



**LEFT** Senior JJ Ruf cheers as senior Joe Krause starts his speech at the pep rally on Lancer Day. photo by | sarah aolder

BOTTOM Senior Graham Revare focuses on his extended essay research at the IB **Enalish** extended essay workday. photo **by** ty browning



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ONLINE

# PREVIEW







PTSA: Upcoming College Clinic



The SME Parent Teacher Student Association will host a college clinic on Oct 16

**by |** elizabeth mikkelson

One Week, One Album: Episode 2 -**EMMANUEL** by Ameer Vann



Staffers review the album EMMANUEL, Ameer Vann's controversial new EP.

en-year-olds packing their lunch for school should be focused on getting the perfect peanut butter-to-jelly ratio, not switching back and forth between cutting their apple and typing the foods

and portions they consume into an app.

Weight Watchers released their new app, Kurbo, in August, promoting weight loss for kids aged 8-17 years old. A time in kids' lives that's supposed to be filled with chasing down the ice cream truck and munching on popcorn and M&M's at the movies is now turned to counting calories, weighing themselves and creating an unhealthy relationship with self image. Kurbo is taking advantage of kids' insecurities and trying to make a profit out of it.

We live in a society where it's already difficult to feel secure with your image — especially just as you're growing into your own body. The last thing kids and teens need is an app dictating their diet to make them skinnier.

At age 13, kids no longer need parents' knowledge or permission to sign up for the app. 13-year-olds who haven't even stopped growing or hit puberty, who don't even know what a diet really means, who might not have made it through middle school. Graduating from a "tween" to "teenager" doesn't mark the start of unhealthy dieting habits.

Designed to help children and teens "improve nutrition habits and lose weight," Kurbo allows the user to track everything they eat, from their breakfast, lunch and dinner to any snacks they eat throughout the day. Kurbo uses a "traffic light system," meaning they measure the quality of food people are eating with a green, yellow or red light.

Kids who haven't even started Driver's Ed are basing their diet off of a traffic light. A green light food would be fruits or vegetables, which the app allows kids to have in higher portions. Yellow light foods are foods like lean meats or whole grains, which the app finds okay, but in smaller portions. Red light foods are unhealthy foods like french fries or milkshakes, which Kurbo only allows the user to have six portions of per week.

Coaching plans can be bought with the app at prices of \$69 for one month, \$189 for three months or \$294 for

six months to have live video sessions and text messages to talk about their weight loss progress. The coaches, meant to inspire the kids and teens to reach their weight loss goals chosen when they signed up on the app, can be a catalyst for kids pushing themselves further into unhealthy eating habits or over-exercising to reach their goals. While they may just be encouraging the teen to lose 20 lbs, without parental control on the app there isn't a way to monitor how they really achieve it.

In a naive stage of their life, kids and teens ages 8-17 are the most likely to develop an eating disorder, according to US News.

There are cases when focusing on eating healthier and being more active is a necessary step, but pushing the idea of an ideal weight on kids from as young as eight years old is wrong. Doctors and parents should have the authority to help their children if their facing obesity or their health is at risk — not an app designed to make money by pointing out insecurities and flaws in kids.

Kurbo forces kids to associate negative attitudes with food starting at an early age, which can lead to an unhealthy relationship with food and even eventually developing eating disorders. Paying this close of attention to food and portions is a step that can quickly turn to an obsessive managing of calories and eventually to an eating disorder like anorexia.

Already in our society, 2.7% of teens struggle with eating disorders according to the National Institute of Mental Health and a majority of kids and teens are affected by the false body image stereotypes that are flooded through our social media accounts and TV shows. The last thing we need in the middle of our AP U.S. History homework is the thinking about the donut we had for breakfast — red light.

No eight-year-old should be counting calories, and no kid or teenager should be crying over an app telling them they don't meet the "correct" body image

ideals.

Kurbo may have the appeal of a health app, but it definitely doesn't lead to a healthier state for kids using it.

### FOR: 8 AGAINST: 3

The individuals on the editorial board who **agree** with the viewpoint of the editorial are represented by **for**, and those that **disagree** with the viewpoint of the editorial are represented by **against**.



### EDITORIAL POLICY

The Harbinger is a student-run publication. Published editorials express the views of the Harbinger staff. Signed columns published in the Harbinger express the writer's personal opinion. The contents and views of the Harbinger do not represent the student body, faculty, administration or Shawnee Mission School District. The Harbinger will not share any unpublished content, but quoted material may be confirmed with sources. The Harbinger encourages letters to the editors, but reserves the right to reject them for reasons including but not limited to lack of space, multiple letters of the same topic and personal attacks contained in the letter. The Harbinger will not edit content though letters may be edited for clarity, length, libel or mechanics. Letters should be sent to room 521 or emailed to smeharbinger@amail.com

Weight Watcher's new program, Kurbo, takes advantage of kids and promotes body insecurity

LET THEM EAT.

O4 | NEWS

### **NEWS**

**by**|lauren dierks

# HIGHLIGHTS

Catch up on news around the school, the state and the nation



**TOP** East for Water Club meets with an intern from the Thirst Project to plan fundraising activities for the new club, which hopes to raise money for a well in Eswatini, Africa. **photo by |** phoebe hendon

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

CHOIR CONCERT | OCT. 2

FOOTBALL @ SOUTH | OCT. 4



MARCHING FESTIVAL | OCT. 7



Are you buying the new iPhone? INSTAGRAM POLL | 293 VOTES

NO

Scan to see the gallery from the Varsity football game against Olathe Northwest

SCAN ME | PHOTO

### **EAST** East for Water Club is working with the Thirst Project

**IB BIOLOGY STUDENTS** are pending approval on 'East for Water', a club to raise money for The Thirst Project, a foundation based that raises money to help build wells for people in need of clean water.

IB Biology students came up with the idea for the club after IB Biology teacher Erica Jablonski brought in a speaker from the Thirst Project to talk about the lack of clean water in third world countries.

The Thirst Project has made an impact in 13 countries and strives to provide accessible water to developing countries around the world.

The East for Water club will plan fundraisers and events to raise money to donate to the cause. The club's goal is to build at least one well, which costs \$12,000.

"I feel that we take our clean water for granted," said Jablonski. "It is a very important cause that the Thirst Project is after — trying to get clean water to people."

East for Water will begin holding meetings and planning events as soon as they get approval from administration. The club plans on having two meetings a week, one for the ten co-founders and one for anyone else who is interested in participating.

"IB bio started the club, but we have about 50 people in a GroupMe that are interested in doing it with us," co-founder and junior Henry Decoursey said.

Once the club is approved, they will begin to take action and make their plans to support The Thirst Project.

### LOCAL Renovations to come at the Harmon Park skate park

**THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE** Community Council held a community workshop on Sept. 19 for community members to discuss their renovation ideas for Harmon Skate Park.

At the workshop, members of the community were able to design their own skatepark and discuss ideas with Newline Skateparks' project manager Kanten Russell. There, they could use printed out blueprints of the park to layout features that they hoped to add.

Russell hopes the meetings will allow the team to create a new skate park best catered to the community's priorities.

"We just really wanted to hear from them what some of their top features are that they wanted included in there," Russell said.

Before the next meeting date, the design team from California will collect the most requested features and continue to collect more input from community members. By the third meeting, they're scheduled to have the design team come up with a final sketch and present it to the community and project facilitator, Keith Bredehoeft, where they can then modify the design to their desires and finalize their work.

"I think a newer design and skate park will draw in more people, especially when it's brand new," Bredehoeft said.

The project will receive a budget from the city of Prairie Village and will fundraise if needed. The team will continue to gather community input to make the skatepark accessible for everyone. They plan on having the skatepark fully constructed by April of next year.

### NATIONAL Apple launches the newest iPhone

**APPLE LAUNCHED THE** iPhone II, iPhone II Pro and iPhone Pro Max on Sept. 20, all available in an array of colors and equipped with the fastest UI chip found in any smartphone.

While the iPhone II offers 17 hour battery life and an ultra-wide camera, the iPhone II Pro and Pro Max have an 18 hour battery life and an ultra-wide, more powerful camera.

The newest selection of phones differ from past versions, with longer water resistance and dual camera systems. Compared to the iPhone XR that started at \$599, the iPhone II was on the market at \$699 and the iPhone II Pro at \$999.

After purchasing the iPhone II, junior Drew Parisi believes the newest iPhone hardly differs from his old iPhone 7.

"I think it was over-hyped because it's just another phone and does the same things that the other ones do," Parisi said. "Except with minor changes like the fancy camera."

Junior Kate Peery believes the newest iPhone is worth trading in her old iPhone 7.

"It's bigger and there's a lot of new features," Peery said. "Like the camera's better and the glass is more durable and there's a much better battery life."

With fresh colors, a new camera and more features, Apple expects customers to be interested in upgrading to the new phone.

design by | maddox mogenson

# SUPPORT FOR ALL

SMSD has added language to its nondiscriminatory policy that includes students within the LGBTQ+ community

### SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT



A highlight of a point made in support of the policy at the board meeting

This is about accepting people regardless of who they are, who they love or who they identify as. **jacob moyer** | smsd graduate

**bv**Icatherine erickson

he Shawnee Mission School District school board decided to update its non-discrimination policy to include sexual orientation and gender identity with a 7-0 vote during a board meeting held specifically for the policy update on Sept. 16. The updated policy drew backlash from members of the SMSD community, as the update was the first mention of sexual orientation or gender identity in district policies.

The district already practiced nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity regardless of it not being included in a specific policy, but the board wanted to add in the specific language to align practice with the policy, according to the district's Chief Communications Manager David Smith.

The policy states that "neither the board of education nor any employee of this school district shall illegally discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, ancestory, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or any statutorial prohibited basis."

Sexual orientation and gender identity were the two classes added into the policy.

Although the board and many students saw the policy as beneficial, 10 out of 14 community members that came to speak on the topic spoke against it. The board discussed the remarks after the public comment section, but still decided to pass the updated policy in the best interest of students.

Rose Garinger, a community member who spoke out against the policy at the board meeting, believes that including LGBTQ+ people in the non-discrimination policy impairs childrens' innocence and should be left to parents to discuss.

"Special rights based on sexual orientation

and gender identity jeopardize parents' rights to safeguard their children's innocence," Garinger said at the board meeting. "We should not expose young children to teachings about sexuality and gender that they are too young and ill-equipped to handle."

Many community members also expressed concerns regarding transgender students in locker rooms and sports as well as teachers educating students about sexual orientation and gender identity. However, the updated non-descrimination policy doesn't address those additional concerns and the district does not currently have policies for these issues.

"This policy does not impact those policies in any way, that broader question is one that the board has not had formal discussion about within those meetings," Smith said. "So it's something that could come up, but it hasn't at this point."

The board had been considering adding the language for several months and was especially influenced by similar language added to the Olathe and Blue Valley School District policies about six months ago, according to Smith. He also hopes that SMSD's change in policy will urge other districts or cities without a non-discrimination ordinance, or NDO, to update their policies.

The updated policy allows the district to discipline students or staff who discriminate against people based on sexual or gender identity. The consequences will be analyzed case-by-case, but the policy gives the district grounds to ensure that students and staff don't face discimination, according to reverend and board representative from the Shawnee Mission West area Laura Guy.

"All of us have the right to say what we feel, what we believe, and this would not change that — we still have that right," Smith said. "Obviously if there were to be some kind of

[discrimination] based on gender identity or sexual orientation, then this would certainly allow the district, based on policy, to respond to that."

East assistant principal Susan Leonard is hopeful that the district will address issues mentioned during the board meeting, such as transgender students in locker rooms, bathrooms and sports to make East schools more gender neutral.

"[As of now] it's too much on the individual for the person needing the change to find a solution and I think that's uncomfortable," Leonard said. "We do have a bond issue coming up and one of our priorities is to have more gender neutral bathrooms and locker rooms and changing areas so hopefully as we look at projects with bigger building areas we'll do that, and I think it's a priority for the district too."

As of now, most transgender students bring their concerns regarding bathroom and locker room use to administration and allow the administration to analyze the specific case. There are also two different locations of single-stall gender neutral bathrooms at East, some in the library and some near the locker rooms

The president of the Gay Straight Alliance club Oscar Conway hopes that the new policy will lead to teachers being more considerate of students' identity preferences.

"[Teacher Melinda DiGirolamo] does introductory papers that you fill out like 'What's your name, what's your prefered name, what are your pronouns,' and I think that should be a thing all teachers should be doing because it gives those students a piece of mind in that classroom that their teacher is there for them "Conway said

Guy expressed that she was in favor of the policy because as a reverend, many members

of the LGBTQ+ community have approached her, reflecting on their time in high school.

