



# The Talon

Gripping News



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## Students Protest the Possible Overturn of Roe v. Wade

By Sophie Frank

On Thursday, May 5th, high schoolers filled the outdoor bleachers, holding signs and screaming approval as our classmates made speeches surrounding the shocking Roe v. Wade news.

The walkout, a school-sanctioned event, was one of several protests organized by Onteora students in recent years. In 2018, to protest gun violence in schools, Onteora students lined the main hallway in silence. Students also joined protests in Woodstock, New York City, and Washington DC to support women's rights during the Trump presidency. Onteora activism has long since been a force for good. This time, Onteora activists rallied around the right to safe and legal abortion after a shocking Supreme Court decision.

Earlier this month, political journalism site Politico received a leaked copy of a Supreme Court decision involving Roe v. Wade. Simply put, Roe v. Wade, a Supreme Court case decided in 1973, ruled that the right to have an abortion must be constitutionally protected. The leaked document revealed that the court, which now has a conservative majority due to the three justices former president Donald Trump was able to nominate, plans to overturn the decades-old decision.

The court was initially deciding on a Mississippi law that planned to ban abortion at fifteen weeks of pregnancy. Given the court's conservative make-up, experts expected that Mississippi's law would be upheld. However, the court's decision would address more than just the Mississippi law and will overturn Roe, turning all decisions regarding abortion over to the states, and

removing federal abortion protections.

The court has confirmed that the document is real, and they have begun an investigation into the source of the leak. While opinions and the decision itself could change before being made public in late June, there has been cause for

is unprecedented, and already theories are swirling regarding its source. A liberal analysis of the leak might say it was intended to motivate Democrats to vote in the 2022 midterm elections, as the GOP seems slated to take back their majorities. Conservative speculation might say the intention was to

abortion ban. Though a ban would be very unlikely to pass, it's disturbing to see Republicans, the party that believes in less federal oversight, so openly attempting to use the federal government to seize control over personal choice. Many states may also ban certain forms of birth control, such as the morning-after, or Plan B, pill, and shut down clinics that provide many medical services for people who may not be able to afford or access treatment elsewhere.

This also opens up questions about how far the court could go. The justification for the 1973 Roe decision was based in our constitutional right to privacy, which can be found in the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment. This justification was also used in the 2015 decision to legalize same-sex marriage.

The overturning of Roe v. Wade threatens to cause a domino effect—access to healthcare and even basic human rights like marriage are in jeopardy. This has resulted in people taking to the streets across the United States and within the halls of Onteora.

News articles for *The Talon* often take into consideration the implications of an issue for our part of the world—our state, our town, our school. But one of the most important things to take into consideration when thinking about this issue is people who will be affected in far worse ways than we will.

New Yorkers will not lose their access to abortion. In fact, New York had safe, legal access to abortion before Roe v. Wade was decided.

(Continued on Page 4)



Courtesy of Amira Chefridi

concern over the fate of abortion rights in America for decades, and the validity of these concerns has only increased since former president Donald Trump began nominating justices. Acting as a voice for the religious right, he nominated three justices with the intent of restricting or overturning abortion rights, though during their confirmation hearings they claimed that Roe v. Wade was "settled law."

It's not shocking that a more conservative court would move towards restrictions on abortion access. But there are a number of things that do come as a surprise.

For one, leaking a Supreme Court document

keep the conservatives appointed by Trump consistent in their far-right stances on abortion, or prevent more moderate Republican stances from undermining the plan to overturn Roe. Whatever the reason, after more than a month, the source of the leak remains undiscovered.

Overturning Roe v. Wade will have dire consequences for people seeking abortions and many other healthcare procedures. Over half the states will have extreme abortion restrictions or bans in place once the case is overturned. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell has already proposed a nationwide



# The Aftermath of the ‘Don’t Say Gay’ Bill

By Elijah Salazar-Garris

The introduction and enforcement of the ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill has led to increased conversation around homophobia during the past few months.

Anyone who has spoken out against the bill has been subject to attacks by right-wing media outlets. These critics are deemed pedophiles, predators, and groomers by Fox News hosts, as well as by Donald Trump Jr. The son of former president Trump said in a tweet that “there is no ‘don’t say gay’ bill but given all the crazy sexualization of our kids propaganda [sic] I’m seeing maybe we need a ‘Don’t Groom Our Kids’ bill.”

For context, grooming is a process during which an adult develops a relationship with a minor to get sexual favors from them. Grooming certainly does not mean merely discussing queer people’s existence. Conservatives throw around buzzword-heavy accusations such as Trump’s to provoke fear in parents, and prevent them from gaining an objective understanding of the situation at hand.

Prior to the enactment of the bill, queer education in schools was, at most, just an acknowledgement that some kids have two dads or moms, people of the same gender can like each other, and there are people whose identity is neither a boy nor a girl. That’s it.

Even in high school health class at Onteora there is next to no queer or trans sex education built into the curriculum. Queer students may be uncomfortable asking their health teachers to learn about such topics. And it’s hard to know whether a comprehensive answer would be guaranteed even if a queer student did ask their teacher about this topic.



The ripple effects of this bill have extended far beyond schools. Recently, the Disney corporation stopped donating money to Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, claiming to stand with the LGBTQ+ community.

Charlee Corra Disney, an heir to the Disney company, has come out as transgender, and openly attacked the bill. But does Disney

they would have stayed silent.

After Disney spoke out against the governor, DeSantis responded by challenging the corporation’s deal with the state of Florida. Disney World has had a very unique arrangement with the state since 1967. The land Disney operates on is its own tax district, called the Reedy Creek Improvement District. This allows Disney to act on their land with few legal restrictions, and avoid paying taxes on their property by essentially reserving the power to tax themselves. Ron DeSantis now wants to eliminate their district, perhaps as a way to punish both their opposition to the ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bill and their halting of funding towards him.

If Reedy Creek were to be dissolved, their land would fall into other counties, which would hurt all Floridians, not just Disney. The other counties would absorb Reedy Creek’s debt, which amounts to over one billion dollars, leaving local taxpayers to pay for it. Disney would also need permits to build on their park, which they do not currently need.

DeSantis’ position has led him to a decision that ultimately hurts the state he is supposed to govern. By going through with his plan, he has hurt Disney’s 70,000 employees and everyday taxpayers.

The point of teaching LGBTQ+ topics in school is to normalize these ideas and help kids be comfortable in their identities as they grow. The importance of this normalization in schools is why Florida students and teachers alike have staged widespread protests since the passage of the bills. Queer and allied students and staff won’t go down without a fight.

actually care? One could argue that Disney as a corporation is less concerned about LGBTQ+ rights and more concerned with the backlash they may experience if they don’t come out against the bill and DeSantis himself. It wasn’t until people started boycotting Disney products that they spoke up. If they had not experienced the backlash they did, it seems safe to assume

## Local Politics: Teach-ins, Debates, Elections, Oh My!

EJ Shackne-Martello

With the school year coming to a close, it’s easy to forget about community events happening right underneath our noses. Whether politics interest you or not, informing yourself on the inner workings of our local government is important. This is exactly why the Woodstock Democratic Committee hosted a series of civics teach-ins.

These were hosted at the Woodstock Community Center and brought in a number of guests such as Ulster County Comptroller March Gallagher, State Assembly member Kevin Cahill, Fire Department Chief Kevin Peters, and Library Board Chairperson Jeff Collins.

The six Thursdays on which the teach-ins were held spanned from March to May and gave the average community member insight into the daily lives of elected officials. Complicated processes were made accessible, and people’s connections to their representatives were strengthened.

