



The Famous High School Chair

By Alyssa Tanner & Kimberli Martinez

Mr. Flowers, the East Hickman High School agriculture teacher, is retiring this year, and he received a very special gift from his students.

"I learn from them, they learn from me," Mr. Flowers proudly voiced. After teaching for nearly twenty-one years, he is more than satisfied with his work.

Mr. Flowers retires in May. In the students' opinion, it will be hard to replace him because no one will have the experience he has.

To commemorate his retirement from education, Hunter Capps, Ethan Wilson, Quinton Parker, Jared Fitts and other seniors built a rocking chair for Mr. Flowers' as a final goodbye. Coincidentally, the rocking chair ended up winning first place in the state fair under the shop prizes category.

The chair was made out of 1940's Ford parts, with the seats of the chair being made of marine vinyl metallic print. Mr. Flowers supplied the car parts for the students. The seniors were full of confidence that the chair would come in first place. "Nobody made anything as



impressing," agreed the students.

It took the pupils two weeks to construct the rocker. Since this was mainly an outside project, they worked four hours outside of school and two inside every day per week. The chair weighs about 300-400 pounds and is exactly 7 feet 8 inches tall. The students stated that it took four to five people just to move it into the bed of a truck.

The idea came from getting a piece of paper, drawing four lines, taking four measurements, and that is when the process took off with a bang. They originally used a regular, mini, wooden rocking chair for a base, then scaled it up quite a bit. The first thing they made was the leaf spring, and they finalized with the pinstripe. Students mentioned the hardest part was getting the square of the seat completely even.

Because of Flowers' teaching, this project was able to happen. Students got to experience working on something seriously and received the satisfaction of winning first place with their hard work.

"There were times we thought about cutting it up and throwing it away," said Jared Fitts. "Little piece of advice—if you want a easy project don't build a rocking chair," the student expressed.

The main builders enjoyed this experience immensely; however, it was quite the job. In the end, Mr. Flowers described his last year as, "very reminiscent," to him. Many seniors are sad that the subsequent students will never experience Mr. Flowers' teaching.

The Opium Plague

By Randy Meadows

Opium addictions have become a plague all across the US in recent years with over two million Americans addicted to illegally distributed medication. In 2017, according to The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there were more than 72,000 opioid related overdose deaths; this averages more than 130 casualties each day.

The poppy is a common flower that many people have around their homes. The seeds themselves, in logical amounts, can be found in many baked

Continued on Page 5

Elf: The Musical Ends the First Semester with All in Holiday Spirits

By Devlin Sheppler

The Class of 2019 finished up the first semester with a holiday flair with their Senior Play production of *Elf: The Musical*.

This theatrical rendition follows the original plot of its 2003 film counterpart. Buddy the Elf, played by Trey Sandlin, was accidentally taken to the North Pole as a toddler and raised among Santa's elves.

Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy travels to New York in search of his biological father Walter Hobbs, played by Jacob Hudson. Throughout the story, they attempt to build their relationship with increasingly chaotic results. Other incidents revolving around this include the romantic relationship building between Buddy and Jovie, played by Katherine Lester; the budding family relationship between Buddy and Emily and Michael Hobbs, played by Olivia Plunkett and Rhiannon Yates, and Buddy's workplace shenanigans at Gimbel's. Overall, the musical focused on the development of character relations.

When asked what they enjoyed most about their experience with the production, the actors had a wide variety of responses.

Aaron Capps, who played Papa Elf, responds, "Working with other people," while Rhiannon Yates exclaimed, "Just being on stage! I loved being able to work on my acting skills and watching my improvement." Olivia Plunkett added, "Either Waffle House after the second show or everyone being super cramped in the wings during sets." Jacob Hudson replied, "The performance itself."

Olivia Plunkett and Rhiannon Yates both noted that the most difficult portion of the play was the music, simply because it wasn't in the original film version. The most difficult part for Aaron Capps was getting into character and portraying reactions. He felt that "it's difficult to portray how the character feels about something that happens in a scene and keeping in mind who the character is and how they think."

Overall, the play delivered a cheerful experience to its audience with its charming musical numbers and heart-warming family themes.

Pictures of Senior Play's *Elf: The Musical* are located on Page 12

INSIDE THIS EDITION

PG. 2 MORE THAN A TEACHER; THIRD ANNUAL VETERANS DAY

PG. 4 SOPHOMORE SPOTLIGHT; WITH THE TOUCH OF A BUTTON; MISSING CHRISTMAS ALREADY?

PG. 8 LOST IN THE MAKING - BOOK TO MOVIE ADAPTATIONS; IS SCHOOL TAILORED MORE TOWARDS GIRLS?

PG. 9 BALLET: THE ART OF DANCE, GRACE, AND BEAUTY

PG. 10 BLAST FROM THE PAST? MAYBE NOT.

PG. 11 CINEMATIC WORLD OF 2019

More Than a Spanish Teacher—Mr. Scott Angell

By Laurianne Harvus

Mr. Scott Angell, a veteran and a teacher, has not had a course like others.

While barely into his 50s, he has already lived many life experiences.

Teaching at East Hickman High School since January 2010, Mr. Angell also taught in Nashville in both high school and middle school.

In his own high school experience, Mr. Angell had French class from 8th until 12th grade but only one year of Spanish during his senior year. However, he went on to study Spanish in the Army and has been teaching Spanish since 1999.

As a student in high school, Scott Angell was a respectful student who did his best. “For me, teachers played a very important role in my life,” Mr. Angell said. His favorite classes were French and journalism, taught by the same lady. Mr. Angell reminisces, “She was a wonderful woman. She made me feel special and kept me going. She would periodically check to see how things were going for me at home.”

An excellent student who didn’t know his grades could turn to money for college, Mr. Angell decided to join the military. “Well, I didn’t know how, but I knew I was definitely going to a university, so I decided I was going to join the army.”

Mr. Angell signed up to be a

translator but without any goals to especially learn Spanish. He recounts that “... because of all what was going on at the time in Central America the Army decided I would learn Spanish.”

In addition to his linguistic work in the Army, Mr. Angell wanted to represent the 82nd Airborne as an ambassador, so he auditioned for the All-American Chorus. To get there, he would have to do something out of the ordinary. He jumped out of planes and became a paratrooper, definitely not a usual activity for everybody.

