

Flip the page and get engaged!

Observer

January 2019 Volume 8, Issue 3



WHAT
WE
CAN
ANTICIPATE
IN
2019

- SCIENTIFIC
BREAKTHROUGHS

- THE FATE OF THE
MIGRANT CARAVAN

- PERSONAL NEW
YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

WHERE ARE
THEY NOW?
REVISITING
THE '18
ALUMNI



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Dear Readers,

Dear Readers,

With the new year comes a new issue of the Observer! The third issue of the Observer has many different topics for readers to indulge in. Have you wondered how President Trump is handling the caravan? How about who that new teacher Mr. Moore is? How are the 2018 graduates from last school year handling life after graduation? Crack open the cover of the January 2019 edition of the Observer and you will find the answers to these questions nestled within the pages. Now that we've caught your interest grab some hot cocoa, put your fuzzy socks on and dive into issue three of the Alfred-Almond Observer.

Olivia Ormsby

Welcome

2019

Mission & Vision

Flip the page and get engaged!

The Alfred-Almond Observer strives to inform, entertain, and unify the members of our school and our community. Our aim is to provide local and national stories that relate to our readers, are unbiased, and engage our audience through truth and transparency.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

6th Grade All County Auditions

Jan. 19, 2019

Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals

Jan. 14, 2019
recurrent event

January Regents

Jan. 22, 2019 -
Jan. 25, 2019

JH/HS All County Auditions

Jan. 26, 2019

Semi-Formal Dance

Jan. 26, 2019

Yearbook Sales

Feb. 6, 2019 - Feb.
8, 2019

Ski Club

Jan. 26, 2019



If you have tuned into the news recently you have probably heard something about the Caravan, which began to reach the border in mid-November. This is a group at the Southern United States border which is predominantly Honduran, along with individuals from Guatemala and El Salvador. According to BBC.com, these people are seeking asylum due to gang violence, drug wars, and government corruption. Caravan members also cite fleeing persecution, poverty, and violence as reasons for leaving their homes.

President Trump responded to the Caravan on twitter by calling it an “invasion” and told the asylum seekers that “our military is waiting for you.” On the subject of whom is truly in the Caravan, President Trump made the statement that, “many gang members and some very bad people are mixed into the caravan heading to our Southern Border.” ABC published an article showing the migrants response to this statement. These people told ABC that most are not violent criminals, and that “Everybody wants freedom”.

The BBC reports that there are roughly 7,000 people at the border, and there are predicted to be 10,000 migrants that reach the Southern United States border in total.

Furthermore, there have been 5,800 troops deployed to manage the situation, and the United States Department of

The Caravan

By **Hanna Tormey**
Co Editor-In-Chief



The Long Road
Migrants walking to the United States outside of Tijuana, Mexico in late October..
Photo from politico.com



The Invaders
A group of children seeking asylum travelling through Mexico, waiting to finish the journey to the United States.
Photo from vox.com



Route of the Caravan
The map of the long trek the asylum seekers took to reach the United States.
Photo from bbc.com

Homeland Security briefly closed the border entry point at San Ysidro due to the large influx of people.

Mexican Officials have released some statistics to CNN in regards to the caravan. They have reported that there are 2,500 in temporary shelters in Tijuana and an additional 600 in other kinds of shelters in Tijuana. There were 300 individuals in a temporary shelter closed in response to health concerns. Mexican officials claim that 1,100 of the caravan members “could have crossed into the United States” while another 1,100 have voluntarily agreed to return to Central America with assistance from the International Organization for Migration. It has also been reported that 70% of the caravan is male, and the largest age group is between 18 and 28.

CNN reports that on December 8, a seven year old girl, Jakelin, died while in the custody of border patrol agents. According to USA Today, the young girl was taken into custody after crossing the border illegally with her father. She is said to have died from dehydration and shock 8 hours after being taken in.

Jakelin was taken to El Paso Hospital after she began having seizures. The United States Department of Homeland Security released a statement saying that the girl had not “eaten or consumed water in several days,” yet the



Washington Post published a statement from Jakelin's father saying that she entered custody in good health. The Department of Homeland Security offers its sincerest condolences in response to the death of Jakelin.

It is no secret that the situation on the border has created an extreme level of hostility. One specific example is the tear gassing of migrants in response to their violent actions as reported by the Washington Post. When a group of migrants "lobbed weapons" over the border and hit border patrol officials, the United States retaliated by tear gassing the migrants. Caravan member Cindy Milla described the situation with the statement, "I felt that my face was burning, and my baby fainted. I ran for my life and that of my children." The tear gas that was used by the United States, also known as CS gas (short for Corson Stoughton), is outlawed on the battlefield by many countries including the United States. This CS gas was banned due to the fact that it is "uniquely terrorizing in (its) application". President Trump described the act as a response to "tremendous violence", while the Washington Post cited it as an "unusual escalation". The President also released the statement that, "three Border Patrol people yesterday were very badly hurt through getting hit with rocks and stones." Conversely, United States



Keeping the Border Safe

Some of the troops at the border working to maintain order at the Otay Mesa port of entry in late November.

Photo from cnbc.com



Tear Gas

A family running to avoid the CS Gas brought on by the United States in Tijuana, Mexico in late November.

Photo from timr.com

Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan said that 4 of his agents were struck by rocks, "but were wearing protective gear and did not suffer serious injuries."

Some of the asylum seekers have stopped waiting to cross the border legally, and have started to take illegal steps to gain entry into the United States. According to PRI,

about two dozen individuals climbed a portion of the fence in Tijuana that stands 10 feet tall. Another three people squeezed through the fence, instead of attempting to climb over. More migrants followed, many bringing children with them. Once were with the United States borders, some ran while others simply turned themselves in to authorities. PRI explains that applying for asylum can take months, so if migrants enter illegally and turn themselves over to authorities, their case has the possibility to be heard sooner. This sense of urgency may be attributed to the fact that United States officials have slowed applications at the Chaparral Gate in Tijuana, Mexico to 40 to 100 applicants per day.

No matter your view on this issue, there is much to be done to help the situation. December 10 to 18 was a week of action. The American Friends Service Committee shows that the slogan for the week is "Love knows no borders: A moral call for justice." Over this week there were demonstrations in many cities at the Southern border. If you are interested in donating to help those waiting for entry, you can consider the ACLU, RAICES, the Texas Civil Rights Project, and The Florence Project. Finally, one way that you can help the situation is to stay informed on the issue and continue following it long after this article is published.



Beauty and the Beast : A Preview

By: Amya Snyder, Design Manager

In the countdown to the last few weeks of school before Christmas break, flyers were seen on the walls of Alfred Almond announcing the dates of auditions for the school's musical. This year's show is the childhood classic, "Beauty and the Beast." Conversation arose among students, discussing the potential candidates. To find out more about the musical, I talked to the director herself, Ms. Lisa Karr.

Since there have been a variety of shows over the years, I felt inclined to ask why this one was chosen. "Mr. Bialecki has wanted to do this musical for a long time. I love it because I have been a part of it..." she explained, "It felt like it fit Alfred Almond students right now." Her other choice was "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," but she wasn't sure if enough people (especially boys) would audition for it.

I also thought it would be important to ask about the storyline itself; I assumed the plot stayed the same. An arrogant prince is cursed to be a beast until he finds love. A clockmaker is captured by the beast, the daughter takes his place, and the two later fall in love. In the school musical version however, there are some notable differences.

Ms. Karr said, "There are some new songs that are not in that one... Maurice, the father, has a duet with Belle... Belle and the Beast have songs that are not in the original as well." She also went on to tell me that several characters have bigger parts in the show, too. One she mentioned specifically is the Wardrobe, which is the character she played as when she participated in the show in the past.



Having the knowledge of what's different in the musical, I wondered what Ms. Karr was looking for while casting characters. Auditions are a time where everybody comes to perform their song of choice and read the script provided, along with other people in a group. After that, a callback list is posted in the hallways of the school. There, Ms. Karr narrows down the lead roles. She explained, "Callbacks are a really good time to see chemistry on stage. Which characters are believable, not only in that particular role, but with the love story between Belle and the Beast? Who would be believable on stage?"

To wrap things up, I wanted to know, as a director, what her goals are for the musical this year. She answered simply with, "My goal is always to have the best one yet." More specifically, she said she wanted a show that the audience loves. She wants people who don't have a family member involved in the musical to still be interested in watching.



Preparing for the Show

Scripts fresh out the box, ready to be used by cast members.

Photo courtesy of Amya Snyder

Flip to See Cast List & Show Times



Beauty and the Beast 2019 Cast List

Courtesy of Ms. Karr

NARRATOR: Reagan Comer

YOUNG MAN: Chris Mormino

OLD BEGGAR WOMAN/ENCHANTRESS: Tiphaine Feltin

BELLE: Mirra Robbers

BEAST: Logan Whittall

GASTON: Joe Milette

LEFOU: Zach Patterson

MAURICE: Sidney Wildrick-Cole

BABETTE: Ryann Donlon

LUMIERE: Noah Briglin

COGSWORTH: Jake Schultze

MRS. POTTS: Abby Kelly

CHIP: Brogan Donlon

MADAME DE LA GRANDE BOUCHE: Sarah Butts

MONSIEUR De La LUNE: Arnold Saint Phard

THREE SILLY GIRLS: Amber Trudell, Emily Campbell, Sage Empson

BOOKSELLER: Amber Weiner

ENSEMBLE (TOWNSPEOPLE /THE ENCHANTED OBJECTS/WOLVES): Gabe Fioretto, Holden Sanchez, Jesse Heffley, Noelle Hildreth, Angel Kenyon, Maddie Levey, Tiphaine Feltin, Amber Weiner, Anna Yarnal, Katelynn Roulo, Ammalani Ball, Reagan Comer, Lillie Perkins, Ellora Enke, Alison Wojtawiak, Chris Mormino, Sierra Sanchez, Justin McClain, Alexis Watson, Morgan Trudell, Claire Volk, Luna Quintana, Isabella Willard, Blake Ledbetter, Alex Diaz, Jennie Bensley, Abigail Quick, Ayden Burdick, Amber Trudell, Emily Campbell, Sage Empson



Show Dates:

March 14 at 7 pm

March 16 at 7 pm

March 17 at 2 pm



READING THE LIBRARY: LITERACY IS ESSENTIAL

By Mark Hall
- Librarian
and Columnist

Designed by Abigail
Tarun - Design Manager

Learn about the
art of leisure
reading...



“Who reads?”, asked a bright but temporarily cynical student one day, when I had the bad manners to mention a book. My answer was immediate and did not require deep reflection:

**“Anyone who wants to know
about himself, other people, and
the whole wide world we inhabit!”**

Leaving aside the topic of assigned reading for work or school, personal reading is the most direct and practical way to discover more about our true selves and live our lives more fully.

