



FOX TALES

Quarterly

A STUDENT PUBLICATION



IN THIS ISSUE

2. National Merit

A Look at FC's Semifinalists and Commended Students

4. Homecoming 2021

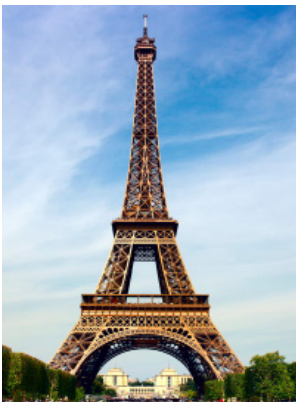


7. Digital Media Students Recieve Production Award

Fred Rogers documentary wins the 2021 Student Production Award for Excellence by the NATAS

8. AP Scholars

118 FC Students recognized for college-level schievement



9. Bringing France into the Classroom

10. It's Not Too Late

So many new clubs to join, and it's not too late!

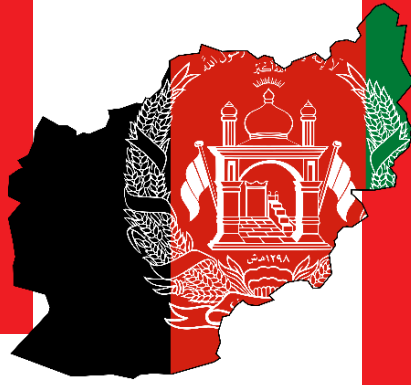
16. Climate Change: A Guide for Teens



17. Dunlap Wins Positive Athlete Award

18. Who Are Afghans?

A personal account.



20. Local Organization Prepares for Afghan Arrivals

22. Covid Vaccine for Minors

Could minors be the key to iradication?



23. Organizations Seeking Teenage Volunteers

Time to get back out there and give back to the community!



24. Just Wing It!

A guide to the best wings in our area.

26. Fall Sports Wrap-Up



30. Boo Bash



Fox Chapel Area Students Named 2022 National Merit Semifinalists/Commended Students



The Fox Chapel Area High School National Merit Semifinalists are front row, left to right, Claire Hamilton, Shea Davison, Janise Kim, and Zoe Lakkis and, back row, left to right, Anna Ferris, Noah Bradley, Nathaniel Mueller, Russell Fenton, and Zhiyi Chen.

Nine Fox Chapel Area High School seniors have been designated as National Merit Semifinalists and 13 have been named Commended Students in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). The Semifinalists from Fox Chapel Area High School are Noah Bradley, Zhiyi Chen, Shea Davison, Russell Fenton, Anna Ferris, Claire Hamilton, Janise Kim, Zoe Lakkis, and Nathaniel Mueller. The Commended Students from Fox Chapel Area High School are Patrick Alexander, Andrew Byersdorfer, Justine Eng, Cara Felman, Maia Gravina, Thomas Healy, Owen Hershey, Uma Muzumdar, Emma Szymanski, Shrivardhan Thada, James Trageser, Eduardo Weissmann, and Siddharth Yende.

All of these students were selected based on their 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) scores. Each year, more than 1

million juniors complete the PSAT/NMSQT and are automatically entered in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 16,000 advance to become Semifinalists and about 34,000 are Commended. The Semifinalists represent less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors and the Commended Students represent the top five percent. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT or ACT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. The Commended Students are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. The Semifinalists now have the opportunity to advance to the Finalist level and compete for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$30 million to be offered in the spring of 2022.

A Little Literature:

A quarterly blurb about books you might not have heard of...YET!

By Shriya Krishnamurthy

TODAY'S TOPIC:

Libraries... Literally Libraries!

Okay, so this blurb is for everyone who spied little libraries at DMS, on the Butler Freeport Trail and in Aspinwall. If you don't know what a little library is, just "search it up" as my lil' bro says.

The Invisible Library Series by Genevieve Cogman



I'm sure that when you think of a library, you certainly don't think of alternate universes, a chaos/order continuum, or Librarians who wield the "Language" to influence people and objects. For a long time libraries have been used in the mythical, paranormal, and fantasy to represent a place of imagination, where anything can come to life if you can believe in it. Irene is a Librarian, one of few who are sent on missions to retrieve books for the purpose of keeping the Library connected to surrounding worlds. Yes, it can get pretty confusing, especially when you add in the presence of Fae (chaos-influencers) and Dragons (order-influencers) among others, including fraught species relations and an evil Librarian by the name of Alberich. Irene, who has only heard tales of this formidable Alberich, doesn't suspect a thing as she accepts an assignment into the world B-395, a parallel universe of London, a city greatly populated with Fae. As she hunts for the original volume of Grimm's Fairy Tales, Irene soon begins to encounter unexpected obstacles, including her arch-nemesis, Bradamant, another Librarian.

With Kai, her assistant (is he human? Or not?), Irene doesn't know how much more she can handle. As she goes on a chase around London, Irene soon finds herself pulled into a larger-than-life plot complete with secret societies and danger at every corner...

Mr. Lemoncello's Library Series by Chris Grabenstein



Who hasn't heard of Mr. Lemoncello's Library? Well, probably everyone who hasn't read the book, or everyone who doesn't live in the fictional world of Alexandriaville, Ohio. Built 12 years after the old library was torn down, The library, complete with a video game room, a cafeteria, and so much more, is the main setting for the quirky games that

Mr. Luigi L. Lemoncello, the founder of the library, hosts. In book 1, *The Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, details an overnight sleepover of fun, exclusive to twelve children only! Kyle Keeley, the class clown at his middle school, is only in it for the fun and games (along with balloons and cake!). However, when morning comes and everyone is locked inside the library, Kyle and his friends need to put their brains together and solve every clue and riddle to get out of the library before time runs out. Facing obstacles like crazy and confusing riddles, and his nemesis, Charles Chilton, Kyle struggles to find his way out of the library. Filled with hilarious jokes and easy-to-understand book references, *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Series* is made for anyone (including us teenagers). *Oh and don't forget the balloons and cake, along with the riddles, that accompany every book, thanks to the main character, Kyle Keeley! On a personal note, I attended a lecture by Mr. Chris Grabenstein, the author of the *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Series* a few years ago. He was wildly entertaining, and his mantra is to never say no, and always say yes!

Homecoming 2021

Around the World



By Justine Eng

Homecoming: a week to celebrate school spirit and high school life; and the 2021 Fox Chapel homecoming sure did not disappoint.

The week of homecoming kicked off with spirit week at the high school. With themes of the 70's, crazy socks, jersey day, USA, and red & white, the excitement leading up to homecoming built. When school was finally

and was as lively as ever. Elementary through high-school students, parents and teachers, and community residents crowded onto the pavements to experience all the activities

the homecoming carnival had to offer. From the school sponsored activities to club run booths, there seemed to be a little bit of everything offered. The petting zoo with a camel, goat, and zebra; the blow up bouncy castles and balloon animals; caricature drawings by Sam Thong; and Kona Ice, Chicken Shack, and Franktuary food trucks were fan favorites as usual.

The club-run booths were abundant and

included face painting by the National Art Honor Society; a hot chocolate sale by the Book Club; origami folding by the Asian Cultural Club; and a bake sale by the Mythology Club. The busking club also

provided live music during the homecoming carnival, performing songs which included "Life is a Highway," by Tom Cochrane and "Stay," by Blackpink. After three hours of bustle, the homecoming carnival wrapped



let out on Friday, October 1st, the festivities kicked into high gear.

The annual homecoming carnival was held on the front lawn of the high school



up at 7 pm, but the fun continued. Heading into the football stadium, Fox Chapel Area

and Lance Wilhelm; Olivia Pelcher and Nathaniel Mueller; and Sophia Roth and Jacob McWilliams were the members of the Fox Chapel Area 2021 homecoming court. Nabeela Islam and Lance Wilhelm were ultimately crowned the homecoming queen and king for the class of 2022. After the game and homecoming court crownings were finished, the FC marching band put on a spectacular performance which was the perfect ending to the fun filled Friday of homecoming week.

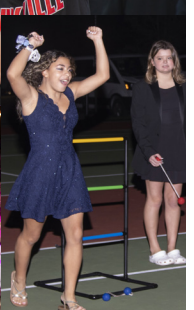
students and alumni dressed in the theme "blackout," waited excitedly for the skits, game, and homecoming court.

The "Around the World" theme, a throwback to 2015, was present in the brilliant skits put on by the sophomore and senior classes. The sophomores chose to represent France while the seniors performed as USA for their homecoming skits. After the wonderful performances and the senior skit taking home the win, the football game against Shaler kicked off.

With an exciting end to the game resulting in Fox Chapel taking the win 28 - 14, the homecoming court was welcomed onto the field. Freshman Gabriella Hample and Luca Zgurzynski; sophomores Annalese Bartolacci and Jack O'Brien; juniors Eleanor Fox and Oliver Stephany; and seniors Claire Hamilton and Billy Kwiatkowski; Nabeela Islam



On Saturday, October 2nd, the "City Nights" homecoming dance was held. Hundreds of students in fancy dresses, suits, and formal attire danced the night away to popular songs. As the sun set and the homecoming dance wrapped up, the eventful week of homecoming had finally come to an end; leaving the seniors to reminisce of their high school homecomings and the freshman to look forward to their next one.



High School Given Strength of America Award

Fox Chapel Area High School is a new recipient of the Strength of America Award for the three-year period of 2021-2024. The award is given by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) and recognizes schools that have elite strength and conditioning programs. These schools exhibit the highest standards in the safety and success of young athletes and demonstrate excellence to teach, implement, and encourage safe and effective strength and conditioning programs.

According to a letter from Eric Mahon, the NSCA coaching and sport science program manager, the award shows the dedication Fox Chapel Area High School has to ensuring the safety of young athletes through the education and promotion of best practices when training on the field and in the weight room.

“Your high school strength and conditioning program has achieved the NSCA’s high standards for providing athletes with the best opportunity to improve their athletic performance based upon level of supervision, program

implementation, and the condition of your facilities,” Mr. Mahon said.

Fox Chapel Area High School’s program is led by social studies teacher and interscholastic strength and conditioning head coach Brandon Peifer. The school was evaluated in four major categories: supervision, education, program, and facilities. Fox Chapel Area High School was one of only 40 new and renewing schools, from hundreds of eligible schools from across the nation, to obtain the recognition this year. It is one of only two schools in Pennsylvania recognized this year.

Founded in 1978, the NSCA is a nonprofit association dedicated to advancing the strength and conditioning related sport science professions around the world. It is composed of more than 60,000 members and certified professionals from around the world who further industry standards as researchers, educators, strength and conditioning coaches, performance and sport scientists, personal trainers, tactical professionals, and other related roles.



World Languages Department Honored by State Language Association

Fox Chapel Area High School and the entire high school world and classical languages department were recently recognized by the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA) for furthering interculturality and global competence in students. The members of the Fox Chapel Area High School world and classical languages department are Pam Barentine, Kelly Barone, Shannon Finley, Tanja Koller, Mark Matusiak, Amy Montgomery, and Drew Richards.

