

# THE MOUNTAINEER

FEBRUARY 2019

MONTCLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

XCI ISSUE III

## Longest government shutdown in history

BY LENA FINE, 12 AND GARY ROBINSON, 12

The government shutdown on December 22, 2018, when President Trump and Congress became gridlocked over negotiations to fund and build the border wall between the US and Mexico. As Congressional Democrats and President Trump failed to work out a just deal to end the shutdown, more than 800,000 federal workers were at odds. Among the countless setbacks that the shutdown brought, many workers live paycheck to paycheck, making the longest shutdown in US history a more dire situation than Trump and Congress were able to recognize.

As the days stretched on, the nation felt the blow of government agency inaction. The Food and Drug Administration halted their routine inspections, Native American disaster relief and law enforcement programs came to a stop, and the Environmental Protection Agency had to let go nearly ninety-five percent of their employees on grounds of funding running thin, according to The New York Times. Additionally, the Smithsonian and National Zoo temporarily closed their doors to the public.

Among the numerous dangers that federal workers faced due to the shutdown, the threat of eviction was deafening. For workers who live off of their usually stable income paycheck to paycheck, they were not able to pay their rent on time for over thirty days. By the fourteenth day of the shutdown, nearly 1,500 letters were sent to landlords on behalf of the Department of Housing and Urban Development pleading not to evict federal workers. Many workers opted to call in sick rather than working without pay, hence the closure of numerous airport terminals. In addition to workers missing nearly two paychecks, federal agencies began running out of funding, like the Census Bureau and some national parks. On January 11, Congress passed a bill reimbursing federal exempt employees for their lost wages once the shutdown formally ends, however, contract workers will not be reimbursed.



Toni's Kitchen hosts a social for furloughed workers Photo courtesy of northjersey.com

Within Montclair, measures have been taken to provide aid to those displaced within the community. Tony's Kitchen hosted a social for all local federal workers, at which they were asked not to disclose comments to the media. Montclair

Bread Co. also spent hours baking extra goods to deliver to the Newark Airport to help feed federal workers free of charge. Java Love Coffee Co. offered free cups of coffee to federal workers, of which there are nearly 5,000 in



Businesses and furloughed workers meet at Montclair Bread Co. Photo courtesy of Northjersey.com

New Jersey, and The Tea Store offered free tea and scones. According to Patch.com, Montclair State University offered a day of free professional programming to those affected by the shutdown, with courses and lectures that emphasized and taught leadership and professional skills while federal workers are out of work.

President Trump called a three-week pause to the shutdown on January 25, when he agreed to a stop-gap spending bill. While this was a small step in a more productive and efficient direction, a permanent end to the shutdown relies on a compromise between Trump and the Democrats. On the topic, Trump says it is highly unlikely that he will compromise with fixing DACA, something that he already told the Democrats he would work to fix. Regardless of negotiations between President Trump and the Democrats surrounding the border wall, the damage of the shutdown has been vast and sustainable, a Congressional Budget Office report that it cost the US economy eleven billion dollars. The Council of Economic Advisors also estimated that the shutdown reduced economic growth by 0.13 percentage points for every week the government was closed.

The effects of the shutdown span past fiscal as environmental and personal problems arise. For example, the Joshua Tree National Park in California, normally a government regulated park, faced serious vandalism as people cut down trees and left incredible messes without security. The damage done by the shutdown are vast and devastating, with effects that will continue relevancy for years to come.

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## Graduation not in the Amphitheater: tradition or unconventional?

BY ELLA MILLER 12

Every year Montclair High School commemorates their seniors at their highly anticipated graduation ceremony in Montclair High's very own Amphitheater. This year, with the school undergoing construction starting in May, it has been rumored that this tradition will not continue for Montclair High School's Class of 2019. In an email home, Superintendent Kendra Johnson declared, "We will find an alternative location for graduation because the Montclair High School auditorium will not be available for use." This sent the school into a whirlwind of conversation. The Amphitheater ceremony has been an admired tradition for students and parents of all kind, as it's an intimate setting in a scenic environment. It was always very different from other types of graduations in gyms or large fields and that uniqueness is what Montclair residents loved about it.

The current speculation about the new location ranges anywhere from Woodman Field to Montclair State. "Both of those locations are so far from the high school. Everyone always walks out of the school's front doors after graduating and gets greeted by floods of people, goes to hug their family and friends, take pictures by the sign, and load onto the buses there. It only makes sense for Project

Graduation buses to depart from the high school, it feels sentimental and right." says Montclair High School senior Gen Van Lent. "At Woodman Field, I feel like I'd be so far away from my friends and family and it'd be hard to hear and see."

Some also say the deep meaning of the students crossing over the Amphitheater bridges is what will be missed, parents and faculty members saw it as students crossing over to the next chapter and stage of their lives. People are beginning to argue that the same meaning and values aren't embedded into Woodman Field. Head of the Project Graduation committee, Glynnis Harvey, watched her oldest daughter cross the bridge in 2016 and says she would love to watch her current senior cross the bridge as well. "It feels like a rite of passage in Montclair," she claims. However, she also says she understands the need for a new venue due to the circumstances of the school. Her first priority is always the safety and security of the students.

Some even say new traditions may start at Woodman Field, it would allow families to get many more tickets to share with others, as the size of the Amphitheater usually limits families to four tickets each. It's a possibility that

Woodman would allow more Montclair High supporters to be in attendance and to help create more special memories and moments between the graduates and their extended family. Wherever graduation takes place, most will understand the reasoning for the move although most would value the ceremony being held in the heart of Montclair High School-its Amphitheater.



