# Thorntonian

Issue #10

The Official Newspaper of T.F. North High School February 12, 2025

Marisol Nicasio, Staff Reporter

### Yearbook flash sale set for Feb. 13

On Thursday, February 13th, the Chronoscope Staff is holding its semi-annual yearbook flash sale during Parent Teacher Conferences in the auditorium lobby from 2-4:30 pm and 6-8 pm. Once a semester, the Chronoscope Business Department holds the sale while marketing the new yearbook along with different yearbooks from over 50 years ago. The current business department is comprised of juniors Florah Dismuke and Alexandria Brooks-Phillips and senior Dean Juarez. The following Chronoscopes will be on sale for \$10: 1974, 1975, 1977-1984, 1987-2014, and 2017-2021. The 2022-2024 Chronoscopes will be on sale for \$30. Since the Chronoscope is a small, student-led club, not a business, yearbooks cannot be shipped. All sales are in-person, on-site, and cash only. Each sale creates new memories for not only the Chronoscope members, but customers as well. "I enjoyed handing out the yearbooks and seeing peoples faces light up when buying a yearbook," said Dismuke who worked the last flash sale in September. Graduates from as far back as the 1970s attend each year hoping to purchase a Chronoscope that captured the significant moments from when they were a high school student. "Being able to make others smile by having their yearbook was an amazing experience, and I am glad I get to do it again," said Brooks-Phillps who has also worked the event. "The flash sale is one of the activities that I feel like we can really give back. Having these old yearbooks from decades ago is really cool to look through. I am really looking forward to meeting and speaking to people who used to be a student just like me, but from years ago," said Juarez.



Juniors Florah Dismuke and Alexandria Brooks-Phillips and senior Dean Juarez pose with the on sale yearbooks.



TFN hosted the first Spanish Honor Society induction ceremony on January 17.

Story by Anahi Martinez, Staff Reporter

### Spanish Honor Society inducts its inaugural members

The inaugural induction for the Spanish Honor Society was held at T.F. North in the upper cafeteria on Friday, January 17th. It was hosted by SHS sponsor Ms. Galvan with the following SHS Officers: Co-Presidents Valeria Meraz and Dalia Morales, Vice President Ximena Valdivia, Secretary Natalie Gonzalez, and Treasurer Alexa Cervantes. 14 female students were inducted, although any student is eligible to join. For students interested in joining the Spanish Honor Society, they must be a sophomore, junior, or senior and have completed at least 4 semesters of Spanish or have taken the Spanish Heritage class. The evening started with a video welcoming the students and explaining the significance of the chapter's namesake. Jasmine Aguado was an 2016 alumnus who passed away in 2024 due to cancer. "If you did not know Jasmine Aguado, Jasmine was someone who found positive vibes and always was smiling and was the light in every room that she was in. She liked to have fun, and that's something that's important in life. No matter what her situation was she was always positive, and she always was looking out for others," said Mr. Altenburg in the video. During the ceremony, each girl was given a candle to represent them and their light that always beams the same way many people described Jasmine's light to beam. After the ceremony, a feast with music was held for the members,

their families, and their guests. "All [the] families came together to make traditional food and to memorialize Jasmine Aguado; it was honestly a beautiful experience seeing everyone come together with the Mariachi Tesoro de México. The teachers that came out and supported us meant a lot. We also retired Jasmine's [volleyball] jersey for her family to honor her sportsmanship. I feel like SHS really brings us all together, especially in these moments. We hope in the near future we are able to create more memories and make an impact in our Hispanic community." said Dalia Morales. Natalie Gonazalez first met Jasmine when she was 7 through her brothers. "The ceremony was a night to remember. I am extremely honored and proud to be a part of the Spanish National Honor Society as well as the secretary. It was truly rewarding. Personally, I am extremely grateful that we were able to honor Jasmine Aguado. Jasmine was unapologetically herself, funny, and overall an unforgettable person. Overall, this experience has been empowering, and I can't wait to accomplish more," said Natalie Gonzalez. "I have seen these ladies work hard. I've heard stories of sleepless nights, stories of tears and stories of struggling as they balance AP classes, clubs and their jobs. I knew they deserved a great ceremony that they will remember for years to come, and I hope it was accomplished," said Ms. Galvan.

