Senior Potluck Is A Success

The senior potluck was an amazing event where all seniors and their teachers come together to participate in this annual tradition. Ms. Wathen was the DJ mixing up great music, so that the excitement in the room never died down. Seniors engaged in playing chess, video games, ping pong, karyoke and danced to the Cha Cha slide and the Cupid Shuffle. During the potluck, seniors mingled with past graduates who came back for homecoming. These visitors included: Bryan Richiez, Princess Harmon, Grace Love, and Jakob Bode, to name a few. Appearances were also made by Ben Goodman, Ariana Patterson, Celia Chako, Rebecca Nowinski, Wendy Garcia, and Drew Boutilier. During the event, a cream pie fight broke out between Hector Rivera and Josh Misunas. Mrs. Quinn’s homeroom placed first in the competition for the room that brought in the most food. Seniors would like to give a special thanks to Ms. Guay for organizing the event.
Fire Breaks Out in California

By George Castillo
Staff Writer

On November 8th, fire broke out in the Northern California foothills. Over time, California's humidity has plummeted for many years, so it's no surprise that fire has broken out again.

As of late Monday, November 12, the fire had burned a combined 215,000 acres and counting and killed at least 77 people and 1,000 have remain unaccounted for.

During the following week, Mr. Trump praised local officials, first responders and military assistance, and said permits to rebuild will be expedited.

However, there was another fire in south of California near Los Angeles which has been deemed the deadliest fire on record in California and swept through Butte County, killing at least 85 people and destroying 14,000 homes.

Officials in the area announced Sunday that the massive campfire was finally 100% contained.

The California department of forestry and fire protection official says, “The number of residents remain at 249 and the thousands was displaced by massive blaze”. More than 1,000 firefighters are still assisting in search and recovery efforts.

Diwali Celebrations Begin

By Naha Kataria
Staff Writer

One of the biggest holidays celebrated in India, Diwali lasts 5 days, and this year it started November 7th. Diwali comes from the word deepavali, meaning “rows of lighted lamps” which coincides with lighting small oil lamps (diyas). During this time of year, diyas are everywhere: in the house, shops, restaurants, and any public place.

Diwali is celebrated all across India. Sikhs, Jains, and Hindus all participate in this warming holiday; however, it is all celebrated for different historical events.

Sikhs celebrate the sixth guru, Hargobind Singh’s release from prison, and Jains celebrate the day the founder Lord Mahavira reached Moksha. Hinduism celebrates the return of Rama after a 14-year exile, and the day Mother Goddess Durga destroyed a demon. All these events have a common theme: new beginnings, good over evil, and light over darkness.

Many traditions follow this event besides the lighted lamps. Families come together to enjoy a feast every year after they perform prayers (puja). Another dominate tradition is creating rangoli, a design filled with colors. The colors come from rice, dry flour, sand, and flower petals.

After the shooter recovered from his injuries, Mr. Bower was charged with 29 federal charges 11 of them being hate crime related.

After the court case, Trump said, “When people do this, they should get the death penalty.” After the shooting many people are still devastated on what has happened and the lives that have been lost during the incident. “I am unsure on what to do from this point forward,” said one of the members. How will the community get back together? What can we do to prevent this? These are the questions that still remain.

Peace Turned to Nightmare

By Brian Sinclair
Staff Writer

At 9:54 AM Saturday, October 27th, Pittsburgh, a dispatcher received an emergency call from the synagogue in need of help from a dangerous shooter. At 10 a.m. the first officers arrived and were immediately under fire. Soon after, the SWAT team arrived and went inside the synagogue, chasing the shooter upstairs and finding the place where he barricaded himself.

After constant back and forth negotiations and gunfire between the police and the shooter, Mr. Bower, he eventually surrendered at 11:04 a.m.

Reports from officers say that there are 11 confirmed dead and 6 other injured 3 of them officers. After the shooting, president Trump tweeted and said “Events in Pittsburgh are far more devastating than originally thought.” Trump said that he would visit the Synagogue to show grief and sorrow for those who have lost their lives.

