

Aidan Jordan, Editor-in-Chief

## Getting Back on Track in 2025

### EDITORIAL

Welcome back, everyone. I hope your two weeks of winter break were great. The Thorntonian Staff is here to start the new year with amazing content for you! Now that we are back, it is time to finish the 2024-2025 school year. This semester is more significant to me and the rest of the Class of 2025 because this is our last semester of high school. We will want to start the semester strong by staying on top of everything and getting all our work done. This is no time to get senioritis. Having a great start will lead to your success at the end of the semester. I am sure you are excited about all the senior activities that the school is planning such as prom, the senior field trip, and graduation. I know I am. I am sure you will agree that all the senior activities at the end of the school year will be a lot more enjoyable without the stress of trying to bring up your grades. This message not only applies to seniors but also to everybody. Having a good start can really help you in the long run. If by unfortunate circumstances you start to get unmotivated and start to procrastinate, your grades might start to drop. Having that foundation at the beginning of the semester can really save your grade. Procrastination is just a part of life. In one moment you are working hard and in the next moment you are probably playing on your phone. It happens. I struggle with staying on task and doing my work sometimes. What helps me out is that I set time for myself throughout the day to get some work done. As long as you stay focused and motivated throughout the semester, then you should have no problems. Do not forget about the different resources the school has to offer like the homework center if you ever need to get your work done.



CD&ME located in Frankfort is the venue hosting prom. Photo from [www.cdandme.co](http://www.cdandme.co)

Story by Anahi Martinez and Lizbeth Solorio, Staff Reporters

## What to expect second semester

As the second semester begins, Thornton Fractional North students can look forward to a variety of engaging and exciting school activities. On January 29th, the Teen Summit program will be visiting TFN for an assembly. In celebration of Valentine's Day, TFN's Freshman Board will be selling Crush cans from February 3 to 7 and will be distributing them on February 12. TFN will be hosting a Black History Month Read-in on February 6th at 3:30-5 pm in the LRC to celebrate the voices and stories that have shaped history. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on February 13 providing an opportunity to discuss students' progress with their guardians. Following the conferences, there will be no school on February 14 and 17. TFN will be holding a Black History Month Assembly on February 27 and 28 to celebrate and honor the rich contributions of African Americans throughout history. There will be no school on March 3 for Casimir Pulaski Day. The end of quarter 3 is on March 14. On March 17 to 21, show your spirit by participating in Spring Spirit Week, followed by a Spring Fling dance on March 22 hosted by the Student Council. TFN will have a pep assembly on March 21 in the purple gym to cheer on TFN's teams. On March 23, students can visit the cafeteria for a Women's History Month Lunch & Learn.

The Monogram Club basketball game against the faculty will be on April 4 in the purple gym. The National Honors Society spring induction ceremony will be held on April 16. Spring break will take place from April 18 to the 25th, giving everyone a well-deserved break before we return to finish the semester strong. In celebration of Cinco de Mayo, The Dreamers Club and National Honors Society will host a dance on May 2. Students can demonstrate their admiration for teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week from May 5 to 9. On May 9, the Sophomore Board will sponsor a blood drive in the purple gym lobby. Students can see Ms. Isberg in room 204 to see the requirements and sign up. As Seniors end their high school journey, their final exams will take place on May 12 & 13. The Class of 2025's last day will be on May 13. Prom will be held on May 16 at CD & Me in Frankfort, IL for juniors and seniors. The Junior Board will be sponsoring it. The Class of 2025's graduation will be on May 20th. In observance of Memorial Day, there will be no school on May 26 to honor and remember the sacrifices made by those who served in the military. Final exams for the second semester will be held on May 28, 29, and 30. And finally, May 30 will be the freshmen, sophomores, and junior's last day of school for the 2024-25 school year.

### New ID Policy Begins

Rogelio Romero

Get in touch with the new Five Star ID system at North

page 3

### New Yearbook Is Here

Marisol Nicasio

Check out how you can buy the 2024 Chronoscope

page 4

### New Art Feature

Emily Sanchez

Immerse yourself in the tutorial on drawing a butterfly

page 7

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor can be sent to our social media handles or [thorntonian@tfd215.org](mailto:thorntonian@tfd215.org).

The "Where Are They Now" segment was an absolute joy to read, it made me feel both nostalgic and inspired reading about how the alumni is doing. As a senior, it's bittersweet to think about how I'll be remembered after graduation. Seeing familiar faces and hearing about the incredible things they're accomplishing was not only heartwarming but deeply motivating. It reminded me that high school is only a small chapter of our story, not the book of our lives. Their successes are proof that the lessons and values T.F North instills in its students will allow us to go on to do great things. As always, the Thorntonian continues to get better with every issue. Keep up the good work!

Kiera Smith, senior

I really loved issue 8. I loved the list Jakayla O'Quinn put together on things to get for someone for Christmas, but the most important thing I enjoyed reading was about the music department hosting the annual winter concert...it made me wish I was able to be there to see it myself! I can't wait to see what the next newspaper will look like when we come back from break!

