



May 2025

"We're Better than
The New York Times"

Issue No. 5

Trump Tariffs Generate Widespread Opposition at Garrison

By Madison Hardaway

Donald Trump implemented tariffs because he claimed the U.S. was paying more than other countries to import goods.

According to Trump, the tariffs are supposed to make more money for the government and to make other countries pay more. Some critics say that the tariffs are illegal and bad for the economy.

Here at Garrison, students appear to be strongly opposed to Trump's tariffs.

Asked for comment, Sailaja (5th grade) said, "tariffs are bad."

Emmie (4th grade) agreed, saying that "tariffs are bad because [people] are [already] paying enough money for stuff."

Luka (4th grade) said that tariffs are terrible: "It says it in the name!"



Donald Trump announces new tariffs

Amelia (4th grade) said that tariffs are horrible, while Soliana (4th grade) argued that tariffs are bad for the environment.

Students in the lower grades are similarly concerned. Max (3rd grade) said that tariffs are disgusting.

The Mystery of the Caution Tape Signs

Exclusive First-Person Account

By Luka Maru

On Tuesday, May 7, on 12th street, I walked to school, and I saw caution signs everywhere.

I was confused but not surprised. Many things happen in my neighborhood.

My dad, my brother, and I went another way.

A police officer told us that somebody had sadly passed away and to go around.



Continued on next page!

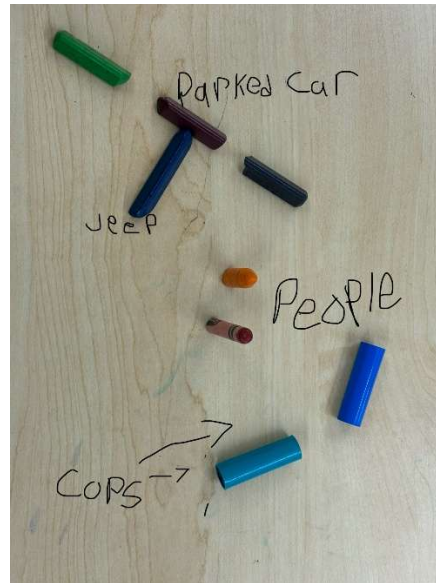
Continued from previous page

We went around. When I went around, I saw one of my friends, who said she saw it all too.

Maxwell (2nd grade) said his reaction was “uh, what the heck?” (Full disclosure: Max is my neighbor.)

One day earlier, Sailaja (5th grade) witnessed a car crash on 13th street. It is unclear if the two events are related.

The day after the yellow tapes, Sailaja witnessed a person getting arrested, also on 13th street.



Graphic reenactment of events on May 6, 2025

Concept and design by Sailaja Duraiswamy, with assistance from Emmie Ober

Garrison Commemorates Mother's Day

By Soliana Getachew

The excitement for Mother's Day was in the air in early May, in the run-up to Mother's Day on May 11th.

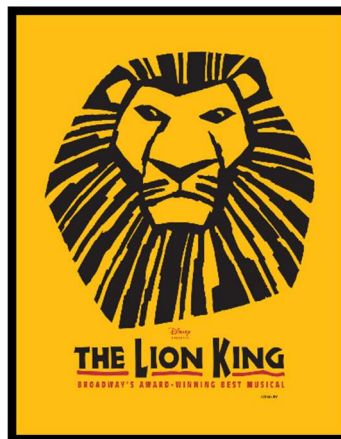
Ahead of that, we spoke to Ashley about her plans to celebrate her mom. Ashley's face lit up as she described what she was planning to do, saying, “I will buy her clothes and flowers and a note!”

Ashley put a lot of thought into what would make her mom's day special, carefully choosing these gifts. You can tell how much joy there was from planning this surprise! 😊



Students Excited for *Lion King* Performance

By Yaretzi Fores Torres



On June 5th, Garrison students will be performing *The Lion King*. The play is sure to be a hit and has given our fellow students an opportunity to showcase their talents. We spoke to some of the performers to take an inside look at the show.