Additionally, Barone was awarded a Global Educator Certificate for helping to establish and maintain the PSMLA Global Scholars program at Fox Chapel Area High School, and for her efforts in inspiring and challenging students to become PSMLA Global Scholars Graduates for at least two consecutive years. She was one of only 17 educators in Pennsylvania to earn this recognition.

According to a letter from Jan Hostler Stewart, D.Ed., from the PSMLA Global Scholars Program, the current global pandemic has stressed the importance of interconnectedness and interdependence of countries in the world.

“While educators provide opportunities for students to grow academically, socially, emotionally, and personally and provide learning scenarios that inspire and challenge, they also prepare students to lead and contribute on local, state, national, and global levels,” Hostler said. “In these unusual times of alternating between face-to-face, hybrid, and remote learning, Kelly has accepted the additional challenge of adapting her instructional and learning strategies to guide students through the PSMLA Global Scholars Program process.”

FCAHS Students Recieve Student Production Award



Seven Fox Chapel Area High School students and graduates received a 2021 Student Production Award for Excellence from the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS). The students won the award for “Our Assignment from Fred Rogers,” a 70-minute documentary on the life and work of Mister Rogers.

The Fox Chapel Area students won in the long form category for the documentary that they began producing in April of 2019 that was released in July 2020. The documentary included interviews with Mister Rogers’ biographer Maxwell King; David Newell who played Mr. McFeely on the long-running children’s television show; producers Hedda Sharapan and Margy Whitmer; and Mister Rogers’ wife, Joanne.

The Fox Chapel Area High School students involved were 2019 graduates Adina Munin (producer) and Santiago de la Torre; 2021 graduates Jean Daniher (producer), Ryan Kenyon, and Jonathan Snider; and 2020-2021 juniors Anushka Vis and Lance Wilhelm (director). Additionally, digital media production teacher Ryan Devlin and Jessica Morris, a then-college student intern at Fox Chapel Area High School who is now a math teacher at Dorseyville Middle School, were also involved with the production.

The NATAS Mid-Atlantic Chapter’s Student Production Awards recognize outstanding cultural, educational, technological, entertainment, news, and informational achievements by high school students in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware. All entries were judged by media professionals and college educators from within the chapter.

Each winning entry receives an engraved crystal pillar award and all nominees receive individualized Academy certificates.

COVID-19 made this past year difficult for everyone, including students that have transitioned into new formats of learning. But even so, they remained committed to their passion of producing outstanding creative work that impressed the judges, said Eric Heisler, president of the NATAS mid-Atlantic Chapter. “As we celebrate student achievement, we also acknowledge the educators that made this past year a success for their students. While our chapter takes great pride in supporting the development of our next generation of television and media professionals, we recognize that development begins in the classroom with dedicated mentors.”

This year’s awards program was streamed virtually on May 20 and featured Erin Coleman of NBC10 in Philadelphia, Mike Holden of WPXI in Pittsburgh, and Jackie De Tore of Fox43 in Harrisburg as award presenters.

The Fox Chapel Area High School student documentary, “Our Assignment from Fred Rogers,” is available on the Swift Fox Media YouTube Channel at <https://youtu.be/0ijzTmatpdM>.

The Mid-Atlantic NATAS is a nonprofit, professional association with more than 700 members in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware representing more than 32 television stations, numerous cable companies and programmers, as well as independent producers, production facilities, and educational institutions.

118 Students and Graduates Named AP Scholars

A total of 118 current Fox Chapel Area High School students and 2021 graduates have been named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars by the College Board for demonstrating college-level achievement on the AP examinations taken in May 2021. The College Board recognizes three levels of achievement based on the number of courses and exams.

•The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction award by earning an average score of 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams: 2021 graduates Suparna Agrawal, Arda Akinci, Kaya Akinci, Lyle Blaylock, Zoe Boychuk, Elena Conway, Erin Doherty, Amulya Garimella, Brendan Gladwin, Clayton Humbert, Aidan Ireland, Ryan Kenyon, Emily Li, Isabella Liberto, Lucy Markovitz, Anthony Nguyen, John Polcyn, Mark Puthenpurayil, Abigail Rickin-Marks, Cecilia Rike, Jackson Romero, Vinisha Sant, Sanjay Seshan, Vivian Shao, Anthony Shin, Dong Hyun Shin, Benjamin Siri, Dylan Stein, Michael VanDemark, Lexie Wagner, Joey Wang, and Tyler Weinberger; 2021-2022 seniors Patrick Alexander, Gabrielle Bell, Noah Bradley, Zhiyi Chen, Shea Davison, Justine Eng, Russell Fenton, Mona Gerges, Maia Gravina, Claire Hamilton, Jonah Hertzman, Janise Kim, Zoe Lakkis, Nathaniel Mueller, Uma Muzumdar, Sangmin Park, James Trageser, Lance Wilhelm, and Siddharth Yende; and 2021-2022 juniors Ananth Kashyap and Arvind Seshan.

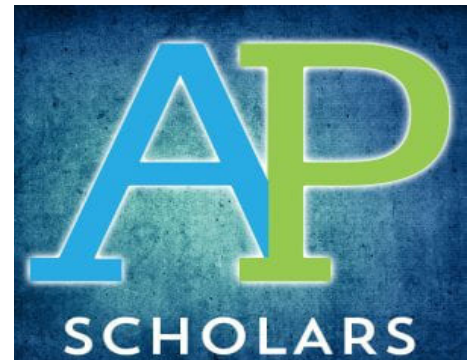
•The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams: 2021 graduates Kathryn Chivinsky, Catherine Heidenreich, Ava Kazmierczak, Jocelyn Morningstar, John Nury, Amara Ostroff, Elizabeth Schwartzman, Alwyn Williams, and Nathaniel Yerge; and 2021-2022 seniors Alexa Berman, Anna Ferris, Thomas Healy, Sydney Inglis, Nabeela Islam, Alaina Kaslewicz,

Sydney Kennedy, Esther Ko, John Lorence, Hope Matthis, Hannah Poole, Miguel Quemado, Carter Rowe, Omar Shalaby, Calla Truschel Jacobs, Beata Turnquist, Kaylee Uribe, Eduardo Weissmann, and Ann Yonas.

•The following graduates/students qualified for the AP Scholar award by receiving scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams: 2021 graduates Evan Butler, Allison Carey,

Katherine Cecil, Rachel Chang, Annabelle Cullen, Maria DeMotte, Antoinette Faucher, Isabella Krisky, Maximus McQuarrie, Benjamin Rickin-Marks, Nishi Thawani, Ethan Werner, and Kaylee Werner; 2021-2022 seniors Salim Bastress, Justine Bennett, Vasileios Benos, Deniz Cinemre, Gunes Cinemre, Elizabeth Crookston, David Dering, Madeline Dick, Ellen Gray, Alicia Gu, Olivia Guerrieri, Owen Hershey, Danielle Horne, Brett Kaufman, Nicholas Mascilli,

Madeleine Muller, Simeon Owens, Ashton Schutzman, Shrivardhan Thada, Daniel Thomas, Benjamin Vesper, and Anushka Vis; and 2021-2022 juniors Aiden Dorneich and Jonathan Li.



– *AP Scholar: An AP Scholar is a student who on average scores 2.78 (3 or higher on three or more AP exams).*

– *AP Scholar with Honor: An AP Scholar with Honor is a student who on average scores 3.47 (at least an average score of 3.25 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on four or more AP exams).*

– *AP Scholar with Distinction: An AP Scholar with Distinction is a student who on average scores 3.98 (at least an average score of 3.50 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more AP exams).*

– *National AP Scholar: National AP Scholar is an elite honor for a student who averages a score of 4.63 (at least an average score of 4.00 on all AP exams taken and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more AP exams).*

Advanced Placement exams are graded on a 5-point scale, with 5 being the highest. Most of the nation's four-year colleges and universities award credit and/or advanced placement for qualifying exam scores. Every year, AP examinations are offered in a wide variety of subject areas, each consisting of multiple choice and free-response (essay or problem-solving) questions.

French Classes Enhanced by Teacher's Personal Experiences

By Leah Keyon

Middle and high school French teacher Madame Barentine had a unique and rewarding experience during the summer of 2021. Thanks to a grant she received from the European Studies Center of the University of Pittsburgh, she was sent to study French language and culture first-handedly at the LSF Language School in Montpellier, France.



Dorseyville Middle School and Fox Chapel Area High School French teacher, Madame Barentine was awarded a \$6,000 grant to participate in an immersive language study in Montpellier, France, in the summer of 2021.

Luckily for FCASD students and Madame, France reopened its borders for a small window of time, which allowed Madame to spend two weeks living in Montpellier, located in southern France near the Mediterranean Sea. She spent most of her time in the classroom with other French teachers from across Europe studying how technology has shaped and impacted teaching French with the goal

of using this knowledge to enhance and better equip their classrooms. Mme. Barentine was given authentic materials and access to websites that she plans to use in the classroom to assist her students in class.

After spending most of her time during the weekdays in the classroom, the weekends were reserved for excursions to explore the culture and surrounding French neighborhoods. Madame enjoyed seeing the city of Montpellier and venturing to various museums and restaurants. One of her favorite excursions was taking a train ride about an hour away from Montpellier to a beautiful small fishing village named Sète. Even though France allowed international access, Covid still impacted her travels. Proof of vaccination was needed before she could leave for France and while there, vaccine cards were needed to enter any restaurant or museum. This was a result of the new "Pass Sanitaire," or Health Pass, that requires citizens to show proof of their



Above: Arch of Triumph. Montpellier, the second-largest city of France's Occitane region lies in the south of France, some 7 miles from the Mediterranean coast. The city has repeatedly won titles, such as that of France's second happiest city, the second-best city to live in and retire to in France, the best place to live as an expat, and others. (travelawaits.com)

vaccination before entering indoor events and gatherings such as museums, restaurants, theaters, and sporting events. The new requirements angered citizens of France, who held demonstrations and protests in the streets, believing they were fighting for their liberties. Madame Barentine witnessed these demonstrations, which were happening regularly, in-person and enjoyed talking to people on both sides of the argument to gain both their opinions and perspectives.

Madame Barentine plans to modify her teaching methods to better adapt to the changing world that now relies so heavily on electronics and the internet. She said she had an amazing experience working with and learning from her fellow French teachers and cannot wait to apply what she learned in the classroom. Her personal experiences and observations will be used to enhance French learning at both our high school and middle school. Merci beaucoup to Madame Barentine for sharing her passion for learning and teaching!

Photos courtesy Madame Barentine

Never Too Late to Try Something New

By Ann Yonas

With over 60 clubs active at Fox Chapel, there are so many ways to get involved, and few topics that are not covered. However, each year, students are able to create clubs for whatever they would like, as long as enough students are interested and a faculty member is willing to sponsor them. Club week, which looked a little different this year, is the first opportunity for these clubs to recruit members. Each club, new and existing, made a poster to be hung in the hallways for students to check out at their leisure. New clubs were interspersed throughout the returning ones, so here is a spotlight for each in case you missed them:

SpikeBall Club



In spikeball, two teams of two players alternate hitting a ball into a trampoline-like net to score points. The sport has been compared to a cross between volleyball and four square.