Kassidy Calvin, sophomore

Dear Thorntonian Staff,

I love how you guys are able to put the spotlight on the amazing accomplishments made by students and also put the spotlight on the informational part of the school. You guys are amazing...Keep up the good work and stay positive.

Omari DaSilva, sophomore

The new e-learning for snow days is literally a lifesaver! I hated how last year we had snow days and then had to be in school longer than every other high school that has e-learning. E-learning will keep everyone on track, so we get the day off and get to stay at home and be comfortable while still getting the education we need to be caught up in school.

Saniyah Scarelli, sophomore

Thank you, guys, for featuring me in the newspaper! I really do appreciate you guys. Putting so much effort into doing what you guys do, and it really shows each newspaper is all always well written and actually fun to read. I like how in this newspaper you guys went with a holiday theme. I love the red background. I also like how you guys featured a senior talking about what to do for finals if you needed help because it definitely helped me. Every time I read the newspaper it always benefits me at the end. Thank you, guys, again, and I look forward to reading the next one.

Antanise Williams, sophomore

I enjoyed reading the section "Where are they now?" It's very interesting to know what the alumni is up to and their favorite memories at T.F. North. I also liked the watchlist holiday edition because I love to watch movies, especially now that we're on break. It also featured one of my favorite holiday movies, Home Alone. I admire the dedication of everyone who works to make sure that every issue is put together nicely.

Tamiya Dixon, sophomore

## Upcoming Events

- Jan. 29 Teen Summit Kickoff
- Feb. 2 Scholastic Bowl: Crush Cans
- Feb. 3 Love Sonnet Workshop
- Feb. 5 District Choir Festival
- Feb. 6 BHM Read-In
- Feb. 13 Parent-Teacher Conferences



2024-25

### Thorntonian Staff

#### Staff Reporters:

Ivy Finley  
Marisol Nicasio  
Jasmine Pastrana  
Gaby Barraza  
Liliana Krueger  
Luis Pelayo  
Anahi Maritnez  
Lizbeth Solorio  
Jakayla O'Quinn

#### 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.

## Cutest Couple Photo Contest



Scan the  
QR Code to  
upload your  
photo

Photos will be posted on the  
Thorntonian's official Instagram  
[@tfn\\_thorntonian](https://www.instagram.com/tfn_thorntonian) for voting!



Rogelio Romero, Staff Reporter

## What is 5-Star?

At the beginning of the semester, the T.F. North administration started to encourage students to download 5-Star, an app that allows students to carry their IDs on their phones. T.F. North is changing to digital IDs, much like other schools in the conference. “Every other school in our conference has switched to something like 5-Star,” said Dean Polsey. However, it is not just only for students' IDs. T.F. North also plans on using 5-Star for other school purposes. “5-Star allows you to buy a ticket to Homecoming [or] buy prom tickets. Also there’s a hall pass. We’re definitely looking to do that,” said Principal Rucinski. Most students at T.F. North like the new change. “Personal I love it. I don't have to bring my ID because I'm always losing it,” said senior Fabian Rodriguez. “I think 5-Star is a smart choice that the school has made. It's convenient for students since it's [on] our phone. It prevents losing our ID and having to pay a fee,” added senior Alejandro Lazaro. Some students are still unsure about using it. “I guess it's more practical to have it on the phone, but it's faster for me to use my ID, and I do NOT want to be late to my 1st period,” said senior Diego Pantoja. Students can use the QR Codes below to download 5-Star.



# Want to join the Thorntonian Staff?

Story & Photos by Ximena Gutierrez, Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Do you like writing? Are you a team player? Do you have a creative mind? If your answers are yes, yes, and yes, being part of the Thorntonian Staff is for you! The students of the Advanced Journalism - Newspaper class produce the Thorntonian. Taking the class gave me the opportunity to improve my writing skills and discover a sense of creativity that I didn't know I had. In this class, we can come up with our own ideas to publish or work together to generate more stories. The possibilities are endless here. Joining the Thorntonian Staff means getting involved in a creative classroom. Here, you will write stories, news articles, opinion pieces, and more. This will truly help you find your own unique writing style and voice. Thorntonian Reporter Jasmine Pastrana also feels that there is much more than writing in this class. “You should join the Thorntonian because coming up with ideas and making Instagram content with new friends is really fun.” I most certainly agree. This class isn't always writing, the best part is being done with an issue and promoting it on social media with friends. Sharing ideas and receiving feedback is very important in order to have a good story or post. Being part of the staff also means sharing your work with the school and family. Seeing your stories published is a great feeling. It is a chance to share information and entertainment with your peers. If you are sophomore or junior getting ready to pick out next year's classes, this is your chance to share your voice with T.F. North. If you are interested in joining, come talk to Mr. Stephan in room 142 to learn about taking Advanced Journalism - Newspaper next year.