### **Teen Relationships**

Lilly Krueger

Get some helpful advice for young couples

### **High School Sweethearts**

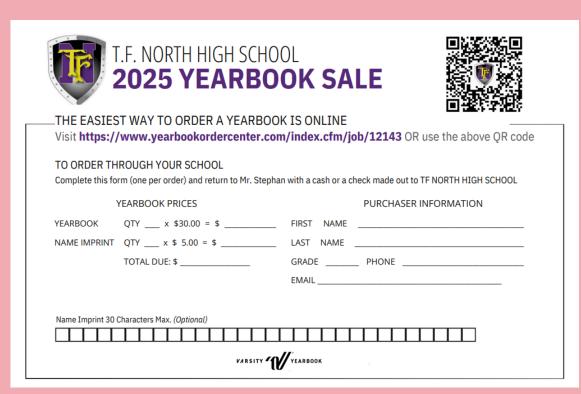
Jasmine Pastrana
Read about former TFN
students who are now married

### **History of Cupid**

Rogelio Romero
Learn the story of
Valentine's Day's mascot

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# **Upcoming Events**

Feb. 13 Parent Teacher Conferences Feb. 14-17 No school Feb. 19 Diversity Luncheon Feb. 19 District Choir Festival Feb. 22 Teen Summit, Star Girls Feb. 22 SSC Film Fest Feb. 27-28 BHM Assembly



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

#### <u>Faculty Advisor:</u> 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.





Mr. Carr

Photo credit: Luis Pelayo

Luis Pelayo, Staff Reporter

### TFN BTS

### (Behind the Scenes)

Mr. Carr and Mr. Collins are the two people who help ensure the safety of people walking around the school's exterior. They make sure that the east lot near the Gold Gym, the south lot near the Purple Gym, the lot under the overpass, the road in front of the cafe, the sidewalk along Pulaski Road in the front of school, and the sidewalks around the school are free of snow and ice. Depending on the amount of snow, they arrive at the school between 4:30-5:00 am. They aim to have the parking lots done before 7:30 am when teachers start coming in. They want to have the sidewalks completed before 8:00 am when the students arrive. Principal Rucinski said, "The biggest thing people don't realize is how early they get here and how much time it takes to get everything clear. It's just a huge undertaking. [I give them] a lot of credit...getting here to make sure we all have clear space and clear sidewalks to come into." Ms. Stadt, a math teacher who is currently injured and is using a scooter agrees. "I completely appreciate everything people did to make sure the sidewalks are clear because not being able to walk and being on a scooter, it definitely made getting into school easier. I also think that when I'm not on the scooter that they still do an amazing job."



Mr. Collins Photo credit: Chronoscope Archives

Luis Pelayo, Staff Reporter

### **Crushes get cans of Crush**

Scholastic Bowl and Freshman Board are wrapping up their fundraiser titled "Crush for your Crush." This was the third year this fundraiser was done by Mr. Mansour, the current sponsor of both clubs. The cans were sold from January 28th until the 7th of February. They sold a total of 195 cans for \$1 each, with 52 of those being sold with the optional \$1 note. This money is split 50/50 between the clubs. Scholastic Bowl spends its earnings on food for after its competitions which often run until 8 pm as well as snacks for the other schools' coaches when they host competitions. They also need to replace equipment for the club. Freshman Board uses it's money for snacks for when the Board meets.



Mr. Mansour makes another Crush sale. Photo credit: Luis Pelayo

### 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 <u>FOOD</u> sales only. Present this flyer upon ordering. No credit cards taken over the phone.

