

THE MEMORIAL TIMES

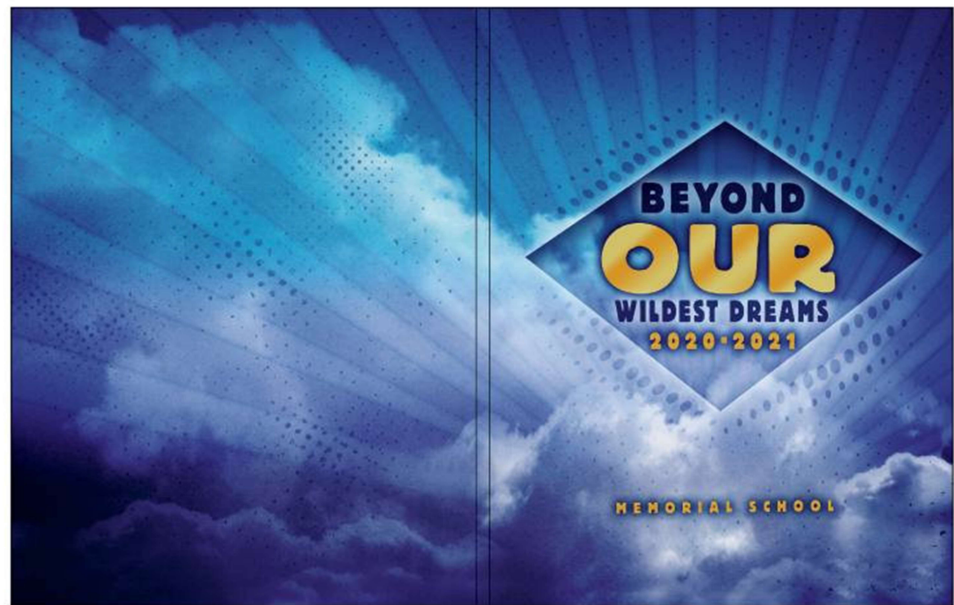
MEMORIAL'S EXPRESS PLATFORM FOR THE FRESHEST NEWS

HEADLINE NEWS



Yearbook Wins an Award!

MS. AMENT



EDITOR'S NOTE

ERIN RYAN

We did it! This is the last edition of the Memorial Times for this school year. As an eighth grader, next year I will be going into high school and it saddens me to know that next year I won't be a part of this club that I have done since I came to Memorial in 5th grade. I will have to leave our amazing staff, and advisor, Ms. Ament. However, seeing how much the writing and the newspaper club in general grew since September with no in person meeting only meeting on google meet, makes me curious of what could have been done with in person meetings. Looking back from when I joined in 5th grade, this club has taught me so much, and I hope the incoming class shows interest in the club. This is a great way to make memories and new friends. I want to thank Ms. Ament and Ms. Riviera for making this club so much fun and enjoyable. This edition of the Memorial Times is a year in review and it might be the best one yet. Thank you to everyone who reads this newspaper and I hope everyone enjoyed these editions of the Memorial Times. Have a great summer and stay safe!

Jostens, the leading producer of yearbooks and student-created content, today announced that Memorial School's yearbook program has achieved the Jostens 2021 National Yearbook Program of Excellence award at the Bronze Level. The National Yearbook Program of Excellence recognizes engaging yearbooks that reflect a broad representation of the student body while helping students develop 21st century skills such as communication, collaboration, and information and communication technologies (ICT) literacy.

The Memorial School's award-winning yearbook program is led by multiple students under the direction of Ms. Samantha Ament, yearbook adviser.

Jostens' National Yearbook Program of Excellence Awards are presented twice a year, in spring and in fall based on the yearbook's arrival date at the school. The award was presented to the yearbook program for achieving defined criteria in between one and three of the following categories: creating an inclusive yearbook, generating school engagement, and successfully managing the yearbook creation process.

"Jostens is proud to recognize those individuals who have created an exceptional yearbook for their school and community," said Tammy Whitaker, Jostens VP and COO Yearbook Division. "These schools did an exceptional job on multiple levels, despite the challenges presented by this school year. Yearbooks are a critical part of capturing and telling a school's story, and Jostens is dedicated to supporting yearbook staff members as they do their important work."