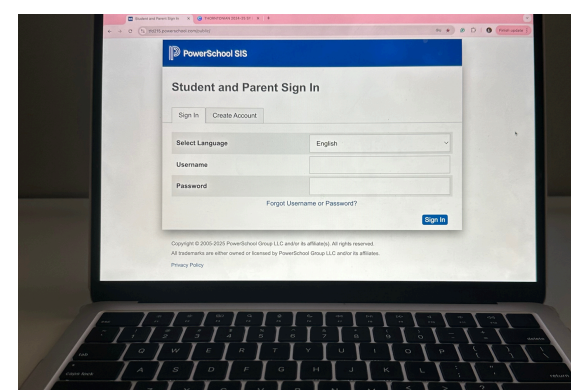
Senior Lilly Krueger promotes a new issue on our Instagram page.

## Scheduling class for next year

Story by Lilly Krueger, Staff Reporter

As the second semester begins students will start the registration process of picking their classes for the upcoming school year. According to Assistant Principal Ms. Passarelli, registration opens on January 21st and closes on February 28th. Each class will be meeting with its assigned counselors on the following dates: freshmen on February 18th-21st, sophomores on February 3rd-7th, and juniors on January 21st-31st. If students miss any of those days, the last day to meet with counselors will be February 28th. Meeting with a counselor is important to ensure students take the right classes and decide what suits them best. To select the classes students will need to log into PowerSchool online, not through the app on their phone. After logging in, they should click on “register classes” on the left hand side underneath Navigation. Once students are on the registration page they

will see the required courses and the required credits for the year. Students should consider the classes they pick as some classes can bring a heavy load to the school year. If students have selected CTE courses and have questions about them, they should talk to either Ms. Bivins or Ms. Scaife the Career Development counselors.



Story by Marisol Nicasio, Staff Reporter

# The 2024 yearbook is on sale

The T.F. North Chronoscope Staff has been designing and producing the Meteors' yearbooks for over 100 years. Each book has a unique design that is custom-made by the members, never repeating another. As each school year begins, so does the sale of the previous year's book. Although the 2024 yearbook was slightly delayed, the Chronoscope is currently on sale for \$30. The 2024 Chronoscope explores the celebration of the 100th graduating class of T.F. North and pays tribute to the different decades and generations of the Meteors. The book can be purchased for \$30 cash or money order made out to T.F. North High School. See Mr. Stephan in room 142 or the Chronoscope's Business Department Officers: juniors Florah Dismuke and Alexandria Brooks-Phillips or senior Dean Juarez. The book can also be purchased at Parent Teacher Conferences on February 13th. Other volumes of the Chronoscope can be purchased at the flash sale, too. Anyone interested in buying the 2025 Chronoscope can use the QR Code below. The 2025 Chronoscope will arrive in August.



Students can purchase the 2024 yearbook by seeing Mr. Stephan in room 142.



## T.F. NORTH HIGH SCHOOL 2025 YEARBOOK SALE



THE EASIEST WAY TO ORDER A YEARBOOK IS ONLINE

Visit <https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/index.cfm/job/12143> OR use the above QR code

TO ORDER THROUGH YOUR SCHOOL

Complete this form (one per order) and return to Mr. Stephan with a cash or a check made out to TF NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

YEARBOOK PRICES

YEARBOOK QTY  x \$30.00 = \$

NAME IMPRINT QTY  x \$ 5.00 = \$

TOTAL DUE: \$

PURCHASER INFORMATION

FIRST NAME

LAST NAME

GRADE  PHONE

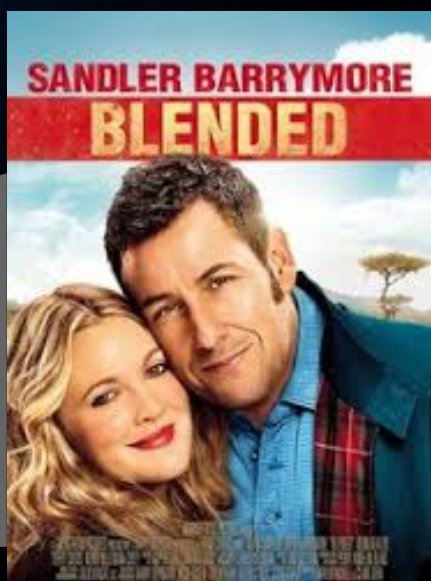
EMAIL

Name Imprint 30 Characters Max. *(Optional)*



# STUDENT WATCHLIST COMFORT MOVIE EDITION

CURATED BY  
ANAHI MARTINEZ & IVY FINLEY



Chosen by:  
Aerin Booker



Chosen by:  
John Rodriguez



Chosen by:  
My'Iana Qualls



Chosen by:  
Mario Gagliano



Chosen by:  
Jenifer Carbajal

Do you have a must-watch Valentine's Day movie?

