

THE TIGER TIMES

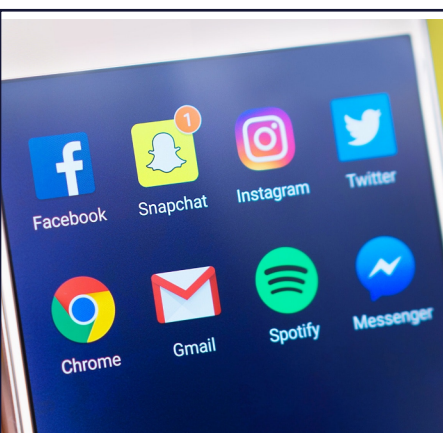
THE OFFICIAL
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SCHOOL

THE PURPOSE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

AN OPINION PIECE BY EVELYN POTEET

Our society is based on relationships. It's a pretty simple concept: you don't want to be lonely. So as technology has developed to a point where we all have cellphones and iPads and tablets, making friends is (don't fact-check me on this) approximately 100,000 times easier.

But of course, the big idea question: Is it *really*?



Alright. So you've got Instagram, and as of yesterday you have a total of 466 followers. Do you know all of those people? Do you have conversations with them regularly? The old meaning of "friend" is a person (or an animal) who you get along with and can depend on. Don't get me wrong. It's awesome that we can connect with people and talk to them and interact with them with just the tap of a screen. So maybe you don't know all your 466 followers personally, but it's so much easier to get to know them and become friends with them than it ever was "back in the day."

Of course, that turnaround point. Social media is sugar-coated by companies trying to make money and young people trying to get more time on it. It makes our lives easier and more connected, but-- as any "old" person who didn't grow up with it will tell you-- it can certainly be dangerous.

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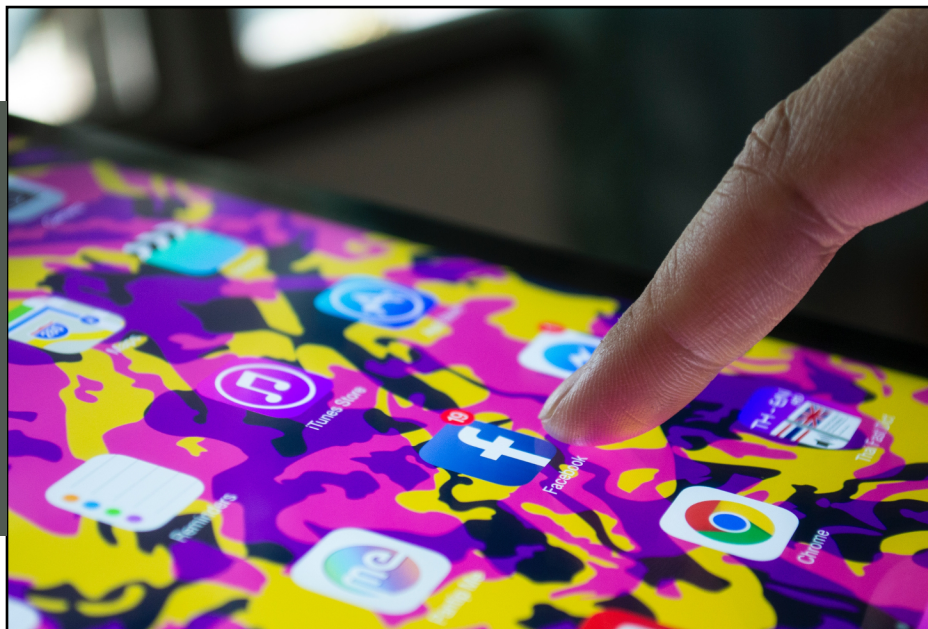
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You know you, and your friends and family, then people you sort of know, people you've spoken two once or twice, people you've heard of ... and then, in the background, the people you probably want to avoid. Bad people. Sketchy people. People with bad intentions who like to use our wonderful social media for their own purposes-- purposes that could harm you. As you do, they use it for other purposes than were originally intended.

As any new and constantly developing technology tends to be, social media is two-sided.

The purpose of social media? Well, there are all kinds of answers for that. It's in the name: *social media*. People use it for businesses, talking to relatives living far away, making new friends, staying in touch with old ones -- you could list the good things you use it for all day. But the main purpose of it is to connect people all over the world, making a closer community out of it.



(But remember to be careful with it!)