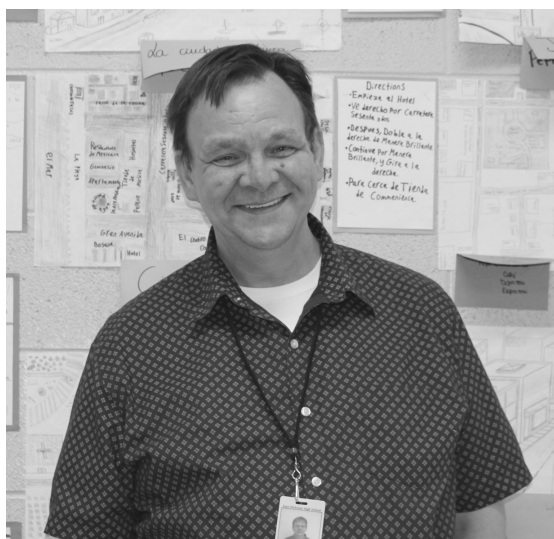
Mr. Angell explains he served during peacetime. So, as a member of the Army’s chorus, he represented the Airborne at any events related with the military or visits from dignitaries. “They liked us, we were very good. We went there and just performed,” he said.

After Mr. Angell spent four years in the Army, he came back and started college. “Thanks to the Army, it was easy to turn my Spanish into a college degree,” Mr. Angell explained.

Alternating between college and working, Mr. Angell graduated from Tennessee Tech University, located in his hometown of Cookeville, in 1998. Mr. Angell started his life as a new Spanish teacher with many goals and dreams for his students.

Scott Angell does the best he can for his students. “I make mistakes daily, but I try really hard to let my students know I care” he said. “I remember how it made me feel to have a teacher recognize my accomplishments outside of school.”

To him, the best thing about a teacher’s job is to see a student who does not believe in himself or herself begin to



realize that he or she can do anything. “For a student to gain a sense of pride,” he interjects.

“I want them to see [that] no matter what happens or what people say about you— create your life; your identity doesn’t depend on what others think about you,” states Mr. Angell.

Because education is vital to Mr. Angell, he is also concerned about the apathy of some students. To see students who do not realize the value of education or students who do not realize teachers are here to support them is definitely a hard part for him. However, Mr. Angell explained that, sadly, the hardest thing about being a teacher is losing students and to see young people hurting.

In addition to his work at East Hickman High School, Mr. Angell started leading school trips abroad. The next school trip will be to Peru in 2020, and Mr. Angell is very excited about it and likes traveling. “I love to go to new places. I see a road, I want to see where it goes,” he said.

Mr. Angell has been in many places in Europe such as Ireland and Spain. He also led a tour to England. For him, all the experiences while traveling are deep, good, and meaningful.

Mr. Angell also enjoys watching sports, especially when it is football. “I support the Titans,” he said.

Another thing Mr. Angell likes is food and cooking. He is not afraid to try new things. “Food brings people together,” he explained.

Mr. Angell dreams for others and wants to see people laughing and smiling. “The students are my life” he said as he spoke with emotion and lots of memories.

Scott Angell is more than a Spanish teacher—he is a veteran, a traveler, and an empathetic person. He is someone very interesting who has had many unique experiences, and his vision for the future is to see many more interesting people and places.

Third Annual Veterans Day Program

By Devlin Sheppler

On Friday, November 9th, East Hickman High School held its third annual Veterans Day program in the gym—this time with a unique connection.

Organized by Mrs. Robyn Emerson, the program serves to honor veterans all around the country and especially in Hickman County. The program aimed to honor Corporal William Franklin Lyell, a veteran from Hickman County that served in the Korean War.

In addition to this, the event featured speeches given by Mrs. Emerson and Mr. Robert Mitchell, rites by the Centerville Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps, and performances by East Hickman High School’s band and choir.

During the program, special mention was made to Corporal William Franklin Lyell, the only native of Hickman county to receive a Congressional Medal of Honor. Because little was known about him, Middle Tennessee State University student Catie

Latham and Mrs. Robin Castleberry teamed up to uncover some information.

Corporal Lyell was born in Hickman county on February 14th, 1929. Corporal Lyell was a member of the United States Army, Company F, 2nd Battalion, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He served in the Korean War from late 1950 until early 1951 where he fell due to mortal wounds he attained near Chup’a-ri, Korea. Cpl. Lyell passed away on August 31st, 1951, before posthumously receiving the Medal of Honor for his actions.

In an effort to memorialize him, the alumni/faculty pair is establishing a display in the library. “Basically, it’s going to be a memorial exhibit kind of thing. We’ll have his photo and the official citation just so people actually remember him,” Latham added. The citation she referred to is the excerpt given with his Medal of Honor. In addition to this, plans are made to name the school library after him, but no official name has been selected as of now.

When asked about how she came across Lyell’s story, Latham stated that “it was a complete accident. I was looking for

something entirely different for school.” While this effort isn’t specifically for MTSU, the university is allowing her to work on it. Latham has a Bachelor’s degree in History, and is currently working towards a Master’s Degree in Public History, meaning she will be working with museums and other historical programs.

In regards to her cooperation with Castleberry, Latham remarks that “I texted her out of the blue and was like ‘Hey, what do you know about this?’ and from there, we both started looking into it.”

According to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs: Office of Public and International Affairs, Veterans Day originated as Armistice Day on November 11th, 1919—the first year anniversary of the end of World War I before eventually becoming a national holiday in 1938. The name “Veterans Day” didn’t come into being until 1954 when its name was officially changed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. We celebrate Veterans Day to commemorate the men and women who either have or are currently serving in our armed forces.

<p>Location:</p> <p>7723 Clearview Church Lane Lyles, TN 37098</p>	
<p>Hours Of Operation:</p> <p>Mon-Thurs: 9 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.</p> <p>Fri: 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.</p> <p>*closed on weekends*</p>	<p>Phone & Fax:</p> <p>{P} (931) 670 - 6035</p> <p>{F} (931) 670 - 6399</p>
	<p>Hours Of Operation:</p> <p>MON - FRI</p> <p>8 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.</p>
<p>Phone & Fax:</p> <p>{P} (615) 446-8043</p> <p>{F} (615) 446-7556</p>	<p>Location:</p> <p>127 Crestview Park Drive Suit 100 Dickson, TN</p>

Sophomore Student Spotlight: Cole Biggs

By Laurianne Harvus



Cole Biggs likes his sophomore year so far. As a matter of fact, he even thinks his sophomore year is easier than his freshman year.

While enjoying this year, Cole says he still prefers his freshman year. “Probably because I was new, I didn’t know everybody,” Cole relates. Freshman year was more difficult, but also more fun.

On second thought, Cole added that even if his sophomore year is easier, he still expects to get good grades to make proud his parents. Cole also wants to look ahead to the future and “grow up” this year. Cole already has plans after graduation. His goal is to attend the University of Tennessee to study biology in order to become a game warden.

Cole clearly explained why he wants to become a game warden or in other words “a nature cop.” Cole wants people to respect the nature as he does. “I like the outside” said Cole.

However, Cole also says he has considered becoming a truck driver. It is a unique plan, and it is a match for Cole who likes driving and trucks. One of Cole’s best memories is driving his dad’s truck.

Cole also likes driving 4-wheelers. Cole says he enjoys going fast and getting scared. His predictably favorite video games are driving games.

