



MIDTOWN VOICE

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THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE MIDTOWN CENTER



LADY GAGA IS BANNED FROM CHINA?

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Fri. 70°/63°



Sat. 78°/66°



Sun. 80°/68°



Mon. 81°/72°



What's Going Down At Midtown?

By: Dorian Robinson

This is Midtown's 51st annual summer program. Following the grand 50th year anniversary, the administrators have very high expectations for the students to continue to improve the program.

According to Brian Parker, Program Director at Midtown Center, "I don't want to lose what has already begun at Midtown." He said the overall goal for Midtown is to help students become the best person they can be whether it is an athlete, student, friend, or son.

Mr. Parker believes overall the program has improved greatly. There has been a growth in the population of students at Midtown from last year. The main source of the growth is word of mouth. He also noticed that there are more kids coming from different neighborhoods. Mike Walsh, College Orientation Program Manager, also wants the program to continue to grow and expand population.

Midtown features multiple apprenticeships for the high school students. These include: Law, Public Relations/Communications, Engineering, Architecture, and Business. Here's a rundown to what each class is working on:

In the law apprenticeship, they have talked about the Charleston shooting, the little boy who was eaten by an alligator, and the laws of Midtown. They have even completed mock trials about popular cases.

According to Kyran Smith, a student in the law apprenticeship, believes the class is long due to the heavy workload, but it's worth it. "I'm learning a lot of useful things that I can use later in my life," he said, "it's changed my views on the world." Ricardo Franco, who is also in the law class, agrees with Mr. Smith that it is a great course. "I like law a lot," he began "I was very surprised by all the information needed for a case." Alberto Chavez had a lot to say and was very enthusiastic as he inspires to be a lawyer when he gets older. "It definitely gives me a preview of what to expect as a lawyer, and I feel like I have a good start, and a good basis of my future career." The students really enjoy the class and they have a good sense of what is happening.

In the Architecture course, the students are using different cardboard structures and piecing them together to make three-dimensional housing designs. There were some appealing designs including Kevin Diaz and Alejandro Quirarte's. They were working hard and accomplishing a lot.

In the engineering course they are getting busy early. The students have completed multiple projects. They have built a device that works like an oven, built a sling shot, and used simple coding to function a motor. They have more plans throughout the summer.

Business also started selling this week. We have a great selection of stores this year: Halftime Grill, El Azteca, and Midtown Pizzeria.

This year at Midtown is going to be exciting and we can't wait to see what Midtown has in store this summer.



Photocredit: Dorian Robinson & Luis Olmos

Midtown Apprenticeships include:

Law, Public Relations/
Communications,
Engineering, and
Architecture

Shout-Out to Apprenticeships: Law

By: Daniel Dominguez

Javier Favela giving us a brief description of what the Law apprenticeships has covered and what they are learning now. Students have covered a lot already in the past week, from learning about the government branches and powers, speaking about the Charleston shooting and re-enacting mock trials about the alligator incident at Disney World this past month. Everyone is engaged about the discussions and love participating in mock trials.

Kyrian Smith, Ricardo Franco, Alberto Chavez have written an article about Brexit. If you would like to learn more about it please turn to page 8.



Did you know..? 5 Facts About Midtown

By: Luis Olmos

1. Midtown Center for boys has 100% high school graduation and college enrollment in the past 16 years!
2. In 2009 midtown had kids that came from 252 different schools
3. Midtown has shaped people's lives from education to their own personal lives.
4. 92% of Metro and Midtown students gain acceptance to college-prep level high schools.
5. Last year they had their 50th anniversary. Midtown center for boys opened back in 1965

LOCAL NEWS

The History of The Taste of Chicago

By: Luis Olmos

On July 4, 1980 the first Taste of Chicago started off with 36 food vendors took part in this event. Out of the 36 vendors there is still one that keeps on participating and it's the Eli's Cheesecake. Eli's Cheesecake was created in the 1980's by Eli Schulman who only sold it in his restaurant, Eli's the Place for Steak. Working in his restaurant's kitchen, he created a cheesecake so rich and creamy that his customers proclaimed it Chicago's finest. As soon as the taste of Chicago came by, Eli participated and made a huge hits and their demand of cheesecakes skyrocketed, selling over 2 million slices! Now they are the largest bakery and sell about 20,000 cheesecakes yearly.

