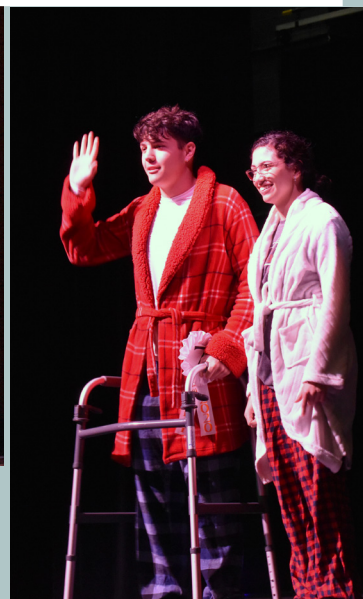


**Winner Winner**  
Damon Bopho was named the 2020 Mr. Sting at the Senior Guy Pageant on Feb. 23. His escort is Mariah Byone.

Photos by: Emily Bates



# IF THE crown FITS... Mr. Sting 2020

## PUMP IT UP

Isreal Martinez  
Staff reporter

Powerlifting coach Joe Casas and his assistant, coach Wade Geesline had a great season and had regional competitors and are sending lifters to state as well.

"It's been a successful year for us," Geesline said. "Every meet we have been to, the girls have made it to first place, and the boys in first or second place."

Both the girls and boys have done a tremendous amount of effort this year and both teams had lifters to Regionals.

In three weeks, 15 girls will be going to the regional meet in Bay City, and eight or nine guys to the Dickinson for their regional meet.

"The girls and the boys have been getting better every day, and this year has been a good one for them," Geesline said.

Senior Karina Macinas broke a record. "She broke the squat records and the deadlift records by 450 or so," Geesline said. The powerlifting team has been doing amazing, and have been showing growth. The teammates have showed true motivation within their team.

"The team has good, amazing kids to be around,"

Geesline said, "They always do what you ask them to do. They're good people and are proud of being a part of the team."

The powerlifting team has broken multiple records, and have shown dedication to themselves and their teams.

"I've broken numerous records in my height class," teammate Belen Almader said. "I broke the regional squat record and placed 5th in the state."

Every teammate of the powerlifting team has always been supporting each other and having each other's backs.



Belen Almader lifts at a meet in February.

"They are amazing people," junior Trinity Ruiz said. "Unforgettable people, and they helped me overcome the obstacles in my way."

## Counseling 101

Shelby Bukowski  
Staff Reporter

Aside from academic purposes, counselors can be helpful in personal situations, and help others get through or give advice to people with emotional issues. Even if students don't want to talk, counselors want them to know that their offices are a safe place.

Lead counselor Carlene Leal said that a big reason why students can feel so stressed is because they feel they do not have control over situations in their lives, such as grades, relationships, and family issues. Counselor Karen Daly, along with every counselor on campus, wants students to help them get a grasp on their situations.

"We are here to help with academic planning as well as social emotional issues. We are here to help lighten your load and gather resources for you," Leal said. "I see lots of kids, but I think some don't know they can come to see me so I wish they knew more about me."

Both Daly and Leal suggest that talking is good for stress relief and mental health.

There are multiple things that stress students out. Daly said looking through grades, and retesting can be stress-

ful. Relationships, family issues, and communication problems are also hard for students to work through.

"Keeping issues to yourself will not help," Daly said. "It can really help to talk, write, sing, or exercise when you are feeling



Counselor Ashley Miller is always ready to help students emotionally and scholastically.

stressed or overwhelmed. Please do not wait until you are in a full-blown crisis before seeing someone."

Kids don't have to go into the counselor's office solely to talk. Students can utilize counseling services in other ways, such as seeking help to learn how to manage, and handle stress at home and throughout the school day.

"Stress relief is very individualized," Leal said. "Sometimes just taking a quiet moment either with or without music, and breathing

deeply can help you to relax, and recover to where you can move forward in your day."

Some students can talk about the issues stressing them out to a trusted adult or friend. Others write in a journal or begin creative projects like poetry, song lyrics, or other art mediums like drawing, painting, clay, or sculpture. Others find relief through exercise like walking, running, or even dancing."

Counselors try very hard to make their offices welcoming to students. Students are encouraged to visit to learn about stress management as well as issues with school.





Educate Yourself

2020 Election

Kacie Bass  
Editor In Chief

The United States presidential election of 2020 will be held on November 3, 2020. Voters will either re-elect the 45th President of the United States or elect the 46th. It is important to see where candidates stand on issues. See the chart for a quick reference.

Based on a pro/con chart gathered from

<https://2020election.procon.org/view.source-summary-chart.php>, this is where the candidates stand on certain topics.

