

Northwest Middle School

MIGHTY MOHAWK MEDIA

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Volume 14

Editor: Bella Harness



LUNCH MENU

MONDAY- No School! We were out for President's Day.

TUESDAY- Meatloaf & Whole Grain Dinner Roll / Crispy Chicken Nuggets with Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Baby Carrots, Mixed Canned Fruit, and a Banana.

WEDNESDAY- Corn Dog / Walking Taco with Baked Beans, Baby Carrots, Pineapple Tidbits, and a Banana.

THURSDAY- Grilled Ham & Cheese Sandwich / Crispy Chicken Sandwich with Tater Tots, Baby Carrots, Applesauce, and a Banana.

FRIDAY- Lasagna Rollup with Sauce & Garlic Toast / Cheese Bosco Stick with Romaine Lettuce, Baby Carrots, Diced Pears, and a Banana.

WEATHER

By: Calleigh Kattine & Gracie Moore

IMPORTANT EVENTS

The Sweet Heart Dance is cancelled and is rescheduled for March 31st.

Monday, February 20th, we were out of school for President's Day.

Water will be sold in the cafeteria with mixes available for purchase as well during 7th grade and 8th grade lunches. The water will be sold until the student council runs out of water.

20	21	22	23	24	25	26
55°	56°	50°	54°	49°	47°	51°
36°	33°	31°	34°	27°	33°	31°

WORLD NEWS

BY: WESLEE SHARP & BRYSON NEWMAN

U.S.: The three objects shot down over North America following the Chinese spy balloon's own destruction have been designated as benign in their functions by President Biden. Though the objects shot down were not part of the Chinese spying program, President Biden did promise to shoot down any enemy aircraft that entered his airspace.

Ukraine: Ukrainian president stated "We have a common understanding with the Netherlands that there should not be any taboo on the supply and support of weapons to our army, to our Ukraine, because it supports and protects our sovereignty," following the Netherlands Prime Minister's visit to Kyiv on February 17, 2023.

Ohio/Michigan: Following the derailment of a Norfolk Southern Railway train on February 3, 2023, which had leaked chemicals into nearby water streams having adverse effects on local wildlife. Two weeks later, another train in Michigan derailed, but analysts say that no chemicals have spilled.

By: Ivan Ealey, Ethan Ferguson

Mohawks of the Week:

Mrs. Brown

Brayden Hunt: Helped two students resolve a conflict.

The 6th grade band: Played Happy Birthday to Mrs. Brown on their own.

Mrs. Redoutey

Brevan Staggs: Brevan stopped and picked up pencils and a Chromebook from the hallway floor while everyone else walked around or over them.

Kera Burk, Salem Lockhart, Ali Shepherd: They voluntarily hung the Black History Month banners in the 8th grade hallway.

Ms. Henry

Riley Cramer: Always goes above and beyond being helpful in class. He helps make sure all chromebooks are plugged in and flips extra chairs at the end of the day. He also gets all his work completed and turned in on time and even early

Mrs. McClay

Cameron Blahut: Helped a student pick up all his supplies that he dropped on the floor

Ava Lilly: Always on task and does what she is asked to do.

Mrs. Lawson:

Thomas Simpson: Always has a smile on his face. He tries his very best and works hard in class. No matter how tough the assignment is, he never gives up.

Zach Jenkins: Is a great friend to others. He stays focused and on task, works hard, and stays positive.

Beau Ramsey: Is kind and caring individual who stays positive even in good times. Works hard in class and never stops trying to improve



By: Gabe Suthers and Jordan Emmons

C.A.N.S

Comedy At Northwest Schools

What did one wall say to the other?

"I'll meet you at the corner."

Why couldn't the bicycle stand up by itself?

It was two tired.

Did you hear the rumor about butter?

Well, I'm not going to spread it.

What do you call a dinosaur that crashes his car?

Tyrannosaurus Wrecks.

By: Mason Bender & Gwyneth Montgomery

Works Cited:

<https://www.countryliving.com/life/entertainment/a36178514/hilariously-funny-jokes/>

Interviewing Mason Cramer

What sports do you play?

