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## NFL Kneeling? Justified

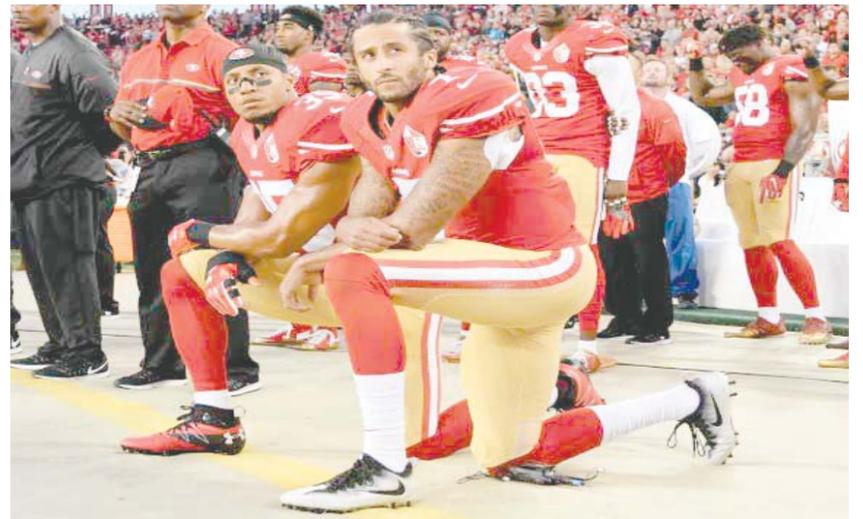
by Kyle Leff 2018

Many pro athletes show their views in different ways. Some will simply tweet about an issue, but some have begun bringing issues onto the turf, starting in 2016 when then 49ers Quarterback Colin Kaepernick knelt during the national anthem of a game.

Many players have followed suit and this protest has drawn the attention of our slanderous President Trump, who has tweeted many times about the issue. Many fans claim that the NFL is disrespecting troops that serve us even if the players are using their right to Freedom of Speech in a non-violent manner to protest racial inequality. The reason for such uproar stems from Kaepernick kneeling in the final preseason

game in 2016. Many people do not know that he actually sat for two prior preseason games that year before the infamous kneeling began. But meeting with former Green Beret and NFL player Nate Boyer convinced him to kneel instead of sitting, with Boyer saying "Soldiers take a knee in front of a fallen brother's grave to show respect." What needs to be considered here is that a true veteran told an NFL player to kneel. The issues being raised by politicians are that the players are doing it to disrespect soldiers. But if a former soldier says that the act isn't disrespectful, then what can be wrong with kneeling?

No matter what, there will always be someone that disagrees with the majority. The fact that a veteran has claimed that it is



okay for these players to kneel should hold more gravity. The cold hard truth is that the players and other athletes should be al-

lowed to kneel without fear of punishment.

All pictures were taken from Google Images

## NFL Kneeling? Unjustified

by Don Therikildsen 2018

When Colin Kaepernick sat during the national anthem, NFL players began to follow suit, claiming that they were not proud to stand for a country divided by racism. However, a national uproar was heightened when President Trump tweeted that players should be "fired" for kneeling during the anthem. Trump's followers, other Republicans, and much of the country agreed with this statement. On the other hand, Democrats refuted that kneeling was a symbol of freedom of speech, and should not be punished.

The movement is freedom of speech, yes, so it should not be punished by the government. However, that does not mean the NFL can not punish their players. The Constitution only limits the

government, and the NFL is a business, so they are free to set whatever guidelines they please. Because of this, the NFL prohibiting kneeling or sitting or anything else but standing during the national anthem is, not only justified, but allowed. And given that the NFL has lost 31% of its revenue over this debate, they did just that. Is it silencing their players freedom of speech? Perhaps. Does the NFL have the right to? Certainly.

Now let's discuss the other implications. That is, it is completely disrespectful to the men and women who gave their lives to secure the freedom that the NFL players enjoy. I don't care if you sit, kneel, or hop on one foot, if you don't stand, it will be considered disrespectful. Disregard the legitimacy of the point of the protest,

it doesn't matter to the audiences. When Pittsburgh Steelers Alejandro Villanueva stood for the national anthem when the rest of his team did not even exit the locker room, his jersey became the week's top seller. Obviously, people were happy with his statement, and given that Villanueva was a former marine, he most likely did not appreciate the disrespect of the flag.

I know some people will not be happy with this, but this is the blunt truth: Trump won this battle. The NFL stands against players who kneel, and many Americans are standing by Trump's suggestion to punish these players. Colin Kaepernick is not doing so hot, and his career may not be so hot either. Now, why did Trump win. Because miraculously, he was right. I don't know about you, but I do not

need these players with million dollar contracts protesting how they're oppressed, especially in a way that is so incredibly disrespectful to our brave soldiers. These players are ridiculous, and many people think the same. Do I care about race relations in this country? Yes, very much so. Do I care about about some millionaires talking about their plight? No, not at all. So there you have it. Trump won. The players won't be kneeling again anytime soon.

## What's Cooking in Cheshire, CT?

by William Brydon 2018

For the longest time, Cheshire residents have been accustomed to dining at Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds, and the countless Italian restaurants that are located around town. Anyone who wanted a little more variety in their choice of cuisine was forced to look elsewhere in neighboring towns.

This all changed, however, with the grand opening of Yougu, the first Asian restaurant in Cheshire that offers hibachi style lunches and dinners. In only a few short days of its grand opening, Yougu Hibachi has created an uproar on social media. On its Facebook page, customers have flooded the comment section praising its cozy atmosphere and delicious food. Speaking to Nancy Klimczak, a Cheshire resident, she said the reason she went to



opening night was "because it was finally something new".