Email your suggestions for our watchlist to [thorntonian@tfd215.org](mailto:thorntonian@tfd215.org).

Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted.

The deadline for submissions is 3:30 pm on Feb. 5, 2025.

Story by Gabriella Barraza, Staff Reporter

# Dogs are more than just pets

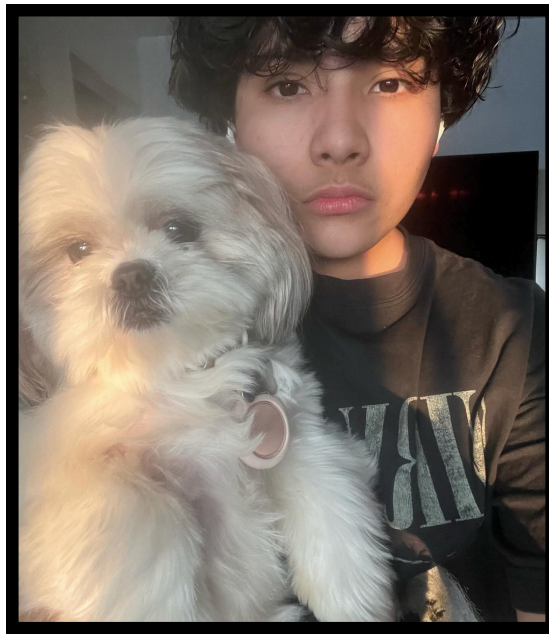
I have two best friends and their names are Bella and Oso, and they are dogs. I was 5 years old when I met Bella. She is a chihuahua, and I still remember the first time I held her. She was so small like a teacup, and I was super excited finally to have a dog. When Bella first arrived I assumed she would be very playful and like toys and to play fetch. Bella did none of those things. Bella has been through a lot. Bella has been sprayed by a skunk, ran away 3 times, pulled a muscle in her leg, and ate a gigantic chocolate chip cookie tray. Bella also has always been by my side, and I care for her so much. There was a period when I had to get surgery and when it was finally time for me to come back home, Bella could detect my mood right away. Dogs can provide comfort. Junior Florah Dismuke and Anthony Camarena agree. “I feel safe with my dog. My dog helped me through the hardships I’ve faced in life and he was always

there to give me hugs and kisses whenever he saw me feeling down and out,” said Dismuke. “Chloe, my dog, is more than a pet, she’s like a sibling to me. She comes to me when I am sad, and she brings joy out of me. Whenever I see her smile when I take her out in the summer joy fills my body. She is not a pet, she is a human being,” said Camarena. We welcomed Oso into the family last year. I still remember the first day I met him. When he walked in I was surprised because he was bigger than I had imagined. His fur was long and he looked dirty. One of my favorite memories of Oso was when he had his first haircut. He looked so different I thought the groomer gave us the wrong dog. Oso is a Malshipoo, and he was nervous. He was scared of anyone touching him. I still remember that I was the first person he got to know and to play with. Oso was the opposite of Bella. He loved to run and play with toys. Playful dogs are silly

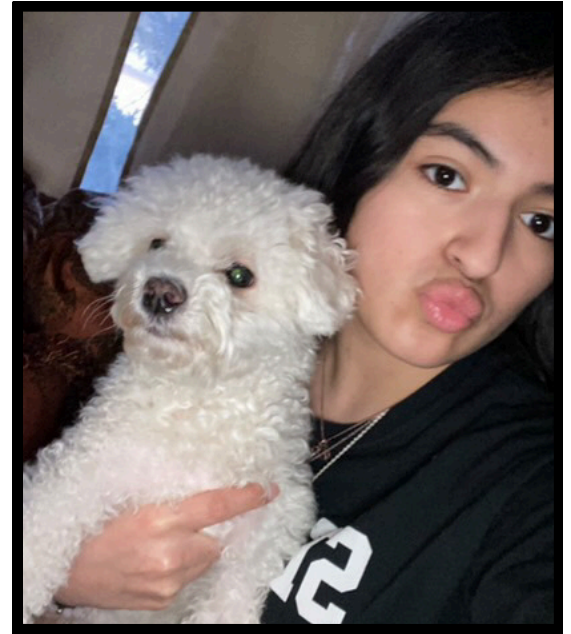
and senior Yesi Reyes agrees. “I love my dog a lot. She’s always making me laugh with her silliness and how she reacts to certain things. She’s always so happy to see me come home, wagging her tail and barking like crazy. She truly is very special to me and my family,” said Reyes. Oso also is a very playful dog so whenever I come home after a rough day he instantly lights up my mood. Every time I go home on the bus he waits there by the door knowing that I arrived home so he’s always the first person I greet. Dogs are very loveable and love to greet us also like Mr. Viau’s dog. “My dogs give my family unconditional love no matter what is going on. When I’ve had a bad day, my dogs will still meet me at the door and change my mood immediately! Their love and affection can change my mood at any time,” said Mr. Viau. Bella and Oso will always have a special place in my heart and I will forever be grateful for them.



