



**The court**



**Congratulations, Melissa Kirby!** Were you surprised when you heard your name? Yes, very much!

Who is your escort? Ryan Huey is my escort.

Did you find your dress and can you tell us about it? Not yet.

How would you describe yourself in three words? happy, caring, and helpful.

How would your good friend describe you?

Funny,, energetic and LOUD!

What do you expect to be doing in five years? Going to college.

In ten years? I hope to have a good career.

What will you remember most about going to Jr. High West? I will remember all the classes with my friends that made it so much fun.

What is the most hilarious thing you remember? Going into the school's basement with Bella and Trent to get decorations and getting left down there by Mr. Danko! Do you have any hobbies? Yes , playing volleyball and hanging out with friends.

What is your favorite movie (song)? Dear John

Tell us about a strength of yours. I have a lot of patience and I am helpful.

If you could be a superhero, what would you want your superpowers to be? Super hearing, be able

to fly, night vision, shoot spider webs out of my wrist and read minds.

Hollywood made a movie about your life, whom would you like to see play the lead role as you? Mr. Kahn's!

If you won \$20 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money? I would go on a big vacation, give a lot to my parents, and throw a huge party.

Thanks for taking time to answer our questions and good

luck!



**Congratulations to you too, Maria Merendino!**



Were you surprised when you heard your name? Yes!

Who is your escort? Evan Onusko

Did you find your dress and can you tell



us about it? I didn't find one yet.

How would you describe yourself in three words?  
Outgoing, energetic and happy

How would your good friend describe you?  
Intelligent, trust worthy and thoughtful.

What do you expect to be doing in five years? ten years? Attending college in five and having a successful job in ten.

What will you remember most about going to Jr. High West? At christmas, student council roaming the halls singing Christmas carols. What is the most hilarious thing you remember?  
Making trips to the basement with the

student council.

Do you have any hobbies or play any sports/ I play volleyball, basketball and softball. I like hanging out with my friends



What was the last movie you went to see? Harry Potter 7

What is your favorite movie (song)? The Last Song.

Can you tell us about a strength of yours? I don't care about what people think about me and I always be myself.

If your were an animal what kind would it be and why? An Eagle because I could fly everywhere!

If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional; with whom would it be? Lynnsey Leonard. I want to know the feeling of being a ginger!

If you could be any character in fiction, whom would you be? Minnie Mouse

If you could be a superhero, what would you want your superpowers to be? Read people's minds and be invisible.

If you won \$20 million in the lottery,

what would you do with the money? I'd probably put most of it in the bank and spend the rest.

Thanks so much and good luck to you!

**DIVA**

**Congratulations to you as well Stevi Richter!**



Were you surprised to hear your name announce for the court?

Yes very surprised.

who is your escort?  
Andy Cecil

Did you find your dress and can you tell us about ti? Yes, it is a short white dress with a hot pink bow and sparkles. Hot pink gloves too!

How would you describe yourself in three words? caring, funny and outgoing



How would your good friend describe you? She is well known and liked by many. she is always willing to help anyone. -Savanna Crocetti

What do you expect to be doing in five-ten years?

five-college In ten years a job, married and maybe kids.

What will you remember most about going to West? All of the memories with everyone.

What is the most hilarious thing you remember? Scott Deafer falling off the lunch table.

Do you have any hobbies? yes, Shop, dance, run, workout and chill with friends.

Do you play any sports? Yes, swimming and track

What was the last movie you went to see? Can't remember

What is your favorite movie? My Sisters Keeper

Tell us about a strength of yours. I

don't let things get to me as easily as others do.

If you were an animal what kind would you be? A Cheetah because it is my favorite animal.

If you could be a superhero, what would your superpowers be? I would be able to fly. That would be sweet!

If you won 20 million in a lottery, what would you do with the money? Help the people in need or put all my money towards researching the cure for cancer. Thanks Stevi. Good Luck!



**Hi, Maddy Ohler!  
Congratulations to you!**

Were you surprised when you heard your name? Thank you. Yes!

Who is your escort?  
Alex Farris

Did you find your dress and can you tell us about it? No, not yet.

How would you describe yourself in three words?  
Trustworthy, helpful and caring.