Within a few days, the Yougu Hibachi and Sushi Lounge has become an overnight sensation. It has received much praise and support from the community. The unbe-



Photo Credits: Google Images  
lievable hype around this new restaurant goes to show that the Cheshire community is alive and hungry.

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## Club Spotlight: Star Wars

By Annie Wang

2018

You may have seen one of their colorful handouts posted around the school, but Star Wars Force for Change is one of Cheshire High's newest clubs and a fun way for students who love Star Wars and want to make a difference to join together and meet. If you're interested, look out for the next meeting date in room 43!

Interview with founder of the club, Ayan Bhattacharjee, 2019:

### Q: What are your main goals for the club?

A: Well, I wanted to provide a group for teachers and students alike who are Star Wars fans. Mainly, I want the club to grow, but I also want the group to make impactful contributions to the Force For Change movement, which helps out UNICEF and the StarLight foundation. We'll also be at Winterfest.

### Q: Why did you start the club?

A: Mrs. DiSorbo and I were inspired by the Force For Change movement that accompanied the release of *The Force Awakens*. That year Mrs. DiSorbo and her classes ran a fundraiser for a small orphanage in Africa, and we wanted to create an organization to continue the service.

### Q: What does the average meeting look like?

A: Just our members sitting around in a room talking about things we like, dislike, and are excited about. It's pretty low-key right now.

**STAR WARS**  
FORCE FOR CHANGE

IN SUPPORT OF:



## NaNoWriMo 2017

By Abby Dziura

2020

It's November, which means that National Novel Writing Month- or NaNoWriMo- has come once again. Every year, hundreds of thousands of authors participate in this once-a-year challenge to write a novel in the month of November.

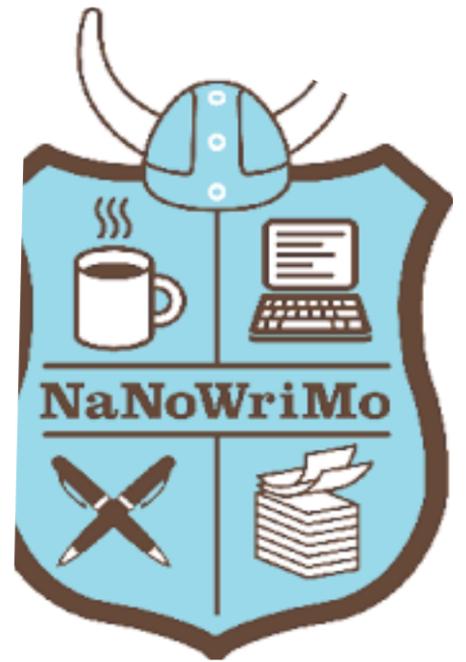
The goal is to write a little over 1600 words a day, amounting at 50,000 words or more by the time all is said and done. There is a website online ([nanowrimo.org](http://nanowrimo.org)) where fellow authors can also participate in writing forums and find buddies from across the globe to edit with. Additionally, there are many new programs NaNoWriMo has created to branch out to more people, including a summer version of the November challenge and a challenge specifically geared towards young writers and their educators.

This is my second year doing NaNo, and many students in the school do it, too; some are required to do it through their creative writing classes, while others just have a passion or knack for storytelling. Last year, I was a winner of NaNoWriMo- I had written 50,140 words, just making the cut on the final day of November (I stuck to the suggested goal almost exactly. Some people will write a more or less on different days, but I was almost exactly at 1,667 words each day.)

I love to write, but sometimes I find myself reluctant to do it, often because I go back and delete everything I had previously written, rendering all of my effort moot. With NaNoWriMo, however, I can actually force myself to stick my goals. Plus, the other people in the community- whether local or online- are so supportive, and it really can help.

Overall, I would strongly suggest trying NaNo at least once in your life if you have any sort of inkling of passion for writing. It's a wonderful experience that

helps you track your writing goals, and when you finish, you get to brag to people that you have written a novel!



## Vacations... to CHS?

By Grace Azaula

2020

This past month you may have noticed some unfamiliar faces roaming the halls of Cheshire High School, and have been curious as to who they are. Where did they come from? Why are they following students around? Most importantly, what are they doing here?

They happen to be part of some exciting foreign exchange student programs that the school has chosen to participate in this year. Essentially, this is where a student from another country will come to the US to study for an allotted period of time. The arrangements made for this year allowed the students to stay for about 12 days and live with a CHS student who is learning the language that corresponds to their home country. They also go to NYC with their fellow classmates after their 12 days staying with a host family.

This year at Cheshire High School, the school has chosen to host both German and French kids (before, only Germans would come to visit). With this new program, Madame Ocone- the French



teacher- was a little bit nervous, but like the previous German exchange programs, it was a big success.

The students coming over have a varied skill set when it comes to speaking English, but the goal of the trip is to improve this skill significantly. However, this program is enjoyable for other reasons as well. When Zoey Shultz, a German exchange student that stayed with Mirin

Scassellati (Class of 2020), was asked about her experience, she said that she, "Liked to see the difference between the school here and the German school." She also talked about her love for Boston, which her host family took her to over one of their weekends spent here, and her fun experiences at her Yale visit. For these students, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity to truly see how different countries learn, look, and live, as well as see sights that you can only see when in America.

The exchange program, while great, is bittersweet, because both students know that the time will come when they will have to exchange goodbyes. However, not all students will be saying goodbye permanently. The French exchange student plans to send the host families from CHS to France and swap places with the exchange students. They will stay with the correspondents that they hosted in Cheshire, and it will be their turn to improve their second language, and enjoy learning about a new culture. This is being planned

to take place over an extended April break, and it should be as beneficial to the CHS students as it was for the French students.

