights activist himself, and in 1955 he, as a member of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), led a bus boycott, after a black woman called Rosa Parks got arrested for sitting at the front of the bus. The bus boycott lasted for 382 days, and it meant having to walk to the front of the bus. The bus boycott lasted for 382 days, and it meant having to walk to the front of the bus. The bus boycott lasted for 382 days, and it meant having to walk to the front of the bus. The bus boycott lasted for 382 days, and it meant having to walk to the front of the bus.

By Marie Mortensen

New Year Resolutions

New Year’s resolutions are a great way to stay committed to something in life. There are so many ways to help improve one’s life or to try something new. Resolutions may be a way to “look back at the past year” and make changes maybe in one’s own life and in others.

The history behind the idea of “New Years,” first came about four-thousand years ago in Ancient Babylon. Because the Babylonians did not have a calendar like we do today, the New Year actually started in March with the spring seasons. Spring is a new start to life, and therefore new start to the New Year.

There are always going to be the typical New Year’s Resolutions to stay in shape, to enjoy life more, get organized, or even learn something new! Personally, I think would say to enjoy the little things in life. Some people always make funny New Year’s resolutions like I will read a manual as soon as I can find it or I will think of a password other than password.

As human beings who have the natural ability to want to learn something new, we should want to yearn for an opportunity. (You) People should try to live a little more, and worry a lot less, because none of us know when our last day will be. There are so many ways to change one’s life, and if that means to make a New Year’s resolution and to stay committed to it then do it. The hope is that after reading this, people will go out and do something to change/better their lives. Or there’s always next year!

By Elizabeth Zook

http://pittsburgh.about.com/od/holidays/tp/resolutions.htm
http://wilstar.com/holidays/newyear.htm
Tripoli Student Teachers

This year we have three student teachers - Ms. Anderson who is Ms. Droste’s student teacher for English; Mr. Greenfield who is Mr. Hoodjer’s student teacher for social studies; and Mr. Lewis who is Mr. Sneiderman’s student teacher for business.

Mr. Greenfield and Mr. Lewis are currently both attending the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), and Ms. Anderson studies at Wartburg College. Both men are from Iowa. Mr. Lewis graduated from New Hampton High School in New Hampton and Mr. Greenfield graduating from Northeast Hamilton in Kamrar. Ms. Anderson is from Cary, Illinois and graduated from Cary-Grove High School.

They all picked the topics they’ve chosen to teach for different reasons. Ms. Anderson says that she’s always loved reading, writing, and grammar, and one of her high school teachers gave her motivation to become a teacher, so he decided to become a business teacher. It took until his sophomore year in college to decide this.

Ms. Anderson’s favorite subjects in school were interior design, English, and her favorite course was Fiction Writing. She decided that she would work with high school kids because when she was in high school she volunteered at a preschool and had a hard time keeping them on task.

Mr. Greenfield’s favorite subject is U.S. History, which is social studies related. He said he chose to teach high school students because their more relatable and allow for many great discussions. Mr. Lewis’s favorite subject in school was anything that related to business. He said he really didn’t have a choice when it came to whether he would teach high school or elementary children, because business classes are only for high school students.

They didn’t always want to be teachers, however. For instance, Ms. Anderson wanted to be an interior designer, and her biggest inspiration for becoming a teacher was her advanced writing teacher. Mr. Greenfield said he didn’t want to be a teacher at first either, and that his inspiration comes from his mom who is a lifelong teacher. Mr. Lewis said he wanted to get his business degree from UNI, and he has always thought about being a teacher, so he decided to become a business teacher. It took until his sophomore year in college to decide this.

Teaching comes with challenges, and when asked what is the most challenging, Ms. Anderson said that making sure she was taking all of the correct courses was her greatest challenge, because she was a transfer. She said it is all squared away now, and that she still feels the same way about teaching that she did before she started student teaching and hasn’t changed her mind. Mr. Greenfield said that his biggest challenge is trying to be an engaging teacher who gets students active and motivated, and that his student teaching experience here has helped him to confirm that he is in the right profession. Mr. Lewis said that the things he finds the most challenging are all of the changes to the requirements for becoming a teacher in Iowa. He also finds the budget cuts at UNI challenging, but he still feels the same way about teaching that he did before he became a student teacher, and he says cannot wait to educate students so that they can become leaders in the business field one day. By Hannah Harms

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### January

#### Celebrity Birthdays

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Australia Day

This date commemorates the arrival of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove in 1788, the proclamation at that time of British sovereignty over the eastern seaboard of Australia. Records of celebrations on 26 January date back to 1808 with the first official celebration of the formation. It is an official public holiday in every state and territory of Australia. With community festivals, concerts and citizenship ceremonies the day is celebrated in large and small communities and cities around the nation. It has become the biggest annual civic event in Australia.

Outdoor coverts, community barbecues, sport competitions, festivals and fireworks are only some of the many and fun events presented in the communities across Australia. In Sydney the harbor is a focus, and races are held there such as ferry race and tall ship race. Major celebration are not confined to the East coast capitals. Despite a drop of attendance in 2010, audiences are still estimated at 400,000.

For some Australians, particular Indigenous Australians, Australia day has become a symbol for adverse effects of British settlement on Australia’s Indigenous people. The celebrations in 1938 were accompanied by an Aboriginal Day of Mourning. A large gathers of Aboriginal people in Sydney in 1988 led an “Invasion Day” commemoration marking the loss of indigenous culture.

Both prior to the making of Australia Day as a national day of Australia, and in the years subsequent to its creation, several dates have been proposed for its celebration, and at various times the possibility of moving Australia Day to and alternative dated has been mooted.

By Cheyanne Moore

Source: http://24.media.tumblr.com/tumblr_lfml2aN2LL1qdvo7xo1_500.jpg

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