While Sanders and Biden compete in the Democrat party, Donald Trump is the only Republican candidate. Bernie Sanders was in the lead, but Joe Biden made a huge comeback by win-

ning a lot of states while Sanders earned Delegates. It was thought that Sanders was to earn the Texas vote, but Biden prevailed.

Most of the Democratic party, Amy Klobuchar, Pete Buttigieg, back out last minute to support Biden.

The Candidates

Bernie Sanders is a U.S Senator from Vermont, who also ran for president in 2016 as a Democrat against Donald Trump. Sanders has been involved with the House and Senate for most of his career. Joe Biden is a former Vice President for the United States under Barack Obama's presidency from 2009 to 2017. Before 2009, he represented Delaware in the U.S Senate. Biden, too, tried to run for office and tried to earn the Democratic nomination back in 1988 and 2009. Donald Trump is the 45th president of the United States and is currently still in office. Before becoming president, he was a businessman and television personality.

Bernie Sanders, Joe Biden, and Donald Trump.



	B I D E N	S A N D E R S	T R U M P
Death Penalty?	Con	Con	Pro
Should the US Implement a Wealth Tax?	Con	Pro	Now Con
Should Student Loan Debt Be Forgiven?	Not Clear	Pro	Not Clear
Should the US Adopt a Climate Change Plan such as the Green New Deal?	Pro	Pro	Con
Should Abortion Be Legal?	Pro	Pro	Now Con
Should LGBTQ+ People Have Protection from Being Fired for Being LGBTQ+?	Pro	Pro	Con
Should the US Decriminalize Illegal Border Crossings?	Con	Pro	Con

chart as of 3-4-20

Time To Get Snappy

Staff Reports

Publications is always looking for new students to add to the staff. AHS offers a yearbook, a printed newspaper, and an online news media for students who are interested in communications, writing, reporting or photography.

"We are always looking for new students to add to our staff," publications adviser Jessica Tompkins said. "Many students are worried about joining because they are hesitant about their own writing. I've found that once students join, they discover an aspect of the process that they are a really good fit for. There are also opportunities to learn about graphic design, photography- and advertising."

Yearbook and newspaper are fantastic additions to resumes, scholarship applications, and more.

"Being involved in these programs reflects very well on a student," Tompkins said.

Additionally, being involved in publications can teach students how to find information, and talk to many different people.

"Journalism has helped me be more social and active with activities at school," junior Kacie Bass said. "I've met many new people and every day, I learn new facts, and new fun information."

Students also enjoy the photography aspect, as they create a publication that is a piece of the history of Alvin High.

"I enjoy taking pictures because photos preserve memories of what is going on during high school," junior Emily Bates said. "I went out and purchased my own camera because I enjoyed taking photos so much."

Students can take newspaper and yearbook classes, as well as journalism to learn the foundations of the publications program.



Publications students have a lot of fun taking photos at events and around campus. Plus they learn a variety of skills necessary to producing yearbooks, newspapers and online content. Join the team!



# Features

## Catch Some ZZZZ's To Earn A's

Clarice Orozco  
Assistant Editor

Studies have shown that there has been an immense decrease in the amount of sleep that teenagers get every night. Only 15 percent of teens reported getting eight and a half hours of sleep on school nights. Statistics show that the amount of sleep affects the performance of the daily tasks that are done on a daily basis.

Students have school, extra curricular activities, and some even have a part time jobs. This sometimes

make it difficult to be able to complete everything, and get enough sleep at night.

"I think it is important to get at least eight hours of sleep each night because it's unhealthy to get any less because it can cause you to not be as productive during the day," senior Ashlyn Howell said.

The amount of sleep that students get does not only affect them, but affects the teacher's performance and the amount of work that can be covered.

"Getting enough sleep is vital to a

student's health and learning. Not getting enough sleep can limit the student's ability to listen, concentrate, learn, and solve problems," teacher Christina Stanton said.

When students aren't getting the right amount of sleep at night, it shows in their attitude, behavior, and even their grades.

"The amount of sleep at night plays a huge role in what I get done at school the next day. When I don't get enough sleep at night, I usually fall asleep in class. This has a negative effect on what I learn, and my grades," Dulce Maxwell said.

When students lack sleep, their focus for school decreases, and teachers have to take the time to try and focus on all of the students that are not fully present due to being exhausted. How much sleep you get at night can either help or hurt your performance the next day. Sleep is crucial.



Sleepy students will always be an issue for high schools. Students should strive to attain a proper amount of sleep each night to get good grades.

## Students Hooked On Books

Emily Bates  
Staff Reporter

Teen bookworms can now unite on campus by joining the book club.

