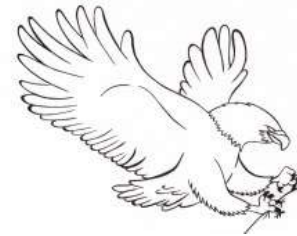


Whether you go trick treating Oct. 31 you can still eat candy. Find out what treat students picked as their favorite.  
Read page 2

Stay safe this Halloween: remain indoors and watch these classic films, TV shows.  
Read page 4

Girls' basketball team members, coach remain optimistic season will actually take place.  
Read page 8

# The Eagle Flyer



**Halloween 2020**  
Kennedy High School  
422 Highland Avenue  
Waterbury, Conn. 06708  
Volume XVII, Issue III



Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

## Could virus claim another victim: seniors only costume tradition?

**WISHFUL THINKING?**  
Senior Ludmila De Paula wears her anticipated Halloween costume of Harley Quinn Oct. 16, 2020 in hopes of being able to carry out the school's seniors only tradition of dressing up for Halloween.



By Jessica Carvalho  
News Editor

*Some wait years for senior privilege, others don't mind*

Oh my gourd! Will seniors be able to continue the annual school tradition of dressing up for Halloween this year due to the pandemic?

Seniors are facing a current dilemma about whether they will be able to dress up Friday, Oct. 30, 2020 during the school day.

"I will be so upset if our senior privilege gets cancelled. These three years, I've seen the seniors from past years getting dressed up and I've been looking forward to it so much. If it gets cancelled, I'm not going to school any more," said Ludmila De Paula, senior.

Despite such unprecedented circumstances, De Paula already has a costume in mind.

"Since I already have my costume, I would be Harley Quinn from the *Birds of Prey* movie. The reason I chose this costume is because Quinn's personality concurs with mine since she is free spirited," said De Paula.

De Paula shared her meaning of Halloween, why she celebrates it and what she'd do during these times to celebrate.

"To me, Halloween is a time where you can express who you are in what costume you choose, it brings out your personality and the reason why I celebrate it is because I love horror and scary things so Halloween is amazing to me and candy of course," said De Paula. "Traditionally, I would give out candy to trick or treaters and I'd go out with my friends to whatever event I knew was going on."

How does she plan to stay safe while celebrating this year?

"Well, my plan is to attend Roller Magic's Haunted Skate night with

my costume on while wearing my mask and practicing social distancing. I was planning on attending this event with my boyfriend and possibly a few friends and enjoy our night there," said De Paula.

Next up is avid Halloween fanatic Destiny Morales-Caban, another senior who shared what costume she had in mind this year.

"I would dress up as the Mad Hatter since *Alice in Wonderland* has been one of my favorite movies since I was little," she said.

Halloween has always been her family's favorite holiday!

"Halloween has always been our favorite holiday because we get to do it as a family and dress up all goofy or scary, and it just means a lot to me because we celebrate together," said Morales-Caban.

Morales-Caban also contributed her feelings on not being able to dress up this year for Kennedy's traditional senior privilege.

"Honestly, I feel very upset. I've been looking forward to it due to all the costumes I've seen over the years. It was an opportunity to

come to school with not much dress code," said Morales-Caban.

She also shared some of her plans this year compared to previous years.

"Most of the years before, we would dress up and go trick or treating but others we would stay at home and do a horror movie marathon with a bunch of candy. We plan on doing the same this year in order to celebrate while staying safe," said Morales-Caban.

Last but not least Nathan Meglio explained the difficulties of dressing up this year due to his current situation.

"At this point, I might dress up as an injured soccer player because I can't walk (due to an injury during a soccer match). Realistically, I have no idea because there's a variety of costumes I'd like to dress up as but it's only for a day. I've taken the past couple days to think of something that could stand out," said Meglio, a senior on the soccer team.

Meglio also said he enjoys cel-

See SENIOR PRIVILEGE, page 2

**DARE TO DRESS UP**  
Senior, and author (see story on right) Jessica Carvalho wears her unicorn costume August 4, 2020 although she said she did originally want to dress up as Winnie the Pooh or Belle from *Beauty and the Beast* for Halloween this year.



Photos compiled by Jessica Carvalho/staff

### To our readers:

Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

This is a special edition of *The Eagle Flyer* newspaper. While we realize not everyone celebrates Halloween, we have a long-standing Kennedy H.S. tradition of allowing seniors only to dress up during the school day in a Halloween costume. We also aim to recognize the societal and cultural impact of holidays such as Halloween, so since 2003 when our newspaper was reinvented into the format you see here, our goal has been to inform, educate and entertain. Enjoy!