MHS Graduation

Photo Courtesy of Google Images

## Female athletes facing short shrift

BY EMMA GRAHAM 12

For decades, professional female athletes have struggled to thrive in a society that continuously fails to hold them in the same regard as men. They are denied equal recognition and pay on account of their gender. The wage gap is one of the glaring atrocities women face that demands amendment. In 2015, the USA Women's Soccer Team won the World Cup for the third time in a row, earning a total of \$2 million for their victory. This impressive quantity pales in comparison to the amount that the USA Men's Team won for losing in the sixteenth round of the World Cup the year prior — \$9 million.

Cup and that of any soccer game in history. According to the *New York Times*, "The United States' 5-2 victory over Japan in the Women's World Cup final was



WNBA player Skylar Diggins Photo Courtesy of Time.com

The gap increased drastically when Germany claimed an astounding \$35 million after winning the Men's World Cup. More insult was added to the injury when the viewership of the Women's Soccer Team trumped that of the Men's World

received. Even if the women's tournament hadn't drastically outranked the men's in regard to viewership, they would still be deserving of equal pay. Women devote the same amount of time and effort into a sport as men do. Kevin Netto, an associate professor of physiotherapy and exercise science at Curtin University, shares his insights on the topic by saying, "Still, as a scientist, I deal with biomechanical and physiological facts. And these say female athletes work hard if not harder than their male counterparts to achieve an absolute target." Female sports games seen by 25.4 million viewers — a record for any soccer game, men's or women's, shown on English language television." Despite being the most watched game in the history of soccer, it only granted a pay that was 1/17th of what male athletes

received. Even if the women's tournament hadn't drastically outranked the men's in regard to viewership, they would still be deserving of equal pay.

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## Video games not toxic

BY MAX PENNELL 12

Video games have become a staple in the American family household, for better or for worse. A study by the Pew Research Center found that 72 percent of American teenagers play video games regularly. At the high school age video games being played on a somewhat regular basis is more positive than negative. Like everything, it should be done in moderation. Furthermore, when playing can tighten bonds between friends out of school, provide a fun alternative to stressful school work, and more.

When in high school, we as students know how stressful it can be, between the school day and then homework, the majority of your waking hours are concentrated on academics. Video games can be an escape from the stress and headache associated with school. Senior Michael Starpoli reiterated this notion, "Video games let me do things I wouldn't normally be able to do in real life and get my mind

off school." Every person enjoys different types of video games: sports, fantasy, survival, adventure, and role playing. Like many fellow American high schoolers, senior Mckinley Wicks-Bowles enjoys shooting games. For him these games allow him to get rid of stress, "Allowing me to kill virtual people alleviates a lot of stress." On weekdays when students can't get together one of the best ways to keep in touch out of school is through video games. Starpoli said, "It is a way to hangout on school days with friends without having to leave the house."

Video games are apart of the American high school student's life and there's little changing that. Rather than focusing on the possible negatives of this, we as a society should look into how this can benefit high schoolers. As mentioned before, video games can be detrimental when constantly played, but in moderation the positives definitely outweigh the negatives.



**The Mountaineer**  
For students, by students  
Mountaineer Staff



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**American Scholastic Press Newspaper Contest**

2018 2nd Place

2017 1st Place; Most Outstanding Newspaper

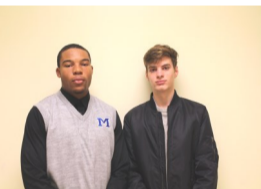
2016 1st Place

2015 1st place with Special Merit

2014 1st Place

2013 1st Place

2012 1st Place



# EDITORS

## Letter from the editor

**A**s winter is dumped upon us with all its cold and bitter glory, it's easy to fall into a slump. With the exception of snow, winter is an incredibly dreary and gray time and it feels like it's freezing the life out of you. The countless days spent rising before the sun in the bone-numbing cold beckons the question, "how can I feel better?"

The answer is simple: treat yourself. While you still may be feeling high and mighty with your New Year's resolutions, practice self care without depriving yourself of what you really want. Want a cookie but swore off sugar in the new year? You can still have that cookie, just maybe have a small one or limit yourself to one. Really want to stay in bed this weekend but feel obligated to socialize? Bring the party to you. On weekends where you're especially exhausted, opt for more chill social settings and go to bed early. There are more Friday nights than you think.

Treating yourself is so much more than eating that last peice of cake or sleeping an extra hour, it's about mental health as well. If you find yourself bottling things up more than you release, find someone to confide in and be communicative about your problems. Physical well-being is important, but you can only be unstoppable when your mind is in the right place. With that said, opening up and being vulnerable can be a really scary thing. There are a lot of confidential and private resources at MHS and in the Montclair community, so practice pushing yourself to open up, even if it's only a little bit at a time.



The winter doesn't need to revolve around bitterness. It can instead be an opportunity to recharge and rebalance yourself and your relationships with others. Take accountability for yourself and your friends, simply checking in on people goes a long way. *The Mountaineer* staff wishes you well in the art of treating yourself!