The WDC’s commitment to non-partisanship was seen clearly throughout, and I greatly enjoyed the opportunity to hear from the people representing me. If you missed out, don’t worry! Video recordings of the civics lessons can be found at [www.woodstockdems.org](http://www.woodstockdems.org)

Later in May, there was a candidates forum for the 103rd Assembly District in Saugerties. The debate between incumbent Kevin Cahill and Sarahana Shrestha lasted about two hours, and boy, it was rough.

For some background, while Cahill is not without faults, he has done a lot for our area and has a lot of name recognition. Shrestha, on the other hand, is relatively new to most people, and running what looks like from the outside like a single issue campaign:

climate change. This would be amazing for her if Cahill wasn’t constantly writing and cosponsoring climate legislation.

Unfortunately for Shrestha, because Cahill is the incumbent and has made climate change a priority, he was able to immediately rebut the claims Shrestha made about his supposed apathy by pulling out receipts. So when it all kicked off, things started looking bad for both candidates pretty quickly.

Both Cahill and Shrestha began throwing accusations at one another, and it devolved fur-



Kevin Cahill



Sarahana Shrestha



Moderators:  
Dan Barton, Kingston Wire & Mariel Fiori, La Voz

### Assembly District 103 Candidates Forum

Thursday, May 12  
@ 7:00 pm

Saugerties Senior Center  
207 Market St.

Courtesy of EJ Shackne-Martello

ther from there. It was a disappointing display. However, when they were on track, it was a great sparring match of sorts, with both candidates keeping the other on their toes.

Voting for the assembly starts on June 28th, and I highly encourage checking out both candidates and making an informed decision on who you want representing you. Local, ground-level politics are important to keep up with and remain an active participant in.



# Woodstockers Vote to Relocate Library in Recent Election

By Shane Stackpole

On Tuesday, May 10th, a simple “Yes” or “No” vote was held to determine the future of the Woodstock Library, asking townspeople whether or not they support the proposal to borrow \$3.95 million to purchase a new home for the library at 10 Dixon Avenue. This vote was open to all registered voters in Woodstock and followed years of contentious debate regarding the future of the 95-year-old building.

On May 11th, it was announced that the majority of Woodstock residents voted “Yes,” meaning that the library’s proposal passed, and will allow for the library’s moving to the Dixon Avenue location in the coming months.

Those who voted “Yes” on May 10th were in support of issuing a municipal bond that would provide the Woodstock Library Board with the necessary funds to buy and move into the former Miller/Howard Investments building on Dixon Avenue. Under the bond proposal, \$2.57 million of the \$3.95 million borrowed would be used to purchase the new library’s home, with the remaining \$1.3 million being allocated to renovations needed to make the Miller/Howard building a functional library.

Support for the library’s moving was based primarily on the myriad structural problems that the current building faces, some of which include poor insulation, spreading mold, a damaged roof, uneven floors, and limited parking. These issues have rendered the current building unable to properly function and meet the needs of its staff and devoted users, especially disabled individuals. Relocating to the new

building on Dixon Avenue would guarantee that all of these problems be fixed, whereas attempting to renovate or add onto the library’s current building would not.

Those who voted “No” on May 10th were in support of the Woodstock Library staying at its current location—where it has resided since 1927—on Library Lane. This would mean going back to the drawing board and drafting a new proposal to save the library that has been slowly crumbling for the past decade and a half.



Courtesy of the Woodstock Library Facebook

People’s opposition to the library board’s proposal to move was based on a wide array of reasons. For one, many “No” voters had expressed concern about the conditions of the ground on which the Miller/Howard building stands. Being a former industrial site warrants reasonable concern that the property has elevat-

ed levels of certain chemicals and other environmental damages. However, after the library board commissioned an environmental firm, Colligers Engineering and Design, to conduct a thorough and updated review of the property, it was found that “there were no Volatile Organic Compounds or Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds found in either the soil or the water that exceeded Department of Environment Conservation (DEC) limits.”

Others who voted “No” on the 10th were concerned about the considerably high cost of the Miller/Howard building or the inconvenience of having a library that is not walking distance from the heart of Woodstock. Some may have even based their decision to vote “No” solely on the feeling that letting go of the library that they know and love would just be too hard. On the issue, Woodstock Library Board President Jeff Collins urged Woodstockers to base their decision objectively on the betterment of the library and its staff, stating that “this is a community information event. This cannot be a partisan event. There’s plenty of time to campaign, but not here.”

The polarizing effects of this issue have left Woodstockers debating the pros and cons of the future of their library for years. For those of us who grew up with the Woodstock Library being our second home, saying goodbye will without a doubt be hard.

That’s why we decided to ask you, fellow Woodstockers, to give your two cents on this gripping topic by answering the following question: If you had been given the chance, would you have voted “Yes” or “No”? Why?

**Nora Vogt, Senior:** “As a lifelong resident of Woodstock, as well as a frequent library visitor, I initially had mixed feelings surrounding the idea of a new library. This library was a staple of my childhood, so yes, I had a tad bit of nostalgia for the white building on Library Lane. That being said, nostalgia alone is not enough to convince me that keeping the current library building open is the right decision. I would vote ‘yes’ to the new library for both environmental and structural reasons. I believe the Woodstock library deserves the love and care it has shown its members over the years, and the new location is the way to do that.”

**Clara Mead, Senior:** “I’m definitely going to miss the old library. Right before the pandemic I would go there all the time to get my chemistry homework done. When I was younger, I sat on a rug upstairs and listened to a woman named Leslie read stories. We played dress-up too. I have a lot of fond memories growing up with that library, but I think it’s important to consider that Woodstock is a rapidly changing town. There is an influx of new young families, and I think they’re entitled to a library that isn’t a hazard.”

**Zoe Gabriel, Junior:** I don’t know much about it, so I have kind of undefined feelings about it. I do go to the library a lot to study, and the new location will make the commute less convenient for me, but I’m also excited to have a new, renovated, and up-to-date library.

# Onteora Reappoints Victoria McClaren as Superintendent

By Augie Luttinger

On April 20th, 2022, the Board of Education reappointed Victoria McLaren as Superintendent of Schools for the Onteora Central School District. She assumed her position on June 6.

McLaren’s appointment follows a national, year-long search for a new superintendent. With 11 applications and three finalists for the position, McLaren was appointed in a 4-0 vote by the district’s board of education members. In the selection process, the Onteora Board of Education employed consultant Dr. Bill Christensen, who Board President Kevin Salem said was a “tremendous source of support and guidance.”

McLaren previously worked as the Onteora Superintendent of Schools from 2017 through May 2021, and she had been with the district for 16 years prior to resigning from her superintendent position in February 2021. For the past year, she has served as the School Business Administrator of the Highland Central School District, and Onteora’s superintendent position has been filled on an interim basis by Marystephanie Corsones.

On the appointment, Salem said that “We’re thrilled to welcome Ms. McLaren back to Onteora.” Salem also said, after the meeting on the 20th, that McLaren was appointed based on her familiarity with the Onteora

community and her ability to take many concerns into consideration when taking action.

McLaren is excited to be returning to the Onteora community that she knows and loves. “Onteora is an amazing district and school community,” she said. “I have tremendous respect and affection for this district, and I am excited to have the opportunity to move forward to support the students, faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Education.”



Courtesy of the Onteora Facebook



(Continued from Page 1)

New Yorkers will be able to access birth control, get married to the individual of their choice, and live life the way we did before this decision.

This decision will most drastically affect those in conservative states, people of low income, and people of color. It will affect those who do not identify as women, including nonbinary and trans people. Given that abortion clinics, which will be forced to close their doors when anti-abortion legislation goes through, provide a multitude of services beyond abortions, many will suffer.