Photo by Jessica Carvalho/staff

**CARRY ON OR CANCEL?** Senior Ludmila De Paula wears her anticipated Halloween costume of Harley Quinn Oct. 16, 2020.

# Senior privilege of dressing up still uncertain

SENIOR PRIVILEGE, continued from front page

celebrating Halloween because he sees it as a time to have fun and socialize with his friends and family.

“I usually group up with my friends, get together and go trick or treating. Obviously, I don’t know how that’s going to happen this year. After that, we’d often go to my grandparents’ house and do something there as a family,” said Meglio.

Meglio isn’t quite sure what to do this year, especially during such unprecedented times.

“I don’t know what the plan for this year will be however, I may do something for my sister or we’ll buy her something. It’s pos-

sible that I may not even dress up, things could change,” said Meglio.

Meglio also addressed a valuable point about the annual senior privilege.

“I guess not being able to dress up is a little bit upsetting but at the same time, it could be worse. I’d rather not dress up, and know that everyone is safe and what not,” said Meglio. “I can’t say I’m not upset about it since I’ve seen other seniors dress up and it looks like fun but it’s not something I’ll lose my mind over.”

Finally, Meglio shared some tips of his own while bringing in a little humor!

“I’d just say to the people who are going out to stay

safe! I guess many people can dress up as doctors with their masks on,” said Meglio.

### THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Junior Alyssa Bisram shared a photo from when she was in second grade, and dressed up as Silvermist from Tinkerbell for a class Halloween party in 2011. Kennedy seniors in 2020 wonder if the school’s annual tradition of allowing seniors only to dress up in costume will continue given COVID-19, social distancing, mask wearing, and even some of their classmates learning from home virtually.



Photo courtesy of Alyssa Bisram/staff

# People wonder: how safe can trick or treating be during 2020 pandemic?

By Alexis Noujaim, Janaya Santos  
Staff Writers

*Recommendations include one-way candy stop outdoors, or packaged goodie bags*

Halloween on a Saturday, perfect to go trick or treating late in the night with no worry about school the next day. But is it safe to do so with COVID-19 in 2020? Sure, there are ways to social distance and incorporate a mask in most costumes, but is it worth the

risk, especially because most cities in Connecticut are experiencing an increase in virus cases.

“I want to but it’s probably not safe since cases are on the rise,” said Jillian Santos, 14, an 8th grader at West Side Middle School.

Most people are hesitant to participate in the traditional Halloween activities because of the close contact and high risks, but others are coming up with ways to still have Halloween fun.

“Everyone is saying no, I understand it, but maybe if the people handing out candy had gloves on, (also) it’s not like the kids are going in people’s houses, everyone is outside,” said Michele Larson, resident (and concerned parent) of Waterbury.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has come up with many moderate and low risk activities for people to replace the normal trick or treating.

For people who still want to hand out candy to the spooky costumed-children roaming around, it is suggested that one-way trick-or-treating is enforced. People should prepare goodie bags that are individually wrapped and leave them outside for families to grab and go. It is highly recommended that if you plan on making these goodie bags, you must wash your hands and all surfaces the proper way both before and after completing them.

“It’s disappointing that trick or treating is being discouraged but understandable,” said Mr. Clark, a teacher of the Talented and Gifted at Kennedy.

Although it is not as fun as the regular Halloween traditions, these ideas for a safe and socially distanced alternative keep the Halloween spirit alive. While trick or treating is not being enforced, there are many additional activities

you can do with family members or even a group of friends that keep you and everyone else safe.

“I feel like having a little party with your family is fine, said Ms. DeVeau, an English teacher.

Carving pumpkins, watching scary movies, picking apples at an orchard, going through a corn maze, or visiting an outdoor haunted house are a few of many options to keep the Halloween traditions going. Lyman Orchards (Middlefield, Conn.), Roger’s Orchards (Southington, Conn.), and Trail of Terror (Wallingford, Conn.) are all places offering exciting Halloween activities for you and your friends. Could staying close to home be the best option?

“This Halloween I’m carving pumpkins and making Halloween cookies with my boyfriend while watching spooky movies,” said sophomore Ariana Schofield.



Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

### Favorite Candy Poll

Out of 50 people surveyed (a mix of current students, graduates and staff) the winners are:

Candy	# of votes
Sour Patch Kids	10
Kit Kat	9
Reeses	8
Twix	6
Hershey	5
Snickers	5
M&Ms	2
Almond Joy	2
Starburst	1
Skittles	1
Nerds	1

The top ranking candy was Sour Patch Kids with Kit Kat coming in second place and Reeses placing third!