BOARD GAMES:

FROM REPENTANCE TO FAMILY FUN

BY MOLLOY FOPPIANO



Board games, what used to be one of America's favorite pastimes, is now delegated to a soggy basement or overcrowded closet. Something once cherished is now only pulled out during blackouts, or rarely held game nights. What happened?

Board games have been a common occurrence throughout homes and history, and historians have found several examples of games dating as early as 2700 B.C; the first mass-produced board game was The Mansion of Happiness. The Mansion of Happiness was first introduced in the 1800s by Laurie and Whittle, a publishing firm that specialized in mapmaking. The game was developed to teach “proper” morals that were based on the religious tendencies of the day: by simply rolling a die the player could learn the importance of piety and purity. From there board games evolved; in the 1900s there was an onslaught of what were soon to be classics: Sorry (1934), Monopoly (1935), Scrabble (1948), Risk (1957). These games and ones like them continued to be played and manufactured throughout the 20th-21st century.

In the last 20 years, board games have gone through some big changes. Newly produced board games became wackier, with some focusing on shock value or high antics. Games started to feature flashier outcomes and were more group involved. Board games, at least the “classics,” were updating as well; several pre-existing board games were updated into “electronic” versions -- for example, Monopoly featured a credit card and card reader. As well as changing the physical board, game companies moved them to the App Store allowing all ages to play or discover them.



HELPING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH CLUBS

BY BENJAMIN BAGROWSKI

If you are interested in joining a club, have too much time on your hands, or just want to do something good for the community, consider joining a local club or keep in mind clubs to join in the future. There are many clubs open to the community in Cecil County that help serve the world for a greater good. Some great clubs to join include the Lions Club and the Kiwanis Club.

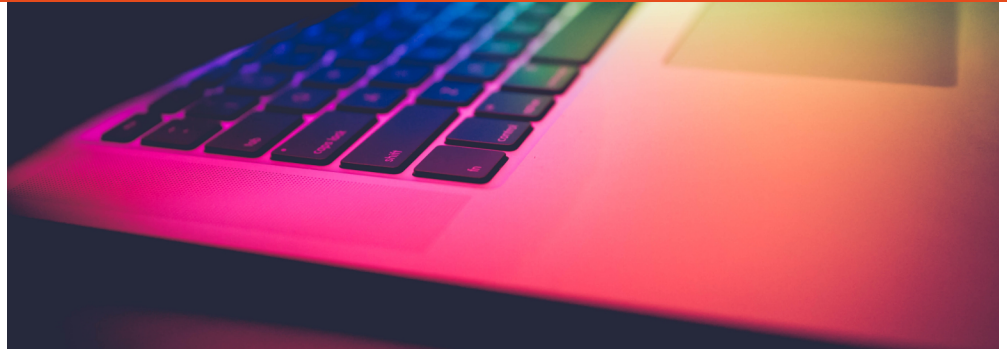
The Lions Club! We have all heard of it, but what does it exactly do? For more than 50 years, the Lions Club has been empowering and helping communities across the globe. The Lions Club is an international club established in 1916 in Chicago. It has had over 1.7 million members in 190 countries around the world as of 2015. This Club is dedicated to helping communities and the better good for others. All funds raised go to charitable causes. There are a few club models to join. A regular membership is for those over 30 years old; however, there are also Leo Clubs. Leo clubs allow individuals to serve their community and develop leadership skills through the club. Age restrictions are 12-18 for Omega Leos and 18-30 for Alpha Leos.

What is the Kiwanis Club? What do they do? Who even are they? Many people have never heard of this much-underrated club. The Kiwanis Club is an international club dedicated to making a brighter tomorrow. The Kiwanis international website informs the readers, "We are generous with our time. We are creative with our ideas." Many have not heard of this club, yet according to the webpage, every year members bring in about 150,000 service projects to help the community. They also raise almost \$100 million every year for communities, families, projects, and citizens that struggle with poverty and disease. They need your help today in their mission to make the world so all children will one day wake up in communities that believe in them, nurture them, and provide support for them so that one day they can help others too.



SHOPPING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

BY MOLLOY FOPPIANO



Is it truly easier or more beneficial to shop online compared to in-store? Has online shopping overtaken all in-person purchasing? Recent studies and data answer these questions and ones like it: In 2018 alone, online purchases in the US reached \$504,582,000,000 in revenue, and this number is projected to reach 700 billion by 2022. Obviously, many consumers are partaking in online purchasing- 96% of Americans have bought things like apparel, electronics, and home goods online. But are retailers like Amazon and digitized stores ruining in-store shopping? Despite assumptions, as of 2017, 90% of purchasing took place in person, so why does it seem like our malls are empty and why is Amazon taking over our cities?

