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A New Year For The Jags!





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APHS Library Honored as Michigan's Model School Library

BY JADEN PIERCE

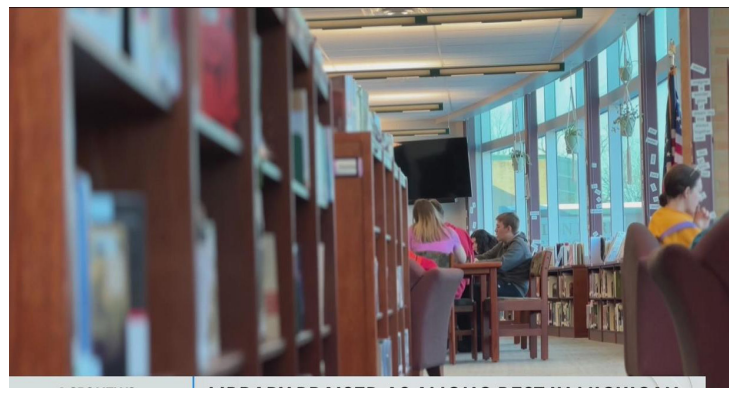
The Allen Park High School Library Media Center has earned the state's 21st Century Model School Library Award for the 2023-2024 school year. The award was announced by the Library of Michigan. Melissa Lambert, the library specialist, has created a collaborative, learning environment by partnering with teachers and the city's public library.

The Allen Park High School Library Media Center was selected for the Model SL 21 honor for its focus on engaging students and teachers where they are and bringing resources and activities to them, including over 200 collaborative lessons last year with teaching colleagues and Maker Stations, interactive book displays, Hour of Code, and March is Reading Month programming in the library.

State Librarian, Randy Riley, spoke of the importance of library media centers to a student's education. "Students need to learn through a variety of experiences," Riley said. "The activities and content that the school and school library are providing ensure that Allen Park's students have the resources they need to achieve."

One of the requirements to apply for the award is to be engaged in the community. By collaborating with the Allen Park Library, Lambert has certainly done so. She included them in the school's One Book, One School program as well as collaborating on Maker Lunches once a month. Lambert has also collaborated with many teachers at the high school to enrich student learning.

This is the first time Allen Park High School has been honored with this award. "I feel so fortunate to work in a district that values school libraries and school librarians," Lambert said. "Teachers at Allen Park High School are excited about collaborating and regularly reach out for input on lessons or assignments."



DEER RUNS INTO NEW JERSEY SCHOOL

By Isabelle Maldonaldo

The New Jersey police department who arrived on the scene to wrangle the deer. The police officers quickly found the deer on a stairwell, before he took off down the hallway into a classroom. He entered the classroom after opening the door, where he jumped on a bookshelf and started knocking things off of it. He even ran into the hanging decorations hanging in the room.

The deer wanted to learn something in Ms. Gonzales's room, according to her students. (CBS Philadelphia) The police officers continued to pursue the deer, as it tried to escape, by breaking another window, only this time was unsuccessful. The officers caught the animal by using a dog snare technique to remove the deer from the classroom.

Leading the deer out of the classroom, the officers continued to guide him out the back door of the building. After escaping the school, the deer ran off, but the officers saw that the deer wasn't seriously injured.

With the fun ending, school staffers boarded up the school and cleaned up the mess the deer left from all his reindeer games. (AP News) With the oddness of the events, the school and the officers involved have a fun story to tell at their next family gathering. The officers now nicknamed the deer "Rudolph," so they have a name for deer that made their Thanksgiving very interesting.



The Actor Strike

By Julia Scherer

The actors; strike of 2023 brought productions in Hollywood to stop for the first time in
60 years. A union under SAG-AFTRA represents around 160,000 actors and writers in the production industry to protect their rights. According to SAG-AFTRA.org," the union brings together the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio artists,formed under the turmoil of the 1930s to secure the strongest protection for artists."

The purpose of the strike itself surrounds increased pay and possible compensation for
replayed screenings of paste work actors have been in. A couple of the highest paid actors such as Meryl Streep and Matt Damon have also vocally supported the strike, as the pay has affected thousands of actors. As of right now the average pay for actors is $27.73 per hour, but this amount isn't substantial for many actors who don't have work all year round, resulting in a demanded increase in pay of 11%.

A big factor in the actors strike has also come from the development of technology overtime and how this has affected the media. Many actors have concerns about the use of AI and the use of it on actors without their permission as well. As of currently, the Hollywood strike
is coming to an end as many major studios have agreed to a tentative contract with the union. A
negotiating committee member has stated that "we have achieved a deal... that includes minimum compensation increases, unprecedented provisions for consent and compensation that will protect members from the threat of AI, and for the first time establishes a streaming participation bonus."

Negotiations continue to go underway, but many studios as a result of this strike have
spoken out about the value of actors and how they deserve to be rewarded. This understanding
requires this balance between both parties in order for both to reap the benefits of the
entertainment industry through promotion and acting skills.

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CHRISTMAS TREE FARMS CLOSE

By Alexis Soliz

Whether you decorate a real Christmas tree, or an artificial tree, decorating is one of the most fun memories of the holiday season. Going out to a Christmas tree farm with your family to pick out the perfect tree for your home is a common family tradition, but what would happen if the tree farms had to close? Some regional Christmas Tree farms close for the whole 2023 holiday season.