Some of Cole’s other interests include football and fishing. He played football in 3rd grade until 8th but has not continued this sport into high school.

With his love of the outdoors, Cole joined the new fishing team. For someone who likes fishing, it is a great opportunity. “I don’t catch much but it’s fun” Cole said about his experience.

Additionally, Cole fishes as often as he can, including times he goes with his dad. Even with these experiences, Cole states, “I fish less than I would like to.”

Whatever the activity, Cole stays close with his family. Cole said he likes spending time together by activities such as driving or fishing. Cole also remarks that his favorite time of the year is Christmas, which also means spending more time with family.

If Cole could be somewhere else right now he would go to Alaska. “I like the cold,” he says as an understatement.

When talking about goals for the future, Cole jokingly remarks that as one of his goals “he wants to read and change minds so that people will give him money.”

Cole’s interview reveals that he is close to his family, loves to joke around, and is definitely shaped by his love for the outdoors.

With the Touch of a Button

By Alyssa Tanner

Rushing to click the record button in order to keep one's favorite song is an exhilarating activity that kids today do not know. The way society listens to music continues to evolve. People did not always have easy access to the music of their choice. Now, people are able to listen to music whenever and wherever they want. This change has rigorously affected teens in both positive and negative ways.

People today are able to listen to any artist, song, or genre with the touch of a button. Tara Parker-Pope from the New York Times voices, “Teenagers listen to an average of nearly 2.5 hours of music per day. “They use platforms, such as YouTube, iTunes, Pandora, Spotify, IHeartRadio, and many others, to meet their music needs.

Before these apps came out, teens would have to watch MTV for hours waiting for the song to play, listen to the radio, or carry around big CD cases to listen to music using a disc player. The iconic Sony Walkman is a 1980s technology cassette player that was the first most portable way of listening to music.

Some people claim that the way people listen to music now changes the real connection to the artist and the song because they did not buy and actually own the song, but rather just download it and then delete it later. In the past, hours were spent trying to pick out the CDs to carry around all day; this generation just blindly puts in earbuds and goes along with the day.

The new, quick way of listening to music can influence teens both positively and negatively. “When teenagers use music as a mood-modifier, it can be used to reinforce and perpetuate negative emotions as well as positive emotions,” vocalizes Jae Allen in the article, “How Does Music Affect Teenagers’ Emotions?” Music can help teens express themselves, give them a sense of belonging, help release or control their emotions, and help build empathy.

It can also calm down teens and help relieve stress. “School can be a stressful place. Anything that can reduce stress in school helps not only a student, but also their peers and their instructors as well,” proclaimed Frank Laughlin in his article, “The Remarkable Effects Music Can Have On Student Success.”

However, music with violent lyrics can increase both aggressive thoughts and feelings in young adults. It can also alter their emotions and perception of the world, themselves, and their peers. Music can also alter teens’ comprehension. Some teenagers cannot focus on two things at once. For example, listening to music could keep the pupil too focused on the beat or lyrics to complete their assignment.

Teens automatically put in earbuds and leave them in all day. At school, it can distract them from their work, and when they are out in the world, driving or walking, it can distract them from their surroundings, this could result in serious injury.

Missing Christmas Already? Read Up.

By Laurianne Harvus

Many of the people in the world celebrate Christmas. However, everyone does not celebrate Christmas with the same traditions.

For some people, Christmas remains a religious observance, but for others, Christmas is more of a family holiday or a good way to spend time with a close circle of friends and family.

Christmas is Navidad in Spanish, Noel in French, or Natale in Italian, and many countries participate in the holiday. Christmas is like a bridge connecting countries as different people enjoy celebrating by sharing, giving, and eating.

It is more than a season, it is about traditions and feelings. While some people do not especially like Christmas, some others wait impatiently for Christmas straight after Thanksgiving.

It is pretty difficult to not get into the Christmas spirit in the United States. The radio, the stores, and the decorations turn everything around from before Thanksgiving to Christmas.

The warm feelings that surround the holiday exist worldwide, but no one has the same traditions or the same ways for celebrating this event.

The Christmas tree tradition spans many countries for hundreds of years. In Ukraine, a popular old Christmas story with multiple versions tells about a poor family who is not able to afford decorating their Christmas tree. During the night of Christmas Eve, while the family is sleeping, a spider apparently covered the tree with spider webs. On Christmas morning, the spider webs turned magically into silver and gold. For some people, finding a spider could be creepy, for others, decorating a Christmas tree with fake spiders on webs gives joy and means good luck.

Another legend about the tree, attributed to Germany, brings people to hang a pickle as the last ornament on the Christmas tree. The first child to find the pickle gets an extra present!

In Norway, for Christmas and not for Halloween, some people believe Christmas comes with the arrival of evil spirits and witches. Some Norwegians still traditionally hide their brooms before going to bed on Christmas eve.

Additionally, the Swedish people understand that a nicely decorated Christmas tree needs to be protected. Their solution is a goat. As it sometimes happens, you can find a goat next to the Christmas tree. In addition, to protecting the tree, it would remind them of the fact that Jesus was born in a manger. In the city of Gavle, Sweden, a huge straw goat is built every year since 1966. The goat can be as tall as 43 ft. The tradition includes ‘unofficially’ burning the straw goat, usually by vandals or arsonists.

In Spain, especially in Catalonia, another kind of decoration can be found. The weirdest for some and the funniest for others is a traditional figurine called “El Caganer” which literally means in English, “The Pooper.”

Continued on Page 8

Continued on from Page 1

goods; poppy seed as a topping or poured into a bread mix is a common occurrence, especially in Europe.

It has been cultivated and used, on record, from as early as 3400 B.C. by the Mesopotamians. Opium, however, is a reddish-brown powder extract from these plants, which is then turned into liquid or solid ingestibles. These drugs are used medically for analgesia and muscle relaxation—painkillers.

Opium has been used to treat illness and severe pain for centuries, but the problem occurs with overuse and addiction of the drug as a narcotic. Opioids are euphoric, which results in a heightened sense of happiness and relief from physical pain, plus the relaxation often soothes the user off of their high by falling asleep. The drug causes one's adrenaline to pump, which in turn causes the entire body to work harder. Exposure to this causes damage to the heart, lungs, liver, brain, and reproductive system. It destroys brain cells, the nervous system, and fertility. This leads to many other problems and diagnoses that usually result in more opioid prescriptions.

An estimated 80% of these addictions start from a prescription drug given because of a broken limb, bad back, or other injury. People become addicted to the medication before the prescription is ever taken away. In addition to this, as any painkiller operates, they do not remove the pain but rather numb it; which means when the medication wears off, the pain comes back. Continuing to dose means that one's body will not know how to respond to pain. When they come off of the prescription, they begin to hurt in places they never realized hurt before. They become reliant on opium to keep them from being in what is perceived as constant, unrelenting pain.