# Enjoy October with lots of outdoor, local fun activities for all ages to enjoy

By Destiny Hollister  
Fashion/Trend Editor

*Visit Pumpkintown U.S.A. while staying safe in your car--among other options this season*

### COMMENTARY

Pandemic getting in the way of life as you know it? Not a problem: you can still make the best of the situation and spread faith!

Ever since Jan. 20, 2020 when the first coronavirus case was discovered in the United States, everything has changed and can only be brought to the light by celebrating every month with the best attitude possible. The United States has been affected pretty badly; regardless, it’s everyone’s responsibility to embrace the fun of everything while remaining safe. To remain safe, social distancing and mask regulations have been in place, but that doesn’t change the fact that October 2020 can be a time to enjoy all the state has to offer!

If one wants to make the best of the situation, it’s worth checking out a nearby place for apple picking, fall foliage, a pumpkin patch, a festival, a haunted house, or even go hiking, according to realsimple.com, a magazine publishing ideas for every day life.

Even with the restrictions placed worldwide, locations are open as society attempts to restore to what life was like before the pandemic’s breakout.

Embracing the month of October will only be beneficial for your own sake: you could

press leaves, visit a corn maze, try baking new recipes, collect pine cones, go on a run, go on a walk, watch movies with your family, go for a hayride, or jump in a pile of leaves to restore that fall feeling this year, according to bestofthislife.com, a Canadian website that provides tips for daily life, whether it’s

Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff



wellness, beauty, style, family, or recipes.

You can always find ways to enjoy life outside of your own house if that’s what comforts you; however, if you’re on the more adventurous side, there’s lots of locations within Connecticut for you!

Within Connecticut, you can pay a visit

### Seasonal places to visit

**Pumpkintown U.S.A.**  
in East Hampton, Conn.

**Nature’s Art Village Pumpkin Passage**  
in Oakdale, Conn.

**Nightmare on Wolcott Street at 1058 Wolcott Street**  
in Waterbury, Conn.

**HighFlyer Zipline**  
at Foxwoods Resort and Casino  
in Mashantucket, Conn.

with your family to Pumpkintown U.S.A. in East Hampton (a scenic one-mile car ride featuring more than 30 Pumpkinhead people and their animal companions). Other options include Nature’s Art Village Pumpkin Passage tour; Hatchlings; Lake Compounce’s Haunted Graveyard; or Waterbury’s very own Nightmare on Wolcott Street, according to mommypoops.com, a website that offers ways to take on adventures.

Don’t forget to think about the picture-taking part of fall as you can get the best photography during this time, and bring family along for the ride!

Try to put yourself out there this October 2020: go camping with your pet at Strawberry Park Resort Campground in Preston, Conn. or Wolf Den’s Family Campground in East Haddam, Conn.; go for a bike ride around biking trails, try out a zipline tour at Adventure Park or the HighFlyer Zipline (33 stories high) at Foxwoods Resort and Casino; visit a farmers’ market; or simply visit a museum for the relaxing vibes, according to ctvisit.com, a website that gives ideas for exploring and visiting Connecticut.

What are you waiting for?

## What has been the scariest thing so far in 2020?

By Jessinya Severino  
Features Editor



"The scariest thing of 2020 is not knowing what is going to come next!"

AJ Barbieri, junior



"Being forced to deny social interactions for months on end."

Brendan Dodd, junior at WAMS



"The scariest part of this year has been that students are taking online classes. It means that education is going to be altered forever."

Irene Once, sophomore



"From what I've seen so far, COVID-19. Millions are dying and even billions are being affected by the effects of COVID like businesses shutting down and the fear of going in places like school or a grocery store because of the thought of getting COVID."

Henri Myrto, freshman



"It was not knowing what to expect. From the coronavirus to the earthquakes in Puerto Rico, to all the wildfires it seems that 2020 just brings one sad thing after the other."

Alahaniss Lopez-Zea,  
Class of 2020 graduate, UConn freshman

## Scary times for gym owners, dentists as businesses try to bounce back

By Jessinya Severino  
Features Editor

### Small business owners do their best to adapt, cope with changes since March 2020

Is your gym now virtual?

Businesses are affected by COVID-19 and had to change their work base beginning in mid-March 2020 until this very day in Connecticut to keep people safe and healthy from this spreading virus.

"COVID was terrible for my business. It had to shut down for months and I had no source of income, as well as losing a lot of clients," said Kyle Stevenson, the owner of E.S.A.P. Gym in Thomaston.