"They couldn't come out to friends, teachers, administrators, not even to their own family sometimes, [they felt like] there wasn't a place for them," Guy said. "For many of them, this led to depression and suicidal thoughts. [This policy is] important because it says 'Our schools are for all students, and we're going to make sure it's a safe place for them and they don't feel ostracized or that they don't belong' with this language."

Leonard also explained that the policy will increase conversations about the LGBTQ+



Special rights based on sexual orientation and gender identity jeopardize parents' rights to safeguard their children's innocence. We should not expose young children to teachings about sexuality and gender that they are too young and ill-equipped to handle.

### rose garinger | citizen

community and support high schoolers struggling with gender and sexual identity.

"[Talking about sexual and gender orientation] at the very least shows that it's okay if you're questioning things because I just always go back to the suicide rates of kids who don't naturally see themselves as female, male or straight and there's a huge correlation to the kids who start to question themselves or feel like nobody else accepts them [and suicide]," Leonard said.

## CLIMATE STRIKES BACK

Students from East attended the local Climate March to raise awareness about the current climate crisis

### RIGHT

Junior Morghan Golloher ho<mark>lds</mark> a sig<mark>n</mark> she made during a speech at the climate march. "I do research at KU med [...] so work with scientists daily, so I wanted [my sign] to tie into what I believe strongly which is climate change and how scientists have all this information and they're releasing it to the public, yet no one wants to take note of it," Golloher said photo by | sarah golder



### ABOVE

During one of his speeches, politiciar Logan Healy motivates the crowd before the march. "A big point of the rally was how are we going to make a difference if we don't have politicians who will enable that and I thought that was really cool because I feel like a lot of the marches I've been to in the past haven't had that next step," sophomore Christian Alldredge said

photo by | bella wolfe



### POSTER POWER

"I was just trying to think of stuff that hasn't been on a poster yet that's kind of funny, so I just wrote 'I'm running out of trees to hug,'" Freeman said.



### LEFT

On the day
of the march,
juniors Violet
Apodaca and
Lawder DeSantis
paint a sign with
acrylics after
school in the
cafeteria. photo
by | sarah golder



### LEFT

While marching through the plaza, sophomore Christian Alldredge chants with others after the rally. "Me, Violet Apodaca and Paige Good who were the other recruitment leaders got together and we were like what can we do?' so we started telling people about [the march] by promoting it on social media and handing out flyers [...] and we got Sherman to let us use the cafeteria Friday before the march to make posters," Alldredge said. photo by | sarah golder

### BOTTOM LEFT

Junior Ellie Freeman holds a sign she painted while listening to a speaker. "It's important to spread awareness about this situation because it's sort of a dire situation that we're in and a lot of people are just choosing not to believe that we're in trouble." Freeman said. photo by | bella wolfe

### **SCAN ME**



To see more photos from this event, scan this code to check out our Climate Change gallery on smeharbinger.net



**by**|maddox mogenson

n preparation for the Global Climate Strike at the Country Club Plaza on Sept. 20, students met in the East cafeteria to make signs, discuss the issue of climate change and hear student advocates speak about climate change and their coinciding beliefs.

A collection of around 700 KC metro community members, many of whom were students and activists, gathered in the Plaza with the goal of spreading climate change awareness. The Plaza protest was part of a global movement initially developed by 350, an international organization focused on bettering the planet. After news of 350's plans to protest spread, hundreds of strikes and protests were held in cities across the globe along with supporters of climate change education.

The Plaza strike was organized by Sunrise Movement Kansas City, a local branch of a national conglomerate that, like 350, urges youth to prioritize bettering the world's climate.

Sunrise Hub trainer and Recruitment team leader Khiana Harris was one of the rally planners. Her role in the rally, along with preliminary planning, was to involve youth. According to Harris, involving young people in world issues will help the upcoming generation become more educated and facilitate the conflict of solving those issues.

"That's a big part of what Sunrise is all about," Harris said.

"We have to be the ones to take charge and we have to be the ones that do something about it."

One of Harris' jobs was finding and recruiting students from all around KC to join the rally. Along with joining the rally, students were encouraged to participate in a school walkout.

One of the recruited students, junior Violet Apodaca, hosted a pre-rally preparation event in the cafeteria after school.

Originally, Apodaca had planned a walkout in alignment with Harris' plans but due to district policy prohibiting walkouts that interfere with the school day, the event was moved to the cafeteria and after school hours. This minor obstacle didn't stop her from speaking out and recruiting East's student body in the fight against climate change.

"I feel like at our school, we talk about a lot of issues like gun violence, but we haven't ever really done something for climate change," Apodaca said. "So, I really just wanted to be involved in the global movement."

Instead of the walk-out, she had the event attendees make posters for the later rally at the Plaza. This way, she could still work towards her goal of spreading awareness without infringing on district policy, while preparing for the city's rally.

Along with making posters, three students, including Apodaca, delivered speeches about climate change and what change looks like to them.

Junior Paige Good was one of three students who spoke at the cafeteria. She believes, like Harris, that Generation Z is a vital piece in advocating for future policy change.

"[My goal is] raising awareness and making sure kids know that it's okay to be passionate about something and to be involved in it," Good said.

Sophomore Christian Alldredge also spoke at the afterschool event. He believes that students and all people in general should be knowledgeable about social issues such as climate change in order to learn how to develop solutions.

"If we're not taught to be conscious consumers, if we're not taught to be avid recyclers, if we're not taught to reuse our stuff that we potentially will not reuse, we're never going to know," Alldredge said. "We're never going to learn."

At the rally, these students participated in the large step towards fixing the global climate problem. According to Harris, the rally acted as an important initiative thanks to the signing of the Green New Deal pledge — a pledge for a national bill that will address climate change — by Kansas City mayor Quinton Lucas during the event.

"The powers that he has as mayor and the things that he's going to be doing he'll be looking at them through a comprehensive lens of not just social justice and economic



### PAIGE GOOD

"We are the youth. Most of us do not have voting power. We will be the ones impacted by global warming and we have no choice but to take this into our own hands."

O8 | NEWS

# NOW SHOWING...

Tivoli Cinemas is reopening in the Nelson Atkins Art Museum after closing its Westport location

by caroline chisholm

ess than a year after closing its doors in Westport, the historic Tivoli Cinemas is reopening in a more recognizable location — the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art on Oct. 21.

The Tivoli was one of a handful of local independent theaters to show history, art and documentary films. It operated for nearly four decades, but closed in April for financial reasons.

The Tivoli at the Nelson will hold a special showing of the film, "The General," in the 1933 Atkins Auditorium — primarily for donors, with a limited number of public tickets available.

However, just two days later, the theater will launch to the public, showing a variety of independent, foreign and artistic films, according to the Nelson website.

Upon hearing the news of the Tivoli closing, CEO and Director of the Museum and East parent, Julian Zugazagoitia, called Tivoli owner Jerry Harrington to find a way for the theater to continue showing unique films in the community. He pondered on the idea of the theater possibly becoming a part of the Nelson.

"When he announced that he was closing, I was traveling and I called him saying 'Don't talk to anyone about anything,'" Zugazagoitia said. "I wanted him to wait until we talked and worked something out together."

According to Zugazagoitia, Harrington was thrilled to partner with the Nelson and jumped on the offer to re-open at the Nelson. With the opening of the theater, Harrington will serve as film curator at the museum, where he will choose which films are shown.

Zugazagoitia felt that bringing the theater to the Nelson was an opportunity to show off another important art form. The Nelson has explored paintings, writings, sculpture work and even music, but never film.

The museum focuses on displaying historical art forms from all across the world, and so did the Tivoli through its films before closing, according to Zugazagoitia. Although the two institutions focused on different mediums previously, their commonalities made their partnership a great fit.

"We felt when the theater closed that a venue for high quality art films had disappeared," Zugazagoitia said. "As a house of the muses, film being one of the muses, we thought we had to give [Tivoli] a new home.

People love [Harrington's]

programs and the Nelson so it was a great opportunity to bring two brands together."

As manager of strategic initiative for the Nelson, Casey Slaps is leading the initiative alongside Zugazagoitia. The humanity and artistic importance of film was one of the areas the Nelson needed to explore, according to Slaps.

"We are, as the Nelson-Atkins, the key holders and the stewards of the greatest examples of creativity in human history," Slaps said. "Our mission is to showcase what humanity is able to do. In that vein, film is one of those art forms that very much speaks to our mission and our outlook on what we should be doing to serve the community."

According to Slaps, independent film houses are struggling to keep up financially. With the loss of Tivoli and the Cinemark on the Plaza, she believes that midtown Kansas City is going through a shortfall, so "it just made sense" to find the film house a new home.

"You cannot do without having independent movies, foreign films, documentaries or old movies being restored because people need to get the whole expanse of what movie making is and has been," Zugazagoitia said. "The museum, that is what we are, we give you access to history



We are, as the Nelson-Atkins, the key holders and the stewards of the greatest examples of creativity in human history. Our mission is to showcase what humanity is able to do. In that vein, film is one of those art forms that very much speaks to our mission and our outlook on what we should be doing to serve the community."

**casey slaps |** manager of strategic initiative

and culture, so in that sense [the Nelson and Tivoli] are very much aligned."

Senior Margaret Veglahn recalls enjoying her experience at the Tivoli theatre when it was located in Westport and is excited to explore another art form in the Nelson.

"It is definitely a different atmosphere than a normal movie theater, and I think moving it to the Nelson is a really cool idea," Veglahn said. "The Nelson has been developing so much that I think [film] has been a hole that people have noticed. Film was something that makes a lot of sense to fit there"

### HISTORY OF TIVOLI CINEMAS

**YEAR OPENED: 1983** 

**ORIGINAL LOCATION: Westport Road** 

**SECOND LOCATION:** Manor Square, Westport

DATE CLOSED: April 11, 2019

### OTHER MEDIUMS

### PHOTOGRAPHY

### **GOLDEN PROSPECTS**

**SEPT. 6-JAN. 26** 

This exhibit delivers a critical look through photos and images in the gold mines of California in the 1800s that portray the evolution of mine technology and the uprising of integration in the American West

### PRINTMAKING

### ALBRECHT DÜRER

JULY 17-JAN. 12

This exhibit acknowledges the life of Albrecht Durer as an innovative Artist in the Northern Renaissance who influenced the contemporary style of textures and light to reveal an art form of printmaking for next-coming generations.

### COUTURE & ACCESSORIES

### FASHIONABLE LUXURIES

JUNE 6-DEC. 15

This exhibit displays fashion masterpieces through the 1500-1700s which represented elaborate wealth with an intricate weaving process and brocaded fabrics that lavish dressed the high-class Europeans.



design by | maddox mogenson OPINION | 09

### OPINION

# HIGHLIGHTS

A look into student opinions and the opinion section

### HOMECOMING OPINIONS

WHAT IS THE MOST STRESSEUL DETAIL ABOUT PLANNING HOMECOMING?





Right now [the most stressful part is] probably the afterparty because no one wants to host. There are 40 people in our group and nobody wants to have 40 people at their house.

megan angell | sophomore

WHAT'S YOUR IDEAL HOMECOMING AFTERPARTY THEME?





[My ideal homecoming afterparty theme is] something easy that doesn't require me to buy any extra clothes.

sean battey | senior

### LOCATION FIXATION

Having friends' locations is a prominent cause of feeling left out

by | maddox mogenson

here is nothing worse than looking on Snap Map and seeing your friend group hanging out without you.

Snap Map, Find My Friends, Life<sub>3</sub>60 — these three are just a few of many apps that allow your location to be tracked. While most of these are used by untrusting parents, I use them as a left-out friend.

I constantly find myself zooming in and out of Snap Map, the built-in map feature on Snapchat. Most people probably think I'm being "stalker-ish," when in reality I'm going down a rabbit hole of nerves.

I've always been a worried friend. Any time I call someone and get sent to voicemail or send a text that never receives a response, I instantly think that everyone's at a huge party without me.

Sure, you can call me overdramatic and high-maintenance. But my FOMO — fear of missing out — is real.

Our generation is already a very anxious one. It seems that every day someone is freaking out about something. With school stressors and extracurriculars already being placed on students, the anxiety of being excluded is something that should be an afterthought.

Location is also something that friends use to show their loyalty. In my case, my Bitmoji only shows up on my closest friends' maps.

This also creates an entirely new sense of anxiety - a friend may not be good enough to earn the knowledge of another friend's location. The feeling of not having the reciprocation of location is worse than failing your HOTA test you thought you aced.

As much as I hate location apps, there is the occasional good use for them.

Life360 is an app that many parents can use to track driving speed and driving routes. As much as this helps parents sleep at night, it definitely doesn't help me. Thanks, Life360, for letting my parents know I sped down Mission to get to school.

