



# Phoenix



Fall/Winter 2020-21 Vol 11 No. 1

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### GCMS Back in Action

By: Charlotte Jackson (Note: This article was filed before students returned full time.)

The Garden City Middle School welcomed students back for another great year. Although it's great to be back, some things are very different. Because of Covid-19, the Garden City Middle school had to adapt in order to get the students back into the classrooms. New York State has many rules the school had to abide by in order to open back up. One of the major changes this year is that the students don't attend physical school everyday; instead, they follow a hybrid schedule. The groups of students are separated by last name. The first group is last names A-K, and these students attend school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The second group is last names L-Z, and these students attend school on Wednesdays and Fridays. And what about Mondays? Each group of students goes on alternating Mondays; So one week the L-K students go to school on Mondays, and the next week A-K students go to school on Mondays. On the days the students are not in physical school, they attend school on a google meet. For the google meets, students follow a regular bell schedule. Students log on at 8:30 am and do their work from home while on a google meet for the 40 minute period. The only time students aren't on the meet for 40 minutes is if their teacher lets them out early. For lunch, students get a free period, and they don't have to attend any meets. The reason there are meets is so teachers can teach the at-home students the curriculum, and make sure they are actually doing work. Another way the GCMS is different is that there is no lunch in the lunchroom. Students are divided up and assigned to a classroom and a teacher within their team. This is where they eat lunch. A third change the GCMS has made is that students are required to wear a mask at all times. In the halls, in the classrooms, and in the bathrooms. The only time students aren't required to wear masks are during the 5 minute mask breaks. During each period the teacher gives students one 5-minute mask break, where you can take your mask off. You are allowed to have other mask breaks if you need one. Another time you can have your mask off is outside. When students go outside for gym, they can take off their mask, but must maintain social distance. Some classes go outside for lunch, and sometimes even during learning periods. Students are allowed to take their mask off for these sessions as well. However, there's a little bit of controversy with this. Not all students get to go outside for lunch or during periods, so they don't get that outdoor time. Some students find this unfair, but the recent cold weather has taken care of that.

This year students are supposed to try to social distance as much as they can. The school has tried to help with this by separating the desks in the classrooms six feet apart. There are also arrows in the halls to direct the traffic, and keep some sort of distance. Also, the fifth graders from Stewart are now here at the GCMS, because Stewart didn't have enough room to keep everyone socially distanced. The fifth graders come to school every day. Their classrooms are in the library, the cafeteria, a former computer room, and in the music rooms. Teachers made the makeshift classrooms just like their own back at Stewart. I also interviewed Lila Donovan, an 8th grader and asked her, her opinion on this year. She said: "I think that this year is ok. I enjoy real school, but I like online school better." School is very different this year. All we can do is just hope to stay open and have a great year!

# News



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## The Restaurant Business in NYC during and after Covid-19

By: Sofia Ammirati

On September 30th, 2020, many NYC restaurants reopened for the first time since March 16th. Even though this is a good thing for restaurants, many restaurants see this as just ok. With only 25% capacity, it's very hard to make even break. Many restaurants have to pay off old debts and try to pay back missing rent. Many restaurants are waiting until 50% capacity is allowed because then they can get started back up again and make some profit as well as catch up with bills. Unfortunately, many restaurants will not ever open up. Many of those restaurants include Owner/Chef Thomas Keller/s TAK Room in Hudson Yards. The restaurant cost \$30 million, but it didn't make it past a year of its opening. Thomas Keller will also be closing most to all of his Bouchon bakeries in NYC. In an interview, Chef Thomas Keller said, "These decisions were not made lightly. They came after painful deliberations amid a pandemic that has devastated the global economy and caused irreparable damage to our business and profession. Given the challenges of the last five months, we could not find an economically viable path to continue operating without expected seasonal New York tourism and traffic." He also added, "Our profession continues to face long-term, daunting challenges and much work lies ahead. But we are resolute. While this news is devastating, we remain hopeful for the future, and committed to advocating for independent restaurants whose survival is so crucial to the wellbeing of communities everywhere. We will look forward to a time when we can rebuild." Even though TAK room and many NYC Bouchon Bakeries are closing, he is hoping that there will be a time to rebuild and reopen. Fortunately, Chef Keller's restaurant Per Se reopened Thursday, October 15th at 25% capacity in the Time Warner Building in Columbus Circle.