"Football."

How do you feel when you play sports?

"Motivated, excited, that's it."

Why do you continue playing sports?

"It's something that I enjoy doing and I've just wanted to do it my whole life."

MUSIC

By: Lucas Crabtree and Salem Lockhart

The All-County Honors Band rehearsals are coming up soon, as the District Honors Band video submissions have occurred. Good luck to Lucas Crabtree, Salem Lockhart, and Lena Pitts. Results will be posted in next week's paper.

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y4jPpxwROhA>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMOe4-ktVXw>
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Swl8dcmK5KI>

Morgan Wallen is the artist of the week. He was born May 13, 1993 in Sneedville, Tennessee. Wallen's preferred genre is country, bro-country, and country pop. His most famous songs are:

1. Up Down
2. More than my Hometown
3. Thought You Should Know

We are open to suggestions for who the music artist of the week should be!
Email: suthersg27@nwmohawks.org

INTERVIEWS/CLUBS

Interviewing Madison Bender

Are you going to play volleyball next year?

"Yes, I'm very excited."

What is your favorite thing to do in volleyball?

"I would have to say I like to spike the ball."

Do you like playing volleyball?

"Yes, I love it actually."

Interviews by Salem Lockhart and Kali Zukoski



Brief Sports Summary of the Week

Track is expected to start around the second week of March with a meet scheduled later in the month.

The middle school boys baseball team was announced this week and the people who made the team are listed below.

The Boys Middle School Baseball Teams:

7th grade

Landon Hodge

Landon Daily

Jacob Young

Chase Kingrey

Aiden Moore

Jason Perez

Bradley Hale

Braxton Burris

Quintin Zornes

Jayden Jones

Alex Cantrell

Carter Hobbs

Braylon Lancaster

8th Grade

Zach Hayslip

Hunter Gangewere

Landon Hartley

Landyn Deemer

Brycen Montavon

Brevan Staggs

Matthew Cogar

Wesyn Lang

Kaleb Nichols

Justin Delawder

Garrison Redoutey

Dalton Helton





Author of the Week



For this week's Author of the Week, we have an Ohio author who graduated from Northwest High School, [Kathryn Horsley](#). She graduated from Northwest in 2001 and rather than writing a paragraph about her, we'll interview her.

When did you become an author/writer and what made you decide to be?

"I have been writing for as long as I can remember. I even started a book in high school but never completed it.

*I have no real writing specific education outside of public education and general education college courses. I was not an English major and because of this, I felt that I did not have the time or talent to complete a novel but I needed an outlet for the stories in my head and began looking into other forms of story-telling. So, I began writing screenplays. These were faster to write and required less description than a novel yet still gave me the ability to create a tangible expression of the story in my mind. I would share those with my nephew and niece and even had a small fan base beginning at their school as they would share my amateur scripts with their friends. One screenplay, in particular, had a character describe a novel they were reading and I knew that I wanted that novel to be a real, physical novel. I knew I had to be the one to write it. That novel is the first book in *The Soulless Series*. My first novel was completed in 2011 and published in 2012."*

What inspired you to write your books?

"Ever since I was a little child, I have had a very active imagination. My love of creating stories allowed me to continue pretend-play games until I was a teenager. Yes, I played with Barbies until I was 13 years old. At the time, I was embarrassed that I played with dolls while my friends were talking about dating; however, looking back, I understand why I played as long as I did. It was my outlet and it allowed me to create a story to play out.

As I grew older and eventually stopped playing with toys, I found myself without an outlet for my stories. My nephew became an outlet of sorts. He loved to hear my stories. We would sit for hours; me talking and him listening intently, so enthralled as I described the way each scene would play out like a movie. He was so enthusiastic about me actually writing my stories down that I began to entertain the idea. I started writing my stories as screenplays and eventually wrote my first novel.

My nephew's ardent persistence of my writing lead me to tackle my natural tendency for procrastinating and because of this, I dedicated my first novel to him."

What would you tell the future writers that may read this?

"If you want to write, then write. Stop making excuses and start taking action. Keep your motivation for writing focused on what you are creating and how to improve your work. Do not start writing expecting to become the next J.K. Rowling. Most writers do not become rich or famous; and most books never become movies. If these are your goals, there is a high likelihood that you will be disappointed. Writing is a way to put what is in your head into the world. It's a way to release your creative musing. It can be relaxing; it can be fun. It can be exactly what you need it to be; but you should never try to force it to be anything more."

What's your writing schedule like if you have one?

"I have four daughters so my life is unscheduled chaos 24/7. However, recently, I was able to switch to working part-time so I am now able to utilize one day per week (occasionally two days when I'm lucky) while my kids are at school to work on my books, webpages, any editing I might need to do, my blog, and all of the social media pages that I maintain."

What is your writing style and preferred genre(s) to write in?

*"There are a few different ways writers approach writing. Some like to outline their plot in detail before writing anything. Others, like me, prefer to develop a loose plotline in their mind and write it down as I go. I like to write fantasy fiction. Currently, I am working on a vampire series, *The Soulless Series*. I have also written non-fiction children's books for educational publications. However, non-fiction is not my favorite to write."*

What's the best part of being an author?

"Definitely, the best part of being an author is having a tangible item in your hand that was previously only in your imagination. Creativity is an energy and like all energy, it needs a place to go. For me, writing is that outlet. Writing can be cathartic and relaxing because it allows you a way to release your creativity. Once a story is completed, my mind actually lets it go and opens that space for another story to take shape. Having a printed book is being able to hold a tangible part of yourself."

How did you have your books published?

"Nepotism. I tried for several months to find a publisher for my fiction books before a co-worker suggested that I contact a friend of hers. He was just beginning to expand his publishing company to include fiction and was looking for authors. I contacted him and he accepted my manuscript. Before meeting my publisher, I had no real understanding of how publishing worked and having him guide me through everything was extremely helpful. With this option, I retain all rights to my books and receive commission from all sales.

My non-fiction books were also due to a co-worker. Her nephew worked for a publishing company in New York and was needed authors to research and write educational non-fiction books for children. Those books were written for a flat rate. I do not own the rights to these books nor receive commission for those.

**When I was first published, self-publishing was not as wide-spread as it is now. Self-publishing can be a very good option for anyone having trouble finding a publisher. Even the most famous authors had their fair share of rejections from publishing houses; so it's important to remember that a publisher's rejection may not necessarily be a reflection of your writing."*



Author of the Week



Continuation of interview with [Kathryn Horsley](#).

Fun Facts About The Author:

Career: *"I currently work as a radiation therapist and give radiation treatments to cancer patients. I have received my massage license, radiation technology license, and radiation therapy license. I have a bachelor in health sciences."*

Family: *"Growing up, I had four sisters and now I have four amazing daughters. My husband and I met online. Our daughters range from college age to kindergarten, and could not be more different from each other. They constantly keep us on our toes but truly are an amazing group of girls. They really do make it easy to be a mom. We also have several very spoiled animals. We have corgis, chickens, cats, a turtle, a fish, and a hamster."*

Favorite Book (First Literary Love): *"Believe it or not, I was not much of a reader in high school. Although, I did like to create my own stories, I did not really sit down to read a book that wasn't assigned by a teacher until I was close to 24. I convinced myself that as an adult, I should have a basic knowledge of the classic novels, so I went to the library and began my journey through them. I pushed myself through them until I picked up Pride and Prejudice. That was the first book I ever binge read. I finished in it two days and it remains my favorite book to this day."*

Other: *"I often pretend to have a fake British accent when I am at home. I make my own themed cakes for my kids' birthdays as well as take my own family photos. I am optimistic and easy-going. I like staying active in my church, hiking, boxing (even though I mostly hurt myself), dancing, swimming, and reading. Unfortunately, I do not read often due my tendency to blend the other author's style into whatever writing project I am working on at that time. I choose to not read while working on my own books to keep my style of writing authentic to myself."*

Author's Works:

*Non-Fiction

[Investing Magic, Understanding the Paranormal](#)

[Zombies, Greatest Movie Monsters](#)

[Discovering Ancient Greece, Exploring Ancient Civilizations](#)

*Fiction

Author Profile for The Soulless Series -

https://www.amazon.com/stores/Kathryn-Horsley/author/B00A4N1E1Mref=ap_rdr&store_ref=ap_rdr&isDramIntegrated=true&shoppingPortalEnabled=true

Book 1: [Windows of the Soulless](#)

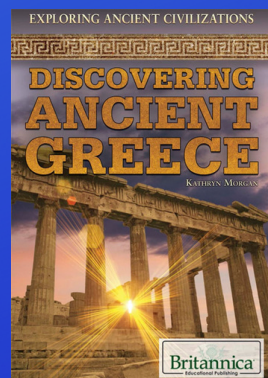
Book 2: [Without Shadows](#)

Book 3: [Silhouettes in the Moon](#)

Book 4: [Daylight Awakens \(not yet released\)](#)

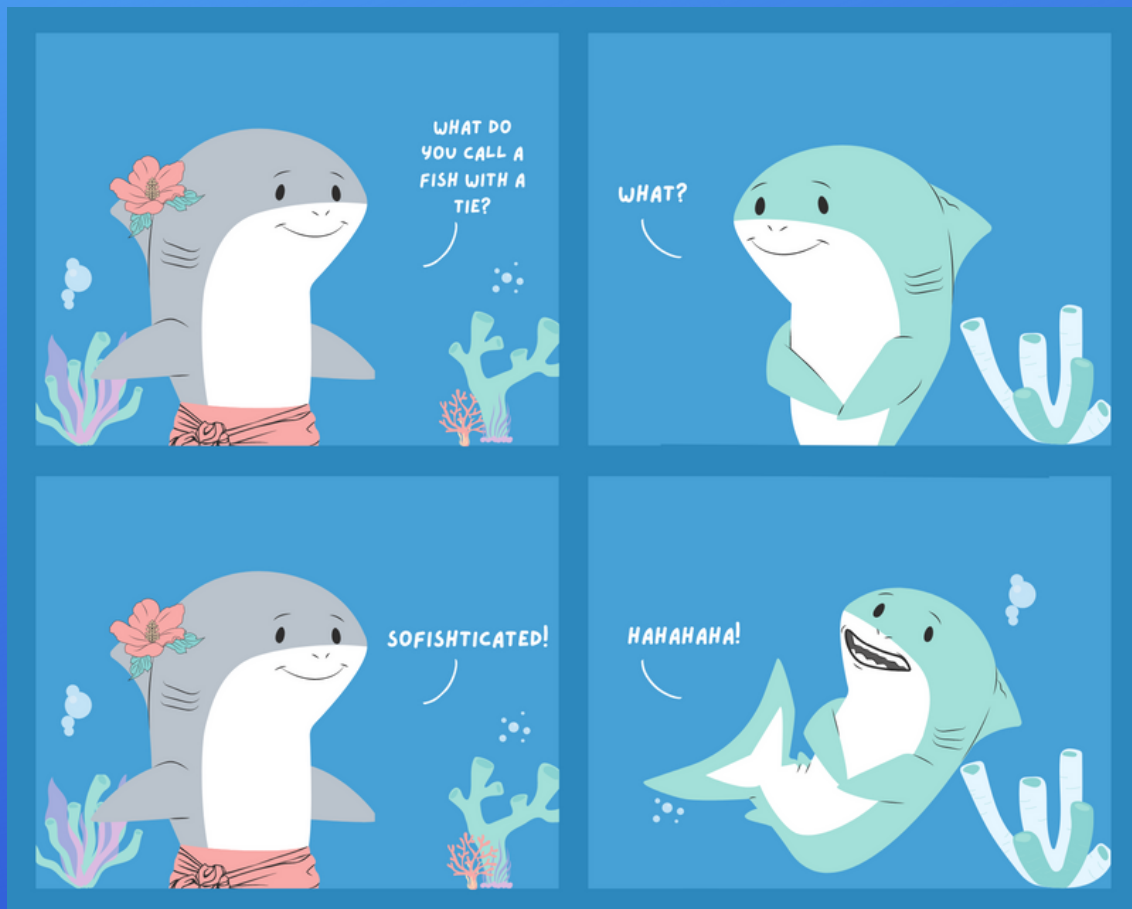
Book 5: [Darkness Rises \(not yet released\)](#)