Memorial for the victims of the Pitsburg synagogue shooting
Think about the harm that would cause and simply dressed up as a position in the federal government which did not break any of the rules around costumes and was a way to celebrate our nation. The addition of the illegal immigrant was just to add depth to the costume and was a joke that was supposed to lighten the mood and to play on the tactics of this country's current administration.

The second is that these people deliberately attacked students of color in our building, many of whom have or are immigrants themselves, not all of which are here legally. In Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, the court ruled that schools have the right to regulate, for educational reasons, the content of their student which has also been applied to dress in other cases such as Morse v. Frederick. What these cases have done is try to support a safe learning environment, something that was stripped away from students on the day of October 31st. Not only was the costume unethical, but it was a cruel joke for students who live in uncertain times, whose parents, family members and even themselves may be at risk of deportation.

And when the facts are taken into consideration, I am inclined to agree with the second view. These students did not have the right to wear those costumes and when concern was brought up over the controversy they were causing, both students neglected to correct the problem, which shows above all malicious intent to aggravate students and a racist preconception that immigrants are inherently bad.

Moore Will Be Missed

By Mauri Castro and Anaiah Smith
Staff Writers

Assistant Middle School principal of AAE, Mr. Moore, departed from AAE on the 28th of November. After 7 years of serving AAE, Moore is now moving to Canton Middle School to be their new principal.

During an interview, Moore stated, “I have new challenges to face, and I am taking that next step in my career,” Moore said. Moore believes that this is the best choice and is a defining moment in his life. Moore inspires the future assistant principal to make positive contributions to the school in meaningful ways. Moore stated during the interview, “I don’t expect the assistant principal to be like me at all, and I don’t want him to. I want the future assistant principal to treat everybody with respect and build relationships with everybody in the school. I also want the future assistant principal to take AAE to the next level and make the school a better place for everyone. It has been an honor to serve AAE for the seven years that I have been here for.” Moore has been a great assistant principal for AAE and has made a huge impact over the years. He will be greatly missed.

Teachers and students of AAE wish him good luck and farewell on his new journey at Canton Middle School.
Lunch Line Lunacy
A student investigates the lunch line conspiracy

Who else is sick of herding into a swarm to get lunch? The gate stays closed, kids cut, anyone with a fake pass walks through, and security guards watch. I have seen countless kids cut through that line while I wait to get lunch and zero repercussions. Adults either don’t care to watch over the line or don’t care enough to do anything about the shoving contest that has become our cafeteria.

The issue is that our crowded, mob of a line is worsened by the fact that the lunch gates opening depends on the length of Mr. Simpson’s conversations or how frustrated the lunch ladies are with students making too much noise. Somedays, the lunch gate stays closed as lunch ladies or a security guard are attempting to discipline misbehaving students, and civil students are caught in the crossfire.

Whether it is favorite student of a teacher eager to have them in their room for lunch or an impatient adolescent, everything seems to pass me in that queue. If our security guards cannot handle hungry freshman, how can we expect them to handle a real emergency? Why do teachers bother enforcing rules in classrooms when the cafeteria is free rein for students?

Snack Mafia
An investigation on the underground snack black market at AAE

About two months ago, the infamous Stop and Shop ban was instituted, bringing rise to a whole new problem - the solicitation of snacks within the school. After several weeks of investigating this new form of business, a couple of things began to emerge.

First of all, this “Snack Mafia” has existed long before the establishment of the Stop and Shop ban. In fact, it began shortly after the school opened four years ago. But it has gone practically unnoticed by anybody except those involved, only growing in size and influence. And, strangely enough, this growth does not encompass group size - only the members involved. The largest group I have observed is a mere two people in size, indicating that this may not be as organized as it seems, and it certainly shows how the Snack Mafia has been evading discovery.

So, if it is so hard to find these snack dealers, how can anybody buy from them? Well, the most widespread method of advertising is Snapchat stories, which certainly have their appeals. It sells a product to a large audience with alarming speed.

But the question still remains - why are these people selling food to begin with? It turns out that practically every dealer does it for a personal ambition of some kind, whether it’s buying a new video game, or just being able to buy large quantities of food for themselves. Because of this, many dealers will only stay in the business until they achieve their goal. Oddly enough, they knew they were playing a very risky game, completely unaware of the punishment - In School Suspension.