Another NYC restaurant closing is Prune. Chef Gabrielle Hamilton closed her famous restaurant after 20 years. She had a meeting with her staff right after she made a decision to close and said, "I've decided not to wait to see what will happen; I encourage you to call first thing in the morning for unemployment, and you have a week's paycheck from me coming." After that, they cooked some left over food for the last time and then cleaned up for the night. Ashley, Gabrielle's wife, said "Hey, he just called it. De Blasio. It's a shutdown. You beat it by five hours, babe." Some things that Gabrielle Hamilton recalled on one of her last days before closing Prune was, "I had spent 20 years in this place, beginning when I was a grad student fresh out of school, through marriage and children and divorce and remarriage, with funerals and first dates in between; I knew its walls and light switches and faucets as well I knew my own body. It was dark outside when Ashley and I finally rolled down the gates and walked home." After they closed, "Ashley started assembling 30 boxes of survival-food kits for the staff. She packed Ziploc bags of nuts, rice, pasta, cans of curry paste and cartons of eggs, while music played from her cell phone tucked into a plastic quart container — an old line-cook trick for amplifying sound. I texted a clip of her mini-operation to José Andrés, who called immediately with encouragement: We will win this together! We feed the world one plate at a time!" They gave the food to people who needed it. Chef Gabrielle Hamilton went through the worst. "Prune has survived 9/11, the Blackout, Hurricane Sandy, the recession, months of a city water-main replacement, and online reservations systems." But unfortunately, Prune will not be making it through Covid-19.

The latest thing in the restaurant business that is happening right now is trying to get the Restaurant Act approved. David Chang and Tom Colicchio are pushing very hard for this. This is a \$120 Billion dollar relief fund. Chang said that up to 85 percent of the country's hundreds of thousands of independent restaurants are likely to close without federal assistance. Chef Tom Colicchio also added, "We're not asking for a bailout, we're asking to put us back to work," Colicchio said this on a phone interview back on March 24th, 2020. In a recent interview, David Chang said, "Restaurants will soon disappear by the thousands". He also said, "It's often said of organizations like the CIA that when they are doing their job, you won't notice them. The same could be said of restaurants. We do not flaunt that role that we play of feeding people, but when we're gone, I promise, everyone's going to notice." Many restaurants are still open right now in the hope of the Restaurant Act happening. Colicchio estimated that 70%-80% of restaurants throughout the country will close without any help. David Chang added, "Even the restaurants that look very busy are at best breaking even." Many restaurants in NYC and nationwide will not make it through without federal help. Their only hope is the relief fund.



<https://www.cheatsheet.com/entertainment/macys-thanksgiving-day-parade-2020-how-to-watch-this-years-virtual-event.html/>

## Masked Snoopy Due and TV Only Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade To COVID-19?

By: Mia Johnston

Everyone knows that Snoopy is an original in the Macy's Thanksgiving day Parade. The parade this year sponsored by Macy's, in Manhattan, New York, will be a TV event only. This parade is always held on Thanksgiving morning with several major floats, entertainment, and performances. This is due to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic. All citizens have to abide by the social distancing rules. Professionals decided it would be best to stay inside view it on television. The parade will be live streaming, and all crew members must wear masks at all times. In conclusion, this annual parade will be very different than in previous years.



<https://www.oyez.org/justices/ruth-bader-ginsburg>

## The Death of Ruth Bader Ginsburg

By: Abby Wheeler

On September 18, 2020, America lost a legal, cultural, and feminist icon, Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Chief Justice John Roberts said, "Our nation has lost a justice of historic stature. We at the Supreme Court have lost a cherished colleague. Today we mourn but with confidence that future generations will remember Ruth Bader Ginsburg as we knew her, a tireless and resolute champion of justice." Ginsburg served twenty-seven years on the nation's highest court becoming its most prominent member. Right before Ginsburg died, she dictated this statement to her granddaughter, Clara Spera, "My most fervent wish is that I will not be replaced until a new president is installed." Sadly that will not happen for her. President Trump has already appointed a nominee; Amy Coney Barrett. Ginsburg's death has caused a lot of consequences for the court and for the country. Inside the court, not only is the leader of the liberal wing gone, but with the court about to open a new term, the chief justice no longer holds controlling vote in closely contested cases. America has lost a hero in the Supreme Court.