Ariela (4th grade) is playing the character Nala and said that she joined the show because “I like acting a lot.” What is special about the show for her? “You can act, and it feels like you're in a real movie and you can express your feelings,” she said.

Emmie (4th grade) is playing Pumbaa and had similar thoughts. “I like to sing and dance,” she said. Asked whether she likes her character, Emmie said, “Yeah, I do like it because it's a funny character.”

Last but certainly not least, we heard from Luka (4th grade) about what he likes about the play. “It's fun, and Ms. Boone gives you good tips and it's funny.”

We can't wait to see the show!

Garrison 5th Graders Prepare for Middle School

By Ryan Casiley

Did you know there are over a dozen middle schools in D.C.?

One of those schools particularly stands out for Garrison students — John Francis. Karson, Ammanuel and Stephon will all be attending Francis next year.

Francis is known as Garrison's "feeder school." A feeder school is a school that you can attend based on your current school.

There are plenty of other middle schools, too! They include:

1. Basis DC (approximately 700 students)
2. Deal Middle School (approximately 1,400 students)
3. Oyster-Adams (approximately 800 students)
4. Hardy Middle school (approximately 600 students)
5. Inspired Teaching (approximately 500 students)



John Francis Education Campus

Ryan's Take:

What are students looking forward to when going to 6th grade? I'll be attending Francis, and I am ready and excited for a new start in a new school. I am also excited to see some new faces and make new friends. What I am mostly looking forward to is the new basketball team.

By the way: I know Francis is great, but Garrison is still better.

Get Ready for Summer!

By Amelia Ferry

Summer is definitely a big source of excitement for Garrison. Get ready for the sun to blare down on you, but at least we get a break from school.

What do some Garrison Wildcats plan to do for the summer? We recently asked around, and here is what we heard:

Tailyn (4th grade) said he will "chill at home," while Evan (4th grade) said, "I'm going on vacation."

Ewan (4th grade) has similar plans. "I'm going on vacation," he said.

Maddox (4th grade) has big plans, too. "I'm going on a cruise and going to Tahoe," he said.

Justin (4th grade) and Jonathan (5th grade) have a more laid-back summer planned out. "I'm going to chill and watch movies," said Justin. Along the same lines, Jonathan said that he is "going to play video games all day."

Politics with Emmie and Sailaja

By Emmie Ober and Sailaja Duraiswamy

Cory Booker, a New Jersey senator, broke the record for the longest filibuster ever on April 1, 2025. He spoke for 25 hours and 4 minutes: the longest filibuster ever.



Senator Cory Booker

A filibuster is when you are a senator in the capital during a meeting, and you stand up and start talking and no one can stop you. Before Cory Booker broke the record for longest filibuster ever, the record holder was Alfonse D'Amato, who spoke for 23 hours and 30 minutes.

Elon Musk was never elected, but Trump put him in charge of making the government more efficient. Trump is trying to dramatically shrink and potentially even dismantle the Department of Education. If Trump gets rid of the DOE, schools like Garrison would have to raise \$250,000 to keep things like free lunch and aftercare.

The tariffs that Trump passed are causing market meltdowns.



Markets react to Trump tariffs

If you want to know what a tariff is, it is a tax imposed by one country on goods imported from another country. For instance, Trump could pass a tariff of \$1.00 on each case of imported beer.

If you are not worried about tariffs now, just know that they could affect a lot of the things that kids use nowadays. Some things that are imported from different countries include avocados, some parts of things in iPhones, bikes, peppers, papayas, dragon fruit, musk melon, mango, coconut, and much more.



Tariffs are expected to raise prices

"Tariffs will jack up the prices of things that we get from other countries," said Carol Leonnig, a reporter for *The Washington Post* and four-time recipient of the Pulitzer Prize.

"I think prices will go up and things will get more expensive," said Miss Rachel, the 4th grade aftercare teacher.

Some people are boycotting Tesla (an electric car made by Elon Musk) because they disapprove of or dislike Elon Musk. Other people are boycotting Musk by putting stickers on their cars that say things like, "I bought this before Elon went crazy." These are mainly on Teslas, but other people are putting stickers on their cars who also dislike Musk.