Thus emerges the illegal market for prescription and homemade opium. Many dealers are people with disorders or bad health who receive a monthly prescription of around 30 painkillers which have a street value of around \$14 each. Their prescription may cost around \$60 after insurance, but at this price they

can make a return of over \$400 under the table. Other dealers create their own, back-alley versions, such as heroin, which are far more dangerous. Aside from the risks of sharing needles or respiratory related issues from snorting or smoking opium, these home concoctions are often more addictive and powerful than the medical versions and are proven to contain a large amount of lead. These illegal drugs cause a large portion of overdoses.

Overdoses on opium have similar symptoms to lead poisoning which does not help the situation with illegal drugs. Convulsions, seizures, heart attacks, fainting, comatose conditions, and severe brain damage are frequent effects to both opium and lead, resulting in an amplified effect when someone is affected by both at once. In addition to the immense returning pain, the lack of opium causes an addict to become emotionally erratic and sometimes even jittery with traits similar to Tourette's syndrome, displaying jerky, random mannerisms or speech patterns. Emotions will fluctuate wildly due to a damaged part of the brain which produces dopamine, a natural compound in the body that fuels happiness.

The CDC reports, "From 1999 to 2016, more than 200,000 people died in the United States from overdoses related to prescription opioids. Overdose deaths involving prescription opioids were five times higher in 2016 than in 1999. More than 40% of all U.S. opioid overdose deaths in 2016 involved a prescription opioid, with more than 46 people dying every day from overdoses involving prescription opioids." The amount of opioids prescribed in 1999 versus 2017 was reduced by 20.4%; but, as the CDC states, "In 2017, however, there were still almost 58 opioid prescriptions written for

every 100 Americans."

The number of opioid related deaths increases annually, putting more and more people either in a coffin or prison. "Among people with prescription opioid use disorder, nearly 20 percent had criminal justice involvement," says National Public Radio (NPR).

Unlike many other drugs, opium affects an older crowd and draws in many more people with severe medical issues. "Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) data indicates that most people who report prescription opioid misuse in current cohorts initiated use in their early to late 20s, which may explain why prescription opioid mortality disproportionately affects adults aged 25 to 54," says nih.gov.

Stopping these addictions is not as simple as writing fewer prescriptions. Though this may have a long term benefit in preventing future addicts, current data shows that less legal opium means more illegal opium. This means that for those already addicted, hope becomes lost for safer drugs and overdose becomes inevitable as they explore the black market drugs. The only way to tackle the issue without a severe amount of casualties is rehabilitation for those with substance disorders.

Many people who are addicted to opium do not know they are caught in a vicious cycle they can not see. If you suspect that someone you love has an addiction, SAMHSA's National Helpline, 1-800-487-4889, is a confidential, toll free, 24/7, 365-day-a-year, information service for people facing substance use disorders. This service provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations.