### What is Galentine's Day?

Story by Gaby Barraza, Staff Reporter

Galentine's Day is well known, but some people do not know its origin. Galentine's Day, a celebration of female friendship, is Feburary 13th. Galentine's Day is actually from a TV show called "Parks and Recreation." In Season 2, episode 16 was titled "Galentine's Day" and aired in 2010. Leslie Knope celebrated with her female friends at a restaurant. She wrote an essay on each friend of hers on why she appreciates them. She also gave them thoughtful gifts. Over the years, the concept of Galentine's Day has evolved with women adding their own ideas to the celebration, from hosting parties and going to restaurants to organizing movie nights and sleepover parties at which they can hang out with their close friends, eat together, gossip together, and enjoy each other's presence. Sophomore Kiara Gardner has attended a Galentine's Day party thrown by her friends. "My favorite memory from the party was the fact that it was all girls just being girls, and we didn't have to worry about any boys or any love from them either because we were all best friends who love and care for each other," said Gardner. If you are unsure how to throw a Galentine's Day party here are some ideas. You can plan a movie night and decorate your house or you can keep it simple and just go out for dinner. You can give your friends meaningful gifts or tell them how much you appreciate them. Junior

Anahi Martinez celebrated Galentine's Day with her close friends and gave thoughtful gifts as well. "The reactions everyone had about their gifts was heartwarming to see, and the whole event, overall, was a good time," said Martinez. Galentine's Day has become an unofficial holiday. While celebrating your relationship for Valentine's Day, it's now acceptable to celebrate platonic friendships for Galentine's Day. Both are equally deserving of celebration. So now every year we celebrate both friendship and partnership with the people in our lives to recognize, honor, and support each other.



Photo credit Anahi Martinez, Thorntonian Staff

# Relationship advice for teenagers $\heartsuit \heartsuit \heartsuit \heartsuit$

Story by Lilly Krueger, Staff Reporter

Being in a relationship has taught me the most about myself. I have always kept to myself and found it hard to open up around others. I always felt like I was too sensitive and my thoughts went unheard. My girlfriend has opened up barriers that I've built and has taught me to be my true self. Although my girlfriend and I go to different schools, communication is the most important factor for us. We communicate and take each other's time consideration. We're both athletes and have our own work load, but we make sure not to invalidate each other's responsibilities. We might not see each other everyday, but we make time for each other and treat each other with the utmost respect. Relationships aren't meant to be easy, but it's important for them to stay healthy. Ms. Braasch, a counselor at T.F. North, speaks to health classrooms to give healthy relationship advice. According to Ms. Braasch respect, trust, and having a sense of yourself are the most important things when it comes to being in a relationship. Respect should be a given. Talk to your partner how you would want them to speak to you. Respect your partner by understanding them but also trusting them. Without trust there is no relationship. Trusting your partner keeps the relationship healthy so you are able to rely on your partner when needed. Having a sense of yourself keeps who you are within a relationship. Keeping your morals and who you are is really important. Noticing red flags is just as important though. Your partner

shouldn't make you feel bad when you've done nothing wrong and asking for basic communication in a relationship shouldn't be needed. During rough patches it's important to respect each other. Although you may be having an argument, neither partner should be bringing each other down. If your partner cannot hear you and try to see your side they, don't respect you. In times like these, it's important to communicate and find a middle ground to be able to move on and make sure each side is heard and understood. Lastly for those entering high school relationships, Mrs Braasch recommends, "Go slow and listen to vourself."



