



Storm Report

"Lux et Virtus"
March 11 - 23

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Tuesday, March 26

- 3:30pm Boys Soccer vs. Payson
- 3:30pm JV Baseball @ Hillcrest
- 3:30pm Sophomore Baseball vs. Hillcrest
- 3:30pm Softball @ Payson
- 5:30pm Girls Basketball Banquet
- 7pm Boys Basketball Banquet
- 7pm Spring Show Musical - Once Upon a Mattress

Wednesday, March 27

- Choir trip to NYC
- 3pm Track Meet @ Herriman
- 3pm Varsity Baseball @ Layton
- 3:30pm Softball @ Herriman
- 5:30 JV Baseball @ Layton
- 6pm Drill Banquet at Talons Cove
- 7pm Band Concert

Thursday, March 28

- 3:30pm JV Baseball vs. Olympus
- 3:30pm Softball vs. Murray
- 7pm SCC Meeting

Friday, March 29

- Multi-Cultural Assembly

Saturday, March 23

- 9am Track @ UVU Invitational
- 5pm Winterguard @ Lone Peak

APRIL 1 - 5

**SPRING
BREAK**

HODGE PODGE

ALLIANCE DANCE CONCERT 2013

Westlake's Alliance took the stage this year to perform their annual concert, "Hodge Podge." With guest performances from Vista Heights Dance Company, Dance 3 class and Westlake Dance Company, this concert was one to remember.

Alliance, made up of people from every class, was formed two years ago, when Mrs. Hayes turned Dance 3 into an additional Dance Company, and called it Alliance, to align with WDC. This year, they took the stage by storm, and danced with all sorts of emotions. Notably, in the piece titled "Emotional Outlet Improvisation" dancers shouted out feelings and expressions and improvised a dance, meaning it had no original choreography. It takes incredible bravery to get up on stage and come up with a dance, completely out of the blue.

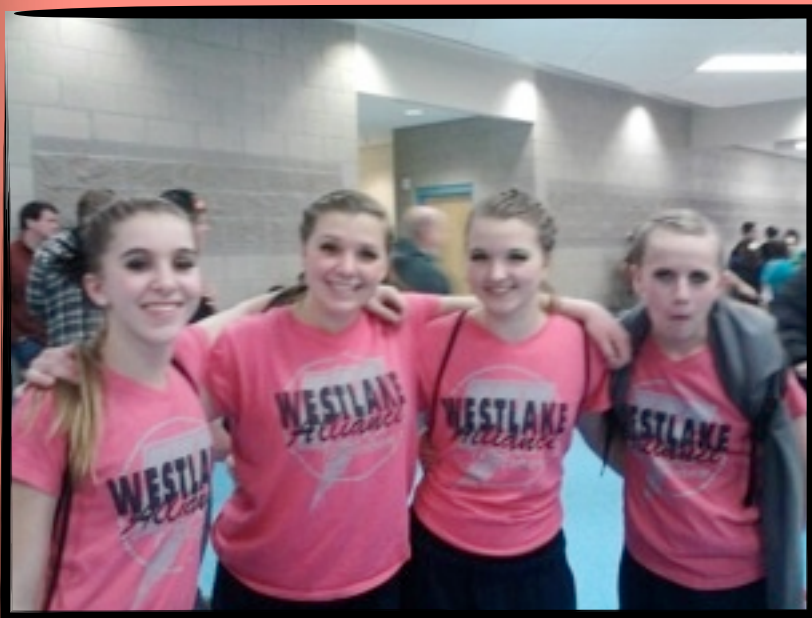
Other dances they performed was Animosity, choreographed by WDC's Jordan Stransky. It was a piece about relationships, and how they don't always work out. It was a beautiful piece that the audience really enjoyed.

Demi Menendez from WDC also choreographed a beautiful, personal dance in honor of her father's "Yearning Desire" to make something of himself from a poor country in South America.

Alliance danced magically, and will forever be a night to remember. But little did they know it would be the last time they would take the stage.