Abortion restrictions go beyond religious hypocrisy or even control of women’s bodies. It should be impossible to talk about *Roe v. Wade* without talking about the fact that that restricting access to abortion will not affect wealthier people, who can drive or fly to another state and pay the legal fees if abortions do indeed become a criminal act, but will affect people of low income who cannot afford to take the time off work to travel, or afford the trip itself. Some people may even be seeking to terminate a pregnancy for financial reasons to begin with, perhaps because they are impoverished and cannot afford to care for a child. Forcing a person to carry a pregnancy to term may cause physical and emotional harm to the parent—some people seek an abortion because having a child would be too damaging to their body, or because the child will not be able to survive outside the womb.

Those who cannot afford to raise a child may choose to put the baby into the foster care system. The foster care system is already filled to bursting with children who need homes, and the system suffers from the same issues of poverty and racism as every institution in

the country.

Additionally, much of the language surrounding this issue only includes the word “woman,” leaving out those across the gender spectrum who may need an abortion or many other kinds of reproductive healthcare.

To criminalize or punish those seeking medical care is to intentionally continue the cycle of poverty that entraps millions in America. “The war on women,” some call the GOP’s continued attacks on reproductive freedom. But it is absolutely crucial that we acknowledge that this is a war on all marginalized people, a war on health and safety as well as abortions.

In this time of nationwide shock and outrage, there is room for any and all emotional response. But as the dust clears and we begin to fight back in an organized fashion, it is more important than ever to center the narrative on those who will be most affected, and decenter ourselves. When we are in a position where the needs and voices of millions of marginalized people will be intentionally ignored in government, healthcare, and even some social justice spaces (such as ones that continue to refer to all abortion-seekers as women) it is more important than ever to be shining a spotlight on them.

It is also more important than ever to acknowledge our relative privilege—as New Yorkers, our rights will remain intact. What seems almost taboo to say is that it’s okay to be outraged, shocked, and scared for people besides ourselves, to feel all of those things because of morality or compassion but not personal anxiety. In other words, being furious at the state of the world because of the marginalized people that will be intimately affected and because of the sheer injustice that this should be allowed to happen is just as okay as being

angry because your personal rights are being infringed upon.

Modern times, perhaps especially due to social media, have turned everyone’s life into an “I” statement, with everything being filtered through a lens of “how does this affect me?” And this is not inherently detrimental: much of the activism that we, as Onteora students, find ourselves involved in encourages and needs this attitude because in many cases, these social issues actually do affect us.

Gun violence, for example. School shootings intimately affect high school students, so when we staged a walkout and posted our thoughts on social media, it was absolutely appropriate to discuss how it affected us. The Me Too movement is another social movement where a focus on one’s own lived experiences is acceptable and even crucial to the movement’s success—by spreading the message #YesAllWomen and motivating women from all walks of life to share a multitude of experiences, we were able to see the true scale of rape culture, sexual harrasment, and misogyny from women all over the world.

The widespread approval for these types of social movements, where the movement is based on sharing personal experiences, feelings, and thoughts, makes it difficult to conceive of a movement based around amplifying the experiences of others. And indeed, the response to *Roe v. Wade* will not be entirely based on uplifting the voices of others, as everyone, including us here in New York, will be affected in some way, even if this just means we face moral outrage at and disillusionment in our government.

But as we share this outrage, let’s continue to bring those most affected to the forefront, modify our language so we don’t only use

the word “women,” and acknowledge how lucky we are to be able to protest from within a state that will continue to support our rights.

The Onteora walkout organizer, junior Noelle Crandell, said in a speech, “We are donating our education time to protest this policy that you passed.” That’s just one way we can use the position we have been given. That’s proof that we are deeply compassionate—we are upset that any person is in this situation, we are committed to learning how we can help (there is a long and successful history of student protests) and what the world will become going forward.

Onteora coming together to fight for a cause, joining millions around the world fighting for the same things, is powerful. But we need to continue learning about the roots of the unmitigated cruelty of the religious right, and talking about those whose rights are being actively stripped away. Unlike other social movements that define our generation, our personal experiences are not as relevant. We should be horrified that this is happening to anyone, regardless of the decision’s effect on our lives. What we should be sharing is our voices, our passion, our support, and our empathy.

Social movements have succeeded in bringing about radical change dating back generations, and I am inspired by the world’s reaction and our small Onteora community’s. While now is the time to be angry and loud, perhaps the most powerful tool at our disposal is our ability to care about what others are going through, and let our feelings take a back seat to their lived experiences.

Be it through marches in the streets or a commitment to uplift others, this fight will not end quietly.

## Booster Club Stirs the Pot with First Annual Spaghetti Dinner

By Isabella Hamilton

Onteora’s Booster Club recently had their first event, a spaghetti dinner, on April 1st, 2022. The dinner was a great success! However, many people haven’t fully grasped the hard work that has contributed to the club’s success. The club spent months on preparation, research, meetings, and paperwork in order to engage in fundraising activities. Fortunately, the district has been very supportive of the club, which was exemplified when over 120 members of the Onteora community arrived at the recent spaghetti dinner. Numerous prizes were kindly donated by local businesses, such as Sparkle, the Boiceville Inn, Woodstock Art Exchange, and more.

The spaghetti dinner generated a positive start for the Booster Club. The club appreciates the support of the local community, and they look forward to the future events that will support the club’s growth. So far, the Booster Club has a wide variety of accomplishments and plans for the future. They even created an easily accessible website ([www.onteoraboosterclub.com](http://www.onteoraboosterclub.com)), where anyone can access information about upcoming events for the school and more. They have also created Facebook and Instagram accounts where they can promote and share information about the club.

During the month of May, the Booster Club supported the school’s Spirit Week by providing concessions and carefully planning out the week’s activities with the Athletic Council. The week consisted of festive, themed days such as PJ day, Tie-Dye day, Anything But A Backpack day,

Adam Sandler day, and School Colors day. Additionally, the Booster Club went above and beyond when it hosted BBQ Nite as a part of Spirit Week on May 11th, 2022. Onteora’s Spirit Week ran smoothly due to the help of administration, faculty, students, coaches, and Booster Club members.

President of the Booster Club Denise Alterio is looking forward to the club’s future. She states, “I’m grateful to be involved with the Booster Club. After a long period of limited activity due to COVID-19, it’s inspiring to see people come together in whatever ways their life schedules and circumstances allow.” Lastly, Denise adds that the Booster Club is just getting started, and Onteora should prepare to see a lot more of them!



Courtesy of Denise Alterio



# Out-Of-This-World Explorations

Thea Millenson-Wilens

As children, many of us, at one point or another, dreamed of becoming an astronaut. From the days of the Sputnik launch to now, space exploration has grown astronomically. But what was once a public journey to the stars in the pursuit of knowledge is now a new way for the rich and powerful to compete amongst themselves as they race to see who can enter space first. Billionaires are trying to commodify space, and the final frontier is more at risk than ever before.

As climate change has become increasingly threatening to modern times, many have dreamed of going to space to escape the inevitable environmental catastrophes. But that very mindset is ironically speeding global warming along as billionaires race to reach space. A rocket launch can emit 300 tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The facilities where rocket launches are constructed, such as SpaceX's facilities, destroy land that was home to humans and animals alike.

As billionaires continue to attempt to privatize space travel, it becomes clear that the final frontier isn't the only thing at risk: Earth is, too. If the rich are allowed to have access to space without a care for those on earth, soon there won't be anywhere left on Earth for their rockets to even take off from. Before we turn to living in space, let's take care of the more present issue: our planet.

