

# MARIANEWS

Marian High School – Tamaqua, PA 18252

April 2019

## Marian Legacy Series kicks off

### Vincent Vella Visitation

By Brian Bauer

Marian Catholic High School is not typically known very well for their Journalistic profile, yet there are some who leave here and do great things in journalism. Vincent Vella happens to be one of those people. Marian graduate of 2008, Vincent Vella came back to visit Marian for the new Marian Legacy Series, where alumni come back to talk about their successes. He received the Pulitzer Prize for his article in the *Denver Post*. This article was about the Aurora, Colorado movie theater shooting. There were many people trying to get at this report because it was so important, but Vinnie's was one of the greatest.

He came to Marian to speak about how he went from Marian to La Salle College to where he is now. He then talked to different English classes throughout the day and the Journalism class. He gave the classes tips on how to write for papers and articles. He gave the Journalism class some great advice and a little bit of information into his past and how he got to where he is. He inspired a lot of people to look more towards their future and the initiative needed to succeed.



Photo by Janet Dzuranin

VINCENT Vella, a 2008 Marian Graduate, standing with teacher Stan Dakosty after giving his speech to the Marian student body on March 18th, 2019. This started off the Marian Legacy Series the school recently established.

### Upcoming events -

May 3 – May Procession  
May 7 - Academic Dinner  
May 8 – AP English exam  
May 10 – Senior Prom  
May 14 – AP Math exam

May 22 – Spring Concert  
May 22 - 24 - Sr. Exams  
May 25 – Sr. Appreciation Day  
May 27 – Memorial Day - Off  
May 30 – Baccalaureate

Church Bulletins should proofread!

Don't let worry kill you off- let the church help.



## Marian Catholic New York Trip

By: Eddie Gimeno

Students, faculty, and parents of Marian Catholic went to New York for the day on April 13th. They attended the play “King Kong” which has been on Broadway for over 6 years. The group had the chance to walk around the city, go out to eat, and shop wherever they chose.

As soon as they arrived many went to eat lunch at an Italian restaurant called Angelo’s which is near the theater. After the play they went shopping and then to dinner at an international food market called the Food Emporium where the students were fascinated by the choice of international foods, drinks and desserts available to them.

The trip was a big success and everyone is looking forward to doing it again next year.



Photo by: Sarah Halupa  
Theology teacher Ms Martini  
with students in the theater.



Photo by: Sarah Halupa  
The cast of *King Kong* on Broadway.

## Easter Triduum

By Joey Wargo

Holy Week is the most sacred time of the year for Christians, especially what is called the Easter Triduum, which is sundown Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday. This year it took place from Thursday, April 18 to Sunday, April 21. The Easter Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season.

It begins with Holy Thursday representing the Last Supper. Many churches include a washing of the feet as Jesus did to his apostles. The next day is Good Friday, a day of fasting and abstinence. This is the day of the Crucifixion, the day of Jesus’ death. The tabernacle is empty and the altar is bare to represent that Jesus is gone. Many businesses close between the hours of noon and three, the hours of Christ’s passion on the cross.

The final full day is Holy Saturday where the Easter vigil mass celebrates new beginnings for the church. Fire and water are blessed; new adult members of the Catholic Faith are baptized and confirmed. Before this mass, if a church practices the old tradition of covering the statues with purple from Palm Sunday on, there is the unveiling of the statues by taking the purple covers off. People prepare for the Easter Triduum by praying and understanding the meaning of those last three days of Jesus’ life



<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/jimmy-akin/6-things-you-need-to-know-about-triduum>

Tamaqua Public Library Presents

### Beginning of Summer Fundraiser

**Vendor Event, Raffle, & Bake Sale!**

**Vendor Information:**

- Limited to 20 vendors
- Registration Fee is \$25.00
- Vendor provides a gift basket for raffle
- Sign vendor contract at the library

**Please call the Tamaqua Public Library at 570-668-4660, if you have questions.**

**Saturday, June 1, 2019**  
Noon to 4PM  
Hometown Fire Company  
45 Mahanoy Ave, Tamaqua, PA, 18252

## National Library Week

By: Brandon Cann

National Library Week was celebrated April 7-13, 2019 with the theme, "Libraries Lead." National Library Week is a yearly celebration that touches upon the importance of libraries, librarians, and the importance of books.

