

Na'Yanna Green, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Not Another “Angry Black Woman” Stereotype

EDITORIAL

The “Angry Black Woman” stereotype is a harmful racial mockery that falsely portrays Black women as aggressive, hostile, angry, and bossy. Our normal emotions and passion is seen as an act of unprovoked hostility. This has been something that I have seen on social media for years, but never actually had it happen to me until recently. I was at home, going back and forth with my older brother over something probably stupid. But I remember being so determined and passionate about being correct that I started to show it in my words. This resulted in him laughing at me in my face and asking, “Why are you so angry?”, which frustrated me because I wasn’t. I was just trying to express my feelings for something that interested me. It transformed my confidence into an irrational outburst. This method is way too familiar for Black women. When our passion is mistaken as aggression, it makes us go into a defensive position. We are placed in an uncomfortable dilemma: either fully express ourselves or stop speaking to make others feel comfortable. It silences us in professional spaces, everyday conversations, and social relationships. Breaking down the “Angry Black Woman” stereotype requires listening. It requires society to stop projecting satire onto our character and start analyzing our words for what they actually are: reflections of thought, care, and concern. Our passion is not a threat, a weapon, nor is it an attack. It is simply an important part of who we are, and it deserves to be heard without prejudice.



Na'Yanna Green, Assistant Editor-in-Chief
Photo credit: Dalylah Thompson, Staff Reporter



The students of Ms. Oberman's 4th period Childcare Practicum class.

Story & Photo by Bryan Valtierra, Staff Reporter

More Than Just a Daycare

At T.F. North, the childcare program taught by Ms. Oberman gives students an opportunity to learn through working with and spending time around young children. The program creates a space where high school students can gain experience while helping provide a positive environment for the children enrolled. Some students said they joined because they enjoy being around children and learning how to work with them. For senior Mia Campos, her favorite part is “the variety of working with different age groups, interacting with them, and making bonds.” Through the program, students learn how to handle unfamiliar situations, take on responsibilities, and become more comfortable working with others. The children also benefit from having a safe and comfortable environment where they can learn and spend time with others. The childcare program helps them build important social skills, such as making friends, sharing, communicating, and expressing themselves. Many students said the children are eager to learn, which makes the experience rewarding. It also gives students a chance to build connections with the children they work with. Overall, the childcare program gives students valuable experience while helping children learn, grow, and feel supported. For some students, childcare is more than just a class because they get to be a part of the children's

everyday lives. Beyond the classroom, the childcare program also serves as a resource for families in the community by providing an affordable childcare option. This allows families to find care for their children while knowing they have a place to learn and develop. The program also gives students the opportunity to support children's academic growth through activities outside their usual classroom routines. Karen Machado, a senior in the program, explained, “We go to the library every Tuesday to teach children the basics, like ELA, math, and art.” These activities give children additional opportunities to practice important skills while making learning enjoyable. The program also introduces students to the different needs of young children and helps them understand the responsibilities involved in childcare. This experience can be especially useful for students considering careers in education, childcare, or other fields that involve working with people. By offering an affordable option for families and practical experience for students, the program benefits more than just those enrolled in the class. It helps connect T.F. North with the surrounding community by providing a service that supports families and children's development. Those interested in learning more about the program can find additional information in the advertisement on page 10.

Homework Center

Dalylah Thompson
Are you falling behind in class?
Help is available.

page 4

New Direction

Abi Andrez
Find out more about who is
directing the fall play.

Page 6

Weekend Guide

Sherae Casimiro
Plan the perfect night with these
fun, fall-themed ideas.

page 12

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor can be sent to our social media handles or thorntonian@tfd215.org.

I am writing about the story about culture. I enjoyed reading it because it showed how important culture is to people and their communities. Culture includes traditions, food, language, music, and celebrations that can bring people together. I think it is important to learn about different cultures because it helps us understand and respect other people. Thank you for sharing this story with the readers of the Thorntonian. Brianna Hernandez

The article is "Who is your Cami" and I really did like reading this article because it was relatable because I have a friend that I don't see often. We are very close and anytime we do hang out it feels liknothing has changed, even if we are in different chapters in our lives, etc. He is also a very important friend of mine because we grew up together and met each other in 5th grade but he ended up moving in 6th grade. It's not hard but I do miss him at times. Brianna Flores

I think that the art showcase is a good way of showing people the culture and art of Hispanic countries. I also think that doing it in drawings and art is a good way of showing students' creativity and ideas. Brisa Soriano

I want to talk about "Guest Playlist", by Karen Gutiérrez. I liked the article because the music choices were good and I've even listened to some of the songs. I only hope that for the next one there will be more diverse music choices and more artists as well, though this seems to be mainly dependent on those who offer music. Santiago Perez

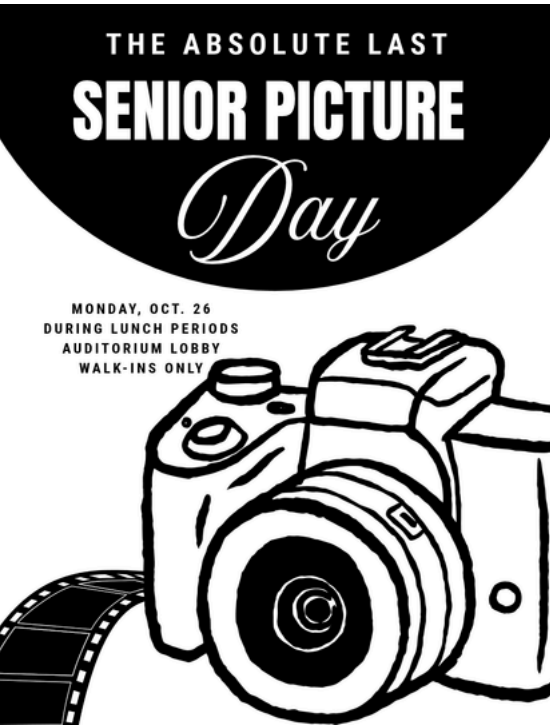
My favorite part about the article was the guest playlist section again by Karen Gutiérrez. It was my favorite part of the article because it can hopefully recommend good music to add to my playlist. A recommendation I would give to the editor is to have recommended songs but in different music genres. Some genres I would recommend are reggaeton, mariachi, baile. I would like to write an article about artists and fun facts about them. Alexander Valdez

The information is good and well organized, but if I were to change something I would add more stuff about sports, or things around the school not only focus on the same sports and clubs. Diana Gutierrez

I loved how in the "Assumptions on Ethnicity" by Junior Abi Andrez, was accurate, and it basically happens in everyday life! People are assuming where we're from and what we are based on what we do, such as if we speak Spanish, they assume we are Mexican. I really liked also how she used inferences and facts that students would be trying to blend in to not be teased and left out by using words such as "güey", "chido" and "no mames". Ariadna Perdomo

Thank you so much, Karen. I loved your story [Who is Your Cami]. Hearing it really made a difference in how I view storytelling. I really found it so interesting and eye-opening. I didn't really think I'd care for this but I do, and I'm very invested. Leah Sanchez, Palisades Charter High School

Thank you to
the students in Ms. Nieto’s class
for sending us letters.



Important

Dates

- 10/21 Boo Night
- 10/31 Halloween
- 11/03 Election Day
- 11/11 Veterans’ Day
- 11/25 Thanksgiving Break



2026-2027
Thorntonian Staff

Staff Reporters:

- Idris Adewale
- Abi Andrez
- Sherae Casimiro
- Dakota Combs
- Kordae Crawford
- Angel Diaz
- Naleny Rosales
- Briana Santa Cruz
- Ariana Terrazas
- Dalylah Thompson
- Bryan Valtierra
- Camilia Winburn

Editorial Board:

- Karen Erandeny Gutiérrez, Jefa de redacción
- Na’Yanna Green, Asst. Editor-in-Chief
- Alexa Baker, Editor-in-Chief

Faculty Advisor:

- Mr. Joseph Stephan

Established in 1925, the Thorntonian is produced by the Advanced Journalism students of T.F. North High School. It seeks to provide an open forum for all members of the District 215 community. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of District 215 unless otherwise noted.

