

THE MEMORIAL TIMES

MEMORIAL'S EXPRESS PLATFORM FOR THE FRESHEST NEWS

HEADLINE NEWS



Governor's Educator of the Year Awards

Ms. AMENT

CONGRATULATIONS!

2020-2021 Governor's Educator of the Year Winners

Educator of the Year:

School 1 - Ms. Cindy Guariglia
Charles Olbon - Ms. Michele Skrbic
Beatrice Gilmore - Ms. Christina Dizzia
Memorial School - Ms. Samantha Ament

Services Professional of the Year:

School 1 - Ms. Lindsay Coffey
Charles Olbon - Ms. Katie Beatty
Beatrice Gilmore - Ms. Donna Farraye
Memorial School - Ms. Chelsea Petrecca



Congratulations to this year's winners of Educator of the Year and Services Professional of the Year! Their hard work and dedication has been recognized among their peers and the members of our community. We want to publicly thank them for their unwavering commitment to support the instructional success and development of all learners.

EDITOR'S NOTE

ERIN RYAN

I know this virtual school has been hard on everyone - teachers, students, and parents alike. We were hoping the school would have reopened on December 11th, but due to the rising coronavirus levels in the town, it was postponed until January 11th, 2021. Hopefully in the new year we will be able to go back into school and learn in person while being safe.

It is my hope that this newspaper edition will lighten the mood, to you and your family. The student reporters have been working nonstop to improve their writing and reporting skills to bring the most important news right to your hands.

I hope you and your family are doing well and are safe and healthy. This is the last newspaper of 2020 so let's make it a great one! Happy Holidays and see you next year!

IN THIS ISSUE

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Black Friday Deals Still On!

GONZALO VILA

Have you been to any stores during Black Friday? If so, then you must all have the lines at the stores, especially Best Buy. Best Buy is an electronics store, where consumers can buy items such as computers, phones, gadgets, and other intricate devices. It was one of the most popular stores for people to visit during Black Friday, and the line was massive. There were people everywhere around the store, and the line even stretched out to the outside of the store.

Although the COVID-19 epidemic affected the number of people allowed inside the store, people still lined up around the building for all the great sales. Fortunately, everyone was wearing a mask and doing their best to follow the COVID-19 guidelines. Black Friday was an interesting day, especially during this year. Little has changed. People still flocked to the stores, lines were still full to the brim, and lots of products were on sale.



POETRY CORNER

JOAQUIN VILA

For Christmas is Near

The evergreen tree releases a smell of sap,
The voices I hear from the howling wind,
Children running around doing laps
For Christmas is near

The lights were gleaming Sleigh bells ringing
For all the town to watch
For Christmas is near
And the town was all ears

For Today is Christmas and joy was in the air
People caroling door to door
Kids wake up from slumber like dragons from
their Lair
Today was Christmas Happiness in their core



LOCAL NEWS

Animal Adoptions

ANTHONY BILLSON



You might not have given stray animals much thought when we were first told to quarantine back in March. However, the rescue teams never stopped saving the animals. They continued to pick up feral and abandoned animals despite it not being an “essential business”. Then volunteers fostered these animals in their very own homes because shelters were closed.

Mrs. Donato, Memorial’s very own financial literacy teacher, worked during this time to rescue animals as well. She works with START Rescue and St. Huberts. Recently she was able to place two kittens with Woodland Park students Victoria and Aurelia Astoklkowski. These kittens were named Luke and Lucy and are thriving in their new home.

The following members of the Memorial School Animal Club have also adopted animals during the pandemic:

- Damaris Cruz adopted a yorkie mix and named him Bruno.
- Nicholas Gizzi adopted 2 kittens, Sally and Oreo.
- Logan Baccaro adopted a puppy named Rider.
- Leah Marain adopted a coonhound named Sugar.
- Antonio Maritato adopted 3 dogs, Money, Stella and Lilla and one cat Bella.
- Lazar Maslarkov adopted more fish! **(continued on page 3 - Adopted Animals)**



(continued) Adopted Animals

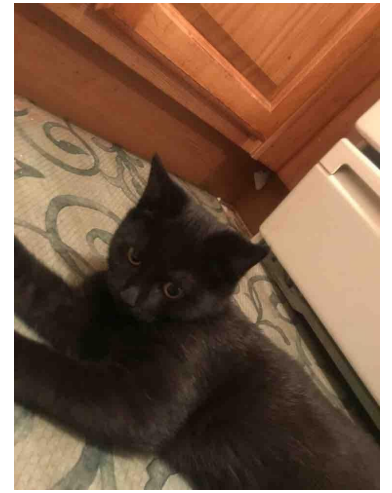
Anthony Bilson adopted 5 kittens, Deutch, Diesel, Doc Brown, DeLorean and Dragon.