Of course, the Stop and Shop ban has certainly had an impact on the “Snack Mafia.” Because less students can go to Stop and Shop, they are forced to buy from a select few students that can stay after-school to buy these resources. Thus, the amount of people buying from these students has increased, generating a sort of “Golden-Age” within the in-school snack distributors.

So, in theory, the Stop and Shop ban has been a success. The only people buying directly from Stop and Shop are those who pay, and Stop and Shop has not lost any profit. There is, however, there are court cases that say that students cannot sell food if it interrupts with the distribution of school lunches. And while this does not seem to be the case, only time will tell us what administration will do next.
Dear Lyla

By Yekxenie Morales
Advice Columnist

My girlfriend and I have not been doing well with communication lately. She seems to act different towards me, but to anyone else she acts normal. I really don't know what happened with her and I know I haven't done anything wrong. Everytime I try to talk to her, she says nothing is wrong. What can I do to make my relationship better and stronger?

Advice from Lyla: My advice to you is sit her down and converse with her. Maybe she is going through a hard time, and she doesn't have the trust to talk about it with anyone. Make sure no one is around besides the two of you. If this conversation is occurring in front of a group of other people I can guarantee that your girlfriend will act up and say things she won't mean later on. Take your time with listening to her because every little detail you think isn't important means the world to her. An important thing that you should consider doing is checking up on her. Just by saying good morning and have a good day will definitely make her happy because she sees that you are trying to show that you care.

The History of Thanksgiving

By Neha Kataria
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving is a national holiday in the United States and is held every fourth Thursday in November. Thanksgiving was made a national holiday by President Lincoln in 1789, showing his gratitude for the ending of the war.

In 1621, Pilgrims joined together, and invited Native Americans, to their first successful harvest of corn. A year later, the Mayflower arrived with 102 passengers. New to America, they did not know how to survive, and many died in the winter. The Native Americans helped the colonists by showing them how to make corn, extract sap from maple trees, and catch fish. In the next harvest season, everyone was able to harvest. Soon and alliance was formed that lasted 50 years and this feast known as Thanksgiving.

How to Stay Healthy, Fit and Safe During the Winter Season

By Theodore Colbenson
Staff Writer

While the winter season might increase the risk for weather-related injury, the biggest risk to our overall health is a lack of attention to diet and exercise routines. During the holidays, we find ourselves so busy finalizing travel plans, finishing up with tasks at work, buying and wrapping gifts and crossing everything off of our checklists that we forget to prioritize our healthy habits.

As if all the insanity of the holidays isn't detrimental enough to our healthy habits, the chilly and unpleasant weather can also make it very difficult to find the motivation to get to the gym or head outdoors for exercises. In tandem with this, the additional time spent indoors means many of us snack more than we would typically at other times of the year. This combination that can quickly add on the pounds and reduce our happiness and self-esteem over time.

Maintaining proper diet and exercise routines is also necessary to ward off illness. It is estimated that up to 20% of the United States population gets the cold or flu each year. Wintertime presents a higher likelihood to develop cold and flu than during any other season. Here are some winter diet and exercise tips to show you how to stay healthy and fit during winter's colder months:

Article reprinted from pinnacle health.org
Debate Team Shines At Shepaug

By Jean Pasato
Editor-In-Chief

The Debate Team competed in Washington, CT, at Shepaug Valley High School, on November 10th, and had a stellar performance. They had their largest turnout, with 15 debaters making the trek to the Western part of the state and debating the resolved - “Elite schools should prioritize ability over alternative methods of selecting students”. In addition, Meghana Kandarpa was the top speaker/debater in the varsity division, a first for AAE, and two others placed in the top ten (Srikar Godilla and Ben Parke). Congrats to the team on a fantastic performance!

The Good Dracula:
NHS Blood Drive

By Jordan Jenkins
Staff Writer

Okay, before some of you freak out about needles and blood draining from your body, I’ll let you know that your blood is being put to excellent use by giving it to people who need it the most: Natural disaster survivors, or terrorist attack victims.