*"My blog (**not included**) features journal entries from the main character in The Soulless Series for dates that take place outside of the novels. I do not recommend reading the books since they are not age appropriate."*



By: Annabella Harness and Adelyn Smith

Comic Strip



By: Elizabeth Golden and Adelyn Smith



NMS Birthdays

February 21
Destiny Williamson
Bentley Tackett

February 23
Alyssah Brannan
Brayden Bautista-Hunt

February 25
Brandon Mullins
Bella Stanley

February 22
Tucker Taylor

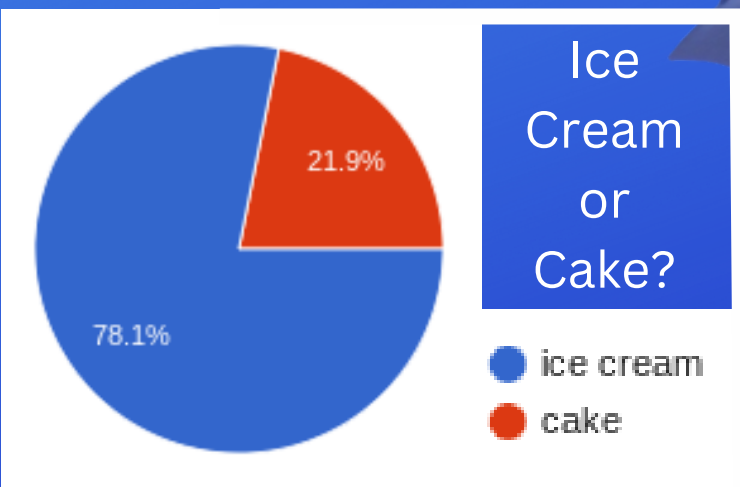
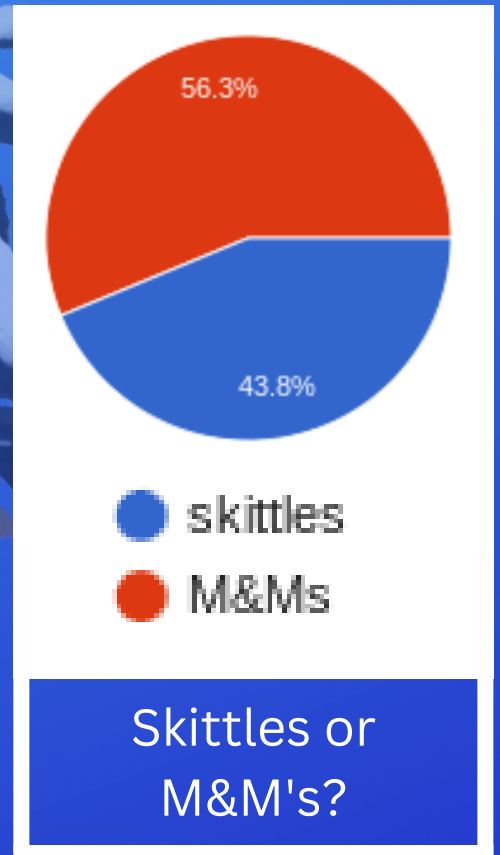
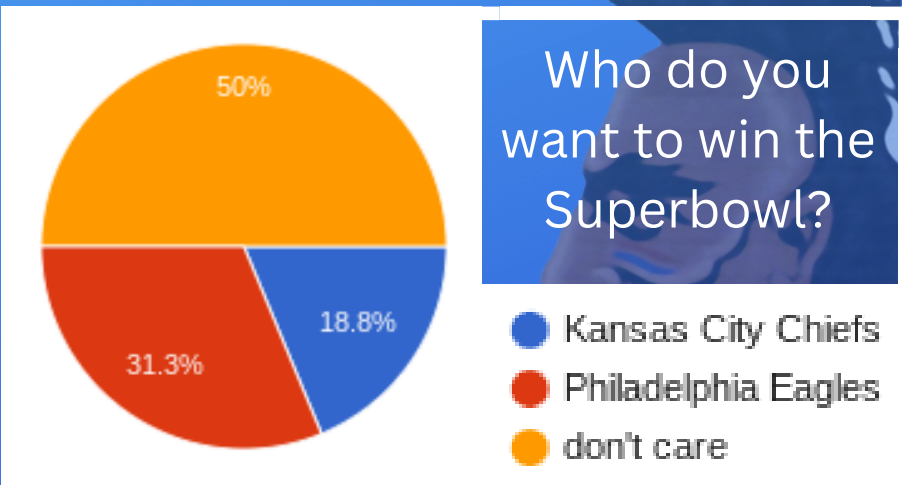
February 24
Keyton Sharp