Privatized space travel isn't just unsafe for those outside the rockets; it can be unsafe for

those inside, too. After the terrible tragedies like the Space Challenger explosion, public regulations on space flights and rockets became even more stringent. But it's unclear if private companies are being held to the same standards. The companies don't just report to NASA, they also report to their investors. Because of this, they're able to get things done a lot more quickly since



Courtesy of PxHere

they have private funds and incentives behind them. But with that speed comes a lack of surveillance, and it won't be the billionaires who are paying. It'll be the people inside the space shuttles. It is irresponsible of NASA and the government to continue to allow private space flights without proper regulation. Despite a tendency from the wealthy to disregard laws just because they can pay their way around them, it is crucial that more regulations are implemented before someone is hurt.

With the vast amount of money that billionaires hoard, it makes sense that they would have more material wealth than the average civilian. But now that many of them are running out of things to buy and invest in on Earth, they've turned to space. Space is vast, unending, and unforgiving. To believe you can conquer the stars is delusional. But private companies are throwing money at the problem and hoping it'll buy them a stake in the newest moon resort.

Additionally, privatizing space is far too expensive for the average person to enjoy. A seat on SpaceX's Crew Dragon shuttle costs \$55 million dollars each. That money could buy a house for every family in America. It is startlingly clear that the privatization of space travel benefits one group alone: the ultra-wealthy. If they are able to sink their claws into the stars, the vast treasure of the sky may become just another tourist attraction. The cost—both literally and figuratively—is too high.

From the moment JFK deemed space "the final frontier," the stars have held a kind of majesty among the human race that is unparalleled. Almost anyone you ask would agree that space is beautiful and holds immense opportunity, even down to the smallest quark. But billionaires are putting the cosmos at risk, and our own home planet is being threatened alongside it. The rich cannot be allowed to turn the mysterious glory of space into the world's next amusement park.



# Clawsnaps



Seniors, what is one of your most treasured memories from your four years here at Onteora?

Sean Foster

My favorite memory from high school is participating in the school musical. It bonds the community and brings people together who don't normally hang out with each other.



Molly Whitehead

When Mr. Keenan's thermite reaction set off the fire alarm on the last day of school last year.



Andrew Sharp

When Hayden Kothe broke down Mr. Bucher's door in tenth grade Earth Science.



Ava Maki

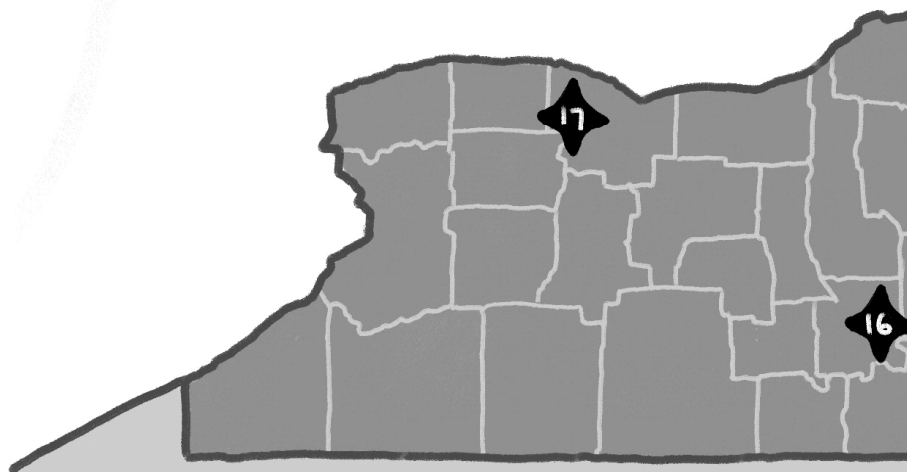
When Logan Holmquist claimed that his phone was indestructable and then, to prove his point, drop kicked his phone with his steel-toed boot. Not only did it shatter, but it was completely unrecognizable.



Courtesy of The Talon Staff



# Where is the class of 2020 going?



1 **SUNY ULSTER** - Darrah Allison, Christian Amarilla Barrios, Jordan Berryman, Laura Craig, Justin Creagan, Riley Drake, Eaman Hill, Achaia-Lotus Horwitz Gindele, Ilanna Kessler, Hayden Kothe, Isabella McLaughlin, Julia Milla, Skylar Naughton, Elisa Rhodes, Atticus Schouten, Andrew Sharp, Julia Strauss, Marqyies Treasure, Abraham Umana Alarcon, Nathan Wilber, Adam Williams, Jack Wood

**BOCES** - Harmony Cross

2 **SUNY NEW PALTZ** - Bernice DeLaura, Devon Schweizer, Kyra Smith

3 **MOUNT SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE** - Madison Wilson

4 **SUNY ORANGE** - Sandra Gomez

5 **SUNY PURCHASE** - Piper Levine

6 **THE NEW SCHOOL** - Nora Vogt

7 **PRATT INSTITUTE** - Stella Kowalsky, Layla Sprague

8 **SUNY DUTCHESS** - Ronan Hegeman, Meadow Madera

**MARIST COLLEGE** - Madison Tucciarone

9 **BARD COLLEGE** - Nicholas Drucquer, Ava Maki

10 **LINEMAN INSTITUTE OF THE NORTH EAST** - Logan Williams

11 **SUNY COLUMBIA-GREENE** - Logan Holmquist, Irwin Walden

12 **SUNY HUDSON VALLEY** - Kevin Marin

13 **SUNY ALBANY** - Citlali Martinez Valentin, Marisa Mayone, Elijah Salazar, Garris, Rajwinder Singh

14 **SUNY DELHI** - Avery Burns, Wyatt Konjas, Benjamin Zeh

15 **SUNY BROOME** - Maritsa Stamas

16 **SUNY TOMPKINS CORTLAND** - Gav Stoudt

17 **SUNY BROCKPORT** - Victoria Aarons, Tierny Byron

18 **ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY** - sea Foster

19 **SUNY ADIRONDACK** - Nya Vankleeck

20 **CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE** - Zev Ben-Dor  
**UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT** - Gabrielle Garratt, Isabella McHugh

21 **WILLIAMS COLLEGE** - shane stackpo

22 **MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE** - Sophie Frank, Sydnee Schilling

23 **UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST** - Isabelle Vandamme



By Tahlula  
Potter

022



- ◆ 24 BOSTON COLLEGE - scarlette Ragues
- ◆ SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY - sophia Wentland
- ◆ BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC - Sophia Grinberg
- ◆ 25 SWARTHMORE COLLEGE - Joey Driscoll
- ◆ HAVERFORD COLLEGE - Tahlula Potter
- ◆ TEMPLE UNIVERSITY - Kate Davis
- ◆ 26 MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY - Jackson Scanlon
- ◆ 27 OBERLIN COLLEGE - Clara Mead
- ◆ 28 STETSON UNIVERSITY - Hayley Schropfer
- ◆ 29 ECKERD COLLEGE - Reilly Colbert
- ◆ UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA - shayne Bresler
- ◆ 30 FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY - stephen Becker
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# The Detriments of Diet Culture

By EJ Schackne-Martello

As someone who has been struggling with anorexia since middle school and has been in recovery for the past year, I can say with complete certainty that diet culture is not helping anyone. It's not helping the moms who lack control of their schedules and find solace in carb-counting. It's not helping the growing boys in our own community and so many around the nation who starve and dehydrate themselves for the sake of a wrestling match. And it is definitely not helping the young girls who grow up hearing endless criticism of their growing bodies.

Even after I realized I was stuck in a destructive cycle, I couldn't just stop. Solely being conscious of my issues wasn't enough to make them go away—it was being authentic with myself and my goals that gave me the strength I needed to get treatment. Some bad habits still stick with me today, but my efforts have allowed me to take a step back and see the world outside of a caloric context.