An NHS Blood drive happened on November 11th in the gymnasium. Here are some health tips to know before giving blood. One is you can’t be on any drugs or alcohol. The iron level in your blood has to be at least 13.5 for men and 12.5 for women; the reason for this is because iron helps make brand new blood cells by replacing the old ones. Second, you have to be careful of any vitamins or any other pills that may go into your bloodstream. After a pint of your blood is drawn, you need to lay down for at least five minutes before getting up. After that, you must get a snack and a drink to keep your sugar up and to prevent from fainting. You should have water after losing blood, just to keep yourself hydrated and must lay down again for at least 15 minutes before moving on with your day. After donating, do not do any continuous exercises and/or heavy lifting for the rest of the day.

Christine Auletta from the Red Cross emailed us the next day, saying, “I would like to express my thanks to you both and Academy of Aerospace and Engineering for its commitment to American Red Cross Blood Services. On behalf of the patients we serve, we thank you for hosting your blood drive. Your drive resulted in 29 presenting blood donors, and we were able to collect 16 pints of lifesaving blood. Each of those donations could help save up to 3 lives! Every day someone somewhere needs blood. Without dedicated coordinators and sponsors like you serving as a vital link between the blood supply and those who need blood, the Red Cross could not carry out its life-saving mission. Again, thank you for your efforts in coordinating a successful blood drive! We look forward to working with you on the next drive: May 30, 2019.”

Pirates of the Pythagorean:
Visits Discovery Academy

By Richa Balamurugan
Guest Writer

On November 8th, AAE’s Robotics team’s 5518 Dutchman’s Derivatives and 5520 Binary Buccaneers attended CREC’s Discovery Academy’s Science Night.

They spent the last week preparing for the event, making brochures and fixing their demonstration robots.

On the day of the event, the Pirates set up two fun stations for the kids to interact with. One station had a robot which shot whiffle balls into the air, and another had a robot that drove around the gym floor.

The Pirates were happy to see so many elementary school kids eager to learn more about robotics, and have hopefully stimulated an interest for their futures.

The Pirates were also pleased to see a familiar face, Ms. Torres at the event with her son.

Both teams can’t wait to continue this tradition with young, curious students and be able to spread the message of STEM to the younger generation.
Professor v. Pumpkin: Vegetation System Takes on Education System

By William Hobson-Rhoades
Staff Editor

On the morning of November 13th, Mr. Wollins opened his door to a horrifying sight. The previous week, he had received a pumpkin from Physics Student Chris Rinaldi. But that pumpkin was no longer in the same spot he had left it, as it was now rotten, and all spread out over his papers. According to Mr. Wollins, this incident was unforeseen. “I don't have much experience growing fruits and vegetables. Of course I know that pumpkins rot, but it never crossed my mind that it was actually going to happen.”

Students Take Over the Air

By Ashawn Morris
Staff Writer

There is a new class being offered at AAE, Media Broadcasting, and it has changed the way we view school news.

Every day, AAE Student News is played via video to give a Twenty First Century experience to how students receive their news. The Pledge is now be played during the video and “Groups of three to four will be doing the announcements per two weeks for every group,” says Media Broadcasting teacher Elizabeth Kupiecki. “For now, it's only for the first semester”. Students in the class are rotating through broadcasting the news and teachers are able to update announcements daily through a Google Doc.

A Wicked Good Trip

AAE and MLC students go to New York to see Wicked on Broadway

By Bella St. Laurent
Staff Editor

Wicked, the thrilling prequel to The Wizard of Oz, follows the backstory of Glinda the Good and Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West. Playing at the Gershwin Theater, Jessica Vosk and Amanda Jane Cooper had amazing chemistry on stage and fostered a wide range of emotions from the audience.

Cooper, as Glinda, dazzled in a wide array of glamorous dresses as she brought humor to the stage. Vosk, positively green, wowed the audience with her amazing vocal control.

Members of the cast were also seen after the play to collect donations to go towards HIV and ovarian cancer research.

Saturday Academy Now Open

During the past few months, there has been constant pressure for the school to implement a working Saturday academy and tutoring program. Worries about school funding fueled anxiety about whether this would ever happen. The school has finally organized both a Saturday and Tuesday Academy, and NHS and Link Crew teamed up to create an expansive tutoring schedule.