Alfred-Almond Central School is committed to encouraging and enhancing the personal literacy of every person in the district and, with that district initiative in mind, I will now suggest a list of “rules” you might apply to your own reading life. They are listed in no particular order of importance; feel free to add your own or totally ignore any or all of them if you don’t find them helpful!

Unofficial Rules of Reading

1. Read anything you truly enjoy: comic books, graphic novels, hot rod magazines, love stories-anything which encourages you to read more (and eventually read better)!
2. Feel free to stop reading a book any time you feel like it. You’re in charge!
3. Don’t worry about whether you’ll remember everything you read.
4. Don’t feel that you have to like a book because your friends liked it!
5. Read at your own speed, as fast or slowly as you feel comfortable.
6. Feel free to try books that seem difficult or “over your head”.
7. Keep some reading material with you at all times; read while you wait in line.
8. Read a book over and over if you get the urge.
9. Feel free to disagree with what you read; authors are human too!
10. Don’t feel guilty if, sometimes, you just don’t feel like reading.

What Really Matters...

In the end, when it comes to your personal reading, you and only you can make and break the rules. It is your (inner) life and you are in charge! But remember that reading is a form of “mental breathing.” Don’t hold your breath too often or for too long!

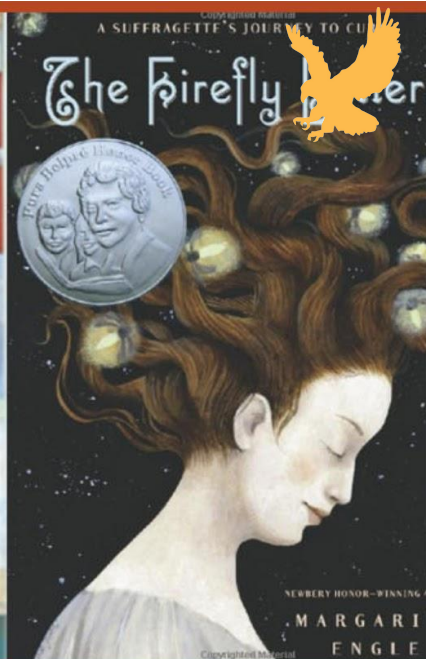
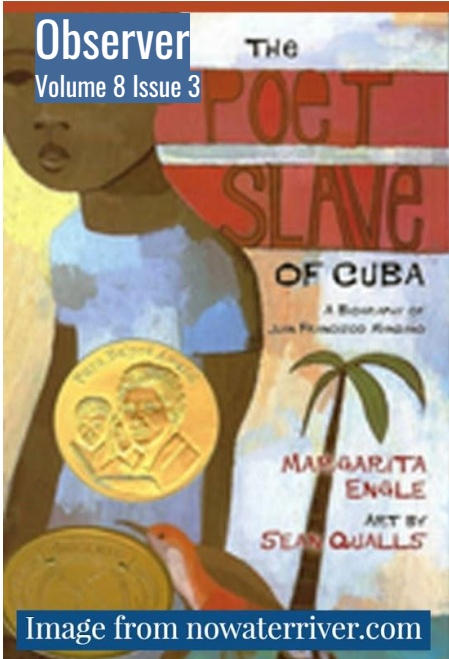


Image from nowaterriver.com

"The Firefly Letters, a
Suffragette's Journey to
Cuba"

In the 19th Century of Cuba, there were many forms of slavery: for Swedish tourists bound by the conventional roles of European women, for Africans sold into slavery and (illegally) smuggled onto Cuba to labor in sugar mills, and for upper class Spanish plantation women compelled to conceal their true complexions under white makeup and avoid walking on common soil. Even fireflies captured and sold as "nightlights" endure slavery, which the main character seeks to end by purchasing and releasing them from their cages.

FIC ENG

"The Poet Slave of Cuba, a
Biography of Juan Francisco
Manzano"

"Poet Slave" reads like a nightmare-poem by Stephen King, in which a slave boy with a genius for language and art is treated, in turn, as a pet lap-dog, a whipping boy, and a beast of burden by the plantation ladies who owned him. Except, he never gave up the control of his willpower, mind, and talent.

811 ENG

Mr. Hall's Suggestions for Reading

"The Surrender Tree, Poems of Cuba's
Struggle for Freedom"

Rosa, a runaway slave girl and self-taught nurse, uses flowers and weeds to treat the wounds of wounded freedom fighters captured slave hunters and enemy soldiers alike through three wars for independence from 1868-1898. Along the way, the reader meets Jose, Rosa's freedom fighter husband, "Lieutenant Death", a slave hunter obsessed with Rosa's capture since childhood, and a procession of rebel leaders, runaway slaves, and aspiring healers. The vivid description of the crystalline caves where Rosa established her hospitals makes me think of "The Lord of the Rings."

811.54 ENG

Margarita Engle set my heart and mind on fire with three books (in free verse) which deal with Cuba in the 19th Century: the painful, precise details of how slavery, Spanish colonialism, and three wars of independence blighted, but never quite crushed, the lives of slaves, Creole women, and soldiers between 1797 and 1898. It was a world I had only heard of indirectly up until now; these allowed me to live there for the intense period when I read these three books.

"Presidential Misadventures, Poking
Fun at the Man in Charge" by Dan
Raca

Is on a much lighter note.
This collection of Clerihews
(humorous poems) portrays
human foibles and quirks
of every POTUS up to
and including Barack
Obama. The art work is
priceless. A very quick,
pleasant read!

811.6 RAC



Image from us.macmillian.com

"Stars in Their Courses, the
Gettysburg Campaign", by
Shelby Foote

Reads like a novel,
but every detail is
documented fact.
Robert E. Lee's
inspired, but doomed,
invasion of Pennsylvania
seems almost cursed
by "the stars in their
courses"!

973.7 FOO

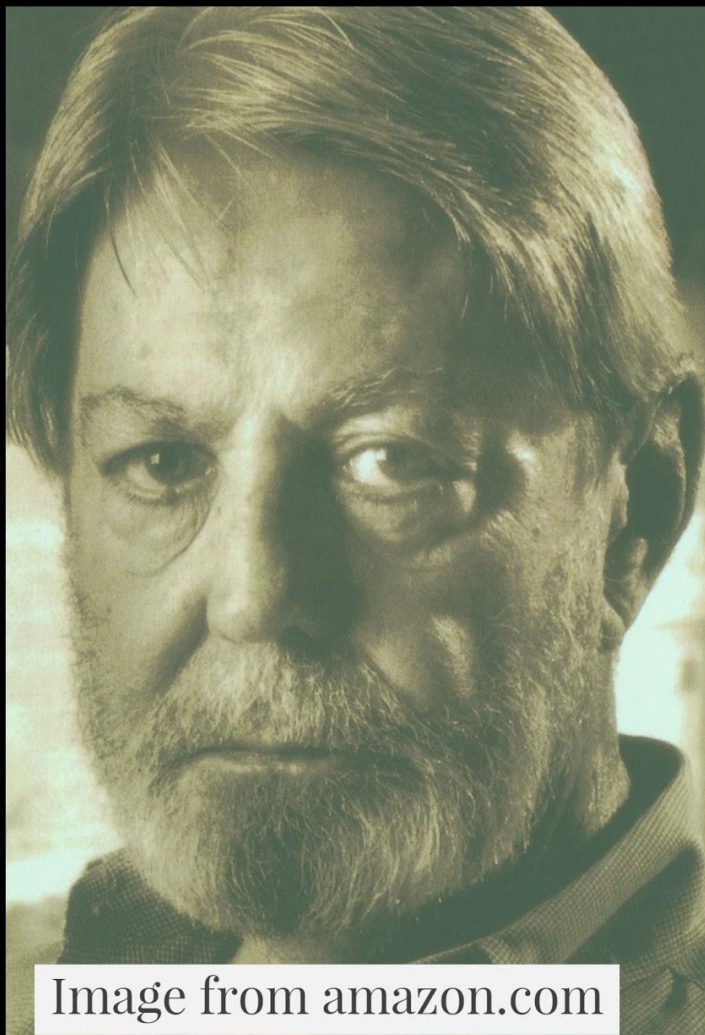


Image from amazon.com

SHELBY
FOOTE

STARS IN
THEIR
COURSES
THE
GETTYSBURG
CAMPAIGN



Sharing Our Reading:

Hillbilly Elegy

by J.D Vance

Written by Mrs. Acker

Page Design by Amya Snyder

How I came to read it:

Book Review on the NPR website.

Synopsis:

Hillbilly Elegy is a combination autobiography and social commentary. It is the story of a young man raised in a largely dysfunctional family, who was able to overcome his circumstances and eventually attend Yale. The story describes not only his personal struggles, but the ideas and attitudes of many families who can trace their heritage back to Appalachia.

How it affected me:

J.D Vance's life experiences were very different from my own. He gave us a peek inside his life growing up and how it affected him socially, emotionally and how it affected his education. This book provided me with a much greater understanding of the homelife of many of the young people in our area. The

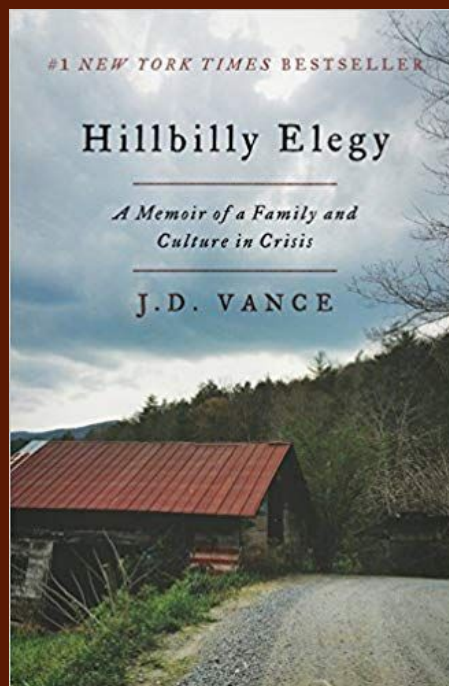


Image from Amazon.com

word pictures he created of his family, their attitudes, beliefs and conversations were very vivid. I was also impressed by the determination of this young man to rise above his circumstances and to overcome the anger that seemed to often be simmering below the surface of his emotions. He has attributed his success to the stability provided by his grandparents and the self-discipline he learned during his time in the military.

