

LATEST NEWS, COMMENTARY AND JOURNALISM FROM THE HEART OF NORTH LAKE ECHS STUDENTS.

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## Visiting Albion, Michigan

BY LESLIE MEJIA

Albion college is a private school in Michigan and it’s known for the liberal arts degrees it offers. The acceptance rate is 73%, with great financial aid and scholarship opportunities. On February 19-20 I was able to go with a group of North Lake seniors to visit the campus with our college advisor. We had the chance to meet some professors and look around the beautiful campus. This allowed us to learn more about the

opportunities and programs offered at their school. We were able to stay on campus in the dorms. Albion College is 91% need met and offers interview chances to attend this all expenses paid fly out program. Albion made college and college visits very accessible even though we live far away. Overall, I would recommend fly-out programs, college visits and any other chance you get to learn more about a school.



# Ms. Lewis Interview

BY JUAN RIOS & JASMIN SALAZAR SARAVIA

Ms. Lewis, one of our math teachers here at North Lake ECHS earned her bachelor's in math education and a master's in the math curriculum. Can you believe that Ms. Lewis has been a teacher for about 12 years? Ms. Lewis describes herself to be vivacious and eclectic. She wants to become a better teacher by learning good techniques and implementing them in class for students to better themselves. She would also like to work in education research or curriculum development. Ms. Lewis is inspired by the students and wants to open up a world for them to become great people. In the past, Ms. Lewis changed her major to teaching because she became more passionate about it. She decided to teach at this school because the opportunity came to her and she wanted a change. She likes building relationships with her students and getting to know them better. She likes watching them grow to see how successful they will become. Ms. Lewis would like her students to become confident by making them understand that everyone is capable of learning. As a teacher, Ms. Lewis gained certain skills including multi-tasking, organization, and punctuality. The most challenging part about teaching would be balancing what she feels is good for her students and what is demanded by the states. One of her biggest accomplishments was getting her master's degree because at first, she was afraid it would be hard to obtain but as she went through it she found out that it was not as hard as she expected it to be. In her free time, Ms. Lewis enjoys watching musicals, traveling, finding different things to do with her friends, and going on new adventures. Some interesting facts about Ms. Lewis are that she took dance classes for 17 years, was a competitive figure skater, and went to space camp 4 times. In a few years, Ms. Lewis would like to still be teaching and have all her previous students come back to tell her class how successful they are. In difficult times, she reminds herself that things will get better in the future. Her role model is RuPaul Charles because they have a great personality. Professionally she looks up to Ms. Ferguson because she is an effective teacher, students care about her and she is so positive. Thank you for all that you do Ms. Lewis!



Ms. Lewis loves her students, North Lake, and of course Harry Potter.

“If you can't love yourself, how are you going to love somebody else?”


-Ms. Lewis





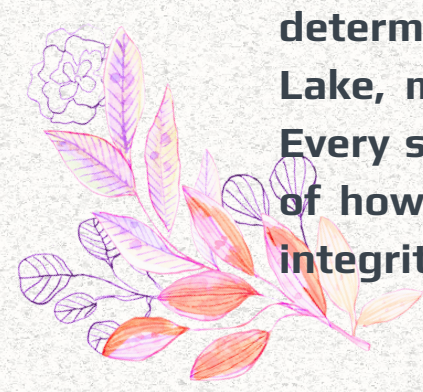
# *WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH*

BY: JUAN RIOS

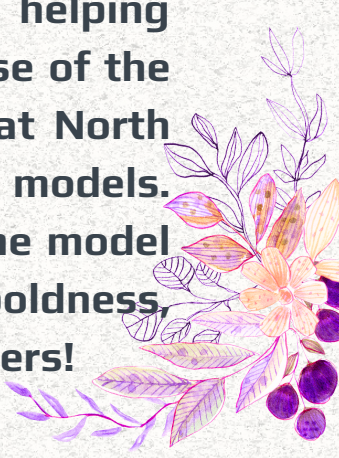


**Women's History Month is a recognized month each year that celebrates the accomplishments made by women to historical and modern-day events. As well, on March 8, International Women's Day serves as a focal point for the women's rights movement and raises awareness of problems like gender disparity, the denial of reproductive rights, and violence/abuse against women.**

**Although we have the best faculty and employees overall at North Lake ECHS, we do recognize that many teachers are female.**



**We wanted to take a moment to say thank you to our female teachers who always give their students support and encouragement. The female staff members and instructors always have a positive effect on the students, whether it be by helping them study or by offering them a comforting smile. Because of the determination and kindness that they display every day at North Lake, many students look up to their instructors as role models. Every single one of our female employees serves as a prime model of how to live out our school's core values: leadership, boldness, integrity, authenticity, innovation, and grit. Thank you teachers!**





# Texas Legislature

By Elaina Humphrey



## Voter Empowerment

Originally I joined the Student Voter Empowerment Club (SVEC) because they had free pizza at the first interest meeting, and because I was curious about this organization I had never heard of before. I am a firm believer in voter empowerment, as it is one of the most powerful ways for average people to express their opinions and needs to the government. Many people feel that the government does not listen to the people it is supposed to

serve, so they feel discouraged to vote. Many also feel helpless because they think that their opinion doesn't matter and question how much change one person can really bring about. Contrary to these fears, every single voice and vote counts, and if enough people who support a certain cause in politics are empowered to vote they can bring about significant change.

## Our Experience

On this trip, we went all the way to Austin and visited the state capital to sit in on legislature and meet some of our state representatives. On our trip politicians were debating abolishing the Pink Tax, a tax put on diapers and feminine products. Unfortunately our bus was late and we missed the debate, but we were able to meet some of our Texas house members, including Venton Jones (District 100), Toni Rose (District 110), and capital staff. This was a great learning experience and it was really interesting to witness part of the political process and be in the place where decisions are made that impact all of us.





# Will TikTok Be Banned?



BY CLAIRE SPILLMAN

For a while, TikTok managed to stay off the press' radar except for its rapid growth in 2018. After all, this app was used by most teenagers to dance, hang out in influencer mansions, and do fun challenges. What could be problematic about that?

Time flies by and as the app gets bigger, more people are using it for other purposes than creative fun. There is now TikTok misinformation and extremism that the app "failed" to eliminate. Now, this would have been overlooked had it not been for one reason...TikTok is owned by ByteDance, one of the largest tech companies in China. Due to this, there were growing concerns that the app could be infiltrated by the Chinese government and used to spy on Americans, gain access to user data, and spread propaganda. Other concerns have also been raised about how TikTok may affect its younger users.

On January 25, 2023, Senator Josh Hawley introduced the bill that would ban TikTok across the USA. He stated that "TikTok poses a threat to all Americans" because it "opens the door for the Chinese Communist Party to access American's personal information, keystrokes, and location through aggressive data harvesting."

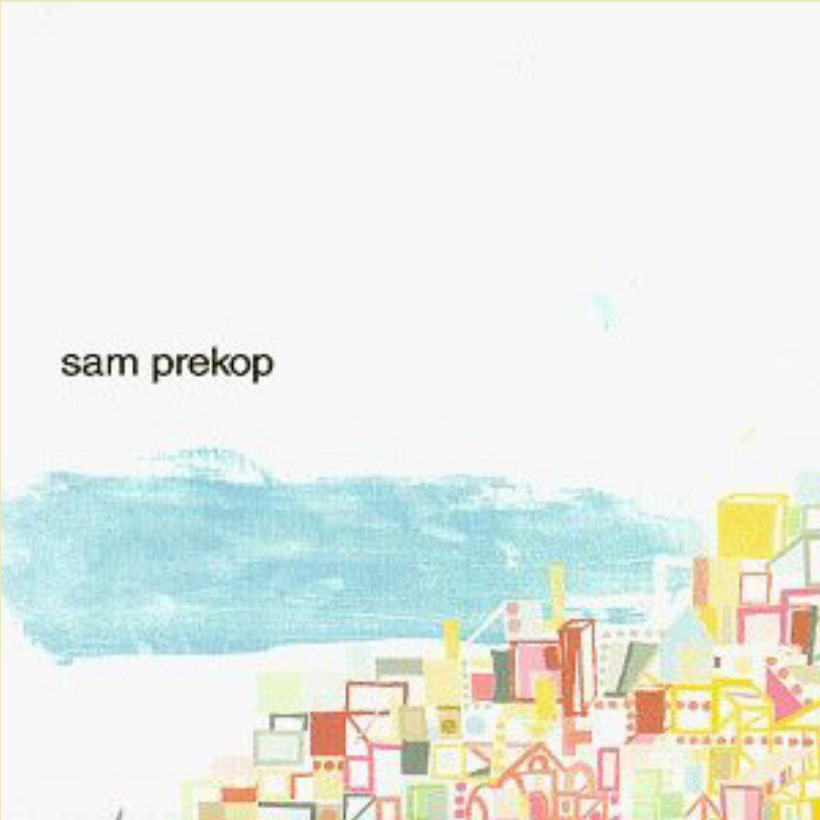
According to a Pew Research Center survey, opposition to banning TikTok has been significantly higher among younger Americans than older ones. As a result of these remarks, TikTok CEO Shou Chew testified before Congress on March 23 to persuade the public that TikTok does not pose a national security risk. Critics of the ban argue that all social media networks engage in the collection of their user's data. Privacy and security researchers have explained that TikTok in terms of data collecting is not different from other social platforms. The real concern focuses on TikTok and ByteDance's relationship with the Chinese Communist Party. Although a ban may seem like the best solution to some, there are other ways to approach the issue that has been called forward. First, the administration could approve TikToks plan to operate in the United States or push for TikTok's Chinese owners to sell their shares.

Ultimately the concerns of infiltration by the Chinese government are shared across the board with both the US government and TikTok users. However, the attempt by congress to make it seem like the TikTok app is the only social media platform with a data privacy issue and harmful to younger users is irrational. This debate on whether or not TikTok be banned should instead discuss what should be required of all big tech companies that entertain, inform, and influence millions of users.



# Monthly Media: April

I'm going into April this year with a positive and sunny outlook. As the days get longer, the temperature warms up, and life gets its color back, I like to listen to more upbeat sounds and lots of bossa nova because it reminds me of the approaching summer. An album I've been listening to in the morning in hopes of cheering me up is **Sam Prekop** by Sam Prekop. This album sounds like summer and spring and features a few more lively songs as well as calm beats.



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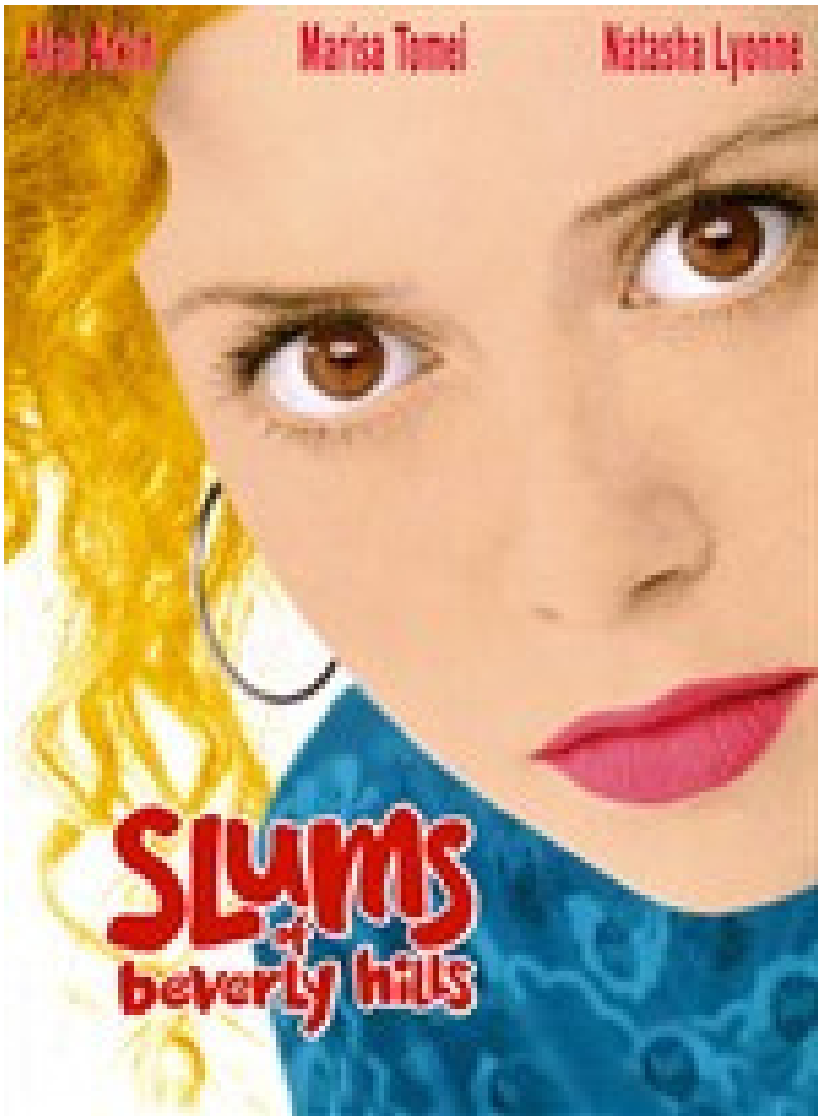


**Sam Prekop**  
Sam Prekop

- Showrooms
- The Company
- Practice Twice
- A Cloud to the Back
- Don't Bother
- Faces and People
- On Such Favors
- The Shadow
- Smaller Rivers
- So Shy

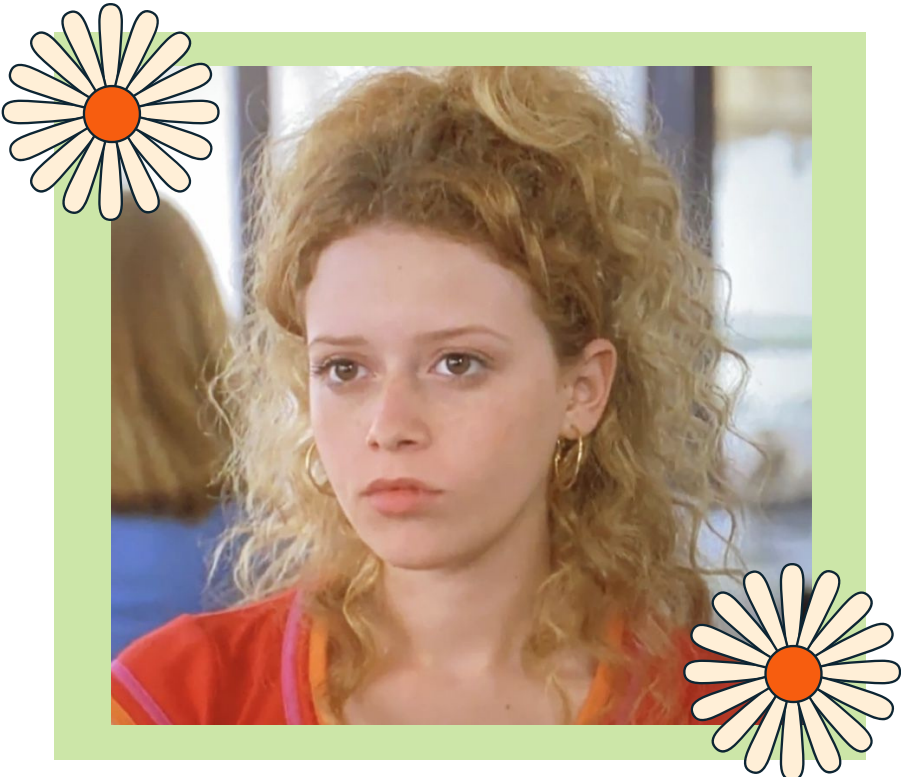
45 min 32 sec  
genres: electronica

BY ELAINA HUMPHREY



One movie that I watched recently was **Slums of Beverly Hills**, which follows a teenage girl and her family navigating an unsteady life in Beverly Hills. This movie is a relatively simple and short coming-of-age movie but produces deeper meanings upon further analysis.

Duration: 1 hour 31 min  
Rating: R  
Genres: comedy/drama



Set in the summer of 1976, Vivian has to navigate growing up and constantly moving across Beverly Hills.



# Students of the Month

THE STUDENTS BELOW HAVE DISPLAYED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR AND ARE BEING RECOGNIZED BY THEIR TEACHERS! CONGRATULATIONS!



Ammaar Zafar

9TH GRADE STUDENT

"Ammaar is a fantastic student and is a lifelong learner. He is a joy to be around and is a very well-rounded student. He leads conversations in classroom discussions. We are grateful to have him here at North Lake and I can't wait to see where his journey leads him."

-Coach Nguyen

Sarah Estrada

10TH GRADE STUDENT

"Sarah is bright and a highly committed student with a great passion for learning and for excelling academically. She serves as a role model to others by her strong work ethic that makes her stand out amongst her peers. Sarah is a caring person that always manages to fill any room with positive acts of kindness. Sarah Estrada, a North Lake Early College High School member and this month's sophomore student of the month that makes us all proud!"

-Mrs. Martinez Reyes





# Students of the Month

THE STUDENTS BELOW HAVE DISPLAYED EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR AND ARE BEING RECOGNIZED BY THEIR TEACHERS! CONGRATULATIONS!

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## Paloma Rodriguez de Leon

11TH GRADE STUDENT

"Paloma has an excellent work ethic as well as the ability to think at higher levels. She excels as a leader in the classroom and a role model outside of the classroom. She exemplifies the motto of NLECHS. She is a learner today and a leader today and beyond."

-Ms. Krause

## Eduardo Sanchez

12TH GRADE STUDENT

"Eduardo is always present and a great team player. He is responsible and timely with assignments. Eduardo Eduardo is respectful and kind to others. He is planning to explore new computing technologies in college."

Mr. Keller







# College Spotlight

BY MIRANDA VEGA

Tarleton State University is a public research university. It's main campus is located in Stephenville, Texas. It is a founding member of the Texas A&M University System and enrolled over 14,000 students in the fall of 2020. The Tarleton campus sits in the center of the small town, Stephenville and enriches the lives of students with a traditional college experience. The school offers more than 18 on campus living options, a gym, study areas and variety of student organizations that meet on campus. Students at the Stephenville campus have the opportunity for field learning and internship experience with many of the local businesses. Stephenville allows students to earn a high quality education, while staying in an area that feels just like home and with a lot of history. Stephenville offers a wide variety of activities and places of interest for students and residents of all ages, including: public parks, tennis courts, a water park, a youth center, and a golf course. This year some of our seniors got to visit Tarleton in person and learn about what the campus has to offer.

## Fact Wall

- Tarlton was founded in 1899
- The school offers 68 distinct undergraduate degrees, 28 masters, 2 associate degree programs and doctoral programs
- The school has an acceptance rate of about 55%
- Tarlton sits on about 175 acres.
- The colors are purple and white.
- The mascot is a Texan rider
- Tarleton offers fantastic financial aid



Two stylized blue clouds with white outlines are positioned at the top of the page. On the left and right sides, there are green leaves on thin brown branches.

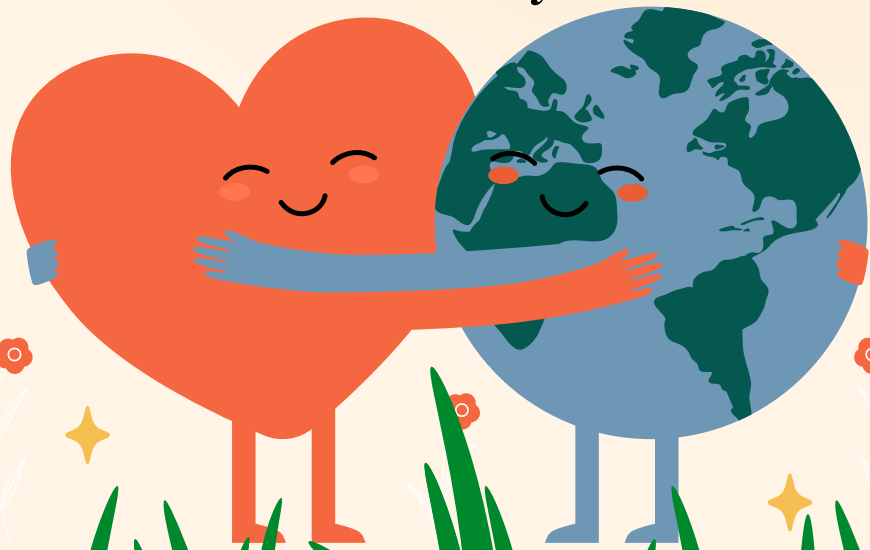
# EARTH DAY

## 22 April 2023

BY VALERIE ANGUIANO

Earth day is an annual celebration that honors the achievements of the environmental movement, while also raising awareness to protect the earth for other generations. The first Earth Day was on April 22, 1970, educating participants on the importance of environmental conservation. This day strengthened the support for the Clean Air Act and the Endangered Species Act. In 1990 Denis Hayes organized a global Earth Day, with more than 200 million participants in more than 140 countries. Earth Day now brings together activists from around the world to raise awareness of environmental concerns.

Do you celebrate Earth Day?





# Upcoming Events

APRIL 2023

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| April 7  | NO SCHOOL                                 |
| April 10 | NO SCHOOL                                 |
| April 13 | Town Hall - Whole School Assembly @ 10:45 |
| April 14 | Deloitte Consulting Case Workshop         |
| April 18 | English I STAAR Test                      |
| April 20 | English II STAAR Test                     |
| April 22 | Earth Day                                 |
| April 22 | Senior Prom                               |
| April 28 | NO SCHOOL                                 |
| April 28 | Last day to order yearbook                |

**Buy your yearbook!**  
**Deadline to order is April 28**





# Meet the Staff

2022-2023



JASMIN SALAZAR



ELAINA HUMPHREY



LUIS RADLEY

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CLAIRE SPILLMAN



VALERIE ANGUIANO



LESLIE MEJIA



MIRANDA VEGA