How would your good friend describe you?  
Super nice, friendly and pretty-Morgan Dunn

What do you expect to be doing in five-ten years from now?  
Attending college in five and hopefully being an author in ten.

What will you remember most about going to West? The amazing friends I made!

What is the most hilarious thing you remember? Allie Malia coming over in kindergarten and us sitting on my floor crying the whole time for no reason!

Do you have any hobbies? Yes , Writing



sports? No

What was the last movie you went to see? Charlie St. Cloud

What is your favorite movie, song? A Walk To Remember

Tell us about a strength of yours. I don't let what people say get to me.

If you were an animal, what kind would you be? A dolphin because they are nice.

If you could trade places with anyone famous, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be? Taylor Swift

If you could be a superhero, what would you want your superpowers to be? I would be able to read minds.

Hollywood is making a movie about your life. Whom would you like to see play the part as you? Sandra Bullock

If you won \$20 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money? Pay for my

college, give money to my friends and family.

Thanks for taking time to talk to us Maddy.



Good Luck!



### **Congratulations, Bella Sigado!**

Were you surprised when you heard your name announced for the court?

I was SO surprised. I did not expect it at all.

Who is going to be your escort?

Tristan Kozel.

If you have found a dress can you describe it for us?

It is short and pale pink.

Using three words how would you describe yourself?

Nice, smart, and friendly.

How would your good friends describe you?

I don't know. Ask one.

What do you expect to be doing in five years?

In college either at Edinboro or in a city.

How about it ten years?

Living in a city maybe, Boston, hopefully England working in a school or the stock market.

What most will you remember about going to Jr. Hi West?

All of the amazing friends I have made.

What is the most hilarious thing you remember?

Honestly, too many to list.

What are your hobbies?

Sports and reading.

What sports do you play?

Softball and volleyball.

What is the last movie you saw?



Charlie St. Cloud.  
Shows you how often i  
get to the movies.

What is your favorite  
movie song?

My favorite song is  
Chances by Athletes.

Tell me about a  
strength of yours.

I am pretty good at  
making friends.

If you were an animal  
which one would it be?

Human. I can't think of  
anything better to be.

If you could trade  
places with any other  
person for a week,  
famous or not famous,  
living or dead, real or  
fictional, with whom  
would it be?

The fictional character  
of Doctor Who.

If you could be any  
character in fiction,  
whom would it be?  
Dr. Who.

If you could be a  
superhero, what would  
your powers be?

I'd want to be able to  
fly and read minds.

Hollywood made a  
movie of your life,  
whom would you like

to see play the lead  
role as you?

Anne Hathaway.

If you won \$20 million  
in the lottery what  
would you do with the  
money?

Go to France, then use  
some money to pay  
for boarding school.  
The rest I would put  
away for later.

Is there anything else  
you would like to add?

Thank you to everyone  
who voted for me. I  
really appreciate it and  
it meant a lot. Love all  
you guys! And good  
luck to all the girls in  
the court.

Thanks, Bella, for  
taking the time to let  
us get to know you  
better. Good Luck!



**Taylor Bickel**  
*Congratulations Taylor!*  
*Were you surprised when*

*you heard your name?*

*Yes I was. Who is your  
escort? My escort is  
Chris Russell.*

*Did you find your dress  
and can you tell us about*

*it? No, not yet. How  
would your good friend  
describe you? My friend,  
Peyton Pritts told me that*

*I am nice, loving and a  
great friend. What do you*

*expect to be doing in five  
years? Attending*

*college. What do you  
expect to be doing in ten*

*years? I want to go to  
medical school! What will*

*you remember most about  
going to Jr. High West? I*

*will remember my friends  
and the teachers. Do you*

*play any sports? Yes I  
do. I dance, swim and*

*run track.*

*What was the last movie  
you went to see? Little*

*Fockers. What is your  
favorite movie and song?*

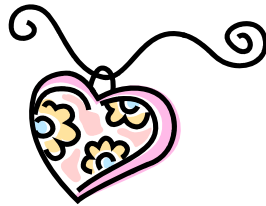


*Finding Nemo is my favorite movie and my song is Speak Now by Taylor Swift.*

*Can you tell us about a strength of yours? I can catch on to things quickly. If you were an animal what kind would it be and why? I would be a monkey cause they are fun, playful and my favorite animal. If you could be a superhero, what would you want your superpowers to be? Invisibility, ability to fly and mind reading.*

*Hollywood made a movie about your life, whom would you like to see play the lead role as you? I think Dakota Fanning! If you won 20 million dollars in the lottery, what would you do with the money? I would pay for college, buy a nice house, then give it to*

*other places that need it for charity. Thanks Taylor, it was fun chatting with you! Good Luck!*



## **Valentine's Day**

### **What is Valentine's Day?**




**Every February 14, across the United States and in other places around the world, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. Who is this mysterious saint, and where did these**

**traditions come from? One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men — his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.**

*Be My Valentine*



**Did You Know?**  In addition to the U.S., Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France, Australia, Denmark, Italy and Japan.

Approximately 141 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine's Day the second most popular card-sending holiday after Christmas.

According to one legend, Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself. While in prison, it is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl — who may have been his jailer's daughter — who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed "From your

Valentine," an expression that is still in use today.

Approximately 85 percent of all valentines are purchased by women.



Some literature portrayed Cupid as callous and careless, he was generally viewed as beneficent, on account of the happiness he imparted to couples both mortal and immortal. At the worst he was considered mischievous in his matchmaking, this mischief often directed by his

*The Taj Mahal was built by heartbroken Indian emperor Shah Jahan as a memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, who died giving birth to their 14th child.*

**Gang warfare ruled the streets of Chicago during the late 1920s, as chief gangster Al Capone sought to consolidate**

**control by eliminating his rivals in the illegal trades of bootlegging, gambling and prostitution. This rash of gang violence reached its bloody climax in a garage on the city's North Side on February 14, 1929, when seven men associated with the Irish gangster George "Bugs" Moran, one of Capone's longtime enemies, were shot to death by several men dressed as policemen. The St. Valentine's Day Massacre, as it was known, was never officially linked to Capone, but he was generally considered to have been responsible for the murders.**



**Famous Love Quotes**





The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.

-Helen Keller

Love does not dominate; it cultivates.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.

- Lao Tzu

My bounty is as boundless as the sea,  
My love as deep; the more I give to thee,  
The more I have, for both are infinite.

- William Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet

How do I love thee?  
Let me count the ways.

- Elizabeth Barrett Browning



Presidents Day (or Presidents' Day), is the common name for the federal holiday officially designated as Washington's Birthday. As the first federal holiday to honor an American citizen, the holiday was celebrated on Washington's actual birthday in 1796 (the last full year of his presidency) on February 22.

While the holiday is still officially known as Washington's Birthday, it has become popularly known as "President's Day", honoring both

Washington and Lincoln, as well as all the other men who have served as president.



**George Washington**



born on February 22, 1732. When he was born, America was not a nation yet. It belonged to England, a country across the ocean. People in America didn't want to belong to England so they fought a war to become a separate country. George Washington was an American general in the war. America won the war and picked a new name for itself: The United States of America. George Washington was elected to be its first President.



A legend is told about George Washington as a boy. Young George had a new hatchet and with it he cut down a small cherry tree. When his father saw the tree, he was angry. "George," he said. "Did you do that?" George was afraid to admit that he did.

Nevertheless, the boy decided to tell the truth. "Yes, Father," he said, "I cut down the cherry tree with my hatchet. I cannot tell a lie." George Washington's father was proud of George for telling the truth.

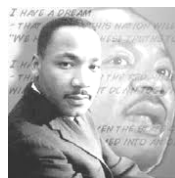


Abraham Lincoln was born on February 12 in 1809. Things were different then. When Abe was a boy, he lived in a log cabin. A log cabin is a small house made out of logs cut from trees. His father cut down the trees and made the cabin.

There were no electric lights in the cabin. Young Abe read books by firelight and drew with charcoal on a shovel. Abe's family was poor. Often he went barefoot because he didn't have any shoes.

When Abraham Lincoln grew up, he studied hard and became a lawyer. Then he was elected to be a law-maker. In 1861, Abraham Lincoln became the 16th President of the United States.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day



January 17, 2011 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a great man who worked for racial equality and civil rights in the United States of America. He was born on January

15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. Martin had a brother, Alfred, and a sister, Christine. Both his father and grandfather were ministers. His mother was a schoolteacher who taught him how to read before he went to school.