The perfect beach/summer game, SpikeBall, is not off limits during the year. Join SpikeBall Club for a chance to learn how to play and spend time with your friends. If you are interested in learning or having the opportunity to play and improve your skills, reach out to Colin Lazzara (lazzara_colin@student.fcasd.edu) to join!

Steel City Code Club

With coding being one of the new up and coming fields of interest, why not get a head start on your coding education and skills? "The Steel City Codes Club's purpose is to give members opportunities to gain leadership experience, teaching experience, and volunteer hours by teaching (with the help of experienced members) FC elementary school students during weekly sessions. These services are offered to the elementary schools as a free opportunity for equal education in programming. In collaboration with the Steel City Codes organization, we get a rare perspective in the shoes of a teacher, which has proven to be an important experience for many of us," says Aiden Dorneich, the club leader. Reach out to him (dorneich_aiden@student.fcasd.edu) for more information.

Hiking Club

Looking to be more active and enjoy the beautiful nature of Pennsylvania? Join the hiking club! It is a great way to get moving, meet new people, and have a good time. Matthew Fiedler is the head student contact and explains, "we just

meet every weekend and take hikes on different trails." If you want more information or to get involved, email Matthew at fiedler_matthew@student.fcasd.edu.

Global Minds Club

It is important to learn about cultures different from your own, and the school now has a club for just that! The Global Minds club focuses "on learning and appreciating different cultures. We pair ESL (English as a second language) students with NES (native English speakers) and help them become more involved. We also aim to volunteer in our community while raising awareness on topics related to culture." Reach out to Diya Reddy (reddy_diya@student.fcasd.edu) and Mia Cody (cody_emilia@student.fcasd.edu) for more information on how you can be involved.

FC Baking Club

FC Baking Club is a fun, after school activity for you to hang out with your friends and bake some delicious treats! When asked about the club, leader Annalese Bartolacci explained, "The baking club is a club for students who love to bake, want to learn how, or just want to gather some tips and recipes. Our goal is to be a fun club and provide students with a place to learn from others and try new things when they bake. We only meet once a month after school, but look forward to "making" the most of every meeting!" For more information, be sure to reach out to Annalese (bartolacci_annalese@student.fcasd.edu).

Cricket Club

Cricket is a sport that is growing in popularity in the United States, so Arnim Kucchal, Varad Sant, Etash Jhanji, and Rohit Velankar made the Cricket Club to teach people about cricket and how to play. For those that may be concerned that they are not familiar with cricket or cannot make a huge commitment, Arnim assures, "anyone interested is free to show up. Cricket is a fun sport for people to play, even if you don't have any extraordinary athletic ability. We're not looking for people to think that this club is a big commitment. You won't have to show up every single time; just come as your schedule allows." Think you'd like to give it a try? Email Arnim (kucchal_arnim@student.fcasd.edu) to start getting involved!



Club of American Sign Language

American Sign Language may seem daunting to learn, just like any other language, but the Club of American Sign Language is here to help. Furthermore, creating an environment to learn about the deaf community, as it is not discussed very much, is important for the well being of our school and community.

EVERYONE is



WELCOME!

reimagineoc.org

“The Club of American Sign Language or ASL Club is a new club this year. Students who join are open to learning about the language and culture of America’s Deaf community. Every Wednesday during QRT, we meet to discuss signs and how to utilise them correctly. This gives hearing students a chance to be open to deaf culture and to stop the stigmatised culture that is the deaf world.” Shawn Dunn is the lead student contact and should be emailed at dunn_shawn@student.fcasd.edu for more information.

Armed Services Club



govbooktalk.gpo.gov

The Armed Services Club is a great character and skill building activity for “anyone interested in the military, and not just people who want a career.” Committed “to promoting leadership theory and development, critical thinking, performance triad, citizenship, and spreading awareness of military matters,” the Armed Services Club is a great option for those that want to learn and develop critical skills. Reach out to Daniel Thomas (thomas_daniel@student.fcasd.edu) for more information.

CHANGE THE WORLD

Consider a Career in Engineering or Technology!
SWE can help.



JOIN sweNEXT

It's a way to become a part of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) community before college. **AND IT'S FREE!**

swe.org

FC SWE

Engineering is a great field for STEM-focused students, but the gender gap present in engineering at all levels is alarming. SWE, or the Society of Women Engineers, is committed to introducing young women to engineering experiences throughout their primary education to promote a STEM career. The FC chapter plans to “empower students to pursue a career in STEM through outreach events” by working with all levels of schooling at Fox Chapel, as well as the Pitt SWE chapter. All are welcome to join, whether you have lots of engineering experience or just want to try something new, so make sure to contact Shriya Krishnamurthy (krishnamurthy_shriya@student.fcasd.edu) or the club email (fcchs.swenextclub@gmail.com) to start getting involved.

Mythology Club

Are you interested in expanding your point of view, learning new history, and debating with your peers? The new mythology club is the perfect extracurricular for you! “As a club we focus on all types of mythology, including the classics and others like African and Indian. Our goal is to share our love of learning mythology to our peers and hope they find a similar passion. We will debate, discuss, and present information about mythology in meetings, which are going to be held on Thursday, with the possible exception.” Reach out to Gabrielle Urso (urso_gabriella@student.fcasd.edu) or Camryn Eisner (eisner_camryn@student.fcasd.edu) to get involved.



mythopedia.com

Hopefully you had a chance to sign up for some interesting clubs during club week and are excited about some of the new clubs listed above. Clubs are a great way to meet new people, gain leadership skills and experience, learn something new, and have a fun time! No hurry up and get involved!

Natural Disasters in Haiti

By Nia Lingam



<https://www.pdf.org/haiti-statement/>

The Earthquake

August 14, 2021 marked the day that a deadly earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 devastated Les Cayes,

Haiti's third-largest city. Affecting 800,000 people, injuring 12,500, and killing 2,248+ people, the earthquake is now considered the worst disaster to hit Haiti since 2010.



aa.com.tr

Although the 900 counted aftershocks ended five days later, many Haitians continue to feel the impacts of this disaster today, nearly three months later.

The shallow earthquake's tremors destroyed 130,000 homes; critical roads, leaving many areas cut off from aid; many schools, places of worship, and more. Many Haitian families were separated from their loved ones and forced from their homes in fear of collapse. Evacuation shelters and hosting families have opened their doors for many victims, but there are still thousands of citizens displaced internally and hundreds more still missing. With hospitals filling up, a month-long state of emergency was nationally declared.

Tropical Storm Grace

As Haiti was just beginning to recover, another disaster struck the country just two days later on August 16th: Tropical Storm Grace. Dropping up to 15 inches of rain in local areas impacted by the earlier quake coupled with intense winds, and landslides from

destabilized dirt, many rescue operations were forced to temporarily hold back, leaving many having to wait even longer for life-saving resources and facilities.

Haiti's Situation

The unfortunate juxtaposition of these disasters along with existing issues in the country have had life-changing effects on many Haitians. In a country already stricken with the recent assassination of President Jovenel Moise, COVID-19, escalations in gang violence, food insecurity, and high rates of poverty, natural disasters physically isolating and straining citizens worsens Haiti's situation all the more.

Haiti's location on a fault line and in the tropical Caribbean makes the country especially susceptible to disasters like earthquakes and numerous tropical storms. More than 96% of the Haitian population are exposed to these types of natural disasters regularly.

For many, this earthquake has been a reminder of the devastating Haiti Earthquake of 2010, a 7.0 magnitude quake which killed 200,000, are even felt in 2021. Nearly 33,000 still reside in displacement camps, while another 300,000 live in informal settlements with no government supervision or aid.

Recovery

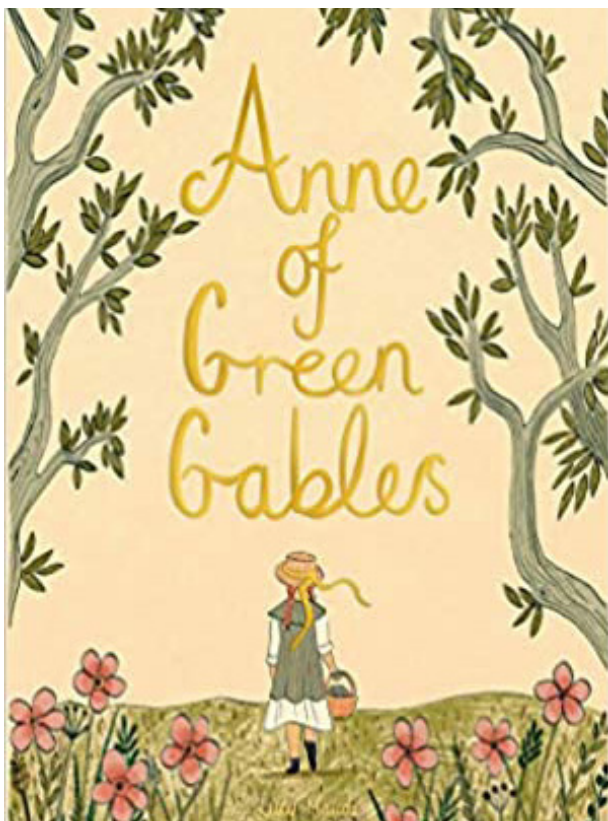
With recovery being made even harder during a global pandemic, the UN has requested up to \$180 million for aid directed to Haiti. Biden has directed \$32 million on behalf of America, but still, over 650,000 people still need to be reached as of October 8th. Money must also be set aside for long-term recovery plans and reconstruction.

sources:

<https://disasterphilanthropy.org/disaster/2021-haiti-earthquake-and-tropical-storm-grace/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/17/world/americas/haiti-hurricane-storm.html>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Haiti_earthquake
<https://reliefweb.int/report/haiti/iom-haiti-earthquake-response-situation-report-8-october-2021>



marketwatch.com



Fall Play: Anne of Green Gables

Fox Chapel Area High School students will perform "Anne of Green Gables" for their fall play. Local director and producer Kristiann Josephs is in charge of this fall's show. Teacher Joseph Gass is serving as the technical coordinator, and teacher Mary Beth Dixon is the costume/props coordinator.

The play will be performed November 4, 5, and 6, 2021, at 7 p.m. All performances will be held in the Fox Chapel Area High School auditorium and tickets are \$8 each. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Additionally, the students will perform the play free for Fox Chapel Area School District senior citizens age 60 and older on Wednesday, November 3, in the Fox Chapel Area High School auditorium at 3:30 p.m. Reservations are requested. Call 412/967-2410 for reservation information for the senior citizens' performance only.

Please note that masks are required for attendees for all performances of the high school fall play, per local and state requirements. We also ask that people socially distance as much as possible.