With love,  
*The Mountaineer Staff*

## ♥ Musings on Valentine's Day ♥



Claire Whipple Photo by Lena Fine

Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday. This year, I'm celebrating by making sure everyone knows THEY ARE LOVED!  
- Charles Becker, 12

Valentine's Day? Please. It's just another day. Chocolate doesn't taste better just because its heart-shaped or "made with love." I'm over it.  
- Claire Whipple, 12



Charles Becker Photo courtesy of Facebook

### Mission Statement

Montclair High School's newspaper, *The Mountaineer*, is designed to provide students, staff and the greater Montclair community with news and opinions concerning issues in and around Montclair and MHS that students, teachers, and parents will find interesting and care about.



## OPINIONS

## To impeach or not to impeach...

BY GARY ROBINSON JR., 12



Trump's meeting with the dictator of North Korea

Photo courtesy of Google Images

It is time to run the table on a “president” that depends on lying, race-baiting and suppressing the vote to stay in office. As President Trump continues to violate the Constitution and go against the will of the people, the new Democratic majority must initiate impeachment hearings against him as soon as possible.

He has a history of obstructing justice. He has fired multiple personnel who meant to uphold Robert S. Mueller’s Congressionally-mandated investigation into his possible crimes, like FBI Director James Comey and Attorney General Jeff Sessions. These firings are openly meant to obstruct Mueller’s investigation into possible crimes Trump committed against American democracy during his election campaign.

President Trump has directly and indirectly advocated for violence against his opposition. His cult-like followers have committed many wrongdoings in his almost fascist interests. When Trump gave cover to the neo-Nazis and Alt-Right who rioted in Charlottesville and murdered a protestor, he violated his responsibility to protect the citizens from domestic terrorism. In 2017 alone, right-wing domestic terrorist attacks made up almost 2/3 of all attacks, a huge leap from pre-Trump years.

Trump is under investigation for possibly conspiring with others to commit crimes against the United States, and attempting to conceal those treasonous acts. The relationship between the Trump team and the Russian government raises questions of whether the campaign was aided by a hostile foreign power to harm the United States. This level of treason is far greater than anything before seen in the United States. Trump tried to cover up his campaign contacts with multiple Russian nationals, repeatedly insisting there is “no collusion!” and discrediting the US intelligence agencies who say that the 2016 was compromised by Russia, telling such agencies as the CIA and the NSA that “perhaps Intelligence should go back to school!” All of these very concerning facts about Trump show that it is in the best interest of our nation to remove him from office.

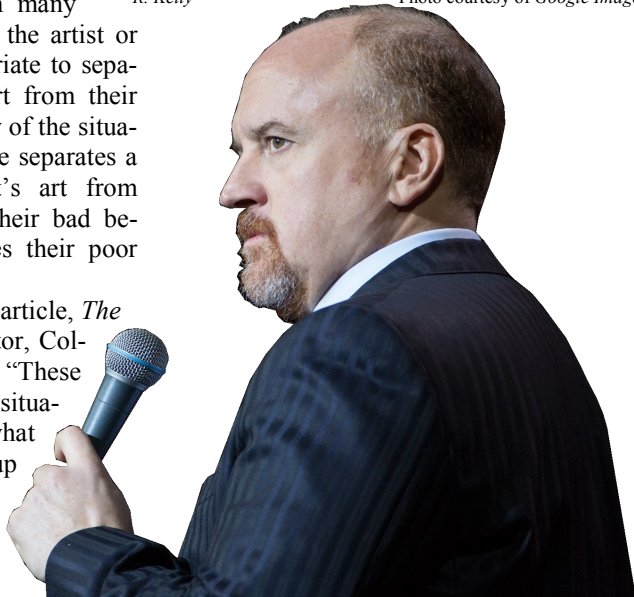
## Separating art from artist Are we ready for gene editing?

BY AMAYA GLOVER, 11

In recent times, there has been talk of whether or not it would be morally just to support certain scandalous celebrities. For example, artists like Kevin Spacey, R. Kelly, and Louis C.K are just some of the people who have been facing the repercussions of the illegal or immoral things they have done.

The first reaction many have is to side with the artist or say that it is appropriate to separate that person’s art from their misdeeds. The reality of the situation is, that when one separates a controversial artist’s art from them, one excuses their bad behavior, and condones their poor morals.

In a *New York Times* article, *The Birth of a Nation* actor, Colman Domingo, said, “These are very sensitive situations that reflect what has been building up in our industry for years.”



Louis C.K.

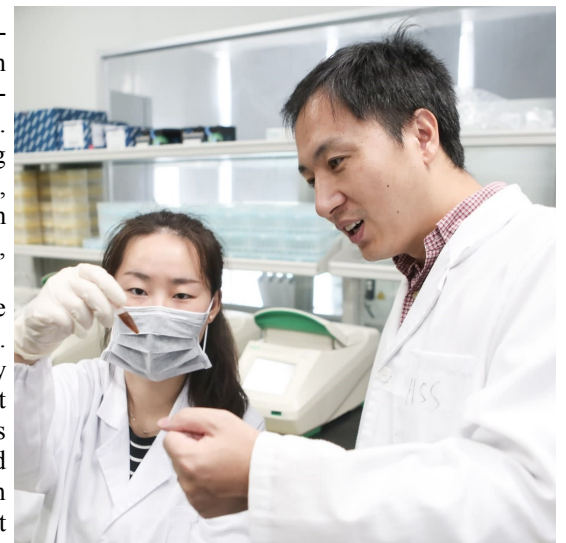
Photo courtesy of Google Images

BY JOE HELD, 11

Human gene editing is a brand-new field of medicine in which scientists modify the very genetic code that makes us human. “While just in its infancy, gene editing could in the future be used to cure cancer, hereditary diseases, blindness, and even make people immune to viruses like HIV”, says the pharmaceutical company Bayer.

