



Tiger Tales

St. John JR/SR High Newspaper

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Purpose - Passion - Pride

History Comes Alive: 7th Grade Field Trip



This is Part 2 of a 2 part series

*Left: A , found at the top exhibit of the Sternberg Museum.
Photo by Chris Fernandez*



*Right: A live rattlesnake from the Rattlesnake exhibit.
Photo by Chris Fernandez*

By CHRIS FERNANDEZ

On Friday, September 6, 2019, the 7th graders took a field trip to the Sternberg Museum. The museum was very impressive, including a huge, realistic, robotic t-rex exhibit that moved. One of the most memorable exhibits was the world-renowned "Fish Within a Fish" exhibit, displayed for all to see upon first entering the exhibit area on the first floor. The class also got to see various types of live rattlesnakes and tortoises. However, due to remodeling, the class didn't get to visit the whole museum, including an Ice Age section. After touring the museum, the class ate lunch at Frontier Park which once connected the historic Fort Hays with the city of Hays. According to the sponsor and history teacher, Mr. Bauer, the most memorable and student-bonding moment of the trip was a student losing their cellphone in the river at the park and the resulting search. Jorja Blakeslee's commented, "I think the trip was very fun. Besides the phone in the water, the best part was the waterfall."

Swim Time!

By AVA SMITH

Do you like to swim? Apparently, many in St. John like to. The pool first opened its doors to the public in August of 1983. Several years later, a young high schooler needed a summer job. Since she had a passion for swimming, she took the Red Cross course and began her adventure as a lifeguard. That course started the career of the current manager, Stephanie Smith. Smith has managed the pool for the past 6 years. She works as many hours as needed, but it varies from day to day. Counting herself, she has 13 lifeguards this year and next year she will have 10. According to Smith, there was an average daily attendance of 25-30 people this past summer. The pool will open again on Memorial Day, May 25th, 2020.

Homecoming Schedule



Candidate Video

- **2:15** Dismiss from school
- **2:30** Parade down 4th St
- **2:45** Pep Rally on the Square
- **6:30** Ceremony at Field

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The Vape Trap

By MORGAN GUNTER

Do you know the costs of vaping and what you are putting inside your body? Inhaling flavor chemicals can be harmful to your lungs. Vapes with fruity flavors may expose you to higher levels of Acrylonitrile, a toxic liquid used in making artificial fibers and other polymers (plastics). Nicotine also spikes your adrenaline, which increases your heart rate and likelihood of having a heart attack. Although e-cigarettes do not produce smoke, breathing in second-hand vapor isn't harmless. The aerosol, a suspension of solid particles or liquid droplets in air or another gas, in e-cigarettes contains many potentially harmful chemicals including lead and other heavy metals. It also has flavorings including diacetyl, which has been linked to lung disease.

Side Effects

Low doses may cause nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, and eye irritation. High doses may cause tachycardia, a condition that makes your heart beat more than 100 times per minute, high blood pressure, seizures, coma and possibly, even death.

Negative Effects

Nicotine is regarded as a potentially lethal poison. Concerns exist that vaping can be harmful by exposing users to toxic levels of nicotine.



Image from *The Catalyst*. Infographic by Gabriel Paredes Reyes

The Right Way

By ADANELLI GONZALES

The drop off situation on the elementary side of the school has been an issue for years. Recently, the school and city decided a new solution needed to be found. According to St. John mayor, Mark Bryant, "A study was done by the Kansas Traffic Engineering Assistance Program with an answer in December of 2018." Studying areas of the school as well as Monroe and 5th Avenue, they looked at the school's concern regarding motorists and school children's behavior on the streets near the preschool and elementary during drop-off and pick-up times. Josh Meyer, school superintendent, stated the problems included, "kids running out in the street to their parents, vehicles parking behind other vehicles which made it difficult to leave, and no crosswalks."

Changes made to the street by the city's public works department prior to school starting included adding



New signage on the one-way.

crosswalks on the right side of the one-way, ending at the library with diagonal parking spaces. Also, the lot to the east of the library used to be parking space, but it was very difficult to use due to the alley access and unclear traffic directions. Since the rearranging of the lot, the public now has more access and the busses more maneuverability to park.



Advice from the Tiger



What is Anxiety?

By ARLENA MILLER

Have you ever had a foreboding feeling about failing an upcoming test? Or you planned to ask your crush out to a dance and you have a feeling that the answer would be no? That's called anxiety. Anxiety is a feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease. It is typically felt about an upcoming event or something with an uncertain outcome. If you have ever experienced anxiety, you would know what it's like to feel stressed, angry, and worried. Some events that can get you stressed are; family situations, situations occurring at home, upcoming tests, etc. Here are some options to deal with stress: deep breathing, meditating, drinking a glass of water, taking a walk, reading a book, playing music, taking a nap, or most importantly, talking to an adult you trust.