The appeal of online shopping hasn't worn thin-- yet-- with titans of all aspects of retail hosting their wares on various websites. However, unlike the aforementioned Amazon and companies like it, those stores-- no matter how large-- may find the services offered hard to compete with. Whether that be the ability to outsource brands from international markets, sell items at alarmingly low rates, host their own original shows and movies, and in some cases scam unfortunately gullible customers, shopping, in some instances, has to be more than a physical experience. This doesn't imply though that *all* companies must transition; Americans still want to purchase their fridges and Fords face-to-face, ranking the automotive industry and major appliances the least preferred to buy online at 15% and 12% respectively. In addition, some 68% of US shoppers purchase apparel and footwear at malls and boutiques rather than online. These numbers don't negate Amazon's success; just recently states were throwing millions of dollars at Jeff Bezos in an attempt to gain one of their offices, with Bezos settling on two possible locations. However, all that glitters isn't gold regarding Amazon-- they just recently pulled out of their Queens, NY location due to pushback from the community.

Commerce is an ever-changing aspect of our society, being simultaneously swayed by the consumer and the business itself. It is omnipresent and will be a continuing natural law amongst us.

A SUMMARY OF THE HEIGHTENED EVOLUTION OF MALLS

BY MOLLOY FOPPIANO



Malls used to be the pinnacle of society, a consumer-friendly, yet capitalistic endeavor that was disguised under the veil of marked-down prices and food court pretzels. However, the term “mall” and the idea itself have evolved in a Darwinian manner. Malls aren’t

necessarily dying-- the average shopper is becoming smarter and those apt to notice are staying strong. Less browsing is occurring as shoppers now have intent when shopping, and businesses have noticed. Those that have survived the onslaught of online retailing will probably never falter: the apex “malls,” or the “Class A” malls-- malls that feature a few “luxury” stores, crowd-pleasers like Apple and others, intertwined with restaurants. An example of a Class A mall is the Christiana Mall near us; it is well populated with diverse stores including Nordstrom, Sephora, a Panera Bread, a Cheesecake Factory adjacent to an entrance, and a movie theater. And going there a week before Christmas created a whirlwind of emotion that featured extreme annoyance, doubt in humanity, and finally, joy. But the coveted “Class A” isn’t without its contemporaries: Class B malls feature name-brand stores that are generally more affordable; however, unlike Class C malls, they are well populated and feature multiple retail options. Class C malls are the lowest in the rank, as they are the shopping mall of the past, the barren wasteland on the brink of collapse due to their own inability to evolve. They are categorized by high crime, their stores ramshackled and soaked in desolation.

Overall, the business of shopping centers and malls alike is one we can look toward in the future. The pitfalls expressed in this industry are extreme and showcase the faults made by owners impervious to the changes of tomorrow.

Tiger Times

Playlist Recommendations

Oldies But Goodies (30+ years old)

1. *Girl From The North Country Fair* - Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash
2. *Take Five* - The Dave Brubeck Quartet
3. *Wish You Were Here* - Pink Floyd
4. *Stop Me If You Think You've Heard This One Before* - The Smiths

Songs To Study To

1. *This Year* - Beach Fossils
2. *Mariage D'Amour* - George Davidson
3. *Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92: Allegretto* - Beethoven (it's actually really cool, trust me)
4. *Step* - Vampire Weekend

Underrated Tracks

1. *Peach Pit* - Peach Pit
2. *Omaha* - Toro y Moi
3. *Taro* - Alt J

Best of The Worst (So Bad They're Good)

1. *Down Under* - Men At Work
2. *Enter Entirely* - Cloud Nothings
3. *Corvette* - Golden Smog

Instrumentals

1. *Senza Sapere Niente di Lei* - Ennio Morricone
2. *March of the Living* - Little Hurricane

Short But Sweet (Under 3 Mins)

1. *Dark Red* - Steve Lacy
2. *Another One* - Mac DeMarco

International

1. *Sympathique* - Pink Martini
2. *Le Coeur au bout des Doigts* - Jacqueline Taieb



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO READ?

The Tiger Times staff would love to know what our readers would like to see included in future issues. If you have an idea for a story or feature, let us know by completing the Google Form below:

<https://tinyurl.com/yd478zqf>