All this sounds wonderful, but there could be some terrible side effects. Botched genetic editing could accidentally activate cancer cells or make the patient unable to have kids. Aside from this, there’s the moral question: should we? Most world religions see gene editing as meddling in god’s domain and don’t approve of it, but this question is also on the mind of gene scientists and ethicists everywhere, because like all technology, gene editing can be used for both good and evil. For example, irresponsible people or groups could use it to create “super-soldiers” or forcefully modify certain genes to torture people with all sorts of conditions.

Even in responsible hands, genetic editing could create serious social issues, like discrimination between those who’ve been edited and those who haven’t. The treatment would be expensive, making it unavailable to those who can’t afford it. Bio-ethicist Françoise Baylis even warns of human-rights abuses and the return of eugenics, a social model and driving force behind the Holocaust where those with “less desirable” traits are sterilized or killed so that only “good” genes are passed to the next generation. All of these reasons make many, including world leaders, reluctant to embrace genetic editing. Most scientists agree, though, that genetic editing could help us all, if we proceed with caution.



Dr. He Jiankui

Photo courtesy of Google Images



# MHS's Black Student Union has big plans

BY NICOLE STEIN, 12

Montclair High School's Black Student Union (BSU) was formed by Deforest "Buster" Soaries and Kathleen Smallwood following Martin Luther King Junior's assassination in 1968, only years after the integration of schools. The club was not running for a few years but was reinstated by Naima Troutt, MHS junior and BSU president in 2018.

"Getting the organization started again was relatively easy. You could tell black students were pining for a safe space and a group they could rely on, and that is what we're striving to provide. At first, it was hard getting a large number of students, but once word got around about our organization, members became much more active," Troutt shares.

"If black students in Montclair High School do not represent themselves, then no one else will. We need to put ourselves out there as strong young role models" says the executive board of the club, made up of representatives from all four grades. "Intra segregation and the achievement gap are two of the most prominent issues in Montclair and are quite

clearly linked together.

While MHS is comprised of students with many different races and backgrounds, high-level classes are often disproportionately white and lower level classes disproportionately black. The BSU is here to try and change this or at least bring more awareness to the issue."

The BSU meets every Monday in room 105, right after school. As far as joining, the executive board says the club is great for "anyone with an interest in contributing to the betterment of the black experience at MHS."



MHS Black Student Union

Photo Courtesy of Google Images

BSU Logo Photo Courtesy of Google Images

# MHS Dance Co prepares for upcoming show

BY EMMA GRAHAM, 11

The highly anticipated Montclair High School Dance Company show is set to premiere March 8, 9, and 10. Being the company's sole performance of the year, the dancers have been working their hardest to perfect it. The show offers an array of pieces, among them the crowd favorite of the senior dance. Junior Elisa Flagel, who has been a member of Dance Co since her freshman year, speaks highly of this section. She says, "It is an optional piece, and is my favorite piece because not only does it excite the audience the most, but it is also the most fun piece to be a part of. The senior dance is a great way to build community, make connec-

tions, and simply get to know the fellow company members."

The close knit relationships mentioned by Flagel are one of the most valuable features of the program. She expands by saying, "The best part about Dance Company is the sense of community that being a part of it can bring. I know I always have people to whom I can talk and entrust with my troubles. Everyone is supportive, and it is not a competitive environment in the slightest, which allows for stress free rehearsals and allows us to work together as a team to create a beautiful show." The friendly environment can be credited to the company director, Kamille King. Flagel describes her as, "Very organized and cool-headed, and the most important thing to her is her relationship with the Dance Company." This coordinated leadership is crucial in order to carry out such a large show.

The preservation of the community has recently been jeopardized by the Board of Education's decision to discredit dance as a Physical Education credit. The Board wants to eliminate Dance Co from the classes that can earn a PE credit for a student. Members of the program are concerned because many would be unable to fit dance into their schedules due to lack of space. Students must earn a PE credit so they would have to prioritize gym over dance. The installment of this rule would lead to the decrease of participants in Dance Company, therefore dismantling the dance program. The final decision is supposed to be made by late March of this year. The members of Dance Company are counting on the preservation of their revered program, with which they have become so involved. Their passion for the company will be displayed during their show this upcoming March.



MHS Dance Co Show 2018

Photo by Teah Bordick

The Polar Vortex had delivered brutal coldness to the US when it broke apart on January 19. The push of wind and frigid air led to temperatures dropping below minus 60 in some Midwestern states.

This January temperatures in Chicago dropped lower than ever. On January 31 temperatures reached as low as -21F° and wind chills of -50.

Cory Booker, once mayor of New Jersey's largest city and now one of the most high-profile, media savvy US senators, declared his candidacy for president, joining an already crowded field of Democrats looking to be President Trump's 2020 challenger.

February is Black History Month. Black History Month is used as a time to "honor the too-often neglected accomplishments" of blacks that have helped better shape America.

For the first time in 30 years, the Oscars will be without a host. Kevin Hart dropped out of the role after a controversy regarding his prior homophobic tweets.