Have a question or need advice? Ask the Tiger by emailing mcalisterj@usd350.com and labeling it **Ask the Tiger**.

Banned Book Week: How many have you read?

TOP 11 CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2018

The American Library Association tracked 347 challenges to library, school, and university materials and services in 2018. Of the 483 books that were challenged or banned in 2018, here are the top 11 most challenged:

1 George by Alex Gino Banned, challenged, and restricted because it was believed to encourage children to cheat, break the law, and change their bodies using hormones, and for mentioning "body flags," describing male problems, "talking in class," and including a transgender character.	6 Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher Banned, challenged, and restricted for addressing teen suicide.
2 A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo by J.R. Fenn, illustrated by Ed Keller Banned and challenged for including LGBTQ+ content, and for political and religious messages.	7 This One Summer by Mariko Tokai, illustrated by Jillian Tamaki Banned and challenged for profanity, sexual references, and certain illustrations.
3 Captain Underpants series written and illustrated by Dav Pilkey Series was challenged because it was perceived as encouraging disruptive behavior while Captain Underpants and the Sensational Saga of Mr. Bink-A-Lot was challenged for including a same-sex couple.	8 Skipton Jones series written and illustrated by Judy Schachner Challenged for depicting stereotypes of Mexican culture.
4 The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas Banned and challenged because it was deemed "anti-racism" and for profanity, drug use, and sexual references.	9 The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie Banned and challenged for sexual references, profanity, violence, gambling, and underage drinking, and for its religious viewpoint.
5 Drama written and illustrated by Raina Telgemeier Banned and challenged for including LGBTQ+ characters and themes.	10 This Day in June by Gayle E. Pitlor, illustrated by Whitney Little Challenged and banned for including LGBTQ+ content.
	11 Two Boys Kissing by David Levithan Challenged, banned, and hidden for including LGBTQ+ content.

September Birthdays

- 5 Luis H
- 6 Brandon H
- 7 Jaron B
- 10 Marshall W
- 13 Edie D, Chris F
- 18 Bree M
- 23 Zach F
- 24 Adrian A
- 27 Jade P
- 30 Abigail G

October Birthdays

- 1 Ian D
- 6 Payton S
- 8 Paige M
- 10 Bam P
- 11 Andrew M
- 16 Caitlin H
- 18 Mariah S
- 20 Dominic M
- 21 Riley M
- 24 Kaylynn C





Interview with a Robotics Teacher

By ISAC MATA

Q: Why did you start teaching robotics?

I taught robotics several years ago in my previous teaching position. It began due to interest in robotics by the students and I was willing to take a risk and try something outside of my comfort zone.

Q: How many years of college did it take to learn robotics?

I didn't actually go to college to teach robotics specifically. I have attended some workshops on robotics and done a lot of personal professional development on them.

Q: What is the robotics class doing this year?

A: We have three seniors in robotics this semester. We are completing our first robot now. We plan to learn through the process of building our first robot according to the instruction manual. Then we will be taking what we learn from building their model to create and design our own robots. We have several challenges we would like to complete in class. Depending on our success, we will decide whether we will be doing competitions this school year or not.

Q: Do you have any tips for students learning robotics?

Robotics is a lot of problem solving and design thinking. I encourage you to take math and science classes and don't be afraid to think outside the box.

Q: What is your favorite robot.

I don't really have a favorite robot, but I do enjoy working with the VEX robotics.



*Alysha Dickson, new 7-12th grade math & robotics teacher.
Photo courtesy of Dick Smith*

Are You Belted?