These location apps can also aid worried parents in the search for their child's location. If they're not responding to their calls and texts, a quick consult with Find My Friends will alleviate that stress.

Too had I don't have kids I still have a while until I have to worry about my children sneaking out past their curfew, but until then, I'll do my best to avoid checking up on my peers.



SHE'S HERE. SHE'S WALKING. SHE'S PERFECT. WE'RE DECEASED @ZENDAYA #EMMYS2019

**V MAGAZINE |** 09/22/19

NEW: TROPICAL STORM #KAREN HAS FORMED IN THE WINDWARD ISLANDS THIS MORNING, AND A VARIETY OF WATCHES AND WARNINGS ARE IN EFFECT. A TROPICAL STORM WATCH COULD BE ISSUED LATER TODAY FOR PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS. FULL ADVISORY: HURRICANES.GOV

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PATRICK MAHOMES STARS AGAIN AS CHIEFS BEAT THE RAVENS IN LONG-AWAITED HOME OPENER

KANSAS CITY STAR | 09/22/19

### **OPINIONATED**

ARE ANXIETY DISORDERS CASUAL OR A SERIOUS ISSUE? | 297 VOTES

18% CASUAL

82% SERIOUS

DO YOU ENJOY LISTENING TO BROADWAY CAST RECORDINGS? | 257 VOTES

33% TOTALLY

**67% NOT REALLY** 

THRIFTING OR BUYING BRAND NEW? | 289 VOTES

51% THRIFTING

49% BRAND NEW

SHOULD BROADWAY TURN MOVIES INTO MUSICALS? | 219 VOTES

42% YES PLEASE

**NEVER** 

## RETHINK

# Society shouldn't stigmatize those who thrift out of financial necessity

### THINK — CHANGE — GIVE

Three things to keep in mind as you thrift



**by**|phoebe hendon

rom so-called "VSCO girls" to "eboys," punk rockers to sustainable activists, everyone seems to get their clothes from the same place: thrift stores.

Despite thrift shopping's current popularity, there's a thick, red line we're all denying the existence of. A line that draws a distinction between socially acceptable thrift shopping between privileged —

thrift

careful management, especially of money

primarily white — teens who shop for the mere trend of it all, and those who use thrifting as public welfare.

Given the undeniable stigma around individuals and families who rely on thrift shopping as a way to provide for their families, it's not in the place of people in the higher socioeconomic classes to deem thrifting as a "cute social trend." What exists as a means for us to find vintage tees that go down to our thighs and easy outfits for school dance after parties is so much more.

We don't always look up to see the people shopping around us. Single mothers fighting for GEDs stopping by to get a new pair of shoes for a job interview. College students living out of their cars, so broke they can barely afford ramen, desperately looking for a winter coat without any holes in it. Senior citizens spread too thin paying medical bills hoping there's a pair of jeans in their size because their current ones have gotten too ratty.

These are all realities most of us can't even begin to imagine. I've grown up in a middle class family, which for me means never having to worry about where my next meal might come from or how I'm going to afford new clothes. Regardless of my circumstances, there are members of our community, even in our school, who hide vastly different backstories. For them, no matter how trendy it is now, they'll always carry a complicated relationship with thrifting.

An East student who chose to remain anonymous reached out to me and revealed that though she sports an almost entirely thrifted wardrobe now, it wasn't always a choice. In elementary school, her family couldn't afford the same clothes her classmates wore, so she grew up shopping primarily at thrift stores.

Other people's negative perspectives of thrifting brought on lasting insecurities and social rejection. She grew up thinking she was lesser because of her clothing, because her peers were implying her identity and her family were something to be ashamed of.

My intent isn't to get all "holier-thanthou" and try to ban everyone at East from thrifting. I mean, I'd pretty much be the biggest hypocrite in the world — all of my baggy, collegiate sweatshirts are thrifted, and every shirt that goes past my shorts is straight from the men's XL section. Thrifting is a budget-conscious and environmentally friendly way to shop, and it's become a large part of teenage expression.

I realize I'm part of a large group who thrifts because of thrifting's rise in cultural popularity. But where has the newfound obsession with thrift shopping come from? I quickly came across the answer the way I come across most of the important things in my life — political memes, videos of dogs and turtles becoming friends and Chrissy Teigen's tweets — by scrolling through social media.

In the influencer era, it's no surprise the trend seems to originate on the Internet. Your favorite Los Angeles-based YouTuber uploads her thrifting haul videos to millions of followers and before you know it, everyone is thrifting. Suddenly seeing girls with messy buns and boys with cuffed jeans in every shop from Salvation Army to

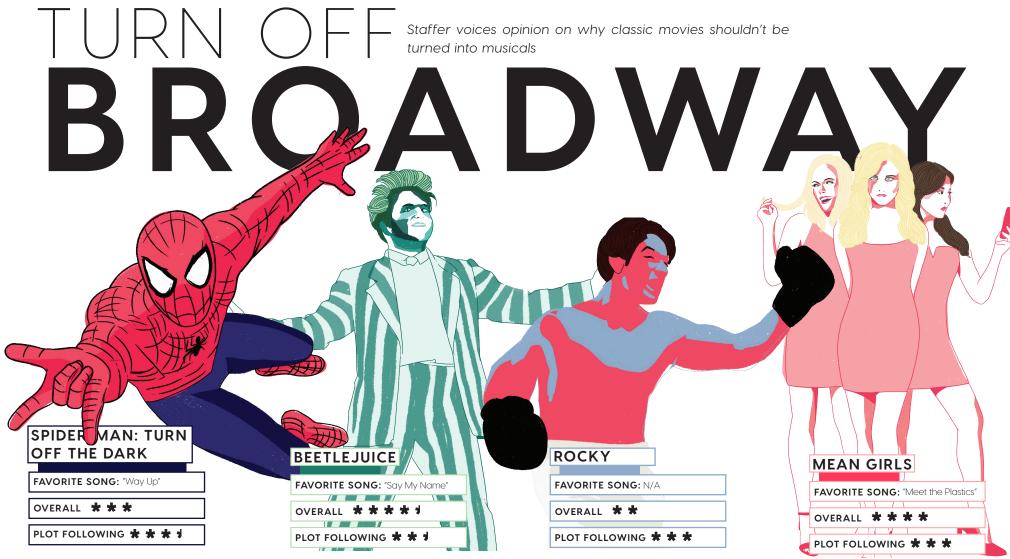
Plato's Closet is completely normal.

But it hasn't always been, and it's important to recognize the privilege that allows us to treat thrifting as an Internet-supported fashion moment instead of an institution that allows individuals to provide themselves with basic needs.

So how can we give back to a system that, while not made for us, has been so beneficial? Start by dropping off some of your old clothes in a donation box. Instead of shopping only from stores like Arizona Trading Company in Westport that primarily operate through buying clothes from sellers and pricing them up to appeal to an indie-hipster market, look for places that directly benefit the underprivileged. Thrift stores like Savers partner with and donates portions of their profit to local nonprofits.

No matter the similarities in the purchases of a high schooler and a fourperson family running on one minimum wage salary, there's a massive difference in the way they're treated by society. The next time you pop into City Thrift to see if you can nab a Grateful Dead T-shirt, take into consideration the myriad of stories that surround you, and ask yourself how you can help lessen the stigmatization of thrift shopping.

design by | sarah bledsoe OPINION | 11 illustrations by | lilah faye



**by**||lila tulp

o one loves breaking out into unplanned song and dance more than I do — hell, I've seen "Mamma Mia" so many times I'm practically an honorary member of the Dynamos — and if I had just an ounce of musical talent, my name would be written in lights on the Broadway marquee.

I'm sure the Broadway gods had me in mind when they announced that some of my all-time favorite movies were going to make the transition from the big screen to the stage. They thought I'd be flying first class to the Big Apple, and ordering tickets as soon as presale was released, but boy were they wrong. Just because a plot is good on screen, doesn't mean it will translate well put to lyrics.

Regina George displayed her horrible-but-hilarious spoiled brat-titude in her 2018 Broadway debut, and Rocky was seen swinging and singing on stage a few years before. Allie and Noah's love story is set to unfold under the stage lights just a few months from now and, announced last Tuesday, Miranda Priestly will be storming the stage to rule the fashion empire in song. These four *cinematic* masterpieces have made it on the far too long list of moviesturned-musicals in the past five years —

and I'm not here for it.

And based on the live shows' ratings and reviews, neither are others — there's just no need to ruin a perfectly good movie, especially when it means losing the quintessential Broadway originality.

The track-record of these shows have been, well, "Rocky." "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" failed miserably. "Carrie" was not shut down once but twice. And "The Wedding Singer" should've stuck to singing at weddings, not on Broadway Ave.

Generations (i.e. mine) that have been raised on these movies just aren't that into these musical adaptations of our childhood, especially when they leave out crucial parts of the films — I mean seriously, you can't just take Rasputin out of "Anastasia," he's the best part. He's the *villain*, the conflict, the story.

To be completely honest here, I haven't flown to NYC to see any of these parroted shows in person — I've done my research through New York Times' critical reviews to validate my initial reaction, and even spent over eight hours listening to the soundtracks on Spotify. And let me tell you, the songs are good and the singers are absolutely Broadway-picked, they didn't make my ears bleed. In fact, the notes were

perfectly-pitched, even so to the point where I've been humming a few of these catchy tunes on my ride to school, but that's not the point.

We don't need fluffy songs to move along an already well-developed plot, that's why it was a *movie* in the first place.

The music of Tina Fey's "Mean Girls: The Musical" is catchy, sure, but as far as serving a purpose, there is none. There's no organic reason as to why our characters feel the sudden urge to break out into song and coincidentally choreographed dance moves. every. single. scene. And the Plastics don't need to sing about being "the prettiest poison you've ever seen" and "never weighing more than 115" — queue "Meet the Plastics" — when the plot and script are already centered around that fact.

Now if your Broadway-blood wasn't already boiling, here's the part where those of you who swear by live shows might lose their musical marbles. Broadway's tendency to pull highly-rated movies and turn them into what they think will be highly-rated musicals has lead theater to lose its originality. Sure there's the groundbreaking original shows like Hamilton and The Book of Mormon — both of which I've seen and left the theater in awe — but for every one

of those, there's four more "Beetlejuices."

Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice, Be-came an overnight sensation thanks to Tik-Tok-featured songs and award-winning apocalyptic-esque set designs. But this frantic adaptation of Tim Burton's original tries too hard to keep you on your toes—so much so that the tunes exhausted me, forcing me to focus on them alone rather than studying the Constitution for AP Gov.

I don't want to sit here and bash on the hard work of these producers, and I'm not saying there are zero exceptions to these musical monstrosities, because there are some. Let's take "Legally Blonde" for example: Elle Woods' perfectly pink style and killer confidence transitioned to the stage seamlessly. The music made sense and the flow of the songs with the plot was perfectly thought out — but that's just because I saw the musical three times at Starlight before I was exposed to the movie.

For people who haven't seen the originals, sit back, enjoy the show and let me know how it is, but I'll be saving my ticket for a fresher storyline. You know I love an impromptu song and dance break as much as the next girl, but it's time for Broadway to focus on their originals — because piggybacking off of films just isn't cutting it.

12 | OPINION design by | rose kanaley

Staffer finds teens overdiagnosing themselves with anxiety and seeing it as a trend rather than a serious mental illness



Statistics over anxiety disorders and their effects on the population and polls over East students

\*information courtesy of the anxiety and depression association of america



OF PEOPLE WITH ANXIETY DISORDERS RECEIVE EFFECTIVE HELP



OF AMERICANS SELF-DIAGNOSE ONLINE BEFORE SEEING A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL



OF THE POPULATION IS AFFECTED BY ANXIFTY DISORDERS EVERY YEAR

DO YOU THINK PEOPLE MISDIAGNOSE THEMSELF WITH ANXIETY? INSTAGRAM POLL | 290 VOTES

83% YES

17% NO

DO YOU EVER HEAR PEOPLE MAKE JOKES ABOUT ANXIETY? INSTAGRAM POLL | 276 VOTES

NO

YES

by I sydney decker

our heartbeat quickens, your palms are drenched in sweat, a nauseous feeling takes over your stomach as you worry you won't make it through what you're about to endure.

Anxiety. Everyone's felt it at one point or another. Whether it's before the test your grade depends on, or seconds before a socratic seminar - anxious feelings are a part of high school and

But feeling anxious and having a diagnosed anxiety disorder are far from the same thing. People need to stop carelessly and publicly self-diagnosing themselves with mental disorders and learn the difference between healthy anxiety and a clinical disorder.

Based on how much the word "anxiety" gets thrown around in school and on social media these days, you'd think everyone is suffering from an anxiety disorder. Anxiety disorders and panic attacks have become trendy and almost desirable among modern teenagers.

