

Young boy falls from Mall of America third floor balcony

Boy still in critical condition after nightmare scenario last weekend

by **Malia Johnson**
staff writer

Last Friday 5-year-old Landen along with his mother went to the Mall of America for an enjoyable day, but it turned into the exact opposite. They became victims of horrific incident that would never be predicted to happen at the mall of all places. Now, their world is being turned upside down.

Landen and his mother were standing outside of the Rainforest Café, located on the mall's 3rd floor, when twenty-four year old, Emmanuel Aranda approached them. The mother saw Aranda, whom she had never seen before, come close to them and she asked if they should move. Instead Aranda picked up Landen and threw him over the 3rd floor balcony railing. Landen fell 40 feet fracturing many bones and has severe head trauma. He is in critical condition fighting for his life everyday.

Aranda showed up to the mall on Thursday intended to kill an adult, but it did not "work out". He then returned to the mall on Friday still plan-

ning to kill an adult, because they stand closer to the railing, but threw the little boy instead. Bloomington police say "he knew what he was planning to do was wrong, that he'd been coming to the mall for years, tried to speak to when there and they rejected him, which made him lash out.

This isn't Aranda's first encounter with the Mall. In previous years he has thrown stuff from the 3rd floor and has knocked stuff off of shelving in stores. Aranda is restricted to stay 3 blocks away from the mall, charged with first-degree attempted murder, and is set on a \$2 million bond.

The family has set up a GoFund me page for Landen and is asking for lots of prayers and cannot thank everyone enough for the out pouring love and support. He will keep fighting his courageous battle.



Easter outside the United States

by **Oliviya Thornton**
staff writer

People tend to only focus on how Americans celebrate Easter and never really learn about what other nationalities celebrate it. We shouldn't just try to learn about how others celebrate it but to also learn about the history of Easter. Like most things in life, fun holiday have their history.

The holiday wasn't named after just anyone but more named after a pagan goddess named Eastre but her name was also spelled Eostre, or Ostara. She was the ancient Germanic goddess of spring. Eastre was worshipped by the tribe Teutonic.

When the early missionaries were trying to convert the tribe they adopted the celebration of Eastre's festival as their own. It was also quite easy to adopted the holiday since it landed around the same time the Christians memorial of Jesus' resurrection. They really just replaced one holiday with another but this also made it easier for people who converted. Though the tradition stayed the same, the meaning and purpose changed.

Now, most have heard about the Easter bunny, but most don't know how it was originated. The Easter bunny is a fun creature that hides Easter eggs for children to find; the decorative eggs are way for all the artistically inclined people to show what they can do. But how much do you really know about why the eggs and the Easter bunny became apart of this holy holiday?

The Easter bunny is a animal that delivers candy and chocolate eggs to children on Easter morning. These eggs are either hidden or usually found in a Easter basket. Many historians are unsure of when the Easter bunny was really introduced to the holiday, but they figure it arrived around the 1700s when the German immigrants arrived in America.

In many cultures rabbits are know as enthusiastic procreators. So in the spring time when bunnies were born it was associated with birth and renewal. The rabbit is also seen as an ancient symbol of the moon. This correlates well, as the Easter date depends on the moon.

Easter eggs may not have been a religious Easter tradition but it has become quite popular amongst all ages. People participate by decorating, egg rolling, and/or egg hiding. For the ones who celebrate Easter without the religious background,

egg decorating and the Easter bunny is a fun way for them to celebrate Easter.

The Easter egg tradition wasn't always seen as being Christian either, Easter celebrations have links to certain pagan traditions. To the pagans, eggs represented fertility and birth.

The Teutonic tribes also believed the eggs symbolized rebirth and renewal. The romans believed that all life comes from eggs and Christians believed eggs were considered to be a seed of life and symbolized Jesus Christ's resurrection.

Everything has history and everyone has a different way of celebrating a traditional holiday. For example, for Christians it's a holy time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, while for others, it's a fun time to hide Easter eggs and eat candy.

Other places also celebrate Easter and have their traditions:

France

In France Easter is called Pâques and Roman-Catholic is their dominating religion. No city, village, or town is without a church. On the Thursday before Good Friday all church bells are silenced and on this day they mourn and acknowledge Jesus's death.

On Easter morning the bells ring out in the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus and the ringing of the bells declare he is alive once again. Bunnies, eggs, and chocolate are also celebrated as symbols of the Easter festival.