By AVA SMITH

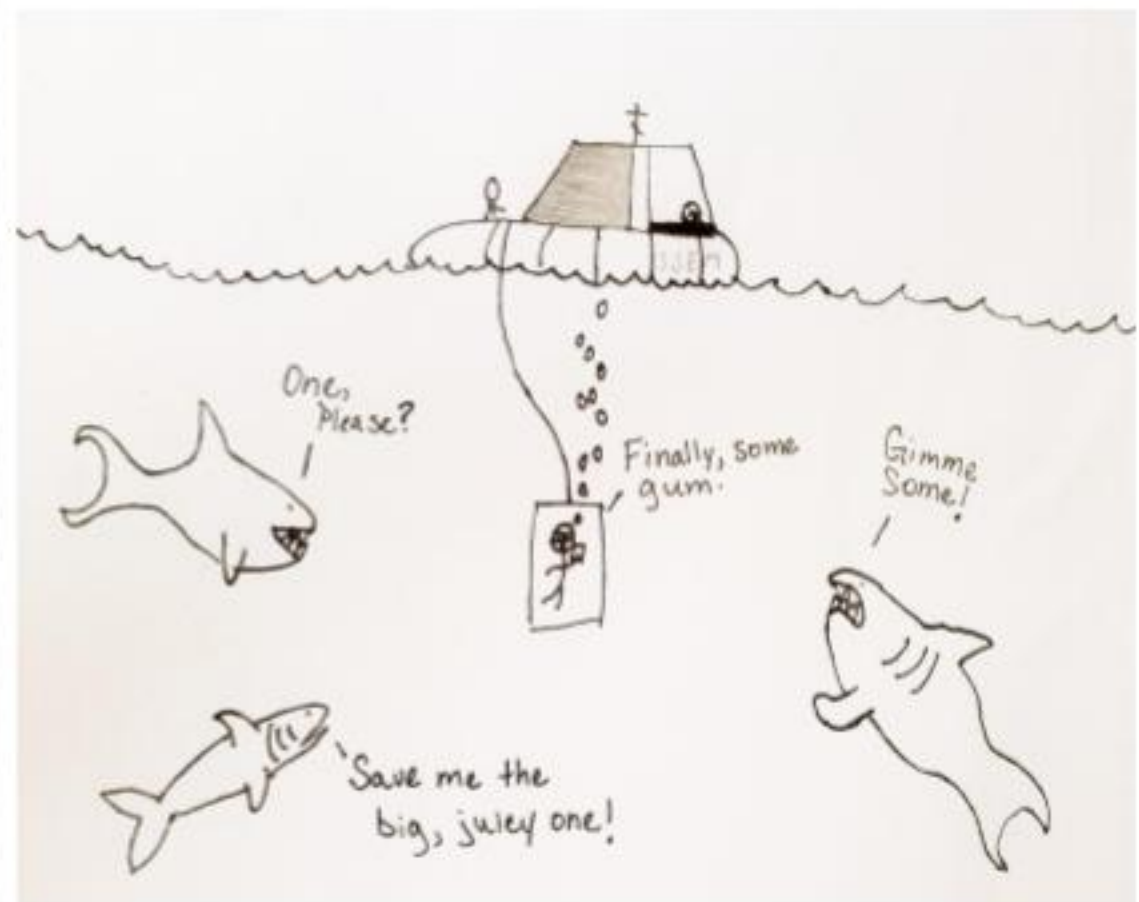
Have you ever heard of SAFE? Susan Patterson, sponsor of SAFE, stated that SAFE stands for **Seatbelts Are For Everyone**. SAFE is to help and encourage students to wear their seatbelts whenever they drive. The program was founded in 1998 with the St. John chapter starting in 2013. Prizes for those driving SAFE, including no speeding or other tickets, are donated by local businesses as well as state wide donors. To join the SAFE program, you have to get nominated by the state trooper. Some of the other sponsors of the SAFE program include AAA, Kansas Highway Patrol, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, State Farm, Kansas Department Transportation, Kansas Troopers Foundation, Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office, Kansas Ruma program, and the Trauma and Burn Services. Patterson would like to encourage everyone to wear your seatbelts at all times and join the SAFE program!



*St. John Audio-Visual Video
Contest: Put the Brakes on
Fatalities*

School Dayz

By ERIC MATA



Junior High Volleyball

By ELI FOOTE

The Junior High Volleyball team started off their season with a loss, but now they're back and better than ever! The A team won two out of three sets at their most recent game, playing the Central Plains Oilers and coming home with a win! The B team didn't take a win that night, but the girls still tried hard. The squad has specific teams they want to beat. Head Coach Trish Wade stated, "We are hoping to beat the league teams, and I think we can do it." The players on the volleyball team are Ava Smith, Mariah Sanders, Mia Meyer, Reagan Bonner, Lydia Reed, Maylin Sanders, Averi Fisher, Valerie Haney, Gracie Long, Heidi Fisher, Nerissa Leckenby, Karly Rockenbach, Diana Ibarra, Jazlene Ramirez, Caitlin Hudson, Willow Murphy, Adanelli Gonzales, Jorja Blakeslee, and Jareany Ramirez, with managers Cora Martin and Jalyn Fisher. Assistant Coach is Alyssa Tutak. This season won't be without hardship as they lost to Macksville and Wade said, "Ellinwood and Kinsley will be tough."

