



# Wolf HOWL

Chandler High School  
Welcome Back Issue  
September 2022

*Japanese Friendship Garden, Phoenix, AZ, by Tyler Irwin*

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## January 6th Committee: What's Happening Now

Lexi Moreno  
Reporter

Recent testimony by Arizona Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers suggests that former President Trump was in contact with Republican state legislators in Arizona in an attempt to overturn the 2020 election results in his favor. The continuing investigation into the assault upon the capitol on January 6, 2021, has led to a debate over the subject of whether criminal charges should be filed against President Trump and other Republican leaders. The January 6th Committee, assembled in the US House of Representatives, is charged with investigating violent extremism, Homeland Security concerns, and objections to the exercise of governmental authority that occurred at the US Capitol in early 2021. The committee includes members from both sides of the aisle led by Rep. Liz Cheney (Republican—Wyoming) and Rep. Bennie Thompson (Democrat—Mississippi)

Bowers, a Republican representing the 25th legislative district, recalls receiving multiple calls from President Trump to discuss the election results in Arizona. Bowers testified that on two separate occasions, Trump claimed to have proof of the election being rigged, citing hundreds of thousands of undocumented citizens and thousands of deceased who swayed the vote. Mr. Bowers said he asked for the evidence but never received it ([NPR](#)).

Repeating his claims of fraud, Trump had other requests for Rep. Bowers. The former president requested that Bowers hold an official committee at the Capitol to present evidence and pursue action after. The hearing never took place due to insufficient evidence.

In the wake of the hearings, Republicans opposing Trump have been praised by Democrats and scrutinized by their party. One of the Republicans in opposition was Wyoming Representative Liz Cheney. After first gaining national attention for her vote for the impeachment of former President Trump, the odds of a fourth term for the congresswoman were uncertain. Ms. Cheney trailed her opponent in the polls in her race for re-election, gaining only 30 percent of her district's support, compared to her conservative and Trump-endorsed opponent Harriet Hagemen's 52 percent. On August 17th, primary election day in Wyoming, she lost her seat, winning only 28.9% of the vote (PBS.org).

The defeat of Rep. Cheney marks the end of the Cheney family dynasty in Wyoming. Cheney grew up in a political household. Her father Dick Cheney, Vice President under President George W. Bush, is the most notable politician from the consistently Republican state. Like her father, Liz

Cheney's ambition was thought to be ahead of her title; some constituents believed she was more focused on the committee than her district, saying, "She is too much Washington and not enough Wyoming," according to [James King](#), a political science professor at the University of Wyoming.

After her primary loss, the congresswoman is contemplating running for the presidency in 2024, potentially following in her father's footsteps for the White House. The morning after her primary, Cheney discussed her thoughts about running and making her decision in the months to come. (CNN) A campaign for President would not be a shock to Americans. Cheney has not ruled out running for The White House in the past, and she ran national ads during her House campaign, fueling the notion in D.C. of a possible national run. Liz Cheney's political career has become directly related to President Trump's, made obvious by her opposition of his presidency, but also by her latest leadership PAC "The Great Task" formed overnight following her loss. A political action committee (PAC) is a political committee organized for the purpose of raising and spending money to elect and defeat candidates. The Great Task is a response to the possibility of a Trump 2024 campaign with the goal to "mobilize a unified effort to oppose any Donald Trump campaign for president" according to a [POLITICO](#) exclusive from Cheney.

With Liz Cheney's defeat, the next vice chair of the committee is uncertain. The leading republican now gone leaves the title open to whoever wants it, though most are weary after all in opposition to Trump having lost their primaries. Following the construction of the committee, traditional conservatives are being replaced by Trump-endorsed candidates all across the country, but that isn't stopping the committee.

Members of the committee discussed the possibility of releasing their reported findings in December, a month before the end of the committee on January 3rd, 2023 with the start of the new congress, but with new witnesses stepping forward and new revelations, that will most likely not happen anytime soon. Some representatives want more hearings. One person likely to be pursued for testimony will be former Vice President Mike Pence who expressed considering testifying before the committee, he announced at a New Hampshire politics event.

# Celebrating 20 Years of The Japanese Friendship Garden

Tyler Irwin

Reporter

Deep within the urban jungle of downtown Phoenix lies the Japanese Friendship Garden, inhabiting three and a half acres of land including a tea garden, tea house, and a lake teeming with koi. The Friendship Garden has an official name: Ro Ho En. *Ro* is heron in Japanese, *Ho* means Phoenix bird and *En* is garden. The garden is a joint project from Phoenix's sister city Himeji, Japan.

As one of ten Sister Cities around the world, the garden is special because of its beauty and exchanges which promote international goodwill and understanding. In November of 1976, Himeji became a Sister City of Phoenix, and since 1987, landscape architects from Himeji have made over 50 trips to and from the garden to complete it. The garden grounds include a pond where you can observe all different kinds of koi. The tranquility of the park is calming and is a breath of fresh air if you haven't had a second to just stop and think.

The garden is maintained by workers to ensure that the garden can be enjoyed by all visitors and any wildlife that stumbles across it. The atmosphere of the garden is matched by its beauty. The day I attended it, the weather conditions were humid but that didn't dampen the experience I had. People that like both nature and exploring new and fresh activities in Chandler will enjoy this short but memorable activity.

The garden has interesting sights, such as the statue of the Shachi, a mythical



Photo of Shachi by Tyler Irwin

ferocious fish which energetically spouts water, sprays waves, and causes rain to fall as a charm to guard against fire and disaster. In addition, the garden has a tea house named "The Machiai" (waiting structure), which was made possible by donations commemorating the 20th anniversary of the sister cities. This November, the garden will celebrate 20 years with the founders' dinner on the 13th and a celebration on the 19th.

While November is three months away, here are some interesting events happening in between now and then: Otsukimi, (which means to gaze at the moon) happening on October 8th and 9th. The garden's website explains, "Our exhibit theme this year is Meigestu Seifu. Meigestu Seifu is a Zen phrase that means 'a clear moon and cool breeze brings to mind the serenity of moments of deep peace that clears the mind'. Meigestu Seifu brings us into this cooling and calming mood." I will be going to this event to hopefully help clear my mind and achieve a calmer mood.

# Russia Plans to Exit the ISS by 2024

Andrew Phillips  
News Editor

Following the invasion of Ukraine over six months ago, there have been talks of Russia exiting the International Space Station. This is a monumental development, as Russia has been a core member of the ISS since 1998. Diplomatic relations between the United States and Russia have been strained as of late, and this announcement has made the severing of ties between the two countries imminent.