Gyms were one of the places closed the longest during this time. Being in a gym requires touching a lot of equipment others have touched, and usually being around groups of people during a workout class.

"I had to have limited clients at one time. And I can't host a class like I was used to, and had to space out 12 foot boxes for my clients," said Stevenson. "The gym was closed for three months."

Other gyms found ways to cope with the ways of their closing.

"I'm a personal trainer at a gym and through COVID, our gym did get shut down for three months," said Janet Lorancaitis, a personal trainer at Catalyst Training Gym in Middlebury. "With the gym being closed however, we were still able to service a few clients through Zoom (online) sessions and classes."

Catalyst and its clients were determined to be able to get their exercise and sessions in through their shut down period. These gyms are taking these rules seriously to be sure they could stay open.

"Masks were mandated upon entering and exiting the gym, as well as in passing

from each machine as well as in the restroom. Trainers are expected to wear masks at all times during sessions in addition to wearing gloves," said Lorancaitis. "Machines and apparatus are to be cleaned after each use, including during classes."

Even though it was sad to see gyms close, there were businesses that some didn't even think would close since they

are very important. Dentists' offices were even forced to close. Many appointments were cancelled.

"Under recommendations from the ADA (American Dental Association) and the CSDA (Connecticut State Dental Association), we closed all routine dental procedures," said Dr. Dina Albano, the co-owner of Albano and Greenwald Family Dentistry in Waterbury. "At first, the recommendation was for two weeks and then that was extended. From March 18 - June 1, we only performed emergency services."

These places affected were not aware they would be closed for so long. It was something that each business had to make a new plan for. COVID's impact has made dental workers and patients more secure in their workspace.

"During this time, we worked to secure proper PPE (personal protective equipment) for our staff. We have added UV filters in the office and discontinued some procedures to de-

crease amount of aerosols," said Albano.

In the dental office, they are taking precautions such as having patients wait in their cars until they get a text that the office is ready to be with you, wearing protective equipment, and cleaning everything that is touched or used.

"Business has improved since we have been able to start seeing patients for regular restorative care and cleanings," said Albano.

As some businesses improved there were many that declined. About 54 percent of firms were closed, 43 percent were temporarily closed, and employment was down 47 percent, according to pnas.org, a website featuring the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in the United States.

"Business did somewhat decline in the beginning of the pandemic as there was much fear and unknown with COVID," said Lorancaitis.

There is hope to have places gaining back their numbers while still having the safety measures.

"After the gym reopened, some, but not all members, came back. Slowly the gym is starting to get back to usual capacity," said Lorancaitis.

E.S.A.P. the gym has been able to continue their classes while still trying to get back to normal capacity.

"My business immediately declined due to COVID," said Stevenson. "It's okay now but still suffering and (I'm) trying to keep my business afloat."



Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

## Staff Editorial

### Practice safety while enjoying Halloween

Among the cooky candy, remember creepy COVID is still around! Soon enough, the eerie Halloween night we have all been waiting for, will seep from behind the shadows with all of its spooky fun. Of course, with every witch comes her broom and with times of fun come reminders of safety!

With COVID-19 still creeping around our community, make sure you wear masks and social distance if trick or treating or enjoying a small Halloween event. The state Department of Health recommends virtual and drive-by events instead of crowded parties, and a household-member scavenger hunt in place of trick or treating. Despite losing the fun of going door to door, scavenger hunts still give kids and adults opportunities to dress up, collect candy and make the night one to remember!

Just because the night is different, does not mean it has to be boring! Other activities that can be added to your spooky schedule include alternatives to the classic candy collecting. Good Housekeeping (GH), a media brand that shares information on cooking, cleaning, and other miscellaneous topics, has made a list of exciting ideas for you and your family to do. Some include “bean-bag or ring toss, or a game of trivia or charades,” making themed treats with ghosts and goblins, or making “the perfect Halloween craft...that’s just as festive Oct. 31 as it is come Thanksgiving,” (according to GH’s website).

Whichever one you choose will end up being endless holiday fun for your family! There is something for everyone this season to stay safe while also making this year special.

Some other reasons Oct. 31 is going to be memorable are that it is on a Saturday, meaning a full day of frightening adventures, and there will be a full moon, casting bright light all throughout the night!

Some final advice for maintaining safety: ensure children’s costumes will not cause tripping or limited vision and include reflective or light up material if out after dark and -- due to less people expected to hand out candy -- be aware of your surroundings. Who knows what is lurking in the dark Halloween night! Happy Halloween from *The Eagle Flyer*!