The theme of "Libraries Lead" shows the importance of free public access to libraries around the U.S. Many schools and towns participate in the celebration of National Library Week. Towns will hold parades and schools will dedicate a day to celebrating the importance of it. So go out renew a library card and show the importance of having a free public place for the community.



Picture of books and information showing the importance of National Library Week.

<https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2018/03/01/national-library-week-60th-anniversary-libraries-lead/>

## Earth Day

By: Annika Hahn

Earth Day is a world-wide holiday where millions of people around the world celebrate the Earth and all it provides on April 22. Marian Catholic celebrates National Earth Day every year. This year we celebrated it on Thursday April 18 during a school wide retreat. The junior class went outside with garbage bags and gloves and picked up trash around the school. Keeping our campus clean makes a big difference. Earth Day was originally created by Wisconsin senator Gaylord Nelson as an American movement, but Earth Day is now an international phenomenon.



## College Fair

By: Meghan Moyer

Many colleges came together on April 16 in Marian's gym to help students in the sophomore and junior classes have the opportunity to find their right college and major for them. Colleges come here to show us what they've got and all their majors, location and most importantly tuition prices. Students had a full period to talk to representatives at which school they were interested in.

Students also got to ask different people questions from the activity they had to fill out during the college fair. Some questions were - when did the college begin, or different majors, and what is their college known for? Our college fair had a lot of variety for different students. They were encouraged to look into each college of interest.



Guidance counselor, Ms. Dunn gives students an activity to complete during the college fair to ask the representatives questions about their specific college.



## MARIAN SENIORS ARE SOARIN' AND FLYIN' THEIR WAY THROUGH SENIOR YEAR - "TOGETHER"

Marian Catholic's Class of 2019 performs their Senior Musical Production.

By: Christian Smith

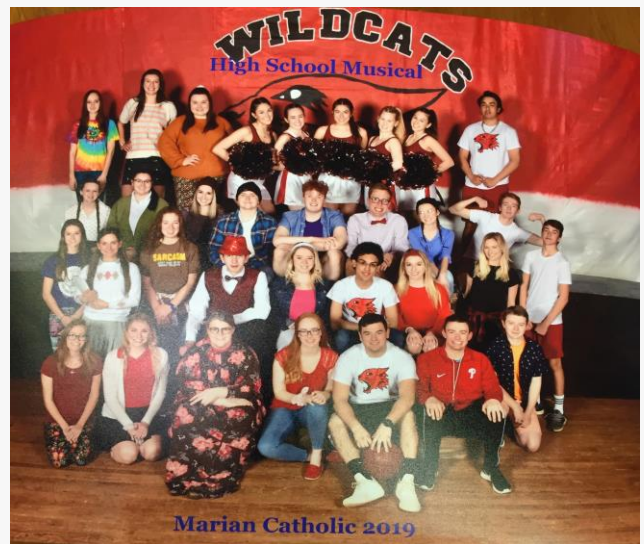
**HOMETOWN:** Marian Catholic High School's seniors, who will soon be graduating, have made one final memory together, well before prom at least. The Class of 2019, including several members of the Class of 2021, performed a musical earlier this month that is based on a Disney Channel Original Movie: *High School Musical: On Stage!* on April 5th, 6th, and 7th at the high school.

For the fourth straight year, the musical production was directed by a group of Marian teachers. Ms. Amanda Belfiore, a math and theatre production teacher, served as Head Director of the musical. Based on the interview with her, it's obvious that Ms. Belfiore was not crazy about the selection for the annual musical. However, based on her response of what she thinks of the play, she seemed very pleased. "It's no secret that I don't particularly care for *High School Musical* - the movie or the show, but regardless, doing a show is always incredibly fun. It's so different every year because it's always a different class of people with different talents and strengths. The cast worried me a little because we had so many students drop out this year, but most of the students seemed to be almost perfectly cast for their roles."

