



# THE NEW TRIER NEWS

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## Maloney tells all about ntseniors Snapchat

by Michael Pruchnicki

The ntseniors snapchat account, now temporarily down, was launched on March 2 by senior Billy Maloney in the hopes of providing a social media platform on which the senior class can share its experiences.

"Essentially you can take a Snapchat [photo or video] of anything, and send it to ntseniors, and it will automatically become the story on the ntseniors page," said Maloney.

A Snapchat story is a collection of photos and/or videos that a user decides to share with every Snapchat friend, as opposed to sending the photo or video to certain individuals.

"It wasn't my idea to come up with something like this. I know that many colleges have it, and I got the idea from a post on Reddit," said Maloney.

The Reddit poster was Steve Allaben. Maloney reached out to Allaben and told him that he thought

that this would be fun to do at New Trier, but that he needed help setting it up.

"Steve was there whenever I had any questions, which was nice because I had a lot along the way. It took me a lot of time to set up the account just because computer programming is not my thing, but it's definitely worth it now," Maloney said.

When Maloney first set up the account he made it so that whenever a photo or video is sent to the account, it goes on the story right away, and Maloney can't take it off once it's been put on.

This was very concerning to him, so after a day or so he made it so that he had to approve every single Snapchat that is sent to the account. Maloney claimed that he has declined 50 or so Snapchats since the creation of the account.

"I understand that people still want to see stuff such as alcohol and parties because that's what draws a

lot of the intrigue, but I still have to make it somewhat appropriate," said Maloney.

Bullying through the app, however, remains hard to define for Maloney. As in all cases like this, there is a difference between friends mocking and making fun of each other and serious bullying and put downs, according to Maloney.

"Anyone can take a picture of a black screen and say whatever they want on it, and sometimes that gets really bad. Or someone can take a picture of someone without their knowledge, and say something bad about the person. I don't want this to go down the drain like Yik Yak did, so I try to not make it mean and offensive."

Maloney continued, "Whenever I receive anything controversial, I always text my friends and ask them if they think it's too mean to go on the page. And if they say 'yes,' I have agreed every time. It's a good system because it shows that I'm not the sole



Senior Billy Maloney created ntseniors hoping to unify the senior class | Lee

person running the page. I may have the final say in what goes on, but there is input from other students as well."

According to Maloney, the administration does not know about the page yet but he jokingly said, "They will when the article comes out."

Maloney doesn't know what the administration will think of the page when they find out. But his prediction

is that he will most likely be asked to take it down.

"I mean when you have stuff on there that is not appropriate for adults in our school, it is always going to raise some eyebrows. But we're high school students, what do you expect us to do?"

Due to the latest Snapchat update the ntseniors account is temporarily unavailable. Maloney is working to relaunch the account soon.

## Construction noise disrupts ACT test takers

by Adam Sheffield

During the Mar. 3 ACT at New Trier, loud construction noises could easily be heard from outside, prompting distraction during testing and many complaints.

"It wasn't fair for construction to be going on during the test," said junior Kilmer Recht. "It sounded like someone had a giant pogo stick and was jumping."

"They should have stopped the construction because a lot of kids lose their focus when they hear noise. Especially during the reading section. It's frustrating when you're trying to concentrate," said junior Ceejay Xiong.

In an email sent out to parents, the issue was addressed via a link to the New Trier website.

"Construction activities did produce a brief period of unanticipated noise during our ACT testing for juniors on Mar. 3. The noise was audible for about 15 minutes in approximately 16 classrooms. We have reviewed our procedures and will no longer administer standardized tests near any construction area; much of our standardized testing will be moved to the Northfield Campus."

The noise came from the north side of the building. The crews were working on installing concrete foundations and underground sewage and water services for the new north annex.

However, when posed with the idea of a hypothetical makeup ACT to amend for the noise caused, students were not keen about the idea.

"I don't feel like the noise affected me too much," said junior Ethan Wirth. "It takes a long time to study so I don't feel like it's worth it."

New Trier was apologetic, and restated their commitment to making sure students were impacted as minimally as possible during the construction process.