Senior Lilly Krueger with her girlfriend Joya Photo credit: Yesenia Reyes, Chronoscope Staff

# How to ask out your Valentine

**OPINION** 

Jakayla O'Quinn, Staff Reporter

Do you need help asking your Valentines out because you're too nervous? If I were being asked out for Valentine's Day, I would love to be asked out with a cute poster maybe in front of people in school or around family. Many people would love getting asked with a poster and probably a gift. Junior Liliana Sanchez was asked to prom with a poster. She says she liked it, and it was a very "sentimental" moment for her. She also thought it was the cutest, and it made her feel very special. Some people like getting asked out in other ways. My sister Jaraya O'Quinn thinks getting asked out a different way is cuter. She says if she was to get a gift from her valentine she wouldn't want anything but candy and to spend time with them. Another way you can ask someone out for Valentine's Day is by decorating their bedroom with a whole lot of gifts, flowers, candles, and balloons. I don't know anybody who has been asked out that way, but I've always seen it on social media, and it is so cute to me. If you're a very shy person and you are scared to ask someone out in person, you could do it over messages. All that matters is if you ask the person out. When I was in 8th grade my valentine asked me out through text, but it was cute because on Valentine's Day he brought me a little gift. This year now I have a girlfriend and she says she is going to surprise me. I love surprises, don't you?



Photo provided by Lilliana Sanchez

# Cutest Couple Contest Winners



Junior Remberto Cortes & Sophomore Jocelyn Gonzglez

THANK YOU TO ALL THE TFN COUPLES WHO SUBMITTED PICTURES TO BE A PART OF THE CONTEST.

# **GUEST PLAYLISTS**

## **Curated by Marisol Nicasio**

Valentine's Day is coming up, and love is in the air. Here are some songs that just make you want to fall in love!

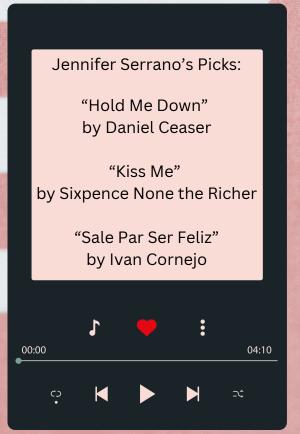
Thorntonian Staff's Picks:

"Friday, I'm in love"
by The Cure

"I Want You to Love Me"
by Fiona Apple

"Good Luck, Babe"
by Chappell Roan

Do you have a song you would like to add to our next playlist? Email your suggestions for our Black History Month Playlist to 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 18th, 2025.



Christian Diaz's Picks:

"Her"
by Chase Atlantic

"Cologne"
by Junior H

"Congratulations"
by Mac Miller

00:00

04:10

Juan Villalobos's Picks:

"Love Story"
by Taylor Swift

"I Wanna Be Yours"
by Arctic Monkeys

"My Kind of Woman"
by Mac Demarco

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# STUDENT WATCHLIST VALENTINE'S DAY EDITION

# CURATED BY ANAHI MARTINEZ & IVY FINLEY



Chosen by: Saul Raygoza



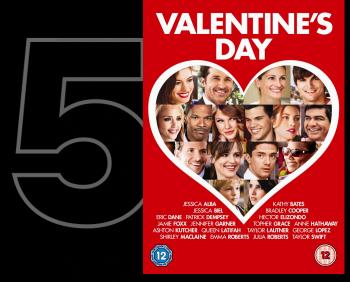
Chosen by: Amari Crawford



Chosen by: Elias Loza



Chosen by: Florah Dismuke



Chosen by: Anthony Camarena

Do you have a must-watch Black History Month movie?

Email your suggestions for our watchlist to 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 February 19th, 2025.

### **Student Voice**



High School sweethearts are couples that had dated throughout their high school years and then got married after graduation. Here is a group of couples that are high school sweethearts who are former T.F. North students and are still married to this day.



Briseida Solis & Josue Cenirceros

When did they meet?
They met in their freshman year.

When did they get married?
They got married in 2021.

#### Fact:

They went to Shrum together and graduated from TFN during COVID in 2020.





Jesci Valdez & Courtney (Gonzalez) Valdez

When did they meet?
They met as sophomores.

When did they get married?
They got married in 2016.

#### Fact:

"Mr. Stephan paired us up for a project and ever since that day we've been together," said Ms. Valdez.