MAKE TIME STAND STILL



ORDER A YEARBOOK



THORNTON FRACTIONAL NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

USE OUR ORDER NUMBER WHEN YOU LOG ON:

12143



YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM



QUESTIONS? CONTACT: MR. STEPHAN • JSTEPHAN@TFD215.ORG •

**See Mr. Stephan in room 142
for more information.**

Story and photo by
Dalylah Thompson, Staff Reporter

Help Available in Homework Center

Do you need extra help in a subject? Need a quiet place to study? Want a better understanding of your work? Take a moment to check out the Homework Center in the LRC. Many students of T.F. North use the Homework Center. Senior Lunye Shabazz said, "Homework Center is a peaceful setting. It is very efficient because it allows me to focus on my homework instead of having a lot of distractions around me." The Homework Center has also been recommended by the students. "I think the Homework Center is a great setting. It was a good mood, and there were people around to help me with work if I struggled or needed help. I think it's good for students that need help with their work and are struggling," said junior Kristopher McGruder. The Homework Center is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Students must enter the LRC no later than 3:40 pm. Want to get a chance to win a gift basket? Participate in the Homework Center raffle! Students can enter the raffle by attending the Homework Center, completing work, and scanning the QR code posted in the LRC. Names are collected for a digital wheel raffle. Winners will be selected by a name pull on Fridays and later announced the following Wednesday. Ms. Taylor is very excited to promote this new raffle. "We are going to do the raffle for the first semester for sure, and if we continue to get great turnouts, then we will continue for the year." Do not miss out on this amazing opportunity to push yourself to get your work done.



New assistant principal Ms. Taylor poses with Homework Center Prizes

Story and photo by
Idris Adewale, Staff Reporter

Meet the New Esports Head Coach

A new season brings a new face to the Esports program. With a new coach stepping in, players can look forward to new leadership, new goals, and most importantly, having fun while competing and improving. Coach Ward is taking on the challenge of leading the team as head coach. Ward said, "I feel like it's a privilege. It's an honor. I got a really good group of kids...It's fun overall." With his competitive gaming experience, Ward hopes to use his knowledge to help the team improve. Ward has been preparing for the upcoming season. "The season doesn't start until January, but in the meantime, though, I've just been having everybody practice on fundamentals...That's the main thing that I want to drive in, especially for some of the new players that are coming in. Of course, we got our vets. They've been a huge help teaching the new players how to do certain things." Since it is his first season, he is taking things slowly and figuring out how to accomplish some of his goals. "My main goal is just having fun and getting the experience and, hey, if we go all the way, then we go all the way, I ain't going to be mad at that." Members of the Esports team had high praise for the new coach and the upcoming season. Senior Temitayo Babatunde said, "Going into this year, it's a big shift, as you're getting a new coach. Not much has mentally changed. We all hope to go down to state. I'm excited for this new coach because I can tell he's really interested in gaming. With his experience in Street Fighter and competitive gaming, he's able to bring a set of expectations that I know this team will be able to meet. In addition, he also pushes us to maintain our grades." Senior Christopher Lopez said, "Coach Ward is new to the position, but with enough time and effort, I believe he can improve the Esports program and get the room back in shape. I'm confident we can make it to state and do well in invitationals, and I believe Coach Ward can become a great coach."



New Esports Head Coach, Mr. Ward

Story and photo by
Camilia Winburn, Staff Reporter

HHM Door Decorating Contest

The theme for this year's Hispanic Heritage Month's door decorating contest was "Unidos somo más" (Together we are more). Ms. L. Cook's class decided to do a Costa Rican-inspired door. Cook said her fourth-period class looked at a list of different Hispanic countries and in the end, decided to go with Costa Rica. It took her and her class 3 hours. "I did enjoy working on it, it was very fun," said Eilyah Milner. For Ms. Anaclerio's room, her first and sixth period classes decided to decorate their door as the country of Spain. They chose Spain because of Spain's victory in the World Cup and other things they love about Spain such as their culture and food. "They had fun decorating because they loved having total control by deciding where things go. It took both periods a week to finish decorating their door," said Anaclerio. The winning door will be announced at the Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly on October 20.

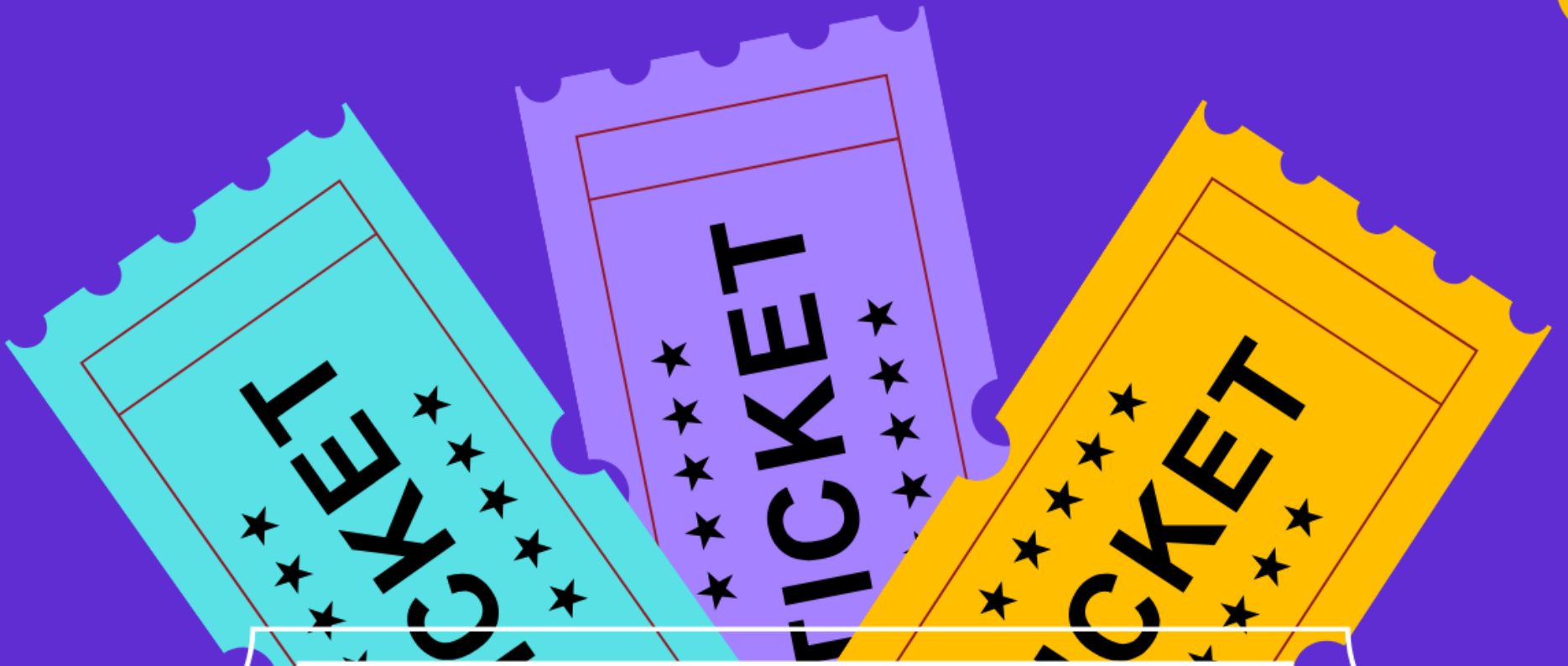


Ms. Anaclerio's Door Design



Ms. Cook's Door Design

TF NORTH HWC PRESENTS



HWC CENTER *ATTENDANCE CONTEST*

WANT TO WIN SNACKS?