How it may affect others:

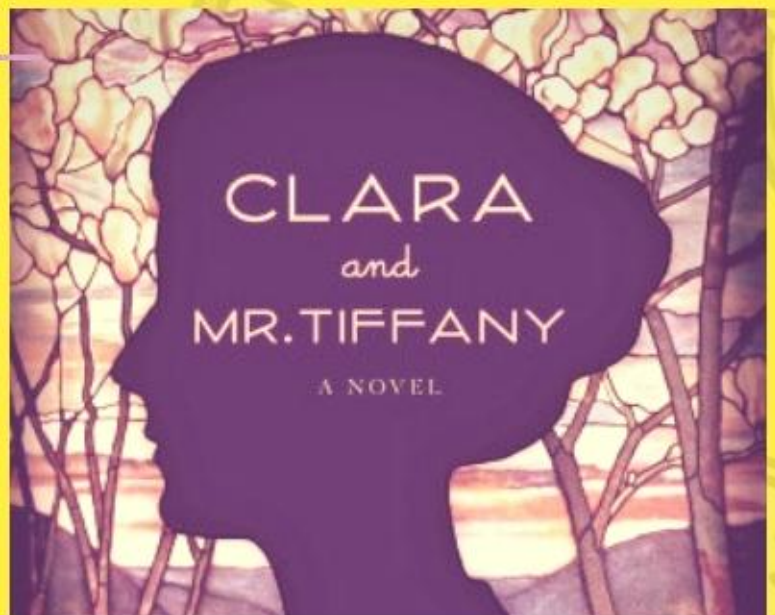
I would highly recommend this book to students and teachers. I feel that reading about this lives of real people and their real struggles helps one to build a greater frame of reference for the society around them. Learning about different lifestyles, challenges and cultures helps to build compassion and kindness especially when it comes to interacting with people who experience similar challenges on a daily basis.



RECOMMENDED BY
MRS. POWERS

HISTORICAL
FICTION
BASED ON
CLARA'S
LETTERS

"An empowering
chronicle of
women's rights
as seen through
the arts"

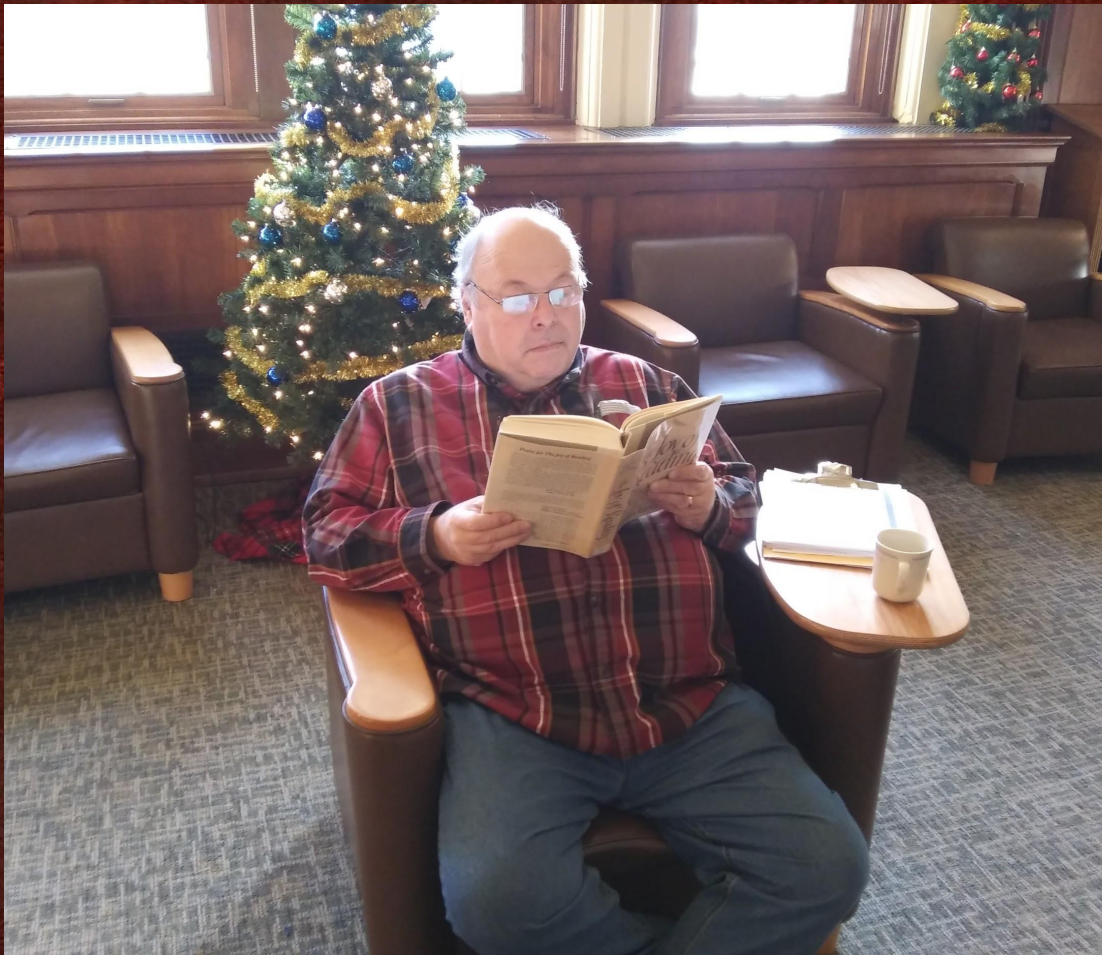


Clara Driscoll was lead female designer for Tiffany Stained Glass in the early 1900s and was responsible for many iconic Tiffany designs. The book chronicles her struggle to gain credit for her artistic work as a female in a time when women's rights were just beginning their battle.

SUSAN VREELAND



The "Lit" Club



By: Wesley Dennison
Design manager

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If you're anything like me, you're curious about what happens during activity mod beyond frantically doing the homework that's due in 45 minutes - 44 minutes and 55 seconds actually, so you'd better do your homework before reading this (I'm one of those kids too). I'm here to inform you about what happens in some of the clubs at AA, and help encourage more students to join.

Many, if not all, high schools have in-school organizations, or clubs, and Alfred-Almond is no exception. Our school has numerous teacher and student organized clubs to join if you're looking for something fun to do for a break in an otherwise drab week in school. Each month of the *Observer* will feature one such club, in order to better acquaint yourself with the Alfred-Almond environment.

After a long day of work, you come home. After taking off your coat and brewing some coffee, you settle down in a recliner and open your favorite book. This feeling cozyness is one of the simple delights that can be overlooked when attempting to navigate a busy world, and the skill of literacy

is what is being fostered in our school's newly founded Literacy club.

"We want to foster the individual development of each individual human being through the medium of literacy." said Mr. Hall, the organizer of the club, in a meaningful interview. He and I discussed many things from my previous years as his student, to the meaning of literacy itself. As we talked, he detailed his plans of grandeur for The present and future of Literacy club

"...A platform to express your love for literacy." - M. Hall

Currently, the club consists of a discussion group, writing short stories, sharing books and novels, even those written by the students themselves. I asked Mr. Hall what the goal of his club was, and he said "I'm trying to start a flame." By this he means that he wants to ignite the passion for reading and writing in the Alfred Almond community. Students, teachers and staff members are all welcome to share their favorite stories with the students involved.

"I'm trying to start a flame." - M. Hall

Each Tuesday, the club meets and discusses everything from novels to comics, and even the meaning of literacy itself, making sure to involve every student. Mr. Hall has numerous ideas to further develop the club, in order to keep the flames of passion for reading alive in our high school.

In my interview with him, Mr. Hall and I discussed the difficulties of maintaining a sizable audience amidst the plethora of clubs. He noted the possibility that the participants in Literacy Club might also be drawn to any of the other activities in activity mod. In order to solve this dilemma, Mr. Hall plans on adding a sister version of the club electronically, on Google Classroom, which will enable students to be as active or not as they wanted at their leisure. In addition to this, moving forward, the club aims to demonstrate their love for books by creating posters of an individual's favorite piece of writing, and displaying them all over the school.

As someone who is mildly interested in the literary arts, I highly recommend that you take half an hour to take a look at the Harkness table in the library.



The Harkness Table
The Harkness table in the library is the meeting spot for the club. It is meant to accommodate as many students as possible, keeping everyone face to face



Moore than Meets the Eye

By: Joe Miletta, Design Manager

GROWING UP:

Jacob E. Moore, was born in Hornell, New York on July 17, 1993. He attended Hornell High School, home of the Red Raiders, class of 2012. Mr. Moore was involved in the Boy Scouts as a young man. He said it “teaches you to see things through and to not quit.” As a Boy Scout he often went to sunny Camp Gordon on Waneta Lake, as many of our students have. Mr. Moore finished up his scouting career with his Eagle Rank. This is a very big deal, he says, “unlike most things you do in school, this will stay with you for the rest of your life. It will also look amazing on any résumé.”



Eagle Rank
*Eagle scout rank symbol
which Mr. Moore has earned*
Photo from lechsa.org

COLLEGE:

After graduating from Hornell High School, Mr. Moore went to Saint Bonaventure University in Olean, New York. Mr. Moore still follows his alma mater's basketball team every year. While in college and right after college, Mr. Moore worked for the City of Hornell Public Works as a “labor man.” He laid concrete and paved roads. He said that this work has helped him realize that there is drama everywhere you are; people may think that after high school the drama and other common highschool troubles stop, but he says they never do.



Moore decorations
*Mr. Moore next to his
decorated door.*
Photo courtesy of Ms. Allen

ALFRED-ALMOND:

Mr. Moore, like many teachers, started working here as a substitute. Mr. Moore got to know the teachers and the community environment. Mr. Moore is a teacher's assistant and helps in many classes. I asked him why he wanted to work at Alfred-Almond, and he responded saying that he likes the school, the students and teachers are nicer here than any other he was at before, and they genuinely care more about the other students and teachers. Mr. Moore added that from the subbing, he knew that the students at Alfred-Almond were first class students, so he needed to be a first class teacher. He said that he wanted the student body to know that he is a down-to-earth guy who tries to be “real” with students, because real life is not like high school; therefore he tries to be upfront with students.

HOBBIES:

Mr. Moore enjoys watching sports, specifically football. His favorite team is the Buffalo Bills. He also enjoys watching basketball, but mostly college basketball; he roots for his college team the St. Bonaventure Bonnies. Mr. Moore also enjoys hanging out with friends, just like teens. He says his hobbies haven't changed much since high school and college. He still enjoys spending quality time with friends and family.



Sensational Snyder

Ever wondered who the joyful, positive-bringing, and life-changing individual in room 216 is? Well, her name is Mrs. Snyder. She mainly teaches writing support, English 9, and a little bit of everything in between. She is from New Hampshire, and she is the youngest out of six brothers and sisters. Mrs. Snyder is a new teacher in this school but she has already made a huge impact coming to Alfred-Almond. Not only that, but her passion to help students in need is very strong in her heart. Since living and working in the town of Alfred, she has grown two beautiful kids, Huckleberry and Violet. They are twins, and they are five years old. Being here helps bring her closer to her relatives who live around Alfred-Almond. She is related to the principal of the elementary, two teachers, and a bus driver in the school. Additionally, a few of the students of this school including the twins are related; just shows how small this world could be.