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## Alex Trebek's Death

By: TJ Cooke

On November 8, 2020, Alex Trebek, long-time *Jeopardy!* host, passed away as a result of stage four pancreatic cancer. After fighting this form of cancer for over a year, the battle finally came to an end. Trebek peacefully passed at his home early in the morning. Over 37 seasons, Trebek hosted thousands of episodes of "Jeopardy!" His last day in the studio was October 29. Episodes hosted by Trebek are set to air through December 25. Alex Trebek will be remembered not only for his time as a game show host, but also as a kind and decent man.



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**Tickets Required to See the Rockefeller Christmas Tree**

By Dylan Durso

The tradition of putting up the Rockefeller Christmas tree has been around since 1931. This year the tree stands at seventy-five feet tall and forty-five feet wide. It also has 50,000 Led lights throughout the whole thing. Due to Covid-19, there are new rules to visiting the tree. You will be placed in a pod with your friends or family, but can only have four people a pod. There are handwashing stations throughout.

**iPhone 12**

By Maggie Carrey

Apple introduced their new design, the iPhone 12, iPhone 12 mini, iPhone 12 Pro and iPhone 12 Pro Max on Tuesday. The iPhone allows you to drop digital items in real life that you can see through the screen of your phone. This same feature was used on the new iPad Pro that also came out this year. This feature is supposedly faster and better quality than the other cameras on the previous iPhones and iPad. There will be no headphones or charger in the box. The iPhone can be bought in 4 colors, silver, grey, gold and blue. These new iPhones are supposed to have the biggest screen an iPhone has had. The phone will have 3 cameras, instead of 2, and will take more vividly colored pictures. It will also include 5G.



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**Jupiter and Saturn's Winter Star**

By Carrie Schneider

The dark mornings and low temperatures in the Northern Hemisphere lead to people thinking winter is coming. But this season will not start until December 21, 2020. Called the winter solstice, it is the point in time when the Northern Hemisphere is farthest away from the sun, resulting in less sunlight to the region this year. This is known as a conjunction. Saturn and Jupiter align only about every twenty years.

**Donald Trump Diagnosed With COVID-19**

By: TJ Cooke

On October 2, President Trump revealed that he tested positive for COVID-19. His health was a concern as he is 74 years of age and has other health issues. Even with all these struggles, he was asymptomatic. After months of playing down the severity of the outbreak, the president stated that the end was in sight. Before he was hospitalized, Donald Trump received Regeneron's experimental antibody therapy. This medicine actually helped the president. He is now feeling better than ever. This great news about the medicine helps give Americans hope about the pandemic coming to an end or at least treatment. Once this antibody is available to the public, everything can start to open back up as there is some sort of treatment that can help alleviate symptoms or lessen the length and severity of illness. Thankfully, our president is healthy and feels great. His successful trial gives Americans hope about finally going back to normal.

**Halloween 2020**



**Halloween2020**

By: Maggie Carey

During this crazy time in 2020, one of the major holidays is coming up, Halloween. Halloween isn't cancelled but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is listing ways to be able to still enjoy the holiday, while also staying safe. Activities such as big parties, trick or treating, and haunted houses are highly not recommended by health officials. Another activity that one can enjoy on this spooky holiday is "truck-or-treating", which is when candy is handed out from trunks of cars in parking lots. Many people that plan on dressing up for Halloween include face protection in their costume. As an example, if one were to dress up as a cowboy, they would wear a bandana over their mouth and nose for face safety. Even though the Covid outbreak is a major change of our lives, one may attend a semi-normal, and especially spooky, Halloween!



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**Can You Go Trick or Treating This Year?**

By: Abby Wheeler

Will you be able to go trick or treating this year with Covid still actively spreading? According to Dr. Chris Smith, a virologist at the University of Cambridge, you can. "If you're doing something that increases your contacts with other people then you are automatically increasing their risk and your risk. But by taking precautions, Dr Smith says it is still possible to enjoy Halloween safely." If everyone takes the precautions of wearing a mask, socially distance as you are going to people's houses, back away from people's houses after you knock on their door, and use hand sanitizer regularly we will have a terrific Halloween. Dr. Chris Smith also adds, "Because it's Halloween I'd say people are quite likely to be wearing a mask anyway so if they can make a face covering work it's way into their costume then even better." Experts also recommend not to go to elderly or vulnerable people with coronavirus. Another big question people are asking is, "If people go trick or treating how will people give out the candy?" Dr. Smith says, "If everyone's scrabbling around in a bucket full of sweets and they touch all of them then there's a risk of transmission. Covid-19 can be spread by touching surfaces contaminated with the virus, as well as through droplets breathed in. So if unwrapped sweets are left in a bucket for children to rummage in, with multiple hands touching the treats, there is a risk the virus could spread from fingers to mouths." Dr. Smith also says he has a solution to this problem, "To reduce this risk, I recommend giving out individually wrapped sweets so children aren't touching something they then put straight in their mouths. Safer still, you could leave sweets outside the door for people to help themselves or even tie individual bags of sweets to a fence or tree." If we follow all of these rules, we are sure to have a happy and wonderful Halloween!