The 2015 Taste of Chicago brought around 1.4 million people!

According to Janet Rausa Fuller, from DNAinfo, "eight of the 36 vendors still operate in some form or another including: Aunt Diana's Old Fashioned Fudge, Fireplace Inn, Gaylord India, Guey Lon, Lawry's The Prime Rib, Leon's BBQ, Nancy's Pizza, and The Pump Room. 3 vendors that are now known as Wendy's, Yoplait, and Wisconsin Cheese no longer take part of the fest. The first year the Taste of Chicago started they blocked off Michigan Ave. between Ohio St. and Wacker Dr. and were expecting 100,000 people but more than 250,000 people showed up. At around 3 p.m. all restaurants were sold out of food making it a huge success. After this event, Mayor Bryne (who was Chicago's Mayor at the time) moved the festival to Grant Park where it is held up to this day.



The city moved the Taste of Chicago to Grant Park from Michigan Avenue in 1981. [Chicago History Museum]

The Taste of Chicago will be held July 6-10, 2016 in Grant Park from 11AM-9PM on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 10AM-9PM on Saturday and Sunday. Free admission.

Where to Cath the Fireworks This Fourth of July

By: Juan Perez

- Navy Pier on July 2 at 10:15 p.m. & July 4 at 9:30 p.m.
- Evanston - Clark Street Beach at 9:15 p.m.
- Glenview - Gallery Park at 9 p.m.
- Hoffman Estates on July 3 - Sears Center at 9:30 p.m.
- Itasca - Hamilton Lakes after 9:45 p.m.



Events in Chicago This Weekend

Blue Man Group

Experience the wonderful show of the Blue Man Group with original music with comedy, art, and science. The thrilling show is loved by all ages and they have something new to show off, new materials such as playing new technology with huge tablets of their own. You will see the elements of the Blue Man Group and how they use their imagination to bring joy. The show will start in July 1st, 2016 on 3133 N. Halsted St.

Ribs on River Cruise

Chicago is known for its BBQ, but nothing beats when it's in a boat on the Chicago's River. It features Butch's BBQ ribs with music and a cash bar. And it includes a 90-minute offer of amazing views of the city's world famous skyline and landmarks. This offer will only be available on Friday, July 1st and will begin at 8p.m. for a great deal for \$49.

Architecture Fireworks Cruise

This weekend, enjoying hanging out with your family and friends by going to see the spectacular views of Chicago's architecture as well as the city' firework. This memorable experience for everyone in the family and this tour will be a 90-minute tour. The tour will depart at two locations: Polk's Bros. Park and at the north corner of the Michigan Avenue Bridge. The cruise will start on the Chicago's River and sail into Chicago's beautiful city skyscrapers during the nighttime sky while fireworks are displayed. The cost will start at \$38 for adults and \$16 for children 12 years or under.

WORLD NEWS

Istanbul’s Ataturk Airport Deadly Suicide Bombings

By: Christian Quiroz



Three suicide bombers attacked Istanbul Airport late Tuesday evening, killing at least 41 people and injuring 239. Authorities said that 23 Turkish citizens, 10 foreign nationals and three people of dual nationality are among the dead. The Prime Minister of Turkey Binali Yildirim told reporters that the Islamic State was responsible for these bombings. Police shot the attackers outside the security gate of the airport’s international terminal. A senior Turkish official said that the attackers did not make it through the security gate before detonating their explosives.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan called on the world leaders to “take a firm stance against terrorism” He also said, “Terrorism strikes with no regard for faith and value. Nor do terrorist distinguish between their victims. We urge the world, especially Western countries, to take a firm

stand against terrorism.” White House press secretary, Josh Earnest, respond to the attacks and stating that, “Ataturk International Airport, like Brussels Airport which was attacked earlier this year, is a symbol of international countries connections and the ties that bind us together.” He also mentioned the support for Turkey and that with all our friends and allies around the world, we will continue to confront the threat of terrorism.