IN THIS ISSUE

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LOCAL NEWS

A Recap of Our Town

AVA BEIRNE

Many things have happened in our town this school year. Due to the restrictions of COVID-19 events were celebrated a little differently than what is typical. First, everyone wore masks on Halloween and many people found a way to give out candy with no contact. Next, the Woodland Park and Totowa fire departments were able to modify their holiday parade and visit all the streets of the town. The Christmas tree lighting ceremony had to be canceled, but Santa was still able to ride around town in a firetruck. In January, the former Modell's Sporting Goods store became a center for COVID vaccines. Eligible people were able to get the vaccine at this location. In March, the town held an Easter bunny drive through event where young children could pick up a fun bag of Easter treats. Woodland Park residents can look forward to the town fishing contest, welcome summer party, and summer camp still to come as the town slowly transitions back into what is more normal.



SCHOOL NEWS / STUDENT OPINION

A Recap of Virtual Learning

AMY MOYA

Due to the dangerous outbreak of COVID-19, numerous students this year went virtual, or took classes online. I was one of those students for the majority of the year. I think it was handled well, and I believe that it was an improvement from last year. Lessons were easier to understand. Teachers explained lessons well, and aside from internet issues, there were not many problems. If I had to indicate what complications there were with online learning, I would say it was the lack of student to student interactions because we were not in the same room. If I were to be told that we have to do virtual learning again, I would not mind it, because I think it works moderately well. In conclusion, virtual learning was a positive experience for me, and there aren't too many downsides to it.

POETRY CORNER

Summer's Here

By: Helen H. Moore

Summer's here!
 Another year of school is at an end.
 We've learned a lot and grown a lot
 and made a lot of friends.
 We'll say goodbye,
 now summer's here,
 it's time for us to part.
 But we'll remember all our friends
 and keep them in our hearts.



Great Expectations

By: Maria Cuellar-Munson

It's time to say, "Good-bye."
 Our year has come to an end.
 I've made more cherished memories
 And many more new friends.
 I've watched your children learn and grow
 And change from day to day.
 I hope that all the things we've done
 Have helped in some small way.
 So it's with happy memories
 I send them out the door,
 With great hope and expectations
 For what next year holds in store.



SCHOOL NEWS / STUDENT VOICE

Let Next Year Be the Start of Something New!

ANTHONY BILLSON

“Join Everything!” That was my goal for this school year, to try everything, well, almost everything. After all, what was there to do during the pandemic? My family chose to continue with remote learning for this school year. So when clubs started virtually I signed up for everything I could. Here’s a list of all clubs and activities you should be on the lookout for 2021-2022 school year.

Band & Choir - Can you play a musical instrument? Can you sing? Ask Mr. Schaefer how you can sign up for band and choir. I'm glad I signed up when I started Memorial School. This is a lot of fun. All year we practice, and then we put on a concert. We even had our concerts this year, because of Mr. Schaefer’s computer skills. It was all on YouTube. When I signed up to play trumpet my goal was to learn how to play Taps. I haven't been able to reach that goal yet. I need more practice. Speaking of practice, it's a lot of fun to annoy your little brother when you do! I'm looking forward to next year and playing in person again.

Animal Club - This club is so interesting. In the past we have had people come in and talk about different animals and pet care. Before covid we were able to go on a few Animal Club trips. This year we watched a few videos and had a few chats, of course it's much better in person. I highly recommend you join this next year but space is limited. You need to get your form and donation of pet food, handed in ASAP to Mrs. Donato. I'm already claiming my spot for next year! (You hear that Mrs. Donato?)

Newspaper Club - Well of course I'm in the newspaper club, you're reading this aren't you? I wasn't sure if this club was a good fit for me, because I don't think I'm a good writer unless it's for a World War II story or something in German. *Warum haben wir keinen deutschen Verein?* I really wanted to do some sort of History corner for the paper but that didn't happen. So now you're stuck reading my report on student lifestyle, while my mom is yelling "Did you get it done yet?" I'm working on it Mom! Ms. Ament is also in charge of this club. Listen, I think more students should join this club and here's why, if there are a lot more of us there will be less yelling of "Get the newspaper article done" by my mom. So please join for my sake.

Yearbook Club - This is open to 7th and 8th graders only. I joined this year. I'm pretty sure I'm going to sign up again next year too. (by order of my mother and she's still yelling at me to finish this article so I better just suck it up and do it). I have access to a ton of pictures of our class from our yearbooks at CO and BG, I'm sure they will come in handy next year. Ms. Ament will send out a notice in the fall asking for people to join. Make sure you check it out.

