

# Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

[www.marblehead.com/schools/mhs/headlight](http://www.marblehead.com/schools/mhs/headlight)

## There She Goes Again

Morgan Hardwick  
Headlight Staff, Sophomore

Yet again the beautiful Taylor Swift has created another melodiously charming album. Following in the footsteps of her past albums Taylor Swift, Fearless, and Speak Now, Swift's newest album Red has taken the music market by storm. Only after a week, Red was dubbed a platinum album, meaning it sold over a million copies. Yet some still wonder if people are buying the album because they actually want to jam out to the pop rock songs, such as "We Are Never Getting Back Together" and "22," or because they just want to know how utterly entertaining Swift's love scandals are. Either way, Red has Swift saying goodbye to her country roots and experimenting with a much newer, slightly infatuating, sound. Swift, now twenty-two, has proven her maturity with the album through her astoundingly intuitive songwriting skills. "This is the worth while fight, Love is a ruthless game, Unless you play it good and right" sings Swift on the track "State

of Grace," showing that she seems to be well in tune with the game of love. Through her love-lost, love-found ballads, Swift illustrates her own deep understanding of love, all the while telling her latest ex-boyfriend that they are never ever getting back together. While featuring Snow Patrol's Gary Lightbody and the British sensation Ed Sheeran, Red defiantly shows Swift's new impression of love, with her reflection on the whirlwind romances and creation of universal masterpieces enjoyed by people of all ages. Although bubblegum pop songs such as "Stay Stay Stay" and "I Knew You Were Trouble" still hook onto the melodies of Speak Now and the younger naïve Swift, "The Last Time" and "Begin Again" are refreshing sounds from the collective artist and prove her transformation into the mature twenty-two year old she is. Red is a worthwhile album for anyone, whether you're completely heartbroken, getting swept away, or looking for a new sound to quench your need for music. Available in stores as of October 22nd and still thriving at the top of the charts, Red might possibly be Swift's best album yet.

## The End is Near

Peirce Law  
Reporter-in-the Field, Junior

In a little less than two weeks on December 21st, 2012 the world as we know it will be over. Well, that's what the Mayan calendar says, right? Wrong. Should this day come and go the Maya will be right as they usually are. Hollywood and a decent portion of the internet will be wrong as they usually are, especially when it comes to science. The problem is that the people who believe the world will end at the end of the Mayan calendar are distinctly not Mayan. I'm not saying that December 21st, 2012 isn't an important date on the Mayan calendar. That would be wrong of me. However, the hysteria connected to this belief of the end of the world as we know it arises from the peculiar ways that the Maya record time, which coincides with their belief system. Unlike us, who think a text that takes a few minutes to send is a few minutes too long, the Maya had an extremely long perception of time. They used a method called the "Long Count Calendar" to keep track of their many years. This is where it gets complicated. The Maya called a day a k'in (kin). Twenty of these days were called a Winal (we-nall). Eighteen Winals, or 360 days, made up a Tun (toon), which made up about a year. TwentyTuns, or about Twenty years, made

up a K'atun(Kah-toon). TwentyK'atuns made a B'ak'tun (Bawk-toon), which made up to about 144,000 days or 394.26 years. The Maya used this system to count the number of days from what they called "The Last Creation." In fact, the Maya believe that we currently inhabit the Fourth Creation. The Maya believe that their gods made mistakes and wanted to start fresh for each Creation. Some scientists did the math backwards and figured that the date of the most current "Creation" was 3,114 B.C. on August 11th. They counted using a system that looks like this: 00.00.00.00.00. July 4, 1776 looks like 12.8.0.1.13; twelve being the number of B'ak'tuns, eight being the number of K'atuns, zero being the number of Tuns, and so on and so forth down to the number of days being the last set. The reason why December 21st, 2012 is so important on the Mayan calendar is that it looks like this: 13.0.0.0.0, thus making it the turning point to the Thirteenth B'ak'tun. The last time the calendar switched over was on September 18th, 1618, which is a date that is known for absolutely nothing. So at the end of it all we really have nothing to fear. "We could just call it y2k for Mesoamericans." Yes, this means you still have to buy gifts for each other, file your taxes, and study for your finals. But we'll just have to see what's in store for us when the Mayan calendar clicks over to the next cycle.

## A Place for Us

Maddy Van Dussen  
Editorial Manager, Junior

For years now I have heard talk about creating a space for us teens here in Marblehead. Being an adolescent in a small town such as this can get predictable and rather...boring. Marblehead is a beautiful community to live in, but almost all teens, regardless of where they are growing up, can get restless. It's a syndrome. It starts in middle school, where the once seemingly "sophisticated" trips downtown to Terry's start to get repetitive. It proceeds into high school, where upperclassmen are itching to explore the outside world, and where "neck runs" also can get old, believe it or not. Lucky for us, things are looking up. In addition to the reconstruction of the much missed Warwick Theater, there's a new show coming to town: a teen center. I will admit the term "teen center" made me cringe at first. But don't get the wrong idea, because this teen center can be anything that we teens want it to be. We will have a say in what events we want to do, and what kind of things we want in the center. We can get TV's, video games, pool tables, or maybe a small café! The possibilities are endless. The beauty of it is that this is a teen center, meaning it is run by us, for us. Right now, the committee for the teen center is full of students who want to make this place fun. Current plans hint at concerts, camping trips, and a March Madness event! Again, this is up to us. If you are interested in becoming involved, please contact [hangtightmhd@gmail.com](mailto:hangtightmhd@gmail.com), or come to a meeting at the Community Center at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays (free pizza and soda).

## Marblehead High School Updates:

### Job Opportunity-Snow Shoveling!

Local business person needs two reliable and dependable students to shovel this winter. Route includes many shop-fronts in town. Information is in the Office.

### Powder Puff DVD's for Sale! --- \$20

Make checks payable to Town of Marblehead, and bring to the Main Office. Mr.Christensen will re-print a copy for you upon request, before the holiday!

### Toys for Tots Annual Holiday Toy Drive

MHS Student Government and Interact Club are teaming up with the Fire Department for the Annual Holiday Toy Drive. Please bring an unwrapped gift to school. A collection box will be in the lobby. All gifts and giftcards will be distributed to local children on Dec 23rd.

### Interact Club Raffle- Gift Basket

The Interact Club will be holding a raffle to raise money for a local charity. Bring in a canned good, non-perishable food item, or toiletry item and receive a raffle ticket. Each donated item=one ticket!

### MHS Principal Search

If you would be interested in serving on the screening committee for the High School Principal Search, please contact Dr.Maass Superintendent at 781-639-3141 or email his office at [mass.gregory@marbleheadschoools.org](mailto:mass.gregory@marbleheadschoools.org).

Dear Readers,

We wish you a happy, warm and safe holiday season! We hope that you have enjoyed our issues/articles this year and encourage you to view our website at [www.marblehead.com/schools/mhs/headlight](http://www.marblehead.com/schools/mhs/headlight). Thank you for taking the time to read our issue(s)! Happy Holidays. Sincerely,  
The Headlight Staff



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