The club meets on Wednesdays after school at 3:30 in the library. Librarian Patricia Womble leads the group, and the students both choose books to read as a group and in free time.

"I joined the club because I like reading, and wanted to talk about books, so I found this club, which is full of people who enjoy reading and want to discuss the books," vice-president Jessica Purcell said.

The club is currently reading "Downstairs Girl" by Stacey Lee, a novel that follows

seventeen-year-old Jo Kuan, a Chinese American living in 1890s Atlanta.

"What I like most about the book is that it has a good story line that is able to surprise you," Purcell said. "I picked the book from Goodreads top pics list, and this one we all agreed that it had a good, and interesting summary."

Students enjoy sharing their love of reading along with spending time with their peers who have similar interests.

"What I like most about the book is the empowerment idea in it. I originally picked it because I liked the cover design and description,"

sophomore Aparicio said.

As sponsor, Womble has gained many experiences, and opportunities to learn with students.

"I love talking about books, and getting students excited about reading," Womble said. "I enjoy taking them to Teen Book Con where they can meet authors, and ask questions."

Participants in the club are required to pay a \$5 due fee, but that amount can be raised through fundraising opportunities or volunteer opportunities. Womble has a few favorite books the students have picked, as well.

"I loved last year's book "Long Way Down" by Jason Reynolds. This book is a novel in verse where a boy gets on an elevator to avenge his friend's death and meets someone surprising on each floor the whole way down. This year's #MurderTrending by Gretchen McNeil was a great dystopian when people convicted of Murder go to Alcatraz 2.0, and are hunted down by hire serial killers," Womble said.



Courtesy photo  
Member of book club are showing off their current read in the library at a book club meeting.

## Thrill Of the Hunt

### Teens Get Creative With Fashion

Ruth Turner  
Assistant Editor

Creative styles and unique fashions at cheaper prices are the things students at Alvin High School seem to enjoy. Secondhand skirt suits, band shirts, cute sweaters, and fun shorts are becoming parts of students' wardrobes.

Goodwill was founded in Boston in 1902 by a Methodist minister called Reverend Edgar J. Helms. Since then, Goodwill's have sprung up all over the country, even in Alvin, and about 101 million people donate items to the stores. Though Goodwill clothing and items are cheaper, buying reused clothing does not mean that the quality is worse than name brand ones.

Senior Sandy Medrano donates to Goodwills as a way of supporting people who enjoy the cheaper prices of the items Goodwill carries.

"I like the variety of items they have, like stuffed animals and crop tops," Medrano said.

Senior Atticus Simmons is one such student shopper. He rocks fun outfits, including cat shirts, patterned shorts, and sweaters in lively colors.

"I've been going to the Goodwill, and the DAV store

since I was about seven" Simmons said.

Junior Lorelei Miller says that there are really cool options for costumes and some very unique dress options.

"There's some cute, lightly used clothes there, and they have some really cool accessories," Miller said.

Junior Emily Bates is a connoisseur of comfortable clothing from Goodwill stores, namely dresses and men's shirts .

"They have a great selection, and you can definitely find some low-cost stuff there," Bates said.

Junior Ruth Turner gets her outfits from Goodwills in Webster, Alvin, and on occasion, League City.

"At Goodwills, a skirt suit costs less than a pair of jeans from Wal\*Mart, and I take advantage of it," Turner said.

Sophomore Kali Lewis said that she most enjoys shopping at Plato's Closet and Goodwill.

"Thrifting is good because it's cheap, and you can get creative with the clothes you buy (as in, you can cut them and alter them) because they weren't expensive. Plus, you get to reuse someone's old stuff," Lewis said.



Kali Lewis and Jeremiah Medina model sunglasses at a Goodwill.

**JOIN  
OUR TEAM**  
— BE PART OF OUR STORY —

**Newspaper positions are available  
See LK 129 for details**



## Chillin' and Grillin'

Isreal Martinez  
Staff Reporter

### Campus BBQ Team Hopes To Cook Competition

Grilling food is not only a fun pastime, but also a competitive activity that AHS will participate in.

AV teacher Hampton Fox is sponsoring the BBQ Cooking Team. On January 31, 2020, the first practice BBQ took place next to the LK building. With the help of Fox and volunteer Jesse Hernandez, students interested in being on the team were taught the first steps of how to make good BBQ.

"It is a very exciting thing for us," student Jonathan Allen said. "The teachers are very nice and guide us through the process."

Jesse Hernandez has had 20 years of experience of BBQ competition.

"The cook-offs are a very memorable and exciting time for those who are a part of it," Hernandez said.

Fox and his team are very

excited for the upcoming contest. They've been working really hard to cook really well.

