

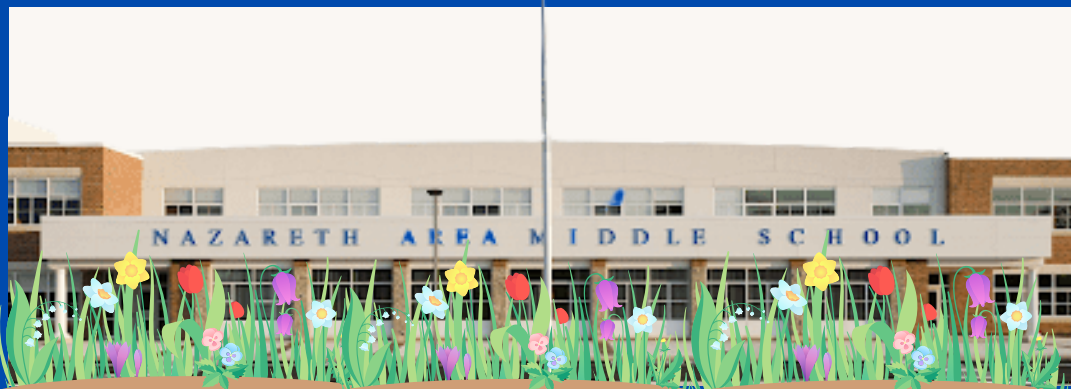
BLUE EAGLE BULLETIN

BY STUDENTS

FOR STUDENTS

IN THIS ISSUE:

- NAMS Wins Best Overall at WSCM (1-2)
- Grade 8's Great Debates (3-4)
- NASD Girls Wrestling: A Program on the Rise (4)
- The NAMS Battle of the Books (5)
- A PSSA "Prep" Talk (6)
- Fun Fact Teacher Feature (7)
- OPINION: Our Newspaper Should Be Newspaper! (8)
- Yearbook Club Keeps Memories Alive (9)
- The Console Wars (10-11)
- March Madness (12)
- In Case You Missed It...National Craft Day (13)
- Charlie's Comics (14)



NAZARETH IS WHAT'S SO COOL ABOUT MANUFACTURING: NAMS TAKES THE TOP SPOT!

by Addie Bensing



The What's So Cool About Manufacturing (WSCM) contest is an annual event all about learning and experiencing the hidden features of manufacturing that you probably never knew. Many middle school students are trying to figure out what careers they want to pursue, but most don't know that manufacturing is an incredible option with many opportunities. That is what this contest promotes across the state of Pennsylvania, with student teams creating digital stories that promote both local manufacturers and manufacturing itself as a great career option.

The 2024 What's So Cool About Manufacturing team worked very hard to produce a video worthy of an award. A few members of this year's team were interviewed to give a better understanding of what being on the team really is like and how big of a deal it is to represent Nazareth in this competition. Braelyn Youse, a member of the team, starts off with, "The WSCM contest is about informing students about different manufacturing businesses and how they contribute." Gisele Noel added, "The contest is about informing people on what manufacturing is and why it's a great career choice." Braeyln stated, "I have learned that manufacturing is used to create basically everything around us." That proves how important this contest is and everything you can learn from it!



The NAMS WSCM captured the "Most Outstanding Overall Program" award and is headed to States!

APRIL 2024

Bella Giunta said, “A part I really enjoyed about WSCM is definitely the people I met and the creativity that we got to use. I think what makes our video worthy of winning is definitely our teamwork and creativity. We all put aspects of ourselves together into the video and showed great teamwork.” Gisele followed with, “Our video is win-worthy because we spent time to perfect it, and it provides lots of education about what manufacturing is.” This team has put so much work and effort into their video this year.

On March 26th, all of the Lehigh Valley WSCM teams gathered at Stabler Arena for the awards ceremony, broadcast on WFMZ, hoping for good news. Our Nazareth team ended up winning the award for Best Overall Program, which is the top honor a school can achieve. Now Nazareth will move on to compete in the state competition on May 15 with a chance to win more. This is the second time in the history of WSCM that Nazareth has earned the opportunity to compete at States, so we should take notice and recognize how special this team is. Congratulations to the team: Angie Byrnes, Tamara Gareer, Bella Giunta, Gisele Noel, Sydney Schwartz, Mason Vander Valk, and Braelyn Youse.