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## Return of The Living...Apple?

By: Riley Quinn

The “extinct” Colorado orange apple is making a comeback. Addle and Jude Schuenemeyer were staring at an old tree one day last December when they thought this could be it, after nearly twenty years of searching for an orange apple tree. Just recently, the apple tree was confirmed to be an official orange apple. Addle and Jude have done their best to spread the word of the apple’s return. They have given local farmers orange apple trees and cannot wait for the orange apple to fully return and be sold in markets across America. A sweet and tangy treat, the apple should be a sure hit with consumers. The orange apple will return in styling fashion in the near future. It will take a while to cultivate these trees and for them to mature into fruit bearing trees. Thanks to the unique efforts of Addle and Jude, this was all made possible. Farmers in Colorado will begin planting the trees seasonally.



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## Civilians Tour Titanic Wreck

By: Celia Padala

The famous *Titanic* ship that sank in 1912, can now be explored by civilians via submarine tour...if you are willing to pay the large sum of 175,000 dollars! OceanGate Expeditions is taking groups of nine people on an eight day trip to visit this famous wreckage site. The trip begins in Newfoundland, Canada, 595km away. Once there, the submarine tour lasts about six-to eight hours. The most exciting part of this adventure is that the tourists are deemed “mission specialists,” as they will assist experts doing technical surveys of the site. Not only must you be able to afford this tour, you must also fill out an application that includes a video interview and training. OceanGate Expeditions has had thirty-six people sign up for the first six trips planned for next year. This tour company is hoping that these trips will be successful, and will give the public the first opportunity to see the wreckage first hand.



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## Swan Saved in NYC Subway

By: Neil Curtis

In NYC, a swan was found extremely injured on the grass in Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. A New York citizen, Ariel Cordova-Rojas, saved this bird using the subway as a makeshift ambulance. The citizen, a worker at the refuge, spotted the injured bird laying alone on the grass. She carefully rushed over to the wounded bird, and with her creativity, she took the subway with the bird to an animal hospital. On the subway, she met some other kind citizens who helped out with taking care of this bird, they successfully brought this bird to the animal hospital and are now considered swan saviors.

## Why October Birthdays are Special

By: Amelia Graser

Were you born in October? If so, I would keep reading. October birthdays have some things that are special compared to other birthdays. Here are three reasons why you should wish you were born in October. The first reason is because October babies are more likely to see their 100th birthday. I mean, who wouldn't want to live until they're 100? Secondly, they have fewer cardiovascular disease risks. Apparently, October babies are born with healthier hearts and have a lower risk at cardiovascular disease, (by a very small amount). Lastly, they will have better mental health than other months. So, are you rethinking why being born in October is actually pretty cool?



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## The Murder Hornets

By: Katie Horn

The Asian Giant Hornets, or the “Murder Hornets”, came to the U.S. somehow last year making thousands of people scared of what could be flying around outside. These hornets are huge and have a body length of around 1 ¾ inches and a wingspan of about 3 inches long! Although they are very big, their size is not what makes them scary. These insects are known for having vicious behavior towards other insects and sometimes people. They have a stinger that is usually around 1 ¼ inches long, and injects a venom that can kill an animal, insect, or possibly a human. Scientists have tried numerous ways to put a tracker on one of the hornets so that they can track and lead them back to its hive. The scientists finally figured out that they could glue small radio trackers to the hornet which will stick and stay on while allowing the hornet to fly around like it normally does. The plan is that once they trap and tag one of them, they can locate a hive and capture the rest of the colony. Hopefully this happens one day soon and leads to the end of the Murder Hornets expansion and even existence in the U.S.



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## A.I. Advancements

By: Neil Curtis

Ever since 1955, A.I. has been an interesting topic and recently it has drastically changed. As of 2020 we have about 2.7 million industrial robots, and about half of those are currently active. Artificial Intelligence is far more advanced than simple industrial robots and there have been changes in the criteria as well. This criteria is that A.I. needs to be able to deal with unknown environments/circumstances in order to achieve its objective/goal. Previously, A. I. just needed to be able to move on its own. During the past few years, A.I. has improved and expanded dramatically.