Italy

In Italy, Easter is called Pasqua and is even celebrated on a bigger scale than Christmas. Workers are given time off work so they are able to celebrate Easter during that weekend. Many tend to take this time to travel but that doesn't stop the towns and cities from being backed with Italians Celebrating Easter with festivals and parades.



Even with their big festivals many

towns on the Friday or Saturday before Easter have religious processions and churches also set up special statues of the Virgin and Jesus which play a big part in their processions.

Brazil

In Brazil Easter is called Páscoa and much like the Spanish and Italians, Brazil has respectful commemoration, procession walks, and a big party! In their walks/parades they also carry the statues of the Virgin Mary and body of Jesus Christ.

The streets are filled with stalls and shops which sell cheap Easter bunnies. On Easter Day, Galla carnivals are set up and take pale all throughout the country to remember the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Mexico

Celebrations happen all throughout Mexico. Different areas celebrate in different ways. On Palm Sunday (Domingo de Ramos) they celebrate the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem.

Like other countries, processions take place in Mexico. Many of these processions contain the reenacting of Jesus's great entry. The largest procession takes place in Iztapalapa where over one million people gather every year for the Via Crucis.

On Good Friday (Viernes Santo) they recall the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The next day, Holy Saturday (Sabado de Gloria), they present a parade. Before the parade they construct paper or cardboard figures and are burned after the parade.

The next day is Easter Sunday (Domingo de Pascua) and unlike other countries children do not get Easter bunnies or chocolate eggs. On this day families celebrate together quietly and go to the Easter Mass.

For us here Easter will be on Sunday, April 21. However, Easter falls on a different date each year. Easter can be any time as early as March 22 and as late as April 25.



JUULs in SCHUULs

by Nobel Nothstine
staff writer—editorial

A devil in sheep's clothing has recently infiltrated schools across the US, even affecting small town schools in the mid-west like Garretson.

The biggest product in the e-cigarette market doesn't really look like a cigarette at all.

This culprit is the JUUL, a popular vape that looks similar to a flash drive. This is convenient for teens, as they can charge it easily through constant access to USB ports in computers, outlets, and "cigarette chargers" in vehicles.

JUULing accounts for over 40% of the e-cigarette market. Though it's legally only available to adults 18 and older, the National Institute on Drug Abuse has released data that claims 9.5% of 8th graders, 14% of 10th graders, and 16.2% of 12th graders all use e-cigarettes. NIDA also states that 2x as many boys use e-cigarettes than girls.

The issue with JUULing becoming so popular is many students don't realize what's actually in their JUUL. According to NIDA, 66% believe it's just flavoring. Realistically, each JUUL pod, which contains roughly 200 puffs, has as much nicotine as one pack of cigarettes.

But these are just the statistics. The *Blue Ink* talked to a student at GHS who's been apprehended for JUULing to get a little bit of a more personal view. The interview went as follows:

Q. What makes JUULs popular among teens?

A. I think when they see that their friends have one they think it's cool. The flavors are good too.

Q. How are students getting JUULs?

A. Mainly past graduates, or older siblings and family.

Q. What's the draw of JUULs versus other vapes for you?

A. A JUUL has way more nicotine than other vapes.

Q. Can you give a rough estimate of how many peers you know that JUUL?

A. Many people just do it socially, but I know of at least 30 students that actually own one.

*Note that with roughly 200 students at Garretson, 30 students would be 15%. This corresponds with the NIDA statistic.

Q. Do you think history is repeating itself a little bit; with our parents smoking when they were teens because there wasn't many studies done on the effects of cigarettes?

A. Absolutely, they're doing a lot more studies on the effects of e-cigarettes now and even trying to ban them in some places. But, JUULs are a lot harder to control because the smoke dissipates really fast, they don't smell for long, and they're small and convenient.



This page includes articles originally set to release last week, but did not due to snow storm and power outages

Q. How do you feel about the FDA trying to ban flavored JUUL pods so vaping is less attractive to kids?

A. Have at it. The e-cigarette market is too widespread, and teens are too big of a market for that to pass.

Q. 30% of teens who use e-cigarettes end up smoking normal cigarettes as they age. Do you believe this will happen to you?