"Our primary goal is to make



The construction site on the north athletic fields outside of the ACT testing rooms where students were disturbed on Mar. 3 | Merrill

sure students continue to have an excellent experience during this project, and we will continue to communicate and plan with our construction manager, faculty, staff, and parents to make sure that happens," said the statement.

The ACT is considered a tedious and long test by most students. And as multiple students claim, it is very easy to get distracted when taking it.

"When another teacher walks in the door, which happens a few times, I always get distracted," said Xiong.

Xiong continued, "any sort of noise breaks your focus, especially during a big test like the ACT."

"It's extremely easy because everyone has to focus all their cognitive ability to the test, so it's easy to hear something and get distracted," said Recht.

These testing shortcomings call into question the effectiveness of the impending renovations.

The referendum will take place over three summers and two

school years, beginning in 2015 and concluding before the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.

Goals of the project include building more than 25 new classrooms, replacing the heating and cooling systems with new energy-efficient ones, and including a new library.

The referendum will cause many changes to the schedule for next year.

Rosh Hashanah, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Day, and Good Friday will all be regular school days for students.

The class of 2016 will graduate early, with commencement falling on May 22, while the rest of New Trier students will get out May 25.

While the referendum will bring many additions to New Trier, distractions like noise during the ACT may continue to annoy students who will not graduate before the renovations are complete to benefit from the new building.

## Glass Slipper Project grants prom night wishes

by Liz Byrne

For the first time in many years, junior girls advisories are reviving New Trier's involvement in the Glass Slipper Project, a Chicago-based organization that allows less fortunate girls to participate in the joy of prom, free of cost.

According to Patricia Sheridan, junior girls adviser chair, the project came across her radar in the fall.

Sheridan was contacted by Hal Coxon, the head of Zengeler Cleaners. Coxon reached out to gauge New Trier's interest in contributing to the organization by having a dress drive.

New Trier has participated in past years, but this is the first service project that has been targeted specifically for junior girls advisories.

Sheridan hopes to maintain the project and permanently establish the idea of a junior service project.

"All the adviser levels have service projects," said Sheridan, "seniors have Habitat for Humanity, sophomores have two opportunities in the fall and spring as an advisory, and the freshmen have many opportunities to join service clubs. Junior year hasn't historically had one."

Along with participation in the drive, all junior girls advisers received a packet with sources and points of discussion if they wanted to educate their advisory and learn through service.

Some of the lessons are not directly related to the project and focus on topics such as citizenship, leadership, and class inequality.

"Each lesson has a list of resources with discussion questions and follow-up questions that discuss larger topics that connect to service but have nothing to do with the dresses themselves," said Sheridan.

The Glass Slipper Project will accept dresses ranging from a casual

sundress to a floor-length gown, but the overall focus is on prom.

This can cause a problem when the majority of girls in the school have not yet attended prom and don't have any "prom dresses."

"Just by seeing girls at Turnabout, it's unlikely that the girls will wear [that outfit] again to prom. Any dress from 'Sweet Sixteens,' Bar Mitzvah [dresses] or any semi-formal dress that can be reused is great," said Sheridan.

Lindsey Ruda, a junior, agreed with Sheridan about donating past Homecoming or Turnabout dresses.

"Freshman year, I went a little overboard for Turnabout and my dress doesn't fit me anymore, so why not donate it? Most of the dresses at Turnabout would be appropriate to wear to a prom anyway," said Ruda.

Once the dresses are donated, they are taken away in a truck by Zengeler Cleaners.

The dresses are then cleaned and mended if needed, and stored in the organization's "boutique" space.

The 2015 location for the boutique is Price School, a now-closed Chicago elementary school.

Displaying the dresses requires wide open spaces, and its classrooms provide an easy solution to separating the thousands of donated dresses.

In the spring, Glass Slipper Project hosts two Saturday "boutique" days.

On those Saturdays, the boutique is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. based on the demand for dresses.

Girls will sometimes wait in line hours before the recommended starting wait time. And for these girls, the wait is worth it.

Once inside Glass Slipper's boutique, each girl is allowed one female family member, and she is given a personal shopper to guide her and help her pick out the perfect

See Glass Slipper project pg. 2