The 2023-2024 NAMS WSCM Team

back row: Sydney Schwartz, Angie Byrnes, Mason Vander Valk, Bella Giunta
front row: Braelyn Youse, Gisele Noel, Tamara Gareer

WHAT'S
SO COOL ABOUT
MANUFACTURING?™



Watch our NAMS team win the Most Outstanding Overall Program Award! (53:27)

APRIL 2024

GRADE 8'S GREAT DEBATES: LEARNING A LOST ART

by Zahraa Faisal and Raegan Trach



Debates provide essential skills for students to help build confidence, critical thinking skills, and respect for their peers. This year's 8th grade students had the opportunity to experience the thrill of the debate, and we were interested in the reactions of both teachers and students.

Each 8th grade social studies teacher had his own personal view of what makes a great debate and which classes and topics stood out. Amber Team's Mr. Bendekovits said, "My favorite period overall was period 2 and the best debated topic was *school uniforms*." He also stated that some things that make a great debate are having good questions to ask and having good answers to the questions. Mr. Snyder from Garnet Team added, "I enjoyed all of my periods, but felt that period 2 was the most insightful and my favorite topic for the students to debate was the *electric cars*." He feels being able to break down arguments and defend arguments with good evidence is an essential skill, as is communicating without using technology.

Jade Team's Mr. Claycomb said, "My favorite period to hear the debates was period 8, and my favorite topic overall to hear about was *restrictions on social media*." He stated that good debates come from talking with conviction and confidence, along with being able to respond on your toes. Lastly, we went to Onyx's Mr. Knapp, who shared his thoughts, "My favorite period was period 5. My favorite topic to hear the students debate was *standardized testing*." He also said that good debates come from having strong evidence along with explaining the evidence, and good counterclaims.



The 8th grade social studies teachers taught their students the art of respectful disagreement.



APRIL 2024

After asking the teachers their opinions, we asked some of the students involved. Isabelle DeBoer said that her favorite part of the debate was hearing what everybody was saying and specifically if they actually were on the same side of viewpoint they were asked to debate. She would definitely want more debates if given the chance. Next, we interviewed Suhana Gupta, and she said that her favorite part of the debate was being done with it. If she was able to choose her own debate topic, then she would be open to the idea of having more debates. We then interviewed Marcie Goble, and she said that her favorite part of the debate was being able to work with partners. She would not like any more debates, no matter what. We also interviewed Noah Keys, who said that his favorite part of the debate was being able to question the other side, being questioned, and proving his points. He would want to do more debates if given the chance. Lastly, we interviewed Emelia McGrenehane, and she said that her favorite part of the debate was the debate itself. She would be up for having more debates if they could pick their own topics.

The art of the debate will always be a skill you need in the world. That's why you need to practice and be ready for them.

TAKEDOWN!

THE NASD GIRLS WRESTLING PROGRAM IS ON THE RISE

by Ava McCartney

Wrestling is no longer just a sport for boys. The Nazareth Area School District has started to assemble a girls' wrestling program. So far, the middle school had six girls wrestling in the 2023-2024 season; and the middle school coach, Mr. Fidelibus, is eager to find more girls interested in wrestling for the team.

In the high school girls wrestling program, 20 girls signed up. Most know that Chelsea Dressler made it to states and also scored the first girls' wrestling point in Nazareth history. Chelsea went 14-6 during the first year of her wrestling career.

Overall, wrestling is a sport for men and women, and if you're interested in wrestling, contact Mr. Fidelibus!



APRIL 2024

THE NAMS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS: THE QUEST FOR OUR BREAKOUT BOOK OF THE YEAR

by Shay Negrao

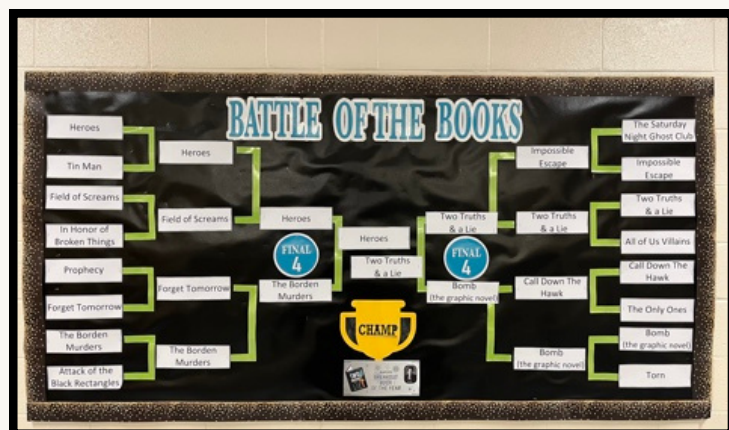
This time marks the end of the annual *Battle of the Books*, where NAMS votes between 16 amazing books until only one remains. Previously, the books selected for the competition would be the most popular. However, this year, the Media Center was working to find a breakout novel, so many new books and “overlooked” books were used instead.



