



Corinna Lindörfer

## Foreign exchange: Corinna Lindörfer

Matt Klueger  
Sports Editor

This year, another exchange student joins the senior class here at BHS, her name is Corinna Lindörfer, and she comes from München (Munich), Germany.

Brighton is a big change from Munich, which is a densely populated city of over 2 million people with huge buildings, palaces, and stadiums, while Brighton is only a mere 7,552 with no big buildings to speak of at all.

Coming to America, Lindörfer had to leave behind her father Joachim, her mother Ursula, her sister Carolin, as well as her friends, but Brighton was a new place to make more friends.

"It was really cool to be able to meet and talk to somebody from a different country," senior Sean Brown said.

Lindörfer wanted to be an exchange student because she had always wanted to go to America. She also wanted to learn to become more independent. Lindörfer faced some complications with host families before coming to America, having to change host families twice. But now she is housed by Scott and Nicole St-Laurent, and has two brothers, Evan and Reid.

Lindörfer's favorite things about America are the high school lifestyle

and the sports. Lindörfer has participated in volleyball, dance, and is currently a member of the varsity lacrosse team.

"Playing lacrosse was the best decision I made here (in America), the team is like a family to me," Lindörfer said.

Lindörfer's least favorite things about America are that the food doesn't have much variation and gets boring, and moreover there is little to no public transportation, which is a common complaint of European exchange students.

Lindörfer noted that the schooling system in America is much different than the one in Germany. Lindörfer noted that school in America is much less strict than in Germany. Also, the school she attends includes grades 5-12, so there is a huge age gap between students. Instead of the students moving from class to class the teachers move to the students, so there is much less socializing between the students.

Lindörfer will return to Germany on June 25, 2014, capping off a wonderful experience that she will remember her whole life. The people she has met during her time here will also remember the great experience of meeting an exchange student.

"Brighton is the best place I could have ended up, the people are nice and they really care about you," Lindörfer said.

## Career focused classes help prepare students for life

Connor Konas  
Managing Editor

Brighton High School offers many classes that are geared towards helping students with future career options and job possibilities. Anything from Auto Shop with Rocky Roberts to Culinary with Kelsey Quackenbush, BHS offers a great variety of choices that will get the young adults of its halls started off on the right foot.

The school allows students to take two child development classes without any precursors, either Infancy during first semester or Pre-school during second semester. Taught by Angie Szymczak, the classes are geared towards the students who plan on starting families and having children in the coming years. The two are often associated with Pooh's Corner, which is taught by Cheryl Bischer, since they are precursors to it.

The first semester Infancy class typically has about one class and has a couple main focuses. The class goes over subjects including pregnancy, fetal development, and the

labor process. The pregnancy portion walks students through the experience, along with teaching them how to stay healthy during those nine months, what the doctor's appointments will be like, and good ways to exercise. The fetal development section is just what it sounds like. Szymczak teaches the teens in the class about the way the baby grows while in the womb and after the child has been brought into the world. The third main topic the class covers is the labor process, which, again, sounds exactly like what it is.

"I took Pre-School during my sophomore year, and I loved it. The class really taught you a lot about how preschoolers develop. It really helped me with teaching younger children," senior Andrea Rickard said.

Pre-School is the second semester child development class that Szymczak teaches. Usually about two classes, Pre-School goes over many topics including cognitive and physical development, and teaching skills. The cognitive development refers to how the toddler's thinking progresses as he or she grows. The physical development is, of course,



all about how the toddler's body changes in the first few years of life. During the year, the students in the class write their own children's book, and they also partake in teaching a class for an hour as a final project. The class also takes trips across the school to Pooh's Corner to observe what it's like to teach in a Pre-School environment. It shows the students how to apply the teaching skills that they have learned in the classroom.

"The students in my Pre-School class take trips to Pooh's Corner. We go to observe what teaching skills are being used, the ones that the students have learned. We like to see how the cognitive teaching skills used match up," Szymczak said.

## High school Officer Jim Meldrum honored as Brighton area's Top Cop



Drew Drake  
Editor-in-Chief

Brighton High School's own school resource officer, James Meldrum was recently selected by his fellow officers to be awarded Brighton's Top Cop award for this year. Top Cop is an award given every year to a person who is making a difference in the community. While most probably know Meldrum from the school, he does a lot more than that.

"I also work as the defensive tactics for the Brighton Police department, training hand to hand combat and I am on 24 hour a day call as a member of the Brighton Police Special Response Team, better known as S.W.A.T.," Meldrum said.

Being on the police force is not for everyone. Putting your life on the line to help others is a heroic thing to do, but Meldrum was not always where he is today. Before he joined the force, Meldrum worked for Ford Motor Company.

"I worked at Ford for 13 years. But I started to think, I have kids, what legacy am I leaving behind? What stamp am I putting on society?" Meldrum said.

From there he left his job and joined the force, six years later, he is here at BHS on a special assignment. But Meldrum does not just work at BHS, he has become part of the family, getting involved in any way he can. Whether it is simply learning students' names and saying hi in the hall, to getting involved in after school activities, even playing in

the Avery Pollack intermural soccer game. Not only that but he also is the head coach for the Men's Junior Varsity soccer team.

While most can see that Meldrum definitely deserves this award, he doesn't see it quite the same way.

"It is kind of embarrassing, although it is nice to be recognized, while it might seem cliché, I don't do it for the recognition. I do it to help people and I like what I do, I do what every other officer does, I work hard and do my best," Meldrum said.

Meldrum is on a minimum of three-year special assignment for the force. This year just so happens to be his fourth year here. Meldrum's plan for the future includes staying at BHS for as long as he is making a difference.

"When I feel like I am not making a difference, I will step down for the next young guy to come in," Meldrum said.

But one thing is for certain, Meldrum cares about his job, BHS and the students here, proving that he really is Brighton's Top Cop.

## Mother's Day promotes acts of kindness and encourages good will

Josie Jonckheere  
Staff Reporter

In everyone's life there are people who they look up to, people who inspire them. These people could be celebrities, historical figures, athletes, or even successful business people. On the second Sunday in May, people take the whole day to celebrate the most important inspirational person of all, their mother.

Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 as a holiday to honor motherhood, and it became an official United States holiday in 1914 when Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other businesses started to capitalize on its popularity. Since then, it has become one of the biggest holidays for consumer spending, and more phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year in the United States.

"Mother's Day is a day to pause and reflect on the important people who are mothers in your life. I mostly think about my own mom and how she inspires me, but I am also sure to wish a 'Happy Mother's Day' to my friends and other family members who are moms," teacher Kelly Armstrong said.

Mother's Day is more than just a Hall-

mark card kind of holiday, it's a day to give your mom a break from her normal day of cleaning up after you, listening to your complaints, arguing with you about cleaning your room, and all the other things that come with being a mom.

On Mothers Day you should make your mom feel special. You could go beyond just getting some flowers and actually cleaning up your room, in addition to this you could let her sleep in, which means no whisper-yelling or poking at her to wake her up. You could make her breakfast in bed, without asking for a bite of her bacon that you made her, and cook her dinner too.

"Mother's Day means doing things for my mom that I typically wouldn't do and go out of my way to make her feel special," senior Brittany Jandasek said.

Mother's Day is a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers make for their children, and what better way to do this than making those same sacrifices for your mom. She should not have to cook, clean, sort, fold, wash, sweep, or do any other usual mom duty. Don't make her the keeper of peace on Mother's Day. Make this the day that you decide to overlook your siblings antagonizing.

"Being a mother on Mother's Day is awesome! No gift is too big, or too expensive, or too sparkly, or too thoughtful, but the best gifts are the homemade ones that my kids make at school," teacher Kim Davis said.

## Relay for Life raises money and spreads hope to help find a cure

Delaney Bussey  
Staff Reporter

On Friday, May 9th and Saturday, May 10th, many of the Brighton community joined together as one to help raise money for the American Cancer Society here at the track of Brighton High School.

Relay for Life always starts with a survivor's lap. This is a time where the survivor's come together to circle the track. After dark, it is time for the Luminaria Ceremony. The Luminaria Ceremony is a time to honor those who have lost their battle with cancer.

This year at Relay for Life in Brighton, there were 31 teams, and 313 participants. They raised \$67,235.89

total. All of this money can make a huge impact on patient's lives, along with the lives of their loved ones.

The top participant was Mark Howell, a cancer survivor, he raised \$5,102. He was supported by Team Superman who raised \$10,729, more than double the amount the next best team raised. Team Superman is comprised of Howell's family, friends, and supporters of the cause year after year. They have supplied the largest team to the event for the past two years.

"For the past two years, Relay for Life has served as an event of hope and inspiration to me throughout my daily battle. In addition to walking alongside hundreds of other cancer battlers and survivors, the

support shown from family, friends, and the entire community throughout the event is truly overwhelming," Howell said.

Other top participants were the Niemiec Family, who raised \$2,835 and Nancy Durand who raised \$2,559. With Relay for Life, the Brighton community saved many lives.

"Every year that I've participated in Relay for Life has been incredibly rewarding," Relay for Life Chair Liz Devlin said.

Devlin went on to explain how excited her team was to join the Brighton community and work towards the cause.

"Our team put in many hours of work into our various fundraisers, which resulted in huge success," junior Madison Wiljanen said.