Olympic Games: Is Rio Ready?

By: Antonio Gonzalez

This year Brazil will host the Olympic Games. But is Brazil truly ready to host such an event?

Brazil is currently working on a series of problems in which both the visitors and citizens of Rio will face: traffic and viruses. Rio’s traffic is one of the reasons of why people are debating whether to go to Brazil or not. The city believes that they had a solution for this problem, and that is to build an underground railroad for all those looking for a quicker way of getting to the games instead of waiting in traffic. However, the construction will not finish until August 1, 2016, just four days before the games begin. "We are completely sure that everything will be done by August 1... Of course the schedule is tight, but we have 8,000 people working during the days and nights. Everything is on schedule,” says Rodrigo Vieira, secretary of transportation, after being asked about the construction.

Another problem Brazil is currently facing is Zika virus, which is a virus that can affect the fetus inside a pregnant woman. If the fetus gets the Zika virus, then it will be born with birth defects. Rio currently has that problem, and it is a big one. They still have to find a way to fight the virus, but with the virus, tourism will dwindle, and not many people will want to go to Brazil. Even some athletes like American cyclist Tejay van Gardener are refusing to go to Rio because of all the problems it has. Brazil must hurry and find answers for its problems or else it will be difficult to host the Olympic Games this year.



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WORLD NEWS/ENTERTAINMENT

In Hopes of a Better Future

By: Jan Murawski

"They stole my son's tractor; they stole 50 tons of barley and wheat. They stole everything, everything I worked for my entire life, gone in an instant," These are the words of an Iraqi man, Yaqin Habash, after the ISIS Militia arrived and stole everything the people had. It is a horrible occurrence for one to lose everything, but it was not just this man. This happened to every single person in the city of Qaraqosh. Not a single thing has been left for these people; each of them feels a level of emptiness, spiritually and literally. They've been robbed of their belongings and their security. Over 4.4 million people have become refugees and are fleeing their homes

There is not a positive sight for them see, yet they still push on past their monotone and bleak environment in hopes of building a better life for themselves and their children. Through the blazing sun and the scorched sand, they have endured. Situations like these have led governments to plea other countries in The United Nations to aid their cause, in hopes of crushing rouge groups like ISIS. They do this not only in hopes of restoring their own lands, but also in hopes of preventing these troubles for anyone else. Thankfully, in response to these attacks nations have responded swiftly and justly. Obama, for example, has recently amped up the war on ISIS. Many people are deeply concerned with the threats of ISIS and are responding; United States, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, along with several Arab nations and the Kurds, are all striking ISIS with ruthless assaults.



Clear Pepsi??

By: Christian Quiroz

Yes, it is true, the 90s are coming back!

They're bringing back Crystal Pepsi starting August 8, for a limited time only and we get to experience the glory that is see-through Pepsi once again. Canada will expect to see the soda hit shelves July 11. "Pepsi is all about the pop culture and few things are as hot right now in pop culture as the 1990s," said Linda Lagos, Director of Marketing for the Pepsi brand. The new Crystal Pepsi tastes like a normal Pepsi. It will only cost \$1.79 to enjoy the wonderful taste of the see-through Pepsi. Pepsi also made a game to celebrate the relaunch of the Crystal Pepsi. The game is called The Crystal Pepsi Trail, which is inspired by The Oregon Trail. The game is coming out July 7 of this year, stay tuned!



Who You Gonna Call? Ghostbusters?