Student Council - This is open to 7th and 8th Grades only. There are 4 positions: President, Vice President, (8th Grade Students only) Secretary and Treasure (7th Grade Students only). This year I am Treasure. Our meetings are once a week with Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Glenn. I have to say I didn't want to run. But I have a crazy mother, as you have been reading, who told me to try everything this year, so now I'm telling you, TRY EVERYTHING. It takes a lot of courage to write a speech and then stand up in front of your friends to read it. If we were in person I'm not sure I would have done this. However, I know how to make a video so that was easy. I wrote my speech and ran for Treasure. I have no idea yet if I will run again next year, I'm just trying to get through this last month of school. But who knows, maybe you'll see Billson for President come November.

Art Enrichment - this isn't really a club but it's still a school activity. This year Mrs. Farrell selected a few students for this class. I struggled last year with having art during the last marking period. Mrs. Farrell had a zoom meeting with just me! I tried really hard in Sept to do the art projects, and really started to enjoy it. I was invited to Art Enrichment during the 2nd marking period. Normally students are asked to submit art work and apply to join. So if you are creative, be on the look out for this next year. I have really enjoyed this and learned a lot of new techniques.

School Play - Each year Memorial Middle School puts on a play. So if singing and dancing is your thing, you should watch for information for tryouts. Mrs. Y and fellow Memorial students just put on the play School House Rock Jr. Overall the play was great considering it was a new experience to put on a play outside. Kudos to everyone in it! I thought about trying out, but if you have read this far, you know I am involved in a lot of things, so there was just no time to squeeze this in.

Youth Month - This is held in May every year. The 8th grade students may run for Mayor or Town Council or can be appointed to a department head position. This is a great way to learn about our community and how our town operates. I'm looking forward to this next year.

STRIVE - Ms. Scillieri is in charge of this, but don't go asking her if you can join. To be part of this you need a teacher to recommend you. Then all of your grades are reviewed to see if you are eligible. There is also a test of your knowledge in all subjects as well as reasoning and logic. Once a member, students compete in different competitions throughout the year.

Climate and Culture This is a volunteer position with one student per homeroom. The team works to boost the morale of the school and to increase student relationships. They are currently working on the House System for next year. They also work on activities such as Diversity Month. The teachers in charge are Ms. Ament, Ms. McGlame, Ms. DeYoung, Mrs. Glenn, Ms. Riviera, Ms. McGarrity, Ms. Calderon, and Mr. Scholtz.

National Junior Honor Society - This was the 2nd year of NJHS at Memorial School. To get in you need to have As and Bs the first two marking periods, then you are *invited* to apply. The application is long and time consuming and your mother will be yelling at you to get this done too. You need to list all your school activities, leadership positions and outside school activities. So make sure you pick a few clubs from the list above to help your chances of getting in. **(continued on Page 4, “Clubs”)**

(cont. **Clubs**) There is a lot to do at Memorial School. But I didn't know about most of it until this year, that's why I chose to write about all the clubs and activities. I hope I didn't miss something that I don't know about. I think it would be a great idea if there was a club/activity day for all the students to learn about everything the school has to offer and how to join each. So like a fair! You go around and pick up information which explains each club/activity and how to join. Then we have a Membership Drive Week where everyone can show their school spirit by wearing the t-shirt or buttons of the clubs they have joined. Oh I guess we need t-shirts and buttons now! I hope someone thinks this is a good idea! Somebody like Mr. Scholz! Mr. Scholz, Mr. Scholz!!!

This is Anthony Billson signing off.
And my mother has finally stopped yelling.

NATIONAL NEWS

Major Events that Shaped 2020

JONATHAN HERRERA

This past year, many things have changed; each year is marked by a handful of events that define it. Many things have happened since the beginning of the school year until now. Everyone will remember this year being the most challenging of all, starting from a pandemic that paralyzed the world and changed our daily routine to a presidential election with the highest voter participation rate to vaccination around the country.

To start things off, COVID 19 dropped almost the entire world in the gutter, with people forced to be in their homes in the hopes of the virus dying down. It first started in China and then expanded towards areas like Russia and Korea, leading it to Europe and then to the US. The virus forced people to quarantine to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. However, we are slowly and surely overcoming this pandemic. It has been a challenge to overcome this virus, but we have done so successfully. Pandemics have occurred throughout history; the Plague in 1720, Cholera in 1820, and the Spanish Flu in 1920. All of this happens every few years.