Faculty Lip Sync Battle



March 7th

7 PM

\$5 Admission

**East Hickman High School
Auditorium**



Compliments Of McDonald's Funeral Home

*102 West End Av-
enue, Centerville TN,
37033*



*Obituary Lines
Ph. 729-3561,
Fax 729-2072*

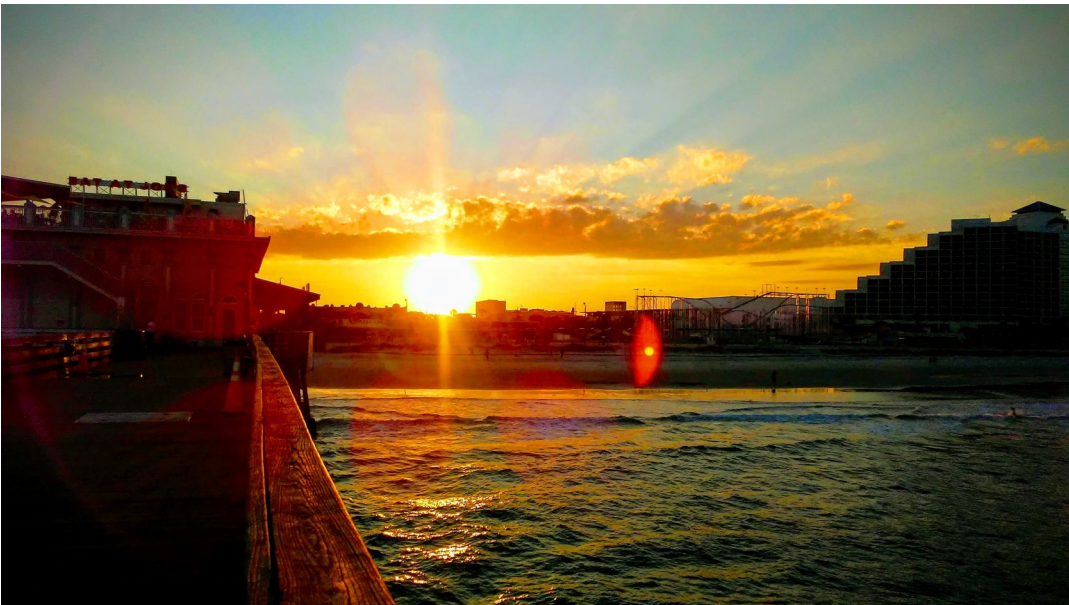
BLUE

Skyla Adcock - "Mara," Digital Art

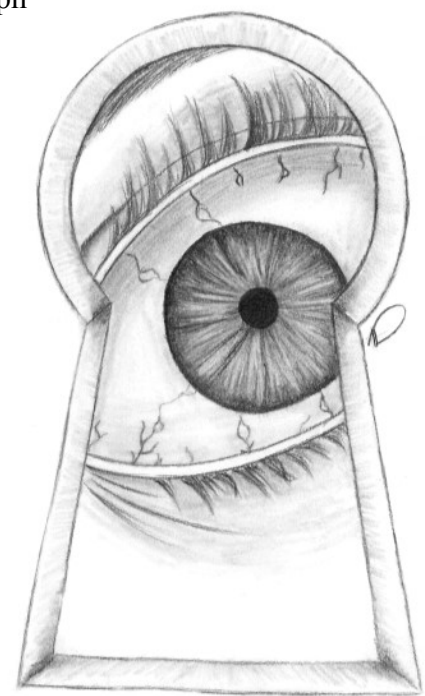
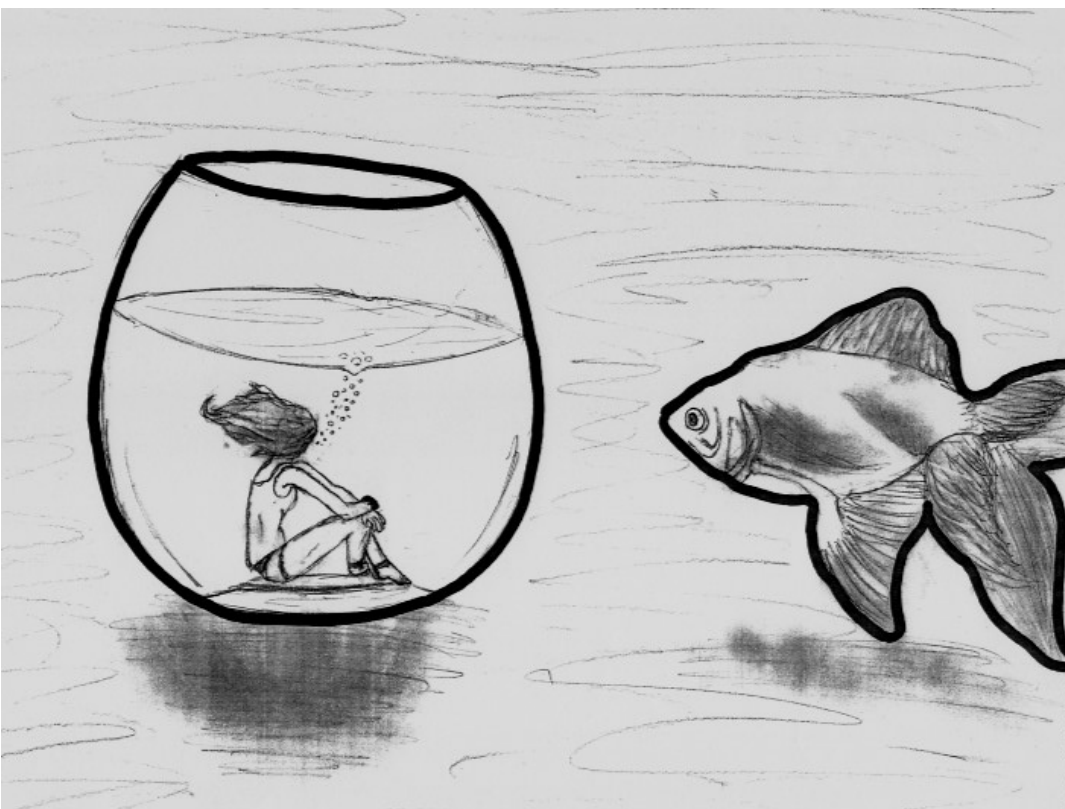


Lilly Thompson - "Dogwood," Photograph

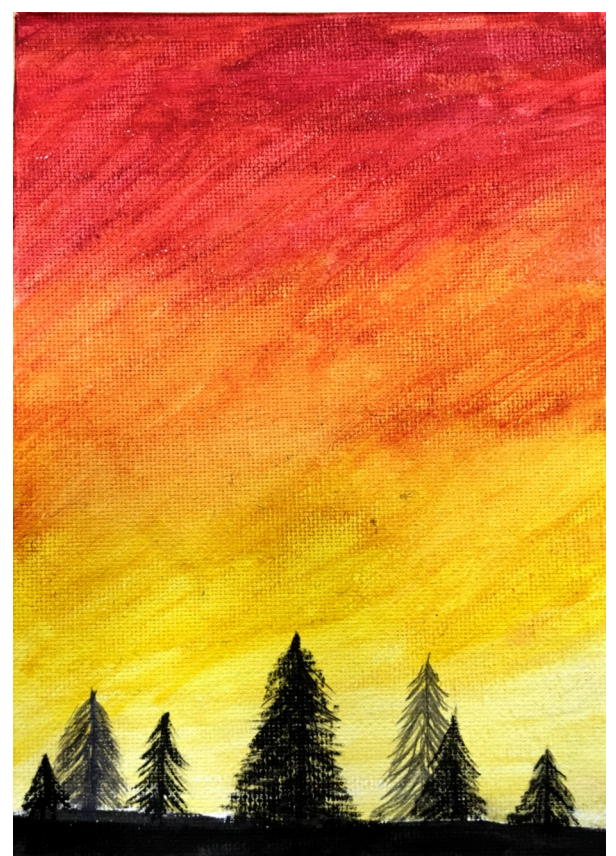
Lilly Thompson - "Florida Sunset," Photograph



Samantha Reese - "Opposite Reality," Pencil



Taylor Dungey - "Secrets," Pencil



Kimberli Martinez - "bOb RoSs WhO?"
Watercolor

INK

Landen Poth - "Waterfall," Photograph



The Lonely Street

Alyssa Tanner

As she walked down her street,
The other kids didn't miss a beat.
They push her around, but she won't admit defeat.
Alone she walked, down the street.

She feels alone,
She stands alone.
Her best friend took a rain check,
But everyday it stormed.

The other kids never understood,
Why won't she just join the hood?
Everybody had fun, even her best friend.
Will she attend?
Their eyes were as red as fire.
Could this be the end?

No. She stood alone and tall,
No worry at all.
The deep butterflies fly away;
She knows the path she takes
Leads to a great life someday.

She will look back
And be glad
She didn't follow them
Down their path.

The street she takes is hard,
But she must stay on guard.

As she walks
Down her street,
Her great destiny
She is soon to meet.

Kia Min - "Supergirl," Pencil



Skyla Adcock - "Scylla," Pen and Ink



Continued from Page 4

This was originally a red-capped peasant who represented the basic humanity of all. However, this tradition has been commercialized, and there are new versions of “El Caganer” every year with diverse faces of celebrities and politicians.

The second unusual, but more ‘normal’ tradition, still from Catalonia and extending through other places in Spain, is “El Tio de Nadal” or the Christmas log in English. It was originally only a wooden log, but now people give it a smiley face with two legs.

Far from Europe and America, celebrating Christmas on a beach is a possibility in Australia—strange but true. To some extent, Christmas falls during the summer holidays. As an example, Australia, located in the southern hemisphere, has their highest temperatures between December and February. So, who could imagine Santa Claus walking on the beach during a sunset?

As far as Christmas dinner is concerned, while some families insist on creating the perfect dinner for Christmas Eve, others solve this big deal by eating...fast food?

Eating KFC for Christmas dinner became popular in Japan through a marketing campaign which advertised “Kurisumasu ni wa kentakkii!” (Kentucky for Christmas!) beginning in 1974. This year an estimated 3.6 million, roughly 3% of the population, took their families to KFC for their dinner on December 25th. Every Christmas, millions of people wait in long lines in order to get their Christmas chicken at KFC. Some of them even do a pre-order. For KFC, Christmas in Japan is their busiest time of the year.

This next unusual tradition is for all roller skating fans. Located in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, people do not drive or walk to Christmas mass—they roller skate! At 8am, all the roads get closed in the city of Caracas to provide safety for festivities and the people roller skating to mass. The children tie a string around their toe and let the other part of the string hang out the window. As the roller skaters pass next to the window, they will pull the string so the child will know it is time to get up and put on roller skates.