February 26
Trevon Deemer



By: Brycen Montavon and Kaylee Thackston

Results from Last Week's Polls:



By: Elena TePas and Cora Alexander

Polls for This Week:

<https://forms.gle/2BhQENtp384EjUVEA>

Sharp Moments

Where we cover interesting and unheard topics, old and new.
With J Weslee G. Sharp and His Co-writer Annabella (Bella) Harness.

The Spying History Between The United States and China

For this installment of Sharp Moments, we shall discuss a bit of the history between the United States and China. Recently, there was a spy balloon from China in our country's airspace, and though China protested that the first balloon was merely a weather balloon, research and history have proven otherwise.

The first balloon was shot down in South Carolina on Saturday, February 4th. Since then, crews had retrieved the crucial elements of the balloon. The remains of the balloon consisted of sensors, electronic pieces, and large parts of the balloon's structure. These parts indicate that it was, indeed, a spy balloon. According to the news, "The spy balloon's height was comparable to the Statue of Liberty, about '200 feet tall with a jetliner size payload'" (CBS). This caused a lot of uncertainty and fear with American citizens.

Not only that, but China has a history of spying on America. Over the years, it has been noted that China has been doing similar. CNN states, "Another official on Thursday said, 'Instances of this activity have been observed over the past several years, including prior to this administration.'" Although the spy balloons had been going "out of fashion" because of the advance in technology, this move from China has brought them back into the picture. They can be made smaller, so they're less expensive and heavy now than what they used to be. China has also been reported to use cell phone towers since it can give "exclusive coverage" to areas near military bases.

In the past, China offered \$100 million dollars for a Chinese garden in Washington D.C. It had been accepted, but once American officials noticed all the red flags that came with it, they put an end to that project. Where the garden was to be, it would be a strategic placement on one of the highest points in Washington D.C. and it was only two miles away from the capitol.

Citizens are unsure of what the future brings with this occurrence with China, and what made it worse was that even more objects started to intrude in our airspace. Three more unidentified objects were spotted and shot down in Canada's Yukon territory, Alaska, and Lake Huron. They were all reported to be smaller than the initial spy balloon on the fourth of February. Though, our president made a speech on this occurrence and said the three objects weren't linked to Chinese spy activity. President Joe Biden said they were likely tied to recreation, research, or private companies.

Sources:

<https://www.npr.org/2023/02/14/1156740596/chinese-balloon-priority-sensors-military-salvage-south-carolina>

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/02/04/politics/china-us-spying/index.html>

<https://www.cbsnews.com/live-updates/chinas-spy-balloon-unidentified-objects-shot-down-what-we-know-so-far/>

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-is-expected-to-speak-on-chinese-balloon-unidentified-objects-42917445>

The AG Olympics





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