By: Christian Reyes

The new Ghostbusters movie already has struck up controversy amongst its older fans. The upcoming reboot previewed a trailer with an all-female cast and now has changed its old theme song. The new song features Fall Out Boy and Missy Elliot and received numerous negative reviews.

The reason for the new song is because of a lawsuit between the original artist Ray Parker Jr. and Huey Lewis of Huey Lewis and the News. In 1995 Huey Lewis sued Parker claiming that the Ghostbusters theme song was a copy of their song "I Want a New Drug". After the lawsuit ended both parties were banned from speaking about anything in the lawsuit that was not disclosed in the press report according to MTV's Joseph Baxter. In the current suit, Parker is seeking compensation for breaking the agreement for the distress caused on his behalf, making the current song unavailable for use.

The new song is a remix of the original song by Fall Out Boy with Missy Elliot Rapping a verse near the end of the track. The fans of the original at Consequence of Sound have said that the song was "tragically defaced by pop-punk", and "it's the equivalent of a last minute high school project." Along with comparing the guitars to those of a First-Act and contrasting the drums to that of a default drum fill in GarageBand. Reviews from Twitter have stated that the song "barely classifies as music", and "the new #Ghostbusters theme is fake right?".

Luckily there is a version of the song more appreciated by the fans. The cover is done by a group of Japanese comedians. The song brings a more comedic feeling to the newly serious rendition by Fall Out Boy and Missy Elliot. Overseas the movie will be played featuring the Japanese cover rather than Fall Out Boy's.

ENTERTAINMENT

Lady Gaga Angers Chinese Fans After Meeting with the Dalai Lama

By: Christian Reyes

The pop star Lady Gaga has angered her Chinese fans after meeting with the Dalai Lama on June 26, 2016. The Dalai Lama does not have a good track record with the mainland Chinese, after he staged a failed uprising to free Tibet from Beijing’s rule he was exiled and had to flee to India where he still resides today. The Tibetan separations is a controversial figure amongst Chinese natives. According to The Guardian’s Associated Press, he has also made controversy amongst the Chinese people for allegedly supporting the Islamic State along with having “Nazi-like Policies” because of his opinions on Tibet and the Chinese mainland wanting to have a wall to separate the two countries.



The Dalai Lama and singer Lady Gaga appear together for a question and answer session on "the global significance of building compassionate cities" at the U.S. Conference of Mayors 84th Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana United States, June 26, 2016

Several artists have already shown support of the Dalai Lama’s cause and have later been completely banned from visiting china. Lady Gaga met with the Dalai Lama and recorded a 19-minute video discussing several topics such as meditation and mental health. After the video was released, users on Free Weibo, A Chinese forum, were censored for showing the pictures of her and the Dalai Lama along with showing distaste in the appearance saying things such as “an idol is not worth as much as an entire nation”, “she does not care about her Chinese fans” and, “she has given up on her Chinese market”. Several sources have said that she knew that meeting the figure would strike up the controversy with the Chinese government.

Artists like Bon Jovi and Selena Gomez have been banned after being accused of advocating for the Dalai Lama’s cause.

The Chinese government has started a ban on her music but can still be accessed on sites like QQ music and Net Ease. While a ban on her music seems serious it has not yet been blacklisted leaving her in a rather neutral spot. Her meeting has caused controversy amongst the Chinese people, several people have said that they should respect her decision and not be quick to boycott her and try to get her banned from visiting China, which could later impact any international tours of hers. Even though her being banned from visiting China may seem severe she has never actually visited the mainland and has only been to Hong Kong.

Along with Lady Gaga other artists have struck up controversy after meeting with the Dalai Lama. Artists like Bon Jovi and Selena Gomez have been banned after being accused of advocating for his cause: Bjork was banned after shouting “Free Tibet!, Free Tibet!” at a Shanghai concert according to BBC’s Ben Guarino, Oasis guitarist Noel Gallagher attended a free Tibet concert later leading to his banning , and Maroon 5 was banned for attending his birthday party.