1999 Pictures: Mr. Augie's archives



2020 Pictures: Katherine Pfifere



### Mr. Augi: Tech Teacher and Pond Extrordinaire

By: Katherine Pfeiffer

Recently, I interviewed one of the technology teachers here at Garden City Middle School. Mr. Augi has been very passionate and loyal to the fish and the ponds in the courtyard. The fish are koi fish and are loved by many students and staff. During the interview, I got loads of information about these special fish that I would have never known. Starting off, these fish have never manually been fed! They eat the growing algae on the rocks, and cleans the pond as well! This way it's easier for Mr. Augi on vacations, summer recess because the fish can eat whenever they feel like! During quarantine, the fish were fine, as long as the waterfall was running. Mr. Augi designed these ponds and built them with his students in 1999. They designed a mini running waterfall to keep the water flowing. When the pond freezes over in the winter, it's important to keep the waterfall running so there is an airway going through. Believe it or not, the koi actually need air to survive, even though they breathe underwater! When oxygen enters the pond, it dissolves. Not only do they need an air hole for air, but the carbon dioxide needs to be released as well. Instead of a waterfall, you could instead have a bubbler or heater, which makes a hole as big as the top of a soda can. Along with Mr. Augi's smart waterfall design, he also designed a little cave. With the cave, the koi can hide underneath when sensing danger. The predators of the koi are mainly birds. Some include the blue heron bird and hawks. They can swoop down and gobble them up. If you ever need some quiet time or want a break, go listen to the soothing sounds of the waterfall in the courtyard, or visit the fish. Thanks to Mr. Augi, we have a nice place to relax and enjoy, with all of the koi!



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### Pandemic Pet Surprises

By: Isabelle Komorowski

Pet adoptions have soared during this pandemic. People have been locked up in their houses all these months and they are starting to get lonely. To help cure their loneliness, people have started to foster and adopt animals from shelters. The Northshore Humane Society reports a 46% increase in adoption applications. Adoption and foster organizations are astonished by how many people are wanting to help give these animals a home. Some places have more applicants than animals.



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### Rockefeller Center Ice Skating Rink COVID-19 Restrictions 2020

By: Mia Johnston

Rockefeller Center is a popular tourist attraction. This center is in Manhattan, New York. This year this attraction will be a bit different due to the worldwide pandemic. People from all over the world come to see this rink and skate! Unfortunately, there will now be restrictions starting with reduced capacity on the rink and masks. People are very upset about this announcement because it has been a tradition since the 1930s. The Rockefeller Center team sets up the rink for the holiday season starting on November 20 and it stays up till January 17th. Overall, this holiday season will be very different, especially in New York City.

# Reviews



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## Second Season for Netflix Original Series, Outer Banks!

By: Mia Johnson

The Netflix original show, *Outer Banks*, is filming their second season right now with extra precautions. The cast: Chase Stokes, Rudy Pankow, Madison Bailey, Madelyn Cline, and Jonathan Davis, are the five main characters of this hit series. Five teenagers go out on a missions to find missing gold on an abandoned shipwreck. The crew films this in Charleston, South Carolina. Due to COVID-19, they take extra precautions and it is harder to film. The entire cast and crew are wearing masks to prevent the spread of the virus and taking social distancing precautions as best they can while filming their individual scenes. The producers are coming back for a second season because over the course of the 5 month quarantine period the show brought in over 50 million dollars due to all the viewers of the show.



## Phoenix Staff

**Staff Members-** Sofia Ammirati, Maggie Carey, T.J Cooke, Neil Curtis, Dylan Durso, Amelia Glaser, Catherine Horn, Charlotte Jackson, Mia Johnston, Isabelle Komorowaski, Jack Langley, Celia Padala, Katherine Pfeiffer, Riley Quinn, Carrie Schneider, Abigail Wheeler

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**Special thanks to all who were instrumental in the production of this paper, including but not limited to: Dr. Neizowitz, Dr. Fasano, Mr. Marr, Mr. Daniels, and Ms. Brillantino.**

Opinions expressed are the writers' and do not represent the opinions of the school board, the advisor, or the administration.



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## Grey's Anatomy Season 17 Filming has Begun!