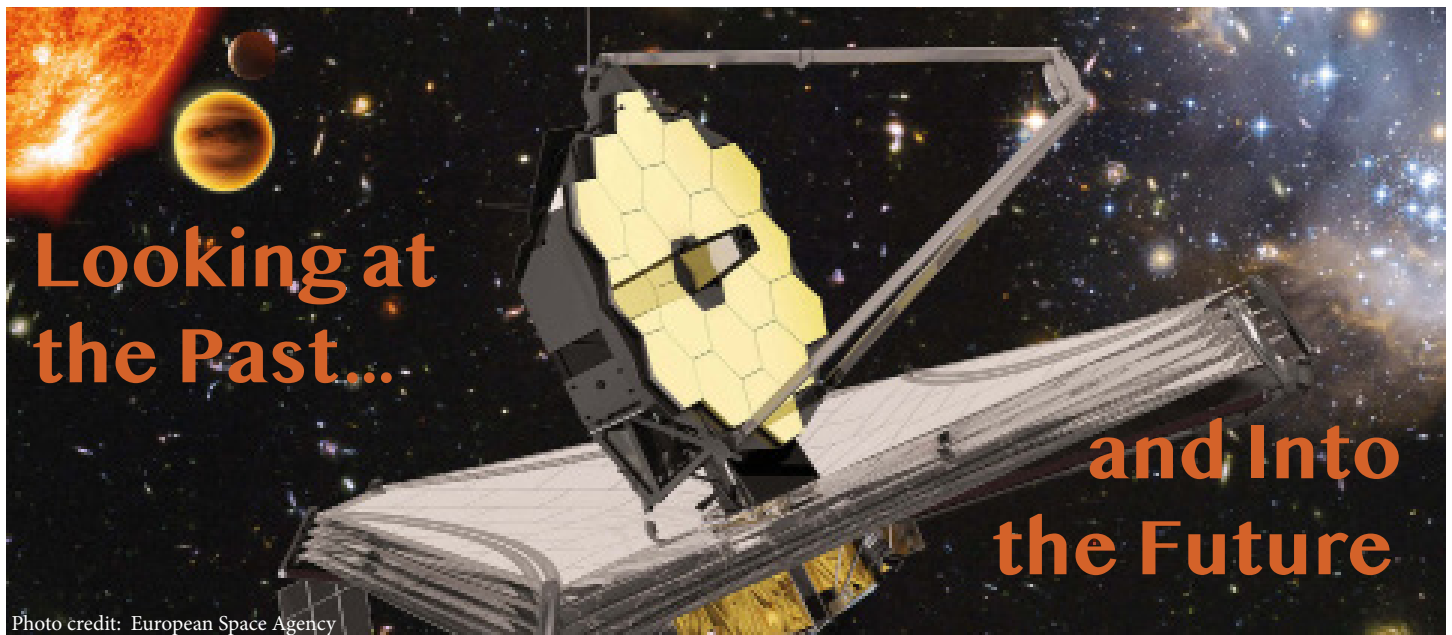
Horton, the kind hearted elephant who discovers a speck of dust containing Whoville. He meets JoJo, a Who child sent to military school for thinking too many "thinks." Horton decides he must protect the speck of dust on a nearby clover, while at the same time protecting an abandoned egg left to his care by the lazy Mayzie la Bird. Horton tries to convince the other animals in The Jungle of the existence of the Whos, but he is ridiculed and put on trial for insanity. Only his loyal neighbor, Gertrude McFuzz, never loses faith in him. Eventually, the two fall in love. Now one of the most widely

"Oh, the thinks you can think!" ... Now one of the most performed shows in America, Seussical is a fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza! Seussical lovingly brings to life all of our favorite Dr. Seuss characters, including Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie, and a little boy with a big imagination--JoJo. The colorful characters transport us from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus to the invisible world of the Whos. Seussical is fun for the whole family!

A musical perfect for the whole family, Seussical takes us into the world of Dr. Seuss, where we revisit beloved characters including The Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie, and JoJo. The Cat in the Hat guides us into The Jungle of Nool where we see

produced musicals in the country, Seussical weaves a story of friendship, loyalty and love. Despite all odds, Horton and Gertrude band together to save the Whos, free Horton, and restore peace and unity to the Jungle of Nool. Charming Seussical teaches us the power of being unique, and the importance of fighting for your beliefs.

Are you interested in auditioning for the cast or pit orchestra of Seussical? Or, are you interested in helping with the stage crew, set painting, ticket sales, ushering, costumes, or hair & make up. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/fcseussicalshow> to access information about how to get involved!



By Abraham White

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is a joint NASA ESA research vessel scheduled for launch on December 18th, 2021. It is designed to succeed Hubble as NASA's primary astrophysics research vessel. It will study the universe and survey exoplanets for signs of life.

The telescope is named after James Webb, who led a fledgling NASA from February 1961 through October 1968. He emphasized separating politics from space travel, setting an important precedent for modern NASA. He is quoted as saying, "And so far as I'm concerned, I'm not going to run a program that's just a one-shot program; it's going to be a balanced program that does the job for the country." He meant these words, as he dedicated those years of his life to leading the young organization into a bold new world of technology and research. He was crucial to putting robotic explorers on the moon that would later aid astronauts who would land there. He tried to strike a balance between manned spaceflight and science, believing that was the best way to advance the work.

While technically NASA is replacing the Hubble Space Telescope with the JWST, it would be inaccurate to call it a direct replacement. The two telescopes have the same mission, but have drastically different tools to help accomplish it. To start, JWST has a primary mirror about 15 times the surface area of Hubble's. (See fig. 1) While Hubble observed the universe mainly in the visible and ultraviolet range of the electromagnetic spectrum, the JWST will primarily survey the stars in the infrared, overlapping with the red and yellow wavelengths of visible light. This change in method is one of the most important distinctions

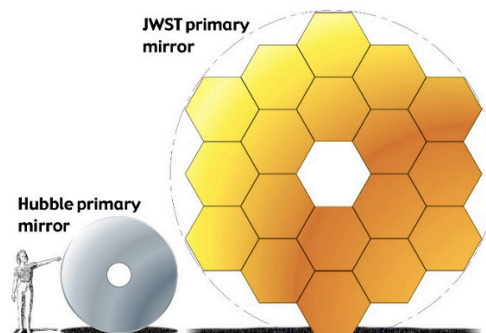
between the two telescopes' abilities. Many newly formed and forming stars and planets begin to take shape behind large clouds of dust and gas. Visible light simply cannot penetrate these clouds, as it is absorbed before it can reach our eyes or our technology. Infrared light is not bound by this limitation, allowing us to see much more from afar. Because the speed of light is limited, if we can look farther and farther into the universe, we are actually seeing light from the past. Even our night sky is a falsehood-bound by the laws of physics, the light from many stars has yet to reach us. This is also true the other way around: the

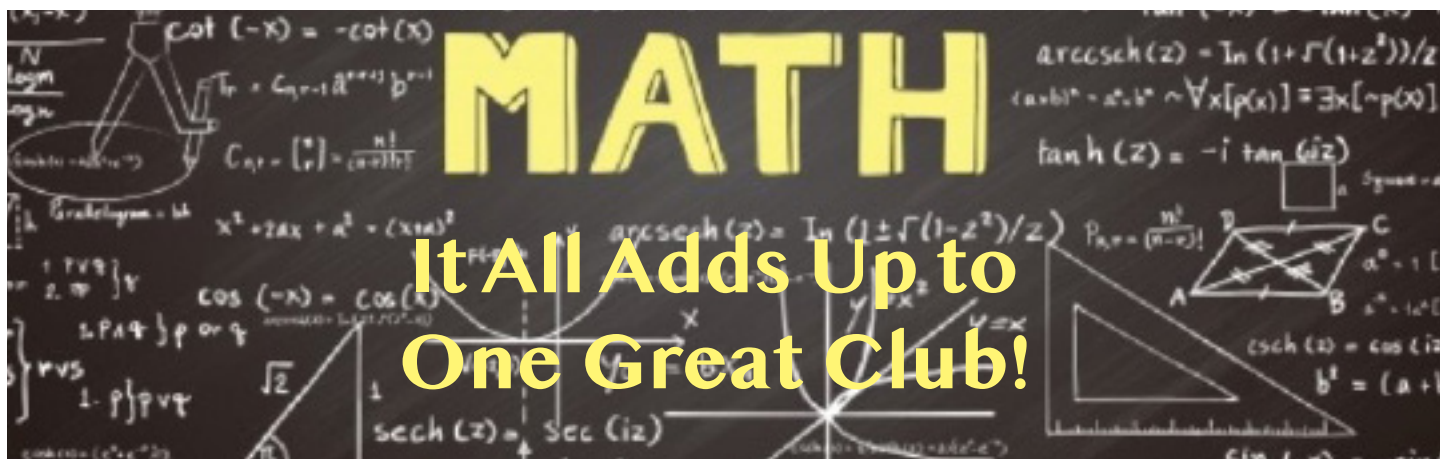
lights in the night sky we see now likely comes from long dead stars whose final moments just haven't reached the Earth yet. The JWST is not just looking past clouds of dust, it's looking into the universe's past. (See fig. 2)

JWST's orbit is also unlike Hubble's and offers more benefits. Hubble is in low Earth orbit, meaning it is only about 340 miles in altitude. The JWST will not orbit around

the Earth. Instead, it will sit past the moon at something called a Lagrange point. This is a point where an object can orbit a massless gravitational influence. The Earth has five Lagrange points, due to its interactions with the sun and the moon. JWST will orbit L2, or Lagrange point two. This will prevent radiation from the Earth or atmospheric interference as it makes observations about distant systems. A sun shield about the size of a tennis court will block out the Sun's light, aiding JWST even further. This will also help to ensure a clean reading from the spectrometer, which analyzes the light emitted by far away exoplanets to determine the chemical makeup of their atmospheres, and

(fig. 1)





It All Adds Up to One Great Club!

By Zoe Lakkis

Mu Alpha Theta is a national high school and 2-year college mathematics honors society with over 2,000 schools and 10,000 student members. The goal of Mu Alpha Theta and Math Club is to develop students' mathematical and collaborative skills and to encourage the enjoyment of mathematics.

Math Club/Mu Alpha Theta provides a way for students to be recognized for excelling in mathematics. It recognizes students nationally through various competitions and opens the doors to scholarships, awards, and grants.

We participate in events like Calculusolve, Math Madness, Rocket City Math League, MCWP, and more. All of these events are competitive but have built a strong community over the years. Our goal is to help every member expand their knowledge in math and to be properly recognized.

To be admitted into Math Club, students must maintain a 3.5 QPA and must satisfy the minimum course

requirements. These course requirements are that freshmen must at least be in Algebra II, sophomores must at least be in Pre-Calculus, and juniors and seniors must be in

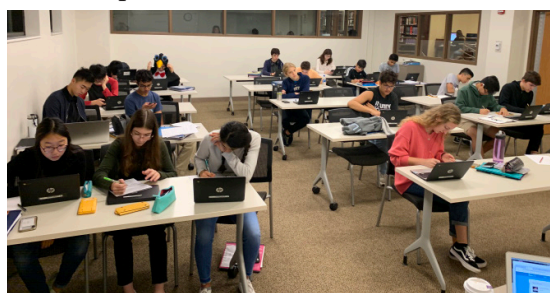
Calculus. To be eligible for Mu Alpha Theta, students must attend 2 math club events and 4 Mu Alpha Theta events in a year. Mu Alpha Theta members must also pay \$10 dues.

If you are interested in getting involved, join the Schoology group using the following code: 4XVJ-V89C-57KPR code or scan the QR code to sign up!