With all the different cultural traditions, everyone has their own way to bring joyfulness to the holiday season. Christmas traditions show how much we are all different but also unified at the same time. Are you missing Christmas, yet?

Lost in the Making Book to Movie Adaptations

By Kimberli Martinez

When a novel gets enough positive attention, producers consider turning it into a movie; however, adaptations can go either way, a positive direction where fans are satisfied with the finished film or a negative road that causes uproar among

the fan base.

While writing a book or novel, the author tends to go into great detail, to be able to tell the story in an entertaining way. When a novel gets its own movie, many changes may need to be made for a visual portrayal. Of course, fans are not expecting a totally accurate product, just something that follows the story's plot, character expression, and setting.

It is nearly impossible to remake a book into a movie accurately with the film fitting into the traditional 1 ½ -2 hour time frame. Fans normally do not have patience for anything longer.

Movie producers may experience some stress or pressure from fan bases during a book adaptation. If viewers do not enjoy their work, directors will lose reputation, the book may get some negative attention, and previous fans may drift away from the story.

During the process of producing a movie based on a book, producers have to pay attention to the cast, plot, setting, dialogue, and overall how the book was written. Movie producers will sometimes add scenes and dialogue to make a story flow more easily.

Oddly enough, an author does not have much say in their movies. Once movie rights are signed over, he or she cannot decide what parts of the story are included or excluded.

An example of a book with a negative reputation following the cinematic picture is *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*. Author Rick Riordan apologizes for the *Percy Jackson* movies, which are immensely inaccurate and do not tell the whole story. In an open letter Rick Riordan exclaims, “I would rather have my teeth pulled without anesthesia.” than watch the adaptations of his own novels.

There are theories of why the movies had such a bad adaptation. Fans believe it could be child labor laws that prevented the main characters’ real ages to be matched or that the directors wanted well-known actors, so people would see and recognize them.

When the first movie was released in 2010, five years after the book’s release date, fans were enraged almost instantly. The more they watched, the more fans were disappointed. Not only were the ages drastically different, but also the plot was almost entirely skipped. Minor details that could have been solved were ignored which angered big fans more. The movie was given a score of 49% on the *Rotten Tomatoes* official website.

A story with a better, but still not perfect adaptation is *Holes*, an adventure fiction story by Louis Sachar. Fans had a positive reaction to the movie production in April of 2003. 76% of the movie’s audience were satisfied with the finished film.

Books and movies will always be separate; Louis Sachar author of *Holes* says, “I think of a book and a play, or a book and a movie, as two separate things — I don't think of it as my novel having a new life.”

A perfect book to movie adaptation may just be unreachable. It is something that just cannot be helped, most producers do not have the time nor budget

for a completely accurate remake. Fans also do not have time to sit down and watch an eight hour film.

New book to movie/show creations to be expecting in 2019 are *Little Women*, *All the Bright Places*, and *Catch-22*. Those are just a few of many that may get book-lovers excited. Some fans will not be as happy as others with the finished product.

Most fans are still grateful when their favorite novels get put up for movie production. It makes their prized stories open to the whole world, allowing passage into the fictional realm created by the novelist for people who do not particularly enjoy reading as a pastime.

Is School Tailored More Towards Girls?

By Elizabeth Gordon

Due to differences in behavioral development and learning abilities, schools are noticing a gap between the academic performances of males and females of all age groups.

As they are known to develop certain behavioral skills faster, studies show females tend to excel further in school as opposed to males who are seemingly falling behind.

Schools vitally depend on students’ capability to sit still and pay attention for long periods of time. Because of this dependency, problems are arising in classrooms as boys seem to struggle more in class than girls due to differences in behavioral development, motivation, and learning abilities.

While they are less likely to attain proficient grades, participate in advanced classes, and attend college, males often score as well as or better than females on most standardized testing, but typically have lower grades in class. Why? A 2015 study from *The Journal of Human Resources* article “Leaving Boys Behind” gives an intriguing answer. Teachers of classes as early as kindergarten factor good behavior into grades — and girls, as a rule, perform far better than boys in that aspect due to a difference in maturity and motivation.

Males have lower motivation and are often peer pressured to be “too cool for school” in which they may act rowdy and misbehave. As children and even young adults, behavior in class is often valued more than actual test scores and, not acknowledging the need for movement leads to discouragement to perform academically for some males.

Behavior is not the only gap as studies show most students learn best through kinesthetic learning. Kinesthetic learning is a tactile teaching style that involves physical activities to convey information. Though the majority of students learn more easily hands-on, the male population strongly gravitates towards this. Opposed to boys, girls seem to learn exceptionally well visually and

Continued on Page 10

Ballet: The Art of Dance, Grace and Beauty

By Madison Lilly

One of the most enjoyable things growing up is finding what makes one passionate. Whether it be football, soccer, hockey, cross country, choir, theatre, cosmetology, or culinary, everyone has something they are passionate about, but as time changes and evolves, things change: sports, technology, and even the arts, but one art in particular has had, what some might consider, the most evolution: Ballet, the art of dance.

Ballet is considered, by many, the most theatrical and ethereal art of all time.

Ballet began in the 16th century as Catherine de Medici, the wife of King Henry II of France, was a great patron of the arts and funded ballet in the French court. The festivals she funded would bring the rise of the popular *ballet de cour*. Later on, King Louis XIV would help popularize and standardize the art form. Believe it or not he was a very passionate dancer, he would actually perform roles himself, including that of the Sun King in *Ballet de la Nuit*.

Classical ballet, also called romantic ballet, is a system of dance based on formalized movements and positions of the arms, feet, and body designed to enable the dancer to move with the greatest possible agility, control, speed, lightness, and grace.

Neoclassical ballet draws off the advanced techniques of academic ballet, exploring its content, and respecting its codes, but it tends to expand boundaries with new concepts and innovations.

Contemporary ballet is considered one of the most ambiguous styles. It allows the body to careen off balance even appearing as if the stage is shifting. It is less bent on creating masterworks and more curious to be playing in a sandbox of possibilities.

Vaganova method is a precise, quiet, controlled, and regal dance first invented by Agrippina Vaganova, a Russian Ballet teacher during the 17th century. The technique is deeply internalized and highly structured, adding character and an other-worldly flair to every move.

Adagio is a succession of slow,

soft, lyrical, and continuous movements. Adagio creates the illusion that the positions flow from one into another, while a Allegro is a ballet that involves fast and dynamic movements, usually jumping steps and sequences.

Ballet also has a various terms that the teachers and dancers must know.

A Ballerina is a female ballet dancer while a Danseur is a male ballet dancer. Dancers wear pointed shoes that are satin ballet shoes used by dancers when dancing on their pointes (toes). Pointe shoes are reinforced with a box constructed of numerous layers of strong glue in between layers of material. Pointe shoes are not made of cement or wood.