# School survival guide: *The Mountaineer's* advice column

## How to make and save money

## EXAMS

## How to manage school work

BY LENA FINE, 12

Being in high school means feeling like you never have enough money to spend, yet so much you want to spend money on. With difficult academics and a surplus of extra curricula's, it can feel like there's no time to even consider getting a job. However, don't fret! *The Mountaineer* staff has some suggestions to help you live your best life without demolishing your wallet. If you have time for a regular part-time job, go out and get it! While seeking employment can feel really daunting, it

doesn't necessarily have to be. Before you go on the hunt, write up a quick resume. There are tons of templates and examples online to help you, and it's okay if you have no working experience. If you're already overloaded with all that high school has to offer and don't have time for a part-time job, babysitting and odd jobs are the way to go. Start by making a post with your experience and availability in Facebook groups like the Montclair/Glen Ridge Childcare Group or even Share Montclair and Secret Montclair. Just make sure to read the group's guidelines before making a post that may be taken down. When it comes to saving money once you make it, the temptations of retail and concerts or movies can feel too great. However, spending money is more difficult when it's in its physical form as opposed to on a credit card or through Venmo transaction. If your earnings come in cash, have two separate envelopes: one for spending and one for saving. You can choose how to divide your wages between spending and saving, whether it be right down the middle or a less mathematical system like any bills above ten dollars are filed with savings and any bills below are for spending. It's smart to always save more than you spend. Dealing with money can be very intimidating, but once you become educated on your finances and feel comfortable with the money you're making, there's nothing you can't do!



Money Photo courtesy of Google Images

## How to wake up on the right side of the bed

BY JOE HELD, 11


Feeling tired? You're not alone. In fact, 87 percent of your peers from across the country suffer from sleep deprivation, says the National Sleep Foundation. In Montclair High alone, that's almost 1800 students. This can be attributed to many factors, some of which cannot be helped. In most cases, though, there are ways that you can improve your sleep. Teenagers have been wired from the start to have a delayed Circadian Rhythm or sleep schedule. That means your body will want to stay up late and wake up late. Unfortunately, Montclair High starts at 8 AM, earlier if you're in a zero period, and that shows no sign of changing. So



Sleeping \my little pony Photo courtesy of Google Images


## advice from students

"Just believe in yourself, because you've been working at it all year. If you're confident you can do it, and you've put in time studying, then you can definitely do it." - Henry Roberts, 12




Henry Roberts, 12 Photo by Nicole Stein

"What really helps me is color coating my notes and going over broad information in order to connect the details. out your studying." - Ava Emilione, 12



Ava Emilione, 12 Photo by Nicole Stein

"1. Coffee 2. Focus on studying on your hardest classes, the other ones will be fine if you payed attention. 3. For AP classes, use the AP study guides you can buy." - Pippa Scroggins, 11



Pippa Scroggins, 11 Photo by Pippa Scroggins

BY NICOLE STEIN, 12

So, you just got home from a 6 1/2 hour school day, your one hour Model Congress meeting, and your five-hour shift at Mr. Dino's making it 9 PM. How on earth are you going to be able to study for your calculus quiz and write your history essay while still managing to get enough sleep to do it again tomorrow? While not everyone finds the same methods effective, here are just a few ideas that may help you out! One tip is to try and get a big chunk of your work done during the school day. Instead of using your lunch period to gossip, try getting in a 40-minute study session. You can socialize when the weekend comes, and you will have a lot more fun if your Genesis is filled with good grades. As far as studying goes, AP Biology and Anatomy and Physiology teacher Ms. Eckert says, "It needs to be an active process, not a passive process. You can't just watch videos on a topic as you fall asleep. Just because you think you understand what the video is saying does not mean you'll be able to apply the information on an exam." Montclair High School senior Catie Stanton has some advice as well: "I'm a huge culprit of waiting until the last minute to get things done, and as I near the end of my high school career I can honestly say that is not the best way to go. My suggestion is to do things as soon as you can. You'll be less stressed and probably know the material better."



Last day of school meme Photo courtesy of memegenerator.net



## ENTERTAINMENT

**Awards, Awards, Awards!****The 2019 award season has begun...****2019 Golden Globes Recap****BY CAMILLA NORDIHUS, 12**

The 2019 Golden Globe Awards were handed out on Sunday, January 6. The Golden Globe Awards recognize excellence in both film and television. There are 25 different categories at the Golden Globes. One star who got many nominees, four in total, was Lady Gaga for her new movie *A Star Is Born*. Her song *Shallow* won Best Original Song for a Motion Picture and she also took home the award of Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture. The movie *Green Book* got even more nominees, with a grand total of 5. The movie won three great awards: Best Motion Picture, Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture, and Best Screenplay.



Hosts Andy Samberg and Sandra Oh

Photo courtesy of Google Images

**SAG Awards****BY ELLA MILLER, 12**

The 25th annual Screen Actors Guild Awards took place this year on Sunday, January 27. The SAG awards are one of the most unique award shows ever, having other actors vote on the winners for each category. This is the only award show that gives us a true sense of what other actors like to watch and what character portrayals they look up to. It's always interesting seeing if these actors have the same taste as the general public. Z100 radio hosts even questioned the actors tastes after repeatedly snubbing the new movie *A Star is Born*. However, viewers and fans were overjoyed when *Black Panther* took home the biggest award of the night: Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. "That movie deserved recognition and I'm glad the actors voted for it — it has a strong message," says junior Kellum Foster-Palmer. This win made history, marking it the first superhero themed movie to snag this profound award. All in all, the SAG awards seemed to be a pretty successful night for most actors and actresses and it definitely left the fans interested.



Actors with their SAG Awards

Photo courtesy of Google Images

**All About The Grammy's****BY CAMILLA NORDIHUS, 12**

The Grammys are awards presented to artists by the Recording Academy in order to recognize achievements in the music industry. On February 10 the 61st Grammy Awards were held in Los Angeles and hosted by Alicia Keys. There are 84 awards given out at the Grammys. Record of The Year and Song of The Year went to *This is America* by Childish Gambino, which had almost 280,000,000 listeners on Spotify. Dua Lipa won Best New Artist and Best Dance Recording for her song *Electricity*. The Best Rap Song award went to *God's Plan* sung by Drake, which has over 1,200,000,000 listeners on Spotify. During the show, the audience was shocked when Michelle Obama walked onto the stage hand-in-hand with Lady Gaga, Jada Pinkett-Smith, and Jennifer Lopez. Michelle Obama spoke about how music gave them space to explore who they are. The Grammys were a night of thanking music and musicians for all they have given us.



Michelle Obama on stage Photo courtesy of Google Images

**Mountaineer Staff Oscar Predictions****BY ELLA MILLER, 12**

The 2019 Oscar awards will be taking place on Sunday, February 24 at 8:00 pm. The 91 Academy Awards will be celebrating lots of talented stars, great films, and the hard work going into creating a top movie. Here are our editor picks for who/what will win the biggest categories of the night!

**Best Motion Picture, Drama: *Roma***

"It's a movie with a message that touches you."-Lena Fine, 12

**Best Actor in a Leading Role: Bradley Cooper**

"He prepared super hard for this movie."-Caroline Nordihus, 12

**Best Actress in a Leading Role: Yalitza Aparicio**

"She made her struggle feel real."-Amaya Glover, 11



Actors with their Oscars

Photo courtesy of Google Images



# Upcoming music festivals in 2019

## Coachella

BY CELENA SANCHEZ, 11

Coachella is one of the most talked about music festivals. It takes place in California and many different artists go to perform. Coachella is only for 3 days (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) but there are two different weeks you can go. On Fridays April 12 and 19 artists like Childish Gambino, the 1975, DJ Snake, and Janelle Monae. Tame Impala, Solange, Kid Cudi, Weezer, J Balvin, Billie Eilish, and Wiz Khalifa will be performing on Saturdays April 13 and 20. Finally, on Sundays April 14 and 21 artists Ariana Grande, Zedd, Khalid, Bad Bunny, Dillon Francis, and Gucci Gang will be performing. Ticket prices range from \$429 to \$10,000. You can purchase the tickets online on the official Coachella website. There are many different packages that include hotels or camping sites near the venue. In addition to great music, Coachella is also a haven for new and exciting food. Coachella is unforgettable and you must experience it.

## bonnaroo

BY TEAH BORDICK, 11

Bonnaroo Music and Art Festival is an annual festival held in Manchester, Tennessee. The 2019 festival will take place from June 13-16. Some of the top performers for the 2019 festival are Childish Gambino, Cardi B, Post Malone, Brockhampton, and many more artists. Bonnaroo is definitely one of the most unique festivals, the purpose being camping out for the four days. The idea of camping may not seem appealing to all but the festival does consist of 700 acres of land, over 50 stands for food, free 100% filtered water located throughout the festival, showers found at most plaza locations, and several medical tents. If camping does not appeal to you, Bonnaroo recommends to stay at a hotel in Nashville where shuttle busses will be taking people to the festival. The General Admission (4-Day) ticket is currently \$329 and is continuously increasing. For more information visit <https://www.bonnaroo.com>.

## Governor's Ball

BY CHYNNA DUNNEMAN, 12

Governors Ball is the biggest music festival in New York City. This year's line up is full of amazing names for three days of music, food, and fun. It starts Friday, May 31 and ends Sunday, June 2. Some of the names performing at this three day event include Tyler the Creator, Lil Wayne, Playboi Carti, Cardi B, Ty Dolla Sign, SZA and, many more. Tickets for regular admissions can range from \$200 to \$535, while the VIP admissions can range from \$350 to \$756. This concert doesn't just have great music, but it has great food, too. They have a ton of vegan, vegetarian, and gluten free options, but no matter what you get the food is going to be great. Some specific food choices they will be offering are amazing burgers, pizza, donuts and more. This concert should bring great music to your ears and great food to your stomach. Transportation for the event does include a Ferry ride, which does cost extra. This is only a small price to pay for a great time!



Coachella

Photo courtesy of Google Images



Bonnaroo

Photo courtesy of Google Images



Governor's Ball

Photo courtesy of Google Images

# SVPA presents *Ordinary People* by Nancy Gilsenan

BY AMAYA GLOVER, 11



Hana Ackelsberg and Bobby Axelrod

Photo courtesy Gabi Ribeiro

This year's SVPA Winter Drama was Thursday, January 31, Friday, February 1, and Saturday, February 2 in the Little Theater at 7:30pm. It was the production of *Ordinary People*, by Nancy Gilsenan. The play was based on the novel by Judith Guest, and the Academy Award winning movie that was filmed in 1980. The drama follows the main character, Conrad Jarrett (played by sophomore Bobby Axelrod) after the death of his brother Buck, who died in a boating accident. Conrad, being unable to bear the pain of losing his brother, attempts suicide. This play showcases a family's story of life and loss. The next big SVPA production coming up is the spring musical in May.