Battle of the Books bracket before the battle!

The student who best predicted the outcome of the competition was given a free copy of Alan Gratz’s newest book, *Heroes*. Over 300 students and staff members participated this year.

The book who got the most votes this year was *Two Truths & a Lie* by April Henry, and the winner of the Bracket Challenge was Jayda Rodriguez.



Battle of the Books bracket after the battle!



Congratulations to April Henry's *Two Truths & a Lie*!

APRIL 2024

A PSSA “PREP” TALK: TESTING SEASON IS UPON US

by *Brie Pacana*



As you know the school year is quickly coming to an end, and with that comes standardized testing season, which for a majority of students can be stressful. But we also know lots of kids have developed ways to study and relieve this stress. This is extremely beneficial, since stress can really mess with your thinking skills. We have asked some students to help by sharing their study methods.

The first 8th grader we asked was Autumn Quercia. She said she tries to get a good night's sleep and not stress out, because otherwise she feels like she does worse. I had never thought of that before, but I will definitely use that tip this year. We then went on to ask someone else, and a helpful tip they told us was that they ask their teachers what they think they should try to study and focus on so they have an idea on what to expect. The final person we asked was Berkley Rohloff, who told us that as long as she is paying attention in class and trying her hardest that PSSA's aren't as stressful, since she feels confident in the material.

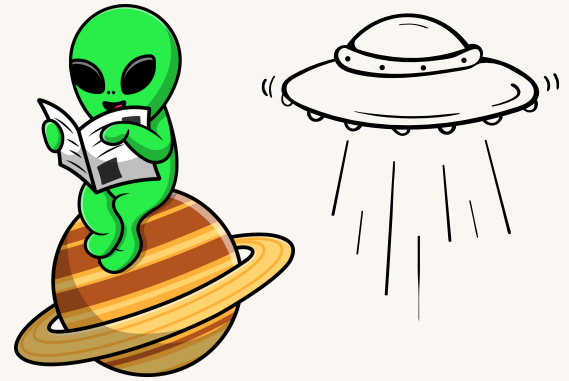
Now after reviewing these helpful tips, I hope you will use them to help relieve some stress and help you do better on the test.



APRIL 2024

INTERESTING HUMANS AMONG US: A FUN-FACT TEACHER FEATURE

by *Chloe Shive*



We all know about the teachers we see everyday, but has anyone actually dug a little deeper and found out fun facts, or hidden talents, about them?

Mrs. Fowler, the English teacher on Quartz, actually lived in Washington, D.C. before moving back to Nazareth! But before that, when she was 20, she studied and lived in London for four months and traveled to over eight European countries with friends while she was there. Mrs. Fowler shared, “We did a tour of London where we got to see Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace. We also went on the London Eye, which is a huge Ferris wheel in the city. My favorite place in London, however, was a less touristy attraction, a place called Covent Gardens. It has cobblestone streets, markers, and street performers every weekend, and it's just a really awesome place to explore.” Very interesting; I certainly didn't know she lived in London!

Secondly, Mrs. Finnerty, the English teacher on Sapphire, worked in a pottery studio for 8 years, teaching art classes about acrylic painting, pottery, mosaics, and glass fusing. She said that if she wasn't a teacher, she would definitely go back.

The writing teacher on Sapphire, Mrs. Musto, said, “I shattered my nose into pieces when I was a sophomore in high school during softball practice. Also, when I was in college, I worked in a veterinarian's office, where I got to play with baby tigers who were being transported to a zoo and needed to stop and sleep in our hospital for the night. I got to feed them all their bottles, hold them, play with them, and learn some things about caring for wild animals.”

Moving on, Mr. Stinson, the science teacher on Quartz, said, “I could dunk a basketball in high school. I could jump over 23 feet. I helped coach Jahan Dotson while he ran track at Nazareth.” I didn't know he helped coach Jahan Dotson! It seems very interesting.

