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All I Want for Christmas is Pancakes

The event Pancakes with Santa was held Saturday December 8, at East Central High School.

Clubs and organizations such as TAFE, FCCLA, Fashion Club, AVID, Track and Field, the girls Soccer team, Theatre Club, cheer and the National Honor Society participated in the event.

For breakfast, families were provided with free pancakes and orange juice. The younger children had the opportunity to meet Santa as well as take a free digital picture with him. The entire family also had the treat of free arts and crafts throughout the school.

"Pancakes with Santa was and is a fabulous event. My daughter enjoyed every moment. This was the best day ever," track coach Janelle Mulkey said. "To offer a free event to the community and having our students provide the service is awesome. The Lady Hornets Track and Field really got into the spirit with helping the kiddos. We will be back again next year."

"We had a great turnout this year. It was great helping all the little ones with their Christmas craft and seeing their happy faces. The AVID students had a great time spreading Christmas cheer," AVID sponsor Ms. Violet Delgado said.

By: Jacob Pattillo



Hey SENIORS!

Seniors are celebrating their last year. Senior Week was from October 29th to November 2nd. Monday was Disney Day, Tuesday was Senior Citizen Day, Wednesday was Spooky Day, Thursday was Toga Day, and Friday was Spirit Day or Beach Day for the Seniors at East Central High School.

The pep rally started by introducing both boys and girls basketball teams and the swimming team.

Varsity spirit and Varsity boys sport players put on a show for the school. The boys dressed up with the Honeybees costume and the Honeybees dressed up with the Hornets football gear.

By: Lee Cortez



EC Artists Earn Gold Key Award

It is with great pride that we announce the exciting results of our ECHS artists in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Six artists earned regional Gold Keys and will now advance to the national competition in New York City. Their works will be celebrated in an exhibit at SaySi Gallery on February 1. Earning awards were: Breony Jones, April Rayne Lancaster, Candace Landrum, Maria Monsivais**, Alaina Perez and Christopher Sandoval. **Maria Monsivais earned three Gold Key awards and will be advancing all three works to the national event.

For 95 years, the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards have recognized the vision, ingenuity, and talent of our nation's youth, and provided opportunities for creative teens to be celebrated. Past Scholastic award winners include Andy Warhol, Phillip Pearlstein, Robert Indiana, Sylvia Plath, Robert Redford, John Lithgow and Zac Posen. Now six ECHS artists have been added to this distinguished list.



All-Stars

Evian Thompson and Damon Davis of the 2018 ECHS football team were selected to play in the Texas High School All-Star game at South San Stadium.



Just Keep Swimming

The EC Aquatics Team came home with some bling from the Gobbler Games. Friday preliminary results sent seven relay teams (one as first alternate) and eight swimmers/diver to individual event finals.

The team brought home three medals and 32 ribbons.

Winners were: Girls medley relay 11th place; Boys medley relay first alternate; 200 IM Taylor Kellner 1st place Gold Medal; 50 free Cecilia Chinchay 10th place; 50 free Joshua Salinas 10th place; Girls 1 meter diving Cadi Garcie 4th place 100 Fly Taylor Kellner 1st place; Gold Medal; 100 free Cecilia Chinchay 11th place; 200 free relay Girls 12th place; Boys relay 13th place; 100 back Ariana Alon-Alon 16th place; 400 free relay; Girls 12th place; Boys A Relay 7th place; Boys B Relay 12th place Girls 3M Diving Cadi Garcie 2nd place Silver Medal; Ethan Escobar: 1st alternate 200 IM; Jermaine Coleman: 2nd alternate back-stroke.



A Slam Dunk Season!

The Varsity Boys Basketball team started in November with a scrimmage against Steven's High School ended their regular season heading into the playoffs on Monday, February 18, against Austin Westlake.

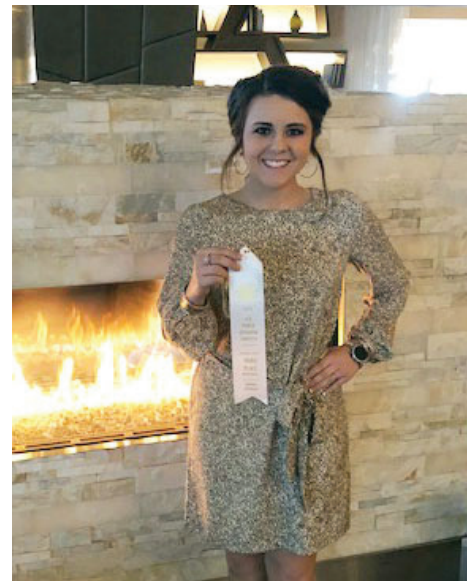
The Hornets went against Clark High School at home. They beat the Cougars in a close game 67-65 where Junior T'vonsi Hubbard led the Hornets to the win with 16 points and Senior Victor Roper sealed the victory with a block right at the buzzer to secure the win.