1. ATTEND HOMEWORK CENTER AND SIGN IN
2. YOUR ATTENDANCE=ENTRY INTO A RAFFLE
3. LISTEN TO THE FRIDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS TO SEE IF YOU'RE A WINNER 😊

Story by Alexa Baker, Editor-in-Chief

Fright Night Film Fest

The Fright Night Film Fest will take place on Friday, October 30, at 7 pm, and doors open at 6 pm. It will be held at The Center for Performing Arts at Governor State University, and presented by the Chicago Southland International Film Festival. This event will start off with a costume competition, followed by two short films and the Southland Premiere of Kaishaku, which was directed by Harry Locke IV, a 2007 graduate of T.F. North. The film was produced by Locke, Alain Azoulay, and Azoulay Pictures. Locke has more than 100 film credits from movies like Icarus, Sundance breakout Tangerine, and films in the X-Men and Divergent franchises. Two other projects being featured are from YouTube creators Channel Awesome. One being the first three installments of Space Trash, which is a sci-fi/action/comedy web series that was produced and directed by James Jarosz. The second project is called Ad/Break, an Adult Swim-inspired horror film produced and directed by Walter Banasiak, who is a Governor State and T.F. North alumnus. From 6 to 6:45 pm, there will be a meet-and-greet to see Doug Walker, Channel Awesome’s Nostalgia Critic. People will be able to walk a red carpet, snap a photo with Walker at no additional charge, and buy a snack and drink from concessions before the screenings begin at 7 pm. The audience will then be allowed to engage with the filmmakers during the post-film Q&A sessions.



Story by Ms. DeSoto, T.F. North Staff

ASA Celebrates with Spirit Week



Story by Angel Diaz, Staff Reporter

What is the VFW?

What is the VFW? The VFW is a veteran organization in which veterans who were active during wartime can join. The VFW stands for Veterans of Foreign Wars. The TFN History Club also assists the VFW with serving food to the community and retired veterans on the 5th Wednesday of the month. In order to eat at the VFW, everyone has to pay \$5, but kids eat for free. They can either dine in or take out. The meal includes salad and pasta. “This organization supports all veterans around the country. We volunteer at their pasta dinner. We also sponsor their writing contest, and we do other events with them. They have been very supportive,” said Mr. Weber who runs the History Club. For students, working with the VFW is also a good way to socialize and give back to the community. “I like helping out, and it was a good experience to talk to new people, and I would do it again,” said senior Pablo Espinoza, the treasurer of the History Club. “It was a really good experience; I definitely would do it again any time of the week,” said junior Yazmine Soto after working at the VFW. New members are always welcome to join the History Club and help out at the VFW. The VFW is also hosting a writing contest where the winner can get a \$35,000 scholarship to any college. Students who want to win the scholarship have to submit an essay before October 31st. See the information below.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

2026-2027 Theme
"What a Veteran Taught Me About America"

Student Entry Deadline: Oct. 31, 2026
Patriotic Audio Essay Competition Grand Prize: \$35,000 Award

What is the Voice of Democracy Program?
Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 26,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Prizes and scholarships can be awarded at the Post, District, state and national level. National winners will be notified of their scholarship & placement. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is,
"What a Veteran Taught Me About America"

See Mr. Weber for more information.

Story by Abi Andrez, Staff Reporter

New Drama Club Sponser

Drama Club has a new sponsor. Mr. Posley is a dean, a speech team coach, and now the new drama club sponsor. Posley had said that ever since he took over the speech team about 13 years ago he wanted to showcase some of the skills and talents students have and he wants to do the same thing with the drama club. He said, “Having a strong theater program gives those students another place to use this ability while introducing students to more opportunities.” He wants students to be able to find themselves as leads and leaders, storytellers, directors, designers, and so much more. “I’m just kind of giving them that element of having this vision for greatness and raising the expectations for what speech and theater is for our students,” said Posley. He wants to bring more excitement, opportunities, and trips. He also wants students to be able to see themselves on stages, and to revive relationships with other theaters across the theatre community. This leads to what the Drama Club has in store for TFN. They are currently working on a Christmas Carol, but it's not the traditional Charles Dickens one. It's going to be a spin off from Patrick Barlow. The play is basically about “this person who goes on a transformation and it’s based on his childhood trauma. I think it’s just a wonderful, heartwarming story to tell at that time,” said Posley with a notable message that stood out, “especially in a world or during the time in our world where, I don’t know if kindness is as appreciated as it should be.” He also chose this play because it will be showcasing humor; it's a popular play, and the message is amazing. As for the spring, they don't know what they are going to be performing yet, but it will be a musical. To conclude, Posley is really excited for everything that will happen in the near future for the Drama Club.



Story by Naleny Rosales, Staff Reporter

Reality Begins

Being a junior is a lot more stressful than I thought it would be. I feel like now that I'm in 11th grade, everyone suddenly expects me to know what I want to do with my life. Teachers are always talking about college, careers, and our plans after high school, and sometimes I don't even know what I want to do tomorrow. People ask me what college I want to go to or what career I want, and sometimes I just give an answer because I feel like I'm supposed to have one. The truth is, I'm still trying to figure it out. I have to think about my grades, college, and my future while also just trying to enjoy being a teenager. There's also pressure to make my family proud. I know they want me to have a good future, and I want that for myself too, but sometimes it feels like I'm carrying all these expectations without even knowing where I'm going yet. I don't want to feel like one mistake is going to decide my whole future. Junior year has made me realize that I don't need to have everything planned out right now. I can change my mind, try different things, and take my time figuring out what actually makes me happy. I'm getting closer to my future, but I'm still allowed not to know exactly what it looks like yet.

Use your voice.
Share your thoughts
by emailing us at
thorntonian@tfd215.org!

Story by Ariana Terrazas, Staff Reporter

To be Heard

There is never a day that passes by when I don't think about all the things I never said. Sometimes I replay conversations in my head and imagine what would happen if I had said something. I've always been the shy and timid girl who is too afraid to speak up about something, whether it bothered me or not. I've always kept my mouth shut because I know whatever I had to say would escalate the situation, and I would never want that. It doesn't matter if it was toward my family, my friends, my relationship, etc. I think I learned to be this way. Growing up, I wasn't the greatest listener. I misbehaved a lot and would talk back during arguments, which frequently led to me being disciplined. From then on out, I learned to stay silent during heated arguments. As I've gotten older, I'm slowly learning I can't keep sacrificing my own feelings just to keep everyone else comfortable. I'm learning that if someone leaves my life because I spoke honestly, maybe they were never meant to stay. That doesn't make losing them hurt any less, but it reminds me that I shouldn't make myself feel any smaller just to keep someone in my life. It's okay to say what I feel. People always tell us, "Don't be afraid to speak up," as if it were that simple. If only they knew how hard it is to unlearn something you've spent years using. I'm still learning to say my opinion no matter the circumstances, but it feels as though a weight has been lifted off my shoulders. Speaking up can be scary, but staying silent can hurt. Don't be afraid to voice your opinion.