Young Martin was an excellent student in school; he skipped grades in both elementary school and high school. He enjoyed reading books, singing, riding a bicycle, and playing football and baseball. Martin entered Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, when he was only 15 years old. Martin experienced racism early in life. He decided to do something to make the world a better and fairer place. After graduating from college and getting married, Dr. King became a minister and moved to Alabama.



During the 1950's, Dr. King became active in the movement for civil rights and racial equality. He participated in the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott and many other peaceful demonstrations that protested the unfair treatment of African-Americans. He won the Nobel Peace Prize



in 1964. Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. Commemorating the life of a tremendously important leader, we celebrate Martin Luther King Day each year in January, the month in which he was born. August 28, the anniversary of Dr. King's 1963 I Have a Dream speech, is called "Dream Day."

*Be My Valentine*

### Valentine Jokes and



### Riddles

What did the stamp say to the envelope?  
Stick with me and we will go places! Ha HA

If your Aunt ran off to get married, what would you call her?  
Antelope!

What is the difference between a girl who is sick of her boyfriend and a sailor who falls into the ocean? One is bored over a man and one is man overboard!



### Unique Winter Activities To Beat Winter Blues



Gloomy, snowy winter days call for some

creativity. You know all about the winter-fun basics such as sledding, skiing, and snowball fights, but here are three new, unique ideas to help antsy ones conquer cabin fever and stir up some wintry cheer.

#### 1 .Have A Cookie



Try hosting your own cookie baking competition! Put together two or three teams of family members and/or neighborhood . 2.Be a Snow Artist Try snow painting! Fill squirt bottles or spray bottles from a craft store with water and food coloring then go outside to add some color to the white landscape.



2. Make REAL Hot Chocolate! Forget powder from a packet! Homemade hot chocolate is a



kid crowd-pleaser and much easier to make than you may think! All you need is milk, semi-sweet chocolate (regular candy bars will not work), sugar, cinnamon, and one egg



3. **Build A Bird Feeder**  
Building a bird feeder is not only fun, but also teaches you a little bit about nature. Research what species of birds stay in your area for the winter and how others migrate and what that means while you create your bird feeder. This research will also help you decide what kind of feeder to make. Making one is easy!

**Snow Sports Crossword**

**Across**

2. takes you to the top of the slope
4. mountain covered in snow
6. between you and the slopes (long & thin)
8. surf the slopes
9. keep your head warm
10. how deep the snow is
11. keep fingers cozy

**Down**

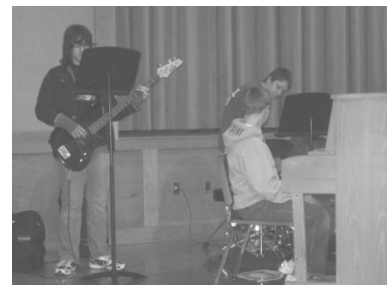
1. when to ski
3. used to push
4. you'll need these to reduce the glare
5. on your feet
7. wear to stay warm

**Top Ten Recommended Books for Teens**

1. **Catching Fire** by Suzanne Collins
2. **City of Glass** by Cassandra Clare
3. **Heist Society** by Ally Carter
4. **Shiver** by Maggie Stiefvater
5. **Hush, Hush** by Becca Fitzpatrick
6. **Beautiful Creatures** by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl
7. **Along for the Ride** by Sarah Dessen
8. **If I Stay** by Gayle Forman
9. **Fire** by Kristin Cashore
10. **Wintergirls** by Laurie R. King



**Wrestling Champs!**



**AS A REMINDER, AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAYS,**



WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS. PLEASE SIGN UP BEFORE 8<sup>TH</sup> PERIOD. STUDENTS WHO ATTEND TUTORING AUTOMATICALLY ENTER THEMSELVES INTO A DRAWING FOR PRIZES.

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PHYSICAL FORMS FOR THE FOLLOWING SPRING SPORTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE: 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK, 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS WHO WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN BASEBALL, SOFTBALL, BOYS TENNIS AND BOYS & GIRLS TRACK AT THE HIGH SCHOOL. COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7. PHYSICALS WILL BE ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14 AND NO STUDENT CAN RECEIVE A PHYSICAL UNLESS COMPLETED FORMS HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO THE OFFICE BEFORE THE DAY OF PHYSICALS