Since we are indoors, people could not go to work or attend school in person, which leads to the word "Virtual Learning." The whole point behind virtual learning is that kids "attend classes virtually." Everyone was taken back by this new way of learning. Teachers and students had to log in through Google classroom and attend class using "Google Meet or Zoom". There were mixed feelings about virtual learning, some people liked it, but others did not. One of the pros of virtual learning is not waking up too early, not changing into school clothes, taking restroom breaks, and snacks as needed. However, virtual learning

has its cons; for example, social activities and interaction are nonexistent, too much screen time, and learning to navigate new platforms. Due to the isolation and many technical issues, most people wanted the school to reopen. Many schools all over the US tried to get their students back in person, taking many precautions when implementing safety guidelines by the CDC.

At the beginning of November, people came out to vote and had to decide between giving Donald Trump a second chance or choosing a new president from the democratic party, Joe Biden. It was shown that people worldwide voted in person or by mail, breaking records of the highest voter turnout in many years. Many states broke records by being the highest number of people that voted in the presidential election seeing Joe Biden as the new president of the United States. However, Donald Trump did not recognize his defeat and announced fraud in the election. His statement produced many riots in different states; therefore, many Trump supporters marched into the US Capitol, causing Congress to temporarily pause the confirmation of Joe Biden as president of the United States.



The pharmaceutical companies worked hard on a covid vaccine. As we all know, developing a vaccine can take years because they have to go through many trials to evaluate safety and effectiveness that usually involves thousands of people. However, due to the pandemic, new protocols had to be put in place to make covid vaccines. By November, Pfizer and Moderna both announced that they developed a vaccine against Covid 19 virus. Both pharmaceutical companies were able to get emergency US approval, and by January 2021, the countdown began to end the pandemic. Nevertheless, due to the virus mutating, a third dose might be needed.

In conclusion, 2020-2021 has been a heck of a ride for us, we had to deal with the circumstances we are currently experiencing, but this should all eventually blow over soon. Normalcy is around the corner, and this year will be remembered as the most challenging and unforgettable.

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment Breakdown 2020

AMAYIAH PENA

These past two years have been rough but we all got through it somehow. If you spent most of your downtime watching movies or shows then keep on “binging” this article. Here is a breakdown of the top entertainment of the past year.

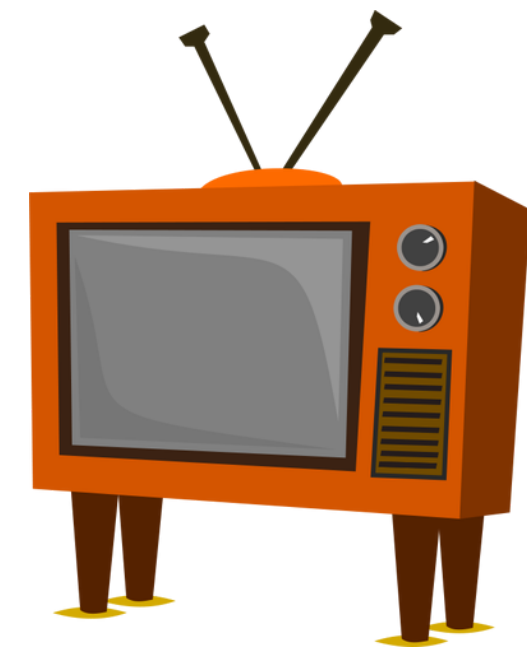
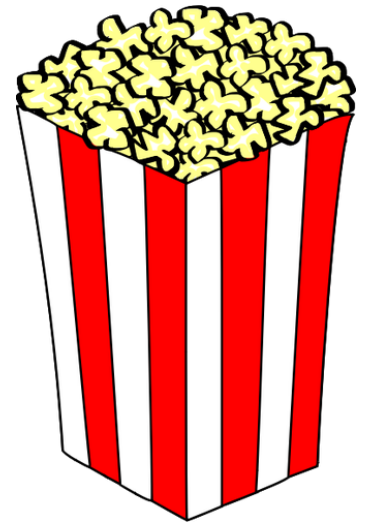
Kid movies 2020

- **Dolittle:** The famous British veterinarian Doctor Dolittle (Robert Downey Jr.) no longer leaves the walls of his manor—or the company of his animal pals (voiced by Emma Thompson, Rami Malek, Octavia Spencer, Craig Robinson, Ralph Fiennes, Selena Gomez, Marion Cotillard and others). But when Queen Victoria (Jessie Buckley) becomes sick, the doctor sets out to find a mythical island in search of a cure. Rated PG. (Timeout:New York Kids)