For any questions, feel free to reach out to our

club officers or to our sponsor.
Mrs. Hollern - Room 119 - kim_hollern@fcasd.edu
Shri Thada - QRT 204 - thada_shrivardhan@student.fcasd.edu
Zoe Lakkis - QRT 204 - lakkis_zoe@

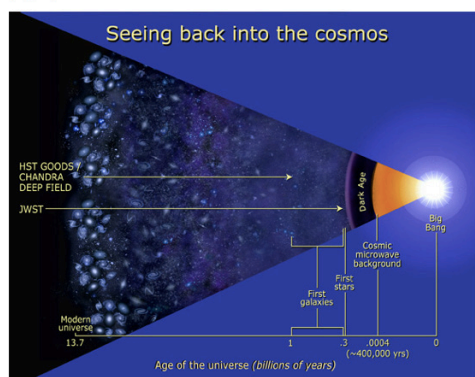
Scan to join!



Above: FC students compete in Math Madness. In 2020, nearly 800 schools and 15,000 students from across the country competed in the online league, tournament and championship.(aretelabs.org)

Webb Telescope, Continued...

(fig. 2)



possibly hinting at far-away life.

Like everything in the last few years, the JWST has not come without its fair share of controversy. Earlier this year,

around 1,200 astronomers and enthusiasts signed a petition to rename the JWST. They reference the fact that James Webb, during his time as NASA administrator, helped to

continue the mass removal of homosexual government employees. They argue that someone complicit in such harmful behaviour should not be idolized, and should not be sent forth into our solar system without properly representing a large part of our society. NASA has as of yet refused to change the name of the telescope. Recently, a non-binary NASA adviser quit, stating NASA's actions, "send a clear message of NASA's position on the rights of queer astronomers. It also speaks clearly to me that NASA does not deserve my time."

While these claims are certainly legitimate and provoke questions about who we choose to idolize, there is no doubt that the JWST will change astronomy, astrophysics, and science as we know it. As of right now, the launch is scheduled for December 18th, 2021, aboard the ESA Ariane 5.

Photo credit: NASA and Ann Feild

Climate Change – A Guide for Teens



Photo: news-medical.net

By Paris Ricketts

On August 9th, 2021, The UN released the latest climate report stating that human-induced climate change has already affected the weather and other extremes around the globe, but the report warns that most of these extremes have already been declared irreversible, such as sea-level rise, for centuries to millennia. Luckily, there are things we can do to limit climate change across the world. For example, the IPCC states that strong and sustained reductions in emissions of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and greenhouse gases could make air quality better instantly, and in 20 to 30 years, global temperatures could stabilize. IPCC experts predict that in the future, the changes in the climate will increase through all regions.

FC's favorite in-house environmentalist, Mr. Schubert, shared his thoughts about climate change and offered his advice on how our community can help.

What is the difference between climate change and global warming?

Global Warming refers to the average temperature rising. The total overall temperature seems insignificant, but it is increasing. The climate has become much less stable and more unpredictable. Warming temperatures have led to more severe

droughts, hurricanes, flooding, heat waves, forest fires, and polar vortices.

Why is it so important to teach younger generations about climate change?

Climate scientists agree that it is a real issue and that it was caused by poor human choices. Whether anyone realizes it or not, their choices impact the amount of carbon dioxide in the air.

Is it too late to fight climate change?

The changes have already started. The question now is how much the climate will change, that is why it's so important to take action.



Teenage Climate Crisis activists from various climate activism groups protesting. (Ollie Millington/Getty Images)

What actions can FC students take to prevent climate change?

You can use a carbon footprint calculator online to see what activities result in CO₂

emissions. There are many things you could do daily which include conserving electricity, taking the bus to school, taking shorter showers, and eating more plant-based foods. Also, purchasing reused items, planting trees, and driving vehicles that have good gas mileage are very helpful.

Thank you, Mr. Schubert, for sharing your valuable insights with us. Hopefully all students can pitch in to help reduce their negative effects on the environment.



In the final days of school before senior Samantha Dunlap graduated in June, the Foxes' tri-sport athlete was working out on the stadium field when Athletic Director Mike O'Brien approached her. He had good news: she was selected as the 2020-2021 Western Pennsylvania Positive Athlete Award winner in girls soccer. The award is given to the "Most Positive High School Athletes" who serve as role models in their schools and who embody the "Seven Definitions of a Positive Athlete." These student-athletes have an optimistic attitude, a heart for others, encourage their teammates, admit imperfections, put their team first, are servant leaders, and always give 100%.

"I was completely surprised because I didn't think I had a chance of winning it," says Sammi, a four-year member of the Lady Foxes soccer team and the starting goalkeeper for the past two years. Last season, she was a co-captain, named to the All-WPIAL and all-section teams, and was selected as one of the Valley News Dispatch girls soccer all-stars.

A couple of weeks after learning about her initial award, Sammi was even more shocked to find out that she had been selected among all female entries in the contest as the 2021 Knichel Logistics Title IX Award winner. The honor carries with it a \$1,000 scholarship and is awarded to a female Positive Athlete who has shown amazing leadership to her entire school.

Kristy Knichel of Knichel Logistics had high praise for Sammi, saying, "She encompasses everything a positive athlete should be. ... Her dedication to her peers is unbelievable." Ms. Knichel specifically cited Sammi's accomplishments such as her four years serving as president of Best Buddies, her involvement in the student Peer-to-Peer program, and her membership on the student and diversity councils.

Mr. O'Brien also commended the student-athlete alum who carried a 4.0 QPA when she graduated. "Sammi has an infectious positive attitude and is the ultimate teammate and competitor," says the athletic director. "She met each

game as a challenge and her bright outlook encouraged her teammates, both on and off the field, to do whatever it took to be successful as a team."

"Whether it is on the field, or in her role leading the team's support of the Best Buddies program, Sammi displays positive leadership by working hard and leading by example," says Fox Chapel Areas High School girls soccer coach Peter Torres. "Her ability to be an effective goalkeeper is essential, but Sammi goes above and beyond with how she communicates with her defenders and her game awareness, and she was a tremendous teacher. Starting in preseason, Sammi spoke to the team and explained our role in the Best Buddies program and then did a tremendous job in explaining how to be a 'Best Buddy.' She was entrusted with several roles, including being the liaison between the program and the coaching staff, teaching the younger players how to meaningfully interact with the members of the program, and coordinating schedules so the Best Buddies members would participate or serve in supporting roles during games."

Although Sammi was a four-year member of the Lady Foxes basketball team and has participated on the Unified Sports Track and Field team since its inception at the high school in 2019, her passion lies with soccer.

"I started when I was four or five and have just always been around sports because of my older brothers," says Sammi.

As she's matured, Sammi has learned how to remain optimistic, even when situations or results were not as she would have liked them to be. That exactly was the case when the Fox Chapel Area High School girls soccer team was upset in the second round of the 2020 WPIAL Class 3A playoffs after winning the section and getting a high seed in the playoffs.

"After a game that was that tough, it was best to try to keep your head up and not talk negatively," says Sammi, who has suffered her share of disappointments throughout her athletic career, yet she has always remained positive. "After games like that, you can hear a lot of negativity and blame, but it's important not to add to it.

"I've found that if you fully immerse yourself in the 'now' that it makes it more enjoyable for everyone, no matter what you are doing. Positivity is contagious, but so is negativity, especially when things are not going your way and you're facing adversity."

The 2021 graduate feels very fortunate to have been able to share all those experiences with the girls who are on her teams each year. "They are my best friends, on and off the field," says Sammi, who was an honors student at Fox Chapel Area. "Having all of those memories with them was, by far, the best part of my senior year. I am extremely excited, honored, and grateful for the recognition," Sammi says. "It means a lot that other people noticed how hard I worked during my high school years, not only in sports, but for the community."

Who Are Afghans?

A Personal Account

Photo: Paula Bronstein for Wall Street Journal

By Helia Hamidi

What does the word “Afghani” mean? Whenever I think about this term, I think about courageous and inspirational people who have lived through decades of war and unrest. This was the same question I posed to my parents ten years ago when I came back from preschool in Iran, as I was puzzled as to why my teacher had used this term to insult and discriminate against me. Iran currently hosts one of the biggest refugee populations in the world with more than two million residing Afghans, according to UNICEF. Despite the large size of the Afghani diaspora, they continue to face xenophobia from both the native community and the system as residents. But what is the reasoning behind this? Why is it that after all these years Afghans are considered second-class citizens when many hard-working people have the potential to make the country flourish?

My father’s family fled Afghanistan during the Soviet-Afghan War. He recalls anecdotes of countless bombings and seeing corpses outside his home in his early adolescence. Finally, after bearing many years in the war, they decided to flee from Afghanistan in search of a more promising future. They chose to emigrate to Iran because the culture and language are akin to Afghanistan’s compared to other neighboring countries. After risking

their lives to get across the border, they finally settled down in a more destitute part of the city and started their new life. Unfortunately, even after fleeing, they constantly had to deal with racism in the community and from the system. For example, when my father went to the local school to get a basic education, he was denied access. After many months of persisting, the principal let him in out of the kindness of his heart. In school, he dealt with kids not wanting to

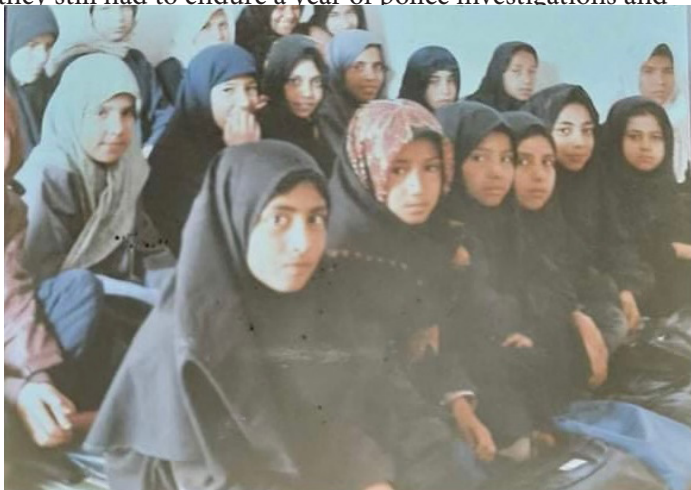
be his friends and thinking badly of him. Consequently, at home, he had to deal with poverty and the consequences of a negligent government, so his older siblings had to go out and take up many different labor jobs to make ends meet. Although there were so many trials and tribulations facing my father, he still managed to excel at the top of his class and persevere.

In Iran, there is a country-wide university entrance test (known as Konkoor) in which one’s score determines how prestigious a university he/she will be admitted to. When my father took this test, he scored 30th out of the 1 million people who had taken the same test that year. This score permitted him entrance into a very rigorous college. One might think that things would have gotten better from that point onwards, but even after being admitted to the best university and scoring so high in the entrance exam,



he still faced discrimination among his peers and with the system. For example, he had to pay much more for the same education than a native Iranian would, despite having earned his position rightfully. His fellow students also showed prejudice towards him repeatedly, which made him hesitant to share where he was from when first introduced to people.