They won second place in the SAISD tournament.

"The season was a shaky start but we came together as unit and got on track," T'vonsi Hubbard said.

"My greatest accomplishment as a coach is having the joy of seeing 100% of my players graduate. One of the joys of this profession is when you see their success whether it be as members of our Armed Forces, successful in their professions and as good fathers and husbands. These are the only things that matter," James Rabon said.

By: Lee Cortez and Velencia DeAnda



On January 10th, Kaitlyn Kempen traveled to Denver, Colorado to compete in the National 4H Public Speaking Contest. This event recognized the champions from each state and Kaitlyn was named the Texas 4H Public Speaking Champion in June. Kaitlyn was named 3rd in the Nation among the very best in the country.



East Central Performing Arts has won two national awards and recognition from Music for All, Advocacy in Action.

The first award was for COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT for the EC Holiday Spectacular and Spring Spectacular programs.

The second award was for RECRUITMENT and RETENTION for EC's Music Business and Industries Two-Year Courses.



Congratulations to junior Candace Landrum and senior Jose Andrade Zavala for competing in this year's San Antonio Western Art Exhibit. Both student received 2nd place ribbons and were in the art exhibit.

Buzzing the Right Tunes

The ECHS band hosted a Christmas Concert taking place at the Gary Patterson Performing Arts Center December 6th for an ensemble of Christmas themed spirit.

Some of the 12 songs played by the Hornet band included: "A Christmas Festival," "Sleigh Ride," and the Trans Siberian Orchestra favorite "Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12-24." The Hornet Band played the songs beautifully filling the Gary Patterson Performing Arts Center with wonderful sound.

"The bands are moving along very well in their preparations for the upcoming Christmas concert." Band Director Ron Garza said.

The bands that performed the night of the Christmas concert included the Wind Ensemble, the Symphonic Band, and the Concert Bands.

By: Joseph Garza

EC FFA

The East Central FFA team went to the Texas State University Invitational contest on October 20th, in San Marcos where they showcased the outstanding work being accomplished at home in developing their leadership programs for the contest.

Public relations team 2nd place Taylor Kellner, Morgan Lange, Courtney Dury and Camden Smith. Public relations team 1st place Sheldon Pruski, Delaney Pollok, Olivia Gutierrez, Michael Cavazos.

The officers are Kaitlyn Kempen, Candace Landrum, Johanna Durham, Samantha Lowman, Cooper Rayl, Cadi Garcie, Braden McGhee and Dylan Garza.

"The East Central FFA is home to more than 32 National Championships. Students are actively involved in livestock shows, AG Mechanics, floral design and competing in Leadership and Career Development teams. We had a state top 10 finish in LDE's and the National Meats Evaluation Team (CDE). Students in AgriScience and FFA are winners," Lorie Kempen said.

The FFA sponsors are Lorie Kempen, Daniel Kempen and Jared Lynch and Wesley Harris.

By: Matthew Rakowitz



The Most Wonderful Time of Year

ECHS band had their Winter Concert located in the new Gary Patterson Art Performing Center. The concert was on December 6th.

"It was a great performance. We really felt a sense of major accomplishment playing our first band concert in the new Gary Patterson Center for Performing Arts. These students will forever remember the history they made in this facility, and I'm proud of this memory that they will take with them when they graduate. There was about 900 to 1,000 people that came," band director Mr. Garza said.

"The students and directors played to an almost packed house in EC's New Patterson Center for the Performing Arts," Mr. Warren Mize said.

By: Jessenya Ortiz



Competition Day

Have you ever wondered how some of our students are doing in UIL?

One of the coaches for UIL is Ms. Tillotson, who is the coach for UIL Social Studies and UIL Congress. The top students competing for her are Mathew Harris, James Palmer, Alexandria Reeves, Cameron Monteith, and Caleb Ramirez.

At the virtual challenge for event congress Mathew Harris and Alexandria Reeves competed giving EC great representation. "Lexi came in 3rd place in her house during the preliminary round and advanced to finals, but just barely missed an opportunity to go to state in the final round," Ms. Tillotson said.