I went around the school and asked a very few people about Mrs. Snyder. No one believed she wasn't making a big impact on this school. One of those people is Mrs. Powers. She said, "Mrs. Snyder adds a lot to the positive environment, and she has a strong passion for English and teaching." Not only that, Mrs. Powers even heard students in her class talking up a "hurricane of greatness" about how helpful Mrs. Snyder can be. Mrs. Snyder and Ms. Backer are pretty close teacher friends. Talking to Ms. Backer, I've learned that Mrs. Snyder has great elbows. Coincidentally, before Mrs. Snyder started teaching in this school she met Ms. Backer at the Rose Bush restaurant in Alfred, and realized that they both were English teachers and were both wearing the same jacket. Since that day, they have been good friends and both have a great passion to help the students. Ms. Backer said that "She has great energy and well-read", and "She is a great resource for students who want to challenge themselves." Mrs. Snyder and Ms. Backer, you can say, are "comrades in elbows" in many ways. It's obvious Mrs. Snyder has influenced several people here at Alfred Almond to hopefully keep up the good work.

By: Arnold Saint-Phard

Staff Writer



Teaching the way -Mrs. Snyder is helping Caroline edit her essay, spreading her knowledge onto the younger generation

Photo courtesy of Arnold Saint-Phard

Fun Facts about Mrs. Snyder

- ❖ She is vegetarian
- ❖ She ran three half marathons
- ❖ She has a tattoo (bow and arrow)
- ❖ She taught yoga
- ❖ Her favorite book is "Sula" By Toni Morrison
- ❖ She grades papers with pencils
- ❖ She is French Canadian
- ❖ She is part of a band with Mrs. Powers and Mr. Turner (Two Ukuleles and a Harmonica)



Metaphorical Practice - The band she is a part of is real to an extent because some members don't own instruments.

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Powers



Student-Teaching: Bridging the Gap Between Students and Teachers

*Mr. Decker's mentee, **Miss Mulryan**, opens up on her experience teaching in the classroom and the next steps of a student teacher.*

By **Abigail Tarun** -
Design Manager

Yale educator Robert Hutchins believed that the purpose of education wasn't to **"reform students, amuse them, or to make them expert technicians."** Rather, its purpose served to **"unsettle their minds, inflame their intellects, [and] teach them to think straight, if possible."** These are the true intentions great teachers want to aspire for their students. While she did not mention this to me directly, this is one of the many truths about education I took away from my interview with student-teacher Miss Julie Mulryan, whom you may have seen in the classroom teaching with Mr. Decker. Through this interview, I was able to appreciate the long journey that prospective educators have to go through to become a certified teacher in high schools.

Prior to teaching, Miss Mulryan initially chose engineering as her major at Alfred University. A summer internship in the engineering field convinced Miss Mulryan to pursue her real passions - teaching and math. As of now, Miss Mulryan has just graduated this past December with a mathematics major, and a minor in adolescent education at AU. To complete her education minor, Miss Mulryan had to take numerous classes specific to adolescent learning such as Current Teaching Methods, Literacy in the Content Area, Special Education, Seminar



A Helping Hand

You could always find Miss Mulryan sitting by her desk to help you with any math problem or be your tutor if needed.

Photo courtesy of Ms. Backer

In Student Teaching, and much more. She has finished all her required exams for NYS teaching including the Educating All Students Test, the Mathematics Content Specialty Test, and is currently in the process of submitting her EdTPA (Educative Teacher Performance Assessment) portfolio after she graduates college.

Her final step as a prospective teacher is to apply for an

Initial Certificate and a New York math teaching certificate through the TEACH System where the New York Department of Education will review her teaching assessment and credentials. During the next five years, Miss Mulryan will have to meet the requirement of 175 hours of professional development activity in order to attain a professional certificate. After this laborious process, Miss Mulryan will be qualified to begin her teaching career.

In the distant future, Miss Mulryan envisions herself teaching younger students from either middle school or high school. Someday, she says she might teach geometry, trigonometry, algebra, or calculus to her students (or all of them at some point). When planning classroom activities, Miss Mulryan intends to add variety to her math lessons with group activities, fun games, and traditional worksheets. "Not every lesson can be exciting," she says, "but I always try to keep my students involved and engaged in the classroom." To motivate students further, Miss Mulryan stressed the value of student-teacher relationships and getting invested in students' lives outside of the classroom setting

 **Continued**



"I value the times that I get to really know and interact with my students on a deeper level. When students know they are cared for and valued, they are much more likely to engage and learn in the classroom."

While teaching her lessons, Miss Mulryan also wants to **"find ways to make the material relevant with real-life examples so students can see where their knowledge can be applied"** outside of class. Understanding Miss Mulryan's insightful views on educational values have led me to believe that she will someday become an inspiring role model to many young students whom many of which would look up to.

While Miss Mulryan's student teaching only lasted several months between Wellsville and Alfred-Almond, Mr. Decker had imparted her with crucial advice and knowledge on how to teach mathematics effectively. One of the several problems she ran into with her training was adjusting to the one-hour block system at Alfred-Almond. Sometimes, she would run out of time covering parts of her lessons, but Mr. Decker has made some suggestions that really helped her with time management and behavioral skills. Going beyond teaching, Mr. Decker has taught Miss Mulryan the "importance of caring for each of his students". Miss Mulryan notably remarked that her mentor **"takes the time to talk to every**

student throughout the day. When you see him in the hall, he says hello to every student and knows all of their names." Mr. Decker's actions have inspired his student teacher to seek out the deeper connections among students through day-to-day interactions and genuine compassion.

"I strive to be as kind and caring of a teacher as Mr. Decker."

Looking back on Miss Mulryan's path to becoming a teacher, I can say that without a doubt, she will become a great teacher for many students years to come. While many prospects go through the usual qualifications needed to teach, it's really the great teachers that have the capacity to innovate, inspire, and uplift their students in the classroom. It's through this interview I learned that teaching is a humanistic profession and not a technical one - meaning that it requires the teacher to be open and accessible for their students. In Miss Mulryan's case, I can already see some of the true qualities that Robert Hutchins aforementioned.



To learn more about New York's teaching qualifications and job statistics, go to this website:
<https://www.mathteacheredu.org/new-york/>



Like a Professional

As a student-teacher, Miss Mulryan has to continually plan lessons each day to meet her teaching requirement. She goes through her comments left by Mr. Decker to make the necessary adjustments.

Photo Courtesy of Ms. Backer

Teaching Requirements (NY)

1. Earn a Bachelor's Degree at Minimum and Complete a Math Teacher Preparation Program
2. Complete Required Workshops
3. Pass New York Competency Exams
4. Apply for and Maintain Your New York Teaching Certification

"STEVE SMITH'S
LETTER OF RESIGNATION
AS A CUSTODIAN FOR
THE PURPOSES OF
RETIREMENT, EFFECTIVE
DECEMBER 29,
2018,
WITH REGRET AND
APPRECIATION FOR
HIS 42 YEARS OF
SERVICE, NOTING
THE POSITIVE
IMPACT HE HAS HAD
ON THE ENTIRE SCHOOL
COMMUNITY". -
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES



THANK YOU, MR. SMITH!

MR. SMITH HAS BEEN A
CUSTODIAN AT ALFRED-ALMOND
FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND
RETIRED THIS PAST
DECEMBER. HERE ARE
SOME MEMORIES AND
KIND WORDS FROM SOME
OF HIS COLLEAGUES.

BY: ALI FANCHER
STAFF WRITER

"BACK IN 2003 I WAS PLAYING
"THE GHOST OF JACOB MARLEY" IN
A COMMUNITY THEATER PRODUCTION
OF "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" AND WAS
IN BAD NEED OF A LENGTH OF CHAIN
TO RATTLE IN SCROOGE'S FACE. ONE
WORD IN STEVE SMITH'S EAR AND
I HAD TWENTY FEET OF HONEST TO
GOD CLANKING METAL CHAIN TO USE
FOR THE RUN OF THE PLAY. YOU SHOULD
HAVE HEARD THE CROWD MURMUR
AND MOAN WHEN I DRAGGED IT UP
OUT OF THE HORNELL HIGH SCHOOL
ORCHESTRA PIT AND ACROSS THEIR
AUDITORIUM STAGE! HE DIDN'T
EVEN GRIPE WHEN THEY SPRAY
PAINTED IT SILVER (TO SHOW UP
UNDER THE STAGE LIGHTS)."- MARK
HALL

"IN MY ALL OF MY 34 YEARS HERE, STEVE
HAS BEEN A TRUE FRIEND. I COULD COUNT
ON HIM TO MAKE ME LAUGH ON MY
WORST DAYS. I LIKED THE WAY HE ALWAYS
REFERRED TO ME AS "YOUNG LADY" OR
EVEN "KID" ALTHOUGH I THINK WE'RE
THE SAME AGE. WE SHARED MANY STORIES
OF OUR EARLY YEARS HERE, BUT IF THE
CONVERSATION BECAME TOO SERIOUS,
HE WOULD TOP IT OFF WITH ONE OF HIS
FAMOUS "SMITTYISMS" (SORRY, CAN'T
SHARE)! I'M SMILING NOW JUST THINKING
OF SOME OF OUR TALKS. I'LL MISS YOU
MR. SMITH, AND IT WON'T BE THE SAME
WITHOUT YOU."- MS. ALLEN

"THERE ARE TOO MANY THINGS TO MENTION
AS STEVE WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO HELP
ME WITH ANY PROJECT THAT I THREW AT
HIM. STEVE WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO
PUT THE KIDS FIRST. JUST BEFORE HE LEFT,
THOUGH, STEVE HELPED ME CUT OUT 50
WOODEN PLAQUES THAT EVENTUALLY
WILL BE PLACED IN THE FREE WEIGHT
ROOM. THESE PLAQUES WILL RECOGNIZE
THOSE MALE ATHLETES AND TEAMS WHO
WERE SECTIONAL, SECTION OR STATE
CHAMPIONS OR PLACE WINNERS. THANK
YOU STEVE FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP, ALL
OF THE LAUGHS AND CONVERSATIONS THAT
WE HAD OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS."-
GREG COOK



"MY FIRST MEMORY OF MR. SMITH WAS WHEN I WAS A KINDERGARTEN STUDENT! HE WAS ACTUALLY MY FIRST BUS DRIVER. I GOT A SMALL CUT ON MY FINGER AND I REMEMBER HIM STOPPING THE BUS, SPREADING THE FIRST AID KIT OUT ON THE FLOOR, FINDING A TINY BAND-AID, AND FIXING ME UP. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FIXTURE OF OUR SCHOOL, WILLING TO DO ANYTHING THAT IS ASKED OF HIM, AND ALWAYS SERVING WITH A SMILE." -
MRS. PALMER