By: Charlotte Jackson

*Grey's Anatomy* Season 17 filming has started. The show's 16th season was cut four episodes short due to Covid-19 shutting down production. The show's showrunner, Krista Vernoff, has confirmed that the show will include the Coronavirus pandemic into the storyline. According to Giacomo Gianniotti, also known as Andrew DeLuca, the new season will pick up a little bit later than where it last ended. It will pick up about "a month and a half" into the pandemic. Gianniotti said, "We might have some flashbacks. We might have some things where we're referencing last season, just to have context leading up." Covid has definitely thrown the show off because the plot which was supposed to be the season 16 finale, can't be used now. Vernoff said that there will be a type of "reset" for this season. "We certainly can't just shoot what was going to be [episode] 22 [of season 16] and make it the premiere because it wasn't designed as a premiere," she said. "So for sure we're going to have to reconsider a lot of things." So, if something bad was supposed to happen last season, we will never know. Another way Covid has thrown the show off is that the protocol for filming is different. Gianniotti has told interviewers, "Our producers are all rapidly trying to implement all of these protocols to keep everybody safe. We're obviously going to be tested multiple times a week and sort of separated in zones. We're going to have a lot less personnel on set... We're uniquely lucky that we get to wear PPE (personal protective equipment) because we play doctors, so for other shows that aren't in the doctor world I really feel for them because that's an added challenge that they have to face." This season the actors have to maintain their distance, get regularly Covid tested, and wear masks. So this season will definitely be very different. Some actors in this season are Jesse Williams, Ellen Pompeo, Giacomo Gianniotti, Richard Flood, Debbie Allen, Camilla Luddington, Caterina Scorsone, and more. As of now the season premiere is set for November 12th. What will happen this season? Will the last season's finale storyline be used?

In conjunction with <https://ew.com/tv/greys-anatomy-season-17-first-photo/> and <https://www.etonline.com/greys-anatomy-begins-filming-season-17-see-ellen-pompeos-first-on-set-photo-152695>



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## Tik Tok

By Carrie Schneider

Tik Tok is an app formerly called Musically. It was taken over by a dance company, but then on November 9, 2017, the company combined the two apps into a single app named TikTok. This app was finally released on August 2, 2018. Tik Tok is now an app where kids and adults alike use to express themselves through videos of them dancing or anything they wish to post to the app. Kids strive to become what you call "Tik Tok famous" by dancing in front of the camera. This app is what you call "trendy". Everybody that has a phone or source of social media most likely has this app. Just walking around in a busy place you will probably see people doing the dances. Most specifically the woah.



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## Nature's Storms

By: Isabelle Komorowski

Hurricanes happen all around us and not only in the U.S. This past season there were twenty-eight named hurricanes which has been a record number for a season. One in particular, Hurricane Etta, was a category four when it reached landfall. The highest category for rating hurricanes is a 5. Now we all know that Hurricanes are dangerous, and that they can cause serious amounts of damage. However, what is a hurricane and how does it form? How is it rated? What can and should we do to stay safe during one? June 1st through November 30th is prime season with September being the most active month. A hurricane is a type of storm called a tropical cyclone. They gain their strength in warm water, and lose most of their strength as they move onto land. They are part of the low pressure system and are rated on a category from between 1 to 5. Hurricanes are rated on their maximum sustained wind speed and a storm can't be called a hurricane unless it reaches a maximum sustained wind speed of 74 mph or more. Hurricanes form on warm moist air (warm front) and begin to rapidly rise when a warm front meets cooler air (cold front). When the warm water vapor meets the cool air, it condenses and then produces storm clouds, rain, and bad, dangerous weather (the low pressure system). Hurricanes can cause many problems such as flooding, tornadoes, high waves, and property damage. To stay safe during a hurricane, you should evacuate the area, but if you did not evacuate you should stay away from low-lying and flood prone areas. Stay indoors because the winds will blow things around and you could get hit by flying debris. Mobile homes, cars and homes that are not on high ground should be evacuated. During a severe storm, shelters are set up in a central location where people can go. Hurricanes are scary and frightening, but scientists are continuing to learn about them and why they form. Tracking hurricanes and giving people alerts to let them know when and where to evacuate is essential. Scientists and meteorologists are helping us to understand why these storms happen and what we can do to stay safe during one.