The first Tuesday Academy happened on Tuesday the 20th after school from 3:00-4:30. There were several teachers and student tutors available, and there were several subjects being taught. Afterward, the school provided buses to Hartford, which allowed more to students to stay after school.

Furthermore, the Tuesday Academy on November 27th followed the previous precedent. And, the first Saturday Academy will be occurring on December 1st. Right now, the school plans on holding it 8 to Noon, but on select Saturdays. However, if students cannot come on any of these days, Link Crew has set up a tutoring schedule that has been held during every X-block in Mrs. Kincaid’s room. They have similar student tutors for help and cover all subjects.

Although the trip was long, both AAE and MLC broadway fans were excited to be in New York City singing the popular songs from the soundtrack on the bus ride. Many of the students on the trip had never seen the musical before and were pleasantly surprised at the plot twists and turns.

After the play concluded, the group visited Rockefeller Center. The famous Christmas tree was prepared for the holiday season. The shops at Rockefeller Center were a welcome reprieve from the cold. Students had fun window shopping at Tiffany’s, the Lego Store, and Michael Kors while waiting for the bus to take them home. Overall, it was the perfect ending to a wicked day.
**Boy’s Soccer**

*Jet Eagles - Parish Hill FT: 3-2*

By Anderson Delgado  
*Sports Writer*

A hard fought game from both teams ended with a score of 3-2 and led to the new CRAL Champions of 2018 the Jets!

![Boys Soccer 2018 CRAL Champions](image)

With the opening goal of the game, Senior Yasin Balogou scored from a very difficult angle starting off the game with 1-0. In the second half, it started to get rough for the Jets as they trailed 2-1 getting anxious that the game was coming to an end, but after smart plays and teamwork from everyone a great free kick was setup from 19 yards from a foul where Sophomore Kode Smith hit a banger to tie it up 2-2.

Coming to the end of the game with 3 minutes left, the jets set up a great opportunity for Senior Josh Misunas to score the winner where it led to a big celebration for the Jets as they became champions of the CRAL Tournament 2018.

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**Girl’s Soccer**

*Jet Eagles 8-3-7 (Wins-Ties-Losses)*

By Desaray Chapman  
*Sports Writer*

On November 1st, the Jet Eagles played the Pirates of Parish Hill, the number one seed, for the CRAL Championship at Trinity College. The Jet Eagles came out strong organizing a play that led to their first goal. Junior Victoria Cooper (AAE) crossed the ball into the penalty box for Junior Corrin Pruitt (AAE) to finish the play putting the Jet Eagles up 1-0.

Parish Hill wouldn’t go down without a fight and got a goal off of a penalty kick putting the Jet Eagles and the Pirates at a 1-1 tie.

The Jet Eagles continued to fight and the game ended in a tie of 1-1. The Jet Eagles are Co-Champions with the Pirates of Parish Hill.

Standouts were Freshman Azaylia Roche (AAE), Sophomore Jaydah Tinker (CLHS), Junior Leah Coleman (CLHS), and Junior Najee Armour (AAE). Senior Desaray Chapman had 17 saves for the Jet Eagles.

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**Athlete Spotlight**

By David Carmona  
*Sports Writer*

This month’s Athlete Spotlight goes to CLHS/AAE Girls soccer team senior, captain Desaray Chapman. In her fourth year of playing soccer, this year has been a special one for her and her stats prove it: 136 saves, 7 shutout games and even 2 Goals!

**What motivates you the most to play soccer?**  “I played soccer since 6th grade and that was my first year playing. I started out as a midfielder until I kept catching the ball when it was kicked into the air. So I was put in goal. I loved playing that position ever since and got better as the years went by becoming the best female goalkeeper in the CRAL league”.

**Are you satisfied with how your season went?**  “I’m extremely satisfied with the season. We had ups and downs, during games and practices, but it never stopped us from being committed to the team and becoming co-champions with the number one seed, Parish Hill, in the CRAL division”.

**Do you see yourself playing any sports in college?**  “I do see myself playing in college. There are coaches that are very interested in me being their incoming goalie as an incoming freshman”.

Make sure to let her know how proud you are of what an amazing year she has had when you see her around the school.