Pas de Deux? It's French, and it means: A dance for two people, typically a man and a woman.

Believe it or not football and ballet are much alike, as *BalletHub* states, "Many of the same muscle groups are used, both require finesse, strength and balance in bursts, and even similar injuries can be found between football players and ballet dancers. You've likely heard many times before how ballet can benefit football players... how this cross-training really is beneficial to athletes on the field."

Football and ballet have many areas they must concentrate on: fitness, speed, balance, strength, flexibility and mental focus. A ballet dancer and a football player must always be in control.

Ballet is all about position and pointe. The challenge of ballet is one aspect many famous athletes have embraced.

Steve McLendon, an NFL player for the New York Jets, enrolled in ballet in his senior year at Troy University. Even Hall of Famer Lynn Swann (NFL player for the Pittsburgh Steelers) and Herschel Walker (who first started off with the New Jersey Generals) both took ballet classes during their football careers.

The muscles ballet tends to focus towards strengthening include quads, hamstrings, hip, glutes, calves, feet, back and core.

But what is ballet truly known for? Its dance styles, the beautiful dancers, and the athletes, but truly for its classic ballet performances.

Ballet is considered to have some of the most graceful and dynamic performances of all time.

Some of the more renowned

ballets include *Don Quixote*, *Giselle*, *Coppelia*, *La Bayadère*, and *La Sylphide*. But, the most famous ballets are indisputably *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*.

The Nutcracker is the most famous Christmas ballet to ever be performed. For many, the holidays wouldn't seem complete without attending a performance of *The Nutcracker*. "Every year, 40% of ticket revenue in popular American ballet organizations comes from performances of *The Nutcracker*." *ThoughtCo* states.

The Nutcracker ballet is the story of a young girl who dreams of a nutcracker prince and a great battle against a Mouse King with seven heads. The original production in 1892 was a failure, although Tchaikovsky's orchestral composition was considered an extraordinary success.

Swan Lake is often considered the epitome of classical ballets. *Swan Lake* is a tale of love, betrayal, and the triumph of good over evil. *Swan Lake* tells the story of Odette, once a beautiful young girl who is cursed by a sorcerer to remain a swan unless a young man declares his undying love for her.

Even modern Disney classics like *Sleeping Beauty* and *Cinderella* are reinterpreted as ballets, and William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* has been converted to a ballet throughout the years, also

Gaining its fame in the 15th century in Italy, ballet continues to recreate classic works as well as inspire modern interpretations. To many, ballet is the most difficult dance to learn. It is both a praised art and a respected sport.

Ballet has definitely earned the respect, reputation, and integrity it deserves and will continue to produce generations of aspiring new dancers.

B Typical practice consumes up to 5,000 hours for the professional performance of a 4 hour show.
F
A
A
L
C
L
T
E
S
T Ballerinas traditionally wear their hair in "buns" to assist with turns and to provide an extra sense of center and balance.

VALU-PLUS FOODS

Open Everyday: 7am to 9pm

9592 HWY 46
Bon Aqua, TN 37025

Phone: (931) 670 - 4876

New Deals Every Week!

- **Pick 5 Meats**
- **Mix and Match on select brands**
- **Truckload Sales**

Blast From the Past? Maybe Not.

By Devlin Sheppler

Blacksmithing, while seen as a thing of the past, is still a easily accessible hobby with the potential to become one's career, if not just a side job.

Blacksmithing is, in its essence, the art of creating objects from wrought iron or steel by forging the metal. Various tools are used to manipulate the material's shape until one has your final product. The term blacksmithing itself comes from an older name for iron, "black metal," while smithing is simply the act of making something out of metal.

With a few simple tools and techniques, the variety of potential creations of a blacksmith are only limited by their imagination. Blacksmiths have a general knowledge of how to make and repair many things, ranging from simple things like nails or links of chain all the way to complex weapons.

Ever since I was a kid, I have been fascinated by fantasy stories. Tales of knights and dragons occupied my time, and I always found myself interested in the weapons used to take down the beasts. I spent years researching different types around the world and have since become more interactive with my interest. My dad and I both registered for a Beginner's Blacksmithing class at Three Creeks Farm. Since then, we have also taken the Intermediate and Advanced courses, in addition to an Introduction to Knife Making course. While I am merely a novice, I have managed to make decorative hooks, fire irons, nails, a custom set of knife making tongs, and a

few knives.

The basic necessities of a forge are the forge itself, an anvil, tongs, gloves, a hammer, the metal, and oneself. From there, one could acquire additional tools like twists or post vices. While not necessary, they do provide a variety of uses for the common smith. Some of the beginning techniques include basic hammering form, creating pigtails, creating ram heads, twisting, curving, and so on. While this all appears daunting at first, with the support of more experienced smiths, it is actually fairly easy to learn.

The easiest way to pick up blacksmithing is to join a group or take a class. Groups of blacksmiths, typically referred to as guilds, are rare, but there are a few nearby. The Rutherford County Blacksmiths Association (RCBA) and the Fiddlers Grove Blacksmithing Association in Lebanon, TN are probably the closest options. In the past, blacksmithing classes have been available at Three Creeks Farm in Dickson, TN; however, those are currently unavailable at this time.



Continued from Page 8

auditorily according to Huron University College's study on different learning styles between genders.

Though it is clear that genders differ in terms of learning, schools continue to teach in many of the same ways. Regardless of certain learning abilities, students are conformed to all be taught mainly using auditory and visual approaches. This style of teaching may work for most girls but typically does not do the same for boys, as it is easier to become distracted while having to sit still. Hence, the increasing failure of boys in both society and school leads to what researchers are calling "the boy crisis."

School was initially created to present equal opportunities to learn and succeed to everyone. By not acknowledging that each student varies in terms of learning, schools are denying each individual equal opportunities in school and in their futures.

Instead of just concluding that boys are falling behind in schools, education systems need to revitalize teaching methods. To end the so called "boy crisis," what changes in the educational system can be made in order to close the apparent gap?

EAGLE'S EYE STAFF

Chief Editor - Randy Meadows

Chief Editor-in-Training - Leah Tidwell

Assistant Editor - Madison Lilly

Video Editor - Elizabeth Gordon

Writer/Reporter - Devlin Sheppler

Writer/Reporter - Kimberli Martinez

Writer/Reporter - Alyssa Tanner

Faculty Sponsor - Connie Graves

Country

KiX 96

WTKX 96.7 FM Centerville, TN

Southwest Middle Tennessee's Country Leader

The Beacon Light Tea Room

A Different Kind of Restaurant since 1936

Monday - Closed
Tues - Fri 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sat - Sun 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

931-670-3880 www.beaconlighttearoom.com

Potter & Primm

HEATING • COOLING

(931) 670-0308

Farm Bureau

Tennessee

Dennis Bass

9510 HWY. 100

Bon Aqua TN 37025

(931) 670-4444

Go Eagles!