Chemistry teacher Mr. Robert Valente was the Assistant Director and Stage manager, while Mr. Michael Brimmer, music teacher/instructor at Marian, served as the Musical Director. Mr. Zac Mrochko, S-T-E-M and social studies teacher, served as the Sound Director, and Miss Judith Martini, Theology and drama teacher and former Senior Play Director, served as the Director of Lighting. She, too, as the former director of the annual musical for many years, was very impressed with the production by the Marian students.

"I thought it was a good choice for the class," Miss Martini said. "You can tell that the cast was excited about the show. I'm glad that they dusted me out of the basement to help with the show." Martini, despite also never being a huge fan of *High School Musical*, went as far as saying that, because the cast was really into it, it was one of the better shows. "When the kids are into it, that's what makes a good production," she added.

One of Marian Catholic's Sophomores, Molly Maguschak, served as choreographer of this year's Play: *High School Musical: on Stage!* Molly is very involved in the music and dancing world. She was recommended by last year's choreographer and cast member of Marian's Class of 2018 production of *Seussical*, Michael Ecker. According to the directors



Entire cast of Marian Catholic High School's 2019 production of *High School Musical: on Stage!*

and many of the cast members of *High School Musical*, Maguschak did an amazing job.

Believe it or not, *High School Musical* was Maguschak's first show to choreograph. Based on her response about what her thoughts and feelings are about the show, Maguschak seemed thrilled with the efforts of herself and the cast members.

"Choreographing *High School Musical* was one of the most fun and rewarding experiences I've ever had. I could not have asked for a better group of people to have choreographed my first show for. Going into this show, I was incredibly nervous. Not only because it was my first time ever doing something like this, but also because I did not know many of the seniors and I was worried of how they would react to someone two years younger than them telling them what to do."

Rhiannon Malarkey, who played Ms. Darbus in *High School Musical*, was the only student in the musical that had any prior acting experience. And boy, was it obvious based on the applause she got from the audience all three nights and the praises from many people in attendance, including Mrs. Angela Schmidt - Marian's Cafeteria/Food Manager. "She stole the entire show and was so funny," Mrs. Schmidt said.

Malarkey enjoyed being a part of the show and being Ms. Darbus. "I loved being able to do something I love with my fellow classmates and will never forget the memories we made. A little part of me will always be Ms. Darbus," Malarkey said.

All of the members of the musical feel the same way - they all enjoyed it and created many lifetime memories.

Some students even learned some valuable life skills from the play. Courtney Kovatch, who was a Thespian in Marian Catholic's production of *High School Musical*. "It was a great experience that taught me how to work with others even though it may have

been hard sometimes, and being on stage taught me to have more confidence in myself.”

Quest Wilson played Zeke Baylor in the musical. “It was fun to do something other than baseball and getting to hang out with friends as we all suffered through it, but were triumphant in the end,” Wilson said.

Some cast members enjoyed it far more than expected. Sarah Michalesko, who played Martha Cox said: “The play was really fun and if I could, I would do it all again.”

One cast member even said the play was an opening to reality. Zach Boyer played Ripper in the musical. “It was definitely an opening to diversity and realization,” Zach said. “It was difficult at first, however, since we had the right coaching, we were able to develop the play into running smoothly.”

If Rhiannon Malarkey, as Ms. Darbus stole the show in the acting part, perhaps Ariel Stanalonis, who played Gabriella Montez and was one of the leads of Marian Catholic’s production of *High School Musical*, stole the singing part of the show.

James Shewack, a member of the audience, said, “She has a God-given talent. Her voice is simply amazing.”

Stanalonis loved being part of the play and described her experience: “By participating in our class’s production, I was given the opportunity to broaden my horizons, learn many life lessons which will guide me with my future, and see the theatre world from a whole new perspective. I made new friendships which will last a lifetime and participating in the show was by far the best decision I could have made for myself.”

Zach Mauro and Adam Keselicka, Seniors at Marian, attended the musical. They both loved the show. Mauro stated: “Seeing all my classmates participate and put on a good show, was a joy to my eyes.” With similar feelings about the play, Adam Keselicka said: “The whole play was entertaining.”