Bobby Axelrod, Jacob Appiah, Abraham Deitz-Green and Charlie Bollinger Photo by Gabi Ribeiro



## Students talk about their new style

BY CELENA SANCHEZ,11

With 2019 beginning, many Montclair students are trying different things, and one of those things are new styles. Whether it's wearing different colors or wearing more accessories, everyone wants to try something new. Krystal Vargas, a junior at Montclair High School said that she was trying out a different style. She stated, "I want to add pink and green since I'm always wearing black. I thought it would be nice to try something very different from what I have."

When discussing the price range of her wardrobe, she said "I want to wear more skirts and a variety of jeans. I don't want the clothing to be too pricey, the goal is to look fly on a budget. Many people get inspired by celebrities but also sometimes go for their own look. I'm going for my own look, I'm not looking for inspiration. I just wear what I like." Krystal hopes this inspires you to try something new this year, don't be afraid to spice things up.



Krystal Vargas

Photo by Celena Sanchez

## Where to buy good quality clothing for a low price

BY MILANI DAVIS,11

Most of the stores online these days have prices that go through the roof! Getting ripped off by a store can happen, because there are plenty of places with the same thing for less. Customers want to stay loyal to their shop, but others just don't know where to find things for less. Places like *Forever 21*, *Romwe*, *Shein*, and *Love Culture* are definitely known. On *Romwe* the lowest price for a sweatshirt is \$9.69, which is very good for a sweatshirt. You also get 20% off for just visiting the website. There is a very generous 10% off student discount for us to enjoy as well. *Shein*, a cheap online store, has great deals for everyone of every

size to enjoy. It offers free shipping on orders over \$49. They have a line called "curvy line", for plus size women that want to wear nice things for less. Popular stores like *Forever 21* have plenty of offers, and plenty of sales year round. Right now on *Forever 21's* website, there's a 10% off \$50 sale if you just input the code at checkout. They have petite and plus size, and even kids clothes! If something doesn't fit, you don't have to go through the process of sending it back. You can go right to the store and make all your returns there. These are just a few of the stores that have great deals, and great products.

## New and fun trends to look out for this year

BY RAHZIER KELLY,11

As we go from cold to cool we have already seen some of the new trends in 2019. In the early months of the year some trends that were started last year have made more of an appearance. Oversized bubble coats made an appearance when artists like Rihanna, Travis Scott and Kendall Jenner wore them to many events. Another trend is chunky and platform sneakers. Recently *Fila* made a line of sneakers named Ray Tracers with various colors which are considered chunky sneakers and have made a comeback. In the spring season we could expect to see a lot of old trends being brought back to the surface. Wearing neon was a big trend even before the end of last year and it wouldn't be a surprise if it came back again.

On New Years Eve, actress Shay Mitchell captioned her Instagram post "HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Starting off 2019 in a highlighter pink dress soooooo nothing has really changed yet from 2018". Also, everyone should be ready for the 70's to come back because tie-dye is resurfacing. The only thing different about it is that this new tie-dye comes in various shades and tints instead of the simple rainbow. This year has a lot of new trends that are being introduced and a lot of old trends coming back for the hot weather!



Vans

Courtesy of Google Images



Tie-Dye Shirt

Courtesy of Google Images

## SNEAKER CALENDAR

February 21, 2019



Nike Air Max 720 "Sunrise" : \$180

March 1, 2019



Nike Air Max 97 "Dallas" : \$160

March 2, 2019



Nike Air Force 1 Mid Have A Nike Day": \$150

March 30, 2019



Nike Air Max 95 : \$140

April 19, 2019



Adidas Yeezy Boost 700 "Inertia" : \$300



SPORTS

# Swimming ready to go all the way

BY CAROLINE NORDIHUS,12

The Montclair High School swim team is firing on all cylinders right now, so far this season the boys' record is 10-1, and the girls' are undefeated. They are the first Montclair swim team in ten years to go undefeated in the regular season. Both the girls' and boys' came in 2nd at counties and are the number one public school in the county. "We have a really good team this year. We are well rounded swimmers at every event. There is no event where we're lacking, and basically no matter what event it is we can get in the pool and win." says senior Henry Roberts about this year's swim team.

"We have bonded more as a team making our chemistry stronger, this year we're planning activities outside of swimming, we're hanging out and it feels a lot like a family" says senior co-captain Lucas Pla-Silby. Senior co-captain, Kathrynna Demetillo, also says, "My favorite memory from this season would probably be going to the diner. Every Friday whenever we have a home meet afterwards the entire team goes to Six Brothers diner and we take up their entire restaurant, it's a lot of fun and a great way for the team to bond together and relax after a meet and it also makes us stronger as a team because we can trust each other more and care for each other."

"Everyone is really close, accepting and understanding. Coach K is one of the best coaches, probably the best coach I've ever had. It's awesome being part of this team" says senior co-captain Maya Crawford. Demetillo discussed the future of the season, saying "I think this season looks really good for us to go to states. Our team is looking super strong and we've accomplished so much already and I think it can only improve from here on out."



Swim Team

Photo by Teah Bordick



Swim Team Cheering on each other

Photo by Teah Bordick



Justin Ellis

Photo courtesy of Montclair Local

## Bowling Tearing Up the Lanes

BY CHYNNA DUNNEMAN,12

The boys' and girls' bowling team are killing the lanes. The boys' team record right now is 6-6, while the girls team is 8-6. Coach Kenneth Schnitzer says, "this season is going well." The players that have played the biggest role this season for the girls' team would be senior Molly Miller. While on the boys' team it would be senior Justin Brown and senior Alexander (Lex) Fall. For this season, as a coach Schnitzer wants to have his team finish their season strong and do well in the county tournament. Schnitzer says, "I am most looking forward for the county tournament." Both teams have been competitive all season, and believe they can do well in counties.