Cinematic World

Preview- 2019

By Madison Lilly

2019 is here and, with a new year, comes new adventures, resolutions and aspirations.

Are you a movie fan? Are you a mainstream movie fanatic? Then, you are going to love 2019.

The cinematic world has all types of surprises in store this year. From remakes, to reboots, to sequels and prequels. This year definitely doesn't fall short in movies.

Starting the year off with a bang on January 18 is the release of the highly anticipated *Glass*. This mainstream film stars critically acclaimed action actor Bruce Willis returning to his role as David Dunn, aka The Overseer, alongside Samuel L. Jackson returning as Elijah Price, aka Mr. Glass from *Unbreakable*. The film will also see the return of James McAvoy from *Split* rephrasing his role as Kevin Wendell and his 23 personalities. Glass will reveal the cinematic universe M. Night Shyamalan has been planning since before the release of *Unbreakable*.

The second part of *The Lego Movie* will release February 2 and *Happy Death Day 2U*, the sequel to *Happy Death Day*, and *Alita: Battle Angel* will release February 14, so if you are sick of lovey dovey romance movies then you can get stuck in a time loop with Bree Gelbman as she saves her friends from a masked psychopath or follow the adventure of cyborg Alita as she journeys through her past.

Starting off March, women's history month, with some woman power, *Captain Marvel*, the first lead female Marvel superheroine to brace the movies, will hit the big screen March 8th. March will end with release of Tim Burton's new twist to the Disney classic *Dumbo* which will release March 29th.

April is building up the anticipation for a big bang, starting the month with *Shazam* and the remake of the classic chilling Stephen King novel *Pet Sematary* both releasing April 5th. Dark Horse comics' *Hellboy* remake and the new *Conjuring* director Michael Chaves first horror film *The Curse of La Lloron*, also known as the wailing woman based off of a story in Mexican folklore, will hit the big screen April 19th. Finally, April 26th, *Avengers: Endgame* will release in theatres and continue where *Avengers: Infinity War* left off as the Marvel cinematic phase three comes to an end.

As the school year comes to an end, May will have no such shortage of movies in store. May 10th, Ryan Reynolds and Justice Smith team up in *Detective Pikachu*, with the beloved Deadpool voicing the shockingly adorable Pikachu! Part three of the *John Wick* series'

Parabellum will release May 17th. On May 24th, the classic beloved Disney film *Aladdin* will make its appearance in live action. Alongside that, the *Minecraft* movie will release. *Rocketman*, a documentary film or 'the real life fantasy' of how Elton John became the legend known today, will hit the screen as well as *Godzilla: King Of The Monsters*, a sequel to 2014's *Godzilla* and the opening prequel for 2020's *Godzilla vs Kong*.

June 7th will release *The Secret Life of Pets 2* and *X-Men: Dark Phoenix*, the highly anticipated sequel to *X-Men Apocalypse* that will focus on the downward spiral of Jean Grey as the Dark Phoenix consumes her and fogs her sense of right and wrong, friend and foe. June 21st will see the release of *The Grudge*, the fourth installment of the series, the fourth and final installment of the *Toy Story* series and the reboot of *Child's Play*, this new installment will create a whole new origin for the psychotic doll Chucky, instead of the dying murderer Charles Lee Ray using black magic to transfer his soul into an innocent lifeless toy, the new story Chucky is an technologically advance smart toy whose AI is tampered with to have no limitations to learning or violence.

July 3rd, the third installment of *Annabelle* will release in theatres, although the past *Annabelle* does not exactly have the same fan following as the *The Conjuring* does, the next film will see the return of the Warrens as the demonic doll awakens the room's evil spirits and terrorizes the Warren's daughter Judy and her friends.

Spider-Man: Far From Home releases on July 5th, although not much is known about the film, Tom Holland will return to play Spiderman and Zendaya will return as MJ; It has also been confirmed that Jake Gyllenhaal will join the cast playing the classic Spiderman villain Mysterio, but rumors surrounding the film state that he

will not be the main villain, if even a villain at all.

July 19, the highly anticipated, most beloved Disney film *The Lion King* will release in live action. According to *IMDb*, the film will be exactly like the original, music and all, with returning cast members like James Earl Jones voicing Mufasa and new cast members including Beyoncé, who is set to voice Nala.

As the new school year sets back into motion, students are definitely going to need some entertainment. August 2nd, the live action *Dora the Explorer* and *The New Mutants* will release, not much information is given about the *Dora the Explorer* movie, but *The New Mutants* is an off series and much darker version of the X-Men, instead of the light, moral

heroes saving the world, these troubled teens must learn to come to grips with their mutant powers while trapped in an secret facility. *The Angry Birds Movie 2* will hit the big screen August 16th alongside *Playmobil The Movie*, with beloved actor Daniel Radcliffe and the female lead *Split* star, Anya Taylor-Joy.


September 6th, the long awaited *It: Chapter 2* will release, with the huge success of *It* 2017 hitting \$700,381,748 worldwide. The film has a lot riding on its success. The film includes a full roster set to play the adult version of the Loser's club including some phenomenal actors like James McAvoy and Jessica Chastain.

October 4th, *Joker* will release. The film will be the first DC-based film to focus on a solo villain, but the film is not a part of the DC extended universe. A new animated *The Addams Family*, the long awaited *Zombieland 2*, and *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* which is based on the original 90s TV series *Are You Afraid of the Dark?* will all release October 11th.

November 1st, a *Charlie's Angels* reboot will release, but the film is definitely not short on a star-glamoured casts including: Kristen Stewart, Naomi Scott, Elizabeth Banks, Patrick Stewart and Ella Balinska. A live action/animated hybrid *Sonic: The Hedgehog* will release, not much has been said about the film; however, many critics are skeptical of the film's animated/live action idea, and it has received much criticism and backlash over it. Overall, the film has been welcomed by many fans. November 22nd Disney's *Frozen 2* will release. The first *Frozen* was so popular with families and Disney lovers that the film has even been compared to Disney's *The Lion King*, which is considered to be the best Disney movie of all time.

As Christmas 2019 nears and the year winds down, December has a hit box office list coming to the big screens. December 13th is slated for the release of the untitled *Jumanji* sequel. Columbia Pictures has confirmed the return of Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, and many others. A *Masters of the Universe* reboot will release December 18, and the journey follows the strongest man in the universe, He-Man, as he must save the Planet Eternia and stop the evil Skeletor. Finally, December 20th will see the release of *Star Wars IX*, as the film will be ninth and final installment of the Skywalker Saga.





PROM

Frozen
Night
Fantasy

April 27th

See Ms. Robinson, room 218, for permission forms and tickets.

Seniors get in free.
\$30 junior entry.
\$50 for underclassmen, with a junior or senior invitation.



Senior play's
Elf: The Musical