Brenda (Rodriguez) Zamudio & Juan Zamudio

When did they meet? They met in P.E. in 1993.

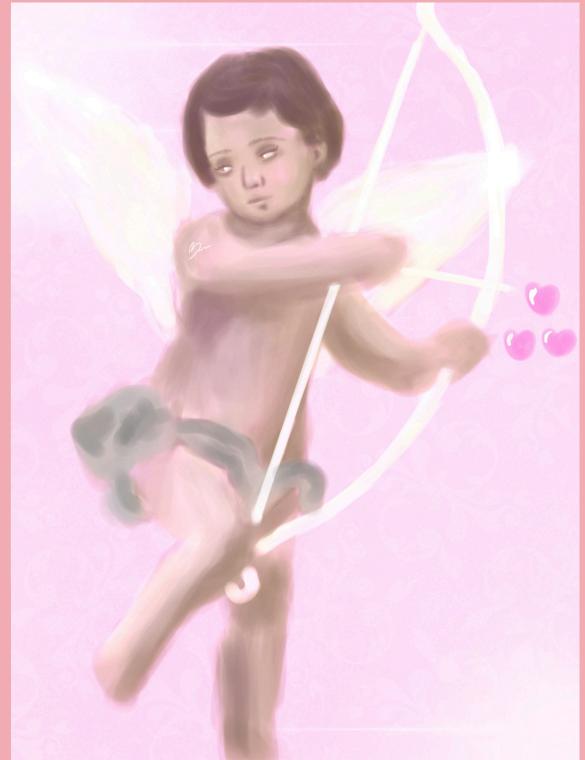
When did they get married?
They got married in 2000.

#### Fact

Mr. Zamudio graduated in 1996, and Ms. Zamudio graduated in 1997.



# A brief history of Cupid



Story by Rogelio Romero Artwork by Emily Sanchez

The image of a baby flying around in a diaper, wielding a bow and arrow has been Valentine's Day's mascot for most people's lives. But do you know who he is? Where did he come from? Why is he the face of Valentine's Day? Beginning with Eros, also the Greek word for desire, was the son of Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty. Eros is similar to our Cupid with wings, a bow and arrow, and the ability to make anyone fall in love. However, he would only do so if his mother ordered it. The only difference is that Eros is depicted as an adult with a youthful look. But how did the powerful pantheon god turn into a baby? As time passed and Greek culture began to spread, the Romans picked it up. They changed his name from Eros to Cupid, stemming from the Latin word Cupido, meaning desire, and over time depictions of him became more babyish and mischievous. But why is he associated with Valentine's Day? Cupid was first celebrated in a pagan Roman tradition called Lurpercalia. It was usually held on February 15 as a festival of purification and fertility. It was much bloodier and more violent, the opposite of the Valentine's Day we're used to. Then Christianity began to spread in Rome, they banned the holiday due to it being un-Christian. It wasn't until the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius declared the 14th of February as Saint Valentine's Day. Cupid has stayed with the holiday since its very beginning. So the next time you see the god of love, remember that he is much older than he looks.



### Last-minute Valentine's Day Basket

Valentine's Day is a holiday to celebrate all the love there is in the world. Whether you love a partner, friends, family, or even pets, you can take this chance to show your appreciation for the relationships in your life. But if you are short on time or money, it can be difficult, but not impossible! You can make Valentine's Day baskets in one trip to Walmart for \$20 or less.



Step 2: Pick a lovable stuffed animal







Step 3: Pick your loved one some flowers







Step 4: Pick out a sweet treat







Step 5: Pick a drink to complete your basket







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Historia de Lilly Krueger, Reportera

### Consejos de relación para adolescentes.

Estar en una relación me ha enseñado más sobre mí misma. Siempre me he mantenido a mí misma y me ha parecido difícil abrirme con los demás. Siempre sentí que era demasiado sensible y mis pensamientos no eran escuchados. Mi novia ha abierto las barreras que había construido y me ha enseñado a ser mi verdadero yo. Aunque mi novia y yo vamos a diferentes escuelas, la comunicación es el factor más importante para nosotras. Nos comunicamos y tenemos en cuenta el tiempo de cada una. Las dos somos atletas y tenemos nuestra propia carga de trabajo, pero nos aseguramos de no invalidar las responsabilidades de cada una. Puede que no nos veamos todos los días, pero hacemos tiempo la una para la otra y nos tratamos con el máximo respeto. Las relaciones no están destinadas a ser fáciles, pero es importante que se mantengan saludables. La Sra. Braasch, consejera en T.F. North, habla con las clases de salud para dar consejos sobre relaciones saludables. Según la Sra. Braasch, el respeto, la confianza y el valor a uno mismo es lo más importante cuando se trata de estar en una relación. El respeto debe ser un hecho. Habla con tu pareja sobre cómo te gustaría que se le hablara. Respeta a tu pareja entendiéndola, pero también confiando en ella. Sin confianza no hay relación. Confiar en tu pareja mantiene la relación saludable para que puedas confiar en tu pareja en todo momento. Tener un sentido de ti mismo mantiene quién eres dentro de una relación. Mantener tu moral y quién eres es realmente importante. Sin embargo, notar las malas señales, mejor conocidas como 'red flags', es igual de importante. Tu pareja no debe hacerte sentir mal cuando no has hecho nada malo y pedir una comunicación básica en una relación no debe ser necesario. Durante los momentos difíciles, es importante respetarse mutuamente. Aunque puede que estés teniendo una discusión, ninguno de los dos debe hacer sentir mal al otro. Si tu pareja no puede oírte y trata de entender tu perspectiva, no te respetan. En momentos como estos, es importante comunicarse y encontrar un término medio para poder seguir adelante y asegurarse de que cada lado sea escuchado y comprendido. Por último, para aquellos que entran en las relaciones de la escuela secundaria, la Sra. Braasch recomienda: "Ve despacio y escúchate a ti mismo".



Senior Lilly Krueger con su novia Joya Photo por: Yesenia Reyes, personal de Cronoscopio

Historia de Anahi Martinez , Reportera Traducida por Lizbeth Solotio, Reportera

### La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica toma posesión de sus miembros inaugurales.

La juramentación inaugural de la Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, capítulo Jasmine Aguado, se llevó a cabo en la cafetería de T.F. North el viernes 17 de enero. Fue organizada por la patrocinadora de SHS, la Sra. Galvan, con las siguientes directivas de SHS: las co- presidentas Valeria Meraz y Dalia Morales, la vicepresidenta Ximena Valdivia, la secretaria Natalie González y la tesorera Alexa Cervantes. Se incorporaron 14 alumnas, aunque cualquier estudiante es elegible para unirse. Para los estudiantes interesados en unirse a la Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, deben ser estudiantes de segundo, tercer o cuarto año y haber completado al menos 4 semestres de español o estar en el curso de español para hispanohablantes II. La noche comenzó con un video dando la bienvenida a los estudiantes y explicando el significado de este capítulo. Jasmine Aguado fue una alumna del 2016 que falleció en el 2024 debido a un cáncer. "Si no conocías a Jasmine Aguado, Jasmine era alguien que encontraba vibraciones positivas y siempre estaba sonriendo y era la luz en cada habitación en la que estaba. Le gustaba divertirse, y eso es algo importante en la vida. No importa cuál fuera su situación, ella siempre era positiva y siempre estaba pendiente de los demás", dijo Sr. Altenburg en el video. Durante la ceremonia, a cada muchacha se le entregó una vela para representarlas, y su luz siempre brilla de la misma manera que muchas personas describieron que brillaba la luz de Jasmine. Después de la ceremonia, se llevó a cabo un

