

2015

Tribute Tea



Original Essays

By Mr. Decker's Sixth Grade
Pleasant Middle School Students

Period 2

Original writings from the following students in Mr. Decker's 2nd period Language Arts class are included:

Bibler, Jonah
Bower, Camden
Chase, Ella
DeWet, Nicky
Figueroa, Mateo
Gagni, Carson
Gosnell, Peydon
Henry, Alex
Johnson, Maya
McCurdy, Grace
Owings, Jonah
Riebel, Briana
Shah, Minoy
Smith, Ellie
Steed, Spencer
Tipsword, Addyson
Winsor, Aiden

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Diane Kavanal Interview
By Jonah Bibler

Kids today have it made, but years ago, not so much. Back then diseases were harder to fight and they had fewer medicines to kill bad germs. They had ugly clothes, like sundresses and overalls. Even though they had ugly clothes, they were lucky, because they had more freedom to go places, like to the bowling alley with a group of friends. There were less crimes and evildoers. Communication was much different, because today we can talk to someone in three seconds when they are miles away with a mobile phone, iPod, or iPad. We can call, facetime, or text, but kids back then had house phones that were attached to a wire.

I interviewed my grandma, Diane Kavanal. She told me many stories and I would like to share them with you. In her family of nine, there were many rules, but one of the most important ones was no cutting one inside the house. If one of her brothers would fart in the house, they would be kicked outside until they learned their lesson. Also they had one bathroom in a family of nine, so taking a shower was always a pain. Outside of all the rules, my grandma had lots of fun growing up. She lived by a corner store and the man running it would let her and her sisters' skate around the aisles while her parents shopped. She also used to love riding her bike when she was a kid. She said she could ride it with no hands. She still enjoys riding her bike today but for some reason she says it's not the same. She said she was always outside. Her friends, her brothers, and sisters would always play baseball, football, kickball, red rover, tag, and many other fun games in the field by their house.

My grandma will never forget the time where she disobeyed her parents and almost got caught when she was about 12 years old. She was never allowed to go to someone else's house without asking. She also could never listen to Jonny Rodgers records for some reason, but somewhere along the lines she ended up wanting to listen to Jonny's records. Her sister Kay said, "We should go over to the neighbor's house and listen to the records." So they asked the neighbor girl and she said sure, so they snuck into her house and started listening to the records. For some reason, they forgot the dances and they both started to wonder if their

Diane Kavanal Interview
By Jonah Bibler

parents were looking for them, and if they were, how much trouble would they be in. So they ran home and didn't get caught.

My grandmother will never forget when she was in school November 22, 1963. She was listening to the teacher talk and all of a sudden, the teacher started to look shocked, and then cried. The class was released early and she walked home from school wondering what was going on. When she got home, her parents were glad all of their seven children were home. My grandma was still wondering what was going on. Finally, her mom told her and turned on the 4th channel on the T.V. The only thing that was on was the news of the devastating assassination of the country's leader, John F. Kennedy. When she knew what happened she didn't cry or pout, she just sat there suppressed and didn't say a word. She thought about why someone would want to hurt someone who put a man on the moon. The country was sad and angry. JFK was in Dallas, Texas in a Presidential motorcade when Lee Harvey Oswald shot him.

Kids today have many problems, but so didn't the kids years ago. When we compare kids today from back then, kids today may have more opportunities, but when it comes down to it, we all love pizza, ice cream, cookies, and candy. Also, most kids don't love homework and dislike schoolwork, but over all, we still like having fun. That's how kids are the same from back then and today.

Sharon Beeney Interview
By Camden Bower

Kids today may have problems, but years ago kids had bigger problems. Today kids go to different classrooms and grades are separated by grade levels, but back then, all grades were in one room and they didn't switch classes. Now kids can research information on computers, where years ago they could only look through books for information. Communication could be done through phones a long time ago, but not as fast as today. You had to send a letter or walk to someone's house to talk. Now kids watch movies, play videogames, or listen to music on an iPod. Back then, they played games, read books, or listened to the radio. Today kids have medicines, but long ago, there were fewer medicines to help kids. Kids today may think, "I live in the worst time in history," but what kids had to deal with years ago is far worse than what they have to deal with today.

I interviewed my grandmother, Sharon Beeney. Her name is Sharon Postell Beeney. She was born in 1944. Her children are Stephanie [Aunt], Bryan [Uncle], Trevor [Uncle], and Erika [Mom]. She attended a school that had all subjects and grade levels in one room. They played games like Monopoly and hide-and-seek. For entertainment, they could go outside, play board games, listen to music on the radio, watch the television, play freeze tag, or go to the movie theater to see a movie that shows for one week. My grandma did watch the television. She watched Laurence Welk, the news channel, and Looney Toons cartoons. The difference between their television and ours is they only had three channels that they could watch and now we have thousands of different channels.

My grandma will never forget the time she was shocked while bathing. When she was three, her mom had her bigger sister bathe her. Of course she didn't like that, so her sister had her stand in their sink so that she could be bathed. To be safe, grandma held onto the light chains to stand. Unknown to them, they forgot that they had the lights on, that my grandma was holding

Sharon Beeney Interview
By Camden Bower

at that same moment. That resulted in my grandma being shocked. Now, because of that day, she hates to go swimming and she hates water.

On November 22, 1963, my Grandma had been married for a little over a year. On that day, she was watching a soap opera when they stopped her program to bring terrible news. In Texas, President Kennedy had been fatally shot in the head. Later that day, they reported the news that Lee Harvey Oswald was the shooter and he had been caught and killed before he could even stand trial. After hearing the news, grandma was no longer disappointed that her program was cancelled.

Kids today may have problems, but kids didn't really years ago. It all comes down to when we compare kids from years ago and today, they're really the same. Today kids have more technological advantages, but they're all kids. They play games, get into trouble, sneak around and eat cookies, pizza, and drink juices and pop, trick siblings and other people. Kids today and back then are really alike and different in many ways.

Diane Chase Interview
By Ella Chase

Kids today have it made, but way back when, kids didn't have nearly as many bells and whistles as we have today. My classmates and I are lucky to have all that we have. Kids used to not have computers or cellphones, in fact, there just wasn't the same entertainment at all. There was not the same music. Kids back then could play outside forever. Kids back then could get a whooping for what they did bad, where today, some kids just say the word, "sorry," and their parents let it slide. Kids today may have problems but those problems aren't nearly as bad as what kids had years ago.

The individual I interviewed was my grandma, Diane Chase, or Bitzy, as she is often called. We call her "Grandma Bitzy" because her dog is named Bitzy and when we were younger it was hard to pronounce Chase. She was the only kid in her family. She married my grandpa, Glen Chase. My grandma Bitzy had two children, twin boys, one of them being my dad! When Grandma Bitzy was a little girl, there were only seven kids in her whole class! Schools were very different from today. Schools back then were so strict and all the kids had more respect for the teachers and the students. All the girls had to wear long skirts down to their knees and if you did not, you would get sent home for the day. Back then the entertainment was not the same in school either. Their teachers more strict, and so were the parents.

Grandma Bitzy will never forget the time that she went to her neighbor's house when my grandma and her neighbor were the same age. They were playing doctor and my grandma was the doctor and there were these straight pins. My grandma told him to take them for medicine. The little boy took the straight pins and swallowed them! When my grandma figured out that he had to go to the emergency room, she felt really bad. She didn't really think he was going to swallow them. My grandma's whole block hated her for weeks and it was hard for her to even go outside.

Diane Chase Interview
By Ella Chase

Grandma Bitzy still remembers when John Fitzgerald Kennedy was assassinated. My grandma was a senior in high school and she was in seventh period study hall. Everyone started crying because John Fitzgerald Kennedy was such a good president and was leading the country in the right direction. Almost everyone loved John Fitzgerald Kennedy. President Kennedy was shot in the head by Lee Harvey Oswald. It was caught on television because he was riding in a car. JFK had a brother that gave many speeches after his brother's death. Grandma Bitzy remembered that my grandpa was in the service. Grandma was scared and all the teachers were crying.

Kids today should be very thankful for what they have because kids back then didn't have it too easy. We are very lucky to have all the technology, food, medicine, and money we have today. Kids back then barely ever got to watch colored T.V., and if they did, they were very lucky. Back then, many things happened like the Great Depression, the JFK assassination, Vietnam War, Cuban Missile Crisis, and even 9/11. Kids today have way more than they need (states my mom and a few others), and now that I think about it, it probably is true. I obviously typed this on a computer and back then kids rarely even got to "play" with their typewriters. Back then, kids would be lucky to go to McDonald's and only get a ketchup packet, this proves that kids today have it made and should be thankful for even the little things in life.

Lenie Pretorius Interview
By Nicky DeWet

Kids today may have problems, but years ago things weren't so easy. Now kids have iPads, iPods, phones, game systems, and all sorts of gadgets. Though back during the Great Depression, kids didn't have access to any of that. Now if you're hungry in the morning, it's as simple as just going to a cabinet and pulling out a box of cereal and pouring it into a bowl with milk that you just got from the fridge. Years ago, it wasn't that easy. Today, we buy cereal at the store, but back then, kids used to have to make their own cereal. When you grab your bowl every morning it's probably nice and clean. To get it clean you probably just had to put the bowl in the washing machine. Well years ago, you had to clean it and not with a machine, but with your hands and a cloth.

I interviewed Lenie Pretorius, but I always call her grandma. When she was young, she had two brothers, a mother, and a father. When she was older, she and my grandpa had two kids, one being my mom. The school my grandma went to was a farm school where they had to wear clothes that looked like the Amish. They wore huge white hats that had a curve to block the sun. The kids were all nice and the teacher was nice too, but when my grandma got in the fourth grade, the government closed all of the farm schools. My grandma had to move to the city schools where the teacher tutored my grandma. There she got after school activities and extra class. The biggest change for my grandma was changing classes, because at the farm school, there was just one teacher. At the new school, there was a teacher per room. My grandma didn't have T.V. or anything like that, so for fun, my grandma would listen to Elvis on the radio, play with her brothers, or play with her brother's meerkat.

My grandma will never forget the time she accidentally killed her brother's pet meerkat. Her mom just got back from the grocery store. The meerkat was playing in the net-like bag that oranges came in. My grandma's mom went away to finish unpacking the groceries. My grandma

Lenie Pretorius Interview
By Nicky DeWet

started to swing the orange bag around with the meerkat inside like what dads do sometimes with their children. The meerkat was happy, and was making the sound it makes when it's happy. My grandma accidentally got too close to the wall, and in her dizziness, hit the meerkat against the wall. Sadly, that killed the meerkat. My grandma still feels responsible, even though it was an accident, and always wishes that it had never happened.

When my grandma was young, she lived through an event she doesn't want to remember. His name was H.F. Verwoerd, and was one of the good presidents South Africa needed. He was nice and safe, for an African at least. One day when he was walking into the kitchen, he was stabbed multiple times with a knife. The man who killed him was called Dimitri, and he was arrested for killing H.F. Verwoerd. H.F. Verwoerd was killed, and the man who stabbed him went to max jail for life. In his cell, there was only one light that was on the whole time, and he only got three meals - breakfast, lunch, and dinner. No one really knows what happened to him, but the guards that feed him by putting the tray through a gap in the door. Some people think that he went crazy. My grandma never heard what happened to him after that, but she always remembered it, even when she doesn't want to.

Kids today don't have many problems, but neither did kids years ago. Sure, today there is less danger of diseases, terrorists, etc., however, a long time ago it wasn't so different for kids. Kids today and kids long ago aren't so different. All kids like to have fun, play tricks, sneak around, and get in trouble. The only difference between now and then, is that now, life is just a little easier, but that doesn't mean that an easy life is the fun life.

Maria Arcelia Figueroa Interview
By Mateo Figueroa

Kids today have many problems, but years ago many kids had the same problems. Some had the ability to go to school and others didn't. If they wanted to play with another kid, they couldn't just pick up the phone and call them, they had to get off the couch and walk to their friend's house and ask if they could play. Some kids may have it easy and some may have it hard today, but there still aren't as many problems as back in the old days.

I interviewed my grandma, Maria Arcelia Figueroa. She was born in Carpentaria, California in the 1940's. My relationship with my grandma is very strong. Her mother, Easter, had three kids, including one girl, my grandma. Grandma married Nacho Figueroa in her late twenties. Some time later she gave birth to Geodo Figueroa, my uncle, and Sam Figueroa, my father. Then my father had my big brother Jiame Figueroa and me. Grandma's life as a child was a little different from ours today. She was able to play day to night. Unlike most of us today, she didn't have a phone in the house until she turned eighteen! It was different from today because today, kids aren't playing with each other, but instead they're playing on game systems or on their phone. School was different back then, because the cooks actually cooked the food other than placing an order on processed food. Back then, the teachers were a lot more swell. There also was fun activities after school for a special occasion, like dunk the teachers and t-ball. The school also had no dress code because they knew how to dress casually with button up shirts and longer skirts. It is different from today because of a lot of the dress codes and people have a lot less work to take to home for homework. The games that she used to play for entertainment were jump rope, hopscotch, baseball, rode bikes, and hide and seek. When my grandma was growing up, she never listened to music as a child. She did watch T.V. like *Bonanza* and *Gun Smoke*, which were a western cowboy shows with her two brothers. She would also watch *I Love Lucy*, *The Reed Show*, *Bachelor Father*, and your average Saturday cartoons. The one she used to

Maria Arcelia Figueroa Interview
By Mateo Figueroa

watch with her mother was *Queen for a Day* and *Beauty Pageant*. As a child, she would eat beans and potatoes for Monday-Thursday and Saturday. On Friday, for dinner, they would have deep fried chicken, which was so good they were “tempted to lick the grease of our fingers.” On Sunday, she would eat all kinds of meat. Her favorite food was watermelon with lime because she loved the sour of the lime. She didn’t have a restaurant where she lived.

The childhood event she’ll never forget was when she found out the true story about Santa. It happened when she was at my Great Tia’s house. Grandma told her, “Tia, lets write to Santa.” Then my Great Tia chuckled and told her who Santa really was. After my grandma heard this, she had feelings of confusion because all the parents in the world were saying Santa was real. From that point on, my grandma knew who Santa really was. She didn’t know why she never figured it out, because she remembered one time they went to the store to buy a drum set for her brother, and on Christmas day that same exact drum set was there but, it said from Santa.

The historical event that my grandma remembers is when JFK was assassinated. She was in English class when the loudspeaker came on with the principal’s voice saying these exact words, “ Our president has been shot.” The scandalous scene was on November 23,1963 in Dallas, Texas. President Kennedy was assassinated at 12:36pm by Lee Harvey Oswald. It affected her life because of the amazing things he did. President Kennedy prevented the Cuban missile crisis and he was responsible for the first astronauts going to the moon.

Kids today have many problems, but years ago things weren’t all that different. Some kids today play with friends or families, but back then, kids played together all the time. Some kids years ago had little problems, but kids today have more ways to get in trouble. Kids today have ways to bully people like cyber bullying on the computer. Today, kids spread rumors about someone, but back then the only way you could bully someone was to be at school where teachers were.

Anne Hawthorne Interview
By Carson Gagni

Kids today have it made, but many years ago that wasn't the case. Years ago, people didn't have TV or cell phones. Now everyone can go to the movies, go shopping, or places to eat. Back then you had to purchase a record player and buy the songs you wanted, and now you can get any song you want on almost any type of phone. Back then they played "kick the can" and now we play sports like football. One of the biggest changes is transportation. Back then they had big slow cars that probably went 20 miles per hour and that was the fastest they could go! Now we have much smaller cars that can go about 180 miles per hour. There is a big difference between 20 and 180. They had a very limited amount of colors to pick from for clothes. Now we have many neon colored clothes and bright reds, whites, and blacks and many more. These are some big differences between then and now.

I interviewed Anne Hawthorne, my great-grandma. She was born on November 5, 1937. She had two brothers, Michael and Bruce. Her mother's name was Margery and her father's name was Bruce, like her brother. She also had five children - David, Kathy, Krista, Kelli, and Lisa. Her daughter Lisa passed away in 1982. My grandma was born in Alaska and at the time, Alaska wasn't part of the United States. She went to school in Alaska until college. Later, she attended Washington State University. She was also married in Washington to Richard Hawthorne, later they broke up. In 1968 they moved into Ohio. She played baseball and basketball. She would listen to classical music on the radio. When she was a child in the summer, her family would go camping. In the winter, they would go skating and skiing.

Anne Hawthorne Interview
By Carson Gagni

President Franklin Roosevelt was the topic Anne chose as the historical event she would never forget. Roosevelt died when Anne was in elementary school, she was also in school when she heard about it. Her school was in Anchorage, Alaska. They closed the school for the day and every teacher and the principal was crying. He died April 12, 1945 in Warm Springs, Georgia. He was 6'2 when he died. Roosevelt was paralyzed because of Polio. Roosevelt was the only president to serve three terms.

Kids today think they have many problems, but long ago they didn't have technology to make life easier. They didn't have iPads, computers, T.V.'s, or even cell phones. They only had wooden pencils. At recess they played "kick the can" and "Red rover" and not football and kickball. Back then, almost all of the schools had uniforms. They were basic colors reds and blues and whites and blacks and other colors. These are the many differences between now and then.

Paul David Riley Interview
By Peydon Gosnell

Kids today have it made, but years ago they had a lot more problems. Today, kids have it made because they have phones, technology, computers, and iPods. Back then they didn't have phones and technology like we do today. We play a lot of different games that they did back then. They actually had to go outside and play games, unlike now, where we can just turn on the Xbox. Back then they only had a phone that was on the wall, but now we have cell phones where we can just carry it around. School was easy back then, according to my grandpa. He said it was easier because they didn't have to take any state tests or anything like that. Back then, they used chalkboards and typewriters. We have a lot more advantages than what they had back then. Today we have phones and technology to play on and to talk to friends. Back then they had to walk or get a ride to their friends' house. One thing that they could do that we can't, is they can pretty much walk around wherever they wanted to because they didn't have to worry about kidnapping or anything like that.

I interviewed my grandpa, Paul David Riley. He was born June 15, 1957. He is my mom's dad. He has two brothers and two sisters. He also has three children, all girls. He said that they had math and writing and reading just like us in school. At school they could play football, basketball, or even "kick the can" at recess. After school he played football and a lot more games. On the weekends, he went outside and played. He could walk to his friends' house and then they could play outside. The kind of music he listened to was rock and roll, including music by the Beatles and other songs. He was always happy when it was Saturday, because there was cartoons in the morning. That was the only time he could watch cartoons. They only had four channels, not like we have now. If you did not like the sports teams that were in your state, then you were not going to be able to watch them unless they were playing the teams in your

Paul David Riley Interview
By Peydon Gosnell

state. His favorite food was homemade mashed potatoes. His favorite restaurants were “hole in the wall” restaurants that served his favorite foods.

My grandpa will never forget the time he got pushed out of the car by his sister. He was putting his finger in his sister’s face and saying, “I am not touching you.” It was not a law back then that you had to have your seatbelt on. He was five years old. They were pulling out of the driveway and she opened the door and pushed him out. That is the story that my grandpa will never forget.

My grandpa will never forget the Vietnam War. When my grandpa was in high school he remembers his friends, that were seniors, getting drafted after they got out of high school. Some of his friends never came back from the war. My grandpa had a brother that was in the war. His brother got shot. After my grandpa graduated from school, he went into the army. The Vietnam War started in 1954. More than 3 million people died in the Vietnam War. In 1973 the United States and Vietnam made a peace agreement. That is an event my grandpa will never forget.

My grandpa went into the army when he got out of high school. He is a veteran and he got the Purple Star. Those are some facts about my grandpa Paul David Riley.

Deb Cooper Interview
By Alex Henry

Kids today have it made, but years ago kids had problems. Kids couldn't go out to the movies or watch TV. The games they played were a lot different from the games we play now, like hide and go seek, kick the can, tag, and cards. Their schools were a lot different; they didn't have Chromebooks or iPads. They did a lot of their work on blackboards and notebook paper.

The person I interviewed was my grandma, Deb. She was born in 1947. She was one of three kids in her family. Her mom and dad were Vernan and Rose White. She married my Grandpa Jack, but sadly they got divorced. Then she married my Grandpa Cooper. She went to an elementary school somewhere in Toledo. Schools were a lot different than they are today. They didn't use computers or whiteboards. They mainly did most of their schoolwork on notebook paper and chalkboards. Her school was a lot bigger than ours. They had at least 30 kids in each classroom. She took all the same classes as us, except art and physical education. They played a lot more games outside. She played a lot more games like tag and hide and go seek. They play with as many toys as we do today. They played a lot more ball games and running games. Girls wore a lot longer skirts than they do today. Girls didn't wear pants to school. They wore dresses and skirts. She liked to eat meat, potatoes, fruits, and veggies. Eating out was very special, and when they did eat out, they mainly ate at all you can eat buffets. Families ate together. They ate a lot of chicken and hamburgers. She went to drive-in movies and picnics. She liked Disney movies like *Lady and the Tramp* and *Snow White*. She also went to a lot of cinemas, which are movies with three screens.

One of the stories she will never forget was when she was dissecting a fetal pig in Mr. Mill's sophomore Physiology class. She was trying to get the pallet out of the top of its mouth. Mr. Mills always said, "Never cut towards yourself, always cut away from yourself." But she cut towards herself and she slit the side of her finger. So her partner (Gary) said "There's blood in

Deb Cooper Interview
By Alex Henry

our pig.” So she said “Shoosh it’s my blood” and he said, “That’s even worse” so Mr. Mills came over and said she needed to go to the nurse. So she went to the nurse. The nurse said she had to go to the hospital and get stitches. She went to the hospital and got five stitches because she slit the side of her finger open.

A historical event that Grandma remembers was the Vietnam War. She was right in between WWII and Korea didn’t bother anybody. She was in college in the late 60’s. She and her friends were worried that their brothers would get drafted into the army. They still had fun going to college football games, canoeing, and going to the Lake Erie islands. She told me that my great-grandpa was drafted into the army, but he failed his physical exam because he had completely flat feet.

Kids today have problems, but if we compare our problems to their problems, ours are nothing. Years ago, kids had bigger problems. A lot more things were different then than they are today. Like food and games. We have it made today, we can go to the movies and go out to eat with our friends, but kids back then didn’t have it as good as us.

Rosemary Davis Interview
By Maya Johnson

Kids today have it made, but years ago there were a few more hurdles to jump. If you wanted to go see a movie as a kid without a parent, you had to walk or sometimes ride a bus. Also today we have iPods, iPads, T.V.'s, etc. Then there was about one, maybe two telephones per house. Kids today may have problems, and might think they have nothing, but realize that some people a while ago may have a lot less than you.

The individual I interviewed was my grandma, Rosemary Davis. Her maiden name was Jolley. My grandma's birth date is 11-30-52 and she is 62, almost 63. My grandma has two siblings, one sister, Brenda Jolly, and one brother, Wayne Jolley. Sadly both of her parents are now deceased. My grandma has two children, Sarah Johnson, my mom, and Kimberly Blackwell, my aunt. School, when my grandma was young, went 1st through 6th. Everyone walked to school because there were no buses. If you were bad, the teacher smacked you with a wooden ruler. Once a girl was counting the freckles on my great-aunt Brenda's hand and got smacked with a ruler. There were no after school activities, and no girl sports. My grandma said every Saturday that she and her family would have hamburgers and baked beans. Afterward, would go across the street for pop. At her house, they had a black-and-white TV and a party line. They played outside all of the time and you could see the fireworks on the 4th of July from her house. They had no electronic games. The games they played were kickball, red rover, and Monopoly. To go to the movies, they had to walk or ride a bus. Once her brother put a locust shell in her pants and scared her. She and her sister used a weegie board a lot. They couldn't wear pants only long skirts. There weren't many restaurants, but every once in a while they got to go to McDonald's. The only time they went out to eat was on vacation. For entertainment my grandma went skating at a roller rink or listened to the Beatles.

Rosemary Davis Interview
By Maya Johnson

The times my grandma will never forget happened when her best friends (which were boys) knew she liked to bake with cherries. So once one of them stole some from someone's cherry bush and gave them to her. The same guy that stole the cherries was waiting for her and her best friend, Bruce, to come out of the dance to see if he was going to kiss her.

The historical event my grandma chose to tell me about was 9-11. My grandma, mom, and great-aunt were in North Carolina, on a ferry tour. My mom asked if it was normal for an army man to be standing on a Coast Guard building with an automatic rifle. On September 11, 2001, at 8:45 a.m. on a clear Tuesday morning, an American Airlines Boeing 767 loaded with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. The impact left a gaping, burning hole near the 80th floor of the 110-story skyscraper, instantly killing hundreds of people and trapping hundreds more in higher floors. As the evacuation of the tower and its twin got underway, television cameras broadcasted live images of what initially appeared to be a freak accident. Then, 18 minutes after the first plane hit, a second Boeing 767—United Airlines Flight 175—appeared out of the sky, turned sharply toward the World Trade Center and sliced into the south tower near the 60th floor. The collision caused a massive explosion that showered burning debris over surrounding buildings and the streets below. America was under attack. A sad fact: September 11, 2001, was the deadliest day in history for New York City firefighters: 343 were killed. The attackers were Islamic terrorists from Saudi Arabia and several other Arab nations. Reportedly financed by Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda terrorist organization, they were allegedly acting in retaliation for America's support of Israel, its involvement in the Persian Gulf War and its continued military presence in the Middle East. Some of the terrorists had lived in the United States for more than a year and had taken flying lessons at American commercial flight schools. Others had slipped into

Rosemary Davis Interview
By Maya Johnson

the country in the months before September 11 and acted as the “muscle” in the operation. The 19 terrorists easily smuggled box-cutters and knives through security at three East Coast airports and boarded four flights bound for California, chosen because the planes were loaded with fuel for the long transcontinental journey. Soon after takeoff, the terrorists commandeered the four planes and took the controls, transforming ordinary commuter jets into guided missiles.

As millions watched the events unfolding in New York, American Airlines Flight 77 circled over downtown Washington, D.C., and slammed into the west side of the Pentagon military headquarters at 9:45 a.m. Jet fuel from the Boeing 757 caused a devastating inferno that led to the structural collapse of a portion of the giant concrete building. All told, 125 military personnel and civilians were killed in the Pentagon, along with all 64 people aboard the airliner. (All facts about 9/11 from www.history.com.)

Kids today have it made, but in my opinion they had it made back then too. If I could be born back then, I would (even though my ideal time to be born would be 1984, because I always wanted to be a 90's kid). I think my grandma's childhood was pretty great. Maybe not all kids would think that, but then again, I am an old soul (Even my mom says so!). Kids today have it made, but so didn't my grandma!

Virginia Dunlap Interview
By Grace McCurdy

Kids today have it made, but years ago it was very different. Before 1960, the entertainment was different. The TV was not made. They didn't get to play on their phone, or get to listen to music when they wanted to. The education was a lot different. Most people back then did not go to college. They had different advantages living on a farm. The transportation was different, kids had to walk to school. The farming was different because now we have a lot of high tech stuff.

The individual I interviewed was my grandma, Virginia Dunlap, or Grandma Gina as I call her. She was born on January 29, 1945 in Marion, Ohio. She has three brothers, two older and one younger, and no sisters. She got married on March 1, 1968. She had three kids, two boys and one girl. She has seven grandchildren, four boys and three girls. When she was little, she had to walk to school and their hairstyles were different. The food was from scratch. She can remember when the first T.V. came out. The T.V.'s did not have a remote. The gas was only 35 cents. All 12 grades were in one building. The phones had six people on one line. The music was different. She liked to listen to rock and roll, country, and love songs on records. The movie she liked was *Sound of Music*. She liked to roller skate, ride bikes, and in the winter, she went sledding. She also liked to go swimming in Prospect. She was active in 4-H cooking. She liked to go to drive-in movies. She was also active in the church youth group.

The story my grandma will never forget is about her pet chicken. When she was 4 years old, she had a white layer hen. It would peck at the door. Her mom would go and open the door and the hen would walk to the cabinet. They would open the door and put a towel down in side. The chicken would go inside and lay her egg. Then she would peck at the door and her mom would open the door and she would walk to the door and go back outside. That is the story of my grandma's chicken.

Virginia Dunlap Interview
By Grace McCurdy

My grandma was working in Marion, Ohio when the church bell began to ring. Then she found out that President John .F. Kennedy was killed. He had been assassinated and it made her stop and think how precious life was. That was what my grandma will not forget. The "F." in John F. Kennedy means Fitzgerald. He was the 35th President of the United States. The shooting took place in Dallas, Texas. He was born on May 29, 1917 in Brookline, Massachusetts. John F. Kennedy's nickname is "Jack." He died on November 22, 1963 in Dallas, Texas.

Kids today may have problems, but kids back then had problems too. When we compare kids today and kids long ago, they all are kids. Kids today have more opportunities, technology, and some more advantages, but when it comes down to it, kids are kids. All kids like to play games, eat cooked meals, and play with their pet chicken. All kids don't like school and like to go outside.

Carol Owing Interview
By Jonah Owings

Kids today have many fun things to do and some can't imagine living back then with little to no technology. One game kids played back then (my personal favorite) is called 'kick the can.' Kids back then, like today, got sick, but unlike today, they didn't have all the medicines that we have today. Unfortunately, some kids may have died from just your common cold because they didn't have medicines that we do today. The kids of today have everything they need to survive and lots more to comfort them, like clothes, a warm house, a bed, and maybe even a pet. Back then, kids didn't always have all they needed to survive even a single winter. Some even died of starvation or illnesses. Back then cars weren't the main source of transportation. Instead, kids had bikes and their own two feet to go places like the park, school, a friend's house, and maybe even just the store. Our society has changed dramatically since the lives of the children and people of back then.

The person I interviewed was my grandma, Carol Owings. She is around 70, although I don't know the exact year she was born. She married my Grandpa Larry, but I don't know exactly when, and had my dad. When she went to school, there were no music classes. For fun, there were games she would play outside and inside as well. Available entertainment consisted of outside games like hide and seek, "kick the can," riding bikes, roller-skating, and football in the corner lot. Inside activities consisted of listening to the radio, watching T.V., or reading a book. The clothing they wore (girls specifically) was dresses or dresses with cotton leggings when it was cold, but no jeans or shorts. Food was usually made at home with homemade foods like mashed potatoes, but nothing from a box. Coca-Cola was a special treat. Her sisters worked at a restaurant called the Patio and they took her there for her birthday where she had a hamburger and a chocolate milkshake. Other entertainment was watching a movie or T.V.

Carol Owing Interview
By Jonah Owings

My grandma carol will never forget when she moved to New York. Her dad was transferred and worked for the railroad. Everything was already moved to the new house so all they had to do was get on the train and go, which was the most fun and exciting part. She wasn't happy to move because she had to leave all her friends and extended family behind. When they got all settled down, she had to go to school. She can still remember walking into that classroom in 6th grade. They stayed in one classroom with one teacher "Miss.Blessing." She felt all alone and terrified. When she was 16 years old, they moved back to Marion, Ohio.

My grandmother was in high school when John F. Kennedy was elected president and it was the first time she was interested in politics. She was for J.F.K. and her friend was a republican. When J.F.K. died, she was working in a law office. J.F.K was the 35th President of the United States and was born on May 29, 1917 in Brookline, Massachusetts. He was assassinated on November 22, 1963 in Dallas, Texas. He was in the Democratic Party.

Kids today and back then aren't that different. All kids like to have fun whether it's fun inside or outside the house and they like play games like hide 'n seek, tag (or "it" as they called it), and "kick the can." All kids like to eat good food like pizza, hamburgers, cookies, and drinks, like milkshakes. Some kids today and back then liked to be sneaky and scare people. They also got in trouble like today.

Sandra Brown Interview
By Briana Riebel

Kids today may have problems, but years ago they had a lot bigger problems. Today, kids have problems with their new technology. Years ago, you had problems with communicating with friends or family. You could not pick up a cell phone and call someone back then, instead, you had to wait until someone was off of the phone or you had to face to face talk with the person that you are trying to contact. Today we have a lot of advantages in life. Most people back then didn't get what we have today, so be thankful for what you have. Kids today may have problems, but they do not come close to what people back then had to deal with.

The individual I interviewed was my grandma, Sandra Brown. Sandy, as her family calls her, has four other siblings, three girls and two boys. Sadly her brother Jeff passed away in a car accident. Sandy has no children but considers her dogs her little babies. When Sandy was in school, it was very strict. You were never supposed to leave the classroom or the building and you had to wear dresses that went to middle thigh from kindergarten through seventh grade. When you got to high school, you had to wear even longer dresses or jeans that were thin at the top and flowery at the bottom. If you were bad, which Sandy was never bad, you would get paddled (spanked). When Sandy wanted to play a sport, there were barely any sports to play. When Sandy got home from school, she usually played outside with her siblings. She used to always play "kick the can." "Kick the can" was started by picking a person to be the counter. The counter would count down and try to tag you. If you didn't get tagged and you kicked the can, you would win! On Tuesdays, after school, they would load up their car and go to the drive-in movie theater. You could have as many people that fit into a car, and get in for only \$1. The music Sandra listened to was mostly 60's music. Sandra loved to sing her favorite songs in the shower and loved to sing in church.

Sandra Brown Interview
By Briana Riebel

A childhood memory Sandy will never forget is the time when she ripped her housecoat. It all started when she came home from college. She walked in the front door and greeted everyone and saw her brother Jeff sitting in the barn staring at something. So she asked her mom, "Hey, what's wrong with Jeff? He looks sad?" Her mom said, "Well, he was riding his new motorcycle yesterday and fell off." Sandra sighed and went upstairs to change her clothes. While she was changing into her award-winning housecoat she thought about giving her brother a pep talk. After she was done, she went out to the barn. "Don't look so sad, it is alright that you are scared to ride it, but you have to try". "I can't" Jeff said quietly, "I will just fall again and again." "Fine if you will not, I will!" Sandy said powerfully. Sandy attempted to start the engine but it would not start. It just sat there like a bump on a log. Sherm, the neighbor man, saw what was happening and yelled to Sandy and Jeff, "Need some help?" Of course Sandy said yes because they really needed some help. So when Sherm hobbled over with one pull he got the engine to start. Sandy said thanks and got on the motorcycle. As soon as she started to push, she zoomed off. First she was in her mom's flower garden and then she was heading for her mom's fence. At that point, she knew the brakes weren't working and that was why Jeff did not want to get on. She had two choices, to jump the fence or to squeeze under the fence. She chose to go under the fence. She only went halfway under the fence before she got stuck. By that time her housecoat was totally ripped off of her and it was shredded to pieces. Sandy tried to squeeze out but she was totally stuck. Sherm had to pull her out while she was naked. When he pulled her out, she was covered with scratches, bruises, and scrapes. The whole time her mom was laughing so hard she was crying. When they went to the hospital, she had two broken ribs. That is an event that Sandra Brown will never forget.

Sandra Brown Interview
By Briana Riebel

The event in history that really affected Sandy was the Civil Rights Movement. The Civil Rights Movement allowed African American people to go to the same schools, ride the same buses, use the same bathrooms, eat in the same restaurants, and shop in the same stores as white Americans. What really scared Sandy was that she didn't know what to think of them because she was always by white people. Also something else that scared her was everyone would talk about black people killing all of the white people. Her dad also talked about there being a war. That is one event in history that Sandy will never forget.

Kids today have many problems, but years ago they had even bigger problems. If you compare what we have to back then, we have way more advantages to life. We have computers, phones, tablets, and more medicines so we can live longer. In the eyes of people today, life was easier back then. However, people back then think that our lives are easier today.

Barbra Interview
By Minoy Shah

Kids today may have problems, but years ago kids had lots and lots of problems. Kids today can just buy a cellphone, or can look something up on a computer, but back then, people had nothing. Kids today have lots of opportunities compared to kids back then, which only had few. Today kids like going to a football game, or watching their favorite shows on television. Today we can play any sport we want. It's surprising how kids back then didn't have good education or entertainment while today we have good education, lots of opportunities, and entertainment. Kids today might have lots of problems, but compared to kids back then, we come nowhere near them.

The individual I interviewed was my neighbor, Barbra. Barbra was born on September 21, 1939. She had two siblings, one brother and one sister. Barbra had four kids, three sons and one daughter. When my neighbor was a little girl, she went to a school in Ohio. She studied math, reading, social studies and English. Her classes were very, very different from ours. She had about fifteen kids in one class and there was four classes, each a different subject. The clothes she wore to school were long socks and skirts that all the girls had to wear. The boys had to wear shorts and all the boys had to wear the same clothes. After school, she would go to her dad's work. He used to make dangerous stuff like bombs and explosives to help the U.S. Army. For entertainment, she used to listen to folk songs because that was popular back then, and that's all they had in those days. The games she played were hopscotch and jump rope. On Saturdays and Sundays, she would go to the movie theater. The movie theater was in a barn. They had a clip movie and played it fast, showing on a white towel. They stuck the towel on the barn and they would have seats ready.

Barbra Interview
By Minoy Shah

My neighbor Barbra will never forget the time she got tricked by her sister. It was two weeks before Thanksgiving and her sister Rosa was making an apple pie at her house. Barbra didn't like apples or anything that had apples in it. She had no idea what they were baking because it was a big surprise. On Thanksgiving Day, after she ate the pie, she was feeling very different and weird. Following that meal, she threw up five times a day for a week. Then they took her to the doctor and they said she had allergies. When my neighbor got back from the doctor, she got her sister back by scaring her with a scary costume, maybe used for Halloween. Rosa her sister was so scared she cried a lot. To this day, Barbra has never eaten an apple again in her whole life. This is a story that my neighbor Barbra will never forget.

Barbra will never forget World War II. She said her dad was at work at the Army Depot where they made gunpowder, guns, bombs, and explosives. While Barbra was at home, there would be blackouts to prepare you. You would have to close all the curtains, if you had any, so the people could not see you or the stuff you had. You would also have to shut off every single light there was so they could not see you. You would know when it was coming because there would be this loud siren. Barbra was in her kitchen and this loud siren would go off. When the people were at the grocery store, they would have lots of cheap stuff like a loaf of bread for ten cents. Also you would purchase sugar, butter, and gasoline with these stamps. During the WWII, there was lots of jobs open. Barbra's dad would hire ten people a day. WWII was a war that lasted from 1939 to 1945. There were at least eleven million people that lost their lives.

Barbra Interview
By Minoy Shah

Kids today may have lots problems, but so did the kids back then. Kids today have more opportunities like playing music on an iPod or iPhone, but kids back then had to play music on a radio player. Kids back then had less technology and fewer advantages. Kids today have lots of technology and lots of advantages. Kids today can go to lots of restaurants, but kids back then didn't even know what a restaurant was or never went to a restaurant. Today we have pizza, ice cream, and cookies. Today kids might have problems but compared to back then, we are nowhere near their problems.

Emma Kline Interview
By Ellie Smith

Kids today may have problems, but years ago kids did not have it easy either. Kids today go wherever they want whenever. Back then they had to entertain themselves with games at home. They didn't have as many opportunities as we do today. We have more games to play, places to go, and more space to do whatever we want. We even have better transportation, education, and communication. Some kids may have problems today, but kids back then had it a lot harder.

The individual I interviewed was my neighbor, Emma Kline. Emma was born in 1948. She had twelve other siblings, four girls and eight boys. She was the ninth one out of them all. She went to school at a catholic school. She studied writing, reading, and math. Emma also had to study religion. When she was in school, she got into trouble, so her punishment was to sit on her knees for two hours. Her sister had to wash the school steps with a toothbrush. She also didn't switch classes until the ninth grade. Emma always had to wear a dress or skirt to school. She wasn't allowed to wear sleeveless shirts. No tennis shoes, just the leather kind of shoes and knee-high socks. Most of her clothes came from second hand stores (like Goodwill). Some games she played were hide-go-seek, stickball (baseball but without a bat), kick ball, jacks, and skip rope. Skip rope is the same as jump rope. For entertainment, she played games, board games, and cards. When she was in ninth grade, she went to a Beatles concert. Two people were killed because of other people wanting to get into the concert so badly. She was in the fourth row during the concert. Her favorite food was ice cream and still is. When her family had meals, and when she was little, her family had to eat in shifts. Which means half of her family ate first and the second half ate second. They had to do this because they couldn't fit all twelve of their kids at the same table. She only had breakfast at least once a year. Emma's family usually had pot roast, big hams or turkey for dinner. There was no pizza invented yet either. Since there was no electronics, she used either clothespins or torn up rags to curl her hair. She had no television in her house and there was only one phone for her whole family. She couldn't talk to her friends as

Emma Kline Interview
By Ellie Smith

much as we get to today. When she wanted to call her friends she had to wait because she was on a party line, with ten different people on the same line. Everybody had a different ring.

Emma will never forget the time her brother did something embarrassing and funny. Her oldest brother, 5 years old with five younger siblings, was in class. His teacher asked if the class could bring in their pennies to buy childhood orphans. (Seven catholic schools brought in extra pennies to help orphans.) Her brother took it the wrong way; he thought he was going to buy the orphans. They went to church and announced to the church, "No more children are needed in this family." The whole family was embarrassed.

Emma remembers when John F. Kennedy was assassinated. She was in tenth grade when he was assassinated. Her principal put the radio on the PA system. Her school listened to all types of news channels. They then went home and on the weekend was his funeral. She watched television for five days straight. She saw the actual murder, on T.V., live. It might have been Lee Harvey Oswald. Everybody thought we were going to be attacked by Russia. Everybody also thought Oswald was a Russian spy. John F. Kennedy was the thirty-fifth President of the United States. He was assassinated November 22, 1963 in Dallas, Texas. He was married to Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and had four children, Caroline, John F. Kennedy Jr., Patrick Bouvier, and Arabella. John F. Kennedy had eight siblings, Robert, Ted, Rosemary, Joseph, Eunice, Kathleen, Jean, and Patricia. People think JFK was assassinated due to Oswald's loneliness.

Kids today may have problems, but back then kids had it even worse. Think about if you were a kid back then, it might've been hard for your family, or it might've been easy because your family had money. Kids today have more opportunities than kids back then. We have more technology, places to go, and a lot more. We also have the chance to eat different foods like pizza, ice creams, and even different types of foods from different places around the world. That is why I think kids have problems, but not as much as back then.

Roy Steed Interview
By Spencer Steed

Kids today had it made, but years ago it was a struggle. Back then they would walk to school or ride the bus. But today, they ride the bus or their mom or dad takes them to school. The games they played are a lot different from ours as well. They played hopscotch and we play inside and be lazy. They had a phone that plugged into the wall and would stay in that one spot. Kids were freer then they are now and had more things to do. That is what makes it more different then and now.

The individual I interviewed was Roy Steed, my grandpa. He was born on 5/25/1943. He has one brother and one sister. His brother's name is George Steed and his sister's name is Halee. He married a girl named Linda. They had two children named Rick and Mark. Roy played football in high school, but now he builds cars and hot rods on his own time, and he has a lot of time. Roy is now at home working on his car. He said he didn't do much as a kid, but he did make his own gun. He shot the gun, but the gun blew up and a piece of it hit his right eye. Now he has a glass eye. He always hated it, which is the one thing he wished he never would have done. He wished he could change what happened, he never meant for it to blow up, but he said it was fun because he was in the newspaper. He always wore suspenders to school. When he misbehaved, he got whacked on the hand. He didn't like to be whacked when he was around his friends. He hasn't seen one of his friends in two years. He's seen some, but only the ones that live in Marion. He said the best time he ever had was when he and his brother were at the creek by their house. They had old oranges, and instead of eating them, they played baseball with them.

Roy will never forget the time he was with his sister and she had a dog name Light. Roy wanted Light, so he asked her if he could have him and she said "no." Roy said, "I'll pay you \$50.00," and she said "fine." There was something else she said and it was that she was allowed

Roy Steed Interview
By Spencer Steed

to see him whenever she wanted, and he took the deal. He liked to play jokes on his brother and he told me he put a frog in his bed. When his mom found out, he didn't tell me what happened, but he said it was bad. His brother got him back by telling him that he had packed his lunch for him, but he didn't, so Roy got really mad and he was hungry all day.

The historical event Roy remembers was the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Roy didn't know what happened, because all he heard was president Kennedy had been killed. On November 22, 1963, the 35th president was shot and killed at 12:30p.m. on Friday in Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas. The killer was Lee Harvey Oswald. Roy was scared and didn't know what to do. He mostly watched the T.V. to see what might happen next. When he found out Oswald died, he didn't know what and who shot him, but Roy thought one of JFK's friends shot him as a payback.

It was different back then because kids had more things to deal with like the John F. Kennedy assassination and the Great Depression. As a child, it was more difficult than now. Kids today don't as many problems because of all the things they have.

Magraret Barlow Interview
By Addyson Tipsword

Kids today have it made, but years ago it wasn't easy for them. They didn't have transportation like we have today. You couldn't stay inside on your phone all day, instead you'd go outside, play, and do chores. Girls couldn't play sports like they can today. They didn't have big flat screen T.V's that we have. They didn't get to go where they wanted when they wanted to. They didn't get to have their own grade together because the teacher taught all the grades together. They didn't get to switch classes. No one went out to eat unless they had a lot of money. They didn't have all the stores and restaurants we have today. That is why life wasn't made for them, but it is for us.

I interviewed my grandma, Margaret. She grew up in the 1950's and 1960's. She was born in Findlay, Ohio on October 7, 1953. Her parents and older sister moved there before she arrived, but only lived there for a short while before returning to Marion. When she was almost 3 years old, her brother was born. He quickly became her best friend and they had many fun adventures. Not having the electronics and advancements of 2015, they played and pretended together. Unlike many kids today, they spent most of their time outside. Her mom would call them in for lunch then again for dinner. They didn't use a cellphone, but called them by standing on the porch and yelling their names. She thinks times were simpler then, spending them with family and friends. She loved her childhood and wouldn't trade it for anything. Margaret attended a city school for her first two years of schooling. She and her sister walked to and from school every day. Sometimes they even walked home at lunch. When Margaret entered 3rd grade, it was at Pleasant. At that time kindergarten through 12th grade were all in one building. It was quite different riding a school bus every day. Of course it was better riding on a bus than walking in the cold and snow! They didn't change classes until the 6th grade and students were grouped together according to their skill level and grades. This was probably easier for teachers,

Magraret Barlow Interview
By Addyson Tipsword

but wasn't that great for students because they knew why kids were placed in certain classes. As Margaret remembers, she loved music class and hated gym. They had to wear stupid uniforms to P.E. in middle school and high school. Being outdoors a lot, she played games like hide-and-seek, kick-the-can, and truth or dare. When she lived in town, she jumped rope, skated, and rode her bike all around the neighborhood. When she moved to the "country", her brother and her did things together. They played war with her brother's miniature soldier cowboys and indians, what she always called "house". That consisted of her being the mother of her dolls and her brother being the dad. He always "went off" to work as a carpenter or a doctor. They pretended a lot and played for hours with very few toys. She has always loved clothes. If she wasn't playing dress up herself, she was dressing up her dolls or even her dog, PJ. Girls of her time almost always wore dresses or skirts. In the winter her mom would put long pants under her dresses. She had a pair of shoes for church, a pair for school, and sneakers for gym. In the summer she went barefoot most of the time. Her grandma was a seamstress who made much of her clothing when she was younger. Her sister and her often wore matching outfits. She hated it but she never said much about it. She doesn't remember getting to choose out her clothes like kids do today. She pretty much wore what she was told to. Her family always sat down together for dinner. They would have never thought of eating anywhere but the kitchen table. Her mom didn't work outside the house so dinner every night was eaten at 5:30. The kids were responsible for cleaning the kitchen after dinner. They grew up on casserole dishes with desserts, like Jell-O, pudding, and cookies. She loved her mom's homemade applesauce and roast pork and sauerkraut. They didn't go out to restaurants very often. They went to Islay's for ice cream or the root beer stand for frosty mugs of "beer". She can't remember a time when they didn't have a TV but she wasn't a huge fan. She thought cartoons were stupid and usually had to watch what her parents wanted in the evenings.

Magraret Barlow Interview
By Addyson Tipsword

They did go to the movies on occasions and her favorite movies were at the drive in theaters. They would put on their jammies, pack some goodies, climb in the car, and head to the drive in. Those were good times. When she became a teenager, she loved rock and roll music. Her favorite groups were Herman's Hermits and The Beatles. They only had records and record players when she was younger.

When Margaret and her brother were in high school, they had a friend named Tom. One summer Tom's brother came home from college to work at the hospital. Jim was somewhat of a practical joker and had a great time pulling pranks on others. So the three of them decided one evening to get back at him! His shift at the hospital didn't end until about 11:30 p.m. Around 11:00 p.m., they went to the hospital and hid in the backseat of his car. Thinking they would scare the living daylights out of him, they waited for him to arrive. Believe her when she say's it was like the loudest sound that car would ever make. They were laughing and whispering so much, the windows began to steam up. At about 11:45 p.m., they heard him approaching the car, but to their utter shock and humiliation, he wasn't alone! He had asked a nurse on his shift to go out for coffee after work. She was the first to see them through the car window but wasn't able to reveal their surprise to her brother and Tom in time. They managed to scare Jim and his date good but the prank left them feeling embarrassed and childish.

Her childhood was changed on Friday November 22, 1963. Her classmates and her were listening to weekly a news broadcast over the school's PA system, when suddenly, the program was interrupted by someone saying that the President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, had been assassinated in Dallas, Texas. She remembered the shocked looks on everyone's faces while a few kids were crying. Their teacher went running from the room to meet other frantic teachers

Magraret Barlow Interview
By Addyson Tipsword

in the hallway. She doesn't recall what she said to them on her return to class but they were shortly sent home. Things were quiet at her house that night as they sat glued to the T.V. Even though she was only in 4th grade, she felt the nation's deep sorrow. As a family, they watched all the news coverage on JFK's tragic shooting, the official announcement of his death, the swearing of the Vice President L.B Johnson as the new president, the arrest of Lee Harvey Oswald (the accused assassin), the funeral proceedings, and the assassination of Oswald by Jack Ruby. School was not in session for several days out of respect for what was going on in the country. She felt scared for her family and her nation and had trouble sleeping at night for a while. As she looks back on the terrible time, she realizes how shocking and terrifying it truly was. But they survived and became stronger for it.

John Dix Interview
By Aiden Winsor

Kids today may have problems, but back then, kids had it harder than what we do now. Today, kids don't get punished as bad as back then. Back then punishments were horrible; you would have to get spanked. Kids had to walk to school and back home. They did not really have cars or busses to drop them off or pick them up from school, but now we have cars and busses and do not have to walk. Now the kids and adults have advantages that people back then did not even think about having. Now you can just text or call someone if you want to talk to them, but back then you couldn't do that, you had to walk all the way over to their house. That's why it was harder back then.

The person I interviewed was my step-grandpa, John Dix. He was born on April 30, 1943. He has one brother, one sister, and two children. For games after school, he would play street basketball, football, and if it was winter, ice-skating. He had no T.V. until he was ten-years old. Music that he would listen to was rock and swing music. School was easy. You almost had no homework, but when you would get punished in class, it was not so easy. He would eat mostly anything but he liked spaghetti best. His most favorite food was Italian. He would eat fried chicken every Sunday. He ate what was cooked or he went hungry. Fast food restaurants were not out until he was in high school, but when they came out, McDonald's was his favorite. It was more safe back then. You could let your kid go out until like 3:00 in the morning and they would always come back home safe. There were no cellphones, Wi-Fi, or internet.

My step-grandpa John will never forget the time he fell off his new bicycle. They had no car because it ran out of gas and John's dad always rode to work and back with his friend in his car. One day, John saw his dad coming home on a red and green bicycle. When John's dad got back from work he said "Guess what I got you John?" John replied, "What did you get me this time?" The thing I'm sitting on, I got you a new bike. John said, "Wow, thanks dad, but I'm only

John Dix Interview
By Aiden Winsor

7 years old, I'm going have to learn first." So they started practicing for a few hours in the grass and finally John was going to try on the road. So when they got on the road, John balanced himself out and John's dad was beside him for most time. John looked over and his dad was not there anymore and he fell of his bike on the road. He did make it like 4 or 5 houses down. A few weeks later, he was going faster than ever on his brand new bicycle.

My step-grandpa so excited when Richard Nixon came to Marion.