Christmas is now only a couple weeks away and many people are searching for their christmas trees although some farms may be in short supply. Some well known farms are unable to open this season due to this tree shortage. For some of these farms, their big shipments for trees are being canceled. What's the reason for this? Well, there are multiple factors that are affecting the growth of trees this year. These factors include drought, heat, and wildfires.

The source of these issues is most likely to be due to the Canadian wildfires. With droughts and heat following the fires, severe damage has been done to several christmas tree farms in the country. Although these factors aren't harming the whole nation, the main areas are Louisiana and Long Island. The severe damage to the farms is leaving the soil unable to grow many trees. Most farms in the two areas have decided to close for this season to allow their farms to get back to health as well as to not leave customers disappointed if they don't see any trees when searching for their own christmas tree. Due to the shortage, buying an artificial tree may be the smartest thing to do this holiday season while farm owners work on



Michigan To Be Carbon-Free by 2040

By Sam Kogut

Michigan is implementing one of the nation's most ambitious clean energy mandates, aiming to be carbon-free by 2040 in what is a pivotal test of the democrats environmental goals in a state with a long-standing manufacturing legacy.

Michigan will join four other states in regarding utility providers to transition to 100% carbon-free energy generation by 2040 under legislation signed Tuesday by Governor Whitmer. The state has also set a goal for utilities to generate 50% of their energy from renewable sources by 2030, a significant jump from the current 12%. The clean energy package, which was approved by Democrats in the Michigan Legislature this month, has been lauded by environmental groups. Lisa Wozniak, executive director of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, said she hopes Michigan's plan serves as a model for other states.

Michigan ranked 11th in electricity consumption nationwide in 2021, with a majority of it coming from coal, natural gas and motor gasoline. Of the 12% produced through renewable sources last year, most came from winds that sweep across the Great Lakes. A resource that naturally replenished over time and is derived from solar, water or wind power is considered renewable. Clean energy includes renewable sources along with nuclear energy and natural gas. Natural gas can be used only if utilities capture and store the carbon emissions. Just over 17,000 acres of land in the state are currently used for wind and solar generation.

An additional 209,000 acres of land will be needed for projects to hit the 60% renewable energy goal. The clean energy plan became possible after Michigan Democrats last year flipped both chambers of the Legislature while holding power in the governor's office to win full control of state government for the first time in four decades.

The Hollywood Stand still

By Mackenzie Mouchet

The Hollywood strike took a toll on many films this year. Actors, writers and even some designers gained publicity when strike sag-aftra (American Federation of Television and Radio Artists) began on May 2, 2023. More than 11,000 people in the entertainment industry fought for fair compensation and safety for their job in relation to Artificial Intelligence.

Multiple popular movies such as Venom 3, Aquaman 2 and Ghostbusters were all postponed or delayed due to the strike. AI has recently become more common in our everyday lives. Some find it useful while others believe that it could turn into a lasting issue for jobs everywhere. In film, AI is used for many things such as analyzing, predicting, processing and even managing. These are all things that used to be done by everyday people. Workers claimed that they were understaffed, overworked, and underpaid. Many believed their jobs could be taken from them by a robot.

This is why the movement looked to receive a tentative agreement that would address and solve their issues. The strike went on for 118 days and ended on November 9, 2023 at 12:01 am. According to the official website (sagaftrastrike.org), "We have arrived at a contract that will enable SAG-AFTRA members from every category to build sustainable careers. Many thousands of performers now and into the future will benefit from this work." Thanks to the help of many famous actors and actresses, the Hollywood strike was able to conclude and TV/movie production has been reinstated.





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For the Love of Christmas

By: Lexi Soliz

Sitting down with a cozy blanket by the fire with some nice warm hot chocolate is a pretty common activity to do during the holiday season. Many people enjoy watching christmas movies whether it's a newly made movie or a classic movie that they watch every year. But what is it about Christmas movies that people love so much? Andrew Scahill, PhD, says that Christmas movies often possess hidden messages about our humanity and promote empathy. During the holiday season, people are more likely to focus on charity and gift- giving to those who are in need.

This is an opportunity of personal transformation if it is someone who usually isn't the type of person to go around being nice to everyone they know. The holidays can spark good feelings and when this is portrayed in films, it heightens those good vibes. Holiday films are mostly filled with positive feelings leaving the audience feeling optimistic and cheerful about the upcoming holiday.

These movies offer a feeling of nostalgia which reminds people who are watching the movie of some of their favorite christmas or other holiday memories. Another reason why Christmas movies are so popular is because Christmas only comes once a year. We only get one month of true Christmas countdown and many people want to get the most out of December. Holiday films also help us connect with others in a meaningful way.Since many movies are about connecting with others, falling in love, and reconnecting with people you've lost touch with, it's the easiest way to make people think about people they could reconnect with over the holiday season.

Overall, I think it's safe to say that everyone loves Christmas movies and it is one of the most popular genres during this time of the year.





Grammy Nominations 2023

By: Isabelle Maldonado

The Grammy award nominees were released on Friday November 10th at Crypto Arena in Los Angeles. The 2024 Grammys will mark the 66th year of the event that includes rewards given that are meant to recognize the best recordings,compositions, and the artists eligibility. The nominations were shown on livestream on youtube and the Grammys website.