Many people do not like Elon Musk

SPECIAL SPOOKY SECTION: GHOSTS

By Oliver Constantino and Buraimoh Gbadamosi



Fiction

A Garrison Ghost Story ... With a Twist

Do You Believe in Ghosts?

We recently surveyed some of our fellow students on this vital question.

"Of course, I believe in ghosts because of Ben 10 and Ghost Busters," Chase (5th grade) said.

Lamar (4th grade) offered a different view: "No. Ghosts don't exist because they're only in cartoons."

Asked for his perspective, William (4th grade) said, "Yes, because I have seen some realistic pictures."

Henry (4th grade) had a particularly intriguing response. "Yes," he said. "I think that AI cars are driven by Casper."

One day there was a kid. He was moving to a new house. When he was opening boxes, he found a note that said, "Feed the boy in the basement."

I knew there was not a boy in the basement, but I wanted to check anyway.

I got my brothers and gave them each a cookie. I told them that I found a note that said, "Feed the boy in the basement."

I told them to go downstairs.

I pushed them downstairs.

And I heard them hit the ground.

They came upstairs and said that there was no monster. It was just a nice monster who likes cookies.

How to Defeat a Ghost If Necessary



THE SPORTS PAGE

Soccer Player of the Month

By Surya Chandrasekharan

The soccer player of the month is Lamine Yamal!

He is a 17-year-old Spanish footballer who plays for FC Barcelona. They recently beat Real Madrid 3-2 at the Copa Del Ray, which is a Spanish soccer tournament.

Yamal got a good haircut. He is being compared to Arda Guler, who plays for Real Madrid.

Asked for comment about Yamal, Garrison student Cheikh Tourad said, "He is the G.O.A.T. [greatest of all time] right now."



Interesting hair!

"The Great 8" Sets a Historic Record

By Hunter Kelley

Big news: The Washington Capitals' Alexander Ovechkin — also known as "Ovi" and "The Great 8" — beat the legendary Wayne Gretzky in goals, getting 895 goals in total.

The big goal happened on April 6th, in a game with the New York Islanders. It was amazing. The fans went crazy. I was there, and we all jumped high.

Unfortunately, The Great 8 broke the record in the Islanders' stadium, so the celebration was limited. But on April 10th, there was a celebration for Ovi before a Capitals game here in Washington.

Ovi is an interesting person. He always wears yellow shoelaces



Ovi scores his record-breaking goal

ARTS & CULTURE

All About Baggy Clothes

By Ariela Peña Espinoza

Have you noticed that more and more people are wearing baggy clothes? What you might now know is that they are actually making a comeback!

Baggy clothes were popular in the 80s and the 90s. Rappers like Eminem and Tupac used to wear baggy clothes.

Even though it is 2025, baggy clothes are still popular, still in style — and still so cool!

I mostly wear baggy clothes. My dad and even my uncle wear baggy clothes, too.

Baggy clothes include baggy pants (sometimes they cover your shoes) and mostly match everything. Sometimes they are expensive. Sometimes people wear baggy clothes with jewelry and baggy belts.

You can mix and match, too. You can wear baggy shirts with pants that are not baggy.

You can also get baggy sweaters, baggy jorts, and even baggy shoes.



Musician MC Hammer (above) wore baggy clothes in the 1990s. Billie Eilish (below) wears them today.



Boba tea comes in many different flavors

Get on the Boba Bandwagon!

By Amy Flora Isidro

Boba tea is a drink that has “popping pearls” that make it a fun and refreshing option when you’re thirsty for something tasty.

The best place to get boba tea is Kung Fu Tea in Silver Spring.

Breana (4th grade) said that she likes boba tea because it is good. She also likes the flavors and the popping pearls.

Dilbered (3rd grade) likes the strawberry flavor.

Yaretzi (4th grade) likes boba because it’s good and has different flavors. “It’s the best drink I ever tasted,” she said.

Sydney said she likes the flavor and popping pearls.

