

# Wolf HOWL



Check out our prom spread on  
pages 12-13 for event details

Chandler High School  
Spring Issue  
April 2022

Photo by Madeline Moran

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## National Blood Shortage Strikes America

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Amid the pandemonium wrought on our society by the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for blood transfusions has skyrocketed. Unfortunately, as schools, offices, and all major congregations shut down, an unexpected subject was victimized. Blood drives, which are most often performed at the aforementioned locations, were crippled by the closure of these necessary venues. [Donor turnout decreased by more than 33%](#), and this may result in the deaths of those who need lifesaving blood transfusions. Staffing limitations have led to workers not being able to man these blood drives, further driving down the availability of this vital liquid. Political tensions have surprisingly been brought up amidst the conflict, as some take issue with the Red Cross's LGBTQ policy regarding gay men. As it currently stands, men who have engaged in sexual activity with another of the same gender may not donate blood until they have deferred from the act [for no less than three months](#). This is down from a 12-month period last year, which was lowered due to the rising demand and lack of supply of blood. While it seems like Red Cross themselves has implemented this policy, they're just the messengers for the FDA, who created that policy years ago.

Other eligibility issues are surrounding the Mad Cow Disease crisis, where any persons living in the majorly affected areas were permanently barred from donating blood. It remains to be seen whether this policy will remain in place given the crisis that America is in, this may be phased out to promote further

donations. As blood only has a shelf life of 42 days, and with a restriction to donating once every 56 days for donors, blood must be constantly collected to ensure that there is always more blood to replace the older samples. Unlike normal pharmaceuticals, it simply isn't possible to stockpile blood, making it that much more difficult for the Red Cross during this dry spell. With over 40% of all available blood coming from the Red Cross, something must change to stabilize the supply and fast.

Due to the overwhelming amount of COVID patients occupying space in hospitals, it becomes an even larger problem in the larger scope of healthcare as a whole. Fear plays a large role in how the donation process has gone, as paranoia regarding exposure to Covid discourages those who may want to donate blood. The facilities in which blood is donated are clinically sterilized, making blood donation safer in terms of infection than doing just about anything in public. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to interesting incentives being implemented, as it takes unconventional means to fix the only time there has been a national blood shortage in the history of the organization. Those who donated were offered prizes ranging from gift cards to Super Bowl LVI tickets. The future for America's blood supply and those depending on it is uncertain, but with enough participation from kind-hearted and willing volunteers around the world, a difference can be achieved.

# Tonga Tsunamis Send Shock Waves Around the Globe

Alina Amaya, *Reporter*

"Civilians saw 5-foot waves unusually close to the shoreline as the tide increased and reached the boardwalk."

On December 20, 2021, Tonga, a small country in the region of Oceania was hit by a volcanic natural disaster multiple times over the past months. The eruption began on Hunga Tonga–Hunga Ha‘apai, a submarine volcano in the Tongan archipelago in the southern Pacific Ocean. The eruption reached a very large and powerful climax nearly 4 weeks later, on 15 January 2022.

Tonga has a population of 100,000 and the eruption caused the death of five people, the injury of 20, and the disappearance of multiple others. However, Tonga was not the only place affected by the volcanic eruption. It resulted in tsunami warnings being sent out to many places around the world. Tonga faced terrible damages due to the eruption, taking away the lives and homes of innocent citizens. Approximately 2 days after the volcanic eruption, a tsunami struck the island blowing out all internet connections. After 5 weeks, Internet access was restored and Tonga was “reconnected with the world” (Kirsty Needham, *Reuters*). A magnitude 6.2 earthquake hit almost 2 weeks after Nuku‘alofa, Tonga was devastated by the volcano and tsunami catastrophe, damaging more and more homes and ruining more and more lives.

Even though Tonga is over 5,000 miles away from the west coast of the United States, states like California, Washington, and Oregon received tsunami warnings as well as Hawaii. Hawaii received the most damage as far as the United States because it is right in the path of tsunamis from Tonga to the United States leaving the tsunamis no choice but to pass right through the islands. In Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, a local business received major damage and lost about 80% of its inventory and gear. As the owners returned they were shocked to see the damages. Civilians saw 5-foot waves unusually close to the

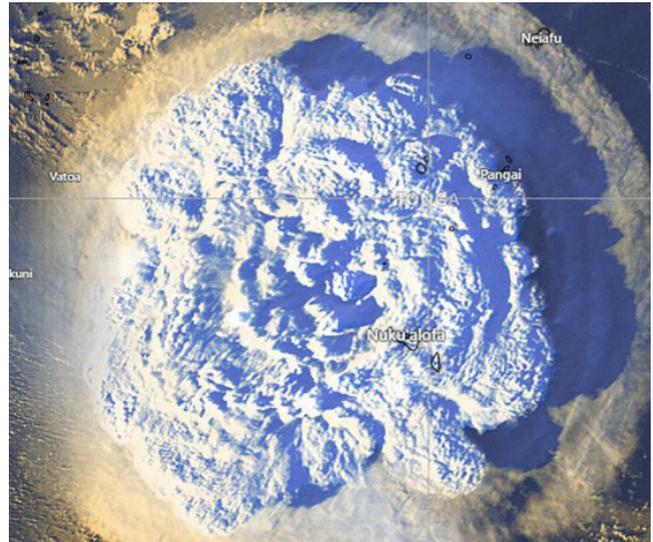


Photo courtesy of Tonga Meteorological Services/EPA

shoreline as the tide increased and reached the boardwalk. Luckily no deaths have been reported as a result of the shock waves. As time has gone on, Tonga was without a full month of internet resulting in them having no contact with surrounding countries and have been in a COVID-19 lockdown up until recently. Communication services have been restored and citizens of Tonga have been emerging from lockdown after a COVID outbreak. COVID-19 is a battle that everyone has and is facing which is a hard and long battle within itself however, After the eruption, both catastrophes were bouncing back and forth, making each other worse. As citizens had to rebuild and recover from the eruption they also had to social distance and follow COVID guidelines. Along with this, debris flying in the air caused terrible coughs among people with and without the virus.