"Our goal is to place in the top 10 on the contest, and try to head to the state competition," Fox said.

Fox is looking for dedicated members who are willing to learn, and grow with the team. He needs students who are motivated, and responsible.

"At the very beginning, there weren't that many people," Fox said. "But then later in the day, more people started participating."

Fox and his students have a lot of interest in the club.

If you're willing to join the club's exciting times, and adventures, then there are three simple rules to join: being committed to the team, having good/passing grades, and having a love for barbecue.



Students interested in the BBQ team, practice BBQ skills in order to learn the ropes. In order to compete at BBQ Cook Off Competitions, students must learn the foundations of grilling.



## A Veggie Tale Meatless Fast Food Options

Kacie Bass  
Editor In Chief

A vegetarian primarily focuses on eliminating meat from their diet.

There are six types of vegetarians:

1. Lacto-ovo-vegetarian diet: No meat, fish, or poultry. But they do eat eggs, and dairy products.
2. Lacto-vegetarian diet: No meat, fish, poultry, or eggs. But they do eat dairy.
3. Ovo-vegetarian diet: No meat, fish, poultry, or dairy products. They do eat eggs.
4. Pescetarian diet: No meat or poultry, but they eat fish, and sometimes eggs and dairy products.
5. Vegan diet: No meat, fish, poultry, eggs, or dairy products, as well as other animal-derived products, such as honey.
6. Flexitarian diet: A mostly vegetarian diet that occasionally eats meat, fish or poultry.

Alvin is a small town so it's difficult to find meatless food options that don't contain any type of animal byproducts. To clarify, animals byproducts include fat, flesh, blood, bone, and lesser-known products, such as isinglass and rennet.

Multiple foods seem to be safe for vegetarians, but if a new vegetarian isn't care-

ful, they can accidentally eat something that contains animal byproducts.

Jell-O, non-fat yogurt, candy corn, and marshmallows all contain gelatin. Flour tortillas, refried beans, pie crust, and Hostess cupcakes all contain lard. French onion dip, some vegetable soups, and stuffing can contain chicken broth. And the most surprising thing, some salad dressing contains animal byproducts. Caesar salad dressing contains anchovies.

There are few fast-food restaurants in town, and some might be shocking.

- Taco Bell has a vegetarian menu.
- Burger King has two plant based burgers.
- Subway and Firehouse Subs offer veggie sandwiches.
- KFC should soon have a vegetarian menu.
- Taco City has multiple breakfast options that contain no meat.
- Whataburger has a grilled cheese sandwich.
- Chicken Express has veggie options.
- Wendy's has a salad menu.
- Pizza Hut and Domino's offer customizable pizzas.

## Aftermath of Australia Fires

Kacie Bass  
Editor In Chief

Australia started off the new year in smoke after 21 percent of its forests burned in bushfires. The fire raged for five months, but recent rains finally put it out.

Starting the year 2020 with no electricity, clean water, or working air conditioners isn't ideal for anyone. And yet, the people of Australia's Southern coast have been a victim to these harsh living conditions. New South Wales (NSW) has had the most negative effects caused by the fires.

Lightning strikes in drought-affected forests have

started multiple fires, and police have charged at least 24 people with deliberately starting bushfires. Legal action has been taken against 183 people for fire-related offenses since November.

Multiple homes belonging to animals and humans have been burned to the ground. CNN statistics have stated that over 650 homes were damaged, and over 1,588 homes were destroyed in NSW. More than 17.9 acres have been burned across six states, and more than 12.1 million acres were up in flames in New South Wales

alone.

About half a billion animals have been affected by the fires in NSW. A third of Koalas in NSW have been killed in fires, and a third of their environment has been destroyed. Koalas are not necessarily in danger of extinction as they are spread out across Australia, but certain types of frogs and birds could be wiped out entirely.

Relief has been provided by many different countries to help rebuild homes and, heal injured animals in the region.



Taken for BBC and Vents magazine to show the fires in Australia.



**YOU can help**

Donate a small gift and you can help victims and animals affected by the fires.

**wildlifewarriors.org.**

**wildlifevictoria.org.au.**

**redcross.org.au.**



# Campus Personalities

## She’s Got Moves

**Alayna Falcon**  
*Journalism reporter*

A left side part, and a low bun. A matte black eyelid, and a rare silver gleaming from the inner corners of her eyes. She accents her eyes with those fake and massive glittery lashes. A bright yet subtle dab of blush, and an engaging red lip to finish it off. She puts on her shining, rhinestone studded, burgundy halter top dress. She then brings the whole ensemble together with her immaculate, quarter sized, crystal earrings.