Get Moving with Contemporary Dance

By Saron Solomon

Contemporary dancing is not just one thing. It's a mix of ballet, jazz, and modern dance!

Contemporary dancing is a big deal. The process of learning can be hard or not to different people, but if you want to do it, you have to practice a lot because memorizing dances is really important, especially if you are doing a performance.

Agnes de Mille, a famous dancer and choreographer, once said, "To dance is to be out of yourself — larger, more beautiful, more powerful. This power, it is the glory on earth and it is yours for the taking."

Vicki Baum, a noted ballet dancer, once said, "There are shortcuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them."

Plenty of Garrison students agree.

"Dance is really fun and artistic, and it can relieve stress," Amelia (4th grade) observed.



Contemporary dancer

Your Next Book Obsession Has Arrived

By Amelia Ferry

Calling all my fellow book lovers!

The next drama/scary book is your bestie ... dun dun dun ... Percy Jackson!

If you love getting that tingly secondhand embarrassment, then the *Percy Jackson* books are the way to go.

First, the pros and cons of reading *Percy Jackson*: A con is that the books are long, so if you are a big reader, then you should try it out. A pro is that you will know a lot (and I mean *a lot*) of Greek mythology.

My favorite part is the teamwork and friendship throughout the book. They really make it the best!



Plenty of other members of the Garrison community agree. Ollie (4th grade) said, "I like that the book is cool."

"I think that it is very interesting and surprising," Saron (4th grade) said, "because situations pop up, but most of all it is cool and fun."

Aftercare teachers enjoy the books as well! Jennifer commented, "I really liked Greek mythology growing up and ... I really related to the main character." Rachel agreed, saying, "I think the book has really good character development."

Animal Review

By Claire Pittman

Our animal this month is the cat!

There are many different cats, including American shorthairs, Siamese, Burmese exotics, sphynx and Abyssinians.

Let's focus on the American Shorthair. This type of cat is popular and known for its friendly demeanor.

The American Shorthair is a breed of domestic cat believed to be descended from European cats brought to North America by early settlers.

According to the Cat Fanciers' Association, it was the eighth most popular pedigreed cat in the world for 2020.

Now let's turn to Siamese cats. Siamese cats are beautiful and known for their distinctive appearance. They are also very social and do well with a lot of activity and stimulation.

Asked for his views on cats, Karson (5th grade) said that he thinks "cats should not bite people."

Josiah (5th grade) had a slightly different take. He said "he loves cats."



There are many different types of cats!

Anime Review

By Josue Labaceno Vasquez

If you are a fan of anime series, then "Solo Leveling" is for you!

"Solo leveling is the best show because of the animation, and it has the best aura," Micah said. He described the main character as "tough and overpowered."

We appreciate Micah's insights. Here are some other important facts.

Fact #1 — Sung Jinwoo starts off as the weakest hunter but makes his way to top hunter.

Fact #2 — "Solo Leveling" started as a manga, which is a Japanese book for amines, instead of a series.

Fact #3 — The main character has dual daggers.



Fact #4 — Yoo Jinho is Jinwoo's loyal friend and president of the hunter's association.

Fact #5 — Beru, Jin-woos strongest shadow soldier, was once a human monarch who betrayed his own people and was punished by the gods.

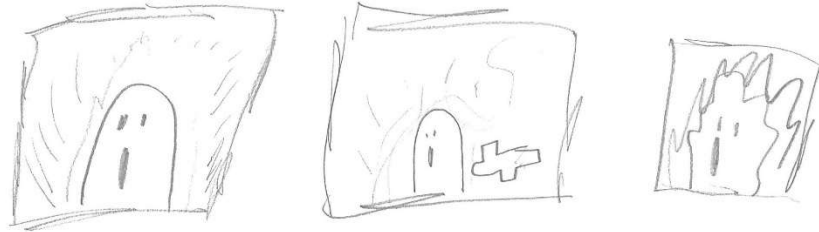
Fact #6 — The demon lords are capable of granting humans powerful magic abilities in exchange for their loyal work.