Story by Karen Gutiérrez, Jefa de redacción

Trapped between two worlds

Sometimes I feel like I am trapped between two countries: the United States and Mexico. I was born in the United States, so technically this is where my story began. But Mexico also became a huge part of who I am. When I moved to Mexico when I was 10 years old that's when I started a completely different chapter of my life. I went to school in Aguascalientes, MX. I made memories, met people who became important to me and learned to feel comfortable in a different environment. Mexico became more than just a country I lived in; it became a part of my identity. Before I went to Mexico my Spanish was very bad. The only thing I knew to do in Spanish was to communicate with my parents. I was a "no sabo," but Mexico helped my Spanish become stronger and stronger. I spoke it every day at school with friends and with the people around me, and even though it was very hard and frustrating at first, eventually, Spanish became the language I felt most comfortable speaking. I became so used to Spanish that I started forgetting some of my English without even realizing it. When I came back to the United States after living in Mexico for 5 years and coming back my sophomore year, I thought coming home would be easy because I was born here. Instead, it was one of the hardest adjustments I had ever experienced. I suddenly felt like I was different from all of my classmates that I knew from my old elementary schools. I struggled to find the right words in English, and sometimes I knew exactly what I wanted to say in Spanish but couldn't express it the same way in English which made me feel very dumb. It was frustrating and embarrassing at times because I felt like I was supposed to already know how to communicate myself at my age. I also felt caught between two cultures. In Mexico, I sometimes felt more American, but in the United States, I sometimes felt more Mexican. It made me wonder where I truly belonged. I realized that belonging does not always mean choosing one place over another. I can belong to both. Coming back to the United States has not been easy, but I have grown so much from the experience. I have worked on my English, and little by little I am becoming more confident again. I am proud that I can speak Spanish and that I have experienced life in two different countries. Now I see being between Mexico and the United States not as something that separates me, but as something that makes me who I am. I may have been born in the United States and grown up partly in Mexico, but both countries have shaped me. I carry pieces of both with me, and I am learning that I don't have to choose just one.

FREE ENTRY
TO
HOME FOOTBALL GAMES
Students



FALL ATHLETES
Free admission
Must appear on your team's SNAP roster.



FRESHMEN
Free admission when
wearing your freshman T-shirt.

T.F. NORTH ATHLETICS



Story by Brianna Santa Cruz, Staff Reporter

Mariachi Performance Makes History, Draws Reactions

Mariachi Herencia de Mexico made history on September 28, 2026, when the Chicago-based group performed "The Star-Spangled Banner" before the Chicago Bears game at Soldier Field. The 14-member mariachi group was invited to perform as part of the Bears' Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, making them the first mariachi band to perform the national anthem in Chicago Bears history. The performance quickly gained attention online, receiving millions of views and supportive messages from people across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The musicians wore blue mariachi suits and bows featuring Bears colors and logos as they performed the anthem in a mariachi style inspired by Cuban American jazz trumpeter Arturo Sandoval according to ABC 7 news. César Maldonado, the group's founder, explained to ABC 7 why the performance was meaningful, saying, "This performance is extremely special...especially if you're Mexican or Mexican American living in this country." Maldonado also said, "I see myself in this performance, which is what I think people are responding to." The group's performance was also important because Maldonado created Mariachi Herencia de Mexico in 2016 to help expand the reach of mariachi music and introduce it to a new generation. He explained, "These are big branding moments for mariachi music." The performance received a large amount of positive attention, but it also faced backlash online. According to WBEZ, some users on X criticized the NFL's decision to feature the mariachi group, including the Chicago Young Republicans, who accused the NFL of being "woke." ABC Chicago also reported that members of Mariachi Herencia de Mexico faced racist comments online following the performance. However, Maldonado said he chose not to focus on the negativity and instead focused on the people who supported the group. He said, "It's just a moment that is bringing everyone together, which makes it the most exciting." Group member Roberto Dueñas also described the experience as "a source of great pride" and said performing the anthem

in the United States was "truly an honor." Despite the backlash, Mariachi Herencia de Mexico continued to celebrate the opportunity to represent Chicago and mariachi music on such a large stage. Maldonado summed up the group's pride by saying, "Super proud to offer our music to the world." Students at Thornton Fractional North High School also had their own opinions about the performance. Junior Kaelin McCarter, a TFN marching band member, said he enjoyed watching the mariachi group perform. "I thought the performance was really cool, and I don't really understand why people were upset about it," said McCarter, "It was a good way to represent Mexican culture and mariachi music." Junior Abi Andrez said the performance stood out to her because of the way it brought different reactions from the crowd. "It was cool to see everybody's reaction to it," said Andrez. Jeremiah Mendez, who has been playing guitar for about three years, said, "I thought it was really cool. You don't usually see mariachi performing at a Bears game, so it was cool to see Mexican culture being represented like that." Daniel Lopez, who comes from a family with a strong connection to music and has been playing guitar for four years, said, "I thought it was really meaningful to see mariachi being performed at such a big event. Coming from a family that's always been around music, I know how important music can be for keeping culture and traditions alive." For Mariachi Herencia de Mexico, the performance was more than simply playing the national anthem before a Bears game. It gave the group an opportunity to represent Mexican and Mexican American culture while bringing mariachi music to millions of people watching. Despite the criticism online, the group remained focused on the pride and support surrounding the performance. As Maldonado said in his interview with ABC 7, the group was "super proud to offer our music to the world," making the historic performance a moment the musicians and their supporters will not soon forget.

Story by Ariana Terrazas, Staff Reporter

My Grito

Going to Mexico during the week of Mexican Independence Day was an experience I never expected to have. Because I've never gone to Mexico during such an important time, I wasn't expecting anything big. I thought only people from my rancho were going to be there, but to say I was wrong was an understatement. September 15, 2026, is a day I will never forget. People from surrounding ranchos came just to see the grito. The Grito de Dolores is a patriotic cry that marked the beginning of Mexican Independence in the early hours of September 16, 1810. The plaza was overflowing with families. There was food, music, people laughing, dancing — anything you could think of happening in that moment—until it all went quiet. It was time to hear the Grito. I sat there for 10-15 minutes, listening and admiring how many people were there. The next thing I know, I hear "Viva Mexico!" and applause from all sides. There were continuous fireworks and gritos; it was beautiful to see how many people participated in it. For the next week, the grito was followed up with polvoras (fireworks), cabalgatas (horse parades), coleaderas (rodeos), and bailes (dances) every single day. It was a time that will forever be imprinted in my head. For the first time, I felt delighted to be Mexican. To see how many people came to watch and hear the grito showed me how many people enjoy being Mexican. I don't regret missing school for two weeks because, at the end of the day, all the work will get made up, but the opportunity to go to Mexico during the week of Mexican Independence Day won't come often.



FALL FASHION

BY DAKOTA COMBS

Ever thought about what to wear in the fall? Maybe something cute but warm? Something to fit the theme of fall? Well, look no further! Here are 3 outfits for different occasions. The first outfit is perfect for a date or a night out. The second is for school or a casual day. Lastly, the bonus is for couples who want to watch a movie or show everyone how well they match.

OUTFIT ONE

***Fur Trim
Dress
\$8 - 26 - Akira***



***Lace Tights
\$32 -Natorii***

***Woman's Willow
Boots \$37.49
- JCPenny***



***Black Fur
warmers
\$17.99
-Amazon***

***Silver
jewelry
\$18.99
-Amazon***



OUTFIT TWO

***Sunspun
Autumn/Winter
Minimalist
sweater \$14.19
- Shein***



***Black leggings
\$12 -Amazon***

***ELLEVEN
Denim Mini
Skirt
\$45.99
-Amazon***



***Loafers
\$79.95 -Steve
Madden***

***Andrea Jovine
glasses \$34
- eBay***



BONUS OUTFIT (COUPLES)

***Pajama Pants \$ 27.99
each - Hot Topic***



***Black long
sleeve \$13.19
- Amazon***



***Black long
sleeve \$3.49
- Amazon***





Mini Meteors Preschool



Ages:
3-5 years old



Cost:
\$75



Date:
November 10, 2026 -
May 6, 2027



Time:
Tuesday & Thursday:
10:40 AM - 12:15PM
Wednesday: 10:05AM- 11:15AM



Only 10 spots available
(first come, first serve)



Thornton Fractional
North High School

**For more
information:**



To apply:



GUEST PLAYLISTS

Curated by
Idris Adewale and Angel Diaz

Let’s shine a spotlight on underrated songs that deserve more attention. From hidden gems to overlooked hits, these songs bring something special that more people should hear.