Despite the play being a success, it was not an easy road to get to. For the first time underclassmen were needed to fill the remainder of the parts of the musical. This was due to the low participation of seniors, especially males. Of the 66 seniors enrolled at Marian, only 28 of those students participated in the musical, or 42.4%, a record low according to Director, Ms. Amanda Belfiore. “I had 15 seniors quit on me this year,” a discouraged Ms. Belfiore said during one of the rehearsals. It was not easy to recover from that, but, thanks to six of our sophomores, we were able to have the play after all and turn it into a success.”

Alexa Sandefer, one of the senior cast members, a skater dude in the play, wanted to encourage juniors to participate in next year’s play. “Juniors, make sure your class does the play.”

Still, despite the shortage of senior cast members and a rocky start, the cast members of

Marian Catholic’s *High School Musical: on Stage!* made its mark as one of the better musical productions in modern-day Marian Catholic High School musicals.



## April Fool’s Day

By: Jun Lynn Pham

If you are wearing socks well they are untied. April fool’s day is always on the first of April. But beware! This is the day where you’re friends are going to pull many jokes and tricks on you. This is one day of the year when light-hearted tricks are not only expected but also welcomed by all. Some believe the fun holiday began in 1582 when the world transitioned from the Julian calendar, which celebrated the New Year on the last week of March, to the current Gregorian calendar. Those unaware of the change, or refusing to accept the January 1 start date, were often mocked and had jokes played on them on or around the old New Year. Others speculate the holiday began as a joyful way to welcome spring. But who cares. Just have fun with it.



<https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=april+fools+day++&FORM=HDRSC2>

## Arbor Day

By: Maggie O'Rourke

On Arbor Day we plant trees to impact the Earth in a positive way, by making the Earth a greener and cleaner place to live. Trees are needed to absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen. They improve our water quality as well as other important factors. Besides, they just look great!

Arbor Day was first started in Nebraska on April 10, 1872. A journalist named J. Sterling Morton was the man that proposed the holiday to the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture. It was approved and an estimated amount of one million trees were planted on the first Arbor Day. It became a national holiday in 1885. Contrary to belief, Arbor Day and Earth Day are not the same thing, though on both days you plant trees. We focus on the trees and what we can do to help them grow. They need us and we sure need them. What would we do without trees?



<https://www.arborday.org/celebrate/history.cfm>

The first Arbor Day was celebrated in Nebraska with the planting of a tree.

## Passover

By Louis Winkler

Passover is an eight day festival celebrated by the Jewish religion on April 15th-22nd in the Hebrew month Nissan. This is usually near Easter.

Passover celebrates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. It's told that in the bible, to help free the Israelites that God inflicted 10 plagues and the 10<sup>th</sup> and worst of the plagues, was the death of the first born Egyptian child. The term "Passover" in English comes from when God instructed the Israelites to put lamb blood upon their doorframes so that God's angel knew to "passover" these houses.

Passover is one of three pilgrimage festivals during which the entire population of Judah makes an exodus to the temple in Jerusalem.



# Marian Retreat Day



## Marian Track & Field

By Nacin Rojas and Gabe Bauer

This year's Track and Field team has brought forth great victories with the girls team being undefeated. Senior hurdler Kaitlyn Lowery has this to say about this year's team "This year we have been having a lot of wins and I'm proud of all the hard work everyone has been putting in this year. We're all hoping to go all the way to states and let's go Colts!"

That basically sums up the whole attitude the team brings to every game, the high energy not just for their own event but for the team as a whole.

Gabe Bauer writes of his experiences. The last two years of doing track at Marian Catholic have been some of the best years of high school. The team over that span has bonded and become more familiar with each other. During practices and meets we do not preach individual

performance it's always about the team and picking the next man up and making sure you support each other. The coaches push us to be the best we can be and it shows during the meets. Also being a senior it's nice to be setting a precedent for the underclassmen.



Emma McClafferty tops in Discus



School poses with the Sisters of Charity, the Mother Teresa of Calcutta order that lives and does its missionary work in Mahanoy City. They came to visit and give a talk to the students after mass on March 27, 2019. Photo by J. Dzurarin