The highest nominee with a staggering 9 grammy nominations goes to SZA for her singer-songwriter skills gaining her Singer, Album, and Writer of the Year. The second with 7 nominations including, Phoebe Bridgers, Serban Ghenea, and Victoria Monet. Third place was tied between many nominees with 6 nominations each including, Jack Antoff, Jon Batiste, Boygenius, Brandy Clark, Miley Cryus, Billie Eilish, Olivia Rodrigo, and Taylor Swift.

An important note of the Grammys this year is that the Record of the Year and the Album of the Year category features almost all female nominees besides one male.

This year the goal of the Grammys voting process is to be "more fair, transparent, and accurate" according to Recording Academy CEO Harvey Mason Jr. To determine the winners of the Grammys, professional academy recording members with musicians and producers participate in the nomination process and then determine the final 5 nominees for each category. The final vote will determine the award winners. The winners themselves have no idea if they will win or not, making the awards a surprise to the musicians themselves. The Grammys will be aired live on February 24th 2024 on CBS and Paramount.

Taylor Swift Becomes Person of The Year

By :Ava Kephart

Taylor swift was named Time's person of the year for the second time, the first being in 2017. Swift has had many accomplishments throughout this year, her record breaking tour, the eras tour, and her box office topping concert film. Swift is the first known entertainer to be named person of the year.

After winning this year's person of the year she has an interview with Time magazine. Swift has not had a one on one conversation with a reporter in 4 years. She talks about a lot in her interview from her career to her very known relationship with Travis Kelce. She says that their relationship started when Kelce "put me on blast, on his podcast, which I thought was metal as hell." She talks about the media that came with their relationship and how she is not ashamed and is just there to support Kelce. Swift talked about her tour and how successful it was. Her tour is sold out with many fans trying to get tickets. Since her tour has such high demand she decided to create her tour into a movie so fans can experience the concert from home.

Since 1927 Time's magazine has used person of the year to highlight a person of that year that transformed society. There have been many influential people in this magazine from politics to entertainment. Taylor swift got this year's attention because of her ability to be a light in the world, she is a writer and a hero to her own story



Photos by Google

Suki Waterhouse Expecting

By Gwen Atterberry

The up and coming actor and singer, Suki Waterhouse is expecting her first child with the 'Twilight' and 'Batman' actor, Robert Pattinson. She previously worked on "Daisy Jones and the six", along with producing her most recent single, 'Every Day's a Lesson in Humility'. The two have been together for almost 6 years, says CNN entertainment.

They solidified their relationship in August of 2018 and sparked engagement rumors in January of 2020, earlier this year after moving in together and a gold band was spotted on Waterhouses' left hand. Pattinson and Waterhouse have done their best to keep their relationship out of the spotlight in order to keep their relationship the healthiest, says 37 year old Pattinson.

The illusive pair were spotted at the Dior fashion show in Egypt in December of last year and since then have been spotted numerous times. Waterhouse revealed the news in Mexico city while performing at the Corona Capital music festival on November 10th. "I decided to wear something sparkly today because I thought it might distract you from something else going on, I'm not sure if it is working." stated the 31 year old star while wearing a bedazzled purple and green mini dress.

Since then Waterhouse has been photographed cradling her growing baby bump at the British Music Awards in a stunning red dress. As for Pattinson, in an interview for Sunday times, he states "If you let people in, it devalues what love is.". For the pair, keeping their relationship private is the best way to ensure none of it is influenced by the media.



The Grinch

By Logan Jent

In the Town of Whoville,The Grinch lived High in Mount Crumpit. He is a Green grumpy Creature with a heart two sizes too small. The whos down in Whoville liked christmas with all their might,but the Grinch despised it, oh what a sight!

One Fateful day, the Grinch hatched a plan. He would steal Christmas and ruin it for every Who in the land. With his trust pup Max by his side, the Grinch disguised himself as Santa Claus and set out on his wicked ride.

He snuck into homes,taking their presents and trees, leaving the Whos in despair and begging him please. But little Cindy Lou Who, a curious and kind-hearted girl,saw through the grinch's disguise and wanted to give him a whirl.

As the Grinch's heart began to soften, he realized what the true meaning of Christmas is and his plan was forgotten. With the help of little Cindy Lou he returned all of the gifts and the trees. The Whos then forgave him. The Grinch then learned that Christmas wasn't about the presents or the feast. It was about love,kindness,and spreading joy to say the least.

He carved the roast beast and joined in the Whos cheer,celebrating together, a happy atmosphere. From that day forward, The grinch was transformed,his heart grew three sizes,and his outlook reformed. The Whos and the Grinch became friends,and in Whoville, the Christmas spirit never ends. This is the entire outline of the movie.

Halloween Movies

By Gwen Atterberry

Friday the 13th is the kickoff for a spiral of scary movies surrounding the spooky Halloween holiday. These types of movies gain the most attention during this time, so it makes sense that big streaming services such as Netflix and Hulu now have more already released movies of this genre.

This is all the while next to new movies that are being released now that surround our classics such as "The Exorcist: Believer" and "Pet Cemetery." Along with these newer movies, cinemas such as MJR are doing a "Big Screen Rewind" where they have showings of old Halloween classics for $5.

This will bring in a lot of venues as others are interested in being spooked around a spooky time. The different range of movies out, provides people of all ages to enjoy Halloween.

Some family-friendly Halloween movies include Hocus Pocus, a story surrounding three witches against 3 kids in modern time (1993), and Halloween Town, a story involving kids who find out that they come from a family of witches in a town filled with supernatural things (1998).

The scariest Halloween movies are creepy and involve a lot of blood. Some of the top movies of this genre are Halloween, involving hockey faced Jason (1978), Scream, involving a serial killing masked ghost face (1996), and Texas Chainsaw Massacre, surrounding a chainsaw killing maniac (1974).

According to data from Cosmore, in 2023 horror movies have accumulated "$600 million in domestic ticket sales, representing 10% of the total box office in the U.S. and Canada." The popularity of horror movies beginning in September has already soared, creating an even more festive holiday.



HOLIDAY SPOT THE DIFFERENCE





ARE THESE REALLY CHRISTMAS MOVIES?

By: Julia Scherer

With the Christmas season finally here, it's time to watch all of our holiday favorites. From How The Grinch Stole Christmas to Home Alone, these holiday movies reappear on our watchlists every December. But there are some movies that are up for debate, some will argue they are Christmas movies while the others will say they aren't. Let's review some of the popular "Christmas movies" and see if they make the cut for being a holiday movie.

The first movie I'd like to talk about is Die Hard. This action movie is different from a typical holiday movie, and is full of suspense and thrill. However, one can argue that the plot of the movie supports John McLane trying to get home to his family for Christmas. Instead of the winter weather getting in his way, like in Planes, Trains, and Automobiles, McLane's struggle comes with taking on a group of German terrorists, who are keeping his soon to be ex-wife hostage, along with many employees in the Nakatomi Tower. McLane works to free the hostages and stop the terrorists, all with one gun and no shoes. However, McLane does get into the Christmas spirit writing a daunting message to the terrorists, ending it with "Ho Ho Ho." With all this in mind, I would classify this as a Christmas movie, as this takes place on Christmas Eve, and Let It Snow plays at the end of the movie. (Yardbarker) This movie is a nice break from the traditional Christmas classics, and is definitely a Christmas movie to add to your watchlist. The next movie is the film franchise Harry Potter, as these are a favorite during any time of the year for most households. However, it is unclear whether these are Christmas movies, since each movie never specifically acknowledges Christmas time to be part of the plot. The plot surrounds Harry Potter and his friends using magic to stop whatever evil has come their way, which doesn't tie into Christmas. However, in most of the movies the characters spend part of the movie spending Christmas together, so I can't say that it doesn't relate to the holiday at all. Every movie does have some kind of Christmas reference, but this typically plays a small part in the films. Overall, I would say that this series are not Christmas movies, but they are a good watch during Christmas time. Another common watch is Gremlins, where the plot highlights a boy who gets a gremlin for Christmas, a small furry creature with three sets of rules: "Don't get them wet, avoid bright lights, and don't feed them after midnight." (Gremlins) The storyline of the movie thickens, when all three of these rules are broken. Pretty soon, havoc breaks out, as Gremlins try to destroy Christmas. Overall, this movie does classify as a Christmas movie, as the town is decorated for the holiday season and Christmas is talked about throughout the movie. Even though these aren't all the holiday favorites, these are some of the bigger "Christmas movies." Watching movies around Christmas time helps build up to the holiday. So, will these movies be on your watchlist for Christmas, or do you have other opinions?



Jags Hockey

By: Logan Jent

The Allen Park Jags Hockey Team is off to a Hot Start at 6-1-1. They have played really good hockey and have a good test Friday against a good Country Day Team. Their first game they played the University Ligget and beat them 3-1. They then played a Metro League rival Gabriel Richard and tied 0-0 both teams goalies played really well and kept the game close. They then hosted their annual Thanksgiving Classic Tournament where they played Gibraltar Carlson and beat them 5-2. Then They played Wyandotte in the Championship and beat them 4-0 Junior Goaltender Jack Miller Had a shutout. They then celebrated their rink's 20th anniversary against Birmingham Unified they started off slow and went down 2-0 quickly but answered right back with 4 straight goals to win 4-2. They then took a Trip to the west Side of the State To take on two good opponents. First game they took on Grand Rapids Christian and took their first loss of the season by a final of 4-3. Second game of the weekend was a bounce back game as they beat Muskegon Mona Shores by a score of 7-1. Then they played woodhaven Friday and beat them by a score of 7-0. The Team is led by senior Captains Trevor Stanley, Bobby Leis, Logan Jent and Collin Michalak. The Team is looking to keep the momentum going as they take on RIverview Cabrini Wednesday at home. Then they fire up the buses to Southfield to take on a good Detroit Country Day team.



ASL Should Be Taught In Schools

By: Gwen Atterberry

Across the United States and Canada, there are more than 500,000 individuals who use ASL to communicate in everyday life, according to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. With around 28 million Americans having a degree of hearing loss, the introduction of American Sign Language to Allen Park schools would be extremely beneficial for future Deaf individuals and the development of this language. It is the fourth most commonly used language in America, according to a study at Gallaudet University, done by Michael A. Karchmer. ASL is also commonly used to communicate to younger kids before their verbal language is formed. Despite not having a big number of Deaf students at Allen Park High School, if ASL is adopted it may promote inclusivity and awareness for the indefinite future.

ASL is not only its own language but its own community. This is something often misunderstood and under researched by the hearing community. Communication starts with gestures but is also supported by facial movements and awareness that add emotion to the conversation. If someone were signing a sad story, you wouldn't want them smiling while explaining the interaction. By controlling the muscles in your eyebrows, mouth and nose, more of a human connection can be made in the conversation by adding these details. Last year, I took a Deaf Culture and Communication class through Henry Ford. Prior to this course I had almost no knowledge of the vast connections ASL forms and how meaningful each interaction is. This beautiful language deserves to be taught in schools because it is not an extension of the English language, but entirely its own.



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A Decline Of Local Newspapers

By: Kyan O'Connell

The decline of local newspapers, once the back bone of the reporting community, has had profound consequences for democracy and civil engagement. In the past, road trips often involved picking up local papers, offering insights into the real and often overlooked aspects of small-town life.

Many veteran reporters, now of older age, began their careers with small daily or weekly papers that were jobs in towns or suburbs. The loss of these local papers, which served as building blocks of community, democracy, and politics, is considered a significant factor in today's society. The News Tribune in Woodbridge, N.J., where the author started, was once an independent daily with a circulation of around 58,000. It covered a wide range of local events, including school board meetings and noteworthy achievements of residents.

However, like many local papers, it caved in to mergers and sales, ultimately becoming part of My Central Jersey, with a much-reduced staff of 10 editors and reporters covering a larger area.

Data from "The State of Local News 2023," a report by the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern, highlights the dire situation. Since 2005, around 2,900 local dailies and weeklies have closed, with 130 shutting down in the past year alone. The shrinking of local news outlets leaves communities with fewer sources for information, contributing to a loss of connection and understanding among residents.

The impact is leaving holes in these communities, as local newspapers historically played a crucial role in fostering community engagement and informing citizens about the issues that matter most to them.





What Is The Best Genre Of Christmas Movies?

By: Mackenzie Mouchet

Christmas movies take the screen with a countdown starting on October 20th and going until December 25th. Options range from any film genre you can think of. The question is, what one is the best?

Comedy movies have always been a popular hit in the entertainment industry. They provide an audience with a sense of laughter, joy and excitement. Christmas comedies can do that and so much more. These movies already have some key attributes by themselves.

They provide a sense of hope, thanks, love and memories. Elf for example is a very common movie. It is about a man, raised as an elf, who goes to New York city in search of his long lost father. The movie provides the audience with bucket loads full of hope. Throughout the film buddy (the elf) gives thanks for all of the things he had learned in life. He even tries to persuade as many people as possible to spread Christmas cheer.

Love is shown as he becomes a part of the family and memories are made from his journey. According to streaming guide JustWatch and website Cult MTL the Will Ferrell comedy Elf remains the most popular Christmas movie streaming during the holidays this year, 20 years after its original release. The film is a holiday classic and the main genre is Christmas Comedy. Whether you love romance or animation, fantasy or drama, this movie can give you all of it and is the perfect genre of Christmas movie.







Olympics 2024

By Gwen Atterberry

Every 4 years, the globe gears up for the Olympic games. With a total of 40 competitive sporting events, there is a huge range of activities to choose from. The scope covers anywhere from archery, equestrian, swimming, to table tennis etc. An addition of 4 new sports were added to the lengthy list in 2023. Breaking, skateboarding, surfing and sport climbing will compete for the first time ever in the 2024 Olympics. To be considered as a competitor, immense talent and determination has to be developed. The Olympics are not for the weak of heart, people work towards this date their entire careers. This upcoming year, the Olympics will be taking place in Paris, France from the 26th of July to the 11th of August 2024. The worldwide event attracts athletes and media from almost every corner of the world, says Omega Official Timekeeper. Specifically, 10,500 athletes and more than a billion viewers abroad will participate in supporting the games, which ultimately functions as a franchise. The international Olympic Committee (IOC) is meant to regulate the development in sports, globally, by ensuring support and organization to athletes participating. The international Olympic Committee defines Olympism as "a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind." In addition, the Paralympics occur just weeks following the Olympics. It offers opportunities to those with disabilities that withheld them from qualifying. Athletes are welcomed only if they have impaired movement, limb deficiency, leg length difference, short stature, hypertonia, ataxia, athetosis, vision impairment as well as intellectual disabilities. The culture of the Olympics is not an average sporting event, it is the melting pot of the sports tournament.





NCAA Volleyball

By: Jaden Pierce

Starting with 64 teams, Round 1 of the 2023 NCAA Volleyball tournament began on November 30th. The first round held many upsets, including Western Michigan sweeping Auburn to advance to the second round. The second round included a few minor upsets including Georgia Tech knocking off Florida and Arizona State sweeping BYU. All of the top 4 seeds are still in, with Nebraska and Wisconsin yet to lose a set in the tournament. The third round will begin on December 7, and the Sweet 16 will compete to earn a regional title.

Going into the tournament Nebraska took the number 1 seed, despite getting swept by Wisconsin last month, they maintained a 27-1 record in the regular season, the best of any team in the NCAA. Wisconsin snagged the number 2 spot, likely due to their win over Nebraska since they had multiple losses to other Big Ten teams earlier in the season. Stanford secured the number 3 spot for their dominance in the Pac-12 conference. Pittsburgh and Louisville were competing for the final fourth seed, but Pittsburgh prevailed for having won 9 out of 10 of their last games, compared to Louisville's 8 out of 10, according to the NCAA.

Over the past year volleyball has become increasingly popular. In August 2023, the Nebraska Volleyball team broke a women's sports attendance record, hosting 92,003 fans in the Nebraska football stadium, according to NBC. On October 29th, two Big Ten volleyball matches averaged 1.659 million views on Fox, the largest audience by far to ever view a college volleyball match, nearly tripling the previous record held by the Nebraska-Wisconsin matchup earlier this year, according to the Big Ten.

San Jose Sharks VS. Detroit Red Wings

By: Kyan Oconner

In an exciting game on Thursday night, the San Jose Sharks had a stunning comeback against the Detroit Red Wings, ultimately winning 6-5 in overtime. The game was significant as it marked the debut of veteran player Patrick Kane with the Red Wings, who signed a one-year contract with Detroit on November 28. Nico Sturm and Tomas Hertl emerged as key players for San Jose, each scoring two goals in the game. Hertl, in particular, played great, scoring five goals in the last two games. Additionally, Fabian Zetterlund and Hertl scored the Sharks' first two short-handed goals of the season. The team staged a late-game comeback, with Hertl netting the tying goal with just 1:29 left in the third period, taking advantage of a rebound after San Jose pulled its goaltender for an extra player. The 35-year-old Patrick Kane, had a quiet debut, failing to score a point in the game, he had undergone right hip surgery six months ago, and struggled to make a significant offensive impact for Detroit. The Detroit Red Wings had their moments, with Michael Rasmussen contributing significantly by scoring two goals in a remarkable 13-second span. Klim Kostin, Lucas Raymond, and Dylan Larkin also found the back of the net for the Red Wings. The game reached its climax in overtime when Mikael Granlund of the San Jose Sharks scored just 37 seconds into the extra period, securing the win and spoiling Patrick Kane's debut with the Detroit Red Wings. The Sharks' comeback and Granlund's overtime goal made for an amazing game.







The Red Wings Sign Patrick Kane

By: Kyan O'Connell

The Detroit Red Wings made a splash in free agency signing on November 28 2023 as they signed Patrick Kane to a 1 year 2.75 million dollar contract.(www.espn.com).

Patrick Kane is one of the best American Born Skaters to ever play the game. He is joining a red hot red wings team that could use some goal scoring and they got it with him. He got hip resurfacing surgery after the New York Rangers lost to the New Jersey Devils in game 7 of last year's stanley cup playoffs. He states he will be better than he was last year and the year before that where he dropped 92 points. The Red Wings are 14-8-4 and have lost their last two games against the San Jose Sharks and the Ottawa Senators. Kane had a great debut against the sharks. He didn't net any points but showed he was still the playmaker he was when he wasn't hurt by hitting the post multiple times. He gets to reunite with his former teammate on the Chicago Black Hawks Alex Debricant who signed with the Red wings over this offseason. He was a major part of Kane signing in detroit. Kane then finally got his name on the scoresheet when he netted his first goal as a red wing against the Ottawa senators with the assistance of his former teammate Debricant. The wings ended up dropping the game 5-1 but they hope to bounce back tonight against a good Dallas Stars Team.









Kylie Kelce Inspires Young Girls

By: Ava Kephart

As Chiefs and Eagle fans were getting ready for the superbowl rematch, Kylie Kelce was inspiring young girls. K. Kelce is the wife of the Eagles center Jason Kelce who has been a Philadelphia star throughout his career. J. Kelce and his brother Travis Kelce are brothers who both play in the NFL. They have a podcast together that has gotten very popular. The brothers played in the superbowl together last year and have gotten more popular because of it. K. Kelce became popular because of her husband's documentary. Fans got to meet her on the podcast and listen to her and J. Kelce's story.

K. Kelce is more than just a famous NFL star's wife. She is a former collegiate field hockey player who is very involved with her community. She recently had a clinic for girls to learn how to play field hockey. There were girls who never played before but just wanted to learn because of her. There were girls from kindergarten through high school. K. Kelce said in interviews that she "is just happy to be able to give back to Kansas city in this way." She has done more than just this. She is very involved in Eagles for Autism and recently had an event where people could bid on the princess Diana jacket that she modeled and signed and raised $100,000 for the Eagles for autism. She has taken her family's fame and turned it into a way to help others. People just love and adore the Kelce family because of all the stuff they do to help others.





LIGHTS ALL AROUND

BY MACKENZIE MOUCHET

Lighting is a big part of Christmas. It's present all over your neighborhood, in movies and around businesses. According to rainbowholidaydesign.com "string lights began in 1882 when Edward Johnson created the first strand of electric holiday lights." Many people from around the world use a similar type of light. Although they are beautiful, these bright bulbs are common to controversy.

Arguments go back to when they first came out in stores. Husbands and wives fight over white vs multicolored. Cream or white lights are seen as classic. They provide a clearer picture of what they are put on. Typically most famous celebrities go with the white light option due to its elegant look. Kim Kardashion even prefers white lights.

In an interview with Vogue magazine she states "I love these. They're so whimsical, like Whoville, but all white" After going through her mansion there was not a single strand of colored lights in sight. This, however, could be considered boring or basic and is why colored lights are still so popular.

Multicored bulbs draw more attention to what they are placed on. Most people who have these lights claim they are more cheerful and provide an extra pop of color. They can even feel more special around the holidays by reminding you of all the fun and crazy colors during the Christmas season.

It is all preference based. Whether you think colored lights start the party or white lights are more merry, Christmas lights are an age old tradition that have been around for decades. If you really can't choose, try getting an alternating timer or even mixing and matching your own special selections.



Taylor Swift's Pet Rescue

By Aurora Jacobs

An animal rescue organization is challenging Swifties across the country to donate to a good cause in honor of Taylor Swift's 34th birthday.

The Pennsylvania SPCA is hosting a Taylor Swift Challenge by encouraging fans of the artist to donate money to local animal shelters. Pennsylvania SPCA director of public relations Gillian Kocher told Fox News Digital that the idea was sparked by Swift's recent magazine cover, which honored her as TIME's 2023 Person of the Year. "When the TIME magazine cover was unveiled, and we saw Swift and her rescue cat Benjamin Button featured, we knew we had to do something," she said.

The ragdoll cat, paired with Swift's hometown roots in Pennsylvania, made this an opportunity to honor the superstar this year, the organization felt. "What better way to honor her on her birthday than by creating this challenge to save animal lives," said Kocher.

She stressed the importance of adopting this holiday season if gifting a pet is on your shopping list. "There are so many deserving animals just waiting for loving homes, and there is truly no better gift than Swift rescuing her most recently adopted cat in 2019 after meeting him on the set of her music video shoot for her hit single, "ME!". The cat mom of three is known as an animal lover even bringing her cats along with her when traveling.

When posting on social media about the TIME cover, Swift noted that one of the first sentences out of her mouth was, "Can I bring my cat?" Swift's other two other cats are Meredith Grey and Olivia Benson both of which are of the Scottish Fold breed.

NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL

BY JULIA SCHERER

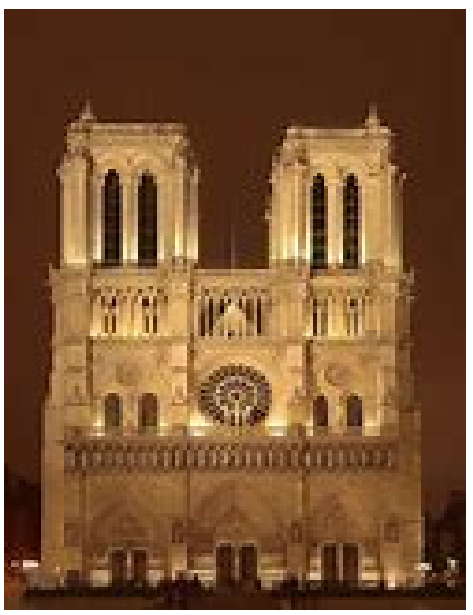
The iconic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris is set to reopen its doors to the public on December 8, 2024, marking a significant milestone in its restoration following the devastating fire in 2019.

As the one-year countdown begins, French President Emmanuel Macron will visit the reconstruction site where artisans, including stonemasons and carpenters, are working tirelessly to meet the 12-month deadline. Notre Dame, ravaged by flames in 2019, holds immense cultural and emotional significance.

While it may not be the largest or most beautiful cathedral, according to Rev. Olivier Ribadeau Dumas, its rector, it is considered the "incarnation of a nation's soul." The preparations for the reopening are seen as a symbol of hope in a challenging world. Henri Chalet, the principal choir conductor, expresses both patience and impatience, acknowledging the brief closure in the cathedral's extensive history but also highlighting the prolonged five-year period during a human lifetime.

The Notre Dame workforce, which was reduced to seven employees during repairs, is gearing up for a hiring drive next year to restore the number of full-time employees to nearly 50. Recent progress in the reconstruction has been remarkable, with massive oak beams, crafted using medieval carpentry techniques, hoisted to reroof the cathedral.

The towering spire, a symbol of Notre Dame, is being meticulously rebuilt behind substantial scaffolding. The reconstructed spire and roof are expected to be complete by the time of the Summer Games in Paris in July 2024. While exterior work progresses, interior tasks include tuning the cathedral's grand organ, France's largest musical instrument. The cathedral's own workforce will be scaled back up, preparing to welcome the anticipated 15 million annual visitors and worshippers.



Photos by Google

6 Ways to Ease Seasonal Affective Disorder

By Julia Scherer

With the season change happening and Christmas approaching, spirits are lifting in apprehensive of the holiday season. However, with this fun holiday coming so fast, this also brings stress and depression as Christmas overwhelms our lives. These kinds of feelings are diagnosed as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a form of depression that is related to changing seasons. Lower levels of light, colder temperatures, and a change in daily patterns all contribute to SAD. (Michigan Chronicle). However, there are ways to improve seasonal emotions that will be reviewed in this article.

One effective way to help lessen SAD feelings is to take preventative measures to prepare for the season change. A measure that can be taken is prioritizing nutrition. By eating healthier, this can not only improve people's physical well-being, but also their mental well-being by having more home cooked meals rather than something less sustainable. Another way to prevent sad, seasonal feelings, is to invest in daylight bulbs to brighten their home. As the light decreases outside, increasing inside lighting can help bring back the warm sunlight in the house to improve symptoms. Lastly, scheduling some fun in schedules can help lift moods and give people something to look forward to this holiday season. This could be a time to relax and unwind, or do some hobbies people don't normally have time for. This helps people recharge emotionally and mentally, and take a break from a full schedule. (Michigan Chronicle).

Another way to improve seasonal feelings is to ease these symptoms. This can be done by having a good exercise routine, which can improve people's sleep, mood, and energy levels. Regular fitness can spur growth in nerve cells that are connected to emotions, which helps ease SAD feelings. (Michigan Chronicle). Spending time outdoors, especially midday when the sun is brightest, can also improve moods. Being outside on sunny days helps people take in the much-needed vitamin D. One more way to ease symptoms is to connect with friends and share how they feel. Social connection is proven to help depression symptoms. (Michigan Chronicle).

How Much Water do You Need To Survive?

By Aurora Jacobs

Humans have always needed water, but after the bottled water boom of the 1990's advertising executives have fueled America's obsession with hydration. But even with all the hype around hydration, there is a lack of scientific evidence that drinking more water cures everything. Also, there is a lack of evidence around the typical 8 cups a day rule.

Drinking water is necessary for our survival, but hydration has also been linked to long-term health. Research from the National Institute of Health found that people who stayed sufficiently hydrated lived longer and developed less chronic illnesses. This study was conducted over a 30-year period and studied 11,255 adults. Although it is important to note that this is a correlation, not a result of drinking water.

It's important to drink more water when you exercise because your body is releasing more fluids through your sweat. It's not necessary to drink sports drinks with added electrolytes because most people get enough electrolytes from what they eat throughout the day.

The typical 8 glasses of water a day rule isn't perfect because it doesn't consider age, size, diet or climate. For some people 8 glasses may be too much, but for others it might not be enough. It's more important to drink when you feel thirsty, and to recognize other physical and mental cues of dehydration which can include fatigue and dry mouth. Also, don't compare your water intake to others, everybody has a different lifestyle and not one amount of water can be healthy for every single person.





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Tipping in America

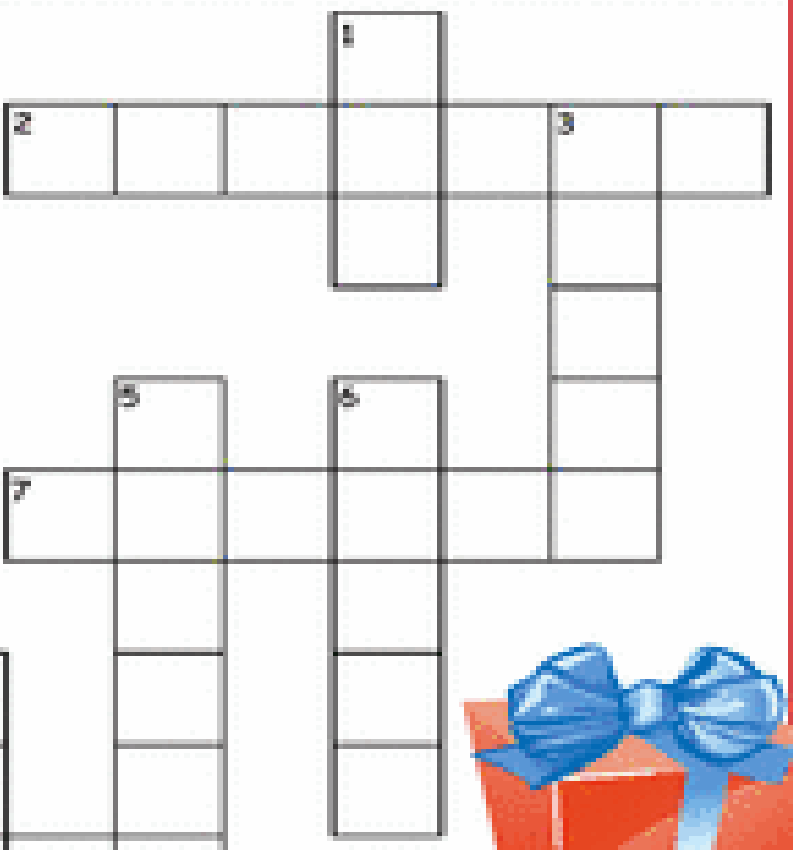
By Aurora Jacobs

Tipping in America has gotten out of control. Report shows that Americans are asked to tip 5 times a week whether they are going to tip. Most people are asked to tip and they feel guilty if they do not. The expectation of tipping has spread to more places. There are places that ask for tips just for taking your order. Tipping amount has gone down over the past few years but the amount of times places ask for tips have gone up. Some people get "tipping fatigue" because of the added pressure of tipping. Now that the holiday season is coming up people are shopping more and not going to spend a lot of money at restaurants let alone tipping a lot of money. But the tipping that is the worst is when you go to a place that requires a worker not doing anything for you but still asking for a tip. Like at a bakery when they put your items into a box and ask for a tip. People say that expectation to tip has spread to more places over the last few years. Digital tipping has also been taken into consideration over the years. Now people can tilt an ipad to you to ask you to tip instead of tipping with money. In other countries tipping is actually offensive and the reason why it's ok is because they are getting paid a lot more. In America companies can pay under minimum wage if they



Holiday Crossword puzzle







Write the words
from the list below
in each numbered space

Across	Down
2. Scrooge	1. Joy
7. Carols	3. Gifts
9. Chimney	4. Stockings
10. Toys	5. Family
11. Wreath	6. Holly
12. Tree	8. Santa Claus
	9. Candy Cane

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HOCKEY SPOTLIGHT