Mrs. Jones’s Picks

“Half Of You”
By Brownstone

“Forever Love”
By Levert

“I Wish ”
by Carl Thomas

00:0004:10

Darryll Parrow’s Picks:

“IN THE AIR ”
by Destin Conrad

“Good Guy ”
by Frank Ocean

“Guarding The Gates”
by Ms. Laurn Hill

00:0004:10

Symirah Dillard’s Picks:

“ purple”
by Olivia Rodrigo

“Beetlejuice”
by Mariah The Scientist

“A Couple Minutes ”
by Olivia Dean

00:0004:10

Leonard Agustin’s Picks:

“My Friend of Misery ”
by Metallica

“Black Hole Sun”
by Soundgarden

“Only Ones Who Know”
by Artic Monkeys

00:0004:10

Evelyn Gomez’s picks:

“Dardos”
by Romeo Santos

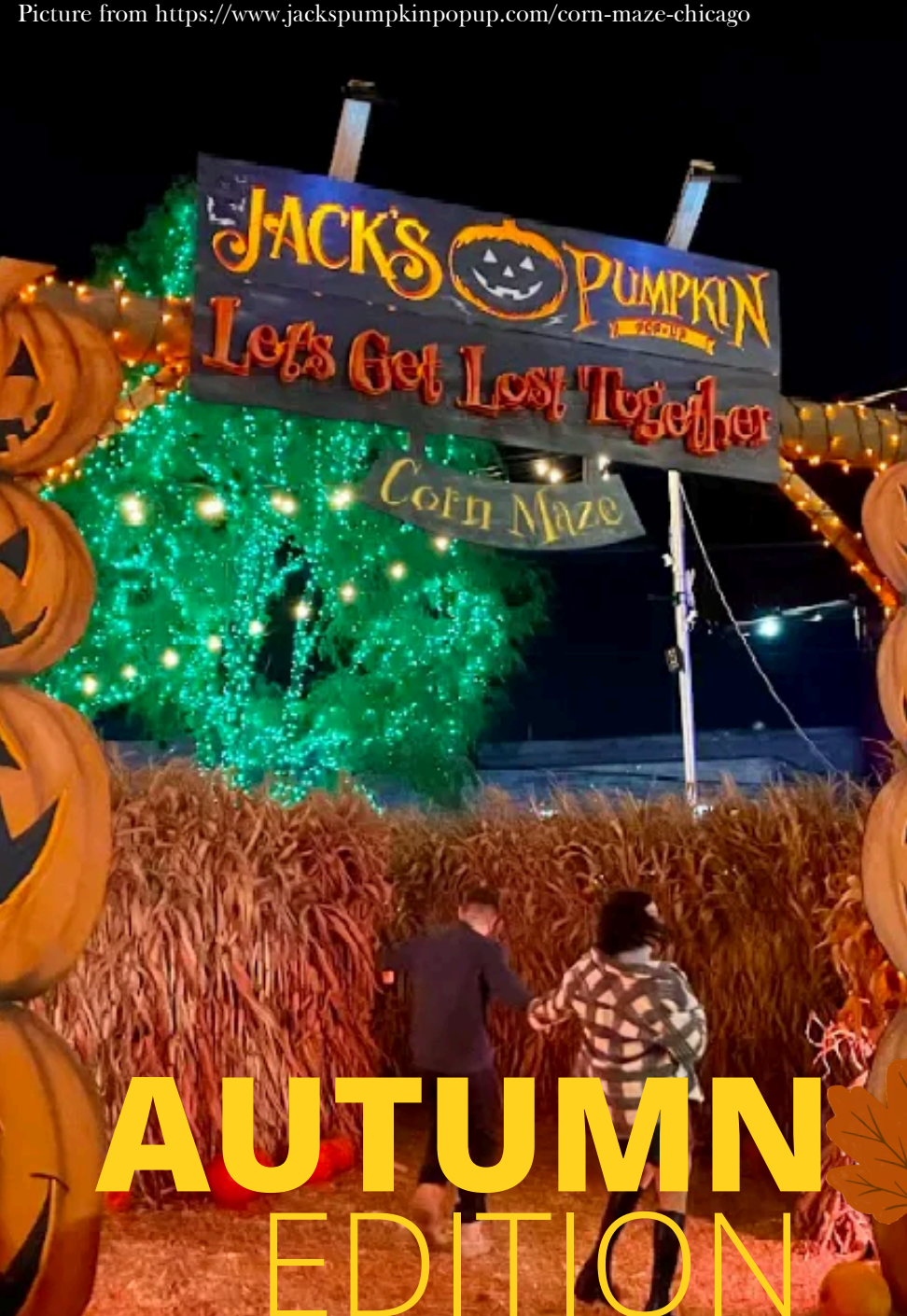
“OJITOS ROJOS ”
by Grupo Frontera

“Cancioncitas de Amor”
by Romeo Santos

00:0004:10

Email your suggestions for our Halloween playlist to thorntonian@tfd215.org. Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted. Please limit your suggestions to 5 songs per playlist.

The deadline for submissions is 3:30 p.m. on October 23rd.



AUTUMN EDITION



Locations and Times

Jack's Pumpkin Pop Up (47-minute drive)
1265 West Le Moyne
Chicago, IL

Lincoln Park Zoo Fall Fest (41-minute drive)
2400 N. Cannon Drive
Chicago, IL

ChiTown Drive In (32-minute drive)
2343 S Throop Street
Chicago, IL

Additional Ideas

Konow's Corn Maze (42-minute drive)
16849 S Cedar Rd. Homer Glen, IL 60491

Midnight Terror Haunted House (34-minute drive)
5520 W 111th St, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Fright Fest Six Flags (1h and 24-minute drive)
Great America Parkway, Gurnee, IL 60031



Story by
Sherae Casimiro, Staff Reporter

WEEKEND GUIDE

Fall is finally here, and summer has officially come to an end. With the temperatures cooling down, students feel as though there are limits to what they can do after school. Not to worry, here's a weekend guide to make the best out of the fall season.

- Chicago's largest fall festival is finally back, Jack's Pumpkin Pop up is available until November 1st, all ages are allowed to attend so bring your friends and family. You can go down to Goose Island – Downtown Chicago to visit the festival now.
- Lincoln Park Zoo Fall Fest is a family friendly festival that is also available until November 1st. You can roast s'mores, carve pumpkins, and listen to live music while also admiring the fall decorations all over the zoo. There will also be rides and fall-themed food. Tickets are \$4.50 each. You can go now, so don't wait.

The ChiTown drive-in is open year-round; the gates are open 30 minutes before showtime, and all ages are allowed. Watch your faves and classics starting at \$35 for one movie. You can watch up to three movies in one night. It's only a 32-minute drive from here.