She is Olivia Hankamer, part of “The Finest Ladies of Alvin,” the Alvin Jacketeers.

“In simple words, a Jacketeer is just a dancer,” Hankamer said. “My brother still thinks I’m a cheerleader, but a Jacketeer is nowhere near cheer. The closest we come to cheer is that we sometimes dance pom.”

Hankamer has been a Jacketeer for two years now. She decided she wanted to be one when she was barely in the 6th grade. She is now a sophomore in Junior Varsity.

“I liked the way they danced,” Hankamer said. “I once saw them do a hip-hop dance routine, and I just thought it was cool.”

Jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, pom, and contemporary are the five different genres to which Jacketeers dance. Hankamer says that jazz consists of a more typically sassy vibe, but can also be powerful. Compared to contemporary, jazz is more flowy while contemporary is more precise with the movement. In pom, Jacketeers are supposed to have to keep their arms flexed the whole time in order to hit all of the movements. Lyrical is more of a soft dance where the Jacketeers learn all of their techniques such as pirouettes.

“Hip-Hop is my favorite genre to dance to,” Hanka-

mer said. “I feel like there is so much freedom dealing with facial expressions. Dances like lyrical and jazz, there are certain faces we have to make.”

The coaches, Eve Robinson and Taryn Elliott, usually pick all the songs, and choreography. Though this year, the officers choreographed all the football dances, leaving the coaches to fix a few things.

“I loved our Christmas show, Jacketeer Jubilee, the final dance. I feel like that one will always stick with me,” Hankamer said. “Also our hip-hop dance for Dance Dimension is always stuck in my head. We did a dance to BTS’ Mic Drop, but the remix featured Designer.”

The Dance Dimension that will always remain implanted in Hankamer’s mind took place in November of 2018. In order to perfect routines such as this one, Jacketeers practice everyday during their dance period along with everyday after school, excluding Fridays.

“Every morning I wake up, get ready, grab my dance clothes, and head to school,” Hankamer said. “I go to the locker room, and neatly put my clothes in the locker. Then we always just chill until it is time to go to class. I’m not gonna lie, I literally spend my whole first four class periods just wanting to get to fifth period, my dance period. After lunch, we get ready. Then when in class, we stretch first, obviously. Then we just dance the whole period, but it’s not all serious. We’ll play around, yet still get work done... Then I go through the rest of the day until our afternoon practice which is the same as our fifth period.”



Picture of Olivia Hankamer doing community service with her team.

## From Crime Scenes To Classrooms

**Bailee Gilcrease**  
*Journalism reporter*

A thin, blue, line flag hangs on the creme painted brick wall. A message many would understand, but a sign only few chose to follow. Not many teachers would teach a powerful message to young teens, but for Olga Caballero it is a calling.

For the past 10 years Olga Caballero has been teaching law enforcement to teens all over Texas, but one thing many of her students don’t know is how it all started.

Graduating from the University of Texas, Caballero worked for Bexar County, and San Antonio PD as a crime scene investigator. Working as an investigator, Callabero would analyze, and place evidence together.

“It was the perfect combination of science, and humanity that is actively making a difference,” Caballero said.

Working as an investigator Caballero understood integrity, and empathy. Seeking to help people of all ages, she became a teacher. Teaching is not for everyone, but for many, it is a chance to help a younger generation become



Students in Cabellero’s law enforcement classes learn fundamentals of public safety and practice foundational strategies. Yearbook Courtesy photo

knowledgeable adults.

“I literally left Harris county Forensic Science Center on Friday, and walked into a classroom on Monday. My teaching team, and administration made all the difference,” Caballero said.

Surrounding herself with people who would help, Caballero was able to grow as a person. She knew in the long

run the individuals around her would make the difference.

“Looking back, I was really blessed to say I was so fortunate enough to have teachers, and professors who took interest in my goals, and were consistently motivating me through my educational career,” Caballero said.

## Eyes on the Prize

**Denton Warren**  
*Journalism reporter*

Breaking a record is a dream that many chase but a few accomplish.

Senior Colby Patterson has been one of the few to succeed. For four years, Patterson has been a staple to the Alvin High School Swim team, as he has recently broken another school record, previously held by... himself.

Patterson has been part of the swim team for all four years of his high school career, and his main objective was to break a record, which he was able to do junior year. Breaking his own record on what could have been his last race, he placed second, cementing his high school legacy by heading to regionals. He is the only person on the district swim team to do so well.

“I started swimming around at six years old, and I decided that I wanted to continue doing it throughout high school,” Patterson said.

Patterson has been swimming the breaststroke, which is a swimming style in which the swimmer is on their chest, and the torso does not rotate. It is the most popular recre-

## Swimmer Breaks Records

ational style due to the swimmer’s head being out of the water a large portion of the time, and that it can be swum comfortably at slow speeds.