- **Sonic the Hedgehog:** Sonic the Hedgehog makes the leap from the gaming screen to the big screen! The electric blue creature (voiced by Ben Schwartz) escapes interstellar evil forces by hiding on Earth only to cause a power outage—and to be hunted by the megalomaniac Dr. Robotnik (Jim Carrey). Will the small-town Sheriff Tom Wachowski (James Marsden) help Sonic escape? Rated PG.(Timeout:New York Kids)

- **Onward:** This Pixar feature is set in a fairy tale land that’s losing its magic—the elves who live there would rather use their phones and other devices than spells. But then young Ian Lightfoot (voiced by Tom Holland) brings his dead father back to life. Or, rather, just his legs. He sets off with his brother Barley (Chris Pratt) to complete the spell so he can see his father one last time—and maybe bring magic back to the elves. Rated PG. (Timeout:New York Kids)

- **Trolls World Tour:** Anna Kendrick is back in this sequel to the 2016 hit Trolls. She voices Poppy, the hug-happy troll who learns that there are six different tribes of trolls in the world. Each one specializes in a different kind of music: pop, funk, classical, techno, country and rock. The problem? King Thrash (Ozzy Osbourne) wants rock to crush the others. Featuring the voices of James Corden, Rachel Bloom, Sam Rockwell and a who’s-who of music. Rated PG. (Timeout:New York Kids)



- **The Willoughby’s:** Abandoned by their heartless parents, Jane Willoughby (voiced by Alessia Cara) and her twin brothers (Séan Cullen and Séan Cullen) try to please their sour nanny (Maya Rudolph) and become perfect children. Based on the bestselling book by Lois Lowry, this animated film also features the voices of Ricky Gervais and Terry Crews. Rated PG. (Timeout:New York Kids)

Top 5 Kids' and Teens TV Shows

- **DC superhero girls**-this show follows an all-teen, all-female team of famous superheroes who have to keep Metropolis safe and still find time to have fun as friends. Ages 8+ (can watch it on Cartoon Network)

- **True and the Rainbow Kingdom**- True, an 8-year-old-girl, and her cat, Bartleby, are the only ones that Rainbow City's citizens can rely on when something goes wrong. In every episode, True shows off her problem-solving skills. 4+ (can watch it on Netflix and Discovery Family)

- **Outerbanks**- On an island of haves and have-nots, teen John B enlists his three best friends to hunt for a legendary treasure linked to his father's disappearance. TV-MA (Netflix)

- **Never have I ever**- After a traumatic year, an Indian-American teen just wants to spruce up her social status but friends, family and feelings won't make it easy on her.TV-MA(Netflix)

- **Julie and the Phantoms**-Julie lost her passion for music when she lost her mom. But when

three ghostly guys appear and lift her spirits, they decide to start a band together! TV-G(Netflix)

Adult shows:

Bridgerton- Wealth, lust, and betrayal set against the backdrop of Regency-era England, seen through the eyes of the powerful Bridgerton family. (Netflix)

Ozark- A financial adviser drags his family from Chicago to the Missouri Ozarks, where he must launder \$500 million in five years to appease a drug boss. (Netflix)

Umbrella Academy- Reunited by their father's death, estranged siblings with extraordinary powers uncover shocking family secrets -- and a looming threat to humanity. (Netflix)

Ginny and Georgia- Free-spirited Georgia and her two kids, Ginny and Austin, move north in search of a fresh start but find that the road to new beginnings can be bumpy. (Netflix)

NETFLIX

Have fun binge watching during summer break!!

SCHOOL NEWS

Memorial 2020

ERIN RYAN

As this school year is coming to an end it hasn't been like any years in the past. The past year's have had more fun things like parties, assemblies, recess and hanging out with friends. Even last year we still had the Halloween dance, assemblies, but this year was different. Different doesn't mean bad. We still had something to look forward to whether it be spring break, a long weekend, getting back to in- person learning if you chose that option, seeing your friends at the end of school or going outside with your teachers. You might not realize how much we did this year.