But for some, even being able to swap back is not a long enough time. German exchange student Ben Bertz has been here since the beginning of the year. When asked about his experience, he said it was "The American Life in general", highlighting his love for the thrilling Friday night football games. But of course, he also loved the people who he met throughout his stay- he surely missed them when he had to depart on November 10th.

This exchange program has been a wonderful new experience for both the foreign exchange students and the CHS peers partaking in it. These programs will hopefully continue to run as the years go on, so that more students will be able to enjoy the wonderful experiences of new cultures.

## Hurricane Maria

By Jack Stanton

2018

On September 20th, Hurricane Maria struck and devastated the small island of Puerto Rico. The storm was an extremely strong Category 4 hurricane, with sustained wind speeds reaching 155 mph.

To this day, over a month after the hurricane struck, 88% of the island is without power, 29% lack tap water, and 40% of the island has no cell service. The infrastructure was demolished, as a month after the storm made landfall, only 392 miles of Puerto Rico's 5,073 miles of road were open. Even scarier, the Guajataca Dam was structurally damaged by the storm and required reinforcements to prevent

further flooding in the country. Although relief efforts are helping to alleviate many of the struggles facing the people of Puerto Rico, much more is needed, from both the US government and its citizens.

The United States government has faced much criticism surrounding the way in which they have handled the response to the Hurricane. One of the early criticisms was over how the government waited several days to waive the Jones Act, which prevented Puerto Rico from receiving any aid or supplies from ships that were not US-flagged and from a US port. This severely limited the ability of the Puerto Rican government to aid their



people. Another complaint about how the government responded was the limited number of military troops that were sent to the island to aid in relief efforts. In the days following the storm, only 4,400 military members were there to help the devastated

island. However, if we truly want to help the people of Puerto Rico, countries around the world must rally together in support of Puerto Rico, because together we can do so much more.

## Message From the Sports Editor: For The Fans

SPORTS EDITOR

by Mike Lewis 2019



On November 1st, 2017, the Houston Astros won their first ever World Series title with a 5-1 win in Game 7 over the Los Angeles Dodgers. This win came nine weeks after the devastating Hurricane Harvey ravaged the area, flooding and destroying multiple communities while killing 77 people. This storm forced the Astros to play some "home" games at Tropicana Field in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for a short period of time. However, it also gave them motivation; motivation that carried them through the MLB playoffs.

As a Boston Red Sox fan, this run threw me back to 2013. Mere months after the tragic bombing at the finish line of the Boston Marathon, the Red Sox won the World Series at home, in front of their own fans. This was the first time they've won baseball's ultimate prize at Fenway Park since 1918. In front of their home crowd, many still mourning from the events, they did what many thought was impossible, inspiring a city that inspired them.

The strength of the fans surrounding a team is shown in moments like this. Teams like the Astros and Red Sox build off of the

strength and resilience of their fans, and have motivation to do it for them and make them proud. Boston Strong and Houston Strong: two phrases that united two cities and led their respective teams to baseball glory.



## Crucial Thanksgiving Game for Cheshire

by Mike Lewis 2019

This year on Thanksgiving, the Cheshire Rams varsity football team will host the Southington Blue Knights in their annual rivalry game. Labeled as the "Apple Valley Classic", the two teams always put together a really good game. As of late, the Rams have struggled against Southington, having not gotten a win against them since 2009. The games have been close fairly recently, in 2015 the Rams took unbeaten, #1 Southington to the brink, before losing on a last-minute drive by the Blue Knights. Last year, Cheshire kept Southington close in the first half, before losing

it in the second half. This year, the Rams are hoping to get over the hump and pull off an upset.

This seems to be the year for the Rams if they want to beat Southington, as the teams seem more evenly matched than usual. The Blue Knights were proved mortal two weeks back, as they lost their first regular season game in 41 games to East Hartford. This came as a shock to many, as Southington traditionally doesn't lose until facing Darien in the playoffs. But this year, things came to a change, as the Blue Knights were stunned at home.

For the Rams, this year's game will most likely define their season. If they win, they should be able to lock up a playoff spot for the first time since 2009. Lose,

and their season is likely over. Behind the home crowd of Ramland, they're looking to book a spot to the playoffs and open up a chance at a miracle run to the Class LL title.

If you want to help send your Rams to the playoffs, come support them on Thanksgiving morning at 10:30 a.m. Also, show up early to support the seniors, as they are honored in the pregame Senior Day ceremonies. It should be a great morning, especially if Cheshire can escape with the win.



## Congrats to our SCC Fall Sports Champions!

### Girls Swim and Dive



### Girls Volleyball



Photos courtesy of the SCC website

## The Most Magical Time of the Baseball Season

by Kyle Leff 2018

Every baseball season seems long. 162 games throughout the whole summer, which alienate some everyday fans. However, there are four to seven games in October and November that nobody wants to miss: The World Series.

This year's Fall Classic pitted the Houston Astros against the Los Angeles Dodgers. There were many underlying topics of discussion going on heading into this World Series. The largest of them being the Astros playing for their city, ravaged by Hurricane Harvey not too long ago, and wanting to bring their city something to bring everyone back together after the massive tragedy.

This series was one containing a great amount of drama in it, just what any neutral fan would want to see in a World Series. Two of the seven thrilling games went into extra innings (Game 2 and Game 5), with Houston coming out on top in both games. The largest scoring difference in any game was four runs, meaning that both teams were equally as strong on both sides of the ball.

The big difference maker in the World Series was Astros Center Fielder George Springer, born and raised in nearby New

Britain, CT. Springer truly shone through in the seven game series, hitting five big home runs and providing seven RBIs in the biggest series of the season. This stat-line helped Springer onto the World Series MVP award, not to mention helped his Houston Astros win the 2017 World Series in seven games.