banquete con música para los invitados y sus familiares. "Todas las familias se reunieron para preparar comida tradicional y recordar a Jasmine Aguado; Honestamente fue una experiencia hermosa ver a todos reunirse con el Mariachi Tesoro de México. Los profesores que vinieron y nos apoyaron significaron mucho. También retiramos la camiseta de Jasmine para que su familia honre su espíritu deportivo. Siento que SHS realmente nos une a todos, especialmente en estos momentos. Esperamos que en un futuro cercano podamos crear más recuerdos y generar un impacto en nuestra comunidad hispana". dijo Dalia Morales. Natalie González conoció a Jasmine cuando tenía 7 años a través de sus hermanos. "La ceremonia fue una noche para recordar. Me siento extremadamente honrada y orgullosa de ser parte de la Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, además de ser secretaria. Fue realmente gratificante. Personalmente estoy sumamente agradecida de que hayamos podido honrar a Jasmine. Jasmine siempre fue como era, sin disculpas, divertida y, en general, una persona inolvidable. En general, esta experiencia ha sido enriquecedora y no puedo esperar para lograr más", dijo González. "He visto a estas chicas trabajar duro. He escuchado historias de noches de insomnio, historias de lágrimas e historias de dificultades para equilibrar sus clases, los clubs y sus trabajos fuera de la escuela. Sabía que merecían una gran ceremonia que recordaran por años. Espero que se haya logrado", añadió la señora Galván.



El mariachi toca en la ceremonia de inducción de SHS. Ir a la página uno para ver a las inducidas. Photo por: Mr. Stephan





### VALENTINE'S MOVIE GUIDE

### Now playing in theaters:

- Heart Eyes (R) Horror/Romance
- Love Hurts (R) Action/Adventure
- Companion (R) Horror/Romance
- Love Me (R) Romance/Sci-Fi
- When I'm Ready (PG) Thriller/Romance

### **VALENTINE'S DAY**

EDITION Jasmine Pastrana & Emily Sanchez

### Places to go:

Navy Pier

Valentine's Day Fireworks

(31-minute drive)

Navu Pier, Chicago, IL 60611

Open February 14th at 9 pm

Chicago Botanic Garden

The Orchid Show India Blooms

(51-minute drive)

Chicago, IL 60614

February 8 - March 23

Dailu 10 am - 4 pm

#### Chick-fil-A

Offering heart-shaped traus

(11-minutes drive)

17601 Torrence Ave Lansing. IL

Monday - Saturday: 6:30 AM - 10:00 PM

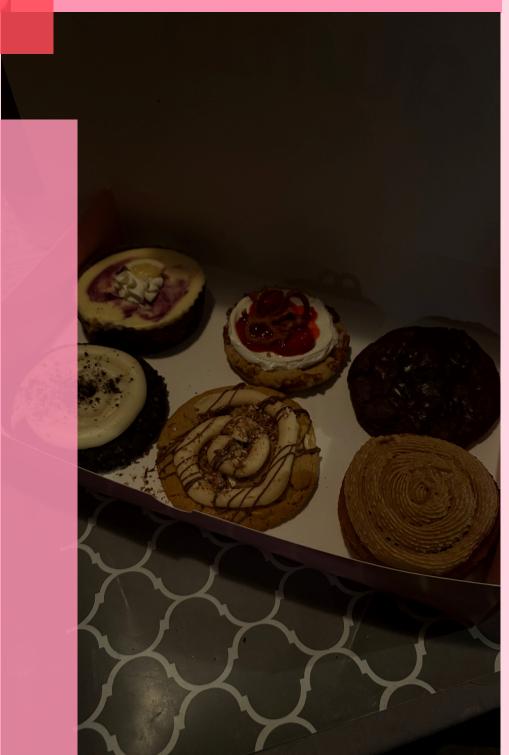
Sunday - Closed

### Portillo's

Offering heart-shaped chocolate cake & chocolate-covered strawberries (14-minute drive)