**THANK
YOU, MR.
SMITH!**

"MR. SMITH WAS MY "GO-TO GUY" FOR OVER A DECADE. HE ENTERTAINED ALL OF MY CRAZY ART TEACHER NOTIONS WHILE WE CREATED AND INSTALLED 13 PERMANENT ART INSTALLATIONS TOGETHER. HE LISTENED AND REALLY HEARD ME. I RELIED ON MR. SMITH AS A PART OF MY TEAM AND FOR HIS EXCELLENT WORK. HE HAS BEEN ONE OF MY VERY FAVORITE PEOPLE TO WORK WITH AT ALFRED-ALMOND (AND I MISS HIM DAILY). MR. SMITH WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND HIS POSITION TO MAKE THE SCHOOL A BETTER PLACE AND DID HIS WORK WITH PRIDE. I SO ENJOYED OUR CONVERSATIONS AS WE WORKED ON PROJECTS TOGETHER, LEARNING ABOUT EACH OTHER IN THE PROCESS. I WILL TREASURE THOSE MEMORIES, AND YEARS OF BEING CALLED "YOUNG LADY" BY ONE OF THE KINDEST PEOPLE I KNOW." -
MRS. POWERS

"THANK YOU TO STEVE SMITH FOR 42 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE. YOU HAVE SHOWN US ALL WHAT THE TERMS COMMITMENT AND HARD WORK ARE. YOUR POSITIVE OUTLOOK AND "CAN DO" ATTITUDE HAVE BEEN AN INSPIRATION. YOU WILL BE MISSED!" - BOARD MEETING MINUTES

"SUCH A WELCOMING FACE AS A NEW STAFF MEMBER. HE STOPPED IN TO CHECK ON THINGS AND HELPED ME BRAINSTORM MY CLASSROOM LAYOUT. HE WAS SO HELPFUL. I AM APPRECIATIVE OF EVERYTHING HE HAS DONE FOR ME." -
ANONYMOUS

"ALFRED ALMOND LOST A FIXTURE WHEN MR. SMITH RETIRED. HE WILL BE MISSED IN A MYRIAD OF WAYS. STEVE WAS THE EARLY BIRD AND WOULD BE SHOVELING WALKS OR TURNING ON LIGHTS LONG BEFORE MANY OTHER FOLKS WERE EVEN UP AND MOVING. HE WAS AN OLD-SCHOOL TRADESMAN AND WOULD WORK ON PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL PROJECTS. HE WAS A FINE CRAFTSMAN, ABLE TO DESIGN AND BUILD THINGS AS REQUESTED....SUCH AS NEW SHELVES, WORK TABLES OR STORAGE BOXES FOR CHROMEBOOKS. HE WAS AN AVID OUTDOORSMAN, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR HIS VACATION DAYS ALWAYS SCHEDULED DURING THE OPENING OF DEER SEASON. DID YOU KNOW HE GRADUATED FROM A-A AND HAS THE ONLY RIFLE TEAM TROPHY IN THE SPORTS CASE? (1954!) HAPPY RETIREMENT, STEVE. HAVE FUN TRAINING THOSE PUPS AND I EXPECT YOU WILL HAVE PLENTY TO DO TO KEEP YOU BUSY. IF NOT, I'M SURE THE MISSES WILL THINK OF SOMETHING." - MRS. CHAMBLISS



STEVE ALWAYS MADE SURE THINGS WERE DONE RIGHT WHEN HE WAS SUPERVISING. HE HAS BEEN A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH. I REALLY ENJOYED HIS KNOWLEDGE ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS AND HIS SENSE OF HUMOR. HE HAS A KIND HEART AND IS A FUNNY GUY! - AMY DECKER

WE STILL HAVE TWO BEAUTIFUL BOOK SHELVES THAT STEVE BUILT FOR OUR CLASSROOM. HIS WORK WAS ALWAYS IMPECCABLE!

ALSO, WHEN I MENTIONED TO MY CLASS THAT MR. SMITH WAS RETIRING, AND THEY REALIZED WHO IT WAS, THEIR COMMENT WAS "OH NO, SANTA CLAUSE IS LEAVING US!" THEY LOVED THE WHITE BEARD!!- MR. MIX'S FOURTH GRADE

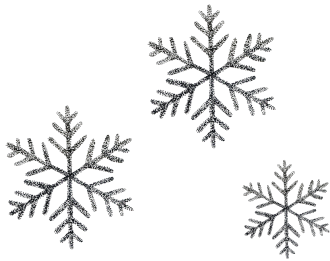
"STEVE BUILT A SMALL BOOKSHELF FOR ME TO USE IN THE MAIN OFFICE. TOLD ME STORIES OF WHEN HE DROVE BUS, FISHING, AND GARDENING. HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED!"- MRS. MULLIGAN

**THANK
YOU, MR.
SMITH!**

**"STEVE ALWAYS HAD A SMILE AND HELLO. A GREAT GUY! ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT!"
- ANN HOFFNER**

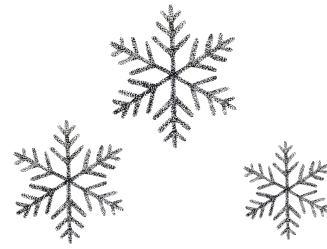
"WHENEVER I WOULD GO OUT INTO THE CAFETERIA WHILE HE WAS WASHING THE TABLES HE WOULD PRETEND TO NOT SEE ME COMING. HOWEVER HE COULD NEVER GET AWAY WITH THAT AND HE WOULD ALWAYS SAY "OH LORD, WHAT DO YOU WANT NOW?" HE IS ONE OF THE BEST PEOPLE I HAVE EVER MET IN MY ENTIRE LIFE. ALWAYS HAD GOOD ADVICE, WILLING TO HELP, WILLING TO GIVE US A HARD TIME WITH A SMILE AND ALWAYS A GOOD LAUGH."- AUDRA

"MY 'TATER, BERRY, VEGGIE, AND FLOWERING PLANT BEDS HAVE ALL OVERFLOWED WITH SMITTY'S GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF HORSE MANURE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS. LITERALLY TONS OF THIS "BLACK GOLD" HAVE FLOWED INTO MY ENTERPRISES AND IT NEVER COST ME."- MR. RUCH



Winter Health

By: Olivia Ormsby
Staff Writer



Ah, summer. The two months of the year where you never know what day of the week it is and your only care in the world is whether or not you applied sunscreen. However, residents of New York State prepare for the worst as November approaches. Normally, November is the month of the first snowfall of the brutal winter season that lasts for about six months.

Mentality

During these six months, there's a lot of free time. However, free time can lead to negative mental disorders, such as Seasonal Depression, that affect your thoughts, attitude, physical and mental well-being, etc. It's best to educate ourselves about what Seasonal Depression is and how we can tackle its effects this season.



Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)

a type of depression that's related to changes in seasons



Causes

Sunlight- A decrease in sunlight may disrupt your body's internal clock and lead to feelings of depression. Reduced sunlight can affect serotonin levels, too.

Serotonin- Serotonin is a brain chemical that affects mood, so a drop in serotonin can trigger SAD

Melatonin- Melatonin levels can be affected by the seasons changing. Melatonin affects sleep patterns and mood.

Symptoms

- Not wanting to participate in activities you normally enjoy
- Having low energy
- Having problems with sleeping
- Experiencing changes in your appetite or weight
- Having a hard time concentrating

Diagnosis

Physical Exam- SAD could be related to physical health problems

Lab Tests- Doctors may want to conduct a complete blood count

Psychological Evaluation- Doctors may ask questions or ask you to fill out a questionnaire

Treatments

Light Therapy-exposes you to a bright light that mimics the sun and is a natural way to boost serotonin

Antidepressants- can be prescribed by a doctor

Use these treatments with caution (can potentially cause manic episodes)



Use these tips to occupy your time and steer clear of SAD.

Health

- ★ Wash your hands multiple times a day
- ★ Carry hand sanitizer with you
- ★ DON'T share food or drink with anyone! You never know when someone is sick or becoming sick
- ★ Honey and lemon tea can soothe sore throats (marshmallows can, too)

Music

- ★ Popular Songs in 2018:
 - "Thank u, Next" -Arianna Grande
 - "Sicko Mode" -Travis Scott
 - "Without Me" -Halsey
 - "Sunflower" -Post Malone + Swae Lee
 - "High Hopes" -Panic! At the Disco
- ★ You can listen to music on your phone using apps such as Spotify, Pandora, Apple Music, YouTube, etc.

Hygiene

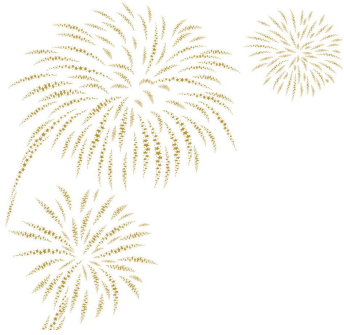
- ★ Wash your face twice a day (morning and night) and moisturize
- ★ Shampoo only the roots and condition only the ends also if you're trying to grow your hair, trims every couple months are necessary
- ★ Shower every day and use deodorant!

Fashion

- ★ Buy staple items/plain colored jeans, solid color shirts, neutral color shoes to mix and match outfits
- ★ Find inspiration from online sources (ex. Pinterest, tumblr, instagram,etc.)
- ★ Some popular brands include: Nike, American Eagle, Under Armour, etc.

Books and Movies

- ★ **Top Movies Amongst Teens in 2018:**
 - "Love Simon"
 - "A Wrinkle in Time"
 - "Please Stand By"
 - "Maze Runner; the Death Cure"
- ★ **Top Books Amongst Teens in 2018:**
 - "The Cruel Prince" by Holly Black
 - "The Hazel Wood" by Melissa Albert
 - "Honor Among Thieves" by Ann Aguirre and Rachel Caine



The solutions to your resolutions

By Nora Looney
Copy Editor



January 1st: the dawn of a new year. A chance to renew yourself and start fresh. As the year closes, self reflection and setting goals toward self improvement, is encouraged. A plan of this sort, can be termed a “New Year’s Resolution.” I was curious to see whether or not our student body participates in this process, and if so, what did these resolutions look like? To feed my curiosity, I conducted a survey with one simple question: “What is your New Year’s Resolution?” The answers delighted me. As I continued to browse the responses, I started to notice similarities in the collection of responses that I obtained. Many fell under the same categories. Below, I displayed the data I found in chart form.

According to psychologytoday.com, roughly 80% of New Year’s resolutions fail.