This meant everything to the city of Houston, shown by multiple videos coming through of people in destroyed homes and apartments watching the world series on makeshift setups including laptops, tablets, and televisions.

As a baseball fan, I can truly say these playoffs were some of the most enjoyable that I have watched in my time, with duels happening left and right and home runs crashing out of the sky at every other at bat! It hurt to see my New York Yankees get knocked out, but I feel the Astros deserved their rings in the end and showed that they were the best team in baseball by far this season.

Now starts the countdown to next season! We only have four months and twenty days to go!



Photo courtesy of SB Nation



Photo courtesy of ABC News

## From the College & Career Editor



COLLEGE & CAREER EDITOR

by Jordan Nann 2018

### Handling Deadlines and Stress

As November first and fifteenth deadlines come and go, the college application process for seniors is starting to get very real and stressful, and gets more real for juniors.

For all seniors applying early, it is extremely important to check all of the dates and make sure that you are applying on time. Some deadlines are November 1st, whereas others are November 15th. Also, always check to make sure you are submitting everything needed, including SAT or ACT scores and teacher recommendations. For those who are applying early action or decision, make sure you and a parent or guardian has submitted the FAFSA form, or Free Application for Federal Student Aid by November 15th.

Those who are not applying until regular decision, please remember to complete the list required by the schools you are applying to, and go over everything with your guidance counselor by either the January 1st or 15th deadline.

Remember that there are a lot of moving parts to the college application process, and there is not a lot that you can do without other people's help. For any worries or concerns, here is a list of To-Dos before submitting your application:

First, Sign into the Common Application then complete the common app portion of the application. Next, request or finalize teachers who are writing college recommendation letters. Give your teachers the guidance form and add them onto your individual Naviance account. Send official SAT or ACT scores from college board or from act.org. Double check school's website for deadlines and requirements. Complete NCAA form (if needed). Review your essays and ask teachers or parents to look it over for any grammatical errors. Schedule any auditions or interviews, and submit finished portfolios if necessary. Submit, and relax!

If you ever have any questions or concerns about the college application process, please ask your guidance counselor! They are called guidance counselors for a reason!

## College Fair at CHS

STAFF WRITER

by Jordan Nann

2018



College fairs are a great way for prospective students to learn more about universities. For those who are interested in specific schools, meeting representatives are a good way to add depth to a possible application, and show interest in a school. Be sure to check the website of schools you want to look at to check for upcoming fairs, campus visits or even open houses to gain more insights on a particular college. They also give prospective students an opportunity to ask questions and really see if the school is really a good fit for you. For students who are really lost, college fairs are also a good way of looking at new colleges and universities, and learn about places that you had not previously seen.

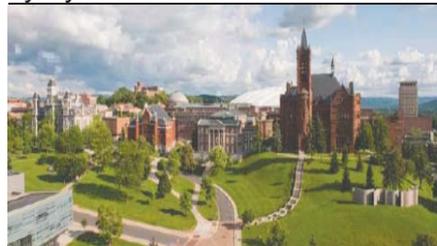
On October 17th, a row of tables lined up in the cafeteria and the commons of Cheshire High School. There are many colleges represented, including Trinity, University of Scranton, and Clark University, just to name a few. Prior to October 17th, there was another college fair on September 11th with similar colleges.

If you were unable to go to the college fair

## A Deeper Look into Syracuse University

by Kyle Leff

2018



Driving through New York towards Canada has you set into a land of trees, trees and more trees. But, when you finally make it to the sprawling city of Syracuse, one thing is apparent; this town bleeds orange.

Located in Syracuse, New York, Syracuse University captures your mind and takes you on a whirlwind journey. It is a somewhat large university, boasting approximately 15,000 undergraduate students and 6,000 graduate students. The University is home to over 200 majors and 100 minors to choose from, giving you a wide variety of courses and career paths to pursue. Syracuse University is also home to over 300 clubs and sports, ranging from German Cultural Society, to Information Security Club, to Pride Union.

Syracuse University is one of the top schools in the nation, ranked 61st overall by US News for 2017-18. Within this prestigious school is what is considered to be one of the nation's best Communications and Journalism schools in the S.I. Newhouse School for Communication. This

that take place at Cheshire High School, there are still other chances. National Honor Society hosts a college fair where alums from Cheshire High School come back to talk about their colleges. This year it is the day before thanksgiving break, on November 22nd. There are representatives from over 40 schools including Northeastern University, Southern Connecticut State University, UCONN, Fairfield University, Simmons College, Trinity College, Fordham University, and Quinnipiac University.

## A Perspective Into the University of Rochester

by Shivani Padhi

2018



Located in Rochester, New York, the University of Rochester will surely get your attention. It is a top notch research university providing students with a variety of majors, clubs and activities. University of Rochester provides its students with well over 200 majors ranging from bioethics to ethnomusicology. Besides its vast resources, University of Rochester provides students with intimate classroom spaces where they can achieve one-on-one interactions with their professors and peers. In fact, the student to faculty is 10:1, allowing for maximum interaction with the Rochester faculty.

University of Rochester has earned its name in many well known magazines and papers, ranging from Kiplinger's to US News. In the Kiplinger 2016-2017 magazine, University of Rochester was ranked 30th nationwide as the best private college. With nearly 6,000 undergraduate programs, University of Rochester provides students with an abundance of opportunities. Students have the chance to select over 200 clubs, starting from the Quidditch club to the myriad of fraternities and sororities. University of Rochester has 34 fraternities and sororities, providing its students with enough opportunities to socialize and make new friends.

Aside from the fun engagement available

to students outside of academic life, University of Rochester also emphasizes rigorous academics for their students. Being a competitive school, with a 34% acceptance rate, University of Rochester looks at high unweighted gpa and high standardized test scores. Besides test scores, University of Rochester also looks at all their applicants holistically, meaning they look at grades, transcripts, essays, and applicants' individual experiences. It is important for any prospective applicant of University of Rochester to emphasize all of their clubs and sports they participated in high school or even in the summer, as it can be the final decision maker.

Some of the most popular majors at this university include: Social Sciences, Engineering, and Health Professions like Biology and Biomedical Sciences. In addition to their popular majors, University of Rochester has its own medical school, containing an excellent program called the Rochester Early Medical Scholars (REMS). REMS is a combined medical program. It is an 8 year BS/MD + MD, giving students the opportunity to attend medical school while still pursuing their undergraduate degrees. If accepted into the REMS program, students will not have to take the MCAT and have a direct and guaranteed acceptance into the University of Rochester Medical Center. The REMS program is stress free and a much faster way to get to medical school, avoiding the uncanny accumulation of loans that come with higher education. With the REMS program being such a pleasure and privilege, it is one of the University of Rochester's most competitive programs. Students applying to REMS must challenge themselves in high-school by taking a variety of AP and honors classes. Candidates of REMS programs must have at least a 3.95 unweighted gpa, high scores on SAT, and rank at the top of their class.



## The New England Theater Conference

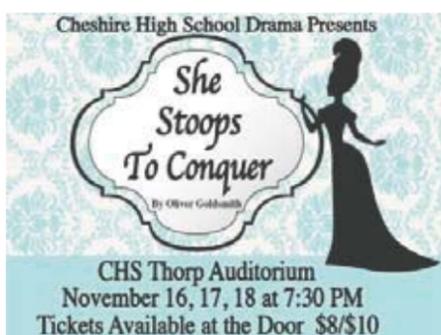
by Simran Kaur 2018

The New England Theatre Conference Cheshire High School's drama club attended the New England Theatre Conference (NETC) on October 20th. NETC is an annual conference which holds a series of different workshops to promote and teach others about aspects of theatre. Workshops included special effects makeup, body movement, and radio-drama! In the special effects workshop, students learned how to create illusions using stage makeup. Whether the makeup was used for beauty or gruesome effects, the theater students were taught how to manage the makeup for future shows. During the body movement workshop, students learned how to distinguish a character's motives by the speed and body language used. For example, a fast speed would mean a person was in a rush,

whereas a slow speed would mean a person was having a leisurely walk. The radio-drama workshop taught students how to use radio equipment and apply real world uses of the radio. CHS students learned a variety of techniques to enhance their acting and backstage capabilities. CHS will use their learning and apply them to future shows.

Along with the workshops throughout the day, the cast of Radium Girls (the 2016 fall play) was awarded an honorable mention for the Moss Hart Award. The award recognizes affirmative views of human courage and dignity that have strong literary and artistic merit. In addition, their productions exemplify fresh, imaginative, creative treatment within the intent of the playwright, Moss Hart. Congratulations to the cast!

## She Stoops To Conquer Summary



by Donnie Therikildsen 2018

The play has arrived again and this year, Cheshire High will witness the comedy *She Stoops To Conquer*. Although the plot itself may seem complicated and involved, with an open mind the play is hilarious, and will no doubt bring about many laughs.

Charles Marlow, played by Thomas Mueller, 2018, is a suave ladies man... around women of lower class. With woman of higher class, however, he is awkward and timid. Miss Hardcastle, played by Seneca Ellis, 2018, the respectable daughter of Mr. Hardcastle, played by Ben Fleury, 2018, a loving and wealthy father who just wants the best for his daughter. Upon learning the arrival of Marlow, Miss Hardcastle decides to play a little game. Since Marlow can not look into her eyes, she dresses up as a servant girl. Marlow soon decides to woo the servant girl, instead of the woman who he must marry.

Additionally, Marlow believes that the Hardcastle house is a tavern, and Mr. Hardcastle an innkeeper. Mistaking Miss Hardcastle as a servant is the cherry on top of his misfortune. The cause of the confusion is Tony Lumpkin, played by Sam Vetto, 2020, who is the step brother of Miss Hardcastle (he is the stepson of Mr. Hardcastle). Tony sends Marlow to the Hardcastle estate with the perception that it is an inn so that they could spend the night. With the thought of being around "servants," Marlow treats every member of the family with disrespect.

Another issue in all these mishaps and misconceptions is that Tony is betrothed to Miss Constance Neville,

played by Elizabeth Feest, 2019. Mrs. Hardcastle, played by Claire Lasher, 2020, is overjoyed with this engagement. However, George Hastings, Marlow's most trusted companion, who is played by Joe Berardi, 2018, is already engaged to Miss Neville, and so they must end the betrothal between her and Tony. But Mrs. Hardcastle will not have that, and she holds Miss Neville's jewels hostage, so they must deceive Mrs. Hardcastle and rescue the precious jewels.

So, this comedy is a series of mishaps and misadventures. But there will be plenty of laughter. Despite the specific plot, the show without a doubt will be a wonderful production by the CHS Drama Club.

## Senior Theatre Spotlight Male- Thomas Mueller

by Simran Kaur 2018

Thomas Mueller, 2018, plays the role of Charles Marlow in CHS Drama's *She Stoops To Conquer*. Mueller has been in the Drama Club since his freshman year when he played Otter in *Ash Girl*. His reputation proceeds him as Mueller continues to play bigger roles throughout his high school career. Mueller's roles include Cookie in *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, Bert in *Mary Poppins*, Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Mr. Roeder in *Radium Girls*, and Don Lockwood in *Singin' In The Rain*. In his free time, Mueller enhances his performance abilities by learning to tap and playing the guitar. Join Mueller in his performance of *She Stoops To Conquer* on November 16, 17, 18!

**What do you think of your character?**

My character [Marlow] is very relatable, and I find that his problem is a something everyone has faced at least once in their life. Marlow is able to talk smoothly in front low class women, and is very awkward around higher class women. When we ever want to impress someone conversation is always more artificial and not as

## Senior Theatre Spotlight Female- Seneca Ellis

by Donnie Therikildsen 2018

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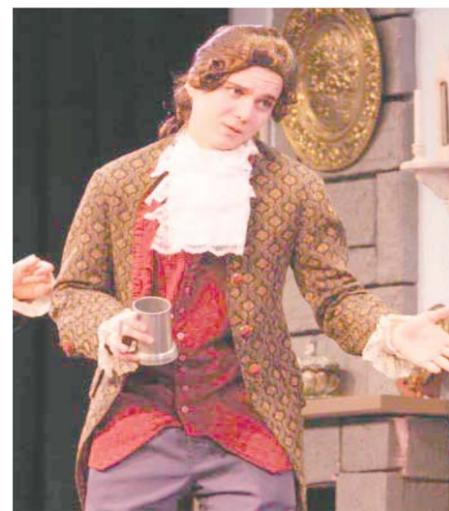
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natural compared to talking to someone that we do not worry about impressing. Marlow is a very real character, he's nice, but he struggles with this as I'm sure we all have at one time or another.

**Can you compare yourself to your character at all?**

I can definitely compare myself to Marlow in multiple ways, but I would say I most relate to Marlow with how he talks to other people. When I talk to my friends, family, or people from theater, I'm naturally myself and can completely express myself as I would normally. However when I meet new people or am around strangers, I am usually more reserved and not myself. I relate to Marlow's problem, and though his situation is much more extreme, it can easily apply to my life.

**What is the most challenging thing about *She Stoops To Conquer*?**

The most challenging thing about *She Stoops To Conquer* is easily the diction of the play, as the language is very sophisticated and hard to follow. Memorization of these lines was just as hard as understanding them, but I do learned that once accompanied with big appropriate actions and obvious hints towards the plot, the play became a lot easier to understand.

**What will you miss most about CHS Drama?**

I will without a doubt miss the people at CHS Drama the most. Starting freshman year I was welcomed into such a great community, filled with intelligent, down to earth people. All I had thought from this was, what is going to happen when all these people are gone? The seniors promised people will come, and they were completely right. It's amazing to see the growth I have achieved throughout these four years, and CHS Drama will be deeply missed.

**Will you continue or use theater after high school?**

I will definitely continue with theater throughout college, whether it be a minor, a major, or in the same field, I will continue it. Theater has been too good to me for me to let it go, and it's something I love and will always continue to do.

**Now here is a fun question, what is your dream role?**

Ariel.

# Mainstream Music: Why It Was Better in the Past

by Donnie Therkildsen 2018



I'm going to come right out and say it: mainstream music these days is subpar. Actually, it's mostly terrible. I don't know how else to say it, but mainstream music has gone downhill since 2000. Good artists are buried beneath the filth of bad music, and don't get to see the fame they deserve. I'm going to state a simple reality: music just used to be better. From the sixties to the nineties, mainstream music, actually deserved to be mainstream. Nowadays, that's just not the case.

First, let's take a moment to assess the music of the past to music of the present. After Elvis Presley created the genre, rock n' roll dominated mainstream music, and it deserved to. The Beatles became the biggest band of the generation in 1963, and they made phenomenal music. Soft rock is defined by bands like Fleetwood Mac, Journey, and Hall & Oates. Soon after, hard rock became a mainstream

genre, with the Rolling Stones and Led Zeppelin dominating the charts. The Sex Pistols created punk rock in the mid-70s, and bands like Nirvana and Soundgarden defined rock of the 90s with grunge. Some rock n' roll stars made music that incorporated multiple genres, like David Bowie, who mixed in all types of rock with jazz and pop sensations, allowing him to become one of the most influential artists of all time. Country even met rock n' roll through artists like Glen Campbell, fusing the two genres into some magnificent albums.

Other genres got great attention too. Folk contained incredibly talented artists; Bob Dylan served as a sensation, and artists like Cat Stevens and Harry Chapin wrote songs full of somber tones and joyful melodies. Artists like Stevie Wonder, Sam Cooke, and Marvin Gaye produced R&B hits that topped the charts. The Bee Gees defined disco and soul music, while Earth, Wind, & Fire became a funk sensation; the likes of Elton John and Billy Joel are just too good not to mention. When the '80s rolled around, Michael Jackson departed from his Jackson Five days to become the "King of Pop," with artists like Prince and Phil Collins topping the charts. All of this was when music used to be better. Now, let's look at mainstream music of the present.

Pop has changed drastically. The days of Michael Jackson being the "pop king" are

gone, and pop music is fused with hip hop elements. Artists like Beyonce, Ariana Grande, and Bruno Mars have become huge pop icons (it pains me to use the term icon with these names). Country has adapted elements of mainstream music, but not like Glen Campbell did. Taylor Swift is definitely no Glen Campbell (and she has now made the switch to pop artist, whereas Glen Campbell always remained true to his style). Rap has become the new rock n' roll with rappers becoming the biggest names in the music industry. Let's face it: music deteriorates.

Think about it. Really, take a moment and think about. When is the last time a Beyonce or Kanye West song came on the radio and you thought "Wow, what really inspirational, rhythmic music." If you did, well I respect your taste, but no one can say that they outshine the likes of David Bowie or the Beatles. Now, if you hear "Hey Jude" or "Brandy" come on the Radio, well, it's likely that you're going to enjoy the music.