One of the many problems with diet culture is that standards keep rising and women keep feeling a societal pressure to meet them. The “perfect body” has stayed overwhelmingly thin over the years, while preferred features such as haunches and busts keep changing in size. While haunches can change size for some after tireless hours of squatting, their size is mainly based on genetics. Busts are a gamble, and women can't be expected to change their bodies for the latest trend.

Even worse, no matter the trendiest body type of the year, it is always skinny, sending one message to the women of this country: “size zero or go.” And it's not just societal standards that are changing: BMI (body mass index) is a way of measuring someone's health based on height and weight. Back in 1998, before all of us were born, the BMI's healthy/overweight boundary was adjusted from 27.8 to 25. People that had been considered healthy their entire lives were suddenly classified as overweight. This gets even worse when you consider that people classified as overweight by the BMI are much more likely to be told by doctors that their weight is the root cause of their medical issues. This means that things like thyroid and other hormonal issues, stomach issues, and even tumors, can go completely unnoticed.

Another problem is fad diets. As a personal victim of the keto diet, let me tell you: if your body refuses to lose weight, it's probably trying to tell you something. Not everyone's healthiest weight looks the same. Our bodies are the only constants throughout our lives, and their entire job is to keep us healthy. If our bodies craved nothing but unsatisfying, carb-free, sugar-free, basically everything-free food all day, then they wouldn't be getting the nutrients they need to do their jobs. There are no “tricks” to losing weight. There are only healthy or unhealthy methods. Unfortunately, unhealthy habits can lead to life-threatening illnesses quickly without outside help. The best choice for weight management is booking an appointment with a dietician or nutritionist and being open and honest with yourself about your motives and goals.

We are still growing. At our age, the stakes will never be higher. The health mistakes we make now could haunt us forever. No amount of weight loss is worth the potential fertility issues, irreversible damage to metabolism, and brain detriments that come from undereating. Working out because you love it or going vegan to save the animals is far more rewarding when there isn't a number on the scale motivating you. Focusing on how food feels in your stomach instead of how many calories it has makes you more present with friends and family. And detaching yourself from your weight gives you space to connect with your body in a more loving, less clinical way.

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# Student Employees: How Much is Too Much?

By Kelly Wen

While walking around the center of the town of Woodstock, have you ever wondered what is supporting the attraction? Perhaps you've realized when you enter a restaurant that most of the employees appear to be high school students. As a student worker myself, I can attest to the pros and cons of working while in high school. Though it can often provide teenagers with the independence we crave, there are ways that it can be detrimental to a student's academic and social life.

Working as a student is often deemed a stepping stone into the adult world, by, for instance, offering students a steady income for the first time. This can encourage students to build a strong work ethic and reap the benefits of their hard work. It allows teenagers to learn about money management from earning, spending, and saving, thereby preparing them to handle finances in the future.

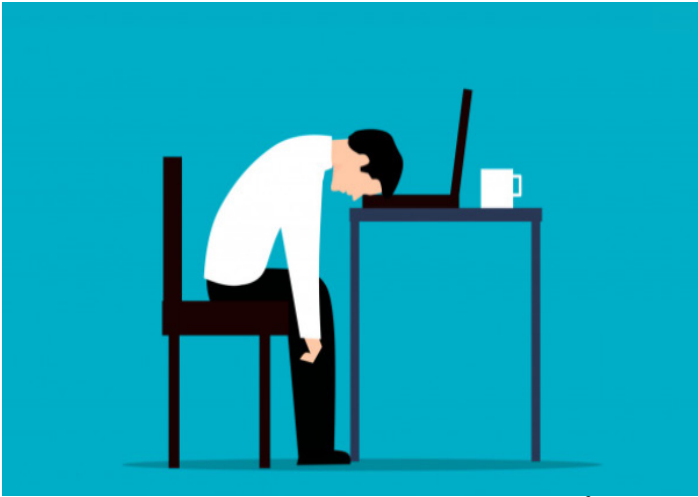
Working also develops a sense of responsibility. Since teenagers are no longer seen as children when they are in the workplace, they are given tasks and are expected to complete them. This allows them to build character and learn how to function independently.

However, working can also add so much on top of school. As a student who holds a job, there are moments when I cannot keep the balance between work and school. There will be piles of school work weighing on my shoulder, but because of my job, I am unable to complete them. It takes so much time away from my already packed schedule that going directly home after school becomes a rare and valuable treasure.

This calls into question the more widespread problem at hand: the unjust exploitation of students' ability in the workplace. When discussing the topic with a friend who works at a local restaurant, they mentioned they had to work 15 hours in one weekend. Following the long weekend of restaurant labor, the student decided to skip school in order to get their homework done. This is not a special-case situation; there are so many situations where students will be so overworked physically and mentally at the expense of their school work.

Now you may be questioning: why don't these students simply resist their manager? For many students, this is just not a possibility. Many of whom work to support their families or save money for college could result in being fired when pushing back against their manager. For other students, the intrinsic fear of resisting someone in a position of a higher authority renders them unable to do so. The first time I had to tell my manager I was unable to work a certain day, I was filled with fear and confusion. I had no idea what to do or how to handle the situation.

Reflecting on this now, it's become obvious that there is a true systemic problem when students are put in situations where pushing back becomes necessary in ensuring our mental and physical well being. It is important that employers are being considerate of their student workers' well being.



Courtesy of PxHere

# Happy Pride Month!!!

# Love, the Talon Staff





# Heartstopper Review

By Sophia Wentland



You may have recently heard about the new TV show *Heartstopper*, or maybe it came up as a recommendation for you on Netflix. Rapidly gaining popularity throughout the world, the Netflix original is a British show about teens exploring their sexuality and navigating issues like bullying, friend relationships, and gender-separated schools. It was released April 22, 2022, and it stars Kit Connor and Joe Locke as the characters Nick Nelson and Charlie Spring, respectively.

Right off the bat, I would give this show five stars. It absolutely slays. I love a classic romance movie or show, so I had no doubt that I would enjoy it. I must say that it is slightly cheesy, but I think it just adds to the charm of the show.

As much as I loved the show, it made me feel almost empty. It made me long for the type of love and connection within a teenage relationship that was depicted in the show.

Even though the show has a good plot and good acting, what really makes it so special is

the representation of queer actors playing queer characters. The main character Charlie Spring is gay, and his boyfriend Nick Nelson is bisexual. There are also transgender and lesbian charac-

ters within the LGBTQIA+ community outside of the show. Far too often we see people playing queer characters that aren't actually queer. It is really important to have LGBTQIA+ representation within the film industry (and all industries) so that people don't feel alone and isolated within the sexuality that they identify with.

The *Heartstopper* cast also has age-appropriate actors, which has been a recurring issue in the film and TV industry time and time again. Too often, full-grown adults in their twenties and thirties are cast as teenagers in high school, which leads to unrealistic roles and expectations for modern-day teens. In this show, the oldest actress is twenty-seven years old and plays a senior as a side character. All of the other main characters are around the age of eighteen or nineteen.

The show is renewed for another two seasons, and rightfully so. I should mention that it is based off of a graphic novel if you'd rather read than watch TV, but I would recommend both. Definitely give it a watch!



Courtesy of @heartstoppertv on Instagram

ters, as well as other gay characters that have not come out yet. Plus, a lot of the actors identify

# Chess Master Marvel Visits Onteora

By Liam Bertheaud

To close out the first year of Onteora's Chess Club, local chess master, Stuart Margulies, came to a meeting to talk about his experience and play against the club's members. Margulies had played against previous world champion Bobby Fischer and in a collaboration with him wrote one of the bestselling chess books of all time, *Bobby Fischer Teaches Chess*. The club was excited to meet with him, ask questions, and play against him. With decades of chess experience

he told us stories and gave insight into the game. Reflecting on the event, sophomore Ada Helm said, "I loved getting to hear from an actual chess expert. It was even cooler getting to watch him play against my peers. The level of focus in the room was unlike anything I have seen."

