

Ximena Gutierrez, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

No esperes para usar tu voz

EDITORIAL

Desde pequeña, mi mamá siempre me decía que le tenía que echar ganas a la escuela para poder salir adelante. Yo había pasado mis primeros años de secundaria sentada calladamente, esperando que los maestros no me escogieran para hablar. Siempre he sido muy tímida en la escuela, y he notado que muchas de mis compañeras hispanas también son iguales. Estoy casi segura que puedo hablar por algunas de mis compañeras cuando digo que a veces no es que no queramos hablar si no que sentimos una barrera que nos impide expresarnos con confianza. Esa barrera puede ser el miedo a ser juzgadas por nuestro acento o el miedo a no poder usar las palabras correctas. A lo largo de los años, he visto cómo esto afecta nuestra participación en clase, y nuestra comunicación con los demás. Sin embargo, también he notado que cuando nos apoyamos entre nosotras y encontramos espacios seguros, nos podemos expresar sin miedo, y nuestra confianza crece. Recuerdo la vez, cuando mi maestro de historia, Sr. Stephan, me pidió que tomara su clase de periodismo. La verdad es que lo miré como si estuviera loco. Él me explicó que sería una oportunidad muy grande para crecer, y confié en él. Al principio me sentía nerviosa, pero por primera vez sentí que mi voz era escuchada y valorada. Ahora, en mi último año de secundaria, he decidido que ya no quiero ser la niña tímida que se esconde en el fondo del salón. Quiero ser una voz activa, no solo por mi, sino también por mi mamá, quien me enseñó a apoyar a los demás, y por todas aquellas compañeras que, como yo, han sentido esa barrera. Así que, a todas mis compañeras hispanas, les quiero decir que no tengan miedo de hablar, de participar, de ser escuchadas. Porque al final del día, nuestra voz tiene el poder de cambiar nuestra realidad.



Seniors Alejandro Mota, Isaac Alvarez, and Cesar Munoz from Grupo Elegancia
Photos provided by Grupo Elegancia and Los Desaparecidos

Story by Ximena Gutierrez and Lizbeth Solorio, Thorntonian Staff reporters

Trayendo musica Mexicana a T.F. North Bringing Mexican music to T.F. North

As Hispanic Heritage Month begins, now is the time to learn about a few of the musically talented students at T.F. North.

Grupo Elegancia is made up of seniors Alejandro Mota (lead vocalist and requinto player), Cesar Munoz (bass player and harmony), and Isaac Alvarez (tololoche player). It all began at the start of their freshman year (2021) with Mota and Alvarez. Later on, in 2022, Munoz joined the team. With dreams of making it big in the music industry, Mota felt as if Munoz was “the last piece of the puzzle” that led them to create their own group.

Sophomore Diego Gutierrez is the accordion player for Los Preferidos del Valle. Growing up, Gutierrez drew inspiration from Los Canelos de Durango, he knew he wanted to become a musician. Gutierrez started playing the accordion in September of 2022. Later on, in 2024, he met drummer Rigoberto Guzman. “That’s when he told me that his brother, Rodrigo Guzman also played an instrument, and his friend, Bryant Ramirez, sang. We decided to try it out, and it worked out nicely,” said Gutierrez. When asked why he likes being a musician, he said, “We like doing what we do because we’re passionate about it, and it’s fun performing in front of an audience.”

Lastly junior Noe Cortes is the drummer for Los Desaparecidos. In 2023, Cortes started playing in a group with accordion player, Anthony Paredes. After they left the group, they met bajo quinto player, Brandon Gutierrez, and bass player, Angel Rosa. Following a lot of practice, they decided to create their own group, Los Desaparecidos, in January of 2024. “My favorite part of being in a musical group is just seeing people dancing to our music and having a good time with their friends and family,” Cortes shared. When asked if he had anything else he wanted to share, Cortes said, “I just want to wish every musician luck with their career.”