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## Hurricanes Pound Central America

By: Riley Quinn

Strong hurricanes have pounded Central American countries in recent weeks. Hurricane Eta and Hurricane Iota have destroyed buildings, flooded cities and towns, left hundreds of thousands of people homeless, and killed close to 300 people. This year has set the record for Atlantic hurricanes. As this year's hurricane season comes to an end with thirty named storms, two more hit Hurricane Iota and Hurricane Eta. Although hurricanes are normally weaker towards the end of the season, Iota and Eta caused a great deal of damage. Both Eta and Iota were category 4 hurricanes. For countries in Central America this year has been very rough. Hurricanes have damaged these countries heavily and left many countries in debt. In many of these places, it will take months, if not years, to rebuild. In Honduras, hundreds of thousands of people are still in emergency shelters, where the risk of Covid spreading is high.



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## The Ocean World

By: Jack Langley

The world we live in is mostly water and we haven't explored all of it. There are so many things happening in the ocean. There are over 34,000 recognizable fish but so many more that we have not discovered. Fish are not the only thing in the water there are also sea mammals and aquatic plants. There were also fish dinosaurs.

Different fish live in different more suitable habitats. Some fish live in shallow waters, usually small fish. Bigger fish live in deep water where they have more room to swim. Some fish have difficult lives like salmon; they have to swim upstream where grizzly bears hunt for fish. The sun affects the temperature and how bright the water is close to the surface, it gets warmer and brighter.

The deepest waters people have explored are pitch black. The fish down there have a feature most fish don't have because it is hard to survive down there. One of these fish is the anglerfish. The anglerfish has a lamp-like orb hanging over its mouth. The lamp is used to confuse prey. This fish hides in the rocks and then ambushes other fish.

The ocean is also beautiful with its coral reefs. Coral reefs are made up of a layer of calcium carbonate. Over 1,500 fish live in them including clownfish. Some small sharks also lived in coral reefs. Reefs are in shallow warm water and usually located in tropical areas. Coral reefs are colorful habitats for tropical fish.

Duckweed is an aquatic plant that's tiny and sits on the surface of water. They grow in big groups and can cover entire ponds making it a great hiding place for small fish. Some plants are located in deep water but eventually it gets too dark and plants can not survive because they don't get enough sunlight.

The ocean is full of legends. One of those legends is the story of the Kraken octopus. That story is about a giant octopus that wrecked pirate ships. People say the Kraken was made up but others say it was a giant squid that looked bigger than it really was; these stories were most likely fake.

Water was an active place even in the time of the dinosaurs. Dinosaur fossils have been found under water. One of these dinosaurs was called an Elasmosaurus. That creature had four fins, a big body and a really long neck. These four fins help them streamline picking up speed. These dinosaurs would swim up to its prey and bite them using its strength and speed to become a killer predator.



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## Fantasy Football : Week One Quarterback And Wide Receiver Duos

By: TJ Cooke

On Thursday, September 10, the 2020-2021 NFL season began. Along with that, the fantasy season bloomed as well. Some of the best quarterbacks and wide receiver duos played great this week. Sunday was when the real surprises appeared. Green Bay's wide receiver, Davante Adams, had an amazing game of 2 touchdowns, 156 receiving yards, and 14 receptions. With that came 41.6 fantasy points. Because of this outstanding performance, Green Bay's veteran quarterback, Aaron Rodgers, scored an elite 30.8 points. To top it off, the Packers left Minnesota with a 9-point win. 29.1 points came with DeAndre Hopkins monster performance. Hopkins had an incredible 14 receptions and 151 yards. Even though he was unable to score a touchdown, he still led the Cardinals to their win against the 49ers. Keep in mind, this is his first season in Arizona! With this great performance, Cardinal's quarterback, Kyler Murray, had 26.3 ESPN fantasy points. Overall, there were many great performances among NFL quarterbacks and wide receivers this week, and we can only assume there will be more to come.

## Jayson Tatum: Leadership Advice from Kyrie Irving in the Bubble

By: Dylan Durso

Kyrie Irving, a former Boston Celtic, is helping his old teammate, Jayson Tatum, with his leadership. Jayson is trying to be the leader of the Celtics. They went into game five of NBA semifinals, but they were knocked out of the finals. Tatum says Irving really helped him recover from that loss. That game he dropped 31 points and 10 rebounds. Unfortunately, even though he had a great performance, the Celtics were knocked out of the playoffs.