When asked about how he was introduced to chess, Margulies said that his uncle showed him the game when he was younger. He would spend hours at chess clubs

and the park, working on his chess skills. His favorite opening move is E4 (chess notation for moving the white king's pawn forward two squares) which is also Bobby Fischer's favorite opening move, as he was quoted saying E4 was "best by test." Margulies said one of his favorite openings was the Ruy Lopez, which was named after the 16th-century Spanish priest and is one of the most popular openings of all time. Margulies has met some of the best chess players from

it professionally and that the show's theme of substance abuse was accurate in her case. And with local producer William Horberg having produced the show, it's great to see our local community contribute to chess in such a significant way.

Margulies said he beat chess champion Bobby Fischer once in an even match. When Fischer lost, Margulies felt accomplished and Fischer said that he was excited to have played an opponent who kept him on his toes.

Margulies played five games at once against Onteora Chess Club members, Charlie Hoolihan, Nick Drucquer, Meredith Grant, Liam Bertheaud, and Augustus Luttinger. The matches were done with great enthusiasm, but ended as clear losses on the club's part. It was an honor to have played against him.

Margulies graciously donated five signed copies of his book to the competing players. It was a great way for Onteora's chess players to end the school year. We cannot wait to return in September and play even more games and host other events and tournaments.

On a final note, we would like to thank Stuart Margulies for coming to support our club and our club advisor Alica Curlew for giving her time to keeping the club active. Both deserve recognition for their generous contributions.



Courtesy of Noah Makowski, Chess Club Treasurer

across the world, including Judith Polgar, who is a grandmaster and considered to be one of the best female chess players of all time.

When he was asked about the popular Netflix series, *The Queen's Gambit*, Margulies said that he knew the chess player that the show was based on, Diana Lanni, a NYC chess player who has spent some time in Woodstock. Margulies said that the show accurately depicted chess and the struggles that come with playing



# Farewell Letter From the Editors

Dear Talon Community,

It has been such an honor serving as your Editors-in-Chief this past year. We want to thank every person who has contributed to *The Talon* for their dedication, kindness, and passion. Without you, none of our success this year could have been possible.

While our paths to joining *The Talon* were different, we both quickly found our place in the newspaper. As first-semester sophomores, we were both reasonably intimidated by joining a club that was run primarily by experienced upperclassmen. However, this intimidation quickly faded upon entering a newspaper meeting for the first time, as we were met by a community that shared a collective interest in making us feel as though our voices mattered. From this moment on, it was unequivocal that *The Talon* was about so much more than just producing ink on paper.

Halfway through our first year as staff members, COVID-19 hit. With no experience in creating a newspaper through the computer screen, we had to essentially create everything from scratch, relying only on our community to guide the way. And it did. While the world fell down around us, *The Talon* community grew stronger than ever. Our passion came alive over Zoom, and despite the physical distance between us, we developed the confidence to contribute ideas and grow into leaders.

As we stepped into our roles as Editors-in-Chief, we also stepped into the task of running an in-person newspaper after two years of it being online. We had to reimagine what the paper looked like—reworking the basics, re-learning our pre-pandemic layout software, and readjusting to holding in-person meetings. But despite all these changes, we, more than ever, continued to uphold the community that stood strong throughout the pandemic. We continued to uplift students’ voices and fight for articles

that shared the most honest and vulnerable stories. We questioned what we had lost a year and a half ago, and what we gained.

We gained, in a more concrete way than any uninterrupted school year could have given us, the knowledge that *The Talon* is a family. We are a family that will always find a way to be there for each other—through a pandemic, through the distance of college, through the different paths we choose to take next year. *The Talon* is a family that encourages one another to push limits and follow our passions through bold, thought-provoking, and sometimes controversial articles. We are a family that will do anything to provide each and every one of our classmates this incredible platform to make their voice heard. A family that, perhaps most importantly, puts in the work to create the paper we want to read, as we have done since our founding. *The Talon* is truly, as Ms. Conroy often says, a student-run paper. If you have ever written, edited, or read *The Talon*, you have shaped it, and you have held a piece of Onteora history in your hands.

As our chapter as members of *The Talon* comes to a close, we take with us into the future a love for newspapers: searching for the perfect word for an article’s title, polishing every sentence until it gleams on the page, fixating for hours on a page’s layout. But less concretely, we take with us a commitment to make others feel like their voice matters just as much as we felt ours did at that first newspaper meeting during sophomore year. We take with us the understanding that each perspective holds power, an understanding that there is strength in creative collaboration and beauty in being part of some



Courtesy of The Talon Staff

thing where every contributor is a crucial part of the process.

While letting go of *The Talon* feels like an impossible task, we have every confidence that it will continue to flourish under the leadership of EJ Schackne-Martello, next year’s Editor-in-Chief. We want to thank her and our other editorial staff members—Ella Williams, Clara Mead, Tahlula Potter, and Kelly Wen—without whom we would not have been able to bang out four incredible issues this year. To Ms. Conroy, thank you for believing in us, being our constant cheerleader, and always encouraging us to advocate for the stories that matter. And finally, thank you to each and every current and past member of *The Talon* for giving so much of yourself to this community that we love so very much. Never be afraid to stand up for what’s right, make your voice heard, be bold, and eat as much Trader Joe’s Jingle Jangle as Ms. Conroy will supply.

All the best,  
Sophie Frank and Shane Stackpole  
Editors-in-Chief, *The Talon*



Wendy Cohen, Geometry Teacher

Mrs. Cohen is Onteora’s beloved geometry teacher. She has worked at Onteora for 20 years.

**What are you looking forward to about retirement?**

A few things I’m looking forward to, I would say number one is having more time to do things I enjoy doing, that I haven’t had enough time to do. Also, off season traveling. Those would be my top two.

**What has been your favorite thing about working at Onteora?**

The community. Having taught in big cities before coming here, I’ve really enjoyed the close knit community and the fact that people know each other and support each other, and I’ve found that a very nurturing environment. I’ve been very happy to be a part of it and happy that my kids have been a part of it. It’s been a great place to teach.

**Do you have any plans for retirement that you’re excited about?**

Traveling, I think is probably my top thing. My husband and I are starting to figure out our first year. But I also have plans to do some kind of activism work. I know that I have not had the energy to do it because teaching is demanding, and I feel an obligation and a desire to be more active, and political activism is something I’m looking forward to getting involved in.

## Revered Retirees

By Thea Millenson-Wilens

Thank you, Mrs. Cohen and Mr. Chartrand, for your years of hard work. The Onteora community will deeply miss you. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Don’t forget to come back and visit!



Courtesy of Talon Staff

**Louis Chartrand, Technology Teacher**

Mr. Chartrand has been Onteora’s technology teacher for 38 years. He says he’s taught a little bit of everything, and enjoyed his time here very much.

**What are you looking forward to about retirement?**

Spending time with my grandkids, and doing things in the fall that I haven’t had as much time for, like fishing and hunting.

**What has been your favorite thing about working at Onteora?**

The kids. Times have changed, Onteora has gotten smaller, but the kids are the same. People say I’ve taught the kids so much, but I think the kids have taught me just as much.

**Do you have any plans for retirement that you’re excited about?**

Spending time with my kids and grandkids, and traveling.