“I have always swam in the high school pool for my club team. The reason I decided to swim in high school was because I wanted to break the school record which I was

a long way,” Patterson said. As Patterson is mostly known around the school, swim has a big part of it, as the record gets celebrated around the school

“This year I had to go all out because I knew it was my last race of my high school career, and I got a lifetime best,” Patterson said.



courtesy photo

able to do junior year,” Patterson said.

As you walk into the AHS Natatorium you can look up and see the records of different styles of swimming and Patterson’s name and record time is presented.

“I have been swimming the breaststroke for a while now, and it has definitely taken me

It shows that hard work does pay off, as Patterson worked over the summer with his teammates and coaches to ensure that he could have a chance to break his record again.



These Are A Few Of My Favorite Things

Ruth Turner  
Assistant Editor  
English teachers are constantly surrounded by words. This year at The Clarion, we decided to ask English teachers what their favorite words are.

Elizabeth Alanis said that her favorite word is Serendipity. The definition of ‘serendipity’ is similar to ‘a happy accident.’

“I like that the sound of it is similar to the emotion of it,” said Alanis.

Laura Hoffman’s favorite word is Logos, which is greek for reason and logic.

“[I like it because] In Greek, this word means reason, word, plan. It also meant the divine reason implicit in the order, and forming of the universe. In rhetoric, this word represents the idea that logic, and factual evidence is the strongest mode of persuasion. In Christianity, this word represents the presence, and purpose of Jesus Christ since the beginning of time, even before the incarnation,” Hoffman said.

Nathan Mansfield said that his favorite word was ‘beautiful’.

“It is the first word I used to describe both of my babies the very first time I held them. It seems hard to spell, but if you say b-e-a-u-tiful, it is easy. I like that it can be used to describe so many different artifacts, from houses, to literature, to people. It has a home in art appreciation as well,” Mansfield said.

Tina Peterson said that her favorite word is ‘blessed,’ because each day she tries to focus on the positive things in her life.

“I know that I am blessed,” Peterson said.

The favorite word of Kristy Pennington is ‘discombobulated,’ which means ‘confused’.

“I like that it sounds like what it means. The word sounds disorganized, and out of sorts, yet funny, just like how it feels,” Pennington said.

Rebecca Vanhorne loves the word ‘flabbergasted,’

which means ‘greatly astonished or surprised’.

“I love it because it is spelled with double consonants, and when you say it out loud, it almost leaves you with a feeling of shock,” Vanhorne said.

Michelle Harrold likes the word ‘facetious’. Facetious means ‘treating something serious with inappropriate humor’.

“I like the word facetious because all of the vowels are in order,” Harrold said.

When Brandi Isom was young, she listened to “Bette Davis Eyes”, and thought that the word ‘precocious’ “sounded cool”. As a result, ‘Precocious’, meaning ‘development earlier than expected,’ became her favorite word.

“Of course I didn’t know what it meant back then, but it sounded cool and grown-up,” Isom said.

The favorite word of Aileen Peek is ‘forgiveness’.

“Forgiveness is important to me, because it is what



Christ has done for me, even though I don’t deserve it,” Peek said.

‘Nevertheless’ is the favored word of Kelley Smith, which to her, it means that despite what has already happened, never give up.

“I read a Bible verse that uses that word when I was going through cancer treatment several years ago. Every since then, it has become like a mantra to me. And it sounds really bold when movie actresses from the 40s would say it,” Smith said.

The word ‘potential’ is a favorite word of Barbara Allen because it is so full of possibility.

“It is a promise of what can happen,” Allen said.

Sasha Blake said that she has many favorite words, but each year, participates in One Word to set the tone for the year rather than a New Year’s Resolution.

“This year, my word is ‘Faith,’” Blake said.

Technology Enhances Learning

Nick Wilson  
Assistant Editor

The school district has created, and invested in many technological tools for students and teachers. Training for these is given by instructional technology specialist Hayden Schmidt to help the teachers learn what tools are available to them so that they can use technology to enhance their lessons

“There are a few pieces of advice that I generally go over with teachers, especially when I’m talking to new teachers, about things they ought to consider before using the kind of technology tools in the classroom, and of course almost all of those tools connect to students guest wifi or to one of our other wifi networks created for specific purposes. I usually advise teachers to consider everything they have at their disposal, and to start to get familiar with the tools available to them,” Schmidt said.