In other words, there are lots of interesting aspects to this series. If you like anime, you won't be disappointed!

CARTOONS

A Very Short Ghost Story

By Buraimoh Gbadamosi



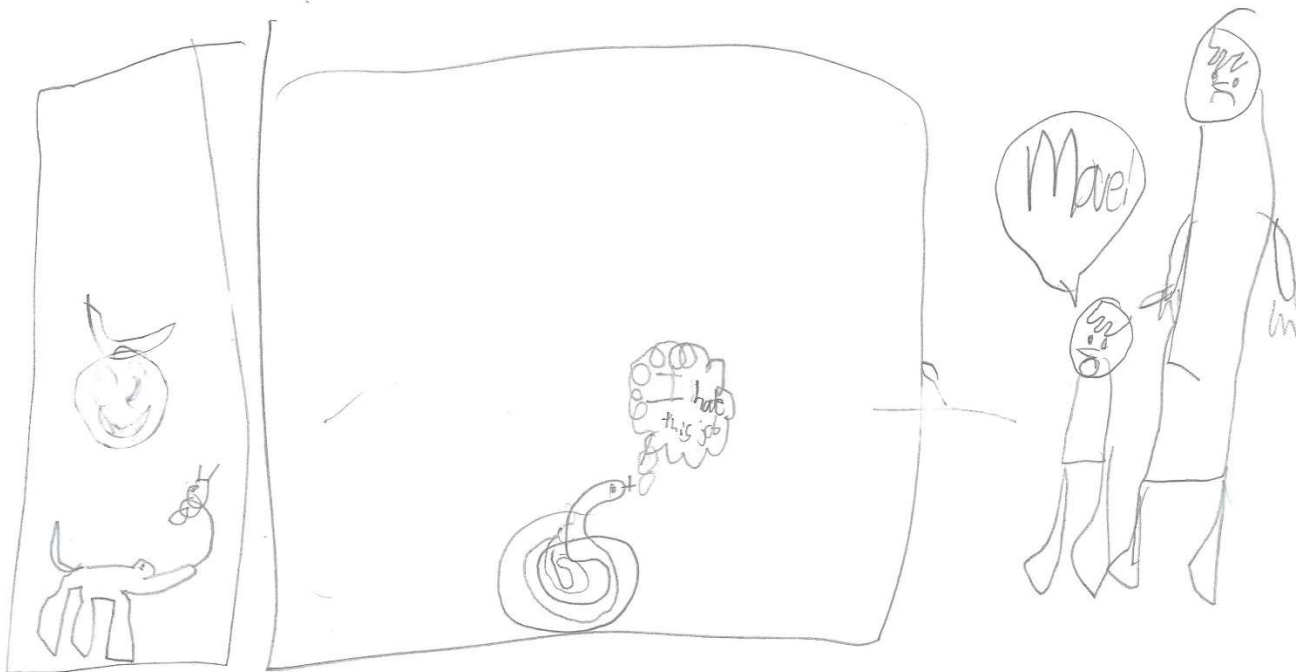
Trump Meets a Bald Eagle

By Luka Maru



What Happens When You See a Snake at the Zoo

By Luka Maru



A Note from the Editor

The staff of *The Wildcat Wonder* was pleased to welcome two more guests as we approach the end of the school year.

In March, the students welcomed **Ed Kelley**, the grandfather of Garrison student (and newspaper club member) Hunter Kelley. Ed Kelley has had a long and highly distinguished career as a journalist. He has been the head of a journalism school and received numerous prizes, and he is currently the president of the Board of Directors of the National Press Club Journalism Institute. He spoke with the students about the value of curiosity and how students can pursue their varied interests through journalism.



In April, the students were pleased to welcome **Carol Leonnig** to the club. Leonnig is an investigative reporter at *The Washington Post*, a four-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize, and the author of three best-selling books. She is one of the most well-respected journalists working in the country today. The students asked Leonnig about her career, and she gave them advice on how to improve their skills as journalists.



The Wildcat Wonder always welcomes constructive feedback and ideas. You can reach us by email at thewildcatwonder@gmail.com.