Historia de
Karen Gutiérrez, Jefa de redacción

Atrapada entre dos mundos

A veces siento que estoy atrapada entre dos países: Estados Unidos y México. Nací en Estados Unidos, así que técnicamente aquí comenzó mi historia. Pero México también se convirtió en una parte muy importante de quien soy. Cuando me mudé a México a los 10 años, comenzó una etapa completamente diferente de mi vida. Fui a la escuela en Aguascalientes, México. Ahí hice recuerdos, conocí a personas que se volvieron muy importantes para mí y aprendí a sentirme cómoda en un ambiente diferente. México se convirtió en mucho más que un país en el que vivía; se convirtió en parte de mi identidad. Antes de irme a México, mi español era muy malo. Lo único que sabía hacer en español era comunicarme con mis papás. Era una “no sabo kid”, pero México me ayudó a mejorar mi español cada vez más. Lo hablaba todos los días en la escuela, con mis amigos y con las personas que me rodeaban. Aunque al principio fue muy difícil y frustrante, con el tiempo, el español se convirtió en el idioma con el que me sentía más cómoda. Me acostumbré tanto a hablar español que empecé a olvidar algunas palabras en inglés sin darme cuenta. Cuando regresé a Estados Unidos después de vivir cinco años en México, durante mi segundo año de high school, pensé que volver a casa sería fácil porque había nacido aquí. Pero, en realidad, fue uno de los cambios más difíciles que he tenido que enfrentar. De repente, sentía que era diferente de todos mis compañeros, a quienes conocía desde la primaria. Me costaba encontrar las palabras correctas en inglés y, a veces, sabía exactamente lo que quería decir en español, pero no podía expresarlo de la misma manera en inglés. Eso me hacía sentir muy tonta. Era frustrante y hasta me daba vergüenza, porque sentía que, a mi edad, ya debería saber cómo expresarme bien. También me sentía atrapada entre dos culturas. En México, a veces me sentía más estadounidense, pero en Estados Unidos, a veces me sentía más mexicana. Eso me hacía preguntarme dónde pertenecía realmente. Con el tiempo, me di cuenta de que pertenecer no significa tener que elegir un lugar sobre el otro. Puedo pertenecer a los dos. Regresar a Estados Unidos no ha sido fácil, pero he crecido mucho gracias a esta experiencia. He trabajado para mejorar mi inglés y, poco a poco, he ido recuperando la confianza en mí misma. Me enorgullece poder hablar español y haber tenido la oportunidad de vivir en dos países diferentes. Ahora ya no veo el hecho de estar entre México y Estados Unidos como algo que me separa, sino como algo que me hace ser quien soy. Nací en Estados Unidos y crecí parte de mi vida en México, pero los dos países me han ayudado a convertirme en la persona que soy hoy. Llevo un pedacito de cada uno en mi corazón y estoy aprendiendo que no tengo que elegir solamente uno.

Historia de
Brianna Santa Cruz, reportera

La presentación de mariachi hace historia y genera reacciones

Mariachi Herencia de México hizo historia el 28 de septiembre de 2026, cuando el grupo originario de Chicago interpretó el himno nacional de Estados Unidos, “The Star-Spangled Banner”, antes de un partido de los Chicago Bears en el Soldier Field. El grupo de mariachi, formado por 14 integrantes, fue invitado a participar como parte de la celebración del Mes de la Herencia Hispana de los Bears. Con esta presentación, se convirtió en el primer grupo de mariachi en interpretar el himno nacional en la historia de los Chicago Bears. La presentación rápidamente llamó la atención en internet y recibió millones de vistas y mensajes de apoyo de personas de Estados Unidos, Canadá y México. Los músicos vistieron trajes de mariachi azules con moños que tenían los colores y los logotipos de los Bears. Interpretaron el himno en un estilo de mariachi inspirado en Arturo Sandoval, un trompetista cubanoamericano de jazz, según ABC 7 News. César Maldonado, fundador del grupo, explicó a ABC 7 por qué la presentación fue tan importante. “Esta presentación es muy especial... especialmente si eres mexicano o mexicanoamericano y vives en este país”, dijo Maldonado. También comentó: “Me veo reflejado en esta presentación, y creo que eso es lo que está conectando con la gente”. La presentación también fue importante porque Maldonado creó Mariachi Herencia de México en 2016 con el objetivo de dar a conocer más la música de mariachi y acercarla a las nuevas generaciones. “Estos son momentos importantes para darle más reconocimiento a la música de mariachi”, explicó. La presentación recibió muchos comentarios positivos, pero también hubo críticas en internet. Según WBEZ, algunos usuarios de X criticaron la decisión de la NFL de presentar al grupo de mariachi. Entre ellos estaba el grupo Chicago Young Republicans, que acusó a la NFL de ser “woke”, una palabra que algunas personas usan para criticar lo que consideran un enfoque excesivo en temas sociales. ABC Chicago también informó que los integrantes de Mariachi Herencia de México recibieron comentarios racistas en internet después de la presentación. Sin embargo, Maldonado dijo que decidió no enfocarse en los comentarios negativos y prestar más atención a las personas que apoyaron al grupo. “Es un momento que está uniendo a todos, y eso es lo que lo hace tan emocionante”, dijo. El integrante del grupo Roberto Dueñas también describió la experiencia como “una fuente

de gran orgullo” y dijo que interpretar el himno en Estados Unidos fue “verdaderamente un honor”. A pesar de las críticas, Mariachi Herencia de México siguió celebrando la oportunidad de representar a Chicago y a la música de mariachi en un escenario tan importante. Maldonado resumió el orgullo del grupo diciendo: “Estamos muy orgullosos de compartir nuestra música con el mundo”. Los estudiantes de Thornton Fractional North High School también compartieron sus opiniones sobre la presentación. Kaelin McCarter, estudiante de tercer año de preparatoria y miembro de la banda escolar, dijo que disfrutó ver al grupo de mariachi. “Pensé que la presentación estuvo muy padre, y la verdad no entiendo por qué algunas personas se molestaron”, dijo McCarter. “Fue una buena manera de representar la cultura mexicana y la música de mariachi”. Abi Andrez, también estudiante de tercer año, dijo que algo que le llamó la atención fue la manera en que reaccionó el público. “Fue genial ver la reacción de todos”, comentó Andrez. Jeremiah Mendez, quien ha tocado la guitarra durante aproximadamente tres años, también compartió su opinión. “Pensé que estuvo muy padre. No es común ver a un grupo de mariachi tocar en un partido de los Bears, así que fue genial ver cómo se representó la cultura mexicana de esa manera”, dijo. Daniel Lopez, quien viene de una familia con una fuerte conexión con la música y ha tocado la guitarra durante cuatro años, explicó por qué la presentación fue significativa para él. “Pensé que fue muy importante ver música de mariachi en un evento tan grande. Vengo de una familia en la que la música siempre ha sido parte de nuestras vidas, así que sé lo importante que puede ser para mantener viva la cultura y las tradiciones”, dijo. Para Mariachi Herencia de México, la presentación fue mucho más que interpretar el himno nacional antes de un partido de los Bears. Fue una oportunidad para representar la cultura mexicana y mexicanoamericana, al mismo tiempo que compartían la música de mariachi con millones de personas. A pesar de las críticas en internet, el grupo decidió enfocarse en el orgullo y el apoyo que recibió. Como dijo Maldonado en su entrevista con ABC 7, estaban “muy orgullosos de compartir nuestra música con el mundo”. Esta presentación histórica será un momento que los músicos y sus seguidores recordarán por mucho tiempo.



Historia de
Na'Yanna Green, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

No Otro Estereotipo de la “Mujer Negra Enfadada”

El estereotipo de la “mujer negra enfadada” es una caricatura racial que daña y presenta falsamente a las mujeres negras como agresivas, hostiles, iracundas y mandonas. Nuestras emociones naturales y nuestra pasión se perciben como actos de hostilidad gratuita. Es algo que he visto en las redes sociales durante años, pero que nunca mi había pasado: hasta recientemente. Estaba en casa, discutiendo con mi hermano mayor por algo probablemente tonto. Sin embargo, recuerdo que estaba tan convencida de tener razón y lo expresaba con tanta pasión que eso se reflejó en mis palabras. El resultado fue que él se rio en mi cara y preguntó: “¿Por qué estás tan enfadada?”, lo cual me frustró, ya que no lo estaba; simplemente intentaba expresar mis sentimientos sobre algo que me interesaba. Aquello transformó mi seguridad en lo que parecía un arrebato irracional. Esta dinámica resulta demasiado familiar para las mujeres negras. Cuando nuestra pasión se confunde con agresividad, nos vemos obligadas a adoptar una postura defensiva. Nos enfrentamos a un dilema incómodo: expresarnos plenamente o dejar de hablar para que los demás se sientan cómodos. Esto nos silencia en espacios profesionales, conversaciones diarias y relaciones sociales. Desmantelar el estereotipo de la “mujer negra enfadada” requiere escuchar. Exige que la sociedad deje de proyectar una imagen distorsionada sobre nuestra personalidad y empiece a analizar nuestras palabras tal como son: reflejos de reflexión, interés y preocupación. Nuestra pasión no es una amenaza, ni una arma, ni un ataque. Es, sencillamente, una parte importante de quiénes somos y merece ser escuchada sin prejuicios.



Historia de
Abi Andrez, reportera

Nuevo patrocinador del club de teatro

El club de teatro tiene un nuevo coordinador. El Sr. Posley un decano, entrenador del equipo de oratoria y, ahora, el nuevo coordinador del club de teatro. Posley ha comentado que, desde que asumió la dirección del equipo de oratoria hace unos 13 años, siempre quiso mostrar las habilidades y el talento de los estudiantes, y desea hacer lo mismo con el club de teatro. Afirmó: "Contar con un programa de teatro sólido brinda a los alumnos otro espacio donde emplear esta capacidad, al tiempo que les abre nuevas oportunidades". Quiere que los estudiantes puedan descubrirse a sí mismos como protagonistas y líderes, narradores, directores, diseñadores y mucho más. "Simplemente les estoy aportando esa visión de grandeza y elevando las expectativas sobre lo que representan la oratoria y el teatro para nuestros alumnos", señaló Posley. Su objetivo es generar más entusiasmo y ofrecer más oportunidades y viajes. También quiere que los estudiantes se visualicen actuando en escenarios y que se reactiven los vínculos con otros teatros de la comunidad teatral. Esto nos lleva a los planes que el club de teatro tiene preparados para TFN. Actualmente trabajan en *A Christmas Carol* (Cuento de Navidad), pero no se trata de la versión tradicional de Charles Dickens; será una adaptación de Patrick Barlow. La obra trata, en esencia, de "una persona que experimenta una transformación basada en un trauma de su infancia. Creo que es una historia maravillosa y conmovedora para contar en esta época", comentó Posley, destacando un mensaje importante: "especialmente en un mundo —o en un momento actual— en el que no sé si la amabilidad se valora tanto como debería". Eligió esta obra también por su humor, su popularidad y su magnífico mensaje. Por otro lado, aunque aún no han decidido qué representarán en primavera, ya saben que será un musical. Para concluir, Posley se muestra muy entusiasmado con todo lo que le espera al club de teatro en un futuro próximo.



Historia de
Dalylah Thompson, reportera

Ayuda disponible en el centro de tareas

¿Necesitas ayuda adicional en alguna asignatura? ¿Buscas un lugar tranquilo para estudiar? ¿Quieres comprender mejor tus tareas? Tómame un momento para conocer el Centro de Tareas (Homework Center) en el LRC. Muchos estudiantes de T.F. North utilizan este centro. Lunye Shabazz, estudiante de último año, comentó: "El Centro de Tareas es un entorno tranquilo. Es muy eficiente porque me permite concentrarme en mis deberes en lugar de tener muchas distracciones a mi alrededor". Los estudiantes también han recomendado este centro. "Creo que el Centro de Tareas es un lugar estupendo. El ambiente es agradable y hay personas dispuestas a ayudarme con el trabajo si tengo dificultades o necesito asistencia. Me parece ideal para los estudiantes que necesitan ayuda con sus tareas y están teniendo problemas", señaló Kristopher Mcgruder, estudiante de tercer año. El Centro de Tareas está abierto los lunes, martes y jueves de 3:30 a 4:30 p. m. Es necesario entrar al LRC a más tardar a las 3:40 p. m. ¿Quieres tener la oportunidad de ganar una cesta de regalo? ¡Participa en el sorteo del Centro de Tareas! Los estudiantes pueden participar asistiendo al centro, completando sus tareas y escaneando el código QR que se encuentra en el LRC. Los nombres se recopilan para un sorteo mediante una ruleta digital. Los ganadores se seleccionan los viernes y se anuncian el miércoles siguiente. La Sra. Taylor está muy entusiasmada por promover este nuevo sorteo en T.F. North: "Sin duda realizaremos el sorteo durante el primer semestre y, si seguimos teniendo una gran participación, continuaremos haciéndolo el resto del año". ¡No dejes pasar esta increíble oportunidad de motivarte para completar tus tareas y ven al Centro de Tareas!



Gracias a la Srta. Navarrete y todos los estudiantes de Palisades Charter High School que esta ubicado en Pacific Palisades California por mostrar su interes a mi historia de “Quien es tu Cami.” Me siento muy orgullosa por que logre que se sinteran conectados a mi histora y que no soy la unica que tiene a una Cami.
Karen Gutiérrez,
Jefa de redacción

Me gusto to historia porque tu usas mucho imagenes. Tu historia me recuerda a mi amigo porque mi amigo ya no vive aqui, ahora vive en Mexico. Yo tambien extrano a mi amigo. Mi amigo y yo siempre jugamos futbol en el parque antes que mover a Mexico. Muchas gracias.
Chris Pacheco, PCHS

Recuerda de mi amiga. Se llama Emely y me recordo de ella porque se movio lejos de mi cuando estabamos en la primaria. Por muchos años, perdi contacto con ella, pero la encuentre hace 1 año en 2025 y hablamos mucho como se nunca se hubiera movido muy lejos de mi. Ella me visito en el verano y estabamos juntas todo el tiempo que tenia hasta que se tuvo que ir otraves. Muchas gracias
Valeria Cordero, PCHS

Me gusto tu historia porque muchas personas pasan por la misma cosa como mi mama, ella tiene una mejor amiga en El Salvador que hablan y se ven cada ves que visitamos. Tu historia me recuerda a mi prima porque yo no la visito tanto, como ella esta en El Salvador. Mi prima es bien extrovertida y talentosa aveces manda videos de ella tocando la guitarra. Me acuerdo cuando fui con mi prima y primo a Tin Marin en El Salvador y nunca me queria ir. Muchas gracias
Kaylly Diaz, PCHS

Gracias por compartir tu historia. Me gusto tu historia porque yo no quero mi amigo que esta lejos de mi. Tu historia me recuerda a mi amigo de como el es atrevido pero tambien el esta bien educado que mi así sentir tonto. Mi amigo esta bien alto y flaco. Yo recuerdo cuando el y yo pateee una pelota a los que van en el primero grado. Muchas gracias
Jonathan Vazquez, PCHS

Hola, Karen, me gusta mucho tu historia porque me siento feliz cuando leo tu historia. tu historia me recuerda a mi amigo, leo que es muy chistoso y amable. el es mi mejor amigo en escuela, iglesia, y futbol. el es mi "Cami", el me ayuda quando siento trieste o enojado. el verano de este ano, yo estaba mal. yo siento triste y solo queria dormir todo el dia. pero un dia en el verano yo hablo con leo, y fueriamos a soak city, un parke de agua aqui en california. ese dia el me ayudo ser feliz otra vez, eso es porque el es mi mejor amigo. porque el me puede ser un sonrisa cuando yo no quero hablar con nadie. Todos necesitan un amigo como leo, y un amiga como Cami.
Jay (Carlos) Montoya, PCHS

Me gusto tu historia porque me gusto como amas tu amiga y me gusto como pusistes un foto de ustedes dos. Tu historia me recuerda a mi amiga Madisyn. He sido 10 anos que conocer a ella y ella vive a un minuto de distancia. Ella es como my hermana y tambien mi papa lo llama su hija. Muchas gracias
Vanessa Santiago, PCHS

Me gusta tu historia porque me pone a recordar a unas de mis mejores amigas se llama Angie. La primera vez que hablé con Angie yo sabía que nosotros somos destinadas a ser amigas para siempre. No vive tan lejos pero todavía extraña a ella.
Zoey Alvarez, PCHS

Me encanta porque fue muy bonita y me recuerda a mi amiga Hailey ella es muy carinosa y aunque no paso mucho tiempo con ella, es como una hermana para mi! Muchas gracias.
Mia Rodriguez, PCHS