Next year, Westlake Dance Company will combine with Drill Team to become one: Westlake Dance Team. Alliance will not be around next year.

Now that Westlake's Dance program is changing so dramatically, make sure you mark your calendars for Westlake Dance Company's LAST CONCERT May 2 and 3, 2013. Support Dance. Support DANCE COMPANY.



PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT

BY MARY WILKINS



Jordan Stransky is a senior at Westlake. He is on Dance Company.

He loves dancing at Westlake because he feels like Mrs. Hayes inspires him to let go and be free while he is dancing. Many dancers feel the same way Jordan does.

His friends say he is a good dancer because he practices a lot and loves to dance.

When he first started dancing he was inspired by a boy in his class named Logan McGill. Logan inspired Jordan to become a better dancer and to continue dancing.

He likes how dance really lets him be free and helps him to let loose. He says that Logan is still an inspiration to him.

Jordan says that the best feeling he gets when dancing is when he is performing and he loses himself and he feels like he is doing something he knows he should do and in that moment he knows that what he is doing is right.

Jordan has been offered a chance to audition for companies at the University of Utah and Southern Utah University. He says he is planning on going to audition.

Good luck, Jordan!

THUNDER NEWS

ARTICLE BY DEMI MENENDEZ

New and upcoming, Thunder News is starting on a new segment for Westlake announcements.

Reporters will touch on subjects of Son of Thor, Prom, spring sports, gossip, and much more to come.

News anchors Senja Van Wagenen and Josif Raburn, will excitedly catch up on current events, and keep the audience entertained.

Thundervision plans to report each week to keep the Westlake students updated and aware of what's happening at our school.

So say goodbye to boring old announcements and catch up on what's happening on WHS news every week.

Westlake recently hosted a Choir Cluster Concert to showcase to the community what is going on at the schools.

Five elementary schools, Vista Heights, and three of Westlake's choir groups performed at this event.

All the choirs were able to perform one or two of their own songs and then all of the almost three hundred students joined in to sing one song together.

It was a great event to show our community just how

dedicated our choir is to singing. and how much they love it.

The Westlake Madrigals love choir and are encouraging people to take it. They would really like to see more people join.

Mrs. Hatch says, "Even if you haven't done music before, you can do choir. Everyone has a voice, so anyone can sing."

As you contemplate what classes to take next year, think about joining our magnificent choir.



BY MARY WILKINS
CHOIR

1791

by Callie Hansen

Since grade one, I have been taught only one reason why the second amendment became part of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution of the United States. At the time of the Revolutionary War, the British came to the American colonies and confiscated their guns. At that time they had no rights and no way to defend themselves from the oppressive British Monarchy. This is how the second amendment came to be, so the teachers say. None of them teach their students how important it was to the colonists and Founding Fathers to have the God-given right to defend themselves from tyranny. The misconception of this fact is that it was only important to “white propertied men” (Seidman A19) in the early decades of the country who “[know] nothing of our present situation” (Seidman A19). Definitions have changed throughout the years, but the second amendment remains unchanged. It hasn’t been touched, altered, or scratched out since the day it was ratified in 1791. What has changed is the people’s view of the document that built

our country and made it the most powerful nation in the world. In the eyes of *this* people, a man with a gun in his hands is evil. In 1791, a *good* man with a gun in his hands is a defender of liberty, an *evil* man with a gun in his hands is a usurper of liberty. The view of guns has changed immensely in two hundred and twenty-two years, but the Constitution stands as a testimony it should have never changed.

The second amendment, the way it reads now and the way it was read at the time it was inscribed, states directly, “A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed” (*U.S. Constitution.*) By being placed at the end of the clause, the word “infringed” holds a certain power. And for good reason. By definition, “infringe” means “Act so as to limit or undermine (something); encroach on” (*Dictionary.com*). In simpler terms, “the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be [limited]” (*U.S.*

Constitution, Amend. II). To help the slim-

minded understand, to limit means “to restrict or confine.” (*Dictionary.com*).