Getting on china’s blacklist is relatively easy for artists like Taylor Swift. From CNN’s Sophia Yan Swift has had her album 1989 banned due to it sharing the same year as the 1989 pro-democracy riots, along with that her initial T.S. have also been censored due to it sharing them with Tianmen Square where police killed hundreds of civilians, but to other artists it can be nothing more than having to change lyrics at live shows.

Riddle of the Week:

What has a head and a tail, but no body?

(Answer is on page 8)



Joke of the Week:

"Knock, knock."

"Who's there?"

"Nobel."

"Nobel who?"

"No bell that's why I knocked."

EDUCATION

Is the US Really the Greatest in Education?

By: Jesus Ortiz

How do you think the United States is currently doing in the educational system? As a country, we hold eighth of the ten top Universities, including Harvard, Stanford, MIT. However, the United States is ranked 16 in the world, being trumped by Finland and Singapore. Singapore has revealed some of their secrets to a successful education. David Hogan, a Professor at University of Queensland, revealed two of Singapore’s secrets are “primarily focused on the transmission of conventional curriculum knowledge and examination performance”. Conventional curriculum in the statement means how Singapore wants their students to have concrete understanding of the subject and will always prepare for state assessments. It shows how Singapore cares about their students and how they want their students to have a successful life. On the other hand, Finland has high expectation for teachers, making them have a masters degree in education, but provides a relaxed life for the students, which is minimal homework, five hours of school, and few classes. Comparing both of these successful countries to the United States, the United States does fall

Summer Break Extended?

By: Armando Sanchez

Recently lawmakers weren’t able to approve a state budget which will affect Chicago Public Schools opening this coming fall. Although they were not able to approve a budget they plan to continue to meet until they reach a final decision. As of right now there is currently \$24 million on hold, which is only enough for two days. Forrest Claypool, CPS CEO, states, “Without a state education budget, I would say that most schools in the state won’t open”. Claypool believes that Bruce Rauner, Governor of Illinois, is the one at fault for this budget crisis and he wants the voters to pressure Rauner to do the right thing. But there is a whole different story coming from the Chicago Teacher’s Union(CTU). The CTU’s president, Karen Lewis, believes that the whole fault for the budget crisis is because of the district leaders and not the state legislators. One way that the CTU wants to fix the budget problem by increasing the taxes within the city in order to raise \$500 million for the school budget. Although this has not been mention by the state, it doesn’t seem like such a great idea as it will only benefit the city of Chicago not the whole state of Illinois. Many of the parents of fellow students within the CPS system are very worried of the effect that it will have on their children’s education. John Yundt, CPS parent, states, “I might leave Illinois. This is what we pay property taxes for... For these [Children] to get educated”. Another CPS parent , Sarah Lopez, states, “We just need our elected officials to be grow ups and show our kids how to compromise and do their jobs. We just need a budget,” Until this current moment CPS will not be entering the school year until late September or early October.



A sign from a strike on Chicago Public Schools



Why Do We Celebrate The Fourth of July?

By: Jesus Ortiz

Boom! Why is there loud noises outside? Sir, it is the 4th of July, the day when United States declared their independence. Oh really? Tell me more. Well sir, it all started off in 1776 when the Colonies went to war with the British, the most powerful country at the time. The cause for this war was because the colonies felt they were treated unfairly. The British government was putting taxes on most basic products, such as tea and paper, making it impossible for the colonies to buy them. Parliament raised taxes higher and higher, but would not give them any representation in the assembly. As the war came to its end, the 4th of July was announced the day of independence. The now called United States are independent and free from the control of the British. Wow, that was such an amazing story!



Originally entitled Yankee Doodle, this is one of several versions of a scene painted by A. M. Willard that came to be known as The Spirit of '76. Often imitated or parodied, it is a familiar symbol of American patriotism

WELLNESS

Good Reason To Take A Mental Break

By: Darien Williams

Taking a mental break can be helpful because everyone gets exhausted at school or at work.