As this is not the first time the citizens of a struggling country are in need of hospitality, resources, and other necessities, It's important that we do what we can to help Tonga out in their time of need.

# The Omicron Variant - According to the CDC

Visit the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website for more information: [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

similar symptoms to  
past strands  
symptom severity can  
depend on ones  
vaccination status and  
health status

A surge of cases is  
predicted,  
as well as new  
variants in the future

Omicron was first  
identified in South  
Africa

Omicron spreads  
easier and  
faster than the  
original strand

"Everyone ages 12 years  
and older should stay up  
to date on their  
COVID-19 vaccines and  
get a booster shot when  
eligible."

"We are still learning about  
how easily it spreads, the  
severity of illness it causes,  
and how well available  
vaccines and medications  
work against it."

# The Tragedy of Miss USA

Hossana Mubarikiwa, Reporter

**Content Warning: This article discusses suicide.**

The beauty pageant industry has long been portrayed as a near-perfect dream or as something breathtakingly beautiful. However, when you look closely, you'll see that pageant competitors' have near-impossible requirements. Pageants are hidden by a facade of glamor and grace, when in reality they are nothing more than a crude portrayal of society's beauty standards. The models or representatives of each country are usually skinny and tall, with long hair, impeccable personalities, and few imperfections. They have beautiful bodies, dazzling smiles, and elegant hair; even the way they walk and talk is considered to be perfect. People usually don't ask questions about what it takes to look like this. What do they have to sacrifice? What goes on behind the scenes at pageants? What happens to the girls after they're done competing, whether they win or not?

A dark part of this pageant world was revealed on the 30th of January of this year. Cheslie Kryst, an African-American woman who was born on April 28, 1991, in Jackson, Michigan, and was also known as an entrepreneur, model, TV correspondent, and the medalist who was crowned Miss USA 2019 and a contestant in the Miss Universe competition who placed in the top ten, was discovered dead. Her body was discovered in front of a high-rise in midtown Manhattan. This tragedy came as a surprise to everyone in the pageant scene and those close to Kryst.

Kryst had committed suicide, the reason why still undiscovered. Her mother, April Simpkins, stated that Kryst was dealing with "high functioning depression which she hid from



Drawing by Hossana Mubarikiwa

everyone". She was seen as an inspiration and a role model to young African American girls. She was a good friend to many. Therefore though it is quite heartbreaking, many don't want Kryst's death to be in vain. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention says that Depression and Suicide Awareness are topics that should be taken seriously by everyone whether you are a public figure or not.

They stated that "suicide and mental health issues do not discriminate, and so it is imperative that we take an uncompromisingly anti-racist approach to improve access to culturally informed, evidence-based quality mental health care". Showing how mental health needs to be advertised to young and senior generations particularly in the black community. The US National Suicide Prevention (NSPS) line is at 1-800-273-8255. They have also added a new three-digit dialing code, 988, that will route you to the NSPL that will be available starting July 16, 2022 for everyone in the US. Other International helplines can be found at Befrienders Worldwide.

**If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-8255 or text HOME to 741741 to reach a trained counselor at the Crisis Text Line.**

# The Russia-Ukraine War: Latest News

Information current as of  
March 31, 2022

Imani Davis, *Editor*

Russia and Ukraine's tensions started in 2014, but have since settled into a stalemate. Shellings and skirmishes still often occur and violence escalated in the spring of 2021. Now in early 2022, Russia has invaded Ukraine. Difficulties to evacuate have been caused by the intense bombardment of the Kharkiv region, according to its military governor in an [article by CNN](#). Ukrainian President Zelensky's chief of staff, Andriy Yermak, told CNN there is a "portion of optimism" after talks with Russia in Istanbul.

In light of the rising gas prices due to sanctions against Russia's energy industry, President Biden is reported to announce on Thursday a plan to release 180 million barrels of oil from the US strategic reserves. Oil prices have already dropped in response to expectations of the announcement, all according to [an article by The New York Times](#).

According to an [article by Al Jazeera](#), NATO adds that it expects "additional offensive actions" from Russia. [In an article by Reuters](#), NATO

Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on Thursday that it seems Russia is regrouping rather than redrawing and preparing new attacks against Ukraine, even with peace talks supposedly resuming on Friday, April 1. Stoltenberg said that NATO is not yet convinced that Russia was negotiating in good faith during the peace talks in Istanbul, as Moscow's military objective has not changed since launching its invasion. According to their intelligence, "Russian units are not withdrawing but repositioning. Russia is trying to regroup, resupply and reinforce its offensive in the Donbas region," Stoltenberg told reporters in Brussels.

**Editor's Note:** As of March 30th, 2022, Reuters reports that the war between Russia and Ukraine has resulted in at least 23 thousand deaths, 10 million people displaced, 1900 non-fatal injuries, at least 1800 buildings destroyed, and \$565 billion in property damage. This week marks the 6th week of the Russia-Ukraine war.

Graphic by Imani Davis, *Editor*

## Changes to Arizona Voting Legislation



Arizona lawmakers returned to the Capitol on Monday, 2/14, with their list of demands, the most contested likely to be changes to state election laws



Proposals include: making dates of primary and general elections state holidays; counting ballots by hand; breaking up counties into smaller voting precincts; increasing the number of random hand counted totals; altering the automatic recount law; replacing ballots with specially encoded paper



As of February 10, several of these proposals have been voted in, along with the near elimination of drop boxes for ballot submissions and the enforcement of election observers.