## Concert Plans for 2021

By: Amelia Graser

The Coronavirus pandemic has postponed and cancelled many events such as music festivals, concerts, award shows, and many more performances in the music industry. However, 2021 shows, concerts, and maybe even tours, are putting new action plans into place for safe performances. Additionally, a new Covid vaccine that has a 90 percent efficacy rate that has given concert professionals a hope that the concert business can return in 2021. As of right now, companies like Ticketmaster are preparing for concerts in the future after this vaccine comes out. For example, one way fan safety can be proven and recorded is through cell phone vaccine and test verification. If someone has tested negative for the virus between a 24 or 72 hour window, they will be able to attend. There are still many details to work out, and people need to feel comfortable as well. In addition, there needs to be sure that Ticketmaster cannot store or reuse somebody's medical records. There are many flaws and new ideas that need to be worked out until we can go to concerts again. However, with this new plan set in place, concerts and shows will hopefully be happening in the near future.

## Not Again...

By: Katie Horn

In the UK, a new strand of Covid-19 has been found which sent their nation back into an even more strict and severe lock-down. Places like restaurants, businesses, shops, clothing stores, and much more have been shut down due to this new discovery. Scientists say that this new strain of coronavirus spreads even quicker to people, and is even more fatal. Now, more than thirty nations have closed off trade and travel with Britain which is sending Britain into an economic downslide. The US has still not decided on whether or not to ban travel with Britain so far. With the new Pfizer vaccine the UK may be able to make a short recovery, and get their people vaccinated and healthy once again. Hopefully, in the near future the UK will see the light at the end of the tunnel and return back to somewhat normalcy.

## Lakers Win NBA Finals

By TJ Cooke

On October 11, 2020, the Los Angeles Lakers won their seventeenth NBA championship as an organization, securing LeBron James's fourth ring. This ties them with the Boston Celtics for the most championships in NBA history. This wasn't just any usual NBA finals. This meant so much to so many people and players across the world. LeBron James was awarded Finals MVP, becoming the first player in history to win this award with three different teams. Even though James was the clear MVP of the series, he couldn't have done it alone. Anthony Davis, Lakers big man, played a huge role in the Finals as well. After seven seasons of playing for the New Orleans Pelicans, this win was well-deserved by Davis. Another mentionable player in this series was Dwight Howard. Although he is far out of his prime and didn't play a huge role in the Lakers win, he was still very much deserving of a title. He carried the Orlando Magic on his back during the late 2000s and early 2010s, even coming forth in MVP voting in the 08/09 season. Lastly, the emotional victory means more than just another ring on LeBron's finger. This win was dedicated to Kobe Bryant, a five-time champion and Lakers legend. Bryant, his daughter, and seven others, were killed in a gruesome helicopter crash on January 26. The team often mentioned Kobe as their motivation throughout the run. Overall, this championship was incredibly meaningful to everybody it impacted. As of now, most people have the Lakers favored to win the title next season too.

## Jimmy Butler: Crazy Game 3 Final

By: Dylan Durso

The Lakers were leading the NBA finals 2-0. Then game 3 came and the Heat won 115-104. Jimmy Butler gets a triple double. He had 40 points, 13 assists, 11 rebounds and 2 assists. If Jimmy Butler scored one more point he would have beat Micheal Jordan with the most points in a final's game. He also has scored the most points in a final's game without a 3 point attempt. This will be a game many don't want to forget.



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## Thanksgiving Food Drives

By: Katie Horn

Many families all around the country struggle to buy food and put meals on the table, especially on Thanksgiving. Now with Covid, many more families are struggling due to the shortage of food in supermarkets, and the fact that many people are losing their jobs to the virus. With the Corona Virus rate up, people are rushing to the stores again and buying an excess amount of food for their homes in case of another shut down. This leaves certain families with nothing left to get for their own homes and for their Thanksgiving dinners. Many people have also lost their jobs, such as small business owners, restaurants, and employees in big companies. Those people may not have enough money to buy food for a meal because they no longer have a source of income. Organizations have started up in order to donate food for a Thanksgiving meal for these families across the nation. One organization called Feeding America, has a network of 200 food banks used to help families during the holiday season. Crystal, a woman from Gary, Indiana, is a hardworking mother who turned to Feeding America to help her family get the food that they needed. She told Feeding America, "We probably wouldn't be doing Thanksgiving if it weren't for this. This means we get to have a nice meal as a family, which we wouldn't be able to afford otherwise." Many people like Crystal are very grateful for these organizations because they are making the holidays less stressful and more enjoyable. The trouble of not having enough money for holiday meals is still a problem all over the country, but at least organizations like Feeding America are able to help these families in need.