Now, by this point I know that you're thinking, "Shut up already! Modern music has plenty of good artists." This is true. There are plenty of artists nowadays that make great music. Take Ed Sheeran for example. He's one of the biggest artists of today, and he deserves to be. He fuses multiple genres together in one album, and he's a brilliant lyricist. I can't deny his musical talent and genius. However, more often than not, good modern musicians take a backseat to bad ones who are in the limelight. Take the band The White Stripes. They're a mix of the punk rock

that the Sex Pistols popularized and the more relaxed (or less anarchic) punk rock that The Clash or Thin Lizzy was known for. They're a truly talented band. Oh, you haven't heard about them. Not Surprised. Oh, but you have heard of Taylor Swift's new album. Hmm, interesting. See my point? Good bands are overshadowed by the pop sensations that are marketed as good music, and end up being mainstream.

Now let us take a look at why music is so bad now, and used to be so much better. To get right down to it, music means nothing nowadays. It's all pop sensations and hip hop sounds. Every artist that has their name plastered on walls and flood iTunes or Pandora is a sellout that has some perfume product or brand of socks to rake in as much cash as they can get. The good artists nowadays are the opposite of this, such as Ed Sheeran, who is passionate about his music. This is exactly what makes him as good as past artists: he cares about his art. There's meaning to it. It isn't some party or trap song, but it's a song with rhythm and meaning. That's why music was so good back before 2000.

So, now that you've listened to this little rant of mine, go listen to some classic music, or, if modern is still your thing, well no harm, no foul, am I right? Just do me a favor, dig deeper. Look up some small-time bands and artists that deserve the mainstream spotlight. Go look up The White Stripes as soon as you've done reading this sentence.

## Spizzwinks

by Julia Acquavita 2018



"The Spizzwinks not only gave us a great performance, but also helped us with our sound as an overall choir, giving us pointers on what we have done well and what we can improve on," says Senior Choral student, Brady McQuade.

On Thursday October 19, the CHS Choral Department was given the opportunity to meet and work with the Yale University Spizzwinks. Accompanied by CHS 2015 alum Hudson Lee, the Spizzwinks dazzled the choral students and teachers with impeccable renditions of music ranging from classics to modern pop. The group performed pieces like "Heard It Through the Grapevine," and "Rhythm of Love," with choreographed dances and a unique acappella sound.

However, the Spizzwinks did not stop after their performance. They stuck around and gave advice to the young choral students who aspired to reach the level of musicianship of the Spizzwinks. As each choral group performed their individual pieces, the Spizzwinks provided meaningful feedback to prepare the groups for their upcoming December concert.

For instance, the Chorale group sang their "Hey Jude" and "Da Pacem" pieces that have been working on since the beginning of the school year. The Spizzwinks explained to them that the group has a strong, steady sound, but needs to work on their body language when singing. They showed the young students how swaying your hips, or simple just snapping your fingers can make a difference in the mood of the performance and the way the audience perceives the song. According to Senior Chorale student Brady McQuade, "The Spizzwinks not only gave us a great performance, but also helped us with our sound as an overall choir, giving us pointers on what we have done well and what we can improve on."

Thanks to the Spizzwinks' advice, the CHS Choral classes are now implementing new performance techniques in preparation for their Winter concert in December!

## Democrats Won on November 7th, Just Not in Cheshire the News?

by Annie Wang 2018



November 7th was an important day for Democrats across the nation. Just one year after a huge defeat, the party has proven that it is ready to fight back. In New Jersey, we saw Phil Murphy running in an expensive gubernatorial race that was a key win for Democrats. In Virginia's governor's race, physician and Army vet Ralph Northam beat Republican favorite Ed Gillespie to solidify the state's new status as a Democratic stronghold. These two wins on the national level were the first big wins since the Trump era began after many disappointing losses in special elections. Both races were racially charged and earned national attention as former President Obama joined the two candidates on the campaign trail. The races also prepare us for just 365 days until important Congressional seats are up for election. If the Democrats can take back the House and Senate, then President Trump will face much opposition

for the rest of his first term. But beyond the national races, we saw many towns here in Connecticut that turned blue. These include Farmington, Glastonbury, Southington, Guilford, and Clinton. However, Cheshire Democrats, who were hoping to gain a chance in taking back their majority in the Council, lost a seat instead. This news was not necessarily surprising, but showed that citizens in town seem to hold on to the notion that they want nothing to change and that the Democrats would simply "raise the taxes". Perhaps the greatest upset of the night in town were the low voter turnout rates. Of the approximately 18,000 registered voters in town, less than 30% showed up to the polls. Voter efficacy is low, even though races were won by as little as 14 votes. For high schoolers like us who will soon likely attend college and may forget about voting, remembering to turn in absentee ballots and to register to vote is key. Voting is a habitual activity, and it must not be overlooked.

## Monkey Bread Recipe

by Abby Dziura 2020

If you need a dessert for this upcoming Thanksgiving, monkey bread is a great dish that is loved by many because of its tasty, satisfying flavor! I hope you enjoy!

**Ingredients:**

- 3 (12 ounce) packages refrigerated biscuit dough
- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 1 cup packed brown sugar

**Materials:**

- Saucepan
- Bundt pan
- Plastic bag with a zip-top

**Instructions**

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease Bundt pan. Separate the biscuits in the packages and cut each one into quarters, so there are a bunch of little dough blobs. Mix the sugar and cinnamon in the plastic bag. Shake 8 or so biscuit piece in the bag until coated. Repeat until all dough pieces are covered, and then



Photo courtesy of allrecipes.com  
place them in the Bundt pan so that there is an even layer all around. In the saucepan, melt the butter and brown sugar together until they reach one mostly consistent color and are completely mixed (this may take a while). Pour this mixture in the Bundt pan, over the biscuit dough. Bake at 350°F for 35 minutes. Let bread cool for 10 minutes before removing it from the pan (flipping it over onto the serving plate is the easiest way to do this). Serve and enjoy! It is a pull-apart dish, so there is no need to cut it into slices.

For more information about baking monkey bread for this holiday season, visit allrecipes.com.

## White Chocolate Chip Cranberry Cookie Recipe

by Grace Azaula 2020

Are you tired of baking and eating the same types of cookies? Well you're in luck! This unique, white chocolate chip cranberry cookie recipe will soon become a new favorite recipe that you, your family, and friends will be craving to make and eat!

**Ingredients:**

- 3/4 cups of butter (softened to room temperature)
- 1/2 cup of brown sugar
- 1/2 cup of white sugar
- 1 tablespoon of vanilla
- 2 cups of flour
- 2 teaspoons of cornstarch \*\*Secret to best cookies\*\*
- 1 pinch of salt
- 1 teaspoon of baking soda
- Half a bag of white chocolate chips (add or take out some depending on preference)
- 1 cup of dried cranberries (add or take out some depending on preference)

**Instructions**

- Combine flour, cornstarch, salt, and

baking soda into a medium sized bowl  
- Beat both types of sugar with butter using an electric mixer (separate bowl from the dry ingredients)  
- Add in vanilla and egg to butter/sugar mixture and combine  
- Pour half of dry mixtures into butter/sugar mixture and combine. Pour second half of dry mixture after first half is completely mixed  
Add white chocolate chips and cranberries to mixture  
Refrigerate for at least an hour  
Once refrigerated, set out for 15 minutes before baking and preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit  
Roll dough into 1 1/2-2 inch balls and place onto greased cookie sheet, about 1 1/2 inches-2 inches apart  
Bake for 9-12 minutes, or until golden brown



## November Recipe of the Month

by Jess Tan 2018

Although the turkey is the main event at a Thanksgiving dinner, it is the side dishes that truly characterize a meal. Side dishes leave room for creativity and personality, and this caramelized onion and cornbread stuffing is nothing short of just that. With just eight ingredients, anyone can make this crowd-pleaser.

Yield: 6-8 servings  
Time: 5 minutes prep, 40 minutes cook

**Ingredients:**

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 onions, chopped
- 6 large cornmeal muffins, chopped
- 1 egg
- A handful fresh sage leaves, chopped
- 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup chicken stock
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

**Steps:**

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Melt the butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Add the onions and cook, stirring, for about 10 minutes, or until soft and caramelized. Add sage and scrape into a large mixing bowl. Add the cornbread pieces, season well with salt and pepper, and give it a



good toss until it's well combined. In a separate bowl, whisk together the egg, cream, and stock, and pour that over the cornbread. Stir the stuffing together and stuff the cavity of the turkey. You could also spoon it into a buttered baking dish and put it in the oven along with the turkey. Bake until hot and crusty on top, about 30 minutes.

Recipe courtesy of: foodnetwork.com

If you're interested in joining the Rampage, come to the meetings in the library computer every other Thursday. Please contact us with any article submissions or if you'd like to join the club!

Your Co-Editor in Chiefs, Annie Wang and Shivani Padhi



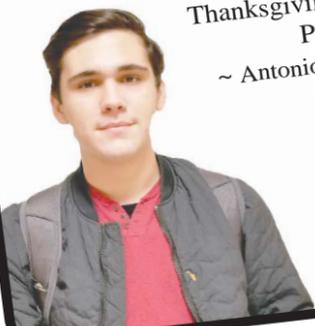
## Fall Festival Fun!

# Quotable Quotes

## What is your favorite Thanksgiving tradition?



"Watching the Thanksgiving Day Parade!"  
~ Antonio Gomez 2018



"Breaking the wish-bone at dinner"  
~ Ethan Esposito 2021



"Spending time with my family and eating."  
~Summer Selle 2020



"Playing flag football with my family"  
~Alexis Benvenuti 2018



"Eating my grandma's famous stuffing!"  
~Lauren Newton 2018



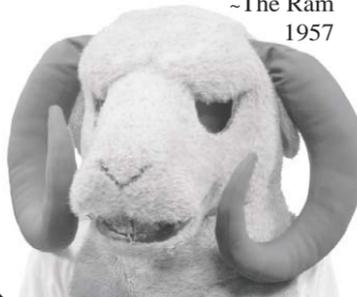
"Eating stuffing"  
~Jonathan Montoya 2018



"Going to grandma's house and hanging out with family"  
~ Kayla Agostinelli 2019



"Watching Cheshire beat Southington in football!"  
~The Ram 1957



"Watching the football games on thanksgiving day"  
~Alex Irizarry 2019



"Eating delicious food"  
~ Matt Planinshek 2018



"Hanging out with family"  
~Jaydah Morrision 2018



"Saying what we are thankful for"  
~ Maya Kostolitz 2019



"Eating butter and watching the football games."  
~Nick Quint 2018



"The great food my family nakes"  
~ Hunter Carey 2018



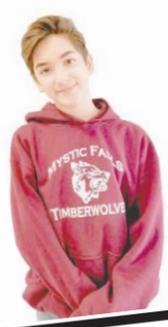
"Going Black Friday shopping for all of the sales."  
~Mingqi Yu 2018



"Eating a massive amount of stuffing"  
~ Jack Donahue 2018



"Decorating my house"  
~Skipper Rankin 2021



"Eating dinner with my family and spending time with them"  
~Mackenzie Hawkins 2018



"Watching and playing football"  
~Tyler Levesque 2018



"Getting together with family and eating a nice thanksgiving dinner"  
~Sofia Ruminot 2018