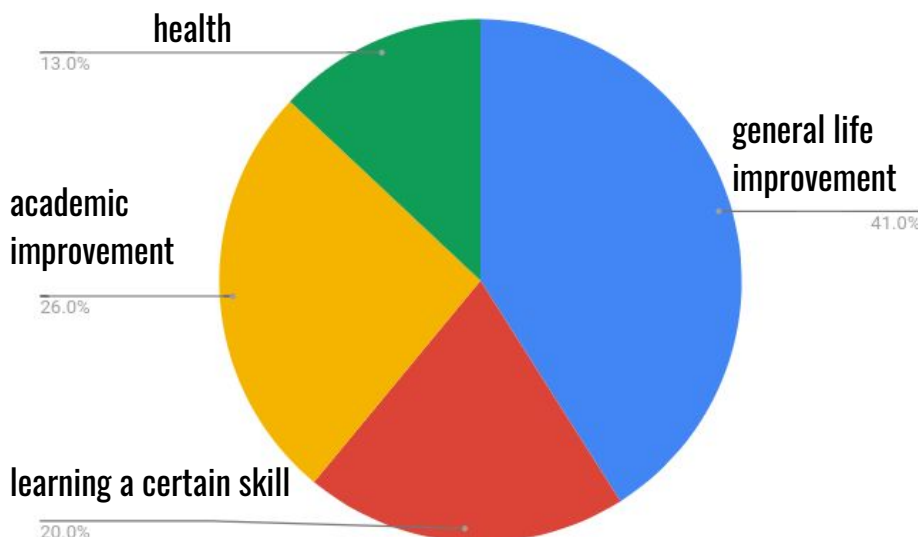
Top 10 Resolutions Nationwide

1. Exercise
2. Lose Weight
3. Get Organized
4. Learn a New Skill
5. Live Life to the Fullest
6. Save More Money
7. Quit Smoking
8. More Family Time
9. Travel More
10. Read More

According to: goskills.com

I know this fact may seem daunting. After hearing it, one may question why anyone bothers making New Year’s Resolutions at all. What’s the point? Are they worth the effort and potential disappointment? That’s up for you to decide. Personally, I still make New Year’s resolutions despite the likelihood that I may not follow through with them. I am a hardcore optimist, which allows me to see the value in making New Year’s resolutions, regardless of the outcome. I appreciate the process of self reflection, and think that having hope towards the future is not only important, but essential to a healthy, happy life. Please look past the cheesiness when I say that the value is in the journey, not the destination. With that said, if you do in fact wish to keep your resolutions, feel free to consider the tips listed below.

A-A Student Resolutions:



Top ways to keep your Resolutions:

1. Keep your resolutions simple
2. Choose Carefully
3. Be realistic
4. Plan a time-frame
5. Make notes
6. Create bite-sized portions
7. Treat Yourself
8. Receive Support
9. Don’t give up
10. Put yourself in charge

According to: psychcentral.com



Different Interest Same Emotion

By Dylan Guthrie - Design Editor

Passion: strong and barely controllable emotion. Anyone can feel passionate about anything for example art, studying, animals, or gaming. The specific thing someone is passionate about is not important. The important thing is how this passion makes you feel. The way you embrace your passion and use it to escape and to better yourself is completely up to you. This love for something is so inspiring and so important for people to feel. This passion for one thing can make someone feel like they have a purpose and it can really make them feel amazing just from that one little thing that they love. This compelling emotion or feeling can motivate you or intrigue you or challenge you.

For me basketball is my passion and I use it to release bad vibes. When there is something on my mind that I can't control I just go play basketball and it relieves my stress for that time. Basketball is my little get away from stress and when I'm feeling down. Even when I'm watching basketball I just feel like a weight is lifting off my shoulders. I wear my heart on my sleeve when I play basketball and I can't help it. I tell myself that I will just play the game and stay calm and quiet but in the game my emotions are just let free and I feel like I can just be myself. The emotion I feel while playing basketball is like nothing I have felt before. The work to be good at basketball is extensive. Weight lifting, running, actually being in the gym. Without this passion I have for basketball, I would definitely not be doing all these things to better myself within the sport.

This passion that people can feel can go down any path. After asking the whole journalism class, I got to see this first hand. There were so many different examples of this passion and these examples were things I would've never guessed without asking. Basketball drives me and I love wearing new basketball shoes in games so it adds to my passion of the sport.



"My passion is the art of word. I like to collect book, read, and write. I write poetry and short stories. I collected over 50 books. I even worked in a library for 4 years."



Ms.Hunt

Softball and soccer and working out and running

Sarah

Playing guitar

Amya

Watching basketball, reading comic books

Abigail

Sports

Spenser

Softball

Ali

Bananas and friendships and sports

Arnold

Video games and building computers

Joe

Dylan Guthrie and weight lifting

Alex

Running and math

Hanna

Soccer and music

Lindsey

Her bedroom (adding art to her walls) learning, watching movies, and listening to music

Nora

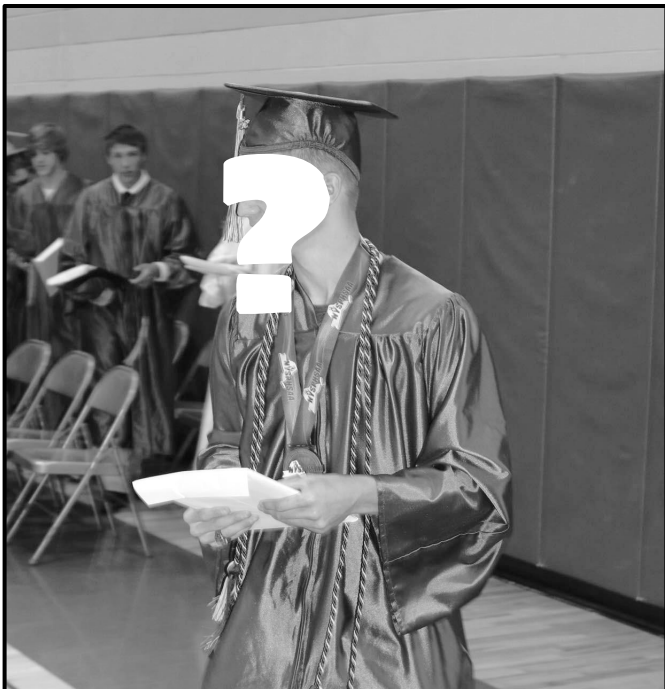
Video games

Wes



A look into the Alfred-Almond alumni: Where are they now?

Ever sit back and wonder what last year's graduates are up to now? Well if not, hopefully that hook just sparked some curiosity. Four members of the Observer team "The Newsies" set out to gather some answers from a few students in last year's class to see how they are living now. We were able to capture all parts of the "after graduation spectrum": The Traveler, The Visitor, The Commuter, and The Worker.





The Traveler:

By Spenser Ormsby
Copy editor

Chase St. George traveled to Lake Ontario and began his college career at SUNY Oswego. With college being so far away (nearly three hours!), home visits are not very frequent. However, Chase is really enjoying his experiences. Let's dive on into the lake life of this college student...



Photo from www.oswegolakers.com

"BALANCE YOUR
TIME AND
DON'T BE
AFRAID TO DO
NEW THINGS."

Q: How do you like college so far?

A: College is cool. It's full of new people and new things, it's a good in between living on my own and having someone provide for me. Also it's stressful with grades because it's not all easy like high school.

Q: What classes are you taking?

A: Currently for my major, which is biology, I'm just taking required classes, but in the future I plan on looking for internships or helping one of my bio teachers with her research.

Q: What do you want to do for a job after college?

A: I'm not sure what I want to do after college but I would really love to do field research on animals and their environments.

Q: What do you do on your free time?

A: I usually hang out with my friends, play video games every now and then, or watch Netflix/Hulu.

Q: Have you made any new friends?

A: Yes, I have only new friends at this college. I'm real close with the people in my hall; it's cool to meet people from all different backgrounds.

Advice for future Alfred-Almond alumni:

Balance your time and don't be afraid to do new things. Some of my friends had too much fun and got bad grades while others studied and did homework too much and barely got to experience the social part of college.



Some Love Before He Leaves

Chase is surrounded by his family members on graduation day, enjoying the moments before he heads off to college.
Photo Courtesy of Chase St. George



The Visitor: **By Lindsey Allen** Staff Writer

Alfred Almond graduate Vianna Koegel now attends Corning Community College in Corning, New York. Because Corning is not as close to home as Alfred, Vianna decided to move to Corning and visit home when she could. Vianna majors in Liberal Arts/Communications. Let's take the liberty to communicate and see where she is now...



Photo from www.twitter.com

"LIFE GETS SO
MUCH BETTER AFTER
HIGH SCHOOL."

Q: How do you like college so far?

A: I like it a lot. It's given me a lot more opportunities and the freedom is really nice.

Q: Do you like college better than high school?

A: Definitely.

Q: Have you made many new friends?

A: Heck yeah I have.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: Read, write, draw, take photos and videos, and play my guitar.

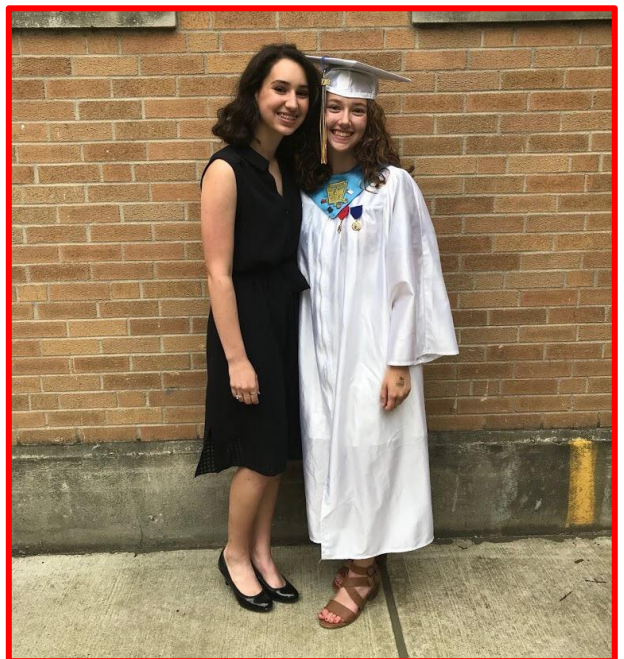
Q: Do you have a job?

A: Yep I have a work study job and a job at the Corning Museum of Glass.

Q: What are your plans after college?

A: I honestly don't know, but I want to find a job either in filmmaking or photojournalism so that I can bring awareness to certain issues.

Advice for future Alfred-Almond alumni:
Life gets so much better after high school.



Graduation Day Vianna, right, poses for a photo with her younger sister Donata as she looks forward to her future.

Photo courtesy of Vianna Koegel



The Commuter: **By Sarah Johnson** Editor in Chief

Emily Noone currently attends Alfred State College in Alfred, New York. Since the college is so close to where she lives, she decided to cut some expenses and live at home. She is majoring in Radiology Technology. Let's get an x-ray view of what Emily is up to now...



Photo from www.oleantimesherald.com

"... IT'S SUPER
EASY TO MAKE
NEW FRIENDS."



On The Way Out

Although not going far, Emily looks to go places as she exits the graduation scene.

