

OPINION

Spending summer time wisely

By Daniel Potashov

No denying it, summer is upon us, where the school can finally relax for a few months before we come

back in the fall to do some awesome frontal lobe crunches. It will be a very sad day indeed when summer is over, but some will be happy they won't

be bored anymore, until next summer at least.

With so much free time averaging around three months, many students will spend the summer up to their own devices, having fun with friends, taking walks, or inside in front of a computer. However, spending a few months outside of school has the potential to make you forget certain things you learned during the year, whether you learned it willingly or not.

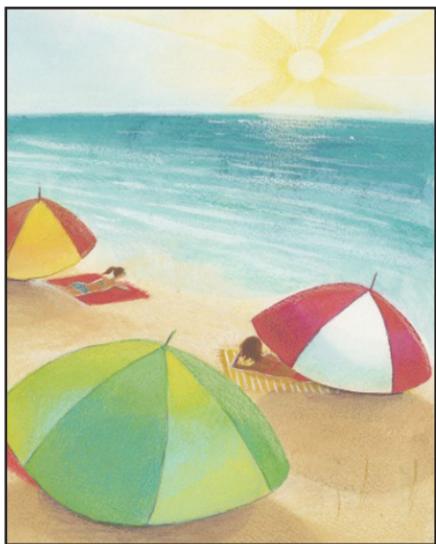
So what's the point in going to school if what you learn isn't always going to stick with you? Just to grow up and get a piece of paper with your name on it saying that you are eligible to go on to a bigger school where you still won't learn anything?

If it strikes your fancy, take into consideration spending your free time to do what you've been putting off. Maybe you've wanted to learn

about molecular biology, or find out more about an obscure country. You have the time, the resources, such as the Goshen library, and the Internet, now all you need is the motivation. It's so depressing that there are students who go into summer with the idea of "This is going to be the most

fun summer ever, I'm going to do what I've always wanted to do," and then come out with the much more different one of "I can't believe I did nothing this summer."

Seriously, what are you waiting for? If you're that relieved you have time off school for such an extended period of time, why waste it? Summer break is here, so do what you've always been putting off. Go explore the city, read a book or play a movie that you never had the time to do. Study a subject you've wanted to know more about. Learn about something that struck your interests that you now have the time to do. Try to make your own summer one you'll remember, and one that won't go to waste.



Seniors leave behind more than just memories

By Alicia Yoder

We asked seniors, hypothetically, what they would leave behind to underclassmen upon graduation. Whether they will actually leave these things behind or not, here's what they said.

Ben Wineland:

"I would leave my godlike dancing abilities to Spencer Kolbus."

Austin Shaffer:

"I would leave Joel Moyer's cell phone number to Adrienne Henke."

Kenneth Shields:

"I would leave a brand new comb to Joel Moyer so he could comb his Justin Bieber hair."

Andrea Yeater:

"I leave behind my stash of Nerds to Emily Halley, so she doesn't have to steal them from Grandma."

Dani Weaver:

"I would like to leave my Justin Bieber poster collection to someone who's love for him is almost as strong as mine, Maddie Yost!"

Megan Ankrom:

"I would leave my plethora of knowledge to Ryan Taylor because he might need it next year."

Jadyn Joseph:

"I would leave my bowling ball for Amanda Preston."

Lauren Yoder:

"I would leave my Dorchesterhire cape to Maddie Birky. I would also leave my DVD copy of The Phantom of the Opera to Peter Paetkau."

Audrey Lantz:

"I would leave all of my romance novels to a girl named Rebeckah Bontrager."

Philip Brown:

"I would leave a coffee mug, because it gets harder and harder to wake up each morning with energy. It would be helpful to any underclassman."

Alex Hochstetler:

"I would leave stress balls, chocolate, bubble bath, and hot tea to next year's IB seniors."

Juni Schirch:

"I would leave the key to my heart for Nick. That way, I won't fall in love with anyone else when I go to college."

Josh Miller:

"I would leave my luscious locks to Alex Pobocik."

Isaias Faustino:

"I will leave my lotion bag to Chase Gregory because he gets very ashy."

Zachary Whitaker:

"I leave my wrestling locker room behavior to Cameron Maynard and Travis Hanna."

Hailey Warrick:

"I would leave my basketball shoes for Kayci Troyer to fill."

Megan Sherck:

"I would leave my motherly role at the lunch table to Maddie Birky."

Emily Ankrom:

"I would leave my 'free-breakfast' token for The County Seat to Josh Bustos! Keep the tradition going!"

Ellen Schlabach:

"I would leave my heart for Laura Dolezal. Duh."

Thomas Miller:

"I would leave my sarcasm to Noah Shreiner."

Goshen High School seniors encouraged to vote intelligently

By Daniel Potashov

Bon Voyage, class of 2012! We will certainly miss you and your ever looming presence over our beloved halls. Years ago, you were just timid freshmen, today you stand on the verge of graduation! You begin new lives away from GHS, as we break the bottle against the ship of your farewell.

Count yourselves lucky that your graduation falls on this year, because 2012 of course, is the year of a new general election for the President of the United States. A new set of GHS students will have a vote thrust into their hands and have a part in deciding the fate of the Commander in Chief for the next four years (as soon as they register to vote that is).

However, there are some problems that come up in the voting process, primarily the issue of straight-ticket voting. Straight-ticket voting is the practice of voting for one party for every candidacy open, from president, vice president, treasurer, etc. While it isn't being practiced as much now, there are still people

who believe it fitting simply to vote for every Republican running



Alexander Cazares, senior, is indicating that he's ready to vote, come November.

or every Democrat running. Instead of simply going along with preconceived notions of each candidate or their party, try to

stay informed. Remember, when someone is running for office,

they want to represent you and the rest of the country as a whole. Who knows, you could find out that someone from your least favorite party agrees a lot with you on certain issues! Not to mention, you should also stay informed on various issues as well, and remain objective about where you stand. The fate of the president comes down to more than just which party you think sounds better.

If you're still not convinced on why partisan voting, or how just

voting for one party is a bad idea, well what about this situation: What if you're an avid Democrat and you only have a choice between two Republican candidates? Do you not vote? Labeling a politician with a 'D' or an 'R' does not explicitly tell you where they stand on social and economic issues.

Some people oppose the idea of voting for a two party system. If you draw a line, and on the left contains all the values of liberalism, on the right the values of conservatism, with neutrality in the center, the Democratic and Republican parties are just barely away from each other with the center to divide them. On the far left is communism, and the far right is fascism. So these people ask what the point of voting is, if both parties are just a little different but serve the same purpose. If you don't want to vote for that reason or your own, that's fine! You have that freedom just as much as you do for voting. Just don't take advantage of your freedom by choosing to be uninformed. When

you are trusted with a vote, don't squander it and give it to someone for prejudiced reasons, but think from both sides of an issue.

Let's not forget about third parties. People seem to dislike the idea of voting for a third party. Why? What's so bad about it? Those who don't vote for third parties make claims that it's a vote wasted, so they vote for someone else because they're most likely to win, but that's not what voting is all about! Voting is about personally believing that a certain person can bring the change you want to see. If a Democrat or Republican can't offer that but a third party can, what reason do you have to not vote for them?

An election is about what you want. Don't try to be persuaded into voting one of two ways simply because you were raised to think a certain way, or that one party sounds scarier than the other. If you are going to vote, you need to stay informed, and if you don't like the sound of that, then you are in no position to vote.