New School Nurse

Anahi Martinez

Meet Ms. Doody as she starts her first year at T.F. North

page 3

Puerto Rican Rice

Jasmine Pastrana

Try out a family recipe for Hispanic Heritage Month

page 5

TFN Crushes TFS

Marisol Nicasio

Find out how the Meteors beat the Red Wolves on Friday

page 8

Vernal Arts Club Presents:

Art Contest

Hispanic Heritage Month

Details:
Create a piece of art using any media and the theme, "Day of the Dead"

Submission:
Email your submission to jmatlock@tfd215.org or mweber@tfd215.org
Due by: October 11th

Upcoming Events

- Sep. 17 HHM Read-In
- Sept. 26 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 4 Homecoming Game
- Oct. 5 Homecoming Dance
- Oct. 8 Loteria por Libros
- Oct. 15 End of Quarter 1
- Nov. 21-24 The Color Purple

FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

@TFN_THORNTONIAN

@THORNTON FRACTIONAL NORTH THORNTONIAN

@TFN_THORNTONIAN

2024-25

Thorntonian Staff

- Staff Reporters:**
[Tianna Bowen](#)
[Ivy Finley](#)
[Marisol Nicasio](#)
[Jasmine Pastrana](#)
[Gaby Barraza](#)
[Liliana Krueger](#)
[Luis Pelayo](#)
[Anahi Maritnez](#)
[T'niya Hampton](#)

- Editorial Board:**
[Emily Sanchez, Art Director](#)
[Rogelio Romero, Social Media Director](#)
[Ximena Gutierrez, Asst. Editor-in-Chief](#)
[Aidan Jordan, Editor-in-Chief](#)

Faculty Advisor:
[Mr. Joseph Stephan](#)

Established in 1925, the Thorntonian is produced by the Advanced Journalism students of T.F. North High School. It seeks to provide an open forum for all members of the D. 215 community. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of D. 215 unless otherwise noted.

Senior Portrait Make-up Dates:
September 24, 25, 26, 30 October 1
Go to page 7 for more info.

FOOTBALL POWDER PUFF

OCT 2ND **'25 VS '26** **P.7**

TICKETS \$2
CASH ONLY
BUY IN BOOKSTORE



Mr. Holubec of the TFN Science Dept.
Photo credit: Luis Pelayo

Luis Pelayo, Staff Reporter TFN BTS (Behind the Scenes)

Mr. Holubec is the TFN and TFS lab aid. Every science lab at both schools has his involvement. "Every single lab that any student does in this building has been put together by Mr. Holubec, so he puts together all the materials, equipment, and every chemical at the right concentration. The only reason you're able to do so many labs is because there's somebody in the background basically putting everything up, washing everything up, taking everything down, mixing everything, and setting everything up," said chemistry teacher Mr. Martin. "Mr. Holubec is the person who helps keep our department functioning and puts the fun in our science labs! Without all of his efforts, the teachers would not be able to share as many labs as we do with our students. He is Awesome with a Capital A!" said chemistry teacher and Science Division Leader, Ms. McDaniel. Holubec is Chicago-born of Ukrainian parents. He graduated from TFN in 1982. "I wish I could be going here now," said Holubec. He started college at Purdue Calumet (now called Purdue Northwest), then he went to Purdue in West Lafayette before finishing at Southern Illinois University with a B.A. in Mathematics and a minor in Computer Science. Before coming to TFN, he worked in the defense contracting industry and in software engineering. "I just enjoy coming here. I think the students are great," said Holubec. In addition to helping with science classes, Holubec is involved with sports and coaches girls soccer. "I have fun working the volleyball games and such with him as the announcer," said anatomy teacher and volleyball announcer, Ms. Hadler.

Story by Gabriella Barraza, Staff Reporter

Where are they now?

This is a new feature.

We will catch up with alumni and former teachers to see how they are doing! If there is an alumnus or former teacher you want us to find, please send an email to Thorntonian@tfd125.org.

Ms. Ana Navarrete worked at T.F. North for ten years. You might remember her as a Spanish teacher. But you might also remember her classroom having a safe space. Other students may remember her for being "delulu." She is now in LA teaching Spanish at Pali High School. "I can't say I have a favorite memory at T.F. North because now that I am not there, everything I was able to experience and the beautiful relationships I was able to make are [all] a part of me," said Navarrete.