17500 S. Halsted St. Homewood, IL 60430

Monday-Sunday: 10:00 AM- 1:00 AM



### SNACK IDEAS:

- Crumbl Cookies
- White Chocolate Puffcorn
- Strawberry Hot Chocolate
- Heart-shaped Pizza
- French Toast with Nutella and Strawberries

## **Upcoming Home Games:**

February 12 Boys Basketball T.F. North v. Oak Lawn 4:30 pm

February 17 Girls Basketball IHSA Regional 6:00 pm

February 18
Boys Basketball
T.F. North v. Thornridge
4:30 pm

February 20 Girls Basketball IHSA Regional 6:00 pm

# **Upcoming Tryouts:**

Softball March 4th

Baseball March 4th

Girls Soccer March 4th

Boys Tennis March 4th

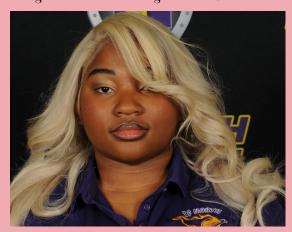
Girls Badminton March 4th

Boys Volleyball March 10th

Aidan Jordan, Editor-in-Chief

# Alphonse leads bowlers

Senior Janiah Alphonse has been the girls bowling team's MVP again this season. Her average for the season is 170. Although she has been on the team for only two seasons, she has made a huge impact. She has led the team to many victories throughout the season. During the first tournament of the season, she came in 4th place. On January 28th Alphonse came in first place at the Cardinal Invitational. "I feel amazing because in the first tournament I placed 4th so to go from fourth to first feels so good because I've been waiting on it," said Alphonse. The conference tournament was held on January 31st, and Alphonse placed 10th earning another accolade for her bowling career. Regionals were held on February 7th, and Alphonse qualified for Sectionals. "I felt amazing and overjoyed. I say that because Cristina [Rios] and I were talking about us going to Sectionals since last year when I missed it by 12 pins. So for it to happen now, I'm so happy. The only other thing for me to do is to go to state."



Lizbeth Solorio, Staff Reporter

### McLucas goes to sectionals

Senior Caden McLucas left his mark this bowling season. McLucas had never been on a bowling team prior to being a varsity player on TFN's boys bowling team. "My decision on joining was mainly based on the excitement I get every time I bowl for fun," said McLucas. Despite his lack of experience, he was motivated throughout his bowling journey by the desire for him and his team to become something bigger. Throughout the season, McLucas consistently impressed his team with his skill, dedication, and capability as a new bowler. At the Meteor Shower Invite, McLucas finished in the top ten with an average of 168 pins. His performance earned him along with three other bowlers on the TFN boys bowling team "bowler of the week." On the 17th of January, McLucas finished in 7th place at the IHSA Regional Tournament making him the only bowler on his team who advanced to sectionals, where he finished 72nd with an average of 158 pins for the six game series. This achievement not only was the highlight of his season, but it taught him a lesson. McLucas reflected on his accomplishments throughout this bowling season and explained it made him come to the realization that he can continue growing and becoming better not only in his bowling career, but also in life in general. "It made me want to keep bowling in the future," he said. Looking ahead, McLucas plans to stay consistent with his sport by joining different leagues with his teammates to further improve his skills. Finally McLucas said, "To anyone who wants to join the team I think they should know that persistence is the key to being great at anything, and if you really want it you will have to work for it."



Interview by Ximena Gutierrez, Assistant Editor-in-Chief



Saniyah Scarelli Sophomore Cheerleading

What got you into cheerleading? Why? "What got me into cheering was the competitiveness of it. I started at a young age so seeing the older girls do stunts and flips made me want to do it, too."

What is your favorite part about cheering? "My favorite part about cheering is bonding with my teammates and other cheerleaders from other schools."

What is your favorite stunt to do? Why? "My favorite stunt is any kind of basket because it's fun to do, and you can see visible progress each time you do it."



Senior Caden McLucas placed 72 at sectionals. Photo credit TFN Athletics Dept.