Junior Florah Dismuke



Junior Anthony Camarena



Senior Yesi Reyes



Story by Aidan Jordan, Editor-in-Chief

## Student Council & English Dept. honor MLK

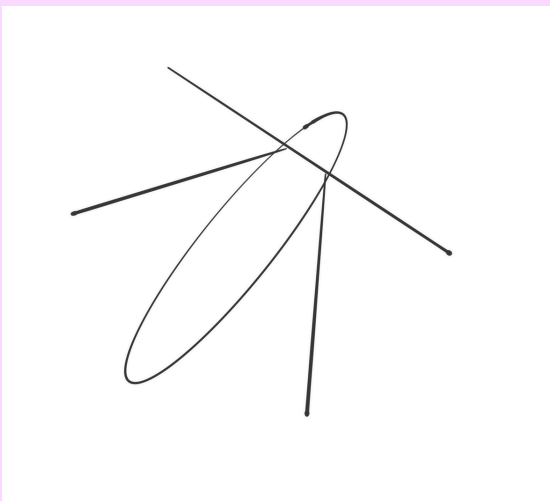
To celebrate MLK Day, the student council and the English Dept. made a tribute to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. Using Dr. King’s famous quote, “I have a dream that one day...” students were tasked to finish the line with what they wanted to see in the future or something that they hope to accomplish themselves. Each class’s responses are posted in the overpass. They will be on display until Valentine’s Day.

# HOW TO DRAW: A BUTTERFLY

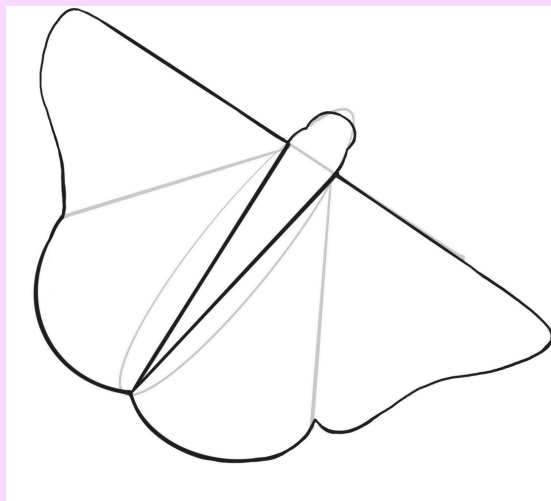
Emily Sanchez, Art Director

LEVEL : MEDIUM

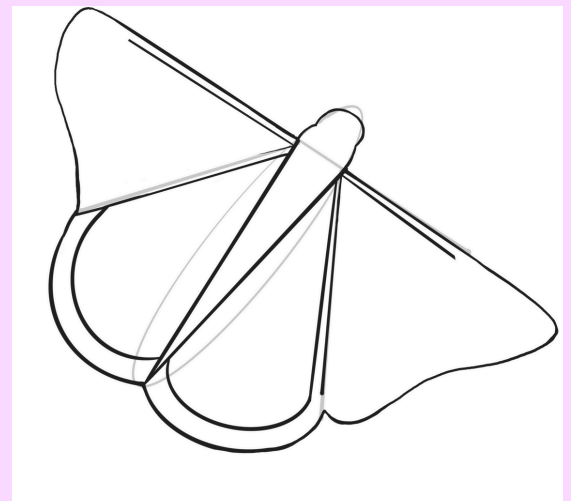
STEP 1



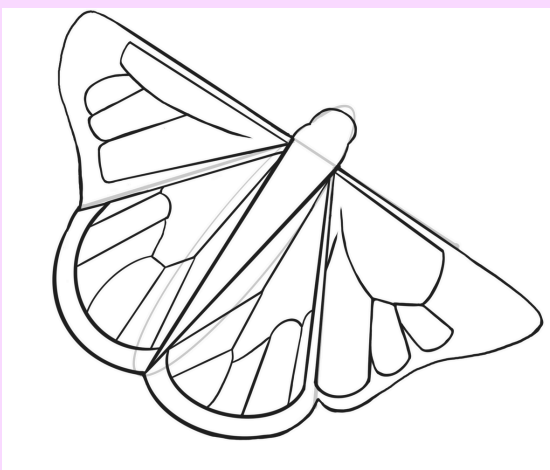
STEP 2



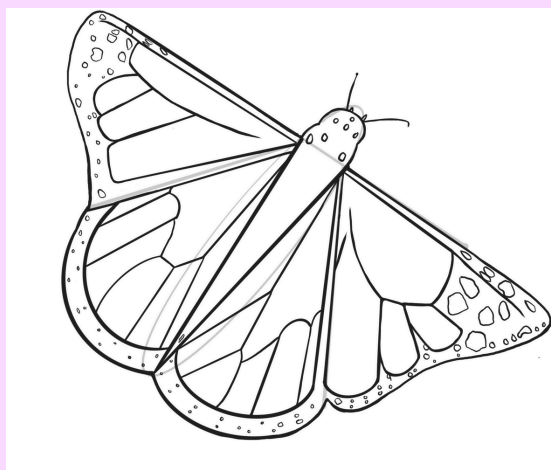
STEP 3



STEP 4



STEP 5



STEP 6



TRIED OUR TUTORIAL?