Mia Romo went to T.F. North for all four years of high school. You might remember her from the T.F. North announcements and Meteor Productions. She was also a staff reporter for the Thorntonian. She is now pursuing a degree in media studies at Governors State and working at DLMD as the production assistant for TWAG. "My favorite memory was definitely every moment with my friends and specifically celebrating them with the Film Festival this past year," said Romo.

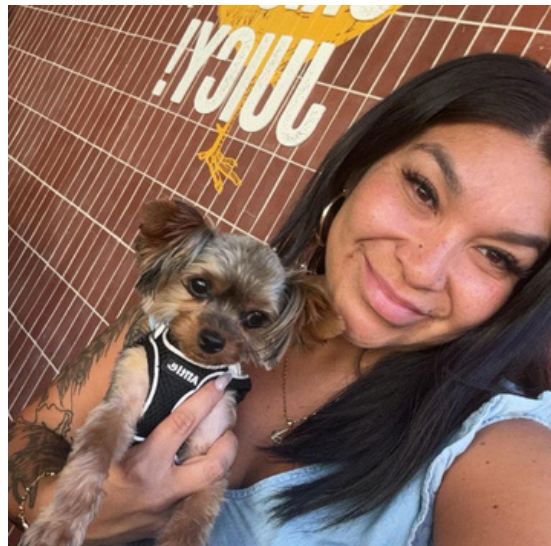


Photo provided by Ms. Navarrete

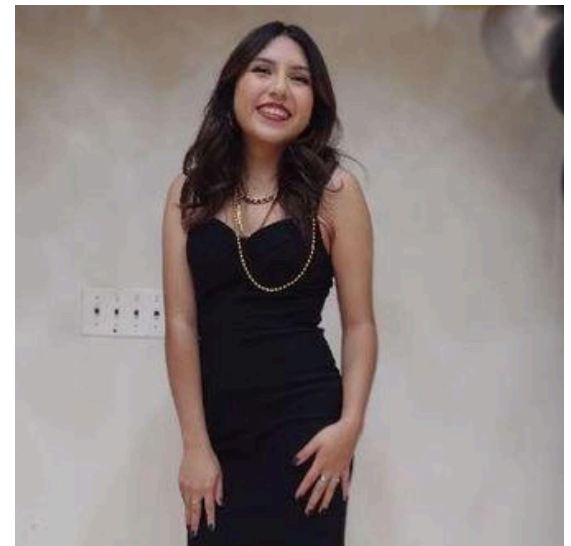


Photo provided by Mia Romo

Meet the new nurse



Story and Photo by
Anahi Martinez, Staff Reporter

Ms. Doody has been a registered nurse for 15 years and a school nurse for 6 years. She values kindness and compassion which is reflected in her work here at North as the school's nurse. She initially heard of TFN from the school nurse at TFS as they went to a school's certificate program together. Ms. Doody previously worked at the Academy for Learning but chose to switch over as she believes TFN offers great support and resources to its students. She loves working with high school students, and the advice she would give to the students is to always take care of yourself as self-care is not selfish and you should never be afraid to speak up on what may be bothering you. Lastly, Ms. Doody says she is incredibly grateful to be here, and she is excited to meet all the new students and staff.

Future Teachers Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Bivins

Email: wbivins@tfd215.org

Are You Interested In a Career in Education?

You may be interested in pursuing a career in early education, elementary, middle, or high school. You may want to teach your favorite subject, be a coach, or maybe even be an athletic trainer. If this is something you want to do career-wise, well,

THE FUTURE TEACHERS CLUB IS FOR YOU!

What Do We Do?

The Future Teachers Club is sponsored by Mrs. Bivins, and it will provide you with activities and events that will build your resume and help you get accepted into a college or university education program. This club will develop your leadership skills and allow you to network with professionals in the educational field.

Your Future

It will also expose you to various scholarship opportunities available to future educators! Also, once you are in college, we will provide mentorship that will guide you as you navigate your post-secondary education!

How To Join?

Scan the QR Code below & complete the Google Form
Join our Remind101 by texting -
[@teach3e](https://www.remind101.com/join/@teach3e) to the number 81010

Send [Mrs. Bivins](#) a message once you join [Remind101](#) and she will send you more Information!

