

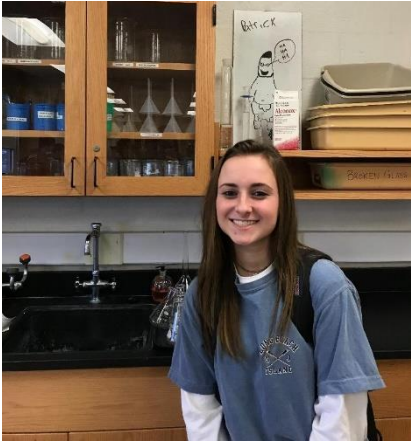


The Court Street Press

DOYLESTOWN, PA • VOLUME 2018-2019 • ISSUE 2 • December 2018

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

By Mattelynn Beahan and Amelia Betancourt



Jordyn Klementovich, Sophomore

"Me and my family wear Christmas pajamas all day on Christmas day."



Katie Schiela, Senior

"My dad does 'The Seven Fishes' on Christmas Eve, where he cooks seven different types of fish... It's an Italian tradition. We usually have pasta, shrimp, and lobster... and he makes crab cakes and it's a huge thing that's really fun!"



Maddie Carver, Junior

"My favorite Hanukkah tradition is lighting the Menorah with my family."



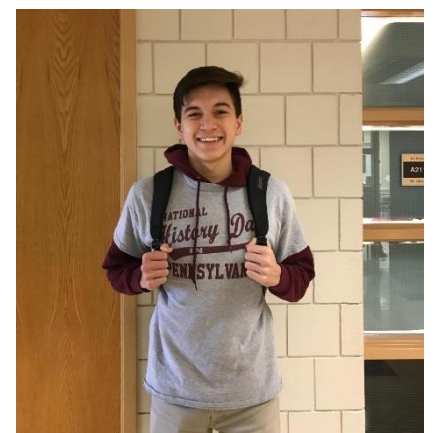
Bella Centenera, Junior

"I like celebrating my birthday and eating cookies with my family."



Caroline Schaeffer, Senior

"My holiday tradition is that my Nonna gives me and my brother Advent Calendars every year at Thanksgiving, and I always look forward to her giving them to us. It's always really fun to pick out a new chocolate every single day and read what's on the inside of the box."



Gabe Wingert, Senior

"I wake my little brother up first and recruit him to wake the rest of my family up. I love being excited with my little brother still and waking up early with him to bother the rest of the family. I love having my full family together on Christmas morning, and it's by far my favorite day of the year."



Jay Pogach, Senior

"My family gets together one night of Hanukkah, not any specific night, we just get together when everyone can. We open presents and eat food as a family... We have latkes – that's a staple of Hanukkah. We light the Menorah together, I do that every night with my family. We have one Menorah for each kid. Yeah, we occasionally play dreidel. Also, I go with my Temple to the Mercer Museum Holiday Festival and we teach little children how to play dreidel, that's always nice."



A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES: CBW CUSTODIANS

By Kristen Rice

From 6:30AM to 3:00PM, regardless of snow days (being “essential personal”), regardless of holiday vacations, they are here. You see them in the hallways pushing heavy carts, you see them carrying markers onto the field, you see them holding doors and fixing wires. Central Bucks West custodians are pivotal members of the West community, taking care of the school inside and out. Dave Fellman, working at West for four years as a facilities specialist and Head Custodian, is one of those pivotal members. Mr. Fellman used to work in the automotive industry, but is now “happy to help” the students at West. He jokes about how the “less [the students] vandalize, the better it is for us.” Bob Starke has worked at West for five years, and likes West because it is “family oriented” and the teachers are “dedicated and professional.” He worked for 24 years at Pringle electric, manufacturing electrical switchgear, then later at Elton corporation, manufacturing switchboards. He prefers to set up community events, for example, “sporting events are fun because you get to watch, especially football.” From setting up our football games to cleaning up our cafeterias, our custodians truly are the unseen heroes of this community. So the next time you spot a broken toilet, or see a spill in the hallway, remember to say “thank you” to the important members behind the scenes: our custodians.