EMAIL YOUR RESULTS TO [THORNTONIAN@TFDZ15.ORG](mailto:THORNTONIAN@TFDZ15.ORG)  
FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED ON OUR INSTAGRAM

Aidan Jordan, Jefe de redacción  
Traducido por Ximena Gutierrez,  
Editora Asistente en Jefe

## Volviendo a la Senda Correcta en 2025

Editorial

Bienvenidos a todos nuevamente. Espero que sus dos semanas de vacaciones de invierno hayan sido geniales. ¡El personal de Thorntonian está aquí para comenzar el año nuevo con contenido increíble para ustedes! Ahora que estamos de regreso, es hora de terminar el año escolar 2024-2025. Este semestre es más significativo para mí y el resto de la Clase de 2025 porque este es nuestro último semestre de la escuela secundaria. Vamos a querer comenzar el semestre con fuerza manteniéndonos al tanto de todo y haciendo todo nuestro trabajo. Este no es el momento de empezar a dejar las cosas hasta último minuto. Tener un buen comienzo conducirá a su éxito al final del semestre. Estoy seguro de que están emocionados por todas las actividades de último año que la escuela está planeando, como el baile de graduación, el paseo de último año y la graduación. Sé que yo lo estoy. Estoy seguro de que estarán de acuerdo en que todas las actividades de último año al final del año escolar serán mucho más agradables sin el estrés de tratar de mejorar sus calificaciones. Este mensaje no solo aplica a los estudiantes de último año sino también a todos. Tener un buen comienzo realmente puede ayudarte a largo plazo. Si por circunstancias desafortunadas empiezas a desmotivarte y a posponer las cosas, tus notas pueden empezar a bajar. Tener esa base al principio del semestre puede salvar tu nota. La procrastinación es parte de la vida. En un momento estás trabajando duro y al siguiente probablemente estés jugando con tu teléfono. Sucede. A veces me cuesta concentrarme en una tarea y hacer mi trabajo. Lo que me ayuda es que me reservo un tiempo a lo largo del día para hacer algo de trabajo. Mientras te mantengas concentrado y motivado durante todo el semestre, no deberías tener problemas. No te olvides de los distintos recursos que ofrece la escuela, como el centro de tareas, si alguna vez necesitas ayuda con tu trabajo.



Historia de  
Rogelio Romero, Reportero

## ¿Qué es 5-Star?

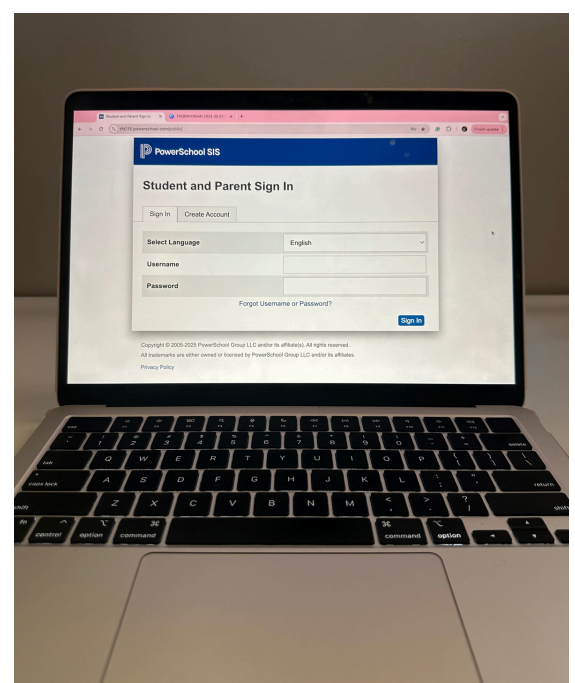
Al comienzo del semestre, la administración de T.F. North comenzó a animar a los estudiantes a descargar 5-Star, una aplicación que permite a los estudiantes llevar sus identificaciones en sus teléfonos. T.F. North está cambiando a identificaciones digitales, al igual que otras escuelas en la conferencia. "Estamos detrás de la pelota, todas las demás escuelas en nuestra conferencia han cambiado a algo como 5-Star", dijo el Decano Posley. Sin embargo, no es solo para las identificaciones de los estudiantes. T.F. North también planea usar 5-Star para otros propósitos escolares. "5-Star te permite comprar un boleto para Homecoming [o] comprar boletos para el baile de graduación. También hay un pase de pasillo. Definitivamente estamos buscando hacer eso," dijo el Director Rucinski. A la mayoría de los estudiantes de T.F. North les gusta el nuevo cambio. "Personalmente, me encanta. No tengo que llevar mi identificación porque siempre la pierdo," dijo el estudiante de último año Fabian Rodríguez. "Creo que 5-Star es una elección inteligente que ha hecho la escuela. Es conveniente para los estudiantes ya que está en nuestro teléfono. Evita perder la identificación y tener que pagar una cuota," añadió el estudiante de último año Alejandro Lázaro. Aunque algunos estudiantes aún tienen dudas sobre su uso. "Supongo que es más práctico tenerlo en el teléfono, pero para mí es más rápido usar mi tarjeta de identificación y NO quiero llegar tarde a mi primer período," dijo el estudiante de último año Diego Pantoja.



Historia de Lilly Krueger

## Planificación de las clases para el próximo año

A medida que comienza el segundo semestre, los estudiantes comenzarán el proceso de elegir sus clases para el próximo año escolar. Según la subdirectora, la Srta. Passarelli, las inscripciones comienzan el 21 de enero y cierran el 28 de febrero. Cada clase se reunirá con sus consejeros asignados en las siguientes fechas: estudiantes de primer año del 18 al 21 de febrero, estudiantes de segundo año del 3 al 7 de febrero y estudiantes de tercer año del 21 al 31 de enero. Si los estudiantes faltan alguno de esos días, el último día para reunirse con los consejeros será el 28 de febrero. Reunirse con un consejero es importante para garantizar que los estudiantes tomen las clases correctas y decidan lo que más les conviene. Para seleccionar las clases, los estudiantes deberán abrir la página de PowerSchool en línea, no a través de la aplicación en su teléfono. Después de iniciar sesión, deben oprimir "registrar clases" en el lado izquierdo debajo de Navegación. Una vez que los estudiantes estén en la página de registro, verán los cursos requeridos y los créditos requeridos para el año. Los estudiantes deben considerar las clases que eligen, ya que algunas clases pueden traer una gran carga al año escolar. Si los estudiantes han seleccionado cursos de CTE y tienen preguntas sobre los cursos, deben hablar con la Sra. Bivins o la Sra. Scaife, los consejeros del departamento de 'Career Development'.





# GUEST PLAYLISTS

Curated by  
Marisol Nicasio

Is your New Year's resolution to start going to the gym? Here are songs that will get you in the workout mood!

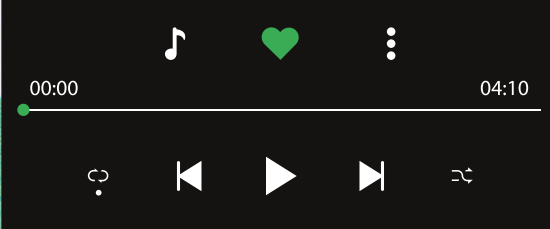
Do you have a song you would like to add to our next playlist? Email your suggestions for our Valentine's Day Playlist to [thorntonian@tfd215.org](mailto:thorntonian@tfd215.org). Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted. Please limit your suggestions to 5 songs per playlist. The deadline for submissions is 3:30 pm on February 7, 2025.

Thorntonian Staff's Picks:

"Like a Boy"  
by Ciara

"Party in the USA"  
by Miley Cyrus

"Master of Puppets"  
by Metallica

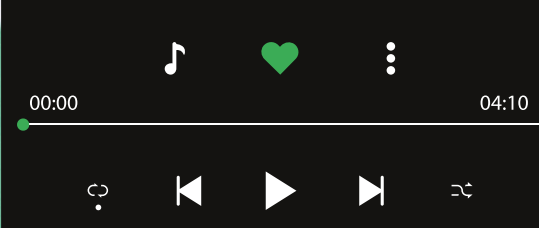


Ms. Lukaswecki's Picks:

"Sound of Madness"  
by Shinedown

"Claps"  
by Eminem

"Crawling"  
by Linkin Park

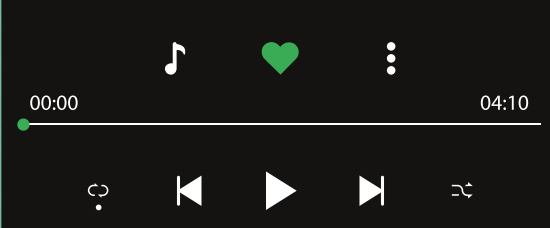


Sully Villanueva's Picks:

"Save Your Tears"  
by The Weeknd

"Guess"  
by Charli XCX ft. Billie Eilish

"LUNCH"  
by Billie Eilish

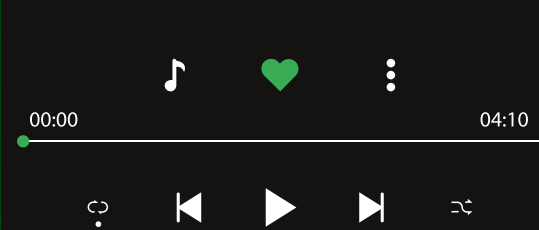


Kimora Coleman's Picks:

"Bohemian Rhapsody"  
by Queen

"Back to the Old House"  
by The Smiths

"One Night Only"  
by Sonder

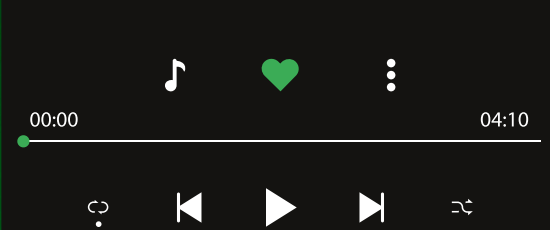


Angelita Quirogas's Picks:

"Don't Stop Me Now"  
by Queen

"Bring Me to Life"  
by Evanescence

"Heartless"  
by Kanye West



***WE are PROUD to SUPPORT TFN!***



***Dine in or Carry Out***

***Thursday, February 13th, 2025***

*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.

## Upcoming Home Games:

January 21  
Boys Basketball  
T.F. North v. Oak Lawn  
4:30 pm

January 23  
Girls Bowling  
T.F.North v. Evergreen  
4:30 pm  
Boys Basketball  
T.F.North v. Hammond Central  
4:30 pm

January 28  
Girls Basketball  
T.F.North v. Lemont  
5:00 pm

January 30  
Girls Basketball  
T.F.North v. Breman  
4:30 pm

February 1  
Boys JV Wrestling  
T.F.North v. SSC  
8:00 am

February 4  
Boys Basketball  
T.F.North v. Tinley Park  
4:30 pm

February 7  
Boys Basketball  
T.F.North v. Hillcrest  
4:30 pm

Ivy Finley, Staff Reporter

## May & Jenkin's motivations

The TFN boys varsity basketball team has been putting up impressive numbers in recent games with wins of 67 to 53 against Argo High School and an astonishing score of 95 to 47 against Reavis High School. There are two vital varsity athletes, both underclassmen, who contribute to this team's victories. Junior Prim May for the varsity boys basketball team has been playing since he was three years old. May loves basketball because it's fun, and it brings him joy. Besides his love for the game, the promise of college scholarship opportunities motivates him to be the best player he possibly can be. May said that his team is very close to one another, and his favorite part of being on the team is playing with his friends. His biggest supporters are his parents and coaches, who all want the best for him. Junior Marlin Jenkins, has also been playing basketball since he was three years old. Jenkins loves basketball. "It gives me a reason to wake up really." His biggest supporters are his father and his grandmother, and his favorite part of being on the team is playing with his friends. Jenkins said that his relationships with his teammates are amazing. Throughout the season the athletes get to see each other grow.

Jasmine Pastrana, Staff Reporter

## Mcclain & Agwu enjoy last season

Senior Gabby Mcclain is pursuing her dream. She has always reminded herself to become better in the sport she loves. She has a great bond with her teammates, she sees them as her family. "Our bond with the team is kind of like a family, you know we can talk to each other about anything and learn from each other. If one of us are having a problem we talk about it and try to help each other," said Mcclain. Mcclain has been playing basketball since 6th grade. In her family everybody plays basketball and it started getting her to like it. The season has been going well for her and the team. "I still want to play basketball in college and perform at a higher level because I love basketball. So it's just a drive to be better. I started playing basketball when I was a kid, but when I started playing games I was in 6th grade. I always played basketball. I had always played basketball since that is what my family plays, like everybody plays basketball in my family. It was falling to me, so that's why I started playing," said Mcclain. Another senior who has always loved participating in sports is Precious Agwu. Agwu started playing basketball at the age of 10. "In third grade, my dad took me to this basketball club thing, and that's when I started playing and I just kept playing in middle school and now high school. Each season Agwu has improved and continued to grow. "I've always liked playing sports as a kid, so I'd continued playing basketball in high school, it's just something I always wanted to do," said Agwu. Agwu has a really great bond with her teammates, playing together since freshman year. Every time basketball season comes around they grow closer together as teammates and grow to love each other as a family. "I feel like our bond is really good. It started freshman year, because most of us were in the same class, so we've always had that bond. But over each season we've gotten closer and closer, and especially this season, I feel the team in its entirety, like we all grown to love each other and see each other as a family...We've been way playing better as a team, and our record, too, has been going well. We hope to continue that trend toward the end of the season," said Agwu.

# SPOTLIGHT



Joseph Merritt  
Senior  
Wrestling

Who is your favorite teammate? Why?  
"I'd say Derrick Sparkman is my favorite teammate because we're eerily similar, both physically and socially."

Who is your favorite school to compete against and why?  
"My favorite school to compete against is Lemont because I always get a nice nap on the way to their school."

What is your favorite wrestling move? Why?  
"My favorite move would have to be the cradle. I've tried it in pretty much every match I've been in."