This is a look back on some memorable moments about this school year. On September 8th after not seeing our friends and teacher for months we made our way back into school with all covoid regulation and all was going great until the first shut down in early November. This first shutdown made us lose the months of November, December, January, and the first couple of days of February, which lasted from November 10, 2020- February 2, 2021. Something that has just happened more recently is the School House Rock Live Jr. Play on May 14 and May 15. Back to earlier in the year in early November we elected our student council president Isabel Tiseo, our Vice President Kaylanie Noriega, our Treasure Anthony Billson and our Secretary Joe Iannacone. Our break was December 24, 2020 through January 3, 2021 which was our winter break, and our Spring Break was April 2 through April 11. Our second closing was March 16, 2021 through April 26, 2021. Something that is going on now is 8th grade Youth Month, and all throughout May. Our school's virtual field day was May 7, 2021. For the 8th graders our 8th grade formal is going to be June 4, 2021. Our final day or last day of school is going to be June 22, 2021.

As you can see we didn't get to do everything we used to do in the previous years but this is a year to remember!

SPORTS

DANIELE SIGLIANO

2020, a year most people want to forget but for sports it was a year to remember. Even with the Coronavirus outbreak, sports still went on without fans cheering on their favorite teams in person.

Hockey and football were two out of four sports that had the same teams from the same area win the championship. In hockey or more specifically the NHL, the Tampa Bay Lightning won the championship or known as the Stanley Cup. They beat the Dallas Stars in six games without fans in attendance. The Tampa Bay Buccaneers won



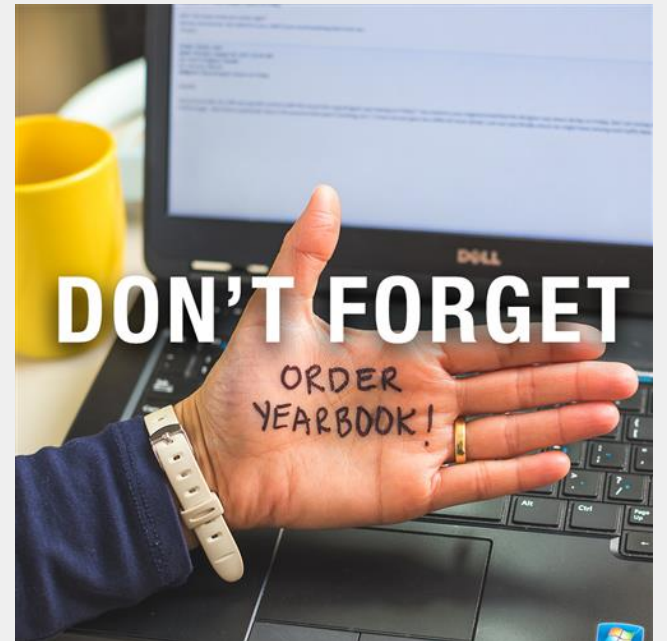
the NFL Super Bowl against the Kansas City Chiefs and beat them 31 to 9. This was a big hit for the city Of Tampa bay and they were super excited about this!

Basketball and baseball were the other two sports who had two teams from the same city win a championship. For Basketball the Los Angeles Lakers won the NBA finals against the Miami Heat in six games to win the NBA Finals. In the MLB for baseball the Los Angeles Dodgers beat The Tampa Bay Rays in six games to win the World Series. This was a Big hit for Los Angeles because

both of these teams have not won in a while!

The 2020 sports season was better than the year 2020 itself and people loved it too. Hopefully 2021 is better than 2020!

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Breakfast and Lunch meals are available at no cost through June 2021!

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 Packed with Nutrition
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Pickup at the main entrances to Memorial and Charles Olbon, and at the back entrance to School #1
Now through January 29th, Monday-Friday from 9am - 2pm
 One breakfast and one lunch meal per child per day
 On Fridays, additional meals are available to last through the weekend

A Complete Breakfast Includes:
 Entrée (Bread/Grain), ½ cup serving of Fresh Fruit, Cupped Fruit or 100% Juice, & Milk (8oz)

A Complete Lunch Includes:
 Entrée (Protein/Grain), Vegetable (1 cup), Fruit (1 cup) & Milk (8oz)

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Woodland Park's MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE

★ To Our Fallen Heroes ★

MONDAY MAY 31, 2021

Demonstrating our gratitude to those who paid dearly to preserve our way of life!

9:30 A.M. FIREMAN'S MEMORIAL CEREMONIES | **10:00 A.M. KIA MEMORIAL CEREMONIES**

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 to view the ceremonies starting at 9:30 A.M.

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