People, especially teenagers and millennials, have been misdiagnosing themselves when they don't get a text back from their crush or they don't know if they can pass the upcoming AP U.S. History test. I've lost track of how many times I've heard a classmate generalize an anxiety disorder as casual nerves or butterflies.

Another commonly used term that goes along with "having an anxiety disorder" when you're stressed about going into a DECA competition, is panic attacks.

It's hard to go through a five-minute passing period without hearing someone complain about the "panic attack" they had last night after their favorite Bachelor contestant didn't receive a rose. According to MedlinePlus, symptoms of panic attacks can include difficulty breathing and heart palpitations — it's not a synonym for being stressed. It's common and understandable for teens to experience anxious feelings. But it's not okay to equate these feelings to a mental disorder, no matter how quirky or relatable social media makes them seem.

Whether the misdiagnosis comes from someone seeking attention or lack of awareness and education about the disorder, the self-diagnosed "anxiety disorder" needs to stop being thrown around so casually and people must be educated properly in order to do so.

According to the National Institute of Mental Health, symptoms may vary depending on the particular disorder, but can include excessive worrying about everyday situations, constant fear of being judged or unwanted, becoming easily fatigued, avoiding social situations, trouble falling asleep and many others. For someone struggling with an anxiety disorder, certain situations like cancelling a lunch date with your friend because you've never been there before, doesn't necessarily cause the anxiety, but it ignites and intensifies it.

Possessing one or two of these qualities doesn't mean you have a disorder. It takes a combination of these symptoms to lead to an anxiety disorder. Normally when someone is diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, it's because there's not a specific reason as to why they feel anxious — they have irrational, constant panic.

"When it comes to [normal anxiety], you can point to a reason why and that's okay: that's normal," Psychology teacher Brett Kramer said. "For people diagnosed with generalized anxiety

or obsessive compulsive disorder, it has to be something that interrupts their ability to live a normal day-to-day life."

According to Kramer, people with non-clinical anxiety have tolerance for issues and inconveniences that face them every day, whereas people with a diagnosed disorder are beyond that threshold for tolerance.

People begin to exaggerate their nerves or the butterflies in their stomach and justify an anxiety disorder. If they feel sad they think they have depression, and if their room is always clean they have OCD.

When you falsely claim you have a mental disorder, it can greatly affect others around you - if they struggle with said disorder themselves, or know someone with the disorder.

"If you're sitting next to someone who is diagnosed with [a mental disorder] and they hear you say that insensitively, that can be very hurtful and it is probably absolutely crippling to their day to day life," Kramer said.

The casual use of this word in the false context can take away the seriousness of the disorder and can cause it to lose significance when a true case of a clinical disorder presents itself.

If a person genuinely believes they have an anxiety disorder, they need to see a professional. More caution should be attributed to the subject to prevent diagnosing oneself with a mental disorder that isn't there.

It's not trendy or unique to self-diagnose yourself with an



When it comes to anxiety, you can point to a reason why and that's okay: that's normal. For people diagnosed with generalized anxiety or obsessive compulsive disorder, it has to be something that interrupts their ability to live a normal day to day life.

**brett kramer** | teacher

anxiety disorder of any kind, and it shouldn't be used to gain sympathy or as an excuse. As specified by Kramer, an anxiety disorder is a very complex topic that must be handled as such. An umbrella term for several different mental health disorders, anxiety disorders include generalized anxiety disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), just to name a few.

There needs to be more sensitivity and better education about anxiety disorders to prevent future misconceptions. If you feel anxiety in certain circumstances, your feelings are valid and normal, but that doesn't automatically mean you have clinical anxiety and you shouldn't treat it as such. Anxiety disorders are real, diagnosable conditions that prevent a person from living the life they'd like due to their high levels of anxiety and low tolerance for that anxiety.

The next time you go to complain about an undiagnosed mental disorder, consider the inconsideracy of doing so around someone who is actually diagnosed with clinical anxiety, and if you believe you have an anxiety disorder, see a professional or a therapist to find a way to live the life you deserve.



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# GAME OF MOLDAY

Where: Shawnee Mission East cafeteria

When: 6:02 a.m. on October 23

14 | FEATURES **design by |** natasha thomas

### **FEATURE**

# HIGHLIGHTS

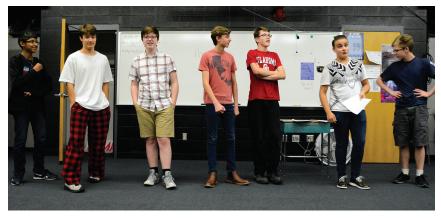


**BELOW** Practicing for the Fall Concert on Oct 3, choir teacher Ken Foley gives the Choraliers the signal to hold the last note in the song. **photo by |** bella wolfe



TOP Senior Brynn Winkler gets distracted by her friends while trying to make the Coalition bake sale banner. **photo by |** ty browning

**RIGHT** Freshman and sophomore boy auditionees do ar improv exercise during their audition for Nick Edge's Frequent Friday. photo by | annakate



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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NO SCHOOL **GRADES K-12** 

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### BRYN MONTRY

### **FEATURED ARTIST**



### **HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR** STYLE AS AN **ARTIST?**

"I like to make sculptures as opposed to drawing or stuff that you can tell exactly what it is. So more abstract."

### WHAT IS THE INSPIRATION BEHIND YOUR MOST **RECENT PIECE (THE GOLDEN APPLE)**

"So Mr. Fink did a project on health back in the day, and I didn't really want to do something annoying

like 'a pill.' So I decided to do a golden apple from Greek mythology. So this sounds weird but the girls in the Greek town really wanted the Golden Apple because they thought it brought beauty and health and the golden apple | bryn montry fairness, but it actually



was a hoax that brought bad luck. So the black ooze is like the hoax and the bad luck of the apple.

### DO YOU WANT TO DO ANYTHING WITH ART **AFTER HIGHSCHOOL?**

"Well, if I had my choice to do anything in life after high school it would be art, but nobody really tells you that that's what you should go into because it's 'dangerous,' but I guess if you have the right connections and you're good enough, then you could pull it off. Not sure if that's me or not."

### SCAN ME | CLINIC GUIDE

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Shawnee Mission College Clinic Guide now for a list of colleges attending, clinic timetable and

## FILLE FRANÇAISE PREND

# LE KANSAS

East's new foreign exchange student from France – senior Emma Pouteau adjusts to life at East



AMAZING AMERICA

Emma's favorite things about living in America as an exchange student

### CHICK FIL A

fast food chicken resturaunt

### LOOSE PARK

home of the rose gardens

### **EXTRA CURRICULARS**

tennis & cross country

**by**|lauren west

"I WANT THAT," said senior Emma Pouteau, staring blankly at the chicken nugget meal on the menu above.

Senior Megan Funkey stepped up to order for her.

As teenagers piled into Chick-Fil-A before the East vs. West home opener soccer game, Pouteau took it all in. The long line, the cluster of people waiting for their to-go bags and the workers tapping away on their screens taking orders.

Pouteau is a foreign exchange student from the suburbs of France who decided to join AFS — a foreign exchange program that sends high schoolers across the world to discover new cultures and meet new

Aug. 7 marked her first day in the United States. Coming from a school of 360 students, East was just one example of how things always seem to be bigger in America. Pouteau says her drive from KCI to Prairie Village was eye-opening — the wide roads, Ford trucks and spread-out buildings kept her eyes glued out the window.

She is staying until next July with her host family the Wiebe's - a local Briarwood family. Back home, Pouteau only has one older brother so she's enjoying the new role of a "big sister" to her two siblings in second and fourth grade. Her host mom, Emily Wiebe, is a math teacher at Trailridge Middle School and her host dad is the orchestra teacher at Shawnee Mission South. Her host father, Jonathan Wiebe, is involved in a foreign exchange program with a music school from Germany that has sent directors to Shawnee Mission South. His connections to counselors allowed his family easy access to joining AFS.

Last June, the Wiebe's scrolled through bios provided by students in AFS to see who would be the best fit for them.

"For a lot of different reasons we really liked Emma's letter," Wiebe said. "Our oldest is in fourth grade and has read quite a few 'Harry Potter' books. In Emma's letter she says her hero is Hermione and our oldest daughter was like 'she's the one,' 'she's the one,' 'she's the one."

Pouteau may only be 15, but she's enrolled at East as a senior. Her four-year background in English has helped her quickly adjust to life at an American high school. She's involved in painting class, choir and cross country - all of which aren't available at her school in France.

According to senior Megan Funkey, she and a few friends met Pouteau during painting class. Their relationship grew as Pouteau began skipping the cross country warm-up laps to watch Funkey and her friends play tennis.

"For the first week I had no idea who she was, let alone she was a foreign exchange student," Funkey said. "She knew a couple people sitting at our table and started sitting with us and we'd all ask her about what France was like."

According to Pouteau, school in France is much more difficult and much less fun. The teachers at East care more about the students' well-being and are less focused on what their grade is. In Pouteau's school in France, every student is enrolled in the same class by grade and there are no elective classes or extracurriculars, except the choice of Latin and Greek. Instead of getting out at 2:40, school starts at 8 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. with long breaks throughout the day.

Pouteau says the hardest part about being away from France is the food. With the normal routine of grabbing a pastry for breakfast and French baguettes at every



In Emma's letter she says her hero is Hermione and our oldest daughter was like 'she's the one, she's the one, she's the one."

### emily wiebe | host mom

meal, she misses the traditional homecooked meals. However, she says her host family does a wonderful job of making healthy, delicious meals - although she could eat Chick-Fil-A any day.

Apart from the food, Pouteau has found small struggles with the language barrier despite those four years of English classes.

"I have the word I want to say in my head, but with an accent I can't say it," Pouteau said. "When I say [a word] people don't understand and I think 'what?' I'm telling you. And then I can't speak after that because then I think people won't understand me."

Wiebe thinks, despite the different food and language barrier, that Pouteau has adjusted well in her first two months of being here.

"Emma is a very outgoing girl," Wiebe said. "She is very easy to talk to and has a very bright smile I think people are drawn to. She tries absolutely anything and seems comfortable, considering she's halfway around the world."



**by** | riley atkinson

ield 18 was a couple hundred feet away, a couple hundred feet too far for her crutch to take her.

So instead, East parent Audrey Chinnock rolled up and hobbled her way onto the 3&2 baseball bleachers to watch her son play.

One glance at the wheelchair made Caroline, her family friend, blurt her confusion with seven-year-old bluntness — she didn't like that Audrey was still "hurt," she didn't like the way she couldn't walk around the park with her and she really didn't like that she would never fully recover.

Chinnock responded with a smile and a "you have to look on the bright side of this bummer."

And together, while the umpire and other fans were probably staring, Chinnock and Caroline sang a song from chapel over, and over and over.

"Stay on the sunny side, always on the sunny side, stay on the sunny side of life."

Positivity and humor shine through her life every day — whether that be singing a kids' song at a baseball game or calling the doctor who took her blood at 3 a.m. "Count Dracula." But with the diagnosis of Neuromyelitis Optica, her past two years have been

filled with constant readjustment to a life where some days she can walk around with a crutch and some days she can't get out of her bed.

The incurable disease that leaves most blind or in a wheelchair within five years has impaired her, but also challenged her three kids and husband — pushing and strengthening their faith.

Chinnock went to church and a bible study every week, but it wasn't until after she was rushed to the hospital with trouble breathing and loss of feeling in her legs that she and her family realized the importance of relying on something higher than themselves.



I think [when we found out] we just really had to rely on the Lord because we knew nothing about it at the time

### ava chinnock | junior

She got her blood drawn and spinal taps done in the months of waiting to find results. Her daughter, junior Ava Chinnock, said that they didn't think much of it during the waiting period because they assumed it wouldn't be the bad one — the one the doctors seemed to talk in hushed voices about.

design by | lilah faye

But she was diagnosed with NMO.

"I think [when we found out] we just really had to rely on the Lord because we knew nothing about it at the time," junior Ava Chinnock said. "I mean we'd done some research but it's all just terrible things that happen to people. That was a really hard time for us."

The diagnosis process that lasted from November of 2017 to February of 2018 required her to stay in the neurology ICU unit of KU Med for seven days.

A few nurses who visited — three daytime, two nighttime and a cleaning lady — all opened up to Chinnock about their life stories. One put herself through school after her husband passed away, while another started a non-profit organization to help sick kids after losing one of her own. She knew God gave her these people and their stories to remind her of hope.

"I don't even know if I had 'counselor' on my door, but I felt like people were just opening up to me," Chinnock said. "I just had these remarkable people caring for me and so somehow I just felt like God put these people in my life in those seven days that were so much of a story



of hope, I mean really of resilience."

Before she was rushed to the ER, the family calendar was constantly marked up — she was always busy, and always organized. Now, her schedule runs according to how she feels each day, causing friends and especially family to adjust and step in to help with anything from the physical acts of driving her to infusion appointments to the emotional ones of calling to check up.

Every once in a while, Ava will see the lights on and her mom snoring in her bed at 8 p.m. because of the exhaustion her disease brings. She then goes into the kitchen to grab a glass of water and the orange bottle — she knows her mom's meds need to be taken at night. With a dad who's an ER doctor, an older sister who's four hours away at college and a younger brother, Ava sometimes needs to step into a caretaker role.

The Chinnock kids are always willing to help out, and they always have been, according to family friend Molly McClellend. And as much as their mom tries to keep them out of the tough stuff, their lives have been changed.

When asked to go to the movies, Ava tells her friends she's visiting her mom at the hospital and she's had to ask teachers for extensions on assignments when she can't manage it all in one night. The balance of high school and coping with her mom being sick has been draining, but she's looked to her mom's positivity and faith for inspiration.

"I've prayed a lot and I've tried to have faith, but at the same time it's so so hard when you're going through all of this," Ava said. "I feel like what's made my faith really strong is my mom's faith being so strong because



I just had these remarkable people caring for me and so somehow I just felt like God put these people in my life in those seven days that were so much of a story of hope, I mean really of resilience.

### audrey chinnock | east parent

it's urged me to grow."

According to Ava, her mom has an eye out for God's grace in everything she does, especially in relation to her disease.

Most days when Chinnock wakes up in the morning her legs feel stiff and her torso burns while her nerves wake up. But on the days that she manages, she makes her way over to a chair in the dining room and picks up her beat-up blue bible.

"Audrey wakes up everyday with the courage to meet it head on and with the mindset that she's not gonna let it take her down," friend Susan Langford said. "She's not letting anything stop her from trying to live life as normally as she always has and there are definitely good days and bad days, but I feel like she's handled [this diagnosis] with so much courage and grace to hope that today is a good day and she can be the Audrey she's always been."

She's not going to stop spending mornings in prayer. Her humor will always be there, even at the toughest doctors visits. And she will continue to wheel up to the front row at Cole's baseball games — humming "Stay on the Sunny Side."

An unconventional art class impacts the lives of not only the students, but the owner and teacher of Art in the Attic

s she combs through the fluorescently lit aisles of Hobby Lobby looking for large tubes of acrylic paint and yards of canvas, Carol Schieszer prepares to restock her art supply drawers and see the smiles she brings to her students in her studio – her attic.

Schieszer is the owner of the eclectic home studio called "Art in the Attic." The walls are painted all colors of the rainbow and crammed with 17 years' worth of student-made specific projects, like tin can cars and beaded jewelry.

Teaching art skills to children in a bohemian-esque art studio was something that had never crossed Schieszer's mind when she first graduated her two-year stint at KU as a fine arts major.

Schieszer's work hasn't always been this way — for years she worked teaching children's art workshops . But those couldn't compare to the joy of having her own art studio allowing her to teach kids to make "fabulous" pillows and feed them copious amounts of Welch's fruit snacks.

"I never really had a career plan," Schieszer said. "I just knew I wanted to be an artist and had always loved working with children."

After she graduated from college, Schieszer worked as a children's teacher in the Creative Arts Center at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and learned new aspects of art history and techniques — like the perfect brush for painting leaves — which inspired her to teach her own class.

While she had garnered the efficient skills and strategies to aid all types of kids, from quiet to extremely brash, she wasn't completely satisfied. Scheiszer yearned to teach art in a more unstructured, creative environment, rather than in a classroom-style art class.

"I'm very thankful I never got a teaching degree because I am not a very trainable person," Schieszer said "I'd rather teach art in a more unstructured environment because kids needs a place to express their creativity."



Art in the Attic I literally can't get enough of. It makes me want to love more, laugh more and live my life to the fullest.

### carol schieszer | owner

She renovated her own department — she transformed her cobweb covered attic into a personal art studio. Next, she renovated the attic into a children-friendly classroom that would become her part-time job. In 2002, she started part-time and later that year she quit her job to begin working in her attic full-time.

With every week came a new addition, whether it was adding wood slabs or hanging up dragonfly sculptures, or even cutesifying her son's "upstairs hang-out area."

"When I was younger, I used to sometimes think it was an invasion of privacy, but I always loved having a space to create," son Kurt Schieszer said.

A typical session would begin with a brief explanation of the upcoming project along with a demonstration, and then she'd leave the rest of the time for creativity.

"I do have some boundaries in place, but I'm not going to enforce one of the kids to stay in his seat and be quiet, that's not what I am about," Schieszer said.

Some ground rules include working on the given project and — when needed — volume control.

"It just makes [me] teary how much I see happiness and joy I bring to these kids," Schieszer said. "because life can be so stressful, even for kids."

Walking into "Ms. Carol's" house invites a sense of relief and excitement for her students, according to former student Riley McCullough. Instead of walking into a pre-set chair-and-desk classroom, her students walk through the plexiglass door and up the creaky orange stairs to the loft. The 10-inch-thick table, stacked with dry paint buildup, takes up most of the room.

"When I would go to Ms. Carol's

house, she made me more comfortable with messing up and learning to appreciate myself for my mistakes," McCullough said.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO ART IN THE ATTIC? | 278 VOTES

42% YES

58% NO

The designated area in the front of her attic overflows with thank-you notes and cards, thanking "Ms. Carol" for painting their faces with smiles. Being able to constantly spread love and light to her students is what makes Schieszer continue to teach kids the true meaning of art and what it takes to be kind to one another.

"Ms. Carol is one of a kind, and sometimes I would go to classes just to be in her presence," McCullough said

Whether it's through her wacky sayings, high pitched screams of encouragement or just the warm embrace of her hugs, she brings lightness and creativity to all of her students' lives.

Now that she has nearly 18 years of teaching, she has no other desire than to keep on creating and inspiring.

"Art in the Attic I literally can't get enough of," Schieszer said, "It makes me want to love more, laugh more and live my life to the fullest."



[ART IN THE ATTIC] FEELS
AUTHENTIC TO ME, YOU CAN'T
REALLY SAY IT'S BEAUTIFUL,
BECAUSE OF ITS AESTHETIC. IT'S
THE AUTHENTICITY, IT'S THE REAL
DEAL, IT'S AN ART STUDIO THAT
CAN GET MESSY.

carol schieszer | owner

YEARS WORKING AND TEACHING AT THE NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART

SPENT A FEW YEART WORKING
AT EAST AS A PART-TIME
TEACHER STARTING IN 2007

07

YEARS SPENT RUNNING HER OUT-OF-HOME ART STUDIO, CLASSES AND CAMPS IN HER ATTIC

MEET MISS CAROL

# STORIES IN THE

# ATTIC



ABOVE LEFT During a class, Schieszer shows them how to craft mosaics. They used the mosaic pieces to make shirts for the portrait project. photo by | sarah golder

RIGHT Schieszer sketches a tree to give to her son, wh<mark>o liv</mark>es in San Francisco, as a gift. **photo by** | Julia percy



photo by | kate







**TOP** Charlie, while working on crafting a person, plays with bolts he was using as eyes **photo by |** sarah golder

BOTTOM On the inside of the door hangs an "ART" sign, made by Schieszer. "[I made those] years ago, for birthday parties for quite a while we did letters that kids collaged so I did them as an example," Schieszer said. photo by | kate nixon

### SCAN ME | WEBSITE



Scan this QR code to be directed to Miss Carol's Art in the Attic website or more information and examples of projects

# YELLOW HAIR

design by | lila tulp photos courtesy of | nancy weber

Senior forfeits her blonde hair for neon yellow bangs and a new sense of self confidence





### REMIX & RECOLOR



The three colors required in styles for the Goldwell Color Zoom 2019 Remix

# DON'T CARE

**by**|annabelle moore

enior Sarah O'Sullivan knows when people see her, they see her hair. They see the stripped down, oncewas-blonde, neon yellow strands that define her past.

Coming to East freshman year, O'Sullivan knew only one person — and that person wasn't herself.

She started as the new girl with pink hair: lava girl to some, hot-girl-with-the-pink-hair to others, O'Sullivan kept on with her head and ponytail high, hiding her insecurities.

Now, in her senior year, O'Sullivan has found her way of expressing herself through her hair color and style.

O'Sullivan began her freshman year working at Lumine Salon. By the end of junior year, her boss and owner of the salon, Nancy Weber, told her to get senior pictures done as soon as she could. Weber wanted O'Sullivan to come to New York City with her in April of 2019, free of charge, and model for her in the 2019 Goldwell Color Zoom Challenge. But there was a catch: going to New York with Weber meant O'Sullivan had to give up something she had always controlled — her hair.

Goldwell is a globally-recognized hair product company that has held several national hair competitions around the world. This year's competition was based off of their new color line: "Remix," an array of bold lip colors and blue bobs. The competition was held during the last week of April with the goal of creating a seamless seventh look for the 2019 Goldwell collection.

Browsing through pictures of this year's Goldwell Color Zoom theme — filled with hair colors of fuschia and green with bangs and pixie cuts — O'Sullivan was skeptical about giving up her hair to Weber, who could then dye and style it any way she wanted to.

Her boyfriend said don't. Her friends said do it. Her mom said go for it.

"Okay. Let's go."

Day one — shopping. O'Sullivan was hopping into Ubers and taxi cabs alone, scrambling to find the perfect outfit to compensate Goldwell's new line. At this point, her hair was bleached white as a baseline for the yellow hair Weber would use the third day.

They finally found the look: a silk green dress, a hot pink trench coat, red leggings and bright red shoes.

Day two — Weber's training — filled with hair coloring classes. Day three — go time.

Stepping foot into a skyscraper whose top floor seemed nonexistent in the meatpacking district of New York, biting their nails and surveying the scene, O'Sullivan and Weber got onto the elevator and headed to the top floor.

Surrounded by white, shiny walls, a huge window and a balcony that led to an ocean view slightly blocked off by skyscrapers, frantic competitors scurry to wash, cut and dye their model's hair. All of them were pining for the same top five slot — O'Sullivan was the only teenage model in the room.

Most of the models there were 30, paid and cranky about what the stylists were doing to their hair. O'Sullivan, on the other hand, went in the competition with an optimistic attitude towards what Weber was doing to her hair. All of this — the city, the competition, the thrill — was her payment.

After 10 hours of dying and washing, Weber was done completing Sarah's look: neon yellow hair with short bangs.

Day four — photoshoot day. Moving down an assembly line of makeup artists and final touch-ups, Cheryl Esposito,

the artist who performed every contestant's makeup, opted for white face paint on O'Sullivan's fair skin to achieve a porcelain finish — like a human mannequin.

Her doll-like appearance gave Weber and O'Sullivan a leg up in the competition.

Being the second to last ones in line, O'Sullivan continued to bite her nails and adjust her yellow hair to prepare for the shoot.

"Standing there, the only way I can describe it is that I felt like I was being photographed during a Vogue photoshoot," O'Sullivan said. "I'm not tall. I'm not the prettiest person, but it felt so good. That was probably the most confident I have ever felt, and I had bright yellow hair."

This was it — her neon pageboy cut was worth it for O'Sullivan

The photographer, Weber and Goldwell staff members gathered around O'Sullivan while she was being photographed because, according to Weber, O'Sullivan was a totally different person behind the camera.

"I don't think [Sarah or I] realized how strong the look we had created was until she got behind the camera," Weber said. "A lot of the people from the color company came up and looked at it. The lead educators from Goldwell came up and looked at it. Then these other educators came up and looked at it—that's when we realized—wow, this look is amazing."

The competition was held during the last week of April with the goal of creating a seamless seventh look for the 2019 Goldwell collection.

Browsing through pictures of this year's Goldwell Color

Leaving the photoshoot and the last day of the competition, O'Sullivan hugged the previous year's winner who was teaching the coloring classes, and he whispered in her ear, "See you in Vienna."

Vienna is where the international Goldwell Global Zoom competition will be held Sept. 27 to Oct. 1.

After nearly two months of waiting for the competition results, O'Sullivan peered down at her phone to see an incoming call from Nancy Weber telling her that they had made the top five in the country, and although they didn't end up making the number one spot they needed to go to Vienna, O'Sullivan used this experience to build her self-confidence to heights she didn't know existed.

"Sarah has always been a risky person," O'Sullivan's friend and senior Jillian Harte said. "Although, having her yellow hair definitely lowered her self confidence which forced her to find other things she loves about herself."

At first, O'Sullivan struggled with things like her hair clashing with her prom dress and boys questioning her about why she colored her hair. But with time, O'Sullivan realized she didn't need normal, blonde hair to be confident.

"I used to not be okay with standing out through my hair, and it's true, it forces people to look and stare at you," O'Sullivan said. "It also forces you to be comfortable with who you are, or you just won't make it. I didn't realize how sad I was before, but then after going through this I have gained so much confidence and I am so grateful for that experience."

Now, O'Sullivan is back to blonde, but plans to dye her hair pink again this school year or before she goes to college.

"In the end, I think a lot of people use hair as a cover up," O'Sullivan said. "Everybody at East — for the most part — has the exact same haircut, style or color. When you see somebody with unique hair it stands out; not being normal took my confidence away which forced me to be confident in the way that I treat people and treat myself — now, I can confidently say that I am pretty. I'm not the prettiest person I know by far, but I am pretty."

# RECORD BREAKING

Junior Max Bunte has been collecting CDs and vinyls since he was in sixth grade

**by** Ilucia barraza

alking into Josey Records, junior Max Bunte is on the hunt. He starts with the rock section, meticulously flipping through each bin of vinyl and CDs. One by one, section by section, he checks every album, waiting anxiously for something to catch his eye and become the newest addition to his collection. After a couple hours, he's finally found it -"Skylarking" by XTC and an album by Big Pink.

Bunte has been collecting CDs and vinyl since he was in sixth grade, when he bought his first album — The Beatles Greatest Hits. Using money he earned from mowing lawns and other odd jobs, his passion for collecting albums began.

Today his collection has grown to around 600 CDs and 100 vinyl albums, all held on a 5-foot high wooden bookcase with four shelves built last year by Bunte and his dad. 70 new albums have found a home on the wooden shelves this year alone. Every album is alphabetized - a system Bunte created last year and took four hours to complete.

"I do it by artist name, and if it's a solo artist then it's by last name," Bunte said. "Then if I have more than one from a particular artist, I do it by when it was released."

Max's dad, Scott Bunte, has a substantial album collection of his own. Complete with six shelves of CDs and vinyl in their basement, it was Scott's collection

that originally inspired Bunte to build a collection of his own.

Whether it's perusing records stores for hours together or trading albums from their collections, their shared love of music and collecting has brought Max and his dad closer over the years.

"It was a reflection of me growing up," Scott said. "He started plugging into these bands that hadn't been popular for 20 years, and loved them. I figured out that this was something that he and I will be able to share."

The two often talk about music-related news or history. According to Scott, they pick each other's minds for new information, teaching one another about new bands they discovered or sharing opinions on artists, music genres and albums.

"It's a special bond that we have, just listening to music, talking about music," Bunte said. "Some of my favorite conversations with my dad are talks about

While his dad's collection is mainly vinyl, Bunte decided to focus more on CDs — a medium he believes is easier to take care of and has better sound quality compared to vinyl, which can be easily scratched or

"In my opinion [CDs have] the best sound [or] audio fidelity than like a vinyl," Bunte said. "A lot of people prefer the warm vinyl sound, but[...]I like to hear every instrument, like every [piece of audio] in the music."

CDs, vinyl and tapes all fall under the

category of physical music media - a medium that Bunte believes is under appreciated in today's world of digital streaming.

"I just feel like you appreciate [the music] more cause it's like a tangible thing that you can touch and feel," Bunte said. "It's an active experience just [playing] it — like you open it up, you read it, instead of just having it on in the background."

Although Bunte's wooden bookshelf is predominantly stuffed with rock albums from the 60s and 70s, it also includes more unique styles of music like Japanese metal rock or reggae. Last month's genre of interest was "weirdo, trippy rock," according to Bunte, and punk, while this month's phase has been mostly music from Africa.

"He's got a ton of really one-off albums that I really would never have heard of anywhere else if he hadn't got them," Bunte's close friend sophomore Christian Alldredge said. "He has an impeccable music taste."

Before ever stepping into a record store, Bunte does his research. From Googling popular albums in specific genres of interest to scrolling through online music forums to see what other music lovers recommend, he usually spends at least 30 minutes a day searching for potential additions to his mental log of albums he might want to buy. He's learned that randomly selecting a CD is

Then he heads to one of his favorite stores: Josey Records, Mills Records,

**Brothers** Music. Half Price Books or his personal favorite — Love Garden Sounds in Lawrence. Normally, he picks the store he hasn't been to for the longest. And when he arrives, heads straight to the punk or rock bins.

FEATURES | 21

He usually loops around the store a couple times to cover all territory. From jazz to the world music section — no bin is left

"Part of the fun and part of the experience is going to record stores and looking for like two hours," Bunte said. "[It's] the thrill of the hunt."

Although he has a mental log of albums he's looking for, he also loves occasionally going in blind — searching for something not on the list, with no particular expectations.

"With vinyl, in my experience, I've been able to take more risks, just going into the store not knowing what you're going to find and buying something that you might not know what it is and sounds like at all but you can just take a risk and try it out," Bunte

But if he is looking for a very specific album that he knows he probably won't find in a store, he tries to order it online.

Bunte hopes to continue expanding his collection and start collecting vinyl pieces of his own. But for now, there's a more urgent task ahead — building a bigger shelf.

### **MAX'S FAVORITE RECORDS -**



A Wizard, A True Star



Remain in Light





Electric Ladyland Larks' Tongues in Aspic

### SCAN ME | SPOTIFY



Check out one of unte's favorite artists n Spotify

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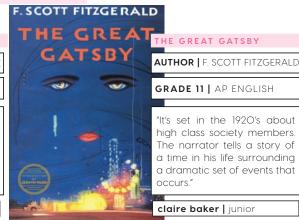
# HIGHLIGHTS

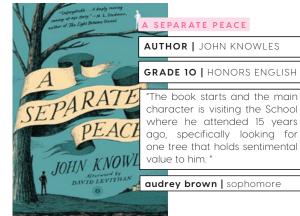
The Harbinger hub for all things trending in the arts and entertainment world

# THE PARENT'S PICK Staffer reviews her parent's favorite movies from their childhoods

### ENGLISH CLASS'S CURRENT READS







TO KILL A TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD SEPARATE PEACE Mockingbirg AUTHOR | HARPER LEE AUTHOR | JOHN KNOWLES GRADE 10 | HONORS ENGLISH The book starts and the main

HARPER LEE

GRADE 9 | HONORS ENGLISH

[A novel] about two kids that ive in Maycomb, Alabama. One summer they meet a new neighbor who gets them fascinated with their creepy neighbor."

calleigh nachtigal | freshman

their favorite movies growing never thought were possible.

parents have constantly been wasn't shocked by this movie. drawing parallels from the stories I've shared about Haney hustling to track down juniors finished this movie was if these who leave during lunch to stereotypes were around today. Principal Richard Vernon from And for the most part, they are. "The Breakfast Club." So, I There's always parents who decided it was time to watch this pressure their kids into playing classic and see the comparison a sport every season or parents for myself.

Before watching this movie, I felt that I already knew most of the plot. I'd seen Nickelodeon's prepared for the stereotypical roam the hall somewhere. characters - the "athlete", "princess", "criminal", "brainiac" and "basket case."

The five stereotypes show up to Saturday detention, forced into one room for the day. As they try to pass time by wandering around the halls and smoking weed, they slowly discover that

I  $\operatorname{\textbf{DECIDED}}$  IT was time to there is a story behind each stop nodding my head and one of them that overrides smiling when my parents made their given stereotypes. From references to their favorite insecurities about virginity movies. If they had to sit through to strained relationships with all three "Kung Fu Panda's", I parents the group of five slowly could take some time to review develop relationships they'd

With that being said, I'm glad For the past month my I've seen this classic — but I

The main question my parents wanted to know after I who only accept "A's". There's pretty girls who go shopping with their parents' money and students who steal from each spoof the movie in a 30-minute others gym lockers. I've yet "Victorious" episode, I knew to meet an artist who'd shake the lyrics to Billy Idol's "Don't dandruff off their head to create You Forget About Me" and I was snow, but I'm sure those weirdos

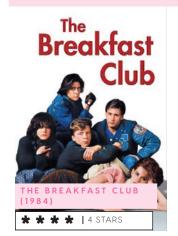
### SCAN ME | ONLINE



reading the rest of Lauren's reviews

### PARENT'S PICKS

Staffer Lauren West's top 80's movie picks



80s comedy-drama about five stereotypical students trying to survive Saturday detention as chases them around."



female secretaries seek revenge on their sexist boss and discover exactly how to handle it by smoking



Two salesmen have the time of their life carina around their dead bosses body to use his luxurious house, car and private beach on vacation. And Jonathan Silverman isn't that hard to stare at.

### RECENT CONCERT



WHO | MAGGIE RODGERS TOUR | HEARD IT IN A PAST LIFE

CONCERT DATE | SEPT. 24



For being in a small space, at the Midland, she performed so well and I thought it was really

meredith mcgannon | junior

# TREAT TO SELF

The extra zero on the price tag for beauty products doesn't make a difference in enjoyment factor

**by**|kelly murphy

WHEN THERE ARE TOO many homework assignments written down in my planner and not enough time for a nap, I often settle for a quick self-care pick-me-up instead. I tested out five affordable and five expensive self-care products to find out which ones you should pick up at Target for cheap and which ones are worth all of your babysitting money.

>>>>>> pamperability \$\$\$\$ affordability \*\*\*\* packaging

**PERFUME PREFERENCES VARY** for everyone — I prefer fresh floral scents, so I picked up the Kindred Goods Rose & Peony perfume at Old Navy. It only cost me \$12 to smell like the gardens at the Versailles Palace in France, so you can bet that this pale pink perfume will be lingering around me for at least the next few weeks.

THE \$95 CARVEN L'Eau de Toilette perfume screamed "Breakfast at Tiffany's" to me — the fancy glass bottle with a glass stopper and ribbon really put it over the top. According to Carven Parfum's website, there are hints of flowers such as peony, freesia and wisteria. But to me, the perfume reminded me of my grandma's musty old living room. I'll have my Old Navy perfume back now, thanks.



### NAIL POLISH





AFTER TRYING OUT the Sally Hansen polish, I was immediately impressed by the thick consistency and wide brush of the Dior Vernis polish. I chose the dark red shade Rouge. I only needed to apply one coat for an even and opaque manicure. The bottle's shiny silver twist off lid was an added bonus for aesthetics. Overall, Dior Vernis both looks and performs like a \$28 polish should, with its sleek packaging and long lasting wear (my manicure looked brand new for weeks).

DON'T GET ME WRONG, I love an inexpensive nail polish, but I was not at all impressed by the Sally Hansen Hard Nails Xtreme Wear nail polish. After browsing the Sally Hansen section at Ulta, I went with a fire engine red called Pucker Up. The biggest problem is its runny consistency, which drips off a thin brush. Even though I applied two coats, this \$3 polish didn't last as long as I was expecting it to — it chipped in two places after one day.

**LUSH'S PINK BATH BOMB** reminded me why Lush is my one stop shop for all things bath. This \$8.95 bath bomb is bright pink and topped with three small white, orange and blue daisies. Its light floral scent didn't make me want to immediately throw it away, unlike the Unicorn Swirl Bath Fizzy. The pink heart confetti scattered on the bottom of the pink dyed waters in my bathtub just about transported me to the set of a rom com.

I'M A SUCKER FOR all things sparkly — I was pulled to the shimmery, tie-dye pastel pink, blue and yellow \$6 Fizz & Bubble Unicorn Swirl Bath Fizzy on the Ulta shelf. But I was disappointed by its powerful and unnatural coconut scent when I plopped into the pink, bubbly bath water. This bath bomb reminded me of my carefree bubble beard making days, but the overpowering scent gave me a headache.



### **EACE MASKS**



**THE EARTHY SCENTED** Drunk Elephant T.L.C. Sukari Babyfacial from Sephora has a thicker consistency than its Target counterpart. The mask is tan colored, but turns clear once rubbed onto your face. Twenty minutes later, my skin felt a bit sticky to the touch but looked so much smoother. The difference in the smoothness of my complexion before and after made the \$80 mask worth it.

A STRONG SCENT of refreshing peppermint hit me as soon as I peeled back the lid on the Nügg Total Refresh Revitalizing & Cooling Face Mask. Each pod is \$4 at Target, but the amount of product allows for three to four uses per container, making it even more of a steal. I only left the clear mask on for five minutes and after I washed it off, my face felt tingly and I caught myself worrying about my upcoming APUSH test less and less. Even so, I didn't end up with the moisturized glow I wanted.

SCAN ME | READ THE REST



# **A FRIGHT** NIGHT OUT READY OR NOT

Staffer reviews two horror comedy films that have just hit theaters to start off the spooky season

**by**|carolyn popper

DRAGGING MY FRIENDS to a movie theater on a Friday night, I tolerated their grievances as to why we were wasting our night at the movie theater, instead of going out and fulfilling our youth. But this movie was something I knew I needed to see the moment I saw the trailer. I needed to because it had a direct connection with my psyche. I needed to because the plotline was an exact replica of every nightmare

The charismatic protagonist Grace is ready to fulfill her lifelong dream of having a family when she marries her Prince Charming, the son in a long line of board game tycoons (no, this part is not specific to my dreamworld, that comes later). The night of Grace's wedding at the Le Domas estate, she is forced to play a game at midnight upheld by a time-old tradition strictly honored and followed by the Le Domas dynasty. As peculiar as it sounded, Grace is assured every new addition to the family must play.

She soon realizes the game she randomly chose, "Hide and Seek" involves her husband's family hunting her down with crossbows, shotguns and hunting knives to kill her before dawn, all revolving around a curse. They believe if she doesn't die, they all will and the Le Domas bloodline will end. So all night, she hides in secret tunnels, dumbwaiters and underground sheds (filled with the family's previous bride and husband victims).

For the first time, I was watching my nightmare of being hunted and chased on screen, not filling the role of main character. Even so, I felt the same panic of being chased with the portending fate of murder.

This movie was cheesy — I won't try to argue that. But while cheesy isn't always admirable, it can be entertaining, and this movie was a chill-inducing, fist-pumping, edge-of-your-seat kind of film. When Grace tears her wedding dress to her knees and trades her heels for Converse's, she loses the polite and perky attitude for a pissed-off, badass one. Absolute crowd pleaser.

The logistics of this binding curse were spotty and inconsistent. The origin of said curse began as the vengeful ancestor of the board game legacy, but while Grace is lying on a satan-star-etched table, the Le Domas's surrounded her, chanting "Hail Satan!" incantations, it felt like the director took a nap during the storyboard process.



This movie was cheesy – I won't try to argue that. But while cheesy isn't always admirable, it can be entertaining, and this movie was chill-inducing, fist-pumping, edge-of-your-seat kind of film.

carolyn popper | senior

So while the ending was laughably ridiculous with a monumentally cheesy end-line, this hour-and-a-half horror comedy had me cracking up at the ridiculousness of a family unequipped and unable to kill the badass bride, allowing me to receive some closure for my recurring nightmares.



OVERVIEW

RATED | R

TIME | 1hr 34min

\* \* \* | 3 STARS



CHAPTER II

OVERVIEW

RATED | R

TIME | 2hr 50min

\* \* \* 1 3.5 STARS

by I carolyn popper

AS THE LOSER'S CLUB reconvenes 27 years after the fateful summer of 1989, "IT: Chapter 2" provides countless jump scares rivaling the cheap fear of walking through a haunted house, hallucinatory antagonists that dance the line between reality and apparition and an exceptional cast in its somewhat pretentious 170-minute runtime.

The kids — now adults with spouses, jobs and responsibilities - band together and return to Derry, Maine to finish off the murderous and malevolent Pennywise once and for all. Their mission isn't what made this movie so alluring, but instead, the actors' ability to emulate their 13-year-old counterparts. Richie and Eddie's relationship has hardly changed, still vocalizing who did it with whose mom — juvenile, but hilarious. Bill still has his stutter, but Ben, the fat kid, turned hot.

As sequels often earn themselves the reputation of being lackluster compared to the original, "IT: Chapter 2" follows suit. The plotline struggled to uphold a coherent and fluid path like the first's. An origin story of Pennywise inhabiting an alternative form terrorizing tribal villages a thousand years ago felt arbitrary and mixed into the new story about as well and oil and water. Ambiguous explanations for how the team finally defeated the clown felt like a cop-out, and left just about every IT fan confused.

And although the plotline felt like a child's scribble drawing, the visual effects were perfectly nightmarish. Contorted faces, evil and murderous creatures that took the form of each characters' personal fears felt like what only sleep paralysis could conjure. And instead of the fear that develops from real, present-day fear, the movie generated the irrational and bed-wetting fear of monsters and clowns from childhood.

And while the one-after-the-other pop-up scare routine became frustratingly formulaic, the personality of this film excused the redundancy. Jessica Chastain as Beverly Walsh was an emotive hurricane, starring in a scene bloodier than Carrie. Her connection to viewers reminded us of her abusive past, her complex character, her humane emotions — often dismissed in a thriller. A relationship more surprising than Luke and Darth Vader dropped my heart into my gut and had me crying in the theater — again, not your typical

Despite the gimmicky jump scares and plot holes, Pennywise and the losers left me feeling more emotional than "The Notebook," laughing harder "The Hangover" and intensely tuned in for almost three hours as well as promptly researching each cast member's IMDb history as soon as I stepped out of the theater.





# ALL ABOARD!



**STOP HERE** 

Brynn's three favorite KC Fun Bus Tour locations and stops

#1 | KAUFFMAN
PHOTO-BILITY | 9
CROWD | MINIMAL
RIDE TIME | 30 MIN

#2 | FOUNTAINS
PHOTO-BILITY | 10
CROWD | MINIMAL
RIDE TIME | 30 MIN

#3 | RIVER MARKET
PHOTO-BILITY | 8
CROWD | PACKED
RIDE TIME | 25 MIN

TOP An outside view of the KC Fun Tour bus, called "Pearl the Trolley," used for weddings and tours.

ABOVE LEFT & BOTTOM LEFT An inside and front seat view of "Pearl the Trolley."

by | brynn winkler

s someone who's lived in the same suburb for the majority of my life, I often find myself longing to escape the constant drives down Mission Road and running into everyone I know at Starbucks in the Village. So at my friend's suggestion, I jumped at the opportunity to take a trip through Kansas City from a tourist's point of view — and it was fully worth the \$20.

Being a local, I had already been to or heard of almost all of the "main" attractions we cruised by on our trolley — the National World War I Museum, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the Sprint Center — you get the picture. But if you're looking for more than an Instagram photo in front of these attractions and are hoping to gain a new perspective of the city as a whole, the tour will be worth the 90 minutes.

My friends and I had a rough start since the company failed to let us know that construction had moved the tour's starting point from the front of Union Station to the back, and we nearly missed the trolley. But considering his friendly personality and thorough knowledge of KC, I've decided to forgive our guide, Trolley Tom, for this miscommunication.

My first impression of the white old-fashioned trolley — fittingly named "Pearl" — was that it was hot. Unfortunately, that didn't change as the tour went on. On a 95 degree day, Trolley Tom's one fan wasn't cutting it, and the heat sometimes made it hard to focus on Tom's anecdotes. Other than that, old wooden benches and arch head windows created a classic aesthetic that I preferred over the usual large double deck tour bus.

Once I found a comfy seat and recovered from our chaotic journey to find Pearl, the intriguing tour drew me in and made up for the heat. As someone who loves collecting obscure facts and stories, I enjoyed Trolley Tom's narration. From the story of how the Hannibal Bridge helped

### SCAN ME | KC FUN BUS TOUR



Planning a KC Fun Bus Tour trip? Scan this QR code to watch Olivia Olson's video experience on and about the tour on smeharbinger.net

establish Kansas City as a major Midwest city to the ironic backstory of how the KC Police Headquarters building used to be an illegal brothel, Tom's knowledge was comprehensive but constant — so the tour might not be the best place for socializing and chatter with friends.

Though I learned many new historical facts regarding KC, like how Tom Pendergast's political machine ran the city in the 20s and 30s and how the country's gateway to the West was originally called Westport Landing, the tour wasn't just a history lesson. What set the tour apart from other sightseeing tours was that it informed me of current and upcoming events in KC and other tidbits that are useful to me as a local.

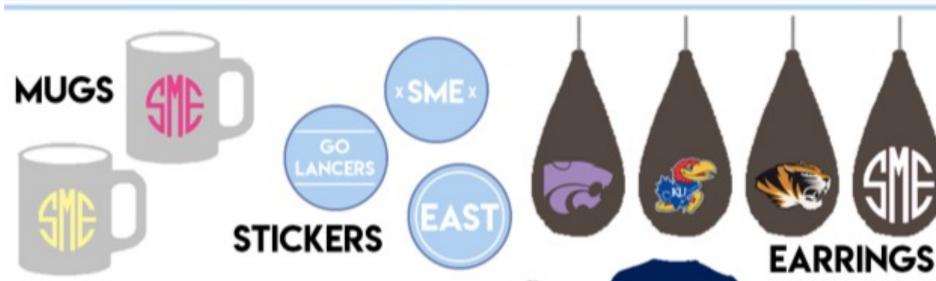
For instance, KC will be hosting the NFL draft at Union Station in 2023, and parking is free at downtown parking meters weekdays after 5 p.m. and on weekends. I also hopped off the trolley with a new list of things to explore — including the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, 18th & Vine, the Garment District Museum and the Black Archives.

One of my favorite parts of the tour was being one of the only KC natives in the group of 15 on the trolley. Given our reputation as a "flyover state," and the fact that when I tell out-of-state people where I'm from they often respond with "I don't even know where that is on a map," I was surprised to find that my friends and I were the only locals on the trolley.

Coming from the isolation of Prairie Village, it was refreshing to hear the French tourist couple in front of us chatter and watch them jump from one side of the trolley to the other to snap a photo of sights like the Sprint Center that don't even phase me anymore. Watching this and contemplating the new rich history I'd learned about KC made me more appreciative of my community and the people in it.

Considering this, I thought the price tag was reasonable for the 90 minute tour, though it depends on what you're looking to get out of the tour and whether you live on a lifeguard's budget like. I can't say I'll be back to visit Trolley Tom, but I'll definitely be back downtown with a new perspective and list of places to explore.

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### SPORTS

# HIGHLIGHTS

Sports updates, schedules and quotes about the fall sport season

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<u>ост</u> 4

FOOTBALL | Varsity game vs SM South 7 p.m. at SM South Stadium



SOCCER | Varsity game
vs SM North 7 p.m.
at Shawnee Mission
Soccer Complex

### COMING UP THIS WEEK

CROSSCOUNTRY | JV/VARSITY MEET 10/05

FOOTBALL | VARSITY GAME 10/04

GOLF | VARSITY MATCH 10/02

GYMNASTICS | JV/VARSITY DISTRICT 10/01

SOCCER | VARSITY GAME 10/01

VARSITY GAME 10/03

TENNIS | VARSITY MATCH 09/30

VARSITY MATCH 10/01

VARSITY MATCH 10/02

VARSITY LEAGUE 10/03

VOLLEYBALL | VARSITY DUEL 10/01

VARSITY DUEL 10/03







**TOP** Senior Coleman Wham runs out with the football team before the game in hopes of victory, **photo by |** ty browning

**LEFT** Senior Byers Waldo attempts to head the ball and gain possession from a Gardner Edgerton defender. **photo by |** aislinn menke

### PLAYER'S POLL

WHO DO YOU THINK EAST'S BIGGEST RIVAL IS? | 405 VOTES

73% ROCKHURST

27% SOUTH

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO A CROSS COUNTRY MEET? | 364 VOTES

31% YES

69% NO

DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE THEMES AT GAMES? | 337 VOTES

74% YES

26% NO

### ATHLETE'S TAKE

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF PLAYING A SPORT AT EAST?



What I have liked most about East sports throughout my four years is that I have been able to meet people in all the different grades that I wouldn't have classes with or be able to meet any other way. I have met some of my closest friends through East sports.

ava stechschulte | senior



I am on the dance team and we do 7 a.m. [practices] for flag and it's really difficult to wake yourself up in the morning for that, but it's a lot of fun to just goof around with your friends every morning.

lauren brock | sophomore

### SCAN ME | VIDEO



Get to know the SME Gymnastics team by Junior Evelyn Roesner.

# DANCING TOWARDS CHANGE

KSHSAA starting in Kansas for Dance Teams throughout the state

by allison wilcox

ince the rejection of a state-wide dance competition in March by the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA), the Facebook group of Kansas dance team coaches has been filled with concern about how to make their voices heard. They want to follow through with creating a state competition.

This disapproval acted as a catalyst in the formation of the Kansas State Dance Team Coaches Association, an organization most states already have.

The Facebook group was originally created two years ago so that coaches could communicate about borrowing costumes or advice on choreography. It has now transformed into a forum for dance team coaches' to collaborate in forming the state competition.

Coaches were informed that the state was considering holding a state dance competition for all schools in Kansas and was looking for input on the idea from teams. KSHSAA sent a survey to schools asking if they would be in favor of the competition taking place. While East Lancer Dancer coach Alexis Close isn't sure why, schools around the East area voted yes, but the state reported that as a whole, the results were not in support, leading the competition to be declined.

One of the main goals of the coaches association is to create a state competition for all of the schools in Kansas to compete at, categorized by school size. The coaches want the competition to be similar to cheer's state competition, created two years ago.

Close says the association wants the state competition to be a "Game Day Competition."

"With a game day competition you're doing the stuff that you would do at a football game," Close said. "You're going to do sidelines, fight song and then usually like a one-minute routine."

According to Close, the game day competition will help level the field between schools. Some of the more rural schools in the state don't have

access to high level studios or have the same strong technical background other dancers have. The skills required for the game day competition wouldn't require perfect technique, which would make competition even among all of the schools.

While East's dance team would likely still go to Orlando for Nationals, other schools might choose to just compete in the state competition rather than flying to Nationals because state would still offer difficult competition.

Since the association became official on June

I think having dance team state would be a good idea," Winter said. "Especially since we could compete in different categories like sideline and fight song which we normally don't get to do.

### lucielle winter | junior

13 this year, coaches have been working with the state to create the competition. Craig Manteuffel, the KSHSAA Spirit Teams Administrator, expressed in an email response that KSHSAA has seen the coaches efforts become more unified in trying to gain a state competition and KSHSAA has been applauding their enthusiasm.

Lancer Dancers, including varsity member Lucille Winter, have been wanting a dance team state to compete against all the schools in Kansas.

"I think having dance team state would be a good idea," Winter said. "Especially since we could compete in different categories like sideline and fight song which we normally don't get to do."

Close believes that the new association has come a long way and will be a strong addition for all spirit squads across the state.

"We've got so much dance talent and energy and willingness in the state," Close said. "It just seems like there's more we could be doing to bring ALL
Varsity and
JV Lancer
Dancers
perform
at the
Pancake
breakfast
on Aug. 24.
photo by |
kate nixon
and sarah
golder





### **HOW IT ALL STARTED**

Facebook group chat created in 2017 for all dance team coaches in Kansas

Kansas State High School Activities Association denied the request for a state competition

Dance team coaches from across the state are forming an association with one of the goals of making a state competition

### STATE COMPETITION

**1st** 

### fight song

Teams would first compete their fight song at state

2nd

### sideline dance

Second, they would compete their sideline dance performed at half time football games 3rd

### dance of choice

A goal of the FSHSAA is to create a Kansas state competition for dance teams.

Finally, the team would perform a dance of choice without genre restraints.

# FULL OF

With the start of Fantasy Football Season, students are motivated by one thing: to not get the loser's punishment



**by**|sarah bledsoe

ophomore Will McClelland and his Fantasy Football league of eight take the punishment for the loser pretty seriously, they've been working on it since before the season started. So far they have narrowed it down to two options—the loser gets a Patrick Mahomes haircut or has to stand on a street corner in only cowboy boots and shorts strumming a guitar with a tip jar until they collect \$15.

Fantasy Football is an app created by ESPN, where fans can draft a 'team' based off players in the NFL. The "punishment" is an activity, usually embarrassing, that the loser of the League has to endure. Punishments can be anything the league can think of including forcing the loser wearing an outfit of the winners choice to school one day. From week one to week 17 of the fantasy season, the threat of bad haircuts



You have a list of people you want on your team and you're just really hoping that your friends don't think along the same lines as you.

avery haughton | senior

and paintball welts on your body keep participants competitive through the season.

Each week players are matched up with another person in their league with the objective to get more points than them, which they are rewarded based on their players' performance. Touchdowns are six points, interceptions are two points and fumbles are minus two points.

For groups like Tommy Moreland, with McClelland and six other guys, there's the added competition of playing against some of their closest friends. Most leagues are created with a group of friends that have been playing together for a while — this will be Moreland's third year with his league.

"We're all pretty close friends, like I'm playing a friend this week and we have been kind of trash talking each other cause we're both pretty good," Moreland said. "If a big play happens for one of my players I'll text him, 'did you just see that."

With a specific point system in place, competitors

are left watching games stressed over what players to cheer on — especially when two players on the same Fantasy League are put up against each other, leaving them stressing over which team to cheer on, according to senior Avery Haughton.

Haughton says this competitive nature is what makes the draft a critical factor in the competitors' success. Moreland refers to the draft as a "snake draft," meaning that the eight fantasy football players in the league are numbered off and each pick one player in numerical order. Then they switch and go backwards until all players' teams are complete. But this doesn't mean the team is set in stone — even after the draft is over, league members can trade and pick up new players as the season progresses.

"[The draft's] pretty stressful because you are waiting and hoping that your friends aren't going to pick the same [players]," said Haughton. "You have a list of people you want on your team and you're just really hoping that your friends don't think along the same lines as you."

But punishments aren't the only reason why a successful draft is so important. Players in Haughton's league each pay \$10 to participate, letting the winner not only walk away with the first draft pick for next year, but also \$100. The same goes for Moreland's league, who all put \$15 into a pot for the overall winner of the league, leaving the winner with \$120.

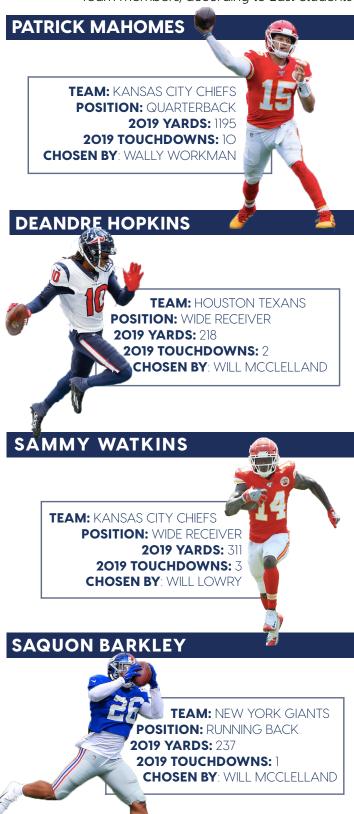
"I was kind of worried [about the punishment] because it was before the draft so I didn't know who my players were," McClelland said. "But I got a good team."

But with four injured players, the same can't be said for Haughton's Fantasy Football team. Not only does it take him out of the running for the \$100 winner pot, but it also makes him a potential candidate for the league's punishment. Haughton and his friends have decided that the loser of their league will be shot with paintballs while running a short distance and receive the last draft pick next year.

While some leagues automatically begin brainstorming potential punishments for the loser, some like Junior Will Lowry and his friends have yet to decide on an official punishment. But according to Haughton it doesn't matter exactly what the punishment is — all league members are playing to win.

## DREAM TEAM

A few of the NFL's most desirable Fantasy Team members, according to East Students









# LEADING THE TEAMS



HER WAY

Hardworking senior is the captain of both cross country and the gymnastics team

**by**|sydney newton

sharp twist of her car keys and the crescendo of the piano keys — today is "Build Me Up Buttercup" — helps wake senior Brooklyn Beck up. It's 5:10 a.m., and she's already on Shawnee Mission Parkway on her ten-minute drive to morning gymnastics practice at Shawnee Mission West, where floor routines and conditioning await.

After an hour and a half of it, she scoots to the bathroom, throws on a sweatshirt and heads to school — barely enough time for a QuikTrip stop: tea and a breakfast burrito every time. The school day comes and goes, 2:40 p.m. hits, but her day's far from over. She runs to her car, pops her head in and grabs her cross country clothes — kept in one of the three Lululemon bags she brings to school.

As captain of both cross country and gymnastics this season, Beck's days are busy — sprints on the track are fast, and sprints to get there on time are even faster

Beck, a gymnast of 11 years, started cross country last year after her

gymnastics coach told her they would have morning practices two days a week. Before, after-school gymnastics practices prevented her from taking up the sport.

Since freshman year, Beck's friends on track would gush about cross country — how great the feeling of finishing a five mile run was, and how the friends they made on cross country were hilarious. Beck realised how much she wanted to join, and those morning practices gave her the perfect opportunity to do both sports, meaning she could spend more time with her track friends and stay in better shape.

"It was kind of something that I had never thought of," Beck said. "It was a challenge for me that I really wanted to accomplish, to prove to everyone that I could do both."

After only one year of cross country, she was nominated for captain by her teammates and coaches — and was nominated for gymnastics captain three weeks after.

"She is a go-getter," Bernadette Wagner, Beck's gymnastics coach said. "She's not bothered by just doing what she already knows, and can do. She's always trying to do more."

As a captain, Beck tries to attend both sports as much as she can. She has morning gymnastics practices every Wednesday and Friday morning, the days she's able to run cross country after school. On the other three days, it's gymnastics after school — which means she has to run on her own to make up for missing practice. Her coaches are understanding of the fact that she has to be absent sometimes.

On days when Beck has gymnastics meets after school, she runs in the morning and sleeps until 5:15 a.m. - 30 more minutes than usual. Beck begins her runs by texting her teammates asking how far how far they went and makes sure she's on track with them.

Brooklyn's mom, Shannon Beck, even caught her lacing up her running shoes at 9 p.m. to take a break from studying for her Calc BC test — one of her three AP classes.

"She is determined to get her practices in," Shannon said. "She knows whether it is cross country runs or gymnastics practice, it will give her [the] endurance to be more successful."

Doing both sports has allowed Beck the opportunity to grow closer to both

teams as well as keep her busy, and being busy is necessary for her. She's found a

routine that works — and she's always got

something to chase.

"I'm a very goal-oriented person,"
Beck said. "By doing both of the sports I
always have goals in my mind, so I have
more to work for."

Sometimes, Beck has to work around conflicting meets for both sports on the same day. At the beginning of the fall season, she had both cross country time trials and her first gymnastics meet on the same day. It's not the first or last time this will happen, with gymnastics and cross country league and also cross country regionals and gymnastics state on the same day. Beck faced the same conflict last year.

"It was a really fun day," Beck said.
"That sounds crazy, but I loved it. It made
me less nervous for the meets because I
didn't have just one thing to focus on and
be nervous about. I had multiple, so I
thought about both of them."

Those two meets will be Beck's last ones ever. From then on, there'll be no more worrying about waking up early or trying to squeeze in a run — and she'll

### BROOKLYN'S SCHEDULE FOR CROSS COUNTRY AND GYMNASTICS

4:45 am

5:30 am

7:10 am

3:00<sub>pm</sub>

5:30<sub>pm</sub>

9:30<sub>pm</sub>

wake up gymnastics

school cross Country dinner/HW bedtime

### THE BEST DAYS TO GAZE

### Oct

- Get the best view 8 of the Draconid
  - Meteor Shower in the early evening.

### Oct

- 13 Moon at or after 5:08 p.m, peak fullness.
- Oct
- Set your alarm 21 early at 1:30 a.m. for the best view of the Orionid

### Nov

Star-gazing doesn' 11 have to be at night Before school, watch the Mercury Transit at 6:34 a m

meteor shower

# **GUIDE TO**

Grab some binoculars, check the sky's forecast and discover this unique fall activity - skygazing.

**by**|natasha thomas

ure, you could join the gaggle of camerawielding highschoolers at Louisburg Cider Mill or hit up your nearest pumpkin-spiced coffee joint to fulfill your autumn activities requirements. Or you could go

star-gazing - it's perfect for the fall weather and doesn't leave an artificial pumpkin taste in your mouth. You aspiring astronomers are in luck, because there are some clear skies and perfect views forecasted in the coming

# GAZING

### **QUICK** TIP

during these moon phases for the best view of the stars

**WAXING CRESCENT** 

**WANING CRESCENT** 

**NEW MOON** 

### **SKY LIVE**

With the Sky Live App, you can find out about stargazing conditions, see time of sunset and sunrise and get reminded of upcoming celestial events happening with the Sky Live app. With a forecast of what will be above you at night, this is essentially a weather app for stargazers. The in-app purchase for full access to the app's functions is well worth the 99 cents. Remember to turn on your location services for this one!

Get up high

**PARK** 

**TOWER** 

### **CHOOSING LOCATION**

Check out these SHAWNEE | public access **MISSION** observatory towers

Go somewhere dark

POWELL **OBSERVATORY** 

SCAN ME | LIGHT POLLUTION MAP



Go somewhere with low light pollution check out this light pollution map before you head out on your next skygaze

Sky Live is Apple Weather for the night sky, Star Walk 2 is a stargazer's Apple Maps. Just point your phone at the sky to see constellations - the map is detailed down to stars that you can't see with the naked eye. It's perfect for backyard stargazing, plus

**STAR WALK 2** 

it's free to download.

Download these apps for your next astrology adventure





**SKY-VIEWING ESSENTIALS** 

What to bring with you

BINOCULARS

STAR CHART

**SCAN ME | INTERACTIVE** 

Use this free chart o star-gazinç



**RED FLASHLIGHT-**