Photo Courtesy of Emily Noone

Q: How do you like college so far?

A: So far college is really nice. I like it a lot better than high school. You have more freedom and the classes are a lot more interesting.

Q: What classes are you taking?

A: I just finished my first semester. I was taking anatomy and physiology, radiation physics, fundamentals of radiology, college algebra, and freshman comp. I also had lab for fundamentals and anatomy and physiology.

Q: Why'd you choose to major in radiology technology?

A: There's a high demand for it and I'll be able to find a job anywhere. It also seemed pretty interesting and I am pretty happy with it so far. And I wanted a job that I could wear the same thing to everyday.

Q: Are you happy with your choice to stay at home?

A: Yes, very happy. I love having my own bed and my own room and being able to eat dinner at home.

Q: What do you do on your free time?

A: Homework. Just a whole bunch of homework. I don't really get free time. If I do have any though I am usually just with Matt.

Q: Have you made any new friends?

A: I have people in radiology that I am friends with. We have a big group chat and we study together sometimes.

Q: Did you hit the ground running at Alfred State?

A: Oh my gosh.

Advice for future Alfred-Almond alumni:

Even though college seems scary and overwhelming, it's super easy to make friends because everyone else needs friends too. Also, make sure you study a lot. I never needed to in high school, but if I didn't now, I wouldn't pass my classes.



The Worker:

By Alex Comer
Copy Editor

After graduation, Evan Wood decided to veer off the natural path of becoming a college graduate and head straight into the workforce. Not only does Evan enjoy his job, but he also achieves much success with it. Let's build a bridge over to the life of Evan Wood...



Photo from www.lcwhitford.com

"ALWAYS BE THE
BEST YOU CAN BE
IN ANYTHING
YOU DECIDE TO DO
IN YOUR
FUTURE."

Q: Do you go to college?

A: No.

Q: What did you do instead of college?

A: I joined the carpenter union.

Q: What do you do at work?

A: I build bridges. I form abutment out of wood EFCO panels and tie rebar inside of them then pour concrete.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?

A: In my spare time I like to spend time with my friends.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: Work and save money until I can build my own house and then become a superintendent at LC-Whitford and follow in my father's footsteps.

Advice for future Alfred-Almond alumni:

Always be the best you can be in anything you decide to do in your future. Any task you're given in life is achievable if you set your mind to it. Always help others that need you most.



The Work Isn't Over

While leaving the gym, Evan thinks of the success his next chapter of his life will bring as he continues to work hard.

Photo Courtesy of Evan Wood



BEYOND THE NUMBER

By Davon Bloom - Design Manager

The number 23 has appeared in everyday life to me for as long as I can remember. It has become meaningful to me for many reasons, and I am grateful that I can wear it as an Alfred-Almond Eagle. However, there is a story behind the number. I have five siblings. My little brother Davione's favorite number is 11, my older brother Corey's favorite number is 8, my younger sister, Janayah's favorite number is 1 and my brother Cortez's favorite number is 3. These numbers add up to the number 23. My brother Mikkir who is living in Alabama also wears the number 23 for his sports teams. Although my siblings and I are separated, we are brought closer together by the number 23. I admire many players that wear this number, but not just Michael Jordan and LeBron James. Aaron Williams signed my Buffalo Bills hat in 2015 when I was 14. It meant a lot to me, and it turns out he wore the number 23.

Since I didn't want this article to be all about me, I decided to ask other people if their number has any special meaning. I interviewed Olivia Ormsby. The number 17 was worn by Olivia's Uncle, Andy Marlatt. He graduated from A-A in 2000 and held a basketball record. Andy Marlatt passed away in a motorcycle accident after graduation. Although Olivia only wears the number for soccer, it means a lot to her. She has his jersey to this day.

After interviewing Arnold St. Phard, I learned what the number 11 means to him. Arnold said that he never played sports until he came to Alfred-Almond as a 10th grader. He said, in a way the number 11 gave him a new start in life. You could also say that it's the number 1 twice!

I also interviewed Gabe Empson. The number 3 has the most meaning for him. He is the oldest of 3 siblings. He has worn the number 3 since he started playing sports. I can relate to his statement, "Everything I do with that number is a part of who I am."

Numbers can hold a special meaning for different people. The number 23 is more than just the number on my jersey. **Is there a number that means something special to you?**



Bills hat signed by Aaron Williams

Photo Courtesy of Davon Bloom



Olivia Ormsby wearing her uncle's jersey.

Photo Courtesy of Olivia Ormsby



Arnold wearing his jersey number

Photo Courtesy of Mrs. Chambliss



23 and 11

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Chambliss



Science Today

The Artificial Twins

This column will bring you monthly scientific updates on the world around us. New technology enters the world every day; this column and I are here to ensure that you don't fall behind the ever-expanding world of science!

By: *Gabe Empson EIC*

Dr. He Jiankui: mad scientist or brave leader?

Monday November 26, at a Science Conference, Dr. He Jiankui announced both the birth of and his involvement in the creation of the first genetically edited children. These artificial twin girls were born healthy in the state of China, and their genes were edited to be immune to major diseases such as AIDS and HIV. While the scientific community has been in outrage since the announcement, Dr. He stated in an interview with The Associated Press that he is proud of his achievements. He is quoted as saying, "I feel a strong responsibility that it's not just to make a first, but also make it an example," and finished with "Society will decide what to do next."

The twin girls were created by using a fertilized embryo from the DNA of a wealthy couple that was having trouble with pregnancy. Dr. He was able to use a tool called Crispr-Cas9 to edit and splice the DNA of the embryos before their development into a fetus. The people closely involved with the operation see Dr. He as a hometown hero, while others are not so impressed with his ability to 'play God'.

Shoukhrat Mitalipov, director of the Center for Embryonic Cell and Gene Therapy at Oregon Health and Science University is one of He's biggest critics. Speaking on the incident he said, "I think that's completely insane," Mitalipov is a leading researcher in the field who broke ground when he successfully removed dangerous genes from a human embryo. He is not alone in the criticism of the twin girls, however. 122 Chinese scientists have grouped together calling He's actions both "Crazy," and "a huge blow to the global reputation and development of Chinese science."

The genetic editing of a human baby is like a controversial moon landing, "one giant leap for mankind." It was decided by the National Scientific Board that genetic editing would be banned on humans in the US. the same decision was reached in a countless number of other countries. China is an exception to this ruling, so Dr. He did not technically break any rules with his actions. Artificial humans are still a mob fear and is unsettling to know that these twins are the beginning of something new and very big.

While the United States Board of Science claims 'designer babies' are not coming any time soon, Dr. He begs to differ saying that with his tools and knowledge, he could make one tomorrow...

The idea of gene editing is exciting, more than designer babies is on the horizon for this topic of science! Crops never before seen in nature, cures to diseases like cancer, and even extending human life expectancy by unnatural amounts. Next issue we will explore rocket science and the mission to colonize Mars. To learn more on gene editing, some cool links to visit are:

- www.the-scientist.com/tag/crispr-cas
- www.scientificamerican.com/article/potential-dna-damage-from-crispr-seriously-underestimated-study-finds/

Information from: '**Chinese Scientist Claims to Use Crispr to Make First Genetically Edited Babies**'
By: **Gina Kolata, Sui-Lee Wee and Pam Belluck**
www.nytimes.com/2018/11/26/health/gene-editing-babies-china.html



The Actual Maine Servant

By Gabe Marcus
Copy Editor

“I, (*name*) do swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of this State, so long as I shall continue to be a citizen thereof. So help me God. I (*name*) do swear, that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as (*office*) according to the Constitution and laws of the State. So help me God.”

This is the official oath of office all Maine elected politicians must repeat in order to be officiated. State senate president Troy Jackson comes to the podium and proclaims “It’s oath time.” The crowd goes wild over something I am quite humble about. Janet Mills calmly puts her hand on a bible held by grandkids Wyatt and Hayden and niece Julia. Jackson asks Mills “Are you ready to take the oath?” The governor-elect simply answers, “Yes.” Then Jackson reads the oath of office, in which Mills confidently repeats each sentence.

Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap officially announces with a powerful voice that the results were certified. Janet Mills takes the stage and thanks all of the guests and her thousands of Facebook friends specifically. While her speech hinted at her political motivation, I thought it was special and rare that no names were used negatively and biasedly. Sometimes,

use humor, for example, when guests expected Janet to make note of the fact she was the first governor to be elected as a woman, she firstly noted that she was the first governor from the rural Franklin County.

Janet talked about mainstream issues of Maine including the opioid epidemic, drug and healthcare access, infrastructure and the economy and climate change. She recalled that at the beginning of the millenium, she made a list of things that would be obsolete in 50 years and a list of things that would stay, including cash money and Stephen King novels respectively, in which she thought the future is the present by telling Maine she would establish the “Department of Innovation and the Future,” which would create good economic conditions and educated people. She talked about the education system and that she would put a sign at I-95 on the Kittery state line that said “Welcome Home,” the title of her speech.

Before the speech, a precise order of the inauguration occurs. It is actually called to order as a joint session of the house and senate, of which a committee is created to swear in the governor. When Mills agreed, the Mount Blue High School Band, the Franklin County fiddlers, and two African elementary kids that moved to

Portland from Namibia and Angola and are part of the Maine Boys and Girls Club sang a duet of Alicia Keys “This Girl is on Fire”. After the concerts, local poet Wesley McNair, the former state poet laureate read his official play. Then a black pastor, a Wabanaki Native and a female Jewish rabbi preached to the crowd about the future. The diversity and unity of the Maine people are one of Mills biggest campaign motivation. After the swearing in and speech, a benediction by a Catholic priest ended the session of congress and the congress left.

This is a first hand account of my experience taking a proactive part in a civic procedure. The city of Augusta had thousands of visitors from across the world. While it is a public event, security was very good at the event. The people that help out: the janitors, the ushers, the ticket salespeople, the speakers, even the master of ceremonies, the parking attendants you name it, were all working together to make the public event run smoothly. Many high profile Maine politicians were in one open theater and building. It was a success and there were essentially no technical or logistical difficulties.



Two days later, I arrived back in Augusta at the Civic Center to participate in the inaugural ball. While most male patrons had the attire of a black suit and white dress shirt, I wrote “Me do Me”, which means I arrived in a green color dress suit with a vest and black pants and a hat, looking more flashy then sophisticated. As soon as I found people I knew, Janet’s grandchildren and their friends, which were essentially the only peers there, I stuck with them. I then followed them innocently to the “VIP room” where Mills had a private room to herself. I actually was able to gain access every time I entered the room. There was private food that was good, and couches, in which Janet introduced people. I recall her noting to someone that I was a rapper, which was interesting to say the least.