# Remembering Parkland

Makena Colihan, Reporter

It has been more than 1,000 days since the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, with Valentine's day being the fourth anniversary. School shootings in 2021 have increased tremendously compared to former years and have become more violent. School shootings are always followed by the same questions such as, how did this happen? Why did this happen? Where did these children get guns? These questions are even more urgent due to the recent tragedy in Michigan at Oxford High School on November 30, 2021 which adds up to the 222 other school shootings and is at an all-time high, [The Conversation](#) says. There are many alarming similarities between these two stories.

Nikolas Cruz was surrounded by various weapons his whole life and

was able to illegally purchase the automatic weapon he used. Just four days before the Oxford shooting, Ethan Crumbley's father was seen buying the handgun that was used. Not only were both students repeatedly reported for concerning behavior, but they also posted on social media their plans and weapons. Both of these stories are so similar, and over 20 students were killed because of the ignorance of adults around them. In 1996, Australia had one mass shooting, resulting in the deaths of 35 people. Days later, they tightened their gun laws, and there has not been a single mass shooting in 25 years. The US has had 657 mass shootings this year alone. Why can't we do the same?

However, after the Parkland shooting, something unexpected happened. State legislators, inspired by

a movement led by student survivors, started passing legislation that restricted gun accessibility. 2018 was a year that triumphed in gun laws compared to former years in the United States. All across the country, including 14 states with Republican governors, passed 50 new laws, making it much more difficult to access guns. "Legislators are starting to realize that mass shootings can happen in their state anytime," [says Allison Anderman, an attorney, and gun control activist](#). Students from a very young age are taught to hide in case they're ever in danger, therefore it's no surprise why so many kids don't feel safe at school. But when thousands of people started to protest for March for our Lives, and the words "enough is enough" rang out from students across the country, legislators were forced to listen.

# Class Ranking Affects Students' Mental Health

Jewelz Cox, Reporter

Over two decades ago, class rankings were put into place to quantitatively determine academic success of students among their peers. Some believe that it's an ineffective system that gives unnecessary weight on students to maintain their class rank, while others believe that it motivates students to work harder. Numerous colleges often consider class ranks to be a substantial component in admissions, but, recently, fewer colleges are using class ranks in their admission decisions and using the students' grade-point average. So, what's the point in class ranking?

High school students across the country receive their class ranking within their four years of high school at least once. Student's seeing their class ranking could be beneficial because it could inspire students to get motivated and reach their goals academically. Although class rankings can be seen as a motivational tool, it

leads to unhealthy competition instead of academic collaboration. It can be strongly argued that class ranking only promotes a competitive atmosphere that can lead to stress, anxiety, and even cheating throughout classes. For example, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has a rate of 12.5 suicides per 100,000 students (national average between 6.5 and 7.5 per 100,000 students). Whether you think class ranking has a purpose or not, high schools with lower graduation rates enforce ranking at far higher rates due to students taking AP and other challenging courses. Students have other things to worry about in their daily lives, and school becoming more competitive has shown a dramatic increase in anxiety and depression in teens. When asked how class ranking affected the mental health of students, Curtis Owen (a teacher and former counselor at Chandler High) replied with, "I don't think they were great for mental health

because everyone was stressed out about it and there was a lot of gamesmanship to try and figure out who is number one, but that doesn't necessarily mean that you are any better than any student, you might have just played the game a little bit better so I just didn't see any advantages to having the class ranks." Recently, many students can agree that school feels more like a chore, instead of being fun. Class rankings are making students feel like they're not enough and it needs to be changed.



Photo by Jules Cox

# THE CASE OF TRAVIS ALEXANDER

Asia Cruz, *Sports Editor*

We all have our guilty pleasures, whether it's social media, Netflix, or coffee; there's not a single person who doesn't have one. True crime is one of the most popular and entertaining ways to pass time. Chandler High's true crime fans will be excited to learn about the once-happy relationship between Travis Alexander and Jodi Arias and how it quickly turned toxic. Continuing the Wolf Howl's True Crime segment, this is The Case of Travis Alexander.

On July 9, 1980 in the small city of Salinas, California, Jodi Arias was born. She had an average childhood, however she dropped out of high school in 11th grade to pursue her dream of becoming a professional photographer. For the next 10 years, she traveled in hopes of becoming more popular, but she had to give it up. Instead, she started working for "Prepaid Legal." This was a multi-marketing company in Mesa, Arizona and within a few years she switched to sales and started to settle down.

Travis Alexander was born in Riverside, California, on July 28th, 1977. He was raised in California until his father died in 1997 and was forced to move with his seven siblings and grandmother in Arizona, where he was introduced to Mormonism. He was an accomplished salesman and motivational speaker for "Prepaid Legal" where he met Jodi.

The relationship between Travis and Jodi blossomed in September 2006 at a work conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. They spoke every day of their long distance

relationship, exchanging a total of over 80,000 emails in just five months. Because Mormons can only be with someone of the same faith, in 2006 Travis went as far as baptizing Jodi and officially making her Mormon. However, only a few months into their relationship, Travis broke up with Jodi. Travis' friends soon became alarmed at her behavior: coming to his house unannounced, slashing his tires, and contacting him non-stop. To put it simply- Jodi was obsessed with Travis claimed that they "meant to be."

Suddenly, Travis completely disappeared. He wasn't responding to texts or phone calls, and wasn't showing up to work. On June 9th, Travis' friends went to visit him and found pools of blood in his living room. His friends immediately call the police and the operator asks the caller, "Who do you think could've done this?" Without hesitation, we can hear one of the friends say, "Her name is Jodi... there's this girl that's been stalking him". Police arrive at the crime scene and find Alexander's brutalized body in his bathroom on the shower floor. Travis Alexander's autopsy files say that he had been stabbed 27 times, was shot in the forehead by a .25 caliber bullet, and nearly decapitated.

The police quickly contacted Jodi, and she sounded devastated but claimed she hadn't seen Travis since April earlier that year. Despite this, detectives learned that Jodi rented a car on June 2nd from Redding, California. Several days before the murder, she contacted

one of her ex-boyfriends, Daryl Brewer, to ask if she could borrow two five-gallon canisters of gas. Authorities confirmed that Jodi ended up purchasing 32 gallons of gas just days before the murder. Investigators found a digital camera that belonged to Travis in the washing machine with the SD card intact.

The last time Alexander was seen alive was at approximately 5:30 PM in a photo Jodi took of the two of them. The camera contained shots of Travis's mutilated body, and a few accidental shots when the camera fell. Due to these accidental photos, investigators were able to confirm Jodi's placement at the scene. More evidence shows that after the murder, the killer attempted to clean the crime scene including the floors, counters and even Travis's body. Even though Jodi tried to hide the evidence, she left behind a bloody hand print that DNA analysis would later reveal to belong to her.

Opening arguments started on January 2nd, 2013; prosecutor Juan Martinez sought the death penalty while Jennifer Willmott represented Jodi, who argued that Travis's death was self-defense. The trial lasted five months; Jodi was on the stand for 18 days and claimed that Travis was secretly sexually attracted to young boys and girls and that he was emotionally, physically, and sexually abusive to her. According to Jodi, Travis forced her to take sexual images of Travis in the shower. When she accidentally dropped the camera, Travis became enraged and attacked her.

On May 8th, 2013, after 15 hours of deliberation Jodi Arias was found guilty of first-degree murder. People would hear cheering from outside the courtroom.

# Bengals



# VS



# Rams

## SUPER BOWL LVI

Location: SoFi Stadium Inglewood, California

Date: February 13th, 2022

Time: 4:30 MT

Halftime Show: Dr. Dre, Snoop Dog, Mary J. Blige, Kendrick Lamar, and Eminem

305 Total Yards  
 79 Rushing Yards  
 226 Passing Yards  
 15 First downs  
 10 passes for first  
 5 Rushes for first  
 4 Rushing Average  
 0 Interceptions thrown  
 6 Punts  
 7 Defensive Sacks  
 4 Penalties

**1ST HALF  
 SCORE  
 10-13**

**2ND HALF  
 SCORE  
 20-23**

313 Total Yards  
 43 Rushing Yards  
 270 Passing Yards  
 18 First downs  
 14 passes for first  
 2 Rushes for first  
 1.9 Rushing Average  
 2 Interceptions thrown  
 6 Punts  
 2 Defensive Sacks  
 2 Penalties



# Arizona Runs For The Final Four

**Troy Johnson, Reporter**

The NCAA Basketball Tournament, also known as March Madness, is here and it's time for the 68 teams to battle it out for NCAA Champion. The University of Arizona Wildcats keep climbing in the rankings and are in the odds to win the 2022 National Championship, a surprising occurrence as their last appearance in the Final Four was in 2001 and they haven't won the tournament since 1997, making it their only men's basketball national title. The Wildcats were at #2 in the country and were looked upon to be high contenders for the title. Arizona was at over 900 to win March Madness.

In the February 19 game against Oregon, they narrowly escaped with a three point win, effectively continuing their 8 game winning streak. Arizona is 24-2 on the season securing themselves as #3 in the AP Top 25 poll. The Wildcats have recently rose two spots in the coaches poll and one spot in the AP poll. Arizona is slotted as a #1 seed in the latest NCAA Tournament projections, with some having the Wildcats as the #2 overall seed behind Gonzaga. Arizona Wildcats men's basketball ascends to #1 seed in NCAA Tournament projection.

The Wildcats play Utah on Thursday and Colorado on Saturday before facing USC in Los Angeles on March 1. They close out the regular season hosting Stanford on March 3 and California on March 5 before the PAC-12 Tournament.

While it seems that Arizona has all the aspects needed in order to win the tournament they lack one of the most important things—experience. None of the players have ever made it to the tournament, something that may throw them off. Despite this, many remain optimistic of their chances. The odds certainly indicate that the Wildcats could secure their spot as champions for the first time in two decades.



*Photo by Paris Estrada*

Update as of April 4, 2022:

It's official: University of Arizona Basketball is out of the running. On Thursday March 24, they played the Houston Cougars in the NCAA tournament's Sweet 16. As soon as the first basket was made, it was clear that it would be a tough game for the Wildcats. Houston never trailed, taking Arizona out of their comfort zone from the very beginning. After a hard fought battle, Houston pulled away a win and a final score of 72-60. The Cougars' coach, Kelvin Sampson, said that "we were going to make them uncomfortable. It's what we do." This strategy clearly seemed to work, allowing Houston to advance.

This year's NCAA championship came to a close on April 4. The North Carolina Tar Heels faced a defeat from the Kansas Jayhawks with a final score of 72-69. With a historic comeback, the Jayhawks brought a close to the long awaited championship, winning for the first time since 2008.

*Paris Estrada contributed reporting to this story.*

# Chandler High Sports

Recent rankings: Spring Sports

## Softball

3-7

Win Loss

#5 In 6A Premier  
Section

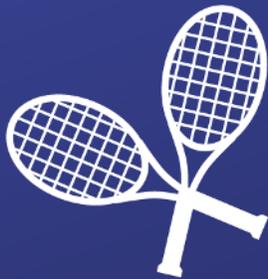


## Baseball

16-4-1

Win Loss Tie

#4 In 6A Premier  
Section



## Girls Tennis

9-3

## Boys Tennis

2-9



## Volleyball

4-5

#3 In 6A Premier  
Section



*Prom 2022*  
AT  
EVENTS ON JACKSON

Infographic by Claire Jones, Hossana Mubarikiwa

Contributions by Annie Payne

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*Spring Issue - Special Features 12*



**Theme: Moonlight Garden**

**When: Saturday, May 7,  
2022**

**Time: 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm**

**Tickets will be on sale at  
the bookstore starting \$65**

**245 E Jackson Street, Phoenix,  
AZ 85004**

# Repressive Abortion Bill is Threatening Women's Rights Across America

Opinion by **Sammie Bourland, Reporter**

How many times do we have to fight for our rights? As women, we are forced to listen and follow the rules of old white men who hold power. They tell us what we can and can't do, where we should or shouldn't go. They run our lives. Now look where we are, we are turning back time. We are taking away a woman's right to choose. What was *Roe v Wade* for if not to give us the right to choose? All the fighting and protests will have been for nothing. We try and try to get our rights back, but some people have a different idea. They think we are killing babies, doing the devil's work. However, other people agree that we, as women, should have the right to choose what we do with our bodies. Makena Colihan, a sophomore at Chandler High School says, "I think that it is horrible. I feel like we are going backward in time. Women's rights are being threatened and stripped away."

Countless protests take place every year to speak out against the countless bills being put into place that continue to take away the rights we are entitled to. One such bill is Arizona's S-1164, a ban that was recently passed 16-13 states that after 15 weeks of pregnancy, abortion will be considered illegal. This bill would strip away a woman's right to choose what to do with their body. In this bill, the only reason an abortion would be legal after this point is in a medical emergency. This means that a woman's life must be threatened for the government to view this as necessary. This is the bare minimum. Not only is the bill completely absurd, but it tries to guilt-trip women with phrases like, "An unborn human being begins to move about in the womb at



**Sammie Bourland, Reporter**

approximately eight weeks' gestation" (AZ 1164).

Stating what an unborn baby may be doing at a certain period is a way to guilt-trip women into not having an abortion at a certain amount of time. The bill also says, "Between five and six weeks' gestation, an unborn human being's heart begins beating" (AZ 1164). They use words like "unborn human being" to make a woman feel awful about a decision she may make. They also need to realize that most women don't even know that they are pregnant at 5 to 6 weeks. This bill is a slap in the face to women across Arizona, and similar bills are being passed in other states like Texas. These bills take away a woman's right to choose and lead to self-administered abortions, for lack of any other option. These abortions lead to the death of many women, leaving lives forever changed.



# Parents: Stay Out of Our Schools

Opinion by Griffin Eckstein, *Editor*

A Tennessee school board's decision to ban the Holocaust memoir *Maus* earlier this year has drawn widespread media attention. The graphic novel, which was written by Art Spiegelman documenting the life of his father, a Holocaust survivor, is a Pulitzer Prize winner and a part of Holocaust education curriculum across the US. But when parents in McMinn County, Tennessee descended upon the school board there, they depicted the book as overly profane.

Whether the parents' motives were to spare children from exposure to profane language in the novel or their desire to erase Holocaust education from schools remains to be seen; however, this recent attempt at censorship mirrors an alarming trend in the US: a rise in antisemitism and Holocaust erasure.

Although the Holocaust was less than 80 years ago, a September 2020 survey by the Claims Conference, found that 63% of Millennials and Gen-Z aged respondents in the US didn't know that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. This failure of the education system in America is something we should be actively working to combat. Removing Holocaust education from our curriculum perpetuates Holocaust erasure.

Even here in Chandler, I've heard an unfortunately common sentiment amongst some parents and educators to explain why they would leave classic books like Elie Wiesel's *Night* off the reading list, with one of my former teachers saying, "these kids have learned enough about the Holocaust." While I don't think they were an antisemite, these kinds of antisemitic microaggressions are all too common.

But *Maus* isn't the sole issue here. This situation is a microcosm of a greater problem plaguing educators and stifling students. Parents have increasingly burdened our schools, racing to school board meetings to protest everything from mask mandates to required reading. When parents fill school board meetings and overwhelm school administrators with increasingly extreme demands, their demands are often met, even to the detriment of students and teachers.

Some parents want the perspectives their children are exposed to limited. They want a narrow worldview, one that ignores the Holocaust, glosses over slavery and segregation, and one that won't challenge their children's biases, because the comfort of their children is the most important thing in their minds.

Lawmakers, like Governors Abbott of Texas and Ducey of Arizona, are taking an opportunity to pander to their base, these parents, by restricting the rights of educators further. Our students are suffering; we need parents to stay out of our schools.



Griffin Eckstein, *Editor*

# Wake Up, Sheeple!

**Opinion by Simone King, *Editor-in-Chief***

Can you define Critical Race Theory?

Neither can 57% of adults surveyed in a 2021 poll conducted by Reuters and Ipsos. The results of this statistic pose an important question: How can so many people be against something that the majority doesn't understand? Despite the jarring number of American adults who have misconceptions about Critical Race Theory, the confusion is understandable. The name alone elicits alarm within many Americans because it grapples with an important concept that is difficult to decipher. Simply put, Critical Race Theory (CRT) is educating students about the role that individual and institutional bias plays in our society. While CRT has three basic tenets, one has increasing relevance: the academic and political criticism of critical racism. That last basic tenet can be seen within our own state's legislature as Arizona has already taken steps to prevent this curriculum from being taught in classrooms across the state.

In July 2021, Governor Ducey took a rigid stance against CRT through the signing of House Bill 2906 and House Bill 2898. While on the surface HB2898's prohibition of teaching that a race, ethnic group, or sex is superior or that anyone should be discriminated upon based on those factors seems to be a step in the right direction, it prevents teachers from acknowledging the power imbalances that already exist within our country. In addition to this restriction, HB2906 prohibits companies from requiring training or orientation that discusses oppression experienced by minority groups as well as internal biases and prejudices, which directly impact our education systems. Despite what this legislation and the surrounding controversy imply, the same 2021 poll conducted by Reuters and Ipsos found that 78% of Americans support the teaching of the impacts of slavery in high school, while 73% support teaching about the impacts of racism. If a majority of Americans are on board with educating students about the important topics covered in the curriculum, what is it about the term 'Critical Race Theory' that disturbs parents?

The coverage of this topic in the media has played a crucial role in convincing concerned parents that



***Simone King, Editor-in-Chief***

teaching the complex relationship between race and the history of our country is intended to indoctrinate children, which only furthers confusion and misconceptions. While the statements released with the passing of this legislature in Arizona convey strong sentiments against educating students about the impacts of systemic racism, this perspective does not reflect the majority belief of adults in our country. Only 35% of Americans support laws banning the teaching of CRT, according to the poll by Reuters and Ipsos. Misconceptions about how teachings of Critical Race Theory handle important topics about race and systemic injustice are the driving force behind parents advocating against educating youth about the unavoidable topics. Inequality and oppression will not go away by simply refusing to discuss their role in our society.

The goal of Critical Race Theory is not to impose feelings of guilt and responsibility on students for their race. By raising awareness of the systemic inequalities within our country, we can properly educate students on the role race plays in our country. Parents, you may not want your children to confront the realities of our country, but we are already seeing it. Don't do your children a disservice by preventing knowledge that will help us improve conditions for all people within this country.

# Arizona Renaissance Festival Returns

**Angela Carlton, Reporter**

Lords, ladies, and everyone in between! After being cut short in 2020 and canceled in 2021 due to the COVID pandemic, the Renaissance Festival had finally returned to Arizona! The Renaissance Festival had run from February 3rd to April 4th, open exclusively on weekends and holidays. The Renaissance Festival is an event that occurs every year in places all over the USA and even in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Europe. As the name suggests, the event is focused on the European Renaissance period and the arts.

A massive part of the festival is the many artisan shops scattered throughout the grounds. The Renaissance Festival is also called an Artisan Marketplace, after all. Each shop sells various hand-made trinkets that will catch nearly any eye. In past years, I've seen poseable dragon wings, adorable bubble wand necklaces, rich incense, and so much more. There's something there for anyone. In addition to these arts and crafts kiosks, there are many food stalls with all sorts of food to munch on. The many selections include the famous giant roasted turkey legs, crepes, and pizza.

If investigating the shops and chowing down on caramel-covered apples isn't your thing, there are tons of performances of varying talents to check out as well. The shows, music, and other forms of entertainment are another



Photos courtesy of Ashley Yap

significant part of the Renaissance Festival. There is never a dull moment on the festival grounds, with performers either on stages or making their way through the crowds. For example, there is Fireflicker, a dragon that wanders the festival grounds in search of shiny objects to collect. Some of the shows set up on stages involve impressive musical performances with various instruments, including a carillon in past years. Some will even include curious performances with trained animals! One of my personal favorite shows has been "The Ancient Art of Falconry".

In future years, festival tickets will be available at specific, to-be-determined grocery stores at \$29 for adults and \$19 for children 12 years and younger. Tickets bought directly at the gates will cost attendees \$1 more. It is encouraged to bring more cash, as foods, games, and souvenirs will cost extra. Note that food and game vendors only accept cash, though ATMs will be available. The festival grounds are in Gold Canyon, seven miles east of Apache Junction on US Highway 60.





The first Ostrich Festival in two years has sent the tone for our transition from Spring into Summer. Let's take a peek into events for the upcoming season.

## The 32nd Annual Ostrich Festival

The highly anticipated return of Chandler's Ostrich Festival saw high attendance from guests across the state. In compensation for the festival's absence last year, Tumbleweed Park hosted this event across two weekends - March 11-13th and March 17-20th. Aside for the coveted Ostrich races, attractions included rides, carnival games, food vendors, and a main stage lineup including Flo Rida, The Beach Boys, and Nelly.

### Upcoming Events

#### Chandler

**4/1 to 4/2** - Chandler Jazz Festival  
**Saturdays Until 4/2** -  
 Chandler Family Bird Walk  
**Saturdays until 6/25** -  
 Downtown Farmers Market  
**Saturdays until 7/16** -  
 Greenhouse Gardens Farmers Market  
**7/4** - Tumbleweed Fireworks

to learn more go to  
[visitchandler.com](http://visitchandler.com)



#### Gilbert

**3/25 to 3/26** -  
 Global Village Festival  
**Fridays starting 4/1** -  
 Gilbert Family Nights  
**Thursdays, 4/7 to 5/5** -  
 Gilbert Regional Park Concerts  
**4/9** - Superhero Adventure Run  
**6/1** - Gilbert H2O Fest  
**7/4** - Gilbert Regional Park July 4th Celebration

to learn more go to  
[gilbertaz.gov](http://gilbertaz.gov)



#### Tempe

**Every Tuesday** -  
 Tuesdays are for Tacos at Fuzzy's Taco Shop  
**3/12 to 4/30** -  
 A Mountain Challenge  
**3/25 to 3/27** -  
 Spring Tempe Festival of the Arts  
**4/10** - Second Sunday on Mill Ave: Down to Earth

to learn more go to  
[tempetourism.com](http://tempetourism.com) and  
[downtowntempe.com](http://downtowntempe.com)





# We Have No Meats

By Simone King, Madeline Moran, and Griffin Eckstein

## The Methods of Making Meat

### Traditional Beef Farming

Traditional cattle farming methods use massive amounts of land and releases 14% of all carbon emissions. Each cow produces 220 thousand pounds of methane per year, making them the single largest emitter of greenhouse gases. Additionally, the beef industry has contributed to the extreme deforestation of the Amazon.

Source: UC Davis Climate

### Lab-Grown Meat

Lab-grown meat promises to cut greenhouse gas emissions from cows by 96% and water usage by livestock by 82 and 96%. Lab-grown meat makes use of stem cells from animals, which some have questioned the ethics of, but some vegan groups have argued that the harms are much lower than conventional farming.

Source: University of Colorado Boulder

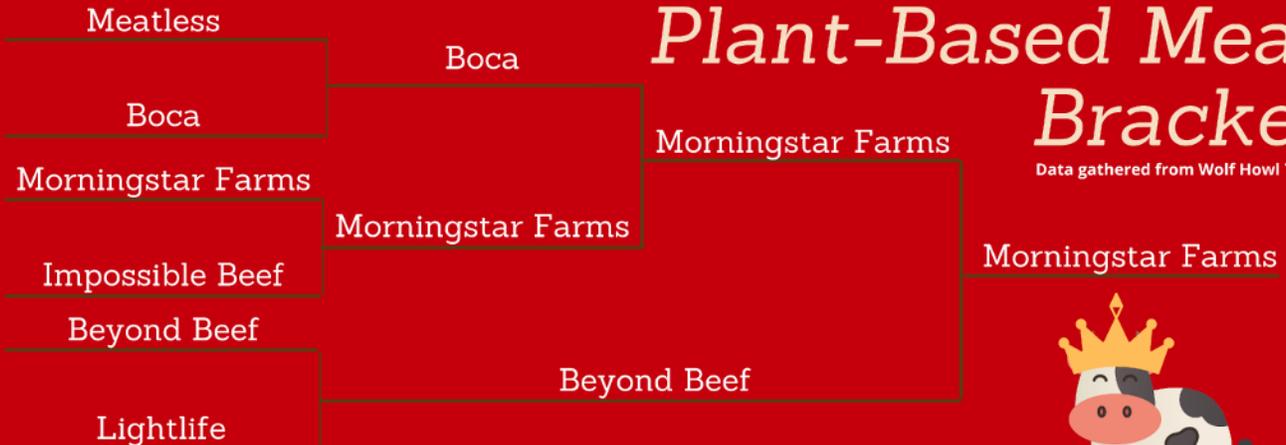
### Plant-Based Meats

Plant based meat production emits 30-90% less greenhouse gasses than conventional farming, and eliminates the use of antibiotics in agriculture. Unlike lab-grown meat, plant based meat is often more accessible in remote and less weathy areas, helping bring sustainability outside the most developed nations.

Source: Good Foods Institute

## Plant-Based Meat Bracket

Data gathered from Wolf Howl Team



# Disney's Encanto is a Hit

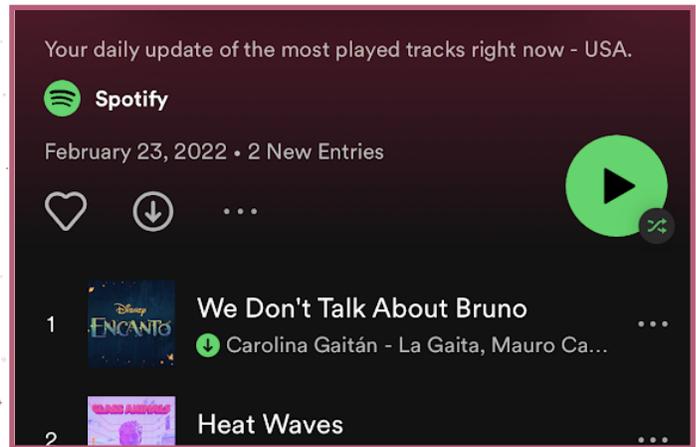
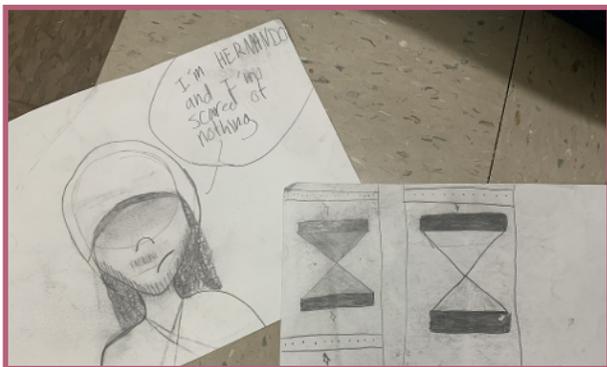
Annie Payne, Reporter

"I See the Light", "Let it Go", "Beauty and the Beast". These are only some of Disney's iconic songs, and Disney has struck gold once again. Disney's newest movie, *Encanto*, was released on November 24, 2021, and has joined these popular films whose soundtracks are even more ubiquitous than the film itself.

*Encanto* is set in Colombia, where we focus on the family Madrigal and their magical powers. The main character, Mirabel, is the only one in her family that doesn't have a special gift and that is where the movie plot kicks in. Throughout the movie, there are many popular songs in their soundtrack that have blown up. Two of the songs that are hitting charts are called "Surface Pressure" sung by Jessica Darrow and "We Don't Talk About Bruno" sung by the entire *Encanto* cast. The song that is dominating the charts right now is "We Don't Talk About Bruno", reaching No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100, which CBC News says is "the best performance from a Disney animated film in more than 26 years, outpacing even 2013's viral earworm "Let It Go." In fact, 6 of the songs from the soundtrack are on the billboards dominating the charts.

Many children and even adults enjoy watching *Encanto* and some have even watched

Drawings by Aaliyah Parra, Age 9



Screenshot of Spotify US Top 100 on Feb. 23, 2022, by Annie Payne

the movie three or even four times already. Aaliyah Parra, a student at CTA Liberty Elementary, explains her love of the movie and what she enjoys so much about it. Aaliyah states, "All of the scenes are my favorite in the movie, especially where they sing and where Bruno jumps out the wall." She goes on to say that she watched the movie "at least 10 times" this past month and will continue to keep up that record for more months to come.

Songs from the *Encanto* soundtrack have been also blowing up on social media like TikTok, Instagram Reels, and Snapchat. According to CBC News, the song is so popular on TikTok because "the aural complexity of the music itself. Most of the songs feature many voices, and multiple competing melodies — a perfect formula for engagement on a platform that allows creators to 'duet,' and add on, to other users' videos." This is the reason why many adults and teenagers like the song because it is new and something people haven't heard before. Since the movie is set in Colombia, the song has a Latin Pop vibe to it. In *The Atlantic*, Spencer Kornhaber writes, "Although the song moves through a number of musical styles over its runtime, Miranda and co-producer Mike Elizondo foregrounded Cuban piano sounds and a cha-cha feel—accentuated by that "No, no, no" refrain. Such sonic elements have long coursed through the American musical landscape, but in recent years, their presence has become more overt and widely celebrated on the Hot 100." It gives people a window into what the Latin heritage for music is like and explores new music every day.

As Disney releases songs and movies year after year, the songs will feature so many new artists and musicians to come. I, myself, am excited for another movie to binge watch and sing along to the other kids as well. Let's hope that new opportunities to explore different cultures through music will lead to more Disney hits for many years to come.

# LEGALLY BLONDE

**Kate Rogers, Reporter**

Recently, on the third, fourth, and fifth of March, Chandler High Theater made a triumphant return to the stage with their production of *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. After two years of canceled productions and streamed shows without an audience, the cast and crew went all out for this show. *Legally Blonde* is the story of Elle Woods (played by junior Katie Stone), a stereotypical “dumb blonde” who follows her ex-boyfriend Warner to Harvard Law School after he breaks up with her for someone more “Serious”. Elle learns that she’s far more than her hair color and overcomes adversity to win a huge court case and graduate as valedictorian of her law school, all while proving that she doesn’t need to be “Serious” to reach her goals. Stone said, “Playing Elle was a literal dream come true for me. This cast was nothing but supportive the entire time and I am so beyond grateful to have had such an amazing experience performing my dream role.”

The cast and crew put their heart and soul into making this show outstanding, and it definitely worked. I saw the show on closing night, Saturday, March 5. I’m not sure what I was expecting from the show, but I certainly wasn’t expecting the incredible quality of the

singing, acting, and production. I was met with Broadway level voices and actors. The cast wasn’t the only part of the show that I found impressive. The behind the scenes production, although unseen, was incredible. Every costume, prop, shift, and change in lighting looked amazing. Every actor had wonderful makeup that shined through the heavy lights, and each costume was unique and different in a way that made each performer stand out, all without taking away from the leads.

Assistant stage manager, Dylan Cornwell, says, “Seeing the actors go from auditions to where they were on show night really puts into perspective the time and effort that’s put into the show. In total, we spent over 200 hours just in rehearsals preparing for the show. There’s really so much effort that’s put into our shows that makes them so quality.” It’s clear how much effort all of the cast and crew put in for this show. The thing that impressed me the most though, was how well the show came together. Halfway through rehearsals, almost the entire cast was sent home with covid, causing rehearsals to go on pause for almost three weeks. With that kind of deterrence, it’s easy to think that the show would have to be dropped, but the cast pulled through, creating, arguably, what I think is one of the best productions to come out of the Chandler High Theater Department.

## — Summer Music Festivals —

**Coachella** <sup>The Weekend</sup>  
~~Kanye West~~ · Doja Cat · Billie Eilish · Harry Styles · Megan Thee Stallion · Phoebe Bridgers  
Location: Coachella, CA Dates: April 15 - 17 and 22 - 24

**Primavera LA** · Lorde · Arctic Monkeys · Clairo · Pink Pantheress · Tierra Whack · Mitski · Area  
Location: Los Angeles, CA Dates: September 16 - 18

**Rolling Loud** · Post Malone · Tyler, the Creator · DaBaby · Miley Cyrus · Megan Thee Stallion  
Location: Chicago, IL Dates: July 28 - 31

**Gov Ball** · Kid Cudi · J Cole · Jack Harlow · Migos · Halsey · Playboi Carti · 100 Gees · Roddy Ricch · YG  
Location: New York City, NY Dates: June 10 - 12

**Bonnaroo** · 21 Savage · Roddy Ricch · MGK · Waffrows · Stevie Nicks · Ludacris · Tai Verdes · Bleachers  
Location: Manchester, TN Dates: June 16 - 19

**Roots Picnic** · Mary J. Blige · Summer Walker · Rick Ross · Freddie Gibbs · Wizkid · Chief Keef  
Location: Philadelphia, PA Dates: June 4 - 5

## Lineups TBD:

Life Is Beautiful - Las Vegas, NV - September 16 - 18

Austin City Limits - Austin, TX - October 7 - 9 & 14 - 16



# Melodies in Bloom



*Jam out to Wolf Howl's Spring Playlist 2022 as the seasons shift and the flowers begin to bloom! This one has been brought to you by Madeline Moran and Kate Rogers!*

All of our Seasonal Playlists can be found on Spotify, Apple Music, and YouTube.



Grow As We Go {Ben Platt}



Part of Me {Noah Kahan}

## Wolf Howl Staff Spring 2022

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