So many more animals are up for adoption. Please consider adopting a pet or two or five like us. The Clifton Animal Shelter has several you can choose from.

If you can't adopt please consider a donation to the Humane Society. Please use the hyper-link to their resources. [Human Society Video](#)

If you would like to learn more about animals, contact Mrs. Donato to join the animal club ldonato@wpschools.org

Animals and people are like the same thing. We eat together, we sleep together, we play together, we should have a home together. So go adopt your next family member!

**LIFE STYLE****Holidays Recipes from Around the World!**

AMAYIAH PENA

Have you ever wondered what other countries eat as a dessert for their special holidays? In this issue you will read about the top 3 baked goods around the world. These baked goods come around all the world. They also served differently and were made in different seasons. Fa-la-la-la your way into these goodies!

#1: Australian Pavlova-This Australian Pavlova is all about that crunchy, chewy meringue shell and soft, pillowy marshmallow centre. Have the meringue base in the oven in just 15 minutes!

#2: Bolo Rei – Portuguese Christmas Kings

Cake- A lightly spiced, fluffy Christmas cake filled with fruit and nuts. A speciality in Portugal, Bolo Rei or Portuguese Kings Cake is super easy to bake at home, so get ready to make your Kings Cake "crown" this holiday season!

#3: HILDABRÖTCHEN SHORTBREAD COOKIE WITH JAM- *Hilda Brotchen or Hilda brotchen are a vintage German shortbread cookie that is filled with currant jam. It's a beautiful dough to work with!*

In addition, We hope you and your family stay well and healthy. Happy holidays from the Newspaper Club!

**SCHOOL NEWS****Changing Routines**

DANIELLE STIGLIANO

As COVID-19 continues to spread, routines for teachers and students changed over time. Routines have had to change including school routines for both teachers and students.

Ms. Mangine, the new sixth grade language arts teacher shared that her routine has greatly changed. Now, she has to sit at her desk all day long and she has to constantly grade papers. Grading these papers takes up most of her time and sometimes weekends. Her routine has also changed by

having to stay active whereas typically she did not have to worry about it that much. She tries to go for a walk most of the time, not just be stuck at her desk or in the house.

Student routines have had to change as well. My routine has changed a little. I used to get all my stuff ready for school at night so I can get ready in the morning, grab my stuff, and head out to school. Due to quarantine that has changed. I do not have to pack my backpack now! School is also a new

struggle because of the routine change. Sometimes, it is difficult to see my teacher and sometimes there is a bad internet connection.

Over quarantine, everyone's lives have had to change. School has changed for both teachers and students. Hopefully soon, one day we can go back into our "normal" routines.

ENTERTAINMENT

The Box Office

ERIN RYAN

We have all had the debate on which Christmas movies are the best and which movies are the worst. Most heard answers are usually *Elf*, *Home Alone*, *Grinch*, *Nightmare Before Christmas* and the occasional *Polar Express*. However according to the Box Office the movie that made the most money was none other than *Home Alone* (1990) took the lead making \$285.76 million with *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* (2000) following behind making \$260.04 million and *Polar Express* (2004) making \$183.37 million. Here are the Top 3 movies from the categories

Top 3 most popular Christmas Movies:

1. It's a Wonderful Life (1946)
2. Home Alone (1990)
3. Elf (2003)

Top 3 Christmas Comedies:

1. Home Alone (1990)
2. Noelle (2019)
3. The Christmas Chronicles (2018)

Top 3 Christmas Fantasy:

1. The Grinch (2018)
2. Santa Paws (2010)
3. The nightmare Before Christmas (1993)

Top 3 Christmas Adventures:

1. The Nutcracker and the Four Realms (2018)
2. Santa Clause: The Movie (1994)
3. The Christmas Chronicles 2 (2020)



PUZZLE CORNER

AVA BEIRNE

Holiday Word Search

DOACBULLEHEVJBW
 EHCXFEOJKRIVVOI
 HXGHKZBYQSOGAHN
 NARZRCANDYCANET
 VPNEJIJUAZWUGKE
 SZEUIKSRUDOLPHR
 MUSPKNGTPKSCOLD
 EDSKPKDUMGCPZTG
 NKEGDEAEBAOSSSS
 OWSCEERHEMSWKNA
 RALRELFMTRMTSON
 ANENNMFNICNVRWT
 HZIQKHBACNSHBEA
 IAGXAYMEHUTBNLE
 PAHBEYDSRMUMFML

christmas tree	peppermint	December	candy cane
Hanukkah	menorah	Rudolph	reindeer
Winter	cold	elf	Kwanzaa
sleigh	Santa	snow	