Schmidt spoke about the many devices teachers have available in their classrooms, whether they’re chrome-books, Dell laptops, iPads, or what’s available from the library. He also reminds teachers that we are a “Google district.” This means teach-

ers in the district should be utilizing tools like docs, classroom, slides, etc. The district also has unlimited storage on google servers for free due to Google’s educational policies.

“The change I’ve been most excited about in the past year is Minecraft Education. I have not yet met a student who has not played Minecraft. Everybody knows it, everybody plays it. There’s also a recently added creative mode to Fortnite, and I have sent a few emails to Fortnite about an educative version. Every student in the district has an account that includes a paid version of Minecraft education. You can go to education.minecraft.net, go to the downloads tab, and download the education edition, and students login with [student ID #]@alvinisd.onmicrosoft.com, and then your school password.”

There are also many pre-

made worlds in minecraft, like a huge human eyeball model that players can walk through and look at different parts, or a chemistry world that has a laboratory and chemical mixtures. Teachers can use Minecraft to make a model of a cell or simple machines. The tools that the district has given to teachers and students to be successful are too many to even go over, there are limitless possibilities to help further students education within the district and help teachers teach their students with more ease.

Teachers are continually learning new technologies to incorporate into classes.



Instructional Technology Specialist Hayden Schmidt provides monthly trainings to teachers to learn the newest programs available for teaching.

Marcus Kenck  
Staff reporter

-Before dentures were invented, teeth were pulled from the mouths of dead soldiers for use as prosthetics.

-Roman Emperor Gaius, also known as Caligula, made one of his favorite horses a senator.

-While Pope Gregory IX was in power, he declared that cats were to be associated with devil worship and had them exterminated in droves.

-It’s believed that the disappearance of those cats helped rats spread the bubonic plague, or Black Death, that killed hundreds of millions of people in the 1300s.

-Russian dictator Joseph Stalin often had photos retouched to remove people.



Pope Gregory IX

MARCH CALENDAR

March					
Sunday	1	Monday	2	Tuesday	3
Pig day		Dr Seuss day		World Wildlife day	
Wednesday	4	Thursday	5	Friday	6
Marching Band day		Name Tag day		Middle Name Pride day	
Saturday	7	Sunday	8	Monday	9
Be Heard day		International Women's day		Napping day	
Tuesday	10	Wednesday	11	Thursday	12
Skirt day		No Smoking day		Girl Scout day	
Friday	13	Saturday	14	Sunday	15
Open An Umbrella Indoors day		Pi day		World Speech day	
Monday	16	Tuesday	17	Wednesday	18
Panda day		St Patrick's day		Awkward Moments day	
Thursday	19	Friday	20	Saturday	21
International Read To Me day		Hufflepuff Pride day		Slytherin Pride day	
Sunday	22	Monday	23	Tuesday	24
Gryffindor Pride day		Ravenclaw Pride day		Chocolate Covered Raisins day	
World Water day		Puppy day			
Wednesday	25	Thursday	26	Friday	27
Manatee Appreciation day		Nougat day		World Theatre day	
Saturday	28	Sunday	29	Monday	30
Black Forest Cake day		World Piano day		Doctor's day	
Tuesday	31				
Bunsen Burner day					



# News

## Eyes On The Top Prizes

Ruth Turner  
Assistant Editor

Academic Decathlon is, once again, state bound after participating in the regional competition in Dickinson on Friday, Feb. 7, and Saturday, Feb. 8.

The team, led by economics teacher Robin Foster and U.S. history teacher Paul Summa, have gone to state 4 years in a row, and this year will make the fifth.

Members Payton Neubauer, Cody Kettler, Jai Yann, Cameron Ptak, Jordan Curtner, Ruth Turner, Jonathan Kingsley, Trinity Custer, and Colby Goff had a score of 39,053.2.

Cody Kettler won bronze in Science, silver in Speech, and silver in Interview.

Cameron Ptak won bronze in Science, silver in Math, and fourth place overall.

Ruth Turner won silver in Literature.

The topic for the 2019-2020 school year is 'in Sickness and in Health: An Exploration of Illness and Wellness', including the novel "Frankenstein", the history of medicine, important artworks of the times of epidemics, and a study in biology.

The team has been studying the resources provided by USAD since the end of

the 2018-2019 school year, making this a big achievement.

"I'm proud of these students. They've worked so hard this year," Summa said. "I'm looking forward to going to State with them."

The team is excited to compete at state, for the fifth year in a row. --- Courtesy Photo



## Impeachment Recap

Kacie Bass  
Editor In Chief

On December 18, 2020, President Donald Trump was impeached by the House for abuse of power, and obstruction of Congress. As the process progressed, he was ultimately not impeached by the Senate so he remains in office. So how does this work?

Impeachment is the House accusing the president of the United States of high crimes or misdemeanors. The House considered, and voted in favor of two articles on impeachment.

It started out with the Ukraine Affairs, where Trump had called Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, encouraging him to start up an investigation against Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden. This investigation would bring a lot of negative attention to Biden while he's running for president. Trump is therefore accused of soliciting foreign help in the election.

"The President, Vice President and all Civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." From Article II, Section 4 of the US Constitution.

On Feb. 5, President Trump was acquitted of two charges.

### How It Works

#### Phase 1- Impeachment in the House of Representatives

- Impeachment Inquiry On Sept. 24, 2019, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced impeachment inquiry
- Investigative Authority
- Committee Reports
- Vote on Impeachment The House would then vote on an impeachment resolution containing articles of impeachment

#### Phase 2- Trial in the Senate

- Preparation for a Trial If the House chooses to impeach, there will be a trial in the Senate to determine if the President is guilty.
- Trial
- Deliberation Similar to a jury, the Senate meets in closed session to deliberate
- Vote on Conviction Finally, the Senate votes on each article of impeachment separately. These votes require a 2/3rd majority to convict, which results in removal from office. The senate did not vote to convict.

## Prom Corner- FAQ's Here

The Alvin High School  
Senior Class of 2020  
invites you to

**The Roaring 20's**

A little party  
never killed nobody

**Junior Senior Prom**  
**Two Thousand and Twenty**  
Saturday April 4th  
8 pm - midnight

**Tickets: \$55.00**

Galveston Convention Center  
5600 Seawall Boulevard  
Galveston Texas 77551

### Ticket Info:

Tickets can be purchased in Flores' room, CM216, only during non class times. Or go to [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com).

You and your date must be cleared of fines and attendance eligible to purchase tickets

### Dress/ Date Info:

Prom is a formal event. No jeans or casual attire will be allowed.

Gentlemen are to wear a tux/suit coat, tux/dress pants, a dress shirt, tie, and dress shoes or dress boots. Cowboy hats, op hats, and other formal headwear may be worn. Ladies are to wear a formal dress or suit. Ladies should not wear dresses that are too revealing or too short. No attire is permitted that could be considered any type of costume.

Students and their guest will not be allowed entry if they do not meet the dress code. They will be turned away without a refund.

If you are bringing a date that is a NON-AHS student, you will need to fill out the Non-AHS student form. You will need to bring and turn in the form, completed at the time of ticket purchase. All dates must be between the ages of 14 and 20 years old. See sponsor Sienna Flores for questions.

## Buy A Yearbook Now!

Buy a yearbook now and the total is \$75. The price will go up to \$80 once the books are officially published. To buy a yearbook, go to [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com) or you can order a yearbook directly through Mrs. Tompkins in the LK in room 129.

For any more information



about yearbooks, feel free to email adviser Jessica Tompkins at [jtompkins@alvinisd.net](mailto:jtompkins@alvinisd.net), or send a message via Instagram or Twitter.



@ahs.publication



@AlvinHSNews

## Free Yearbook Give Away?

Whaaaat? No Way!

This is Lexi Davis. She won a free yearbook by entering a contest that was held on November 22, 2019 over our Instagram account [@ahs.publication](https://www.instagram.com/ahs.publication).

Be like Lexi and enter our new contest for a free yearbook. The contest will be held on April 3, 2020. For more information, check out our Instagram [@ahs.publication](https://www.instagram.com/ahs.publication).





# Sports

## Waterpolo Team Makes Waves

Clarice Orozco  
Nick Wilson  
Assistant Editors

As we dive into the season, the water polo teams are putting their best foot forward to play with all of their strength, and make this a season that no one will forget.

Starting each and every game with a positive mindset and a strong bond between each teammate creates good character, and trust. Which, this shows the honorable representation of our school during the games.

“My favorite part of water polo is being able to contribute to our team to earn a win, and this year I will be looking forward to the fight we will be putting up at regionals,” sophomore Nick Bates said.

The amount of encouragement and effort that the team members put towards the practices, games, and each other is what puts this team over the top. And, keeps the entire student body and community coming back for more.

“Even though I can’t commit to the whole season, I am still able to come to most of the practices, and play in most of the district games. I am really looking forward to helping the freshman as well as seeing them progress,” senior Mark Harmonson said.




## Spring Sports On Fire



Alvin High School

the Clarion



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For a chance to win a free Yearbook, check out our website, and our other social medias!

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ALVIN HIGH SCHOOL 802 S. JOHNSON ST ALVIN, TX

The Clarion is a publication of Alvin High School. It is created by the 201-2020 student newspaper staff for student information. Opinions expressed are purely opinions of the staff, not the school.