Mr. Lutte, the Social Studies teacher on Quartz, says, “We have a house at the beach...but I hate the beach! I never go to the beach. I am also a very accomplished food smoker. Ribs are my specialty! My goal is to enter competitions.” How interesting! I hope he enters competitions.

Sometimes we forget that teachers are real people, and many times they are some of the most interesting people you will meet.

APRIL 2024

OPINION: LET'S MAKE OUR NEWSPAPER...WELL, NEWSPAPER!

by Abby Cowan



Of course, if you're reading this, you know our school has a newspaper; but when we sent out a survey, less than 10% of the student body filled it out. Could this mean that over 90% of students don't even know it exists? Is it possible that this is because it is digital?

It turns out, yes! Out of the people who answered, 57.8% haven't read it but would read it if there were a paper copy. It seems like it is so easy for students to overlook the newspaper, and Mrs. Finnerty brought this to light by saying, "I think there are so many things online: games, Schoology, etc. Things can get overlooked, and the newspaper team does amazing work."

Plus, doesn't always reading on your chromebook hurt your eyes after a while? Scientists have proven that reading on a screen can cause major fatigue and strain your eyes. Teachers and students also agree that having a printed copy will encourage students to read more. Mrs. Finnerty said, "I think seeing their friends' names as editors would be an incentive for them to read." Eleanna Stavrinoudis mentioned, "If students forget their book, they can just grab a newspaper and read that."

Just like Eagle Vision, the newspaper is an important source of information, and if students aren't reading it online, we need to get paper copies and get those copies into the hands of students. Everything is so online-centered nowadays that the newspaper can get cast aside. Right now, our goal is to send the template off to a newspaper printing service and have them send us the finished product. We hope to achieve this goal by next year. And maybe someday, we can have the facilities to be able to print the newspaper ourselves and have a printing team.

So, what do you think? Would a printed newspaper benefit us? Stay tuned!



April 2024

NAMS YEARBOOK CLUB: WHAT MAKES IT SO GREAT?



by Riley Williams

With the school year reaching a close, it's exciting to think about summer break. However, lots of students find themselves reminiscing about the school year even after it's over. The problem is, remembering a whole year's worth of memories is pretty difficult. This is what makes the school yearbook so important. The yearbook helps cement the school year so it can be looked back on and preserved forever! That's great and all, but what does it actually take to create a yearbook? How does the process work behind the scenes? All these questions and more led me to find the answers directly from the source, the NAMS Yearbook Club! I had the pleasure to interview Yearbook Club member Bailey Thomas for this article.

To kick off this interview, I asked how the Yearbook Club's process really worked. Bailey responded with, "Well it starts with an idea for a section you want to put into the yearbook. Then you take pictures of that idea with real digital cameras. Finally, we edit the picture as needed and place it in the yearbook."

I followed up this question by asking what the most challenging aspect of the Yearbook Club was. Bailey went on to say, "The most challenging thing about the yearbook club is making sure everyone is represented and not focusing too hard on one specific group."

On a more personal note, I questioned Bailey on her favorite project she's worked on so far. She explained that, "My favorite thing I worked on has to be PA History Day. Even though it hasn't happened yet (April 18), it's really fun seeing the different types of projects people are working on."

Similarly, I asked about what the best part of the Yearbook Club was to her.

Bailey described it with, "I'd say the best part is working with your peers to create something that collectively represents the school year as a whole."

At last, I questioned Bailey on if she were to convince someone to join the Yearbook Club what would she say and why. Bailey finished off this interview by saying, "I would say you should join the Yearbook Club because you're helping preserve the memory of the school year while having fun doing it."

With all that being said, I hope this has given some people a little bit of insight into the behind the scenes of the Yearbook Club and all it has to offer.

APRIL 2024

THE CONSOLE WARS: GAMERS WEIGH IN ON WHICH IS THE BEST



by **Noah Keys**

The console wars have been a long standing debate among gamers of all preferences. The PlayStation, Xbox, and Nintendo families of systems



have all been in a tight battle for the consumer's interest for decades. Even though the different companies have had ups and downs, the current battle is very interesting. This is between the consoles of PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X, and Nintendo Switch. There are currently many questions, rumors, and speculations circulating around the gaming community. However, the primary question remains... who rules over the console wars, and who will dominate them in the future?