Junior High Volleyball at Macksville. Photos courtesy of Dick Smith



Jr High Varsity Volleyball

SJ W Macksville
 SJ L Central Plains
 SJ W Ness City

Kansas Cross Country Coaches Jim Maska Early Season Poll Boys 1A--St. John--1st Place



Junior High Football

SJ 38 58 Macksville
 SJ 48 38 Central Plains
 SJ 42 28 Ness City

Above: Junior High Football vs Ness City. Photo by Joanna McAlister.

Below: High School Football vs Ness City. Photo courtesy of Dick Smith



High School Football

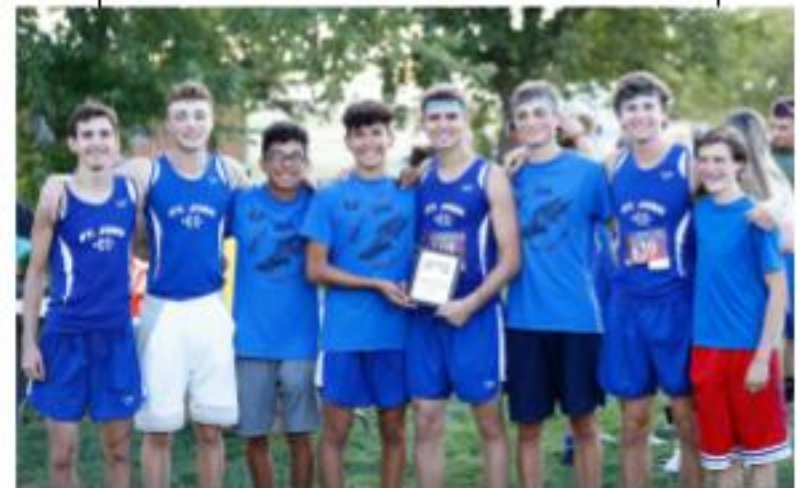
SJ 0 66 Medicine Lodge
 SJ 42 44 Kinsley
 SJ 0 62 Ness City

Above Right: High School Cross Country at SJ meet. Photo courtesy of Dick Smith

Below Right: High School Volleyball vs Ellinwood. Photo courtesy of Dick Smith

High School Varsity Volleyball

9 Wins
 3 Losses





Extra-Curricular Activities & Clubs Review

By AVA SMITH & VERONICA BOHLEY-MILLER

FCCLA

What does FCCLA stand for?

FCCLA stands for Family Career Leaders of America

What does FCCLA do?

FCCLA does many activities, such as Powder Puff Football, Food Bank Bowl, Secret Santa, Tree Ribbons Bake or ribbon sales for people with Cancer, Pop Shot for the Education Foundation, monthly meetings or activities, Christmas door contest, and an Ugly Apparel contest before winter break.

How does FCCLA work?

Grades 9-12 are all welcome. To join, you must pay \$2 by September 12th. *Questions were answered by sponsor Mrs. Patterson.*

STUCO

What is STUCO? STUCO is a student council that promotes and supports school activities and a friendly spirit with other schools, creates a spirit of cooperation between students and teachers, present desires of students to faculty and administration and promotes sportsmanship in athletics.

How does STUCO work? Students in student council learn how to conduct meetings and solve issues at school. If you want to join, talk to Mr. Maderino.

When are the meetings? Meetings are held once a month on Mondays or as needed when other activities need to be planned.

Questions were answered by sponsor Mr. Manderino.

Comic Book Club

What do you do in the comic book club?

The comic book club talks about all things related to pop culture, comics, movies, sci-fi, horror, superheroes, and more. Video games graphic novels art and much more. We like to review, show, and experience all things of the geek universe!

How is the comic book club doing so far?

The club was created mostly to create a sense of comfort for people to say and share what they like and encourage others to join in the fun as well. We have been growing and going strong for the past seven years and we hope to continue to grow even bigger as one big

geeky family!

How can you join the club?

Everyone is welcome to join. All you have to do is show up on Thursdays during LS and have a love for all geeky things!

Questions were answered by club president Nevaeh Haney and club sponsor Mr. Bryant.

KAYS/KAYETTS

What does KAYS/KAYETTS stand for?

Kays and Kayetts stands for Kansas Association of Youth.

What do they do? They do community service.

How do you join?

The cost is \$4 dollars to join either KAYS or KAYETTS, but people usually make a \$1 donation to total \$5. There are officers and members. They all have different duties depending on their office. There are no regularly scheduled meetings--they are as needed.

What activities do you help with?

During October, small donation boxes are given to each member and they are expected to ask for donations and raise at least five dollars. Also, during December, we deliver phone books.

Questions were answered by KAYS and KAYETTS presidents Jonathan Villanueva and Erin Crissman.

Not see a club you're interested in? Let the staff know!

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