SPORTS

NBA Draft Pick Mania

JASON SNYDER

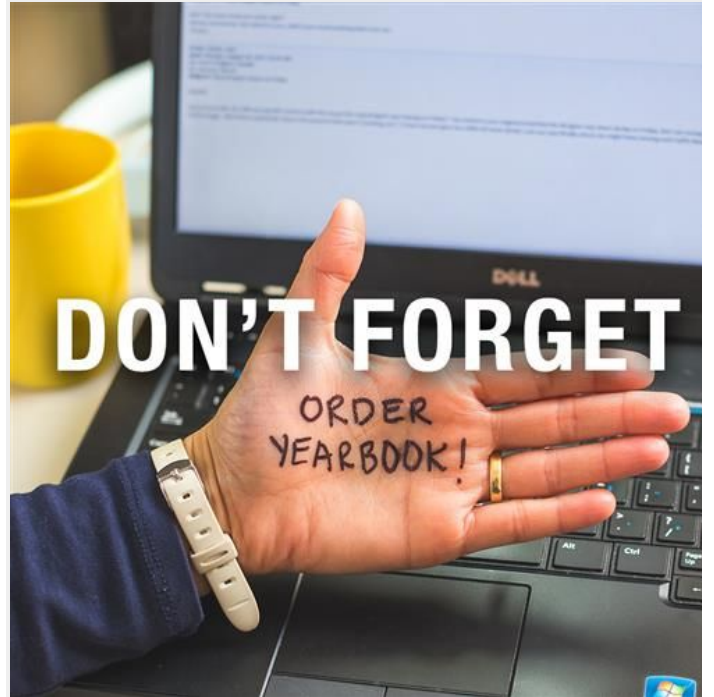
The NBA draft was a blast! There were a lot of upside downs but a couple of good picks. One really good pick was the first guy to go! His name is Anthony Edwards from Georgia. He probably is the best rookie in the draft. He will now play for The Timberwolves - a team that is not a consistent team but are pretty decent. Hopefully Edwards will bring some stability to their program and they will rise in the ranks.

The second pick in the draft went to the Golden State Warriors. They picked James Wiseman, a center out of Memphis. In the beginning of the basketball season, he was predicted to be a second round draft pick. However, as the season went on, he improved and his odds went to becoming a first round draft pick which he was!

Those were just two people and both will have a huge impact in the NBA in the upcoming year!



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HSA Meetings

School 1 - January 12 at 7pm
 CO - January 12 at 7:30pm
 BG - January 7 at 7pm
 Memorial - January 14 at 7pm



STUDENT LIFE

Learning New Skills


JONATHAN HERRARA

As we all know, due to the pandemic, we had to make drastic changes in our daily lifestyle. Many parents have been having difficulties finding centers, recreation, or social events for kids to engage in. Special Dragons is adaptive karate for children with special needs. Special Dragon is a place where children can practice karate at their own time. Also, the trainers are special education teachers who have obtained black belts. Parents or family members are sometimes invited to join the first few sessions to make it easier for students to become used to the new class. The program aims to help children improve coordination, motor control, attention span, behavior problems. This program aims for the kids to learn a skill and incorporate it into their everyday lives to improve their life skills.

Special Dragons is a nonprofit organization that runs through grants and donations, and other organizations. Although the program is not entirely free, they will work with you to ensure your child participates in the program. They also do fundraisers to help with the costs. Currently, they have a special of \$ 100 per month 3times a week 1-hour session. If you want to do in-person and virtual, the cost is \$199 per month; one session in person and two sessions virtual. For students to be accepted into the program, he/she must have a developmental disability or be enrolled in a special education class. The program is focused on teaching Tae-Kwon Do, Kung Fu, Jujitsu, and Judo. According to the founder George Bostory, a retired special education teacher and a sixth-degree black belt in Tae-Kwon Do, they use karate to help children balance and coordinate. Special Dragons have four locations in New Jersey; Nutley, Hackensack, Union, and Jersey City. There website, email, and phone number is provided below

SPECIAL DRAGONS Special Needs Karate



Contact us on 
973.667.8525

if you are interested please check out the following links:

- <https://www.specialdragons.us/>
- george@specialdragons.us
- 973-667-8525

As you may see, Special Dragons offer in-person and a virtual karate program for children with special needs. They include all children with special needs in their program. Children start as a white belt and move their way up to the black belt. Some students who do well in the program are offered jobs to help other children new to the program. Overall, if you are looking for a program during this pandemic, checkout Special Dragons.

COMICS

KATHRYN RYAN