The ball lasted for 5 hours essentially, however the last band was actually decent. I had coins, so I dropped them in the band water cups as a tip because they were actually singing good songs like “Love Shack”, “Come on Eileen” and “I Want you Back” and we then went to the hotel. I truly believe that my coincidental experience knowing Mills and even earlier, when I paged in the Senate and House, went to parties with Maine Politicians and seen a political icons personal side, impacted me in a positive way and in a way not many people have been impacted in. Politicians are

humans too.. I can recall when as attorney general, Mills commuted 30 minutes to work everyday in a modest vehicle and raised a family. Her husband Stan died in 2014 due to the effects of a stroke and she has five stepdaughters. Growing up in Farmington with two brothers and two sisters herself, she has always had a big family and she is quite close with them too. When I stayed, many family members were up in town for the inauguration. Her siblings are political as well. Her brother Peter was a state senator and director of the Maine Turnpike. Her sister was the head the Maine department of Health and Human Services. Her brother Paul is a lawyer and historian of the town of Farmington Knowing someone on a personal level who is extremely notable or.

famous person whether that person is a politician like Mills, an athlete like Seth Wescott or an entertainer like myself is not a difficult thing to do. While some people purposely look for friendship with someone with a “Wikipedia Page” or television appearance, I met Mills coincidentally, and unlike other governors, I have the ability to keep in touch with her or her family in case I want to visit Maine again.

It was simply a pleasure to visit the state of Maine for the holidays to enjoy the cold winter and have the possibility to be politically active throughout the fortnight of Christmas break. It is vitally important to be politically active and have many people that are on your side.



Janet Mills gets sworn in on January 2, 2019 alongside her family, friends, and political peers.

Photo from wgme.com

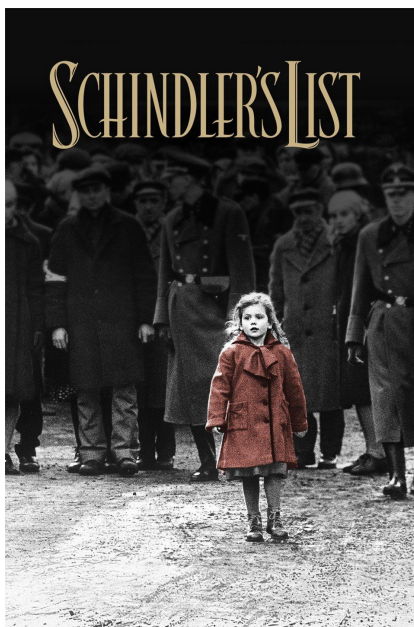


Nora and Conner: Scholars, Athletes, Friends, Upstanding Citizens, and Now...Film Critics??

Dearest Reader,

Hello. Welcome. Our names are Nora and Conner. We are more than delighted to introduce you to our tastes and opinions, and give you a glimpse into the depths of our imaginations through the art of movie reviews. The two of us are tremendous movie lovers. While our preferred film genres differ, the love for cinema that stirs in our hearts is equivalent. With the re-release of *Schindler's List*, we have decided to delve into Spielberg's career of filmmaking.

Spielberg has been an influential director for decades. He explained in an interview with Lester Holt his decision to create the film "*Schindler's List*" followed a suggestion from Sidney Sheinberg, the head of Universal Studios, to do a film rendition of the novel "*Schindler's Ark*." He had never directed this kind of movie before; at the time his hit movies were "*Jurassic Park*," "*ET*," and "*Indiana Jones*." *Schindler's List* was an entirely new direction for Spielberg as a director. He was making films that appealed to mass media and commercial success. He believed that he wasn't ready to work on something so personal to so many. The gravity of the story and the people in the Holocaust was a daunting task. He described the set of the film as always quiet, and everyone understood the gravity of the story they would tell. There was a sense of respect that the whole crew understood,



This month's review: **Spielberg**

inhibiting the casual reference of a football score back home. Spielberg said he would only ever see such reverence to a film when he would direct "*Lincoln*."

Spielberg and his crew needed to capture how dire the Holocaust was. Spielberg insisted that the film needed to be shot in black and white. Although the film was produced in black and white, Spielberg decided that a girl's coat would be bright red. Spielberg wanted to show how obvious the Holocaust was to the public and how easily people could overlook the struggle of a young girl in a bright red coat. The red coat represented the Holocaust as a whole, and how people, specifically the Allied powers, overlooked the

atrocities taking place till the end of the war. His point was they could have made efforts to stop the mass transportation to Auschwitz for the industrial killing of people. This use of color gives the audience a focal point among all of the killing, giving the audience one person they can distinguish. The greyscale turned the bright red of blood into black that blended into the background that could be more easily dismissed. This color further presented that Schindler, a man looking to make profits off the Nazi war machine, could not turn a blind eye to the mass murder, and tried to save as many as he could by keeping them working in his factory. He was one of the few who actually noticed the red.

This film and its many successes has had lasting impacts on our world today. After the film's release, many of the survivors from Schindler's factory came forward to tell their story in the Holocaust, as well as the rest of their stories. These people were more than just Holocaust survivors, and they wanted that story told as well.

After 25 years, Spielberg has decided to re-release "*Schindler's List*." In his interview with Lester Holt, Spielberg says that even now, 25 years from the original release, it is important to remember the dangers of fascism, and that the story of the Holocaust must never be forgotten.



“E.T., The Extra Terrestrial”, tells a heartwarming tale of childhood, companionship, and courage. The film, released in 1982, follows the life of a young boy, Elliot, who discovers E.T., a friendly alien who is lost on an unfamiliar planet. Elliot takes this creature under his wing, and cares for him. As the story progresses, we are able to witness the touching friendship that develops between these characters.

This movie screams nostalgia. I (Nora) recently rewatched ET, the Extra Terrestrial, in order to refresh my memory, considering I hadn’t seen it in the last decade. Though I had seen this film before, my memory of it was slightly skewed. The most memorable aspects of the movie were of ET himself, including his oddly charming mannerisms and his strange but somehow cute appearance. I only vaguely remembered the plot. After watching it for the second time around, I noticed that I took away the same aspects. The plot isn’t what makes this movie special. The humorous and adorable interactions between the children and ET were what stole the heart of moviegoers everywhere. This connection is what made this movie enjoyable, and also what led to the eventual heartbreak as the film came to a close.

Jurassic Park

Jurassic Park is a time old classic that shocked the world with the power of genetics. It tells the story of a pair of archeologists and kids who get trapped in a park with dinosaurs that have been resurrected for a theme park. After malfunctions the dinosaurs escape. It was based on the novel by Michael Crichton. It featured state of the art animatronics and special effects that terrified the audience of the time. The film captured elements of suspense that truly defined a well done thriller of the time. Massive dinosaurs chasing the main characters around an island and constantly sneaking up on them just created horror that will make you jump every time.

Indiana Jones

A tale of the escapades of a troublesome archeologist Indiana Jones, he travels across the world trying to keep ahead of Nazis searching for the holy grail. The gruff and sarcastic character of Indiana Jones is perfectly executed by Harrison Ford. It is a film that whenever rewatched, just reminds me of my childhood and adventures searching for lost treasure in the wilderness or someplace we travelled to. It was these movies that gave me the misconception of what an archeologist really did. It’s a really fun movie that is always worth a watch.



Image from Amazon.com



Image from Pinterest.com

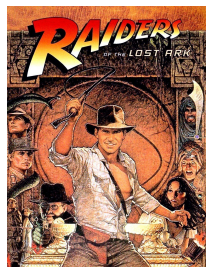


Image from Amazon.com

As we posed for the picture featured above, Conner and I tried to depict the spirit of the two main characters. If you ask me, I think we captured it quite nicely.

Photo Courtesy of Nathan Grove



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**"I acknowledge Mrs. Snyder for using her creative tactics to help students write better and to always find something to write about."
-Mr.Hall**

**"I recognize Rob Hirsch for his utilization of technology and skills to help students learn."
-Mr. Hall**

**"I acknowledge Mr. Donlon for being a very good teacher, anything he says sticks in my head."
-Kayla Snyder**

**"A thank you to the Morminos for putting so much work into the musical and her teachings."
-Mirra Roberts**

**FROM US TO YOU HERE'S A
THANK YOU.**

**"Thanks, Mrs. Backer for being a great English teacher"
-Arnold Saint Phard**

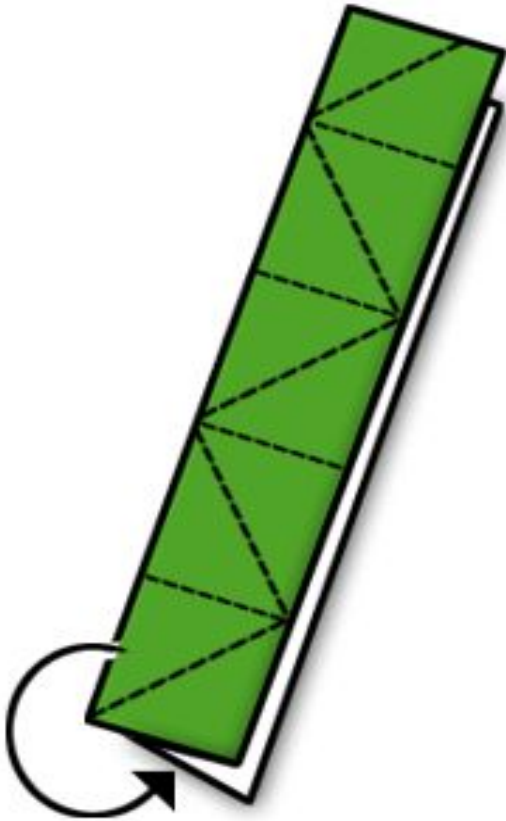
**"I would like to acknowledge Meme Stream Media for all their hard work"
- Hanna Tormey**

**"Thank you, Nathan and Nora, for being the best lab partners."
-Ali Fancher**

**"I would like to acknowledge Nora's soccer poster because no one is going to find it."
-Nathan Grove**

Get your scissors and get ready to rumble!!!!

step 1.



Cut an 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper in half longways, choose the best half, then fold it in half longways.

step 2.



Take a corner at one end of the paper and fold it toward the opposite edge to form a triangle.

step 3.



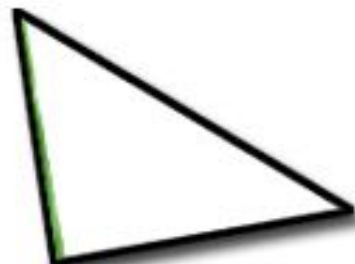
Continue to fold into triangles (along dotted lines shown in step 1) until you run out of paper. Fold the last triangle over to create a tab.

step 4.



Tuck the excess paper tab into the pocket of the triangle.

done!



5	0
4	0
3	0
2	0
1	0

Rules: Fold the paper football following the instructions on the previous page, then flick the football behind the laced line and try to get it into a space. Each space has a number and that number represents how many points you get. The person with the most points after 5 rounds is the winner.