After graduating, he met and wanted to marry my Iranian mother. The rule was and still is, on paper, that if a foreign man marries an Iranian woman, he will have to be imprisoned for three years. Fortunately, this rule is not currently enforced since it is a very outdated law, however, they still had to endure a year of police investigations and



Refugee students in an all girls school in the late 1980s.

endless court dates with both of their families until they finally could obtain their marriage certificate. Later on in their lives, when I was born, I was not granted an Iranian passport, even though I was born in the very capital of Iran, and that land was all I knew. For all my life, I have been subject to holding an Afghani passport, just because my father was born 250 miles due East.

Wanting to flee from the endless discrimination and prejudice, my family obtained visas and put everything on the line by immigrating to the United States. One summer, my mother and I decided to go to Iran for a couple of weeks in 2012 to see my grandparents. We had a one-way visa which allowed us to leave, but not return to the US. During that time, many of our friends had also gone to see their families and had gotten a visa just fine on the way back home. We decided to follow their example and go for a couple of weeks, apply for our visas, and go back home. Unfortunately, we did not get the visa back until eight months later, stranding us in Iran. I had to enroll in school in Iran and quickly become comprehensive in Persian reading and writing in less than two weeks. For eight months, my dad was in the US, while my mom and I were stuck in Iran. At any time I could have been denied an education, as I remember my principal inquiring for my certification biweekly, because of which my mom

would have to devise an excuse each time so I would not face expulsion. At the time I did not think much of it, but now I truly understand how my education could have been compromised for most of the school year. In various other accounts, I have been at the risk of deportation and losing everything, which has led me to develop a deeper appreciation for my parents for bringing me here, as if I wasn't fortunate enough to be here today, I would be facing the same discrimination my father had experienced decades ago and my cousins currently do to this very day. Similar to my father, my cousins have also been admitted into prestigious colleges and they are even natively born in Iran, and one of them has won the Iranian International Mathematical Olympiad, and yet they still face discrimination in which, occasionally, my family steps in to financially contribute to their tuition, because they have to pay unfathomable sums of money while many other students are eligible for scholarships. They also deal with



My aunt teaching refugee students in Nahid all-girls school, which was named after a woman who was martyred.

having no insurance, retirement, and have to make multiple payments for necessities such as WiFi.

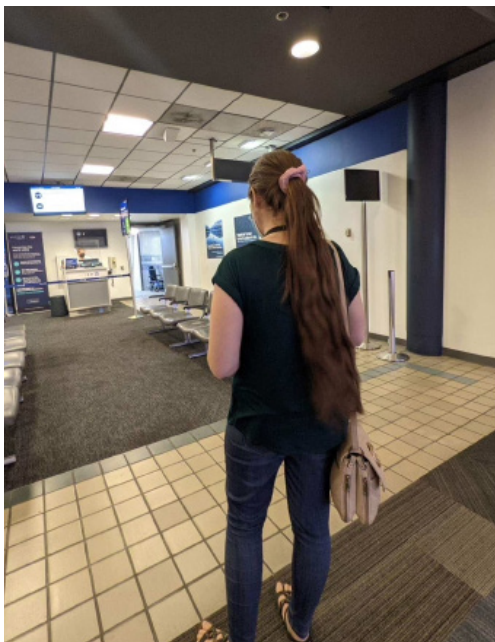
Witnessing all of this has impacted me in two ways. First, it allowed me to truly understand how privileged I am compared to most in the world. I make the most of my days here in the United States, because I know there are millions of kids where I used to be and it would be a dream for them to live such a life one day, as freely as I have it now. Secondly, it has led me to become more sensitive when judging others by reminding me to not discriminate against anyone regardless of how different they are to me because I have seen first-handedly how discrimination can halt people from reaching their fullest potential and further hinder the flourishing of society. If I had a chance to answer my preschool self's question with what I know now, I would tell her that I am what it means to be an Afghan, which is in no way a bad thing, but I am also Iranian, and above all, I am human, just like every other person on this earth.



By Mahitha Ramachandran

After U.S. troops pulled out of Afghanistan in late August, ending a 20-year occupation, many Afghans began to look for ways to flee from the crisis in their home country and to the United States. These refugees need a place to arrive and resettle, a place to welcome them and tend to their needs, a new place to call home. In August, Pittsburgh was named as one of the cities which would welcome Afghan refugees for resettlement.

With several Afghan refugees now destined for



JFCS refugee caseworker Caley waits for the arrival of an Afghan family in the Pittsburgh International Airport.

Pittsburgh, the city needs to be ready for their arrival. Many local organizations are aiding in that effort, with Jewish Family & Community Services, or JFCS, and Acculturation for Justice, Access, and Peace Outreach, or AJAPO, leading the resettlement process.

JFCS works

to support individuals in the community through a variety of challenges including employment, senior care, food insecurity, refugee and immigrant services, legal services for immigrants, guardianship for individuals with mental health disorders or disabilities, and other services. The organization does, however, have specific experience with refugee resettlement in the Pittsburgh area.

“Along with refugees coming from other places, we have actually been helping Afghan refugees for a few years now because they have been coming prior to this crisis. If I remember correctly, we have resettled around twenty families over the last few years. It was sometime in late July or early August that we found out we would be working with Afghan families from this recent crisis, although we were anticipating it because we realized there would be an influx of them,” Public Relations Specialist at JFCS, Allie Reefer, said.

JFCS has already welcomed three Afghan families, and two more are on the way. In total, they have agreed to resettle up to 300 Afghans in Pittsburgh. More specifically, JFCS has communicated to their national affiliate that they can take 150 SIV cases, or Afghans arriving under a Special Immigrant Visa, which is earned by working for the US government or military for at least one year. The other 150 will be parolees, or Afghans without legal standing for immigration who are fleeing from a humanitarian crisis. For this latter group, resources to work towards legal immigration status will be provided after they are resettled. According to Reefer, these potentially 300 Afghans will arrive gradually over the course of the next year, and JFCS is

preparing for their arrivals.

If they receive enough prior notice, JFCS will find and furnish an apartment for the family or individual before their arrival. However, in cases where arrival is on short notice, they have temporary housing options available until permanent housing is found. Housing for these families must be affordable, as they have to eventually pay for it themselves, as well as ideally located to access public transportation. Reefer anticipates that housing will be one of the main challenges.

“One of our biggest needs right now is finding affordable permanent housing for these families,” she said. “We thankfully have partnerships throughout the community, and we started a task force with three different committees and organizations from all across the city. One of those task forces is specifically working on housing to find temporary housing solutions for these Afghan refugees who are coming with, say, five hours notice.”

Other than housing, a big priority, especially in the midst of a pandemic, is medical care. Afghan arrivals are connected to medical care and resources as soon as possible.

“One of the first things we do is make sure they have testing done and all of the information about the vaccine if they want it and about social distancing and masking guidelines and things like that, and then of course any other medical concerns they might have as well,” Reefer said.

There has also been an effort to provide them with culturally conscious mental health resources along with physical health care. JFCS then ensures that families know how to access transportation, any children get enrolled in school, and anyone who needs it gets connected with ESL programs. Reefer noted that JFCS is also able to refer individuals to other organizations in the community that provide resources in a multitude of areas to make sure all their needs are met. After welcoming the refugees and settling them in, the goal is to allow them to become self-sufficient members of the community.

“From there we help them start looking for jobs because about three months in they are responsible to start paying for things on their own, so we want to make sure that they

are able to do that,” Reefer said. “We do have resources that if for some reason there’s extenuating circumstances where they are not able to start working right away, we can usually assist them or get them connected to another resource that can assist them, but we do start that job piece right away knowing that it’s critical for them to be able to become self-sufficient as soon as possible.”

With so many aspects involved in the resettlement process, JFCS hopes that the Pittsburgh community will come together to help with this effort. They have several

ways that people can help listed on their website at jfcspgh.org/help. These include writing letters to create welcome books that will be given to Afghan arrivals and signing up to donate specified items that will be updated on an ongoing basis among other things. Donation drives for back-to-school items as well as items for new mothers and their babies are being planned and held, and information about those can also be found on the website.

This effort is only just beginning; welcoming and resettling Afghan refugees to Pittsburgh will be an ongoing process that will

require ongoing support from the community.

“Right now, this is on the forefront of everybody’s mind: it’s in all the news pages, on every website, all over social media. But our anticipation is that this is going to be ongoing three months from now, six months from now. The challenge is going to just be keeping the momentum up with people who are willing to give and donate their time and items,” Reefer said.

As JFCS and other local organizations prepare for the arrival of more Afghans over the coming months, Reefer urges everyone to get involved in any way they can.

“We want these families to have as much support as possible once they arrive, not just through JFCS but through all of these organizations and individuals across the city,” she said. “It’s definitely a community effort because resettlement is a community effort.”



Left: An Afghan family arrives on a plane in Pittsburgh with five hours notice. Above: JFCS caseworker Abby Jo poses with donations from the community for Afghan refugees. Photos courtesy of JFCS



To access the references mentioned in this article and to learn more about the Afghan refugee situation, please scan.

Minors Can Make the Vaccine Major

By Kaylee Uribe

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, our lifestyles and livelihoods have been dramatically impacted. Public health was recognized and prioritized before this, but never could we imagine being in a situation like we are today. On March 14, 2020, students at Fox Chapel were told that school was to be conducted virtually until the COVID-19 virus was under control and the federal government ended the state of emergency. Most students believed that it would be a relaxing, two-week break from school but they couldn't have been more wrong.

Things began trending upwards in early 2021 when the FDA approved emergency use of the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson vaccines. Due to vaccinations, the world began to open up a little, with federal, state, and local governments reducing the number of restrictions and loosening them as well. Medical officials across the globe agreed that when more people got vaccinated, the transmission of COVID-19 became less and less likely.

However, today we stand at a crossroads, with the highly-transmissible Delta variant running rampant through communities, leading to higher infection, hospitalization, and mortality rates. According to Our World in Data as of October 9th, 2021, 65.8% of all eligible people in the US have gotten 1 dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and 56.8% of all eligible people in the US are fully vaccinated. While those statistics are promising, they are not consistent across all demographics. In August of 2021, the vaccine eligibility expanded, with children between the ages of 12 and 15 becoming safely eligible for vaccination.

Currently, it is safe to say that vaccination rates are still inconsistent across the board. As of October 6, 2021, the CDC recorded that 13.3 million US children under age 18 have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine (56% of 12-17 year-olds) and 10.9 million of US children under age 18 are fully vaccinated (46% of 12-17 year-olds). These numbers are problematic considering that even two months after vaccine eligibility was expanded, vaccination rates among adolescents still remain approximately 10% lower than the entire US population.

I believe that this discrepancy in vaccination rates can be attributed to parents refusing to let their children

make a medical decision to get vaccinated for COVID-19. According to an article published by Forbes on August 11th, 2021, "more than 50% of parents of children ages 12-17 are still opposed to their children getting the Covid-19 vaccine or plan to "wait and see," a new Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) poll found."