A. That will never happen for me, I promised myself I would never smoke a cigarette. I still haven't to this day.

Q. How often do you see kids JUULing in school? Sneaking around in bathrooms, at prom, at lunch, in class, etc.

A. It's definitely an everyday occurrence.

Q. What should the school do to crack down on students JUULing?

A. There's nothing they really can do; the posters haven't helped at all though.

Q. What do you think about students selling JUULs and JUUL pods to other students?

A. I respect it. It's an easy way to make money.

Q. Is there anything you'd like to say to students who are considering JUULing?

A. Just, don't.

Overall, JUULing is influencing high schools heavily everywhere, and may lead to issues in the future when more health related research is conducted. Many kids, teachers, and parents are uneducated about the reality of JUULs and vaping. Don't give into peer pressure and learn your facts.



Spring...we thought

by Riley Altman
staff writer

After 65 degree weather, we thought winter was finally over, until the news came on warning most of South Dakota of a winter storm. The storm could make the spring sport season very difficult and add a few more days to an already extended school year.

The storm was set to start Wednesday and last into Friday. The storm was predicted to include rain, freezing rain, sleet, snow, hail, and wind. As we know, the storm has included all of those things along with power outages.

It seems like every April winter comes back one more time. Several years ago, we had a big ice storm lasting several days, leaving us without power, and making drastic changes to the city's landscape, destroying multiple trees. Last year was snow and now this year is more snow and ice.

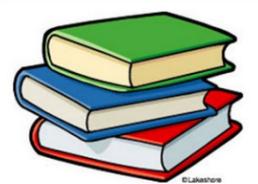
"With this snow hitting, we won't be able to get on the course for meets for awhile. I think it will end up like last year when we had a lot of meets at the end of the golf season," stated golfer Malia Johnson.

Hayden Pierret, track runner and jumper, said, "If the storm comes like it's supposed to, we won't be able to get out and get better. Even if there's no snow, we don't run our best in the cold weather."

Adding all the days to the end of the year would mean we are coming back after Memorial Day. There has been a lot of talk about coming back Easter Monday instead. My Long stated, "That was no discussed, but I'm sure it will be now, so we don't have to come back after Memorial Day."

Hopefully this is the last of the snow and cold for awhile. Temperatures are expected to rise to 50 degrees by the end of next week.

and sociology would better us in the future and those classes interest many people.



For new classes and electives that also means we would have to have teachers to teach them. I definitely believe that if we have better classes that more teachers would see that

New electives?

by Kennedy Buckneberg
staff writer—editorial

As you know it is getting to be the end of the school year, which means students are starting to get their schedules figured out for next year. With next year being my third year of high school, I will have to say the classes I have to chose from are getting boring and very unoriginal. Next year, me

personally, and many other students, are hoping for more interesting and better classes to choose from.

"I don't think there is much variety when it comes to choosing electives and students don't have much of an option on what classes to take," said current junior Riley Altman. "We are always told that they are preparing us for college, but they could better prepare us by offering classes that will prepare us when we get to the point where we are living on our own."

After talking with many students, many agree that having a home ec class, anatomy, psychology,

and be much more interested in teaching them, so it would be more than likely bring more teachers to Garretson High. Now, if we do get enough students for a class that a teacher will teach it, however, if not they won't teach it. There has been some talk about new ones like entrepreneurship, but they are not sure yet.

Hopefully in the near future we will get new and improved electives and classes that won't bore the high schoolers any longer. Changing oil in a car, paying bills, writing checks, are all important when you are living on your own and I feel that we need to learn skills like that in high school.

Save the planet 2.0

As Earth Day comes near, devastating facts are released

by Jayden Clark
staff writer

Did you know, it is estimated that 100 trees are cut down every minute? This means that every year, nearly 78 million acres of forest land are destroyed. While people have put aside a day to celebrate the earth and its existence in an attempt to increase awareness of this and similar issues, the question becomes: "Is it enough?"

Every year, on April 22, millions of people across the world celebrate Earth Day. Earth Day became a national holiday in the United States in 1970 and was adopted by other countries around the world in 1990. Some countries have elected to expand it into Earth Week.

Earth Day is commemorated by various events organized to show support for environmental protection efforts and projects. As a celebration in 2011, 28 million trees were planted in Afghanistan by the Earth Day Network. In Panama in 2015, 100 endangered species of orchids were planted and maintained to prevent their extinction in honor of Earth Day. On Earth Day 2012, more than 100,000 people rode bikes in China to reduce CO2 emissions and save fuel.

So, as you can see, there are many ways people around the world are trying to honor Earth Day and save the planet. My question is, "why don't people do this every day?" There are so many simple ways people can do their part to

save the planet every day. Some ideas include planting a tree or garden in your yard, investing in a reusable water bottle, recycling (any plastic, paper, or aluminum), or finding a more eco friendly way of transportation (car-pooling, or biking).

For the past century, scientists have become increasingly concerned with the condition of our planet. Humans are depleting the earth's fossil fuels much faster than they can be replenished, cutting down trees, killing off plant and animal species, and polluting the earth's waterways.

Since everyone knows that I am basically the Lorax, and I speak for the trees, I say this needs to stop. Yes, people will probably continue to deny that

the earth is dying, and they will most certainly deny that humans are the main cause. Those same people often think that recycling one piece of paper will do nothing. But my response to all those people would be "you have to start somewhere!"

So, next week, when we celebrate Earth Day, do something to help the planet. Whether that be throwing your scratch paper in a recycling bin, using a reusable water bottle, or participating in any sort of town clean-up. Then continue those same efforts every day. Do your part to save the planet! Like Dr. Seuss says at the end of "The Lorax," "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

Teeing off the golf season

by Mataya Trower
staff writer

Golf has started and had its first meet last week Friday. Five golfers were sent to a meet in Mitchell for the South Dakota Golf Classic. The weather was cold but the golfers pushed through their 18 holes.

"It was a fun meet and we all know what we need to work on to get better," stated Maren Bonte. Bonte, who shot a 127.

Other results from Mitchell: Katie Hanson, 106; Cooper Long, 98; Dylan Kindt, 94; Rave Uhlich, 88.

The golf team had a second meet on Tuesday at River Ridge in Garretson before all the ice and snow decided to return. Eight different schools came to the annual Early Bird meet. This meet has been a great way in previous years for all golfers to get on a course for a quick nine holes.

Five golfers from Garretson placed in the top ten in their home meet including Katie Hanson, Rave Uhlich, Dylan Kindt, Cooper Long, and Tayson Swatek.

Rave Uhlich posted the overall low score for the meet, shooting a 40. Keva Bursheim of Flandreau brought in a 44, claiming low honors for the girls.

With more snow storms coming in April, the golf coaches don't know how many meets will get cancelled or rescheduled. Golf has had two indoor practices and will most likely have more to come as both meets scheduled for next week have already been cancelled, Chester and Flandreau.

Varsity's next meet is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23 hosted by Dell Rapids St. Mary's and then Garretson hosts their Jesse James Invitational that Friday, April 26.

Junior high also was supposed to have two meets in the books by now as well. However the meets for Sioux Valley and Chester had to be delayed thanks to Mother Nature. JH's next meet is slated for April 23 in Howard.

RESULTS FROM TUESDAY'S EARLY BIRD in GARRETSON

Girls

- Katie Hanson—54 (7th)
- Malia Johnson—55
- Dakota Johnson—56
- Mataya Trower—59
- Jayden Clark—60
- Maren Bonte—61

Boys

- Rave Uhlich—40 (1st)
- Dylan Kindt—43 (2nd)
- Cooper Long—44 (4th)
- Tayson Swatek—50 (7th)
- Evan DeBates—52
- Sam Konechne—53
- Adam Hulscher—55

Senior Spotlights

Collin Johnson

SENIOR PROJECT:
Building a computer

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
National Honor Society

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Mrs. Howe

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:
Attend DSU



State FFA

by Mason Hofer
staff writer

FFA has continued to be one of Garretson's most successful extra-curricular activities. And early this week, they established their dominance at the 91st Annual State Convention.

Students were very busy the whole time they were there with a daily scheduled packed with meetings and practices on Sunday.

The next morning, there were some judging contests and lots of Career Development Events (CDEs). This is where students can learn more about certain fields with hands on activities.

Later that day, kids were busy with lots of sessions they could attend. Starting at 5 p.m. students attended a State Star Banquet, the State FFA Degree Reception. Then a little later they sat in on the State Convention Choir concert. Garretson had five students participate in the choir: Ella Nelson, Luke Ross, Kaci Danforth, Aiden Magnuson, and Kenzie Henseler.

Once again Garretson was represented very well this year. Garretson FFA placed third in the state for the National Chapter Award. There were a handful of individual awards including Brady Malsom placing first in Ag Mechanics, Tessa Pederson placing 10th in Livestock Judging, and Jenna VanHolland placing 9th in Dairy Cattle.



Molly Houg

SENIOR PROJECT:
Reupholster a loveseat

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:
Marching Band

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS MOST:
Mrs. Sands and Ms. Thompson

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Move to Denver and go to school for interior design