# Horoscopes

By Auden Stellavato

**Aries:** The restlessness you feel may incur chaos around you. Take it in stride!! Don't be perturbed if no one else around you seems to share your newfound excitability, it's there for a reason. Also, when you inevitably start seeing broken glass everywhere please spare everyone the semantics, it's not a bad omen for anything, just don't step on it and you will be just fine.

**Gemini:** You may be in serious physical danger in the near future. Sorry! It's true. If you're prone to clumsiness don't walk near any ledges. Now is the time to perfect your nighttime wellness routine. Don't procrastinate! Things will just get worse!

**Taurus:** The phrase "the world is not out to get you" is actually not applicable for you in the near future. In fact, you should watch out for people trying to manipulate you. Tell yourself it's because they are jealous of your amazing style and pizzazz so that you sleep better at night.

**Sagittarius:** Thoreau said that all good things are wild and free. That's definitely true, but not when those things are stupid and refuse to think things through. Listen to your intuition, but avoid being hasty. Make sure you wear matching socks more often than normal, it will come in handy one of these days.

**Cancer:** Take advantage of the burst of creativity you may be experiencing. Express yourself in whatever way feels right. Maybe graffiti a wall! Just don't get caught. June 29th will \*not\* be your best day so remember to do all of your vandalism before or after that. Avoid things shaped like shells in the coming weeks.

**Virgo:** Trust your gut! Give into the impulsivity you may be feeling; now is the time to give into your intuition more than ever. You are probably correct about whatever you're feeling. Also expect an influx of money in the near future!



Courtesy of Tahlula Potter

**Libra:** in contrast to Virgos, you will not be experiencing an influx of money. Be careful about impulsive purchasing, and do not order anything from sketchy mailing websites. If you receive a seemingly normal, average sized rectangular package in the mail that you do not remember ordering, drop it on your neighbor's doorstep but do not tell them you did it. It is for the best.

**Scorpio:** The struggle is real right now for you! There's no point in denying it, but that's okay! Things will start to get better soon. When you get lost on an unfamiliar road, stop to ask for directions. Do not try and navigate this new place on your own, you will get even more lost. You

are going to be late to a dentist appointment in the near future, you cannot stop it. It is inevitable, just accept it and move on.

**Leo:** You have not randomly become depressed! Don't freak out! The dark mood you find yourself in constantly is just a passing shadow. Everything is fine, take a deep breath and step back — allow yourself to assess every situation for what it really is. It's getting nearer to summer, your dark moody, winter-esque mood swings are not the vibe right now!

**Capricorn:** If there was ever a time to jump-start your career as a singer, actor, or maybe some type of public attorney or judge, it is now. However, if you catch wind of any sort of drug scandal, quit while you're ahead. Things will only go downhill from there and next thing you know you will wake up in a weird hotel in southern New Jersey with an empty duffel bag, a brown heart, and multiple missing English assignments.

**Aquarius:** be wary of people whose names start with "T" right now. If you are suffering from any kind of identity crisis, turn to the people around you. Just not people whose names start with T.

**Pisces:** The times ahead for you are rough going, but don't let your emotions get the best of you — they will cloud your judgement. Never fear though! The sun will shine once again, the skies will clear. The only thing stopping your life from returning to normal is you. Avoid foods with ketchup for the foreseeable future.

## Summer Reading Recommendations

By Amy Weisz and Zoe Gabriel

***Firekeeper's Daughter*, by Angeline Boulley**  
"Daunis, who is part Ojibwe, defers attending the University of Michigan to care for her mother and reluctantly becomes involved in the investigation of a series of drug-related deaths" --OCLC.

***Last Night at the Telegraph Club*, by Malinda Lo**  
"1954, in San Francisco's Chinatown, seventeen-year-old Lily Hu falls in love with Kathleen Miller." --Follett

***Hollow Fires*, by Samira Ahmed**  
"A powerful, gripping YA novel about the insidious nature of racism, the terrible costs of unearthing hidden truths, and the undeniable power of hope, by New York Times bestselling author, Samira Ahmed. Perfect for fans of Sadie and Dear Martin." --Follett

***At the End of Everything*, by Marieke Nijkamp**  
"A group of teens at the Hope Juvenile Treatment Center are shocked to discover their guards have abandoned them, but their joy turns to fear when they learn a catastrophic pandemic has occurred outside their walls, turning their new-found freedom into a fight for survival." --From the publisher

***Asadora!, Vol. 1* by Naoki Urasawa**  
"A deadly typhoon, a mysterious creature, and a girl who won't quit." (Manga Translated from Japanese) --From the publisher

***Aristotle and Dante Dive into the Waters of the World*, by Benjamin Alire Sáenz**  
"The highly anticipated sequel to the critically acclaimed, multiple award-winning novel, Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe is an achingly romantic, tender tale sure to captivate fans of Adam Silvera and Mary H.K. Choi." --From the publisher

***The Ivory Key*, by Akshaya Raman**  
"Four estranged royal siblings, each harboring secrets and conflicting agendas, must learn to work together as they search for the Ivory Key--a thing of legend that will lead to a new source of magic" --by whom? or provided by whom?

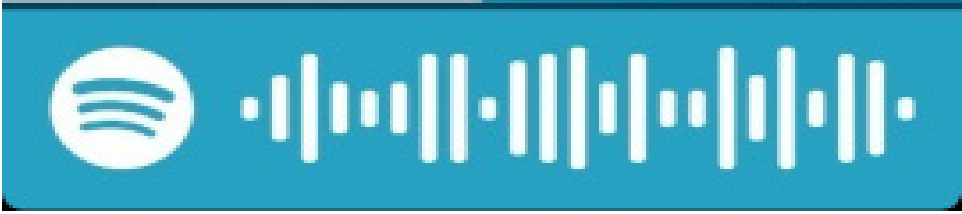
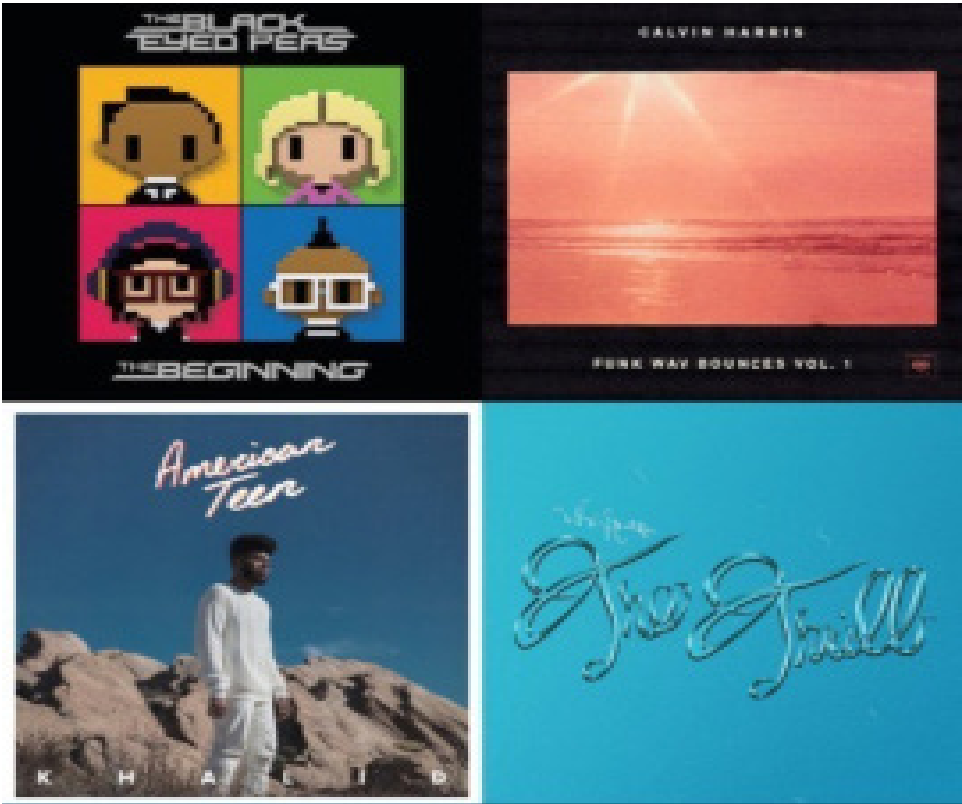
***I Must Betray You*, by Ruta Sepetys**  
"A gut-wrenching, startling historical thriller about communist Romania and the citizen spy network that devastated a nation, from the #1 New York Times bestselling, award-winning author of Salt to the Sea and Between Shades of Gray" --From Follett.