Taking into account this data, it is plausible to assume that if it weren't for parents preventing their children from being vaccinated, the vaccination rate among 12-17 year

olds might be significantly higher than it is. Therefore, if children over the age of 12 were able to make their own medical decision to get vaccinated, vaccination rates would increase, leading to safer schools and communities. Higher vaccination rates will lead to herd immunity, which has the potential to end the pandemic that has plagued our society.

In order for us to be able to trust children 12-16 to be able to make this decision, we would have to educate them about Covid-19, it's

drastic effect on the nation and world, and how the vaccine works as a defense against the virus. Kids 12 years old and up are middle schoolers, and are old enough to understand all of this information if taught enough and correctly. Once this information is disseminated to them, the decision could be up to them, which is how it should be now.

Vaccine potential continues to improve today, as on October 7, 2021, Pfizer and BioNTech have officially asked the Biden Administration to authorize the use of a vaccine for children ages 5-11. According to NPR, "The application was widely expected after Pfizer and BioNTech submitted data to the government last month showing that their vaccine produced a "robust" antibody response in kids from 5-11 and had 'favorable' safety outcomes." This new vaccine could continue to make our schools safer places, from the elementary level up to the high school.

Sources:

<https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-vaccination-trends/>

<https://www.immunize.org/newreleases/>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alisondurkee/2021/08/11/majority-of-parents-still-wont-get-kids-covid-19-vaccine-yet-poll-finds---here-are-the-groups-most-likely-to-be-opposed/?sh=7574823d3706>



Photo: uchealth.com

On October 7, Pfizer and BioNTech have officially asked the Biden administration to authorize use of the vaccine for children ages 5-11.



By Annalese Bartolacci and Safiya Stewart

Looking for volunteer opportunities outside of school? As we move out of the pandemic, many organizations are once again seeking volunteers. Remember that every student needs 12 hours of service in order to graduate. National Honor Society also requires additional volunteer activities for its members. If you are a sophomore interested in joining NHS, you must provide ten hours of service learning from two different sources on the application. Investing time in an organization such as the ones listed below can help you meet the requirements. Check out these places in need of help:

Casa San Jose

<https://casasanjose.org/>

Needs Spanish-speaking Volunteers who can work as online tutors and mentors with children who need help with online learning, or as virtual tech support to parents who are trying to set up the proper equipment. Anyone interested can contact Sister Valerie Zottola at srvalerie@casasanjose.org.

Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

<https://pittsburghfoodbank.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

Always in need of help, the food bank has opportunities ranging from food sorting and building healthy food boxes for seniors to harvesting at The Farm. Sign up by filling out the interest form on their website.

Pittsburgh Zoo

<https://www.pittsburghzoo.org/volunteer/>

Do you like animals? The Pittsburgh Zoo has a Zoo Teens summer volunteering program. They are not currently accepting applications, but check their website closer to summer if you are interested in pursuing this opportunity.

St. Margaret (UPMC Hospital)

<https://www.upmc.com/locations/hospitals/st-margaret/about/volunteer/apply/>

Interested in going into medicine? UPMC offers volunteer opportunities at many of their hospitals, including St. Margaret in Aspinwall. Volunteers must apply, and you can find the application on their website.

Western PA Humane Society

<https://humaneanimalrescue.org/ways-to-help/volunteer/>

Volunteer Opportunities include dog walking, cat cuddling and socialization, bunny cuddling and socialization, fostering, grooming, and assisting staff in various departments. To get involved, email volunteer@humaneanimalrescue.org.

Carnegie Museum of Art

<http://www.cmoa.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

Volunteers lead tours, assist with children's art activities and classes, do research and data entry for curators, and help with various projects and programs. For information contact: volunteers@carnegiemuseums.org.

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church

<https://www.fcpc.us/children-s-ministries>

Looking for teen volunteers on Sundays to help in the nursery and with children's worship at the 9:30 or 11:00 services. Contact Pastor Lori at Lori@fcpc.us for more information.

United Way

<http://www.unitedway.org/take-action/volunteer>

The need for volunteers changes quickly, but they have ample opportunities to get involved that are always listed on their website.



When in Doubt, Just Wing it!

A Comprehensive Guide to Finding the Best Wings in the Area

By Trevor Katz

Chicken wings are one of the most popular and widely-eaten foods in America. Just because they are so widely made and eaten, does not mean they are all made equally. To really see what's what when it comes to wings, I ordered wings from multiple local restaurants to really see who does it best.

The rules: To make this a fair and even judgement, it was decided to go plain and simple. All wings were ordered tossed in season salt, with sides of ranch dressing and buffalo sauce. Yes, this is very boring, but it is the best way to equally judge the wings and take into account different taste preferences people may have. Here are my final rankings:

OVERALL BEST Sidelines in Millvale



These wings were a huge surprise to come out on top, and are an absolute MUST-TRY for any carnivores in the area! They were very moist and the chicken was high quality with a flavor that stood out from the competition. These wings by far had the best season salt, with just a touch of spice that made it so much

better. Sidelines' buffalo sauce also blew all others out of the water. It was a perfect buttery mixture that had a nice spice to it, but not too much that it was all you were tasting. It was a rich, buttery sauce that evenly coated the wings, and after trying the buffalo from the other places, I kept finding myself coming back to dip other wings into this one.

PRETTY GOOD Middle Road Inn in Glenshaw

This was by far the simplest of presentations, and it was a very interesting choice to put the seasoned salt on the side and not toss the wings in them. Regardless,



these wings can be considered the "best bang-for-your-buck" out there. Costing around the same price as nearly every other location for a dozen wings, these were a dozen JUMBO wings, thus double the product for nearly the same price. The chicken on these were fantastic, very moist and well-fried, with probably the best meat on any wing. The buffalo sauce was OK, but the wings by themselves more than make up for this. Overall, this was a great wing, with some good sauce, and PHENOMENAL value. If not for the decision to not toss the wings in the seasoning, these wings may have been a very tight competitor with Sidelines.

NOT-SO-BAD

The Scoreboard in Valencia



Although a bit out of the way, these wings were worth the trip. If you like spice, this buffalo sauce reigns supreme in that category. Scoreboards' had by far the spiciest of all buffalo sauces sampled, which improved

the value of the wing, but admittedly, they heavily lacked in seasoning. The meat on this wing was also up there, presenting a moist chicken inside and good crunch on the outside, which most definitely makes up for the distance travelled to get them. Overall, there was not much bad to say about wings. The chicken tasted great, pretty good sauce, but the seasoning needed to be amped up and the quantity of sauce provided was a bit stingy.

NOT-SO-GREAT

Big Shot Bob's in Sharpsburg

It was a tough competition considering that these wings came out so low on the list. Expectations were elevated since Bob's is touted as having the highest-rated wings in Pittsburgh. Although they are most well known for their sauces, this regrettably was not explored much in our tasting. While the wings started with a nice crunch, the impressiveness did not continue. These were the driest wings we encountered, and for a place known so well for their sauces, the buffalo sauce was pretty disappointing. Big Shot Bob's could have been ranked higher on this list, but considering its



self-declared reputation as, "The Best Wings in Pittsburgh," and also, very boldly, "The Best Wings in the U.S.A.," it offered poor customer service and just average overall wings, landing it firmly below either of those titles, and below many other places on this list.

THE BEST SMOKED WINGS

Breakneck Tavern, Mars

HUGE! These wings were absolute monsters! If you are into smoked wings, or really just wings at all, these are a must try! Not many places offer smoked wings, but when you can find a good one it is like hitting gold. These giant wings were well smoked and had a great texture to boot. This was one of the better buffalo sauces as well, that paired surprisingly well with the smoked flavor of the wings. I can't say it enough, these wings are giants and it is well worth getting these wings, even if you are not a fan of smoked wings.



JUST OKAY SMOKED WINGS

Barrel Junction, Gibsonia



This was the only place that did not offer wings by the dozen, so we ordered eight instead. These wings were simply OK. Considering there were only eight, the small size of the wing overall was underwhelming. They were a bit dry, and the smokey flavor was not as good as places such as Breakneck. The seasonal salt was also just OK,

and really did not bring much to the table and contributed to the average flavor of these wings. The buffalo sauce was pretty good on these wings, but really it was not enough to make up for the other shortcomings of these wings.

Try them for yourself!

Sidelines: 412-821-4492

Middle Road Inn: 412-486-7159

The Scoreboard: 724-443-6522

Big Shot Bob's: 412-772-1385

Breakneck Tavern: 724-625-9150

Barrel Junction: 724-443-0066

Fall Sports Wrap-Up



By Russell Fenton

Girls' Volleyball



The girls' volleyball team entered the season with an almost entirely new team, having lost several key senior players. Though the team has not won its first game yet, it has been competitive in several matches despite a difficult schedule featuring WPIAL powers North Allegheny and Hampton. Seniors Annabel Siddons and Beata Turnquist have taken on

leadership roles for the Lady Foxes, setting the foundation for rebuilding the volleyball program in the years to come.

Girls' Tennis

Foxes sports fans have come to expect extraordinary success from the girl's tennis team, and this year's squad did not disappoint. The Lady Foxes closed the regular season with an 11-2 overall team record and a section championship, boasting



wins over Mt. Lebanon, Oakland Catholic, and rival Shady Side Academy. In individual competition, senior Carissa Shepard added another section title to her already impressive resume, defeating Shady Side's Elana Sobel in three sets. The Lady Foxes have already qualified to compete for a WPIAL title and look to punch their ticket to the PIAA championships in Hershey.

Soccer



For the boys' soccer team, it has literally been a record-breaking season. The boys have hit double-digit goal totals in multiple games, scoring 11 against North Hills and a remarkable 30 goals against Southmoreland,

and coach Erik Ingram reached his 200th career victory in a game against Shaler. In addition, the team has put together a commendable 10-3-1 record, despite competing in a difficult section, once again



qualifying for the WPIAL playoffs.

The girls' team has also played well this season. In addition to handing otherwise undefeated Latrobe its first tie, they have posted some impressive results in an 8-0 win against Hempfield and a 6-0 win against Hampton. The girls' team also competes in the WPIAL playoffs this year.

Golf



The Fox Chapel golf teams have produced perhaps one of the greatest seasons in recent Fox Chapel athletic history. In both individual and team events, both the boys and girls have been incredibly successful. On the boys' side, Eli Yofan was the runner-up in the WPIAL individual finals, while the boys' team won both the team WPIAL championship and a section title. Meanwhile, Nina Busch captured her first girls' individual WPIAL title, and the team also won a team WPIAL title and a section win. Fox Chapel became the first team to complete the boys' and girls' WPIAL team sweep since 2005. Both the boys' and girls' teams will compete in the individual and team PIAA championships.



Football



Feeding off energy from the return of roaring crowds at high school games, the Foxes football team has worked its way to an impressive season. Led

by senior quarterback Colin Dietz and a core of other seniors including Khi'lee Patterson, Colin Kwiatkowski, and Zidane Thomas, the Foxes have played an exciting style that has produced some memorable plays. Namely, Dietz's game-winning touchdown pass in the Foxes' thrilling victory of Franklin Regional has been one of the highlights of the WPIAL football season. While the team has not clinched a playoff berth at the time of writing, they are still well positioned to do so with several games remaining.