WEST HOOPS PREVIEW

By Eli Baylin

“I’m looking forward to seeing how our chemistry will allow us to come together and grind out wins for the team,” says Senior Point Guard, Jack Mulhearn, as he boasts about the West Boys Basketball team’s relationship as a whole. The boys, along with the West community, have high hopes for this upcoming season. As practice gets underway, the team looks to shadow last year when they finished the season 23-8 overall and 10-2 in the Suburban One League. Veteran Coach, Adam Sherman, looks forward to seeing his young talent prevail this season as big names like Collin MacAdams and Jake Reichwein have graduated. Division 3 prospect Jack Mulhearn and other talents such as Reed Zerweck and Mika Munari, look to lead the team to another playoff run. Not only are the Bucks full of heart and successful on the court, but the boys are also charitable around town. The team will continue to hold different charity events for the community throughout the season. Make sure you come to support the Central Bucks Boys Basketball team this year as they head into the 2018-19 season electrified.

NEXT GAME: Friday, Dec 14 at 6:30 PM



Central Bucks West
vs.
Central Bucks East



Game Details - Central Bucks East High School, Gym
The Central Bucks West varsity basketball team has an away conference game @ rival school Central Bucks East (Doylestown, PA) on Friday, December 14 @ 6:30p.

WEST VOTERS

By Sophie Kadan and Gabi Lamb

On November 6, 113 million citizens across the country showed up to vote in the 2018 Midterm Elections. The polls were close, but the Democratic Party won the House of Representatives and the Republican Party maintained its lead in the Senate. For Pennsylvania, Brian Fitzpatrick of the Republican Party won for the House, and Bob Casey of the Democratic Party won for the Senate. Despite the close numbers, this election was monumental in many ways. With 49 percent of eligible voters participating, it was the first midterm in history to exceed over 100 million votes. Specifically, 31 percent of young people age 18 to 29 voted—10% higher than the 2014 Midterm Election. Let’s see what C.B. West seniors have to say about their first-time voting experiences in this election:

Casey Koochagian: “It was pretty good, it wasn’t busy or anything so I didn’t have to wait in line. I was a little nervous because I couldn’t figure out how to use the machine at first but once I did and submitted my ballot it was pretty exciting”.

Matt Nieves-Hoblin: “Voting for the first time this year was a really cool experience. I’ve been to the polls tons of times with my parents and watched them vote all my life, but this time pushing the buttons myself, it felt like I finally had a voice in my community and say who I want to represent me”.

Michael Nieves-Hoblin: “So when we arrive at the polling place there is a very long line to get in. Someone comes around with sample ballots for each party so you know who to vote for. Once you enter the voting building, you show your voting card ID and sign your name. Then you go to the booth and press the various number indicating who you want to vote for. Then you press a vote button and you are good to go”.

Keeley Boell: “My voting station is on my street at the Plumsteadville firehouse and I went with my mom. Pennsylvania has electronic voting which makes it easy to just push the buttons and press the big green vote button. Before voting I spent hours poring over every voter’s guide I could find. I used the League of Women Voters guide and another national one that I found in a link on a John Green vlogbrothers video. I did not feel strongly in favor of any one candidate and members of my extended family have varying views so I was pretty conflicted. But the actual voting process was easy and not time consuming. Mine probably took less than 10 minutes. The important part is that people perform their civic duty and spend some time researching the candidates so they can be informed voters. I have looked forward to voting my whole life but to be honest picking a party to register for and picking the candidates I would vote for was rough because I didn’t 100% agree with any candidate. I guess that’s how politics always works. It’s about compromising and putting the best interests of my county, state, and nation firsts”.

Alex King: “My voting experience was good for my first time! I appreciate that I was offered sample ballots from both parties upon arrival and the sign-in process was quick and simple. Once inside the booth, I felt that the voting instructions were fairly intuitive, and I was able to be in and out in a matter of minutes! Overall, I had no complaints in regards to efficiency, and thoroughly enjoyed my first-time voting experience”.



THE REVIEW

VIDEO GAME REVIEW: FALLOUT 76

By Josh Acker

Fallout 76 is an embarrassment to the lore of *Fallout* games. Even in its early beta form in October, people knew this game was going to flop. There is a severe lack of NPC's and Quests, as well as a lot of empty nothingness. With the all new food and water necessities, it makes the game even more of a chore to search places that would make SENSE for such essentials to be, as everything is randomly generated. If you kill the story and gameplay mechanics, why make the game? It is a fun game in some aspects, like combat, but it shouldn't just be that!



CSP REVIEW SCALE: 6/10 (and that's generous)

MUSIC REVIEWS

ILLUMINATION & DR. SEUSS' THE GRINCH: TYLER, THE CREATOR

By Cat Both

Music Inspired by *Illumination & Dr. Seuss' The Grinch*, a measly 10-minute EP by Tyler, the Creator, is a brilliant attempt to resurrect Christmas music in our tumultuous musical climate today. The EP consists of hauntingly complex piano ballads, 80's synthesizer, and nostalgic lyrics, as well as a mix between classic R&B with modern rap. Most tracks, especially "Hot Chocolate", focus on their sound rather than including in-depth lyrical messages. On the other hand, "Big Bag", the only real rap song on the EP, contains thought-provoking messages as well as an addictive hook. The songs on this EP are brutally honest and tug at the heartstrings of the common nostalgic.

Tyler, The Creator created this EP for a much wider and younger audience than he was used to. And, as far as we know, this is his first collection of real Christmas songs. This sudden shift of Christmas spirit seems out of character, coming from a guy who released a song titled "F*** Santa". Nevertheless, this EP does not in any way seem commercialized or blasé. It still sounds like Tyler, sans all the usual obscenities and dark undertones. The tracks on the EP don't come off as lukewarm, and they don't fall flat upon the listener. They are short, sweet, and easy on the ears. Some of the songs on the EP could be a tad more in-depth, and some of the lyrics are strikingly trivial.

CSP Review Scale: 8.5/10 (glowing)

VIRTUE: THE VOIDZ

By Michael Brennan

Virtue, by Julian Casablancas' new band, the Voidz, released earlier this year, maintains a mixture of genres culminating in a well-done instrumental work which consistently echoes the sound of 80s new wave and lead singer Julian Casablancas' previous work with the Strokes. However, the lyrics on certain tracks on the album feel almost like a hippie ranting about today's political climate. If you are going to listen to that kind of music, this would probably be the perfect soundtrack to do it to. *Virtue* is undeniably creative, but some tracks fall short due to either faulty lyrics or oversaturated instrumental parts that almost feel like an imprint of Casablancas' efforts in creatively separating himself from his previous success with The Strokes.

CSP Review Scale: 7/10

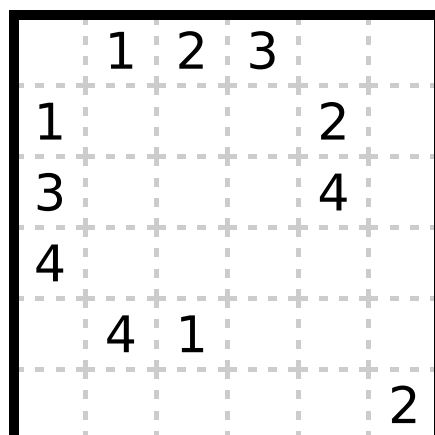


WALKER'S PUZZLES

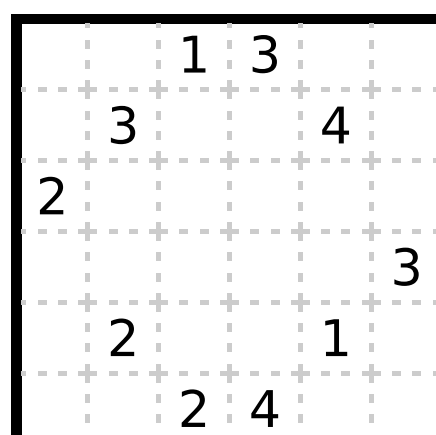
By Walker Anderson

Block Party

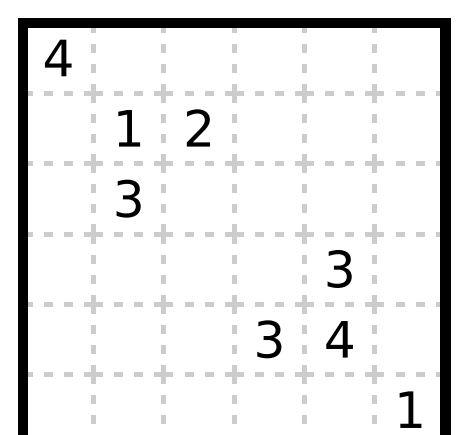
Place the numbers from 1 to 4 and two shaded-in squares in each row and column of the grid. Shaded-in squares cannot touch side-by-side, but they can touch diagonally.



Easy



Moderate



Hard

DON'T FORGET THOUSAND OAKS

By Liam Price

On Thursday, November 8th, I woke up sleep deprived as usual. When eating my breakfast, I checked my texts to see, "Liam did you hear about the shooting" from my friend CJ. I brace myself as check Apple News. When I saw the story, I could barely believe my eyes. On the night of November 7th, a restaurant in Thousand Oaks, California hosted a college country night, popular with the students from nearby Pepperdine University, Cal Lutheran University, and Moorpark College. Everyone at the event was having a good time and enjoying the country music. By the end of the night, 12 of those people had died from the gunshots of a 28-year-old man named Ian Long.

My family lived in Thousand Oaks for 11 years before moving to Doylestown when I began 7th grade. Thousand Oaks is a stable, safe town, just like Doylestown. Our house was less than a mile from Borderline Bar and Grill, and we have attended multiple live music events at the restaurant. The fact that 12 people had been murdered there by one man shook me to my core. I struggled to focus on my tests after hearing the news. There were times where my body started shaking. Talking to my guidance counselor and parents about how I felt was very helpful for sure, but I still was scared and angry.

That Friday, I wore my older brother's Thousand Oaks lacrosse jersey to school that displayed "Thousand Oaks" in big letters across it. Only three people recognized the name from the news headlines. It made me realize a tragic fact: we all are desensitized to these events. It isn't necessarily our fault, it's just that mass shootings happen so much and are becoming historically frequent. It is sad that these events keep happening, but I do believe that we can prevent them. It starts with empathizing with those who have experienced their effects. That is why we must not forget the name Thousand Oaks. Nor should we forget Parkland, Sutherland Springs, or the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. Let's hope for a peaceful 2019.

MOVIE REVIEW: CREED 2

By August McBride

Creed 2 is the sequel to 2015's *Creed*, the continuation of the long-running *Rocky* series. This new set of films stars Apollo Creed's son, Adonis, as the lead. Rocky, himself, takes a backseat as his mentor.

Creed 2 has a decent story, with Rocky's old enemy Ivan Drago making his return, this time with his son Viktor in tow. Ivan has spent countless hours training his son to beat Adonis and bring the glory back to their name. The fights themselves were *really* good and I would have liked to see more of them. The film was well-shot, and I liked the characters. Rocky is, well, the same old Rocky, and he has never *once* failed to melt my heart. Adonis was alright, and the Dragos were threatening villains from start to finish.

There was too much focus on the drama and not enough real fighting. There were some points where Adonis was noticeably lame, and his girlfriend was annoying. I also noticed that *Creed 2* borrowed several plot points from previous *Rocky* movies. This is worth a ticket for fellow *Rocky* fans. For the general moviegoer; however, this is probably a catch-it-on-cable kind of deal.

CSP Review Scale: 6.5/10

HEARD IN THE HALLS

If we heard you and quoted your conversation we do not mean to insult you or your conversations in anyway (we are assuming that in context it made sense...). We are simply having a laugh and making you aware of the fact that *we can hear you, Matt.*

- "That's a great first date right? The cemetery!!"
- "He always checks her out... not like *checks her out*... but he's a cashier."
- "Moths are honestly the most relevant things in nature."
- "No, 5 is more than 6!"
- "It's okay... my life's a mess!! Haha!"
- "I just don't understand why they did surgery on a grape."

THE COURT STREET PRESS Staff 2018 - 2019

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By Connor Sturza