At the virtual challenge event for social studies Cameron Monteith and James Palmer competed giving EC a great representation. Monteith took 31st place out of 513 students competing. For the 6A division, Monteith took 6th place out of 93 competing in the division. Finally, James Palmer placed 20th place for the 6A division. "We competed against 92 high schools all over Texas, we were awarded five certificates, one of which was for coming in 9th place for the entire 6A division which had 17 schools competing," Ms. Tillotson said.

After reflecting over the results Ms. Tillotson said that it was a great way to start the year off and that she was excited to see kiddos get some well deserved recognition.

Want to know more about UIL please contact coaches Ms. Toney, Mr. Christian, Mr. McGinnis, Ms. Aten, Mr. Bayne, Mrs. Boos, Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Real, or Mrs. Tillotson.

By: Jacob Pattillo

PALS Attend State Conference

The EC PALS (Peer Assistance Leadership and Service) attended the PALS State Leadership Conference in Round Rock, TX. The Conference brings in PALS groups from several schools around the state for leadership and development training. The EC PALS were one of the few schools asked to give training workshops and didn't disappoint!

The EC PALS held workshops on two topics: "Blinded By Life" which was created to send the message that it's O.K. to ask for help. That we all don't have it figured out and to seek guidance if life becomes too much to handle. "LIFELine" was the second workshop that allowed participants to learn about themselves and others when it comes to sensitive topics. Walls were torn down and students shared personal testimonies. Many tears were shed, but tools were added to their tool belts so they can handle the tough times. This workshop created the MOST buzz at the conference and the final session was beyond capacity as everyone wanted to participate!

Please congratulate your EC PALS if you see them around campus! Because of their efforts, several students across Texas became THAT much better.



HOSA Goes to Area

Congratulating the following Health Science/HOSA students who completed HOSA testing last week and now advanced to Area Competition.

Alyssa Lewis, Senior- Clinical Nursing placed 7th out of 36 students
Rebecka Berry, Senior- Nursing Assisting placed 2nd out of 67 students
Lania Dennie, Senior- Pharmacy Science placed 7th out of 13 students
Destnay Wallace, Senior- Pharmacy Science placed 8th out of 13 students
Ma'Toria Gonzales, Senior- Pharmacy Science placed 10th out of 13 students

Historically only one to two students make it to Area Competition.

Swim Fast

The swim team went to the fall Invitational at Corpus Christi ISD on November 16-17. They came home with three medals and 32 ribbons. November 16 preliminary results sent seven relay teams (one as first alternate) and eight swimmers/diver to individual event finals.

"The season is off to a good start! I've competed in several meets alongside my teammates. I had recently competed in Corpus Christi, Texas and got two First place medals in both the 200 IM and 100 Fly. I participated at the TISCA meet and I had competed against some really tough competition from all over the surrounding area. My goal for the rest of the year would be to keep training my best each and every day as well as make it to State for the first time," Taylor Kellner said.

By: Matthew Rakowitz

Aquatics Team Impresses

The EC Aquatic team had an impressive run all season, even against some formidable opponents. They gave it all they could at the District 25 6A meet.

Regional Qualifiers who will go on to compete this week are: Cadi Garcie 4th place 1M Dive Taylor Kellner 3rd place medal 100 Butterfly Girl's 400 Freestyle Relay: 5th Place Ariana Alon-Alon, Cecilia Chinchay, Rebecca Herrera, and Taylor Kellner.

Though the season came to an end for many of these athletes they still achieved new personal records (PR) with time drops: 200 Free: Taylor Kellner 7th 4.52 sec drop (PR); 200 Free: Angel Ramos .47 sec drop (PR); Ryan Almanza .57 drop (PR); 50 Free: Rebecca Herrera .85 sec drop (PR); Daniela Martinez .34 sec drop (PR) Juanita Medrano 3.96 sec drop; Filip Gramberg .24 sec drop (PR) Ricardo Ayala 1.6 sec drop (PR); 500 Free: Rebecca Herrera 31.57 sec drop (PR) Daniela Martinez 20.89 sec drop (PR) Juanita Medrano 27.47 sec drop (PR) Ryan Almanza 2.49 sec drop (PR); 100 Backstroke: Cecilia Chinchay 4.42 sec drop (PR); 100 Breaststroke: Jesus Montejano 1.39 sec drop (PR) Ricardo Ayala 1.22 sec drop (PR).



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Film Students Advance

Three student films have advanced to the second round of the 2019 State Short Film Competition:

"On the Shoulders of Giants" (Narrative)

Directed by Ozzy Villaseñor-Urgo '19

<https://vimeo.com/312596727/26b902c1f3>

"Peace Among Peas" (Traditional Animation)

Directed by Damien Ramirez '18

<https://vimeo.com/309902803/ce41b0a7ae>

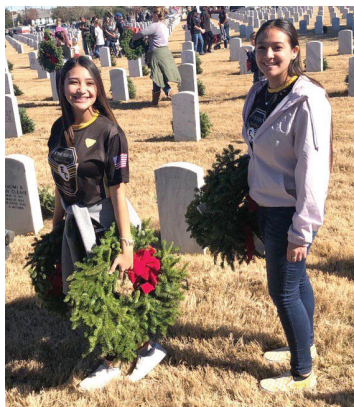
"Building Community Through Art: The San Anto Story" (Documentary)

Produced By Cameron Monteith '19, Tommy Namphong '19, Teresa Quiroz '18, Adolfo Rodriguez '18
<https://vimeo.com/266297304>

One of our three short films in Round 2 has advanced to the semifinals — BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH ART: THE SAN ANTO STORY in the Documentary category. It is one of just 24 on the shortlist, and one of two from an SA school. The team consists of Cameron Monteith and Tommy Namphong (class of 2019) and Teresa Quiroz and Adolfo Rodriguez (class of 2018).

Link to video: <https://vimeo.com/266297304>

It has also been nominated for the "Nobility Social Impact Award," which rewards entries that inspire social change.



Softball Supports the Fallen

The softball girls represented our EC community with respect and pride December 15th, at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. They worked with "4 the Heroes" organization

to volunteer with "Wreaths Across America." They had a certain section in the cemetery and laid over 800 wreaths on the grave sights of our soldiers who served and fought for our freedom.



Make Some Memories with Santa!

At Pancakes with Santa children were able to meet Santa and families had a great time. The event was on December 8th. Culinary Arts prepared breakfast of pancakes. The sponsors were TAFE, FCCLA, AVID, Track and Field girls, soccer girls, basketball girls, Theatre Club, National Honor Society, STUCO/NHS, Deaf Heart Club, Art Club, Legacy PTA, Cheer and Beta Club.

All the people that came to Pancakes with Santa were all ages. Students and staff came to help out, decorate and prepare the school for the families that came to have their picture taken with Santa and to have a delicious breakfast meal.

"Pancakes with Santa was very good. We did a lot of activities. We decorated our own ornaments. The pancakes were really good with syrup," freshman soccer player Amethyst Villarreal said.

By: Jessenya Ortiz

PROM - May 11

All About the Seniors

On November 2, the Senior Pep Rally was held.

"To me the Senior Pep Rally was bittersweet. To know this my last time experiencing the energy and excitement with my class of 2019 makes me a little sad, but to know I'm right around the corner of a new adventure fills me with anticipation of great things to come," Jermaine Coleman said.

"Senior Pep Rally was definitely an experience I will not forget. I got to perform in a dance I've been watching since my freshman year. But more importantly, I got to dance with my best friend in the world," Senior Mikayla Bickel said.

By: Juliyanah Lopez

Dance it Out

Dance is now having their competition season and tryout seasons. Dance has three different competitions this year: Crowd Pleasers competition at Canyon High School for Honeybees and Golden Stars, Crowd Pleasers competition at Seguin High School for Honeybees, Golden Stars and Rising Stars and a competition at Showmakers of America State competition at Texas State University for Honeybees.

"In dance, there are a lot of little accomplishments throughout the year and every year is different because every team is different. Making it through football season with great performances at all ten games is an accomplishment. Being successful at competition and bringing home lots of awards, and making our very long Spring Show I guess my biggest accomplishment each year is the growth I see in my teams," Lisa Chandler said.

Honeybees complete four team routines: Kick, Jazz, Novelty and Modern times and their theme is Fairy Tales; three officer routines: contemporary, novelty and prop. The Golden Stars will complete three team routines: Pom, Novelty, and Prop and their theme is movies. Golden Stars tryouts will be on February 22nd, Cheer tryouts will be on March 7th and Honeybee tryouts will be on March 22nd.

By: Velencia DeAnda

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Important Senior Dates

- February 18 Senior Cap & Gown Photos
 - February 20 Last chance to order cap & gown Balfour
 - February 21 - Panoramic Photo
 - March 1 - Yearbook Senior Ads due
 - May 2 - Last day to purchase rehearsal shirt
 - May 9 - Cap & gowns delivered
 - April 25 Grad Announcement delivery
 - May 11 - Prom
 - June 3 - Senior Assembly
 - June 4 - Senior Trip
 - June 5 - Graduation Rehearsal 7:30am
 - June 8 - Graduation 9:30am
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