Me gusto tu historia porque yo tambien tengo personas importante para mi que tambien viven lejos de mi. Tu historia me recuerda a mi amiga porque tenia meses sin ver a mi amiga y cuando estaba con ella orta vez era como si nunca stamos separadas. muchas gracias.
Mia Carrillo, PCHS

Me gusto tu historia porque en verdad hablas sobre Cami en una manera bien sentimental. Tu historia me recuerda mucho a mi papa. Mi papa se fue de El Salvador para venirse a los Estados Unidos cuando tenia 17 y desde ese entonces el no a volvido a ver a sus amigos y familia. El todavia se comunica con su familia y cada vez que hablan es como que el siguiera alla. Tu histora tambien me recuerda mucho a mi amiga Jasmine. Ella y yo crecimos juntos desde chiquitas y por nueve anos nos veiamos todos los dias. Ahora, ella y yo no nos vemos seguido por la escuela, pero siempre tengo todos los recuerdos que hice con ella en mi mente. Jasmine es mi Cami y no pudiera estar mas agradecida por todavia tenerla en mi vida. Muchas Gracias
Valentina Flores, PCHS

Me gusto que hablo de su amiga y como la distancia no los separo y que todavia hablan. Yo creo que todo estaba bien con el articulo.
Josue Guterrez, PCHS



Me gusto mucho tu historia porque me recordo mucho de mi amiga, Denise, ella como yo es de guatemala, pero se mudo a los angeles, la conoci en quito grado cuando me movi de escuela, y la verdad que nos volvimos cercanas muy rapido, siempre nos reiamos y ella es en realidad la razon por la que no me olvide de como hablar español, ella es muy callada entonces me tocaba hablar por ella a menudo, en sexto grado fue cuando nos volvimos incluso mas cercana, ella siempre me hacia reir y siempre estaba ahi para escucharme hablar de cosas tontas, me acuerdo que un dia nos besamos por accidente y solo nos reimos y dijimos que fue para reforzar la amistad, y si yo pensaba que ya eramos cercanas en septimo nos volvimos incluso mas cercanas. Teniamos solo una clase juntas y lo aprovechavamos al cien, no haciamos nada y solo nos reiamos. en ese tiempo yo estaba con un niño y ella tenia classes con el y durante el recreo o lonche ella me contaba de como lo molestaba y le preguntaba si yo le gustaba, y que segun verdad, que el se ponia rojo, y de eso un recuerdo que siempre voy a guardar en mi corazon es que un dia estaba caminando a clase, y me tope con el y lo abrace y ella le grito " ella es mia" y los dos nos quedamos apenados y nos reimos, y cuando ya la tenia cerca le dije que era un espantaviejos. en octavo fue cuando nos separamos porque no teniamos clases juntas y yo estaba super triste por que el niño con el que estaba me dejo pero esa es una historia para otro dia, pero ella siempre estuvo ahi para abrazarme y consolarme, y por eso la aprecio mucho, ella nunca me dejo, no importa que tan llorona era ella estuvo ahi aunque sea solo para apoyo emocional pero estuvo ahi. En el ultimo dia de escuela la verdad que no me despedi bien de ella, estaba muy ocupada despidiendome de mi amigo, y pocos dias despues ella se mudo para detroit pero antes de irse ella me pregunto si queria salir con ella y nuestras otras amigas y la verdad no pude, y todavia estoy triste de que no me pude despedir de ella, hace unas semanas fue su cumpleaños y apenas me cayo que no esta aca conmigo y no se si la volvere a ver, y me pone muy triste pero estoy muy agradecida por ella porque ella significa todavia muchisimo para mi. Ella es mi Cami.
Allison Cabrera, PCHS

Me gusto tu historia porque yo tengo un mejor amiga que ya no vive cerca a mi. Mi y mi mejor amiga Antonella yo la conoci quando yo tenia dos anos y ya somos amigas para trece anos. Antes de que Antonella se movio, ella vivio veinte minutos de mi y ahora vive un hora y media de mi. Aunque Antonella vive lejos de mi, cuando nos vemos se siente como que nada cambio. Antonella y yo crecieron juntos y nuestras mama's son mejor amigas tambien. A veces yo estoy hablando con Anto en el teléfono y yo veo a mi mamá hablando con la mamá de Anto. Anto y yo tenemos grandes recuerdos de vacaciones juntas y risitas nocturas. Yo soy muy afortunada tener un gran amiga que siempre me intiende y siempra esta ahi para mi.
Isabella Hezghiayan, PCHS

Me identifico con tu historia, mi mejor amiga no vive tan lejos como la tuya, pero aun así esta lejos de mí. Me gustaria poder pasar tiempo con ella, pero nuestros horarios no coinciden. Yo te deseo la mejor para te y tu amija.
Andrea Vargas, PCHS



Mini Meteors Preschool



Ages:
3-5 years old



Cost:
\$75



Date:
November 10, 2026 -
May 6, 2027



Time:
Tuesday & Thursday:
10:40 AM - 12:15PM
Wednesday: 10:05AM- 11:15AM



Only 10 spots available
(first come, first serve)



Thornton Fractional
North High School

**For more
information:**



To apply:



Story by
Kordae Crawford, Staff Reporter

New Era for TFN

With a new season approaching, the T.F. North basketball team is entering a new era under new head coach Mr. Cornelius Deere. Following the passing of Coach Bankston, the team hopes to honor his legacy while building a strong future. Senior Cortice Howse remembers Bankston as the heart of the team. “Coach Bankston meant everything to the T.F. North program,” Howse said. “He was hardworking, and he never took any days off.” Bankston taught his players the importance of discipline, dedication, and hard work. Lessons they plan to carry into the upcoming season. Howse is also excited to reunite with Coach Deere, who coached him in his eighth-grade year at Schrum Memorial Middle School. “He pushes us to exhaustion and makes sure we work hard,” Howse said. “I’m really excited for the opportunity for him to become a head coach again at T.F. North.” Coach Deere understands the responsibility of leading the team and has high expectations for the upcoming season. “Our expectations are higher than before, so it’s my job to make sure we get to that level,” said Deere. Senior Jaleil Littleton, also known as “King Leil,” shared how much Bankston meant to the team. “Bankston meant everything, man. I can’t even really put it into words,” Littleton said. “This year we’re definitely going to do it for him.” As the team begins this new chapter, players are determined to honor Coach Bankston’s legacy through their effort, teamwork and commitment. Under Coach Deere’s leadership, T.F. North hopes to make the upcoming season one to remember.



Story by
Dalylah Thompson, Staff Reporter

Athletes in the Shadows

Did you know that T.F. North has a girls tennis team and a girls swimming team? There are many sports that T.F. North offers to its students, but some rarely get any recognition. All teams should be recognized as they all do amazing things. These great accomplishments are because of their members who take time and dedication to make sure these groups are successful. There are 10 girls on the tennis team, which is coached by Coach Hernandez. Our very own senior, Diana Coronado, has witnessed the growth of the team with the help of Coaches Hernandez, Murphy, and Sierra. “Throughout the tennis season, all the girls showed improvement during practices and their tennis matches,” said Coronado, “We created new memories, enjoyed our senior night, and made this season a memorable one.” The T.F. United swimming team is coached by Mr. Evancho. Senior Karen Gutiérrez Cardenas is the only swimmer from T.F. North. She said, “I just want more people to be on the team because I feel like not a lot of people even know that we have a swim team.” Gutiérrez Cardenas hopes for more Meteors to participate. “It will be sad to know that North swimming will end when I graduate, when we have a wonderful pool and coaches.” Overall, we need more students of T.F. North to be involved in these teams to utilize the amazing programs.



Thorntonian Staff members Abi Andrez (above) and Karen Gutiérrez Cardenas (below) are both athletes, too.