To briefly recap, these three consoles all have something unique to offer that makes this battle so difficult. The PlayStation 5 is a powerhouse that can effectively support games at fantastic resolutions and framerates. The Xbox Series X has always been a favorite choice of gamers, with many popular titles available to play. The Nintendo Switch has been on the market for quite some time now, but offers lots of exclusive games and portability. Each console offers a different aspect of an ideal platform, so it largely depends on what you prefer to have.

All of the different strengths and weaknesses of each console begs the question... which is NAMS' favorite? In a recent poll run by the Blue Eagle Bulletin, we've discovered the answer, alongside some opinions from eSports club members.

It seems like the Xbox consoles will seize the top of the ranks when it comes to our school's favorite, totalling 41% of the votes. Harrison Guyer notes that Xbox is his favorite due to its large collection of games. The sheer amount of titles on the Xbox is truly mind-boggling. To put things into perspective, there are roughly 400 games present on just the Game Pass subscription alone! That's not counting the standalone titles you can get, which skyrocket the numbers so high it's barely documented. It's evident that the amount of games available to play on Xbox consoles are unrivaled.

Not too far behind at all are the PlayStation systems, finishing at 25% of responses. "My favorite is PlayStation for their amazing single players," said Domenick Statile. With how hardcore the

APRIL 2024

audience for PlayStation systems can be, it only stands to reason that the collection of games for one player is massive. The best part? Most gamers agree that the plethora of single player experiences on PlayStation consoles is not only of high numbers, but also high quality.

The Nintendo platforms are next in line, ending up with 19% of answers. Alex Mercurio shared that the reason for his love of Nintendo consoles is primarily because of *Mario Kart*. Ironically enough, the *Mario Kart* games represent a lot of what makes Nintendo such a lucrative game developer. Not only do they house many iconic exclusives, but they also provide some of the best all-around family experiences on the market. Anybody from your cousin who's never picked up a controller in their life to a dedicated gamer can get into a Nintendo console.

Finally, 10% of respondents said that they prefer to game on a different platform altogether. This answer could be referring to a wide variety of systems, as almost any technology can support some type of video game.

In any case, it seems like the console wars will remain a balanced battle for a long time coming. Each company has their respective strengths and weaknesses, and it's hard to imagine that they'll change anytime soon. With a revolution of gaming soon to arrive, it'll be interesting to see how this competition evolves for the newer times. It's important to remember that we're all entitled to our opinions, and we all have our own preferences. Happy gaming, everyone!



The results are in. NAMS students prefer Xbox as their gaming system of choice.

APRIL 2024

MARCH MADNESS: BIG BUCKETS AND BUSTED BRACKETS

by Natalie Reagle



March Madness once again overtook the nation. This year, State Farm Stadium in Glendale, AZ was the host city for all 68 of the nation's best men's college basketball teams for the March Madness tournament. The women's tournament was held in Cleveland's Rocket Mortgage Field House. For each of these tournaments 67 games were played in total with the final 4 teams of each playing against each other to ultimately decide a champion. But just being one of the teams that qualifies for March Madness, even if they don't win, is a great accomplishment. They should be proud of themselves and soak in all their fans supporting them!

We love these tournaments because of the drama they create and the fact that we feel like we are a part of the action. You and your friends can pick the team you anticipate will win by filling out an online bracket, which is a fun way for you to participate at home.

MARCH MADNESS WRAP UP:

Men's Final Four:

UConn (champion)
Purdue (runner-up)
NC State
Alabama

Women's Final Four:

South Carolina (champion)
Iowa (runner-up)
NC State
UConn



Men's Champ: UCONN

Most Outstanding Player:

Tristen Newton (UConn)

Most Outstanding Player:

Kamilla Cardoso (South Carolina)

TV Viewership:

Men's Championship Game: 14.82 million viewers

Women's Championship Game: 18.9 million viewers



Women's Champ: South Carolina



APRIL 2024

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT... NATIONAL CRAFT DAY CELEBRATES CREATIVITY

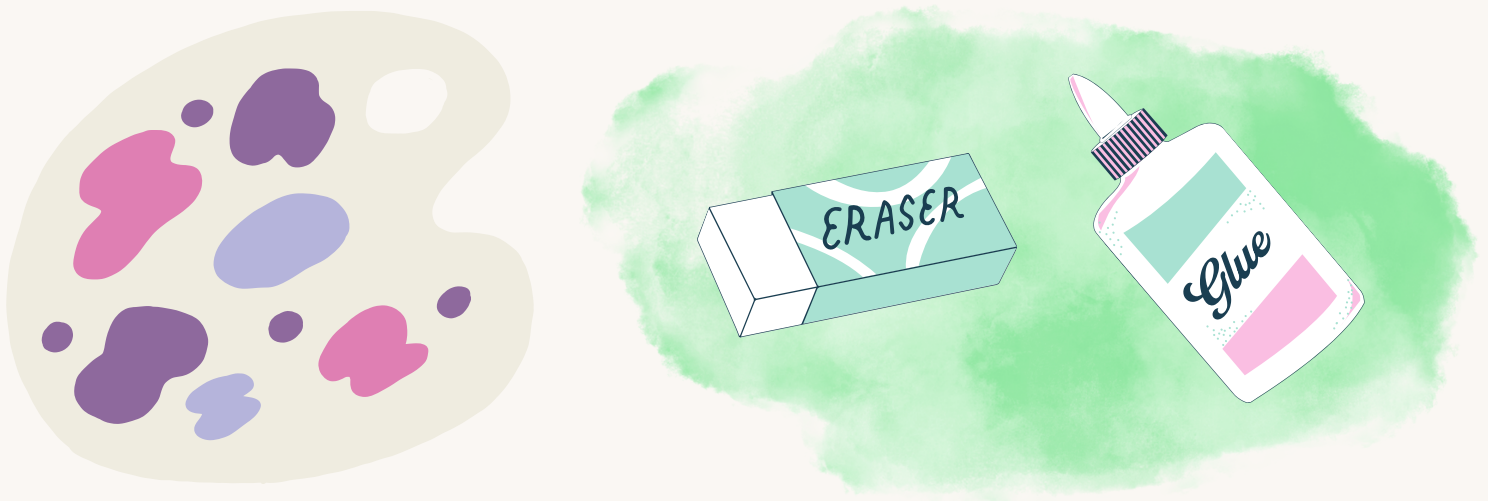
by Shay Negrao



March 14th was *National Crafts Day*, a celebration of all things creative. You may have missed it, as it isn't very well known, but it is a day that deserves recognition. Positive creativity should always be celebrated!

National Crafts Day was made to introduce young children to the art process so they could find both what they're good at and what they're interested in. It was invented in 1994 by the Craft and Hobby Association. Some activities people enjoy doing include pottery, flowers made out of paper, bath bombs, resin/clay jewelry, and crocheting.

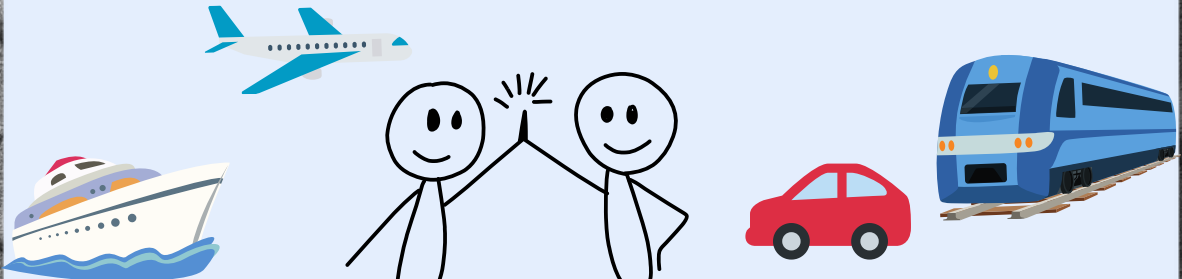
National Crafts Day takes place in the middle of March, which is considered *National Craft Month*. This day is dedicated to letting people show off their creativity, but even though it has passed, it is never too late to get out there and start creating!



COMICS

by Charles Wagner

TRAVEL BOYS



The Blue Eagle Bulletin Staff

Sophia Dollak
Noah Keys
Ella Schellenberger
Riley Williams
Addie Bensing
Abby Cowan
Zahraa Faisal
Kaley Heredia
Ava McCartney
Shay Negrao
Brie Pacana
Natalie Reagle
Emma Rice
Chloe Shive
Raegan Trach
Charles Wagner