Cross Country



The cross country teams built off last season's achievements and have gotten even better this year. With stellar performances at the Red, White, and Blue Classic and the Gateway Invitational, the teams have utilized a mix of experienced runners and underclassmen to find success. The boys have been led by senior Jack Lorence, while junior Laura Carter has paced the girls' team. The boys' team's success this year culminated in a second-straight section title.

Field Hockey

Headed by an experienced core of seniors from last year's WPIAL runner-up team, the field hockey team is back on the attack again. Goalkeeper, Mira Tramontina,



midfielder Alden March, and defender Sydney Kennedy have led the senior group, but the team has also received strong contributions from junior Anna Drum. After playing a rigorous regular season schedule, the team made it to the WPIAL finals, but faced a disappointing loss to Penn Trafford.

Photo credit: Gordon Snyder Photography

FC Boys Win WPIAL AAA Golf Title



By Andrew Begg

The Fox Chapel Foxes Boys Golf team put an exclamation point on their impressive 2021 season by claiming the WPIAL Class AAA Men's Team Golf Championship by one-stroke over Central Catholic at Cedarbrook's Golf Course in Belle Vernon. Eli Yofan led the team all season long and capped off his big season with a -1 71 at the WPIAL Team Finals which helped propel the boys to victory. Eli really stepped into his role as a leader this year for the golf team, while coming off a standout junior basketball season which earned him honors of the WPIAL's Fab 5 as one of the best players across the league for the season. He rarely even practices golf; he just enjoys playing. He's preparing for another big senior season in basketball this winter.

Max Johnson, another senior, sank the clinching putt for the Foxes on the 18th at Cedarbrook for bogey to shoot a 77 individually and put the team at 376, one better than the guys from Central Catholic, with a team score of 377. Max really stepped into his own as a senior this year, finding his stride and his game, both in his swing and mentally. Standout sophomore Dave Fuhrer, who won the section individually, played solid in WPIAL Finals as well, shooting 74. He played well all year, maintaining his position as the number two player on the team, behind Yofan. He hits the ball dead straight and when he misses, his short game is top

notch. He will continue to play a big role for the Foxes in the years to come.

Zach Paper and Owen Delaney are both in their second seasons as full time Varsity starters and third seasons of spending time with the Varsity squad. The seniors both held their own in WPIAL Finals, with Zach firing a 76 and Owen a 78 to make a back end push to win the title. John Paul Walsh, the 6 man of the team, shot an 83 and was the toss for the final, but still finished a strong career with the Foxes after playing two years as a Varsity starter. For these guys, this is their final playing season of team competitive golf, as Division III College Golf doesn't really appeal to them. Eli Yofan will be looking to play basketball in college, but could consider possibly being a two sport athlete. Max Johnson is the only senior who will look to continue, trying to play in college no matter what level it's at.

The boys went on to finish as runners-up in the PIAA State Championships to unexpected State College, after tying team scores of 292, (5 players for 4 scores as opposed to 6 for 5 in the WPIAL), the sudden death playoff ended with State College with a combined -1 and Fox Chapel a combined +4 in a sudden death 4 player format. It's a tough ending to swallow right now, but the boys accomplished their every year goal of winning the WPIAL, and that is something to be proud of.



Fox Chapel Area High School 2020-2021 junior Patrick Alexander was a quarterfinalist in Student Congress at the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Championship Tournament. This accomplishment places Patrick in the top 20-25% of the students in the nation. The Grand National Championship Tournament was held virtually May 28-30, 2021. A total of 2,800 students representing 516 public and private high schools from 35 states across the country participated in the tournament. Patrick qualified to participate in the national tournament at the Pittsburgh Diocesan Qualifying Tournament in March.

Resist the Hamster Wheel of Emotional Trauma



magazine.ezwaybroadcasting.com

By Katie Haas

Mental health is a topic that has been more widely discussed over the past few decades. At this point in my life, I have probably been told by my friends, family, and teachers thousands of times that I should prioritize my mental well-being over everything else. But (plot twist!), even though society drills into each and every one of us that protecting your mind from a tipping point is essential, the way the world is run does not actually take into consideration the importance of emotional stability. It is time to address and do something about the high school hamster wheel of emotional trauma.

For a lot of people, myself included, a certain amount of stress can be a source of incentive when it comes to academia and other activities. While this motivation can be incredibly helpful, at a certain point it becomes too much. I hate to sound cliché, but being a teenager is hard. Living in a pandemic is also hard. Every high school student I have talked to since last March has felt, as I like to put it, "dead inside." 14 to 18-year-olds should not feel dead inside. The constant and unbearable stress of school life in general, mixed now with the unpredictability of the pandemic, have combined to create an unprecedented and deadly problem. But, in yet another gutting twist, not enough is being done to address this.

Students around the nation have returned to in-person schooling with little to no accommodation for what we have been through. We wear masks to protect our physical health, but do little, if anything to preserve our mental health. I understand pretending that life is the way it was two years ago is easy, but society needs to accept that everyday life is no longer normal. Adjustments need to be made for the greater good of student safety. Erasing the trauma the world has been through is both insulting and part of the problem. Instead of forcing high schoolers to keep running on that stupid hamster wheel, let them know that they can actually take breaks. Give them a laid-back, relaxed day more than once every few months.

Students, I know that pressure from family, teachers, coaches and other sources can sometimes make it difficult to remember that school is not the number one priority. I am not saying that you should neglect your grades and after school activities, but you should not neglect yourself, either. You matter more than a spotless academic record. Going into the new quarter, try to keep this stuff in mind. Turn over a new slate and try to awkwardly fall off of the high school hamster wheel of emotional trauma. You've got this! :)



Boo Bash Delivers Spooktacular Delights!

By Josie Giguere

On Thursday, October 28th, the halls of the high school bustled with hundreds of excited children and parents for the FC National Honor Society's fourth annual Boo Bash. This hauntingly fun community celebration offered children in pre-K through third grade a safe and interactive way to celebrate Halloween. Participating families were asked to consider donating much needed food, toiletries, and money for two local charities that help families in our area, Backpack for Hunger and the Sharpsburg Little Free Pantry.

Upon arrival, families were greeted by a spooky performance by the FCAHS orchestra, led by Mrs. Mairi Cooper. They then proceeded through the auditorium entrance where student volunteers, dressed in a variety of costumes, hosted trick-or-treating stations throughout the business hallway. Future Business Leaders of America students, with the help of FBLA sponsor, Mrs. Christina Congalton, organized a not-too-spooky haunted classroom

for the children to walk through and collect different goodies. A right turn led them to the commons area for a ghostly dance party where the kids had to show off their best dance moves to earn a prize. They could also spin the Current Events club's wheel of chance, buy some tasty baked goods and 50/50 raffle tickets, make an origami bat, and pose with the fox for a picture in the oversized photo frame made by the HOSA students.

Next it was off to the cafeteria and the gym, where nearly 30 different clubs hosted Halloween-themed crafts and activities, including pin the nose on the pumpkin, feed the monster, decorating clay keychains, ghost bowling, bingo, and bookmark making. The Fearless Bible Club has participated in the Boo Bash for the past three years. The club's leader, senior, Danielle Horne, organized a Minute to Win It game. "This year was my third year volunteering

(continued on page 32)



Baking club sponsor, Mrs. Antonikas and club president, Annales Bartolacci get ready to sell the confections made by members.



The book club's Halloween bookmark decorating station was a popular spot for guests at the Boo Bash..



Members of the Asian Culture club give FCASD superintendent, Dr. Mary Catherine Reljac, an origami lesson.



To earn a special treat from Fox Tales, the children had to show off their best dance moves.



Global minds club members help children with a spider making craft.



One of the young Boo Bash participants enjoys decorating a clay keychain, an activity organized by the pottery club.

(continued from page 30)

at the Boo Bash representing the Fearless Bible Club,” she shared. “I love seeing how excited the kids are to play a game or just grab a few pieces of candy. It’s also a great way to connect with the community. I saw some families that I knew, but I also was able to meet and talk to new people. A few toddlers even tried to take the whole bucket of candy, and their costumes were so good that I almost let them have it.”

Sophomore and president of Baking club, Annalese Bartolacci, was very happy with the results of the bake sale this year. “The Boo Bash was the first event of the year that the Baking Club has participated in, and it could not have gone better! We raised \$287 for Backpacks for Hunger and the Sharpsburg Little Free Pantry. It was a huge success!” The bake sale featured a variety of tasty Halloween treats, all made by club members. Any treats that did not sell at the Boo Bash were sold during QRT and lunch the following day.

NHS Sponsor, Mrs. Lisa Gibson shared that she and co-sponsor, Ms. Suzanne Miller were so happy to have the

Boo Bash back indoors this year. “Covid caused a major disruption in our annual celebration. For the past two years, we were only able to interact with the children via a drive-through trick-or-treat. Being able to bring everyone indoors again meant we could host more activities for the children and have many more high school students participate.” Nearly 100 high school students volunteered, and the families enjoyed learning more about the many diverse clubs their children will be able to join once they get to high school.

A total of \$930 and a carload of food and toiletries were delivered to the Sharpsburg Little Free Pantry and Backpack for Hunger organization. The Sharpsburg Little Free Pantry is located at the Sharpsburg Library on Main Street. It is a small case that contains food and toiletries which community members in need can help themselves to at any time. The local Backpack For Hunger program provides weekend and summer care packages for children in need. Overall, this year’s Boo Bash was a great success not only for the National Honor Society, but for all of the groups that participated.



MEET THE STAFF



Annalese
Bartolacci



Andrew
Begg



Justine
Eng



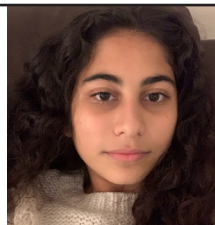
Russell
Fenton



Josie
Giguere



Katie
Haas



Helia
Hamidi



Trevor
Katz



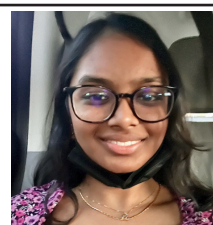
Leah
Kenyon



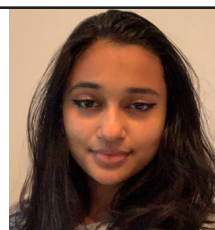
Shriya
Krishnamurthy



Zoe
Lakkis



Nia
Lingam



Mahitha
Ramachandran



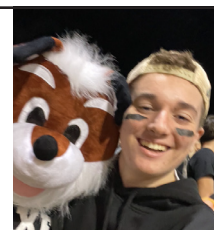
Paris
Ricketts



Safiya
Stewart



Kaylee
Uribe



Abraham
White



Ann
Yonas

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FOX TALES

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Fox Tales is a quarterly news publication created by the students of Fox Chapel Area High School. The mission of this publication is to showcase the many positive happenings in the Fox Chapel Area School District and surrounding community. Fox Chapel Area School District is comprised of six municipalities: Aspinwall, Blawnox, Fox Chapel and Sharpsburg boroughs, and Indiana and O'Hara townships. To contribute articles, photographs, or letters, please contact the Fox Tales faculty sponsor, Lisa Gibson, at Lisa_Gibson@fcasd.edu or 412-967-2479. Letters should not exceed 350 words.



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