A mental health break can make it so that you get back to work with more confident and be more productive.

Taking a mental break can help you out with stress. Whenever you are having a bad day find some time to take mental health break and relieve yourself of stress. According to the Sleep Foundation, studies show that taking a “microbreak”, which can be between 30 seconds to 5 minutes, can help improve your productivity by about 13%. It might not seem like a lot, but taking a couple micro breaks a day can add up quickly. The Sleep Foundation also mentions that taking about a two minute break to stand and stretch can help drive oxygen to the brain, resting your eyes can relieve eye strain symptoms, and even checking social media can help you stay more efficient.

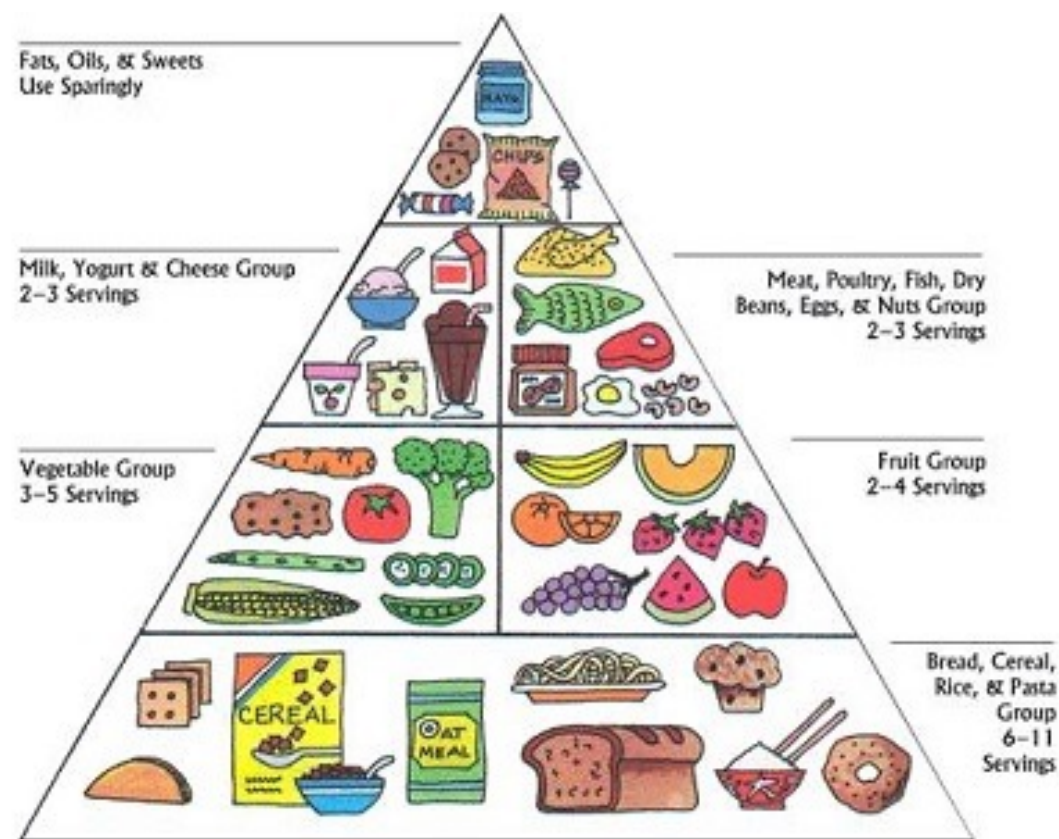


Easily Improving Your Diet

By: JanMurawski

The simplest way to improve your diet would start with fruits and vegetables. While there are many things we should try to eat, there are many things we should also avoid. Starting with whole grains and cereal; they’re probably the unhealthiest part of your diet, just eating straight bread or grain turns to sugars and enters into your bloodstream. Sugars and artificial sweeteners in juices and candy also are bad for one’s health. They confuse the body, and increase weight gain. It’s somewhat hard to avoid these things as they’re added to over 6,000 food products. High-fiber and carbs, only become unhealthy when consumed in large quantities, simply avoid eating too much bread or don’t eat that last slice of pizza.