Or you can email [Mrs. Bivins](#) at wbivins@tfd215.org



Story and Photos provided by Jasmine Pastrana

Puerto Rican Rice Recipe

My grandma's recipe for arroz con gandules

Are you someone who is wondering how to make some Puerto Rican dishes? I want to share my family's famous Puerto Rican rice recipe. Arroz con gandules is a famous dish in my family and in Puerto Rico. This has been passed down to mom, mom, and dad. Arroz con gandules are usually made for parties or to just eat together as a family. My family usually makes this rice on special holidays such as Christmas Eve and Easter. "What I love most about arroz con gandules is because it brings families together with happiness and joy," said my father.



Ingredients:

Onions
Garlic Cloves
Oil
Cubed ham
Green Pigeon Peas
Olives
Recaito (seasoning made by goya)
Salt
Bay Leaves
Sazon (seasoning made by goya)
Salad and vegetable (seasoning made by goya)
jam broth (seasoning made by goya)
Tomato Sauce
Water
Oregano
Rice

Recipe:

Peel 1.5 onions and cut it into cubes

Cut 3 garlic gloves in tiny pieces

Turn the heat on medium and wait for it to get hot

Add 1.5 cups of oil in the cantero and wait until it boils

Add .5 pound of cubed ham into the oil then stir

Add the onions and stir

Add the garlic and stir

Add the gandules verdes (green pigeon peas) then stir it

Add the olives then stir

Add the 1/2 packet of recaito seasoning, 3 tbsps salt, 3 bay leaves, 1 packet of salad and vegetables seasoning, sazón, and jam broth then stir it

Pour the whole can of tomato sauce then stir

Pour 2 cups of water

Add 1 tbs of oregano

Wait for it to boil

Once boiled pour in the 5 cups of rice (use a big cantero)

And pour 5 more cups of water

Cover with the lid for 15 minutes and wait

Stir it around so it doesn't get stuck on the cantero

Then eat!!!!

Visual Arts Club Announces HHM Contest

Emily Sanchez, Art Director

The Visual Arts Club is hosting its first art contest of the year, and students have the opportunity to participate now. It will be to share a tribute to Hispanic Heritage Month in the form of art. You do not have to be in the club to submit your art, any student is welcome. AI and any copyright infringement art will not be tolerated. It must also be school-appropriate. Art teacher Ms. Matlock is thrilled about the contest. "We love to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with all of our students and draw attention to art and Hispanic culture," expressed Matlock. Artistic students are highly encouraged to participate and share their creativity. The deadline is October 11th. If students are unable to make this deadline, do not worry. The Visual Arts Club assures there will be more contests to expect soon.

Ximena Gutierrez, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Don't wait to use your voice

EDITORIAL, TRANSLATION FROM FRONT PAGE

Since I was little, my mother always told me that I had to work hard at school to be able to get ahead. I had spent my first few years of high school sitting quietly, hoping that teachers wouldn't single me out to speak. I have always been very shy at school, and I have noticed that many of my Hispanic classmates are also the same. I'm almost sure I can speak for some of my classmates when I say that sometimes it's not that we don't want to talk, but that we feel a barrier that prevents us from expressing ourselves with confidence. That barrier may be the fear of being judged by our accent or the fear of not being able to use the correct words.

Over the years, I have seen how this affects our participation in class, and our communication with others. However, I have also noticed that when we support each other and find safe spaces, we can express ourselves without fear, and our confidence grows. I remember the time, when my history teacher, Mr. Stephan, asked me to take his journalism class. The truth is that I looked at him as if he were crazy. He explained to me that it would be a great opportunity to grow, and I trusted him. At first I felt nervous, but for the first time I felt like my voice was heard and valued. Now, in my last year of high school, I have decided that I no longer want to be the shy girl hiding in the back of the classroom. I want to be an active voice, not only for myself, but also for my mother, who taught me to support others, and for all those classmates who, like me, have felt that barrier. So, to all my Hispanic classmates, I want to tell you not to be afraid to speak, to participate, to be heard. Because at the end of the day, our voice has the power to change our reality.



WE are PROUD to SUPPORT TFN!



DON PEDRO

• MEXICAN BAR & GRILL •

Dine in or Carry Out

Friday, September 27, 2024

Simply, present this flyer or mention TFN Junior Board/Visual Arts Club & Don Pedro will DONATE 15% of your food sales!