“Darkness falls across the land, the Midnight Hour is close at hand.”  
~ Rodney Lynn Temperton



### The Eagle Flyer

*The Eagle Flyer* is published monthly and distributed free of charge to Kennedy High School and the Greater Waterbury community. Our mission is to educate, enlighten and inform our school and community while developing journalism skills in editorial and business areas. *The Eagle Flyer* is a member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, the New England Scholastic Press Association and the Journalism Education Association.  
School hours: 7:20 a.m. - 1:50 p.m.  
Address: 422 Highland Avenue, Waterbury, Conn. 06708  
Phone: 203-574-8150 Fax: 203-574-8154

<b>Commentary Editor</b> Vivian Bunker	<b>Managing Editor</b> Danny Ruiz	<b>News Editor</b> Jessica Carvalho
<b>Fashion/Trend Editor</b> Destiny Hollister	<b>Features Editor</b> Jessinya Severino	<b>Sports Editor</b> Jazmin Estrella

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#### Adviser

Dr. Cybart-Persenaire



Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

### Enjoy spooktacular night of binge watching

By *Sophia Gaspard* *Lots of silly, spooky, downright scary films/shows you can view*  
Staff Writer

#### COMMENTARY

Instead of putting on a mask this Halloween, you’ll probably be putting on a blanket. In the likely event you will be snuggled up on your couch, comforted by the scent of a ‘Warm Harvest’ candle, munching away on some Halloween treats, here is a list of some must-watch Halloween favorites. If you’re looking for goosebumps, and maybe a night of being afraid of the dark, watch these thrillers:

#### 1. IT (2017)

If you are afraid of clowns, this might not be the one for you. You will never see yellow raincoats, red balloons and water basins the same.

#### 2. Hush (2016)

Living alone in the woods has always been a daunting idea. When a deaf writer must fight for her life against a masked killer, the audience is convinced they will never live in solitary isolation.

#### 3. Insidious (2010)

When a son is possessed by an unknown entity, his parents take drastic measures to get him back. This movie will leave you running from your closet.

Maybe you’re tired of escaping rooms before you shut the light off, and want a good laugh instead :

#### 1. Beetlejuice (1988)

An oldie but a goodie, this movie is more comedic than its description. A dead couple is stuck haunting their old home, and attempts to scare the new family out.

#### 2. Hubie Halloween (2020)

On the other hand, this is a new Adam Sandler film. A devoted community volunteer and the good-natured object of his fellow citizen’s derision and meanest pranks, finds himself in a real investigation, for a real murderer.

#### 3. Ghostbusters (1984)

After scientists lose their jobs, they decide to become ‘ghostbusters’ to wage a high-tech battle with the supernatural for money. They stumble upon a gateway to another dimension, a doorway that will release evil upon the city. The Ghostbusters must now save New York from complete destruction.

And lastly, here are some family movies that bring together spook, laughs and a Halloween-cheer feel:

#### 1. Monster House (2006)

Adults believe three youths’ assertion that a neighbor’s house is a living creature, is rubbish. The trio must find a way to destroy the structure before innocent trick-or-treaters meet ghastly ends.

#### 2. Goosebumps (2015)

Zach’s neighbor is the famous author of the award-winning *Goosebumps* series we all read as kids. When Zach accidentally unleashes the monsters from the fantastic tales, it’s up to Stine, his daughter and Zach to return the beasts back to the books.

#### 3. Halloween Town (1998)

The town is the only place where supernatural beings can lead a ‘normal’ life, but trouble is looming, and on Marnie’s 13th birthday, she not only finds she is a witch, but that she and her family are involved in a fight against the evil that is threatening to take over the world.

4. For more family favorites, **Disney+** has a whole section dedicated to special Halloween episodes of your favorite childhood shows!

Some include *Wizards of Waverly Place*, *Good Luck Charlie*, *That’s So Raven*, *The Suite Life of Zack and Cody*, and many more!

# Picking up pieces of 2020 by apple picking

By Vivian Bunker  
Commentary Editor

## COMMENTARY

Deep breaths become the entrance for the cologne of leaves, drifting through the crisp autumn breeze. Every so often the perfect gust comes by, carrying the scent of ripe, juicy apples.

You follow that scent throughout the orchard. You play hide and seek with the sun. You skip and trip over the apples left behind on the ground, covered in a fall mosaic of red, orange and yellow hues.

Some of those apples have been tasted, savored while on the walk to find the desired taste. Others may be bruised, having hit the ground after a long fall from a shaken tree. But apples do not fall easy. You shake and you pound but the apