Sherman Central School District Newsletter WINTER 2025

# PAW PRINTS




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## Rotary Scholars

The Westfield-Mayville Rotary Club hosted a special luncheon honoring 20 Rotary Scholars of the Month from Sherman, Brocton, WACS, and Chautauqua Lake/Ripley High Schools.

A huge congratulations to our outstanding scholars from Sherman!


Dylan Carey


Joseph Issler


Kenadi Long


Zachary Schmitz


Logan Swan



# Superintendent's Message



Hello Wildcat Community!

As we welcome March and look ahead to spring, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past few months and all that we have accomplished together. January and February brought plenty of snow, a few frigid days, and, most importantly, incredible dedication from our students, staff, and families. Our theme, Stronger Together, continues to shine through in everything we do—whether in the classroom, on the courts, or within our community.

**Celebrating Student & Staff Success**

Our students continue to impress us with their dedication and achievements. This winter, we celebrate:

✅ Outstanding performances in Quarter 2, showcasing the hard work of both students and staff.

9-12th Merit Roll= 17 students
9-12th Honor Roll =58 students
6-8th Merit Roll= 13 students
6-8th Honor Roll=47 students

✅ Our 61 student-athletes demonstrating resilience and teamwork in their winter sports seasons.

✅ The success Sherman FFA members who competed at Districts. Ten competed, six qualified for the Substates in March!

A special thank you to our teachers and staff for their unwavering commitment to our students. Despite staffing challenges, our educators have stepped up in incredible ways to ensure that learning remains engaging and meaningful.

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to Mr. Harper for his 15 years of dedication to the students and community of Sherman. His commitment, passion, and unwavering support have made a lasting impact on so many lives. While we will miss him greatly, we wish him the very best in his next chapter at Chautauqua Lake. Thank you, Mr. Harper, for everything you have done for Sherman—you will always be part of our Wildcat family!

**Academic & Program Updates**

📚 Strengthening Literacy – We continue our focus on improving reading and writing skills across all grade levels, with bringing new strategies and professional development opportunities for teachers.

💻 Technology & Infrastructure – We are excited to welcome Caleb Mitchener to the district as our new Computer Technician! Mr. Mitchener will be working closely with staff and students to ensure that all of our software, hardware, and technology resources are running smoothly and efficiently. His expertise and support will be invaluable as we continue to improve our district's technology services.

Additionally, we are continuing to develop our five-year technology plan to ensure students have access to the tools they need to succeed in an ever-evolving digital world.

🏫 Facilities & Capital Project – We are excited to share that all of the high school and middle school bathrooms have now been updated, providing improved facilities for our students.

Looking ahead, the district is entering the bid phase of our $12 million Capital Improvement Project, with the goal of beginning construction in May. This project will bring essential upgrades to our school buildings, enhancing both learning environments and overall infrastructure. We appreciate the community's continued support as we move forward with these much-needed improvements.

**Winter Weather & School Closures**
It has been a busy winter season so far, with plenty of snow and a few extra cold days! As we continue through these chilly months, please remember that any school closings or delays due to weather will be communicated through the district website, social media, email, and phone calls. Student safety remains our top priority, and we appreciate your patience and flexibility during winter weather events.

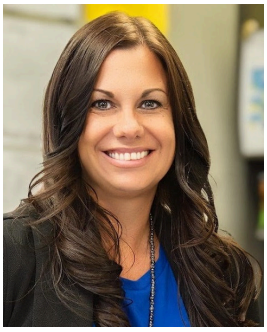
**Upcoming Events & Community Engagement**
School Events – Our students have been working hard, and we encourage families to join us to watch the Sherman Players Present the: Freaky Tiki by Todd Wallinger on March 28th and March 29th at 7pm in the John Butler Auditorium.

As we step into the second half of the school year, let's continue to support one another, embrace challenges, and celebrate our shared successes. Thank you for being part of what makes Sherman such a special place. Your dedication, whether as a student, parent, staff member, or community partner, is what keeps us Stronger Together.
Wishing you a warm month of March!

Sincerely,

Carrie Yohe
Superintendent, Sherman Central School District

# Principal's Message



Dear Wildcat Families,
As we look toward spring, I want to take a moment to reflect on our students' accomplishments and share some important updates. This time of year brings opportunities for learning, growth, and community engagement, and we are excited to continue fostering a supportive and enriching environment for our students.

Congratulations to our students for their dedication and hard work! Many have excelled in their studies, and we are proud of their progress. Our quarterly wildcat rewards based on good attendance, good behavior, and good grades are an exciting opportunity for our students to engage in fun activities with their peers. During the first marking period, 79% of our students earned the reward in grades 5-12, with the highest percentage of 6th graders receiving the award at 94%. For quarter two, 76% of our students in grades 5-12 earned the reward and again, the greatest percentage of students earning the reward went to 6th grade with 94%. We hope to continue seeing our students earn this by working hard, following school expectations, and attending school regularly!

We recently celebrated Dr. Seuss's Birthday during "Read Across America" week. Elementary classrooms signed up to have our Honor Society students visit their classrooms and read a Dr. Seuss book to their students. There were many visitors throughout the week, and many students and staff took part in the fun by dressing up all week. Special thanks to Miss. Cullum and her mom, who helped kick off the week by decorating a case in the hall, and making goodie bags for all of our kids that included candy and bookmarks. Lots of fun was had by all!

I strongly encourage parents of students in grades 5-12 to get signed up for ParentPortal if you have not already done so. ParentPortal allows parents and students to view their grades in all subject areas, and also see individual assignments for each class that a student may be missing. Regularly checking your child's grades and partnering with their school fosters academic success and personal growth. If you need more information on how to do this, please contact Mrs. Jenni Eddy in our guidance office at (716) 761-6121.

**Important Upcoming Dates:.**
SAT Administration: 4/2. For students in 11th and 12th grade.

Spring Break: 4/14-4/12. We encourage students to enjoy their time with family, rest, and recharge.

End of Year Carnival: More info to follow!!! (Date to be determined.)

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to our parents and community members for your unwavering support. Your involvement in our school—whether through volunteering, attending events, or encouraging our students—plays a crucial role in their success. I truly appreciate your dedication and commitment to making Sherman Central School a thriving and supportive learning environment.

Warm regards,
Mrs. Leslie Melquist
Principal, Sherman Central School









# Honor and Merit Roll- 2nd Quarter

## Twelfth Grade Honor Roll

Dylan Carey, Erin Elder, Teagan Gratto, Max Guzman, Joseph Issler, Isaphina Kioko, Olivia Lindsey, Kenadi Long, Liam Nickerson, Andrew Perry, Brady Phelps, Carson Pinzok, Logan Swan, Kelsey Wagner, Jayden Zenns

## Twelfth Grade Merit Roll

Kellie Christensen, Nolan DeKoning, Carson Gibbons, Dominick Rater, Zachary Schmitz, Aaron Stevens

## Eleventh Grade Honor Roll

Elias Armes, Albert Burkett, Jacob Ferranto, Mary Fuller, Kamryn Heinert, Hannah Lee Phelps, Miranda Reed, Allison Rhebergen, Delilah Stoddard, Larsen Swan, Brookelynn Wright

## Eleventh Grade Merit Roll

Camron Bascom, Troy Chambers, Delilah Heverley, Scott James, Riley Johnson, Mason Moore, Jordan Spitale

## Tenth Grade Honor Roll

Isabella Barton, Iona Burkholder, Caleb Cook, Gracen Eddy, Madison Emory, Jasper Eschenbach, Adrienne Eshelman, Carlie Gable, Evan Gratto, Kaden Hallowell, Gabe Kopta, Kihomi Lilley, Kyle Maynard, Abigail Mellors, Elias Mendoza, Bria Palmatier, Talon Persons, William Spitzer

## Tenth Grade Merit Roll

James DeLellis, Andrew Keith, Caylee Pinzok, Tayler Pinzok, Summer Ryan

## Ninth Grade Honor Roll

Payson Altsman, Elliye-Mae Ball, Jayne Chambers, Emmersen Crawford, Lucas Gibbons, Kasen Gorée, Kimber Hetrick, Steven Hildum, Parker Kenyon, Quinn Liffner, Georges Meredith, Baya Oehlbeck, Elle Ross, Matthew Snow

## Ninth Grade Merit Roll

Jonathan Coblentz, James Douglas, Annabelle Fuller, Kiley Jones, Natalie Kranz, Emily Lutgen, James Murray, Ella Paddleford, Riley Rhebergen, Ely Smith, Madalyn Wilson

## Eighth Grade Honor Roll

Peyton Biesik, Brody Bojarski, Paxton Britton, Bryce Cook, Hunter Courtney, Amelia DeLellis, Sandilyn Fraley, Waylon Goodwill, Samuel Hayes, Ava-Kay Irwin, Aujhalon Kopta, Nolan Kranz, Kendall Martin, Isabelle Maynard, Adyson Newlands

## Eighth Grade Merit Roll

Lance Griswold, John Higby, Dakota Michael, Aiden Woods

## Seventh Grade Honor Roll

Paige Altsman, Nelly Baker, Eli Barrett, Ariya Booker, Aleena Cruz, Kayliann Fisher, Paul Gibbons, Jaxson Hayes, Blake Henning, Audrey Johnson, Parker Liffner, Xander Murray, Emma Oehlbeck, Liadan Quinn, Dylan Schmitz, Flynn Schmitz, Xander Schmitz, Jovie Silbert, Ethan Taylor, Emma Williams

## Seventh Grade Merit Roll

Conner Buchholz, Olivia McGill

# Future Farmers of America

The Sherman FFA Chapter has had a busy winter and looks forward to a busy spring!

- In January several Sherman FFA members traveled to the Pennsylvania Farm Show and Gettysburg. They saw a wide variety of displays at the farm show and toured a portion of the Gettysburg Battlefield.
- On January 24th, Several students also attended the Ignite Leadership Development Conference at the Erie County Fairgrounds in Hamburg, NY. Over 200 students from all over Western New York attended this networking and leadership training event.
- Ten FFA members competed at the FFA District Leadership Contest on February 8th at Fillmore School. Six of the twelve students qualified for Substates and will be competing on March 15th at Lyons Central School in Lyons, NY. Congratulations to the following students:

  Kayliann Fisher - 2nd Place in Junior People in Agriculture
  Amelia DeLellis - 4th Place in Junior People in Agriculture
  Georges Meredith - 3rd Place in Junior Creed Speaking
  Hannah Phelps - 6th Place in Employment Skills
  Larsen Swan - 2nd Place in Sr. Prepared Speaking
  Collin Crawford - 2nd Place in Sr. Prepared Speaking



- In December, members made over 60 evergreen wreaths that were sold as a part of their annual Cuba Cheese, Citrus, Maple, Poinsettia and Wreath Sale. Sherman FFA also sold 180 flats of Florida Strawberries which were delivered on Monday, March 10th.
- In early May, members of the Sherman FFA Chapter will be attending the 100th Annual New York State FFA Convention at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, NY.One of our members, Larsen Swan, will be running for the office of District 10 FFA President. Larsen must complete a rigorous application process including a lengthy application, news writing sample, extemporaneous speaking, Agriculture and FFA knowledge exam, and a candidacy speech to the FFA members of District 10 FFA. Best of luck, Larsen!



Sunrise tour of Gettysburg Battlefield during Farm Show Trip





Sherman FFA at the PA Farm Show Complex - Harrisburg, Pennsylvania




NYS FFA Ignite Conference at Erie County Fairgrounds in Hamburg, NY



Sherman FFA members with the help of some FFA alumni and parents made 60 evergreen wreaths to sell in their fundraiser.



SCS Junior, Larsen Swan, is running for District 10 FFA President which would represent FFA Chapters in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties.

# PreK

Our preschoolers are becoming quite the artists in Pre-K. They have been busy making art projects. They used their good listening skills to follow directions and building their fine motor skills when using scissors and coloring their artwork.







# Kindergarten

In kindergarten, our little learners have been exploring some exciting new concepts! This month, students dove into the world of forces, discovering how pushes and pulls can move objects. Through fun hands-on experiments, they observed how different objects react to forces like gravity, friction, and motion!

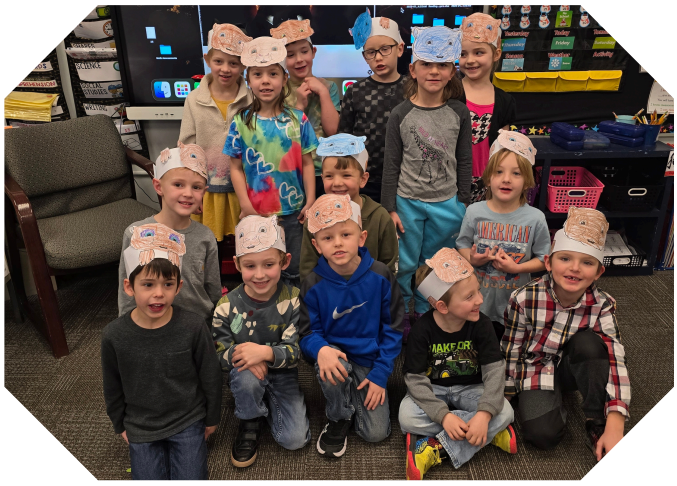
In math, the class has been mastering addition and subtraction. With the help of interactive activities, they are practicing counting, using number lines, and even playing math games to reinforce these important skills. It's amazing to see how much they've grown in their number sense!

Reading is another area where our kindergarteners are shining. They've been working hard on CVC words (Consonant-Vowel-Consonant), and are now blending sounds together to form simple words. They've also been practicing blends like "st," "tr," and "pl," helping them unlock more words and become confident readers.




# First Grade

In first grade, we started the year off with making goals and talking about new activities we want to try. We celebrated Groundhog's Day with the news of another six weeks of winter....BOO! We are working hard on three-digit addition and solving word problems. In reading, we are working on fluency and long vowel sounds.





# Second Grade




We've had a fantastic quarter of learning and exploration in second grade, and we're excited to share all the wonderful things our students have been working on. Here's a look at what we've been up to:

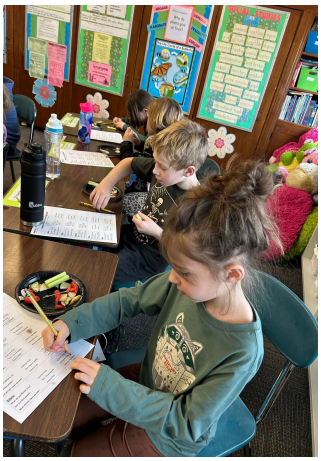
**Real-World Math:** Our second graders have tackled real-world math by counting money and telling time. From identifying coins and bills, understanding their values, and counting them to make change, to reading analog clocks and understanding digital ones, we have learned a lot. We used fun activities to make learning this essential skill both interactive and enjoyable.

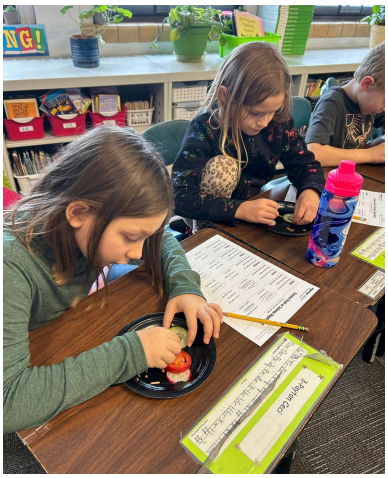
**Becoming Good Leaders:** We dove into what it means to be a leader and what qualities good leaders have. We studied many influential people in history and connected their impact to how government leaders shape our lives. The picture shown is a collage of Wilma Rudolph, a famous Olympian, who overcame struggles and never gave up!

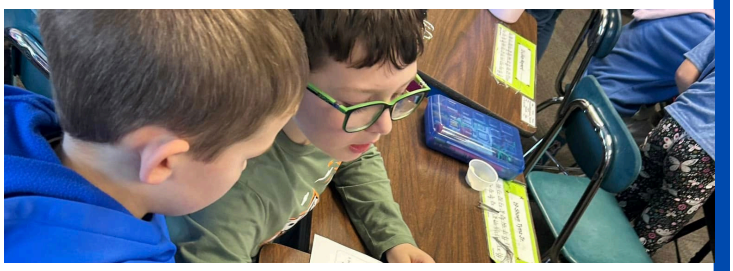
We can't wait to see what the final 80 days of school will bring for our students!

# Third Grade

During Science Class, third graders learned about the *Circle of Life* with fun, hands-on activities that focused on the plant life cycle. Students discovered how plants reproduce by exploring pollination. They created flower models out of paper and bee models out of pipe cleaners. The students then had their bees fly from flower to flower collecting & distributing "pollen" during this process. Students also learned why plants grow fruit by examining selected produce and determining if each item was a *Science Fruit* or *Science Vegetable*. They looked closely at slices of each one and searched for the seeds. Our *Mystery Science* lessons have been wonderful for actively engaging our third graders with scientific concepts through experimentation and observation.







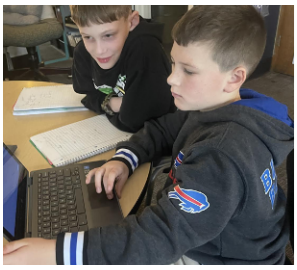


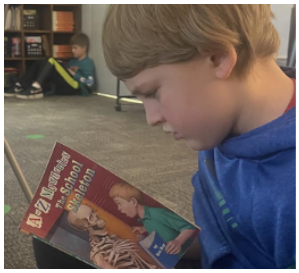
# Fourth Grade

We love READING! It helps us learn new information and expand our vocabulary. Building reading stamina enhances our engagement with texts and improves our concentration. We have finished our class novel, Indian in the Cupboard. We have learned new vocabulary, studied literary devices, practiced reading comprehension, and reviewed our Social Studies unit about Indigenous people through this story!













# Fifth Grade

The 5th graders have wrapped up half a year.  That would be 1/2, 4/8, 5/10 or 0.5, as we have been learning in math. In science we have finished playing with our chemicals and substances in our Matter Unit and are headed into Life Sciences, looking forward to the weather breaking so we can get outside in nature!

In ELA, we are finishing up our second novel, Esperanza Rising. All of the students really enjoyed this story! We wrapped up the novel by writing letters to Esperanza's Abuelita, using key details from the novel to describe the most important events. In Social Studies we wrapped up our geography unit and will be moving towards learning about government after break!

We have had a great first half of the year and are excited for what is to come!







# Sixth Grade

The 6th graders have recently celebrated their hard work during the second quarter with a well-earned sledding party. Taking advantage of the winter weather, students had a blast speeding down the hills before warming up with delicious hot cocoa. Laughter and excitement filled the air as they enjoyed this special reward.

In addition to their outdoor fun, the students also had the opportunity to attend the On Stage for Youth Series at SUNY Fredonia, where they watched "The Let's Go Science Show". This interactive performance featured a variety of engaging physics demonstrations, bringing science to life in a fun and exciting way. A highlight of the show was when SCS's own Ms. Croscut was called on stage to participate in one of the demonstrations, making the experience even more memorable for the students.

Both events provided a fantastic mix of education and fun, making for an unforgettable experience for our 6th graders!



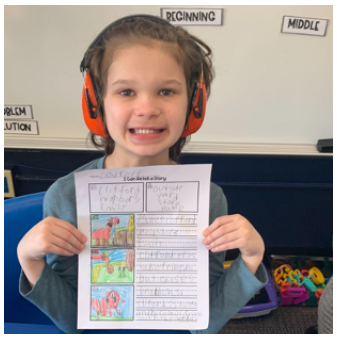




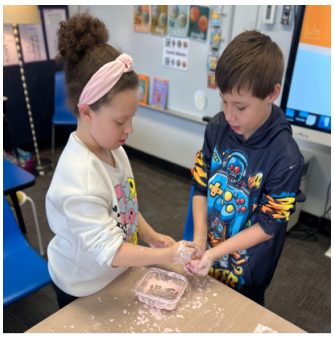



# Mrs. Hanby's Class

Mrs. Hanby's 4th/5th grade class has been exploring the states of matter and life cycles in science, as well as identifying problems and solutions in texts, and writing 5 star sentences in ELA. In math, students made 2D and 3D shapes and learned to identify them by their attributes. They have also been busy learning about and celebrating winter holidays including Lunar New Year, Presidents' Day, and Valentine's Day. When the winter weather gets a bit milder, they look forward to heading outdoors for some sledding lessons on gravity and friction!








# Mrs. Reyda's Class

"You cannot open a book without learning something new." ~ Confucius

This is the quote I would use to describe my class for the past few months. My students have opened books and have learned something new with each new book they've read. We count "I Love Basketball" by Trace Taylor, "Freight Train" by Donald Crews, "Go! Go! Go! Stop!" by Charise Mericle Harper and "The Color Monster" by Anna Llenas to be among our current favorites. I would like to thank Ms. Carlson, our school librarian, and all the librarians in the Chautauqua/Cattaraugus Library System for getting good books into my students' hands. Thank you!



It's a cold winter morning in the calming and reading corner. We're all business, even when Amber the therapy dog stops by!

# Students of the 2nd Quarter



Sherman Central School's junior high student of the 2nd quarter is Brody Bojarski. Brody is the son of Ted and Patricia Bojarski. He has 2 siblings, Aleksander and Melina. His favorite courses to take are Math, P.E., and Social Studies. Brody enjoys hiking, camping, cooking, and basketball. His career interests are civil engineering, electrician, program coder, and bladesmithing.



Sherman Central School's senior high student of the 2nd quarter is Baya Oehlbeck. Baya is the daughter of Jared and Kim Oehlbeck. She has 2 siblings, Emma and Brayden. Her favorite courses to take are Global History and English. In her free time she enjoys playing basketball and is currently on the varsity basketball team. Baya's career interests are physical therapy and teaching.

# Badminton Tournament

The Physical Education Department held a Badminton tournament for interested high school students the last day before winter recess, on December 20th. Middle school and high school students participated in a badminton unit during the month of December with the badminton tournament being the culminating event. Nineteen teams of thirty-eight individuals in a single elimination tournament vied for the ultimate championship crown. There were many close games that brought two teams together to show off their skills in the final round. This year's final championship game included two Chambers siblings, Jayne and Troy Chambers, facing off against Kasen Gorée and Cal Cook. The final round was a game to twenty-one points and after a back and forth game, the Chambers siblings pulled away. Congratulations Troy and Jayne Chambers and thank you to the rest of the participants.



# CSP Football

The CSP  Wolfpack Football Program had an incredible 2024 year. They brought home their third New York State Championship in 7 years by defeating Burke Catholic 46-7 at the JMA Dome on the campus of Syracuse University on December 7th. The team finished with an overall record of 11-2, with their only losses coming at the hands of the 2023 Class C State Champion Waverly Wolverines 24-3, and Class B power Lackawanna Steelers 48-38. Both games were highly competitive and could have gone either way. The Wolfpack once again went through league play undefeated. Members of the varsity Wolfpack from Sherman included Carson Pinzok, Troy Chambers, Mary Fuller, and Mason Moore. Troy Chambers was also selected as a member of the all league second team as an offensive linemen.

The JV Wolfpack also had a tremendous year on the gridiron! They went 8-0 and were league champions, playing almost all bigger Class C, and B schools. Members of the JV Wolfpack from Sherman included, Gabe Kopta, Kasen Gorée, Ethan Johnson, Lance Griswold, James DeLellis, and manager Lenix Gorée.








# JCC Public Speaking

JCC Public Speaking is a very important class for students to take during high school. You earn college credits while learning how to prepare, research and present topics utilizing a variety of methods throughout the semester. During the fall 2024 semester the class was assigned a children's read-aloud for class. I asked my students to bring their favorite childhood book to class to share along with a memory or story of why this book is meaningful to them.



After we shared our books for class, we decided to read to some of the elementary students. Pictured here is Jayden Zenns reading to Mrs. McCauley's Pre-K class and Teagan Gratto reading to Mrs. Rodgers' first grade class.

# Basketball Clinic

Our JV and Varsity girls welcomed our littlest Wildcats to our second annual basketball clinic. They fearlessly led, taught and supported our young players. They demonstrated what it means and what it takes to be a Lady Wildcat. It was great to see the pride in our players' faces and the stars in the young ones' eyes.

















# Artist in the Spotlight:

# Jayden Zenns

*For most of my life I thought I was never considered good at art due to my ability to only draw the occasional stick figure and little doodles. But thankfully I found my love and new found ability to create exceptional work. Although I found this ability my junior year, it has not stopped me from trying to create multiple different styles or genres of art. I hope to continue to get better with any art project I do whether it's for me or art class. Unfortunately I do not see myself using art as a career. To me art is more of a hobby that makes me happy and relaxed. I do see myself continuing art as a hobby though. During my time in art classes I have found my favorite and best project type, which is sketches and shading. I am extremely thankful for Mr. Rappold and Mrs. Brink for pushing me to my limits and seeing the potential that I didn't know I had.*



"Gumball Machine"
Pumpkin for Peak n' Peak
Ceramics & Sculpture



"Pumpkin"
Pinch Pot
Ceramics & Sculpture



"Leaf"
Embedded Texture Slump
Ceramics & Sculpture



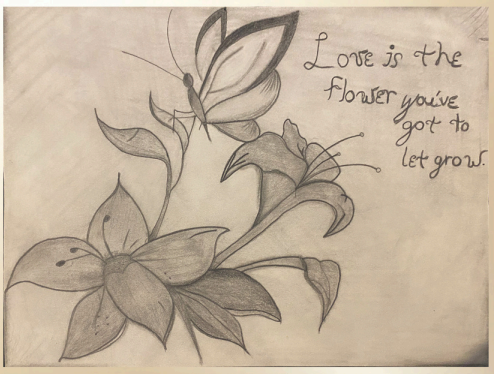
"Melted Ice cream"
Texture Form
Ceramics & Sculpture




"Keep It Real"
Mixed Media Graffiti
Studio Art



"Morning Breakfast"
Coil Built
Ceramics & Sculpture




"Untitled"
Floral graphite Still Life
Studio Art

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**Sherman Players Present:**

# Freaky Tiki

**By Todd Wallinger**

***3/28 and 3/29***
***7:00 pm***
***$5.00***


**Maurice**
Parker Kenyon


**Blair**
Payson Altsman


**Elaine**
Quinn Liffner


**Kiki**
Kihomi Lilley


**Nalani**
Liadan Quinn


**Spencer**
Jasper Eshenbach


**Mr. Carlton**
Eddie Light


**Mr. Hoozit**
Parker Liffner


**Philip**
Georges Meredith


**Amanda**
Kayliann Fisher


**Valentina**
Mia Whitehead


**Myrna**
Paige Altsman


**Lorna**
Ariya Booker


**Prudence**
Annabelle Fuller


**Idalene**
Audrey Johnson


**Dottie**
Shelby Melnick


**Kaleo**
Eddie Light


**Jason**
Parker Liffner


**Claude**
Dylan Schmitz

**Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Denver, Colorado.**