Terry Virts, a retired American astronaut who was in charge of the ISS from 2014 to 2015, thinks that there is nothing positive about this situation. Ailsa Chang of NPR reports, “he says that without the ISS, there isn't a single good thing left in U.S.-Russia relations – and after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, he sees little reason for the countries to continue working together in space.” The breaking of these countries' bonds could very well result in a similar situation to the Cold War. If Russia exits the space station as promised, further interactions between the two countries are unlikely to occur.

The new chief of Russia's federal space agency, Roscosmos, was the one to initiate the departure from the ISS; as Brett Tingley of Space reports, “Roscosmos leadership has been threatening to pull out of the International Space Station for months, stating that Western sanctions will “destroy” Russian cooperation aboard the orbital lab.” Sanctions imposed against Russia increased tenfold following their invasion of Ukraine, and it appears that the Russian government has finally had enough with the penalties placed on them by the US. The time frame for their departure will allow the current members of the ISS to plan accordingly.

Russia's involvement in the station, while important, won't drastically affect the function of the ISS; as Tingley reports, “the space station's design means that the U.S. and Russian segments of the station are interdependent, and it's not clear to what extent the U.S. could maintain its facilities



*Photo courtesy of Flickr*

should Russia leave the partnership.” The ISS is a symbol of the interconnectedness of all of Earth, and the loss of a major member will deeply impact this aspect of the station. Russian cosmonauts make up a staggering 20.5% of the 244 people representing 19 nations who have ever visited the ISS. For comparison, Russia has sent more cosmonauts to the space station than every nation (other than the USA) combined. The withdrawal of the Russians will represent a major turning point in the ISS's future as a collaborative laboratory.

The decades-old station is planned for retirement in only a few more years. Agence France-Presse of NDTV reported that “the year 2024 is what the partners had previously agreed to, though NASA's goal is to keep the ISS in orbit until at least 2030 and then transition to smaller commercial stations.” Not everyone has quite a positive outlook on the situation, as some high ranking officials in Russia don't think that the ISS can even function without the assistance of the cosmonauts. The former chief of the space program, Dmitry Rogozin, said that “without his nation's cooperation, the ISS could plummet to Earth on US or European territory” (qtd NDTV). Russia's exit from the ISS will result in virtually no contact with America, vastly altering the political climate as a whole.

# The 2022 Gubernatorial Race Begins

Lexi Moreno  
Reporter

The Arizona Gubernatorial election between Republican Kari Lake and Democrat Katie Hobbs is one being watched nationwide. The two candidates are as contrasting as possible, modern far-right populism from Lake versus Hobbs' classic liberalism.

Republican nominee Kari Lake is a former local news anchor for Fox 10 for 22 years, with a new found eagerness for office. Lake takes on a Reagan approach to voters and the media, showcasing her strong enthusiasm and affection for supporters, but

not afraid to advocate for her ideas. The Trump-endorsed republican often attacks the group she previously worked with, calling journalists [enemy of the people](#).

Democratic nominee Katie Hobbs has experience in office as Arizona's Secretary of State and serving in the state legislature since 2010. Hobbs announced her run after being thrown into the national spotlight for helping certify the 2020 election results when former President Trump claimed election fraud. Hobbs has been endorsed by President Biden, a direct response to Lake being endorsed by Trump.

# The Rise of Gentleminions

Andrew Phillips  
News Editor

When you think of the top 100 films of all time, which come to mind? *The Godfather*? *American Psycho*? How about *Minions: Rise of Gru*, which made more than both of these films combined, making almost \$800 million less than two months after its release? Social media played a huge role in the popularity and success of the *Minions* movie by the rise of a surprising trend: Gentleminions. Thousands of teens dressed in formal wear attended screenings of *Minions* around the world. However, what started as a lighthearted trend resulted in lots of issues, as Ana Diaz of *Polygon* writes, "There was an instance where a group got so rowdy that the police were called to the theater. And some theaters in the United Kingdom have responded by banning 'unaccompanied children wearing suits' from *Rise of Gru* showings." These incidents were few and far between, however, as the vast majority of attendees simply participated for the fun of it.

Whether the trend was started out of ironic interest in the film or a genuine appreciation for the art of Minions, it certainly boosted the film's

profits. Illumination, the studio behind *Minions: Rise of Gru*, made almost 1000% profit on their film, effectively ensuring that *Despicable Me 4* isn't far behind. Jake Traylor of NBC reports, "the 'Gentle Minions' trend played a heavy hand in 'The Rise of Gru' soaring at the box office and breaking the record for largest Fourth of July opening weekend of all time." The *Despicable Me* franchise as a whole has remained in the public eye for an incredible amount of time, entertaining cinema goers of all ages.



Photo by Makena Colihan

# New Year, New Teachers

Kritika Mishra

Reporter

As Arizona's population continues to grow rapidly, there comes a greater demand for teachers all over the state, Chandler High School included. This year, CUSD has welcomed more than 300 new teachers to the district according to [ABC15 News](#). With a larger and larger incoming freshman class every year, Chandler High School's student and teacher population is even larger than before. Let's meet a few of our new faculty members at CHS!

Elizabeth Francois is one of the new additions to the English team on campus, taking on Senior and IB English classes. Although she has been in the teaching field for almost 22 years, Mrs. Francois immediately knew she wanted to work at the school from her first meeting with the department here at Chandler. "I knew that they were people I wanted to work with," she stated, including that she was very excited to interact with the varying beliefs of the students. You might be surprised to hear that even teachers get the jitters before the new school year and Mrs. Francois is no exception. "Even now, I get nervous," she says. So far, Francois has found the school year highly fulfilling and has high hopes for the future.



Photo of Ms. Black by Kritika Mishra

This July marks the beginning of Jackson Roberts's first year as a teacher at Chandler High. Mr. Roberts teaches AP/IB Government and coaches the boy's volleyball team. When asked about his decision to become a teacher, Roberts said that teachers are a "fundamental part of the community," adding that he believed being a leader in one respective community is very important. His love for teaching started at a young age, as both of his parents were educators. His mother was a primary and secondary teacher, and his father was a sports coach. After completing his college education, Mr. Roberts became a student teacher at Mountain View High School before coming to Chandler High. Mr. Roberts says his favorite part of teaching is the students: "the thing that makes the job fulfilling...is the process of being with a student and seeing the lightbulb go off."

Sophomore English teacher Andrew Van Vianen is celebrating his first year as a lead teacher at Chandler High. However, teaching was not his first career choice. Mr. Van Vianen attended the University of Arizona, majoring in Human Anatomy and Physiology. After he graduated, Van Vianen started substitute teaching at schools, where he quickly realized his attraction to the open environment fostered in English classes. "In science and math, you pretty much have two correct answers, a and b...in English, you can have a,b,c, or d," he said. Eventually, he was determined to return to college, where he acquired a degree in Education. During his leisure time, Mr. Van Vianen enjoys exercising, playing and watching sports, and hiking.

Air hostess-turned-teacher Rae Black is starting her first full year as a teacher here at Chandler High. Ms. Black was a long-term substitute at Camille Casteel High School when she first heard of a job opening at CHS from her next-door teacher. One of her primary reasons for joining the teaching profession was to provide an environment of stability for those students struggling in their

classes: “All students need a teacher,” Ms. Black stated. The diversity at Chandler was also a significant factor for Ms. Black. “There’s not a lot of black female teachers on campuses,” she said, “I like the idea of being a role model to them.” Outside of her English classroom, Ms. Black is also very involved in the local community. She coaches the girl's flag football team, is a sponsor of Chandler High's BSU, volunteers her specialties at beauty/cosmetology schools, and loves spending

time with her son at the batting cages.

These past two years have been a hurricane of stress for teachers and students alike with the ever-changing COVID-19 policies and mental health issues being at an all-time high. But, as we ring in the new school year, let us take a moment to celebrate the achievements of our newest faculty and wish them all the best this year!

## Clubs At Chandler High

Madeline Moran

*Editor-In-Chief/Features Editor*

High School is a time for students to branch out, meet new people, and find out more about who they are and what they are interested in. According to the Princeton Review, “Your participation in clubs can hone your communication skills, foster creative thinking, and teach you how to work effectively with other people..” Chandler High School has nearly 100 clubs around campus that were created to unite students with common interests or goals.

Vy Truong, a senior at Chandler, is one of the many club members around campus. Currently, she is the president of the Women’s Empowerment Club and Model UN, as well as co-president of the UNICEF Club. Truong believes clubs are important for high school students saying, “It is an amazing way to make friends and bond over common interests. It takes your mind off the stress of school and pushes you out of your comfort zone.” She chose to originally join the Women’s Empowerment Club and Model UN because of her passion for women’s rights and interest in international politics. She later became president due to her dedication to both. As for UNICEF, Vy founded the Chandler chapter to “bolster humanitarian work at CHS.”

Clubs truly are an amazing way for students to express themselves and meet others with the same



Photo by Madeline Moran

passions. Every year, Chandler High School holds a Club Fair that gives every club a chance to showcase what its purpose is and recruit more members. The 2022 club fair was held through all lunch periods on August 10th and 11th to give everyone time to look and sign up for any clubs they might be interested in. Hopefully, everyone took the opportunity to join and take a look so that clubs can continue growing and blossoming around campus.

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**“It is an amazing way to make friends and bond over common interests. It takes your mind off the stress of school and pushes you out of your comfort zone.”**

*- Vy Truong*

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# True Crime: Chopped To Pieces

Madeline Moran

Editor-In-Chief/Features Editor

In early August, José Paulino Pascual-Reyes, a 37-year-old man living in Alabama, was accused and charged with first-degree kidnapping, multiple counts of capital murder, and corpse abuse. The victims of the tragic murders were Sandra Vazquez Ceja and her son. Ceja was the 29-year-old live-in girlfriend of Reyes. They had lived together in a mobile home since February of 2022.

Ceja was smothered by her boyfriend with a pillow; her son, however, was hit and kicked to death. Both bodies were cut up into small pieces at their joints in an attempt to hide the evidence of the murders. Their chopped-up remains were found in the mobile home in which the murders occurred.

Forced to stay in that very same mobile home, was Sandra Vazquez Ceja's 12-year-old daughter, who is now safely in the custody of child welfare officials. Reyes was charged with first-degree kidnapping of the young girl. She was not physically abducted and moved, but rather held hostage in the mobile home. [AP News](#) released an article written by Jay Reeves that said, "the girl was restrained to bedposts for about a week so she could be sexually abused, according to a complaint filed in court by authorities." She was continually given alcohol in order for her to remain in a "drugged state" and was assaulted in the head before her escape.

According to Tallapoosa County Sheriff Jimmy Abbett and other court documents, Reyes is originally from Mexico but was staying in America illegally after being deported and returning without the proper documentation. Ceja and her two children also entered the United States from Mexico. They came in 2017 seeking asylum, their claims have not been decided by immigration officials yet.

The 12-year-old girl escaped by chewing her way out of the restraints that she had been kept in while Reyes was away. Abbett said in an interview that the young girl "is a hero for surviving the incident and coming forward with the information that she provided us in order to charge him." She was found at the side of the road and picked up by a driver who notified the authorities, prompting the investigation.

When she was found, her braces were severely damaged by her chewing through the ropes and she had marks on her wrists indicating her restraint.

According to Abbett in an article by [Fox 6 News](#), there were "a few other people live near the mobile home and others had lived at the residence, there's no indication anyone else knew about the killings or that the girl was being held against her will." Nobody has come forward with any new information.



CHANDLER HIGH PRESENTS

# DECA FALL FEST

LATE SEPTEMBER

FOOD & FUN GAMES

LOCATION- CHANDLER HIGH COURTYARD



CHS FALL FEST



# Dear US Government, Leave the Indigenous Community Alone.



Gabby Miller

Reporter

I come from a family of Native American and German descent. My family identifies as members of the Navajo Nation. Three words that describe my family are communal, traditional, and pride. We take pride in expressing our cultural traditions while prioritizing emotional closeness and security.

Protecting our cultural traditions is important not just for my own family but for all Native American families across the United States. Throughout the twentieth century, the US federal government enacted policies intended to erase all Indigenous tribes from America. To carry this out efficiently, the US government began targeting younger generations. Citing child abuse or neglect (with little or no evidence), many private agencies removed Native children from their homes for decades, a practice that continued unchecked until the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was passed in 1978. Most often these children were placed with white adoptive and foster families, losing their cultural identity and possibly developing years of trauma. Thankfully, since 1978, the ICWA has protected the authority of tribal governments to conduct the removal and out-of-home placement of American Indian foster children.. Under this sacred principle, these children have remained under the wings of tribal nations for over forty years.

As a sister with two younger brothers, it is comforting to know that the ICWA ensures they will never be isolated from our culture if they ever enter the foster care system. However, on February 28, 2022, the US Supreme Court made a decision that could traumatize Native foster children: they decided to hear a constitutional challenge by the State of Texas and other plaintiffs against the ICWA.

Opposition to this federal policy is not new. Since January 2019, the Protect ICWA Campaign has dedicated its work to protect not only this Federal policy but also the deep-rooted rights of my fellow brothers and sisters. Unfortunately, the State of Texas and other plaintiffs took extra measures to achieve their

goal, and the Brackeen v. Haaland case worked its way up to the Supreme Court in September 2021. As of their latest decision on ICWA, the current objective of the Supreme Court is to hear this challenge whether the ICWA is constitutional.

One plaintiff that has supported overriding this federal welfare policy is based in Phoenix: the



Photo by Gabby Miller

Goldwater Institute. According to their website, the Goldwater Institute advocates for “preeminent liberty”. They publicized their opposition to ICWA with a blog post published to their website in January 2020, titled, “Even Aside from Race, ICWA is Unconstitutional”. The writer, Timothy Sandefur, reasons, “ICWA imposes its unjust burdens on children who fit a single genetic profile” and claims the “ICWA also overrides the authority of state executive officers in ways that more obviously violate the rule against commandeering” (goldwaterinstitute.org).

Jonathan Yellowhair is a Navajo man residing in Flagstaff, AZ with his family of three. He is a substance abuse counselor at Native Americans for Community Action (NACA) works with clients referred to the organization by the Arizona state courts, including cases involving DUIs, CPS, and domestic violence. He said, “My clients are still processing things... it created all sorts of historical trauma in their families, you know, regarding their relatives being taken.” Nearly 85% of Yellowhair’s clients are Indigenous, throughout fifty-six different

tribes. He continued, “There’s always been that notion with Indigenous people: ‘We’re taking on the burden of helping them’ when we don’t need you... ICWA is the minimum for what they can do for our communities or what they really should do from all the atrocities that were done.”

The federal government must allow tribal governments to exercise their authority in ensuring the best interests of Indigenous children. This means US federal agencies should step back and let local

tribal agencies care for Native foster kids and keep them integrated within their own cultures. The US government needs to recognize that all 574 tribal nations are their own sovereign nations and that they should be allowed to endure their hardships, without interference from the federal government. More importantly, the US must end its historical cycle of cultural genocide, ensuring that my little brothers and other young Natives will not have to suffer the oppressive wrongdoings of America.

## Thrifting: Hurting or Helping the Environment?

Makena Colihan

*Social Media Manager/ Public Relations*



In recent months, trends have shifted away from fast fashion into a more environmentally conscious way of shopping—thrifting. The reasons behind the rise of thrifting are numerous. For one, today’s society is attempting to reduce their carbon footprint by purchasing secondhand goods that would otherwise go to waste. Thrifting and secondhand shopping have become symbolic of Gen Z’s aspiration to stray from the path created by previous generations, which resulted in massive clothing waste and the mistreatment of employees. In 2019, around 40 percent of Gen Z was buying second-hand clothing, compared to less than 30 percent years prior, according to a report managed by ThreadUp. Thrifting is becoming more popular as young adults looking for a way to shop for the latest trends, while also shopping sustainably. And, on the surface, thrifting is an amazing concept. But what scientists have come to realize over the years, is that trendy pieces are flooding the market, and therefore becoming more harmful to people. Madeline Moran, a senior at Chandler High, says, “People of our generation seek individuality, and thrift stores are places where you can find clothes no one ever has.” As the popularity of fast fashion stores like H&M and Forever 21 grow at record rates, these companies are producing cheap clothing using toxic dyes, making the industry some of the largest polluters of clean water globally, states Good on You fashion. Kate Rogers, a Junior at Chandler High, says, “It makes people feel better about themselves because they believe they’re not contributing to the fast fashion industry and helping the planet, even though they’re not, they’re still contributing and making the same amount of waste.” Thrifting casts a perfect illusion of planet-friendly and guilt-free shopping, but when you take into account all the issues it's causing,



Photo by Makena Colihan

this isn’t the case.

Buying second-hand items may seem better for the economy and the environment, but few people consider the effects of greenwashing. Greenwashing is when a company appears to be environmentally cautious for marketing purposes, but isn’t making any sustainability decisions (Business News Daily). People gravitate towards fast fashion because it’s trendy clothing sold for a cheap price. The pressure to speed up and reduce costs placed on sustainable clothing companies has been because of the rise of both thrifting and fast fashion. Thrift stores are barely staying above the constant demand for cheap, quality clothing. These expectations were placed because of the over-consumption of fast fashion and unethical companies' methods. There’s been a huge increase in donations to thrift stores, which in theory, is a great thing. However, according to The New York Times, the increase in donations has led to an increase in business costs, which results in a need for more employees. Clothes that get sold on the floor are priced higher to keep the store running.

The rising popularity of thrifting is being used as an alternative to buying from ethical, and sustainable companies, which is causing numerous issues. Studies show that a garment bought from online fast fashion companies like Zara or Shien is worn an average of ten times before being thrown away, or donated. People need to wake up and realize that just because they’re buying secondhand items doesn't mean they’re helping the environment.

# Growing Up With Gun Violence



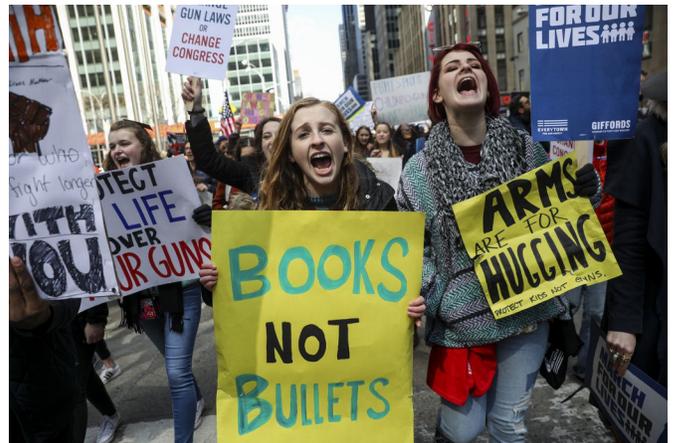
Kate Rogers  
*Opinions Editor*

Ever since I was little, I've been aware of guns. I come from a family of hunters, so guns and, more importantly, gun safety is nothing new to me. But I was also aware of how dangerous a firearm can be, especially in the hands of someone who wants to cause harm. I was taught that guns are for protection and survival and should only ever be used when needed. But self-defense and hunting firearms are drastically different from military-grade AR weapons, designed for "quick and efficient killing" (bradyunited.com). The problem is that any random civilian over 18 can purchase a semi-automatic or automatic firearm with little to no prerequisites.

Over 1 million Americans have been killed in the last decade by gun violence, and numbers are rising faster than ever. Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence says that, in Arizona, someone dies from a gun every eight hours (giffords.org). According to the Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, in 2022 alone, there have been 95 incidents of gun firing on school grounds, causing 41 deaths and 79 injuries nationally, and that's just in the first two-thirds of the year (everytownresearch.org). When it comes to how often American children are exposed to gun violence, gunfire at schools is just the beginning; Everytown reports that "every year, more than 3,500 children and teens are shot and killed, and 15,000 more are shot and injured" (everytownresearch.org). Most recently, a school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, left 19 elementary-aged students and teachers dead. Even as shooting numbers rise, it feels to me like nothing is changing.

Intruder and lockdown drills are practiced in every school in the country, training kids as young as three to be ready in the event of an active shooter. We lock doors, require gates to be closed, insist on mandatory school IDs for every student, and practice for the worst-case scenario instead of addressing the problem of guns being far too easy to get. Teachers are expected to defend their kids, even if it means using themselves as a human shield. According to Everytown, 17 states currently allow

teachers or school staff to be armed in the classroom under varying conditions as a further precaution and protective measure in the event of a shooter. Instead of getting to the root of the problem and increasing the criteria needed to get a gun, the government would rather avoid the heart of the problem, placing band-aids over literal bullet wounds.



*Photo courtesy of Drew Angerer/Getty Images*

Guns are far too easy to get in America. According to Cassidy Johncox, "Many states have added restrictions and regulations that may require additional background checks or waiting periods. But, for the most part, Americans can typically purchase a gun within hours" (clickondetroit.com). In addition, under federal law, Americans are not required to undergo a background check when purchasing a firearm from a private seller. This means that in many states, anyone over 18 can quickly obtain a gun within the day. While laws differ between states, Arizona has some of the laxest gun laws in the country. For example, Arizona does not require gun owners to have a permit, undergo a background check, or register a gun purchased from a private individual. Strengthening gun control laws on the federal level would limit the number of people who can get guns and prevent certain types of guns like AR-15 rifles and other assault weapons from being accessible to civilians.

The threat of gun violence has become a part of nearly every student's life, yet we still do nothing to stop it. Instead, we allow our youth to live in fear every day, saying that the problem isn't the weapon

but the person behind it. While there may be truth to that, it doesn't negate the blame on our government who allowed that person to get a gun anyway. School shooters, lockdowns, and gun violence are not things children should have to worry about. It is not fair for the priorities of our government to lie not in the education of its youth but in upholding

the Second Amendment, an outdated law written hundreds of years ago. I am tired of planning places to hide in every classroom, of jumping at every loud noise from the hall, and I am tired of pretending that my life and the lives of millions of other students around the country are less valuable than someone else's ability to buy a gun.

## Low-Income Students Go Hungry



Makena Colihan  
*Social Media Manager/ Public Relations*

As many families across the country prepare for the start of a new school year, changes are bound to happen—including the conclusion of free school lunches for every student at public schools. For the first time since the 2019-2020 school year, students will have to pay for their school lunches. The federal waivers granting free lunches have provided millions of kids across the country with meals both in and out of school. If this program was beneficial to every kid, it begs the question—why are free lunches ending? Having free and reduced lunches are extremely helpful to many families. Before March 2020, children in families whose incomes were at or below 130% of the federal poverty level were eligible for free school meals, while those in families whose incomes were 130% to 185% of the poverty level were eligible for reduced-price meals. (NBC News). School lunch is critical to student health and well-being, especially for low income people. This guarantees that students have the nutrition they need throughout the day to learn and be engaged in school. Research shows that having free or reduced priced lunches reduce food insecurity, obesity rates, and poor health. (FRAC). The National School Lunch program is the second largest food and assistance program that makes it possible for every child to have lunch everyday. The Food Research and Action program states that approximately 95% of schools participate in the program, serving close to 30 million kids a day.

The Universal School Meals program was passed last year to make sure that every child had a free lunch, regardless of income, during the pandemic. However, it was removed from school after Congress cut back on the pandemic budget. Though the program was set to expire in June 2022, days



Photo courtesy of Emma Hogarth

before expiring President Biden signed the Keep Kids Fed act that funded programs through September 30th, and nutritional meals program throughout June 30, 2023. (Forbes). Last year, Data For Progress found that 44% of Americans strongly support permanently extending the Universal Free Meals program. If so many people support this, it raises many questions? Why are they stopping this program, and where do they get the funding from?

The National School Lunch Program is a federally assisted program through the United States operating in public and non-profit private schools to ensure kids get lunch. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free breakfast and lunches to children each school day. Lisa Davis, the senior Vice President of the No Kid Hungry campaign at Share Our Strength, says, “Even though this bill doesn’t have everything we had hoped and dreamed, it still has a lot...The most important thing is they are providing relief to those families that are on the edge.” The end of universal school meals will have a deep impact not just on parents, but on schools, too. Eating lunch should not be based on income, students should have the ability to get lunch whenever they want.

# CHS Spotlight



HELEN ACKER

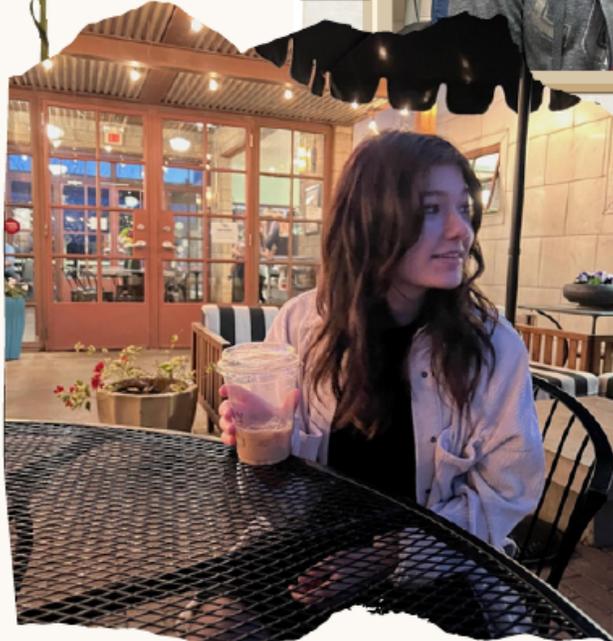
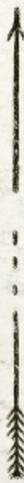


POST CARD



ADDRESS

Helen Acker loves to be involved around campus and holds multiple leadership positions in clubs! For example, she teaches students in Multimedia and Film, is a representative in NHS, and is an officer in the Women Empowerment Club!



SARAH CHARLES

Sarah is a senior at Chandler High and involved in Link Crew, the Sustainability Club, Model UN and more! She's a model AP student and has some great advice for underclassman. She tells students to enjoy high school while they're young!



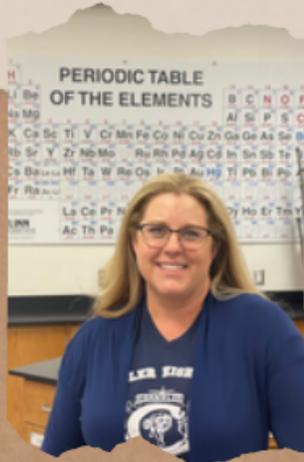
PAMELA RODRIGUEZ

Pamela Rodriguez is a junior who currently holds a weighted GPA of 4.8. She's heavily involved around campus in clubs like Link Crew and Model UN, is the Vice President of French Club, and is a member of NHS. She's also in Varsity Pom and the jazz team.

# CHS Spotlight

## MS. PANTEL

Ms. Pantel is a chemistry teacher at Chandler High and is a role model to many new teachers! She's an advisor of the National Honors Society. She loves teaching and her favorite part is making connections with students and teaching what she loves.



"It's not necessarily the chemistry that I enjoy—it's the connections with students!"



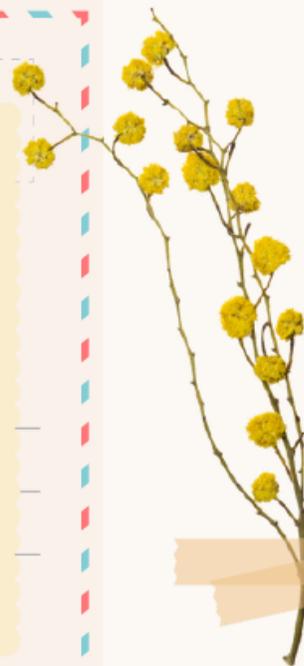
## MR. LORGAN

Mr. Lorgan has been teaching US History for years at Chandler High. His favorite historical figure is Abraham Lincoln due to his ability to maintain humor and decision making. "Students should have the ability to think and take lots of different pieces of information and sort through biases..."

POSTCARD

## MR. TRIBBY

Mr. Tribby has worked as a US History teacher at Chandler for almost 5 years. Last year, with the help of Mr. Cartagena, he added the African American Experience class to our curriculum.



Graphic by Madeline Moran



CHANDLER HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

# HOMECOMING 2022

10.01.2022 - 8-11PM

CHANDLER HIGH SCHOOL 350 N ARIZONA AVE, CHANDLER, AZ 85225

TICKETS STARTING AT \$25 STARTING SEPTEMBER 12TH, PRICE  
INCREASES DURING HOMECOMING WEEK

Things to look forward to: Homecoming parade, assembly, royalty, the homecoming  
game, and the half-time coronation.

SPECIAL THANKS TO STUDENT COUNCIL'S SOPHOMORE CLASS FOR PUTTING TOGETHER THIS YEAR'S HOMECOMING DANCE!

# The Upcoming Chandler Football Season

Tyler Irwin  
*Reporter*

Who's the one Arizona team that has been ranked eighth nationally for football? For more than a century, Chandler High students have been able to enjoy the hobby, sport, and pastime of football right here on their own campus. Recently, Varsity had their media day, hyping up the players and getting pumped for the coming season. Knowing some of the players on Varsity has me excited to go to the games and cheer them on from the stands. In the last decade, Chandler has been ranked first on the sports reporting website MaxPreps' Top 20 Most Dominant Arizona football programs. Despite our status as a nationally ranked high school football program, the Wolves have a title to recover for both the Battle for Arizona Ave and for the state championship.

The Battle for Arizona Ave is a friendly, annual competition by the Chandler Wolves and the Hamilton Huskies to raise money for the Make-a-Wish foundation. While they lost to the Huskies last year, the Wolves want their Arizona Ave road sign back and they're going to take it. As a fan of football, I'm personally excited to see the Wolves perform at all levels and witness another incredible, undefeated season from our Freshman and JV teams. Last year, both teams didn't lose a single game throughout the whole season. Freshmen impressed last year by having two games where the opposing teams didn't score a single point on the Wolves leaving big shoes for the incoming freshman team to fill. I'm excited to see how this year's freshman class will



Photo by Asia Cruz, 2021

perform, and if it's anything like last season then JV and Varsity have some new fresh members for next season.

JV also had a stellar season with a game where the opposite team didn't score. JV's assistant coach Mr. Thiel, who's been coaching for six years (four years at Chandler) is excited about this season. Coach Thiel explained that he's been playing football ever since fifth grade and once he became a teacher someone suggested that he coaches football. From his many years of playing and coaching football, it looks like the JV team is going to be on track to perform as well as they did the previous season. When questioned about how playing football has changed his life, Mr. Thiel explained, "Coming from a small town in Wyoming I always tried to get out of that small area and go see what the rest of the world is like and football has allowed me to get a college education and that job allows me to be also a coach." As the true season is starting rather quickly, the Wolves started practicing after school perfecting their strategies and plays.

Varsity this year has me excited knowing some of the players and hoping for the best for their season. The loss last year was just a minor mishap in the legacy of the Wolves. Let's have a great season, Wolves!

# Fall 2022-2023 Sports

## Badminton

Coach: Manny Cartagena



## CrossCountry

Coach: Matt Lincoln



## Football

Coach: Rick Garretson



## Golf- Boys & Girls

Coach: Jay Troutt(boys), Kyle Darr(girls)



## Swim & Dive

Coach: Shannon Moxley(swim), Diana Taylor(dive)



## Tennis- Frosh Boys & Girls

Coach: Mike Ellsworth(boys) Abe Olivas(girls)



## Volleyball-Girls

Coach: Nathan Saunders



# Blue Skies

## A Minecraft Mod Review

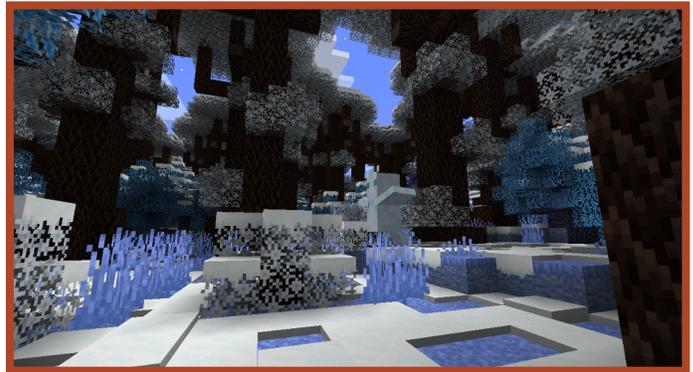
### Angela Carlton, Editor

Minecraft has a massive modding community, with mods for just about anything a player could want. Some mods can be simple and sweet, while some add insane amounts of new content to explore. One example of a more content-filled mod is [Blue Skies](#). While Blue Skies is nowhere near as popular as some other Forge mods, like Botania, it's certainly getting up there, currently having over 8 million downloads on [CurseForge](#).

Blue Skies is a mod that adds two new dimensions to the game, Everbright and Everdawn. Accessing these dimensions is nowhere near as easy as accessing The Nether in vanilla Minecraft, where the portal materials are accessible within the starting dimension. ("Vanilla" is often used by modders to describe a version of the game featuring little to no modding.) Rather, the only way for a player to access Everbright or Everdawn is to find Gatekeepers: villager-like NPCs that can trade the player a journal and a specific lighter. On the top floor of a Gatekeeper's house, there will be one of two portals, which can be activated using the lighter the player can trade the Gatekeeper to get. Once a player gets into either of those dimensions, the real fun of the mod begins.

After getting into just one of the two new dimensions, a player is presented with tons of new content to explore. I would even venture to say that

### *Screenshot of Everdawn, in Minecraft*



### *Screenshot of Everbright, in Minecraft*

the content provided in just one of these dimensions alone is more than the content found in The Nether and The End combined, the other two dimensions in vanilla Minecraft. Each dimension has unique themes, resources, biomes, mobs, and even dungeons that hold their own bosses. Once in one of the dimensions, a player can find a Mason villager, who they can trade with to receive portal blocks for the other dimension. So players are not limited to the first dimension corresponding to the portal they found in the Gatekeeper's house.

Players should note that this mod does force the player to explore and provides some additional difficulty, even when entering a dimension late into a play-through. Vanilla tools and armor aren't that effective in either of the mod's dimensions, meaning that even Netherite items (the strongest vanilla gear) will be near useless in Everbright and Everdawn. A player has to start from square one after entering a dimension. Additionally, light sources don't prevent hostile creatures from spawning in Everbright and Everdawn, unlike in the three dimensions present in vanilla Minecraft.

Overall, Blue Skies is an incredible mod for Java players craving new content, bosses, and a bit of added difficulty. What I have discussed here isn't even all of the content that Blue Skies contains. In fact, this article hardly even scratches the surface. I highly recommend checking the mod out for yourself.

# See You Next Year!

## *Pigeons & Planes Review*

*Allan Brown, Guest Writer*

With music streaming becoming more accessible to everyone, the amount of new artists posting music has skyrocketed in recent years. Despite this seeming positive, this also leads to a new, unexpected problem: too much choice. Although many blossoming artists undoubtedly are worth listening to, for every one interesting new artist there's ten who bring very little to the table. This is where Pigeons & Planes comes in. A side project of *Complex* magazine, Pigeons & Planes works to bring underground artists into the spotlight through their website and numerous social media accounts. They've been posting underground songs, albums, and artists for years, but in 2022 they announced something different: an album.

First announced in November of 2021, the collaboration album of underground artists showed a lot of potential. However, the biggest surprise was yet to come: Mike Dean, an all-time legend in the hip hop world known for his work with icons like Kanye West, would be both producing and executive producing the album. On top of the business side, the roster of artists was also filled to the brim with talent. Recognizable names included Teezo Touchdown, who gained notoriety for his features on Tyler, the Creator's most recent album, along with redveil and Ben Reilly, who both became TikTok sensations in the past year.

Despite the hype surrounding it online, an important question remained when the album dropped on August 5th: is the album good? In short, yes. Mostly. The album serves its purpose perfectly, with 14 young artists getting their time to shine. Although some of the tracks blend together, on some tracks you can tell that the artist truly was given full creative control, and no song demonstrates this as well as "Loner", featuring Terry Presume. Terry's lyrical style and unique voice are on full display,

coming together to make a song that fits perfectly into his discography. Other standout tracks include "Mean Girl" featuring Wallice, and "Gum" featuring Baird. Both of these were by artists I hadn't even heard of before, and they both motivated me to check out the rest of their catalog.

Although some tracks stand out, the whole tracklist is filled with strong entries. Mike Dean's influence is heard throughout, with his signature synth and guitar solos being sure to please any fan of his other work. However, this does cause one of the major problems with the album: because of the distinct production, many of the songs start to sound the same. This is most notable between "Float" feat. redveil and "Dimes" feat. Ben Reilly, which sound almost the same. On top of this, although the spacey synths in the beats work for some artists, they definitely don't for others. On "OZ" feat. Sash, his voice disappears almost completely into the beat. Despite these problems, none of the songs are bad by any means.

Even though the production of this album leaves some things to be desired, overall the project does its job, and makes me excited for future entries in the Pigeons & Planes catalog.

*Photo of Allan Brown by Madeline Moran*



# WHAT SHOULD YOU BE FOR HALLOWEEN?



**Angela Carlton, Editor**

With Halloween coming just around the corner, anyone interested in dressing up for the spooky night ought to decide what they want to be, soon. However, what if you want to dress up for Halloween but you have no idea what to be? Well, lucky for you, the Entertainment Editor of your school newspaper is here to give you some *inspiration!*

Some of the most common and obvious choices for Halloween costumes include werewolves, vampires, zombies, witches, westernized demons and angels, clowns, and royalty. Now while these are pretty common, anyone with a little skill in costume-making and/or makeup can easily spice up these popular options and make them a little more personal. Or if you're really daring, perhaps you can go out as a biblically accurate angel rather than a cutesy westernized angel. Maybe even announce "Be Not Afraid" at every door you stop by (or any Trick-or-treaters who just so happen to stop by your door).

Another interesting idea would be combining two popular choices to create a more unique costume, such as a zombified angel. With this idea comes the concept of creating your own characters and dressing up as them. While dressing up as your own character isn't an uncommon idea as a whole, it does provide opportunities for more creativity and in turn, allows you to be more unique when it comes to your costumes.

Or instead of creating your own character, you could always dress up as an already existing character. Superhero costumes are a very obvious choice for this kind of thing, though you're not

limited to those. There are many popular shows and games with characters you can dress up as, such as Scooby-Doo, Star Wars, Genshin Impact, various animes, and so on. Since the sequel for the beloved 1993 classic Disney film *Hocus Pocus* is coming out pretty soon, perhaps you could grab a couple friends and all go out as the Sanderson Sisters together. You don't necessarily need to be all ladies either.

Speaking of three friends dressing up as the Sanderson Sisters, trick-or-treating with friends can be fun and even hilarious if you've got a theme in mind! You could absolutely all dress up as various different characters from the same piece of media, or all dress up as the same thing. To watch an entire hoard of Minions, Crewmates, or those inflatable dinosaurs scramble across the street would be quite a hilarious and also entertaining sight to witness.

There are so many options when it comes to Halloween costumes. This article hardly even scratch the surface! But if this article didn't help you figure out what to go out as for Halloween, Google Images is a good place to find some more ideas!

*Photo courtesy of Mark Williams, Moment Magazine*



# TRAP

*Kate Rogers, Editor*

Chandler High School's Theater Program is preparing to present this year's fall play, "Trap" by Stephen Gregg. "Trap" is a play about an unimaginable event: every person in the audience of a high school play falls unconscious but one. Using interviews with witnesses, loved ones, first responders, and the investigators pursuing the case, a theater ensemble brings the story to life. As the strands weave together into an increasingly dangerous web, it becomes clear that this phenomenon might not be entirely in the past.

"Trap" will undoubtedly be a show to remember. I was able to sit in on a few rehearsals, and I cannot describe how excited I am for this show. It's filled with thrilling plot twists and rich storylines. With an incredible cast full of both veterans of the theater



*Photo by Kate Rogers*

program and talented new faces, the production can be nothing but amazing. It's nothing like anything Chandler High has done before, and I cannot wait to see it in full. Fair warning, though, "Trap" mentions suicide, murder, drowning, and general horror, so viewer discretion is advised. The show will run from Wednesday, September 14, to Friday, September 16 in the Chandler Center for the Arts. Tickets can be purchased in the CHS Bookstore. The cast, set, story, and directing are amazing, and I'm excited for the theater program to share it with everyone.

## SPLATOON 3

### The Much-Anticipated Continuation of the Original Squid Games

*Angela Carlton, Editor*

Inklings, octolings, and all other creatures of the sea! The third and possibly final installment of the beloved Splatoon series has finally arrived! And it is an absolutely massive game when compared to its predecessors. If it truly is the final game of the series, we can rest assured that the series is going out with a bang.

Splatoon 3 contains many new features that weren't present in either Splatoon 1 or 2, and already existing features also got several upgrades. For starters, the starting map is huge. It shows far more of the city the game takes place in, unlike the previous two games. Those two only showed little snippets of the same city, Inkopolis, while Splatoon 3 takes place in a completely different city, Splatville. The new starting map now features room to wander, explore, and get lost.

So the Inklings and Octolings didn't form an alliance with the Salmonids, as I had theorized in my first story about Splatoon 3. But, the Salmon Run game mode had received significant updates. Salmon Run in Splatoon 3 features a few new bosses to cause all the more suffering for a player. But it will be worth it, as participating in



*Official promotional image provided by Nintendo, featuring an Inkling wielding a Tri-Stringer*

Salmon Runs is one of the quickest, albeit sometimes strenuous, ways for a player to earn money.

But the most important thing is the PvP, the main feature of all three Splatoon games. In addition to the noted new weapon categories of the Stringers (bow-like weapons) and the Splatanas (sword-like weapons), players are provided with several brand new Specials. Some of the most chaotic Specials yet, even! The one that makes me laugh the most is the Special that briefly allows the player to 'extend their arms', grapple onto a wall, and sling themselves at that wall like Spiderman.

Now that isn't all there is to Splatoon 3, obviously. There's far more to this massive game that I can't exactly just fit it all into here. As I've said, it's a massive game with loads of content to explore. The easiest way to see all of this incredible content would be to buy the game for yourself! Splatoon 3 can be found in any store with a gaming aisle, like Target, but it can also be downloaded from the Nintendo Eshop.

# Tic-Tac-Toe

Grab a friend, teacher, or anyone for that matter, and challenge them!



Keep an eye out for a crossword puzzle on [chandlerwolffhowl.com](http://chandlerwolffhowl.com), during early October!

## The Rising Popularity of BOBA CUTEA



Jocelyn Branca, Reporter

Throughout the past two years, boba has been rising to become a trending drink. Many boba shops have been becoming a popular trend, such as Boba Cutea. Boba Cutea is a boba shop in Gilbert. Their menu has a wide variety of different teas and smoothies. Unlike other boba shops in the US, which are more corporate-run, this boba shop is family owned.

The atmosphere is very calm and has an aesthetic that 'brings a welcoming feeling when you walk in!' says Lexi Renteria, a student at Chandler. The workers at Boba Cutea are efficient with their work. They are diligent when taking orders from their customers and get each order out in a prompt manner. When you first arrive, the workers greet you with a smile and welcome you into the shop!

The drinks on the menu have something different made within them, making each tea have a specialty. They have milk teas, brown sugar, bubble milk, fruit teas, and ice cream/creme drinks. The prices are very reasonable and affordable. Every tea is made with or without the tapioca balls for each

customer's liking. The amount of sugar can range from no sugar to extra. They offer non-dairy milk options as well! The different teas they serve are all very delicious. The most popular tea they make is the brown sugar milk bubble. They also offer a selection of mochi ice creams and cheesecake! Each mochi is a delicious flavor of ice cream topped with tapioca pearls!

I tried the mango-coconut milk tea. I think it could have more of a mango taste rather than just having the little pieces of mango in it. I have also tried the brown sugar milk tea. It barely had a brown sugar taste at all. It was milkier than any other flavor but still a refreshing drink.

To top it off, the booming popularity of their shop has received fantastic feedback. Some feedback is "Delicious and inventive drinks, super cute interior, great staff, and service!" and "The place is decorated very nicely and has a few tables for a small group." Their success has made it so they can expand their business to other parts of Arizona. So, support this local boba shop, and enjoy the drinks!



Photo by Jocelyn Branca

**Address:** 694 S Cooper Rd #A1, Gilbert, AZ 85233 and 3400 W Chandler Blvd Suite 3, Chandler, AZ

**Open 12-8 every day.**

**Instagram:** @boba.cutea.az

# Fall Into The Vibes

A playlist brought to you by Makena and Lexi



**I See Fire**  
Ed Sheeran

Check us out on Apple  
Music and Spotify!



**Mary on a Cross** - Ghost



**Amsterdam** - Imagine



**Dragons**

**Shiver** - Coldplay



**Clementine** - grentperez



**Kyoto** - Phoebe Bridgers



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