Simply put, *no* restrictions, *none whatsoever*, shall be made on the people’s right to “keep and bear arms” (*U.S. Constitution, Amend. II*).

Ever since the Sandyhook mass shooting on December 14, 2012, President Obama and many politicians have made vows to do everything in their power to “ban” guns (to “prohibit, forbid, or bar” (*Dictionary.com*)) (*FoxNews.com*).

They would like nothing more than to wake up one day and do exactly what the British did to the colonists in 1791, take away our guns. They will work to make it as hard as possible for the average American to possess guns and ammunition, in the end, doing away with them altogether. According to our nation’s leaders, taking away these assault weapons will make the country safer (Howard A27), and do away with these mass shootings. However, the Constitution holds the very reason why this way of thinking is incorrect.

When the 18th Amendment was passed, otherwise known as Prohibition, alcohol and liquor was banned. Speakeasies popped up all over the nation, crime rates hit an all-time high (*library.thinkquest.org*), and everyone did everything they could to get their precious alcohol (Prohibition).

Replace “alcohol” with guns, and you get the future of America if more gun laws are passed. This is history. This *happened* to our country, and no one seems to notice. If the politicians continue on this road of bypassing the Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Rights, a situation similar to that of Prohibition will occur. President Obama and his politicians assume that if they take away our gun rights, these mass shootings will stop. Prohibition is the very example why it will *not*.

The debate that has paralyzed the country for decades is whether or not more gun control will stop the murdering of innocent children. With so many differing viewpoints, as well as endorsements for gun control from celebrities (maigcoalition), it’s hard not to get lost in a sea of confusion over whether guns can be a good or bad thing. The answer to this confusion resides solely in the Constitution. No matter what professors, friends, or the media says, the truth comes from the primary source, the Constitution of the United States of America.

There is no denying that America has changed immensely since the Constitution was ratified. This country has seen, faced, and overcome many things that we regret, and plenty of things that we

are proud of. Yet, the Constitution has weathered through it all. It is the only thing that links us to our Founding Fathers and the way they thought, spoke, and acted. They created this document with the future country in mind and why the Bill of Rights would be necessary for America to remain a free nation. The founding fathers did NOT intend for the Constitution to be changed or abandoned—as Louis Seidman suggests in the New York Times. The Bill of Rights matters. Thus, the second amendment *matters*. The Founding Fathers must have believed it was important for the people to “keep and bear arms [and] shall not be infringed” (*U.S. Constitution*, Amend. II) for a reason, in order for it to be included in one of the most powerful documents in the world. If they didn’t think future generations would try and “limit” or “ban” the people’s gun rights, they wouldn’t have included the phrase “shall not be infringed” (*U.S. Constitution*, Amend. II). In fact, they may not have included the amendment at all.

Yet, with every law passed through state governments as well as the federal government, America’s lawmakers are breaking the law. They are breaking the oath they made when they came into office that they will “preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States” (Oath of office of the President of the United States).

Our leaders have forgotten the definition of “infringe.” They have forgotten our history. They have forgotten the imprint of our nation’s mistakes made on the Constitution itself with the 18th Amendment. Still, the politicians debate in Washington. Still, they must argue day by day to proceed with more gun regulations and use their lies to make the “folks” (Triska 1)—as President Obama refers to the American People—believe that it’s okay, when in actuality they are blatantly sidestepping the Constitution in order to further their own agenda.

Well, guess what? As firmly stated by The Blaze TV’s slogan, “The truth has no agenda” (*glennbeck.com*). The irrevocable truth resides in The Constitution of the United States of America and the Bill of Right. Those who refuse to believe it and continue to spew their lies should be removed from office. Those who do not read the Constitution and do not understand the very depth of what it means should no longer be leading our country. This country began with the Constitution, and it will end with the Constitution. And as for the second amendment, every law passed to “limit” it is null and void. Forgive me for stealing this from a T-shirt, but, the Gun Debate: Settled since 1791 (*1791.com*).

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U.S. Constitution. Amend. II.