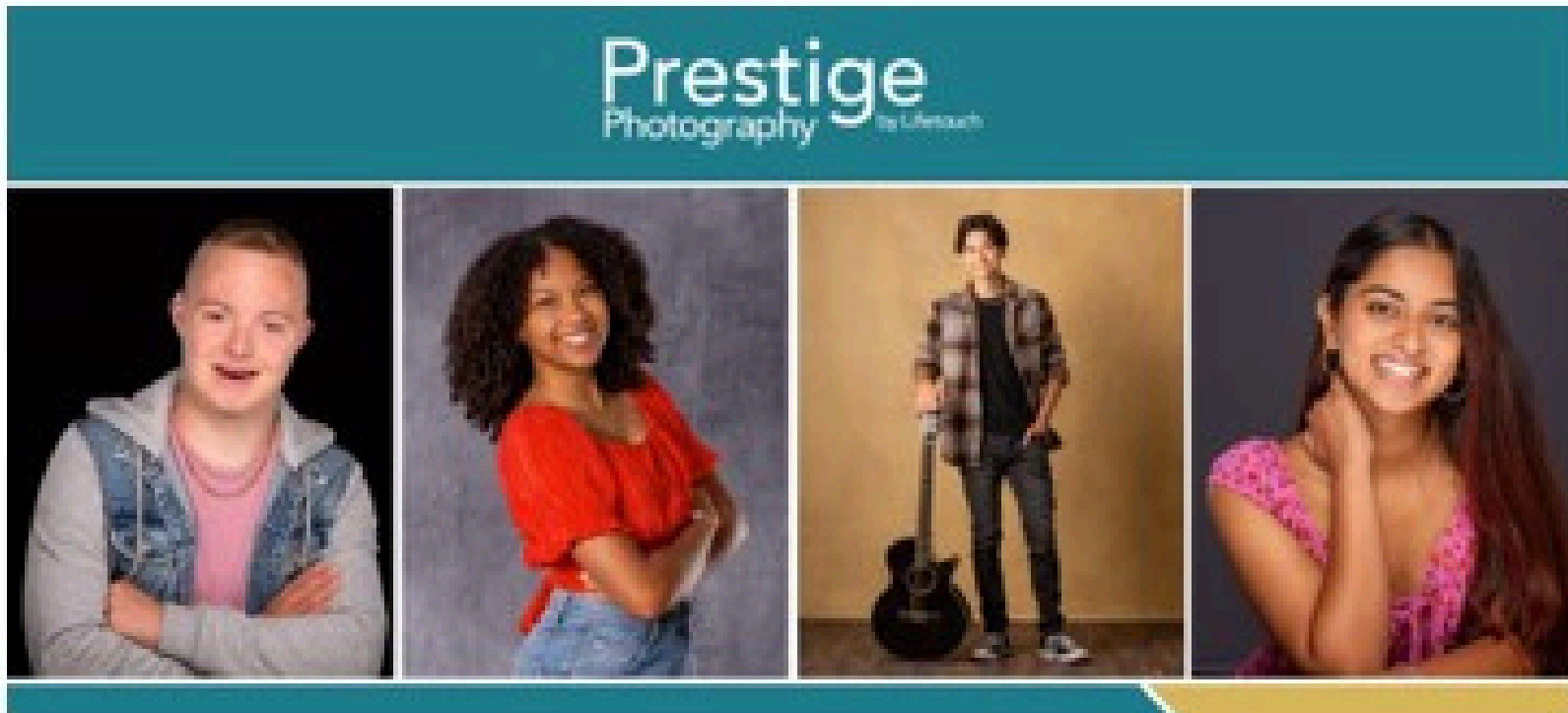
Spread the word ~ tell everyone you know!

316 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City

Call 708.862.7747 to place a carry out order or Dine in

NO DELIVERY ORDERS/UBER Eats/Doordash apply to this event

Donation is on FOOD sales only. Present this flyer upon ordering. No credit cards taken over the phone.



Class of 2025 Seniors!

Prestige Photography has been chosen as your senior photographer.

How to prepare for your senior picture session:

1. You will receive a notification within 4 weeks.
2. Once you receive the notification, go online to prestigeportraits.com to Schedule your appointment.
3. For tips about your upcoming session and outfit inspiration, visit prestigeportraits.com.
4. If you have any questions call 1-800-736-4775

To be included in the yearbook, you must be photographed by Prestige Photography.

Story and photography by Lilly Krueger, Staff Reporter

Senior Sunrise

On September 6, the Senior Board and National Honor Society hosted the Senior Sunrise. According Jennifer Serrano, the President of NHS, around 133 seniors showed up at 5:45 am in front of the school to watch the sunrise, write a letter to their future selves, and make a class poster. "Even though we weren't able to see the sunrise completely I enjoyed my time. I love being able to make memories during my senior year to look back on, and I'm glad Senior Sunrise gave me the chance to," said senior Aaliyah Miller.



Story by Marisol Nicasio, Staff Reporter

Meteors beat Red Wolves again

On Friday, September 13th, the Meteors played their annual cross-district rivalry game against the Red Wolves at T.F. South. During the first quarter, the Meteors played good defense after turning over the ball on downs. At the end of the quarter, the game was tied 0-0. In the second quarter, Joseph Merritt scored on a 10-yard rushing touchdown, followed by an extra point kick by Max Montesinios that made the score 7-0 with 9 minutes left in the quarter. South scored on 45-yard and 37-yard touchdowns and a 2-point conversion. Jamirh Jolly then threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Trevon Conner with another extra point kick by Montesinios tying the game again 14-14. With only 49 seconds left in the first half, Merritt made the score 20-14 with a 3-yard rushing touchdown, and Montesinios added the extra point. Going into halftime, the Meteors were in the lead 21-14. Being a rivalry game, both teams came back in the second half fighting harder than ever. With 19 minutes left in the game, Montesinios kicked a 21-yard field goal making the final score of the game 24-14. It was clear that the Red Wolves had no chance to win. Led by Coach Pignatiello, the Meteors made history with their 2nd victory in a row against the Red Wolves, which has not been done in almost 40 years. “It is just so special to watch them grow. It is awesome. It is why you coach. People doubted our team countless times and believed we would not hold that undefeated title, and without question, they proved themselves tonight with a back-to-back win. Huge acknowledgement to our offensive line, without them we wouldn’t be able to do what we did. I am so proud of these kids, for constantly pushing through and being some of the hardest-working kids I know. They have trained for months for this, and I am happy to see it has paid off. They deserve to celebrate and should be proud of what they did tonight. This couldn’t have been done without our amazing coaches and trainers. I can’t wait to see what they accomplish the rest of their season,” said Pignatiello. The night was very special for the offensive line. Osvaldo Roa, Montrell Monroe, and senior leader Carlos Roa had a huge impact on the game blocking for Merritt who scored two touchdowns as they led the Meteors to victory. “We’re raising the bar. We’re going to keep going and pushing. This is just the beginning. Although in the first half we played our best, we were able to push through and come out with a huge victory. We made history tonight with back-to-back undefeated wins, and I am very proud of everyone,” said Carlos Roa.



Photo credit: Rosa Rodriguez-Sanchez, Chronoscope Staff



Upcoming Home Games:

- September 17:
Girls Tennis
T. F. North v. Argo
4:30 pm
- September 19:
Boys Soccer
T. F. North v. Reavis
4:30 pm
Girls Tennis
T.F. North v. Bremen
4:30 pm
- September 20:
Boys Varsity Football
T.F North v. Evergreen Park
6:00 pm
- September 24:
Boys Soccer
T. F. North v. Oak Lawn
4:30 pm
- Oct 3
Boys F/S Football
T. F. North v. Oak Forest
5:00 pm
- Oct. 4
Boys Varsity Football
T. F. North v. Oak Forest
6:30 pm

SPOTLIGHT



Favor Babatunde
Senior
4 Year Tennis Player

Who is your favorite teammate? Why?
“Precious Aqwu. We joined at the same time, and we know each other’s good and bad sides when playing.”

Who is your favorite school to compete against and why?
“T.F. South. There’s always high tensions with it being a rival school, and it makes me play better.”

Why did you join the tennis team?
“It was something to do after quarantine. I didn’t want to be sitting in the house like a bum.”