Rather than chowing down on junk, try going for something that offers some nutrition. Berries are often considered good substitutes to candy; they offer large amounts of vitamins and other nutritional values. We should try to include veggies, high-protein meats, grains and dairy. To slowly start improving your choice of foods, try buying trail mix, almonds or sunflower seeds rather than chips. Slowly modify your diet so it doesn’t feel like a huge change. While working out plays a huge part in your physique, its effects will be flaky if you won’t improve your health.



Virtue of the Week

Midtown is a program that promotes character development and growth. Midtown especially values the virtues; today’s virtue is “**Prudence**”. Here are a few quotes that’ll aid you with the understanding of the word.

“Learning options will indeed mushroom for business students and leaders, but it will take **prudence** and shrewdness to find and utilize the best option.” -Warren Bennis

“**Prudence** is but experience, which equal time, equally bestows on all men, in those things they equally apply themselves unto.” -Thomas Hobbes

“Genius always gives its best at first; **prudence**, at last.” -Lucius Annaeus Seneca

THE MIDTOWN LAW EXCLUSIVE

BREAKING NEWS: Various countries devastated by Great Britain leaving the European Union in a close tie breaker vote by its people.

By: Kyrian Smith, Ricardo Franco, and Alberto Chavez

The European Union has a giant role in trade, diplomacy, global and foreign affairs. The EU was founded November 1, 1993 but has been around since the 50's with the six founding countries that include France, Italy, Netherlands, Luxembourg, and Belgium. The European Union was the result of the aftermath of World War II. The goal of the EU is to unite and band together European countries for economic wealth by enhancing their economic and political power as one.

EU Referendum Results: Full Analysis
Vote: 52% - 48%
16,141, 241 Votes against 17,410,742

In recent news Great Britain has decided to leave the European Union. Great Britain is ranked 6th for strongest economy in the EU, 10th globally. Britain has a GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of 2.678 trillion U.S dollars. Main reason of leaving the EU is the recent increase of terrorism, immigration policies have been a huge demand by Britain's citizens, something that is difficult to accomplish if you're part of the EU since all rules and policies affect all countries in that Union.

After the Second World War, six European countries decided to form an alliance: Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Germany. Eventually throughout the years, twenty two more countries joined the alliance; naming themselves officially as the European Union in 1993. According to Europa, the E.U was formed in order to end the rivalries between European nations, bringing peace and unity to establish a successful economic and political state. However, recently the United Kingdom announced that they no longer wish to be a part of the alliance. The reason because of this is due to their successful financial status, which makes the UK expected to contribute a large majority of resources and profits, close to an estimated 11.3 billion U.S dollars every year; and as their economy grows, their contribution is expected to increase as well. Due to the role that they have in the union, the United Kingdom no longer wants to be a part of that contribution and want to leave more money for themselves.

Personal Thoughts:

Alberto Chavez – Alberto a rising junior from Lincoln Park, believes that currency of Great Britain which is currently the pound, will have a significant drop, and that the economy will not be as strong as it was with the EU.


Kyran Smith - Smith a rising sophomore from Mt. Carmel, lover of British culture, has always though that they will separate from the E.U. because they didn't have they same currency and ideas as the E.U. in general. He believes that change is needed ,but not necessary. He can relate to both sides though, because with Britain leaving he believes that they will finally have the power to do their own stuff and accomplishment, he also feels like Britain should of change the immigration policies.

Ricardo Franco – A rising senior at Juarez, believes that Great Britain is going to struggle economically, and within the next year Great Britain is going to be more harsh in immigration policies especially with people from middle eastern parts of the world for the fear of terrorism.



Law apprenticeship students: Kyrian Smith, Ricardo Franco, and Alberto Chavez with their advisor Humberto Ochoa

Answer to the riddle:
A coin



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