***You Have a Match*, by Emma Lord**  
"When Abby signs up for a DNA service, it's mainly to give her friend and secret love interest, Leo, a nudge. After all, she knows who she is already: Avid photographer. Injury-prone tree climber. Best friend to Leo and Connie--although ever since the B.E.I. (Big Embarrassing Incident) with Leo, things have been awkward on that front. But she didn't know she's a younger sister. When the DNA service reveals Abby has a secret sister, shimmery-haired Instagram star Savannah Tully, it's hard to believe they're from the same planet, never mind the same parents--especially considering Savannah, queen of green smoothies, is only a year and a half older than Abby herself. The logical course of action? Meet up at summer camp (obviously) and figure out why Abby's parents gave Savvy up for adoption" --Provided by publisher.



Summer Playlist

By Sophia Wentland



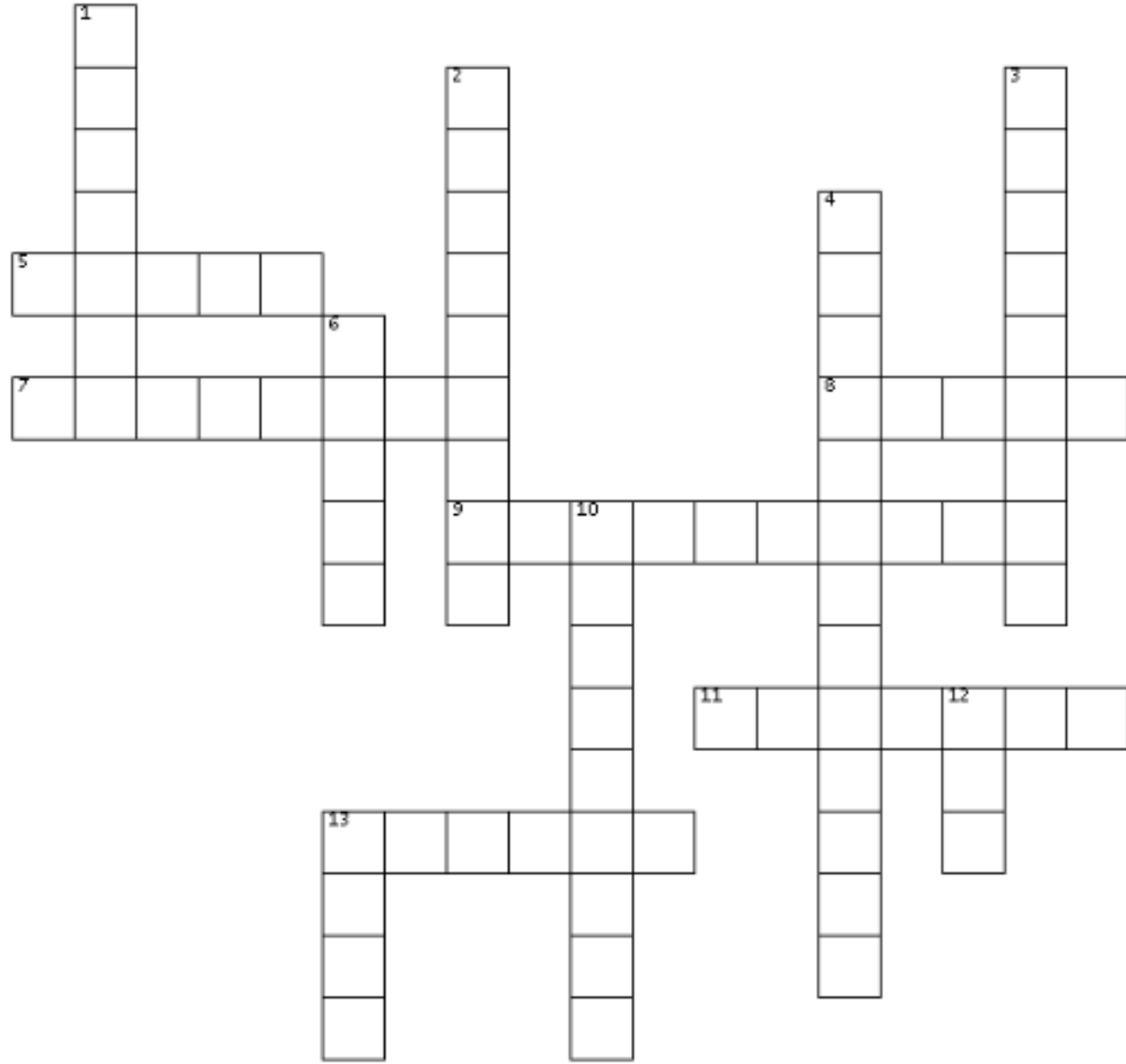
Summer-Themed Word Search

Q	E	V	J	R	H	Y	T	L	Z	P	F	B	I	K	I	N	G	X	S
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F	A	O	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	T	O	V	E	P	I	J	Z	I
X	N	T	B	K	G	W	L	P	H	R	Q	E	L	R	U	T	D	R	N
P	O	T	E	L	O	C	S	M	A	N	B	Y	L	I	M	A	F	E	C
U	M	A	V	R	I	Z	D	W	J	G	S	R	O	F	Q	C	X	L	I
C	E	G	N	S	M	O	B	R	I	Y	N	G	T	N	H	A	S	K	P
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M	G	Y	L	U	J	D	P	S	E	N	Z	B	E	A	C	H	I	F	R

AUGUST	COTTAGE	JULY
BARBECUE	FAMILY	LAKE
BEACH	FRIENDS	LEMONDADE
BIKING	GAMES	MEMORIES
BONFIRES	HAMMOCK	PICNICS
BOOKS	HIKING	
CAMPING	HOLIDAYS	
CANOEING	ICE CREAM	

Fun-Fact Crossword

By Kelly Wen



Clues

ACROSS

5. This country is known for having vending machines for almost everything

7. The piece “4’33” by \_ is performed in the absence of sound

8. “New York Thursday” in the Onteo-ra Cafeteria falls on the \_ Thursday of every month.

9. This Italian word used in music means gradually getting softer, similar to decrescendo

11. This Rock band released their first album “Local Anaesthetic” in 1971

13. According to Google Trends, this was the most misspelt word in New York in 2019

DOWN

1. This city in America is also known as the “Windy City”

2. In contrast to decrescendo, this term means gradually getting louder.

3. This American President is on the \$2 bill

4. The Onteora Theater department performed \_ for their 2022 musical.

6. The only state in America that has a one-syllable name

10. Ariana Grande’s 3rd album, “Dangerous Woman”, was originally titled \_.

12. Competitive \_ was an Olympic sport awarding original works inspired by athletic endeavours.

13. The only mammal that can truly fly

Note: See Kelly Wen for the answers!