Boys Bowling Team

Photo by Camila Nordihus



Girls Bowling Team

Photo by Camila Nordihus

## Athlete spotlight: Raphael Allusson

BY MILIAN DAVIS,11

This year the Montclair High School

swim team got a new addition to their team. Raphael Allusson is a freshman swimmer with a prosthetic leg! "The swim team is really welcoming and nice," Raphael explains. His reason for joining the swim team is because he loves the water, especially swimming, and wanted to try it competitively.

Raphael says he wants to swim in college because on his disabled swim team there is a friend of his that he looks up to. "I look up to my teammate on my disabled sports team who got me into swimming. He is now in college and on Team USA and I aspire to be just like him," he says.

Raphael gave some inspiring words to people with disabilities, "I would tell them that even if you don't think you can do something or you don't think you can play a sport there's always a way, and that you shouldn't let the disability hold you back." He says that his leg has never caused him any issues, and will never let it hold him back.



Raphael Allusson

Photo courtesy of Montclair Local



## BOYS' BASKETBALL SOARING INTO PLAYOFFS

BY RAHZIER KELLY, 11

The Montclair Mounties Boys' Basketball Team lead the Liberty Conference with an 8-0 divisional record and an 12-4 record overall. The Mounties are on a mission to go straight to the playoffs and right now with the groove that they have going, there is nothing that is going to stop them. They received the seven seed in the County Tournament, meaning they will get a two round bye. Their chemistry has been key beginning with the starting five all the way down to the JV. With each game it is clear that each player is developing and growing.

Charles Murphy, the leading scorer on the team at 13.8 points per game, is not too far from earning his 1,000th career point. Murphy is a key cog to the team and will have to continue to score at a high rate if the Mounties want to go far in the playoffs. Another star player



DaShawn Davis shoots

Photo courtesy of Montclair Local

on the team is senior guard, Shawn Summers, he can both create for himself and his teammates. Summers had a 20 point performance versus Newark Tech, and also had seven assists versus Barringer, displaying his versatility.

At the beginning of the season, Coach Wallace said, "some other things about our team is that we are extremely athletic all around with the ability to cause havoc on the defensive side of the ball. We have a couple of newcomers that really enjoy putting pressure on the defense, so I'm really excited to see how we can change the momentum of games this year via our defense." One of those players is senior Dashawn Davis. He is an asset because, as well as being a defensive stalwart, he can provide a scoring spark which is evident in his 6.2 points per game.

This year's Boys' Basketball Team is one of the best we have had in recent memory, and have a legitimate threat at making runs in both the County and State Tournaments.

## WRESTLING READY FOR RUN MONTCLAIR CUP STAYS WITH MHS

BY CAROLINE NORDIHUS, 12

The Montclair High Wrestling Team is 12-6 and finished 13th in the County Tournament in late January. The team is ranked fourth in their section, so they have an opportunity to improve on their county disappointment in the State Tournament. "As a team our goal is to win lots of dual meets and then try to win our sections. Last year we were in the sections, but this year we have a shot of being in the sections again and winning matches in sections. As a team I think we are on a good track of doing that, if we keep doing what we're doing" says senior co-captain Thomas Rosenthal. Rosenthal made sure to say, "come and support the team."

The team is lead by Coach Eugene Kline, who has drastically overhauled the program in two years and vastly increased participation at the high school level. Senior co-captain, Terrell White, said, "It's been pretty good, a lot better than last season, we have a lot more kids." There are 20-25 wrestlers on the 2019 team, a positive sign for the program moving forward.

The wrestling team has high hopes of making it all the way down to Atlantic City for the state finals which is a tall task. To get there the team will have to upset tough opponents, and come together as a team. Junior Jeremy Smullyan thinks the team is already close, "my favorite thing about the team this year is the sense of real community. The team gets along, we have a lot of fun, we joke around and we work hard. It's a wonderful experience I'd say."



Dominic Diaz

Photo courtesy of Montclair Local

BY MAX PENNELL, 12

On January 28, the Mounties Ice Hockey Team won a back and forth battle with crosstown rival, MKA, 4-3. With the win the Mounties kept ahold of the Montclair Cup for the second straight year. The two teams had tied 3-3 the previous week, making the second matchup the de facto Cup game. Junior Ben Wakefield delivered the game winner late in the third period, only his second goal of the season. In addition to Wakefield, sophomore phenom Brett Janifer registered a hat trick and currently leads the team with 15 goals.

Following the thrilling Montclair Cup victory, the team must now focus on the County and State Tournaments. The County Tournament could yield a third game between MKA, and the Mounties would welcome that, "it would definitely be fun playing MKA," says Janifer. The Mounties currently hold the second seed in the public "A" rankings, meaning they could have home games all the way to a potential final

which would be at the Prudential Center.

The Mounties exceeded expectations in the regular season, and seem very capable of making deep runs in the County and State Tournaments. Lead by Janifer, the team will also rely on junior Eamon Thall (22 points), senior Will Schiffenhaus (16 points), freshman Mark Rechan (8 goals) and more to carry the load offensively. Junior goalie, Lucas Podvey, has been stellar in net all season (.925 save percentage) and will have to maintain his superb level of play if the team wants to reach the Prudential Center. Nothing will be easy for the team, but county and state playoff runs are within reach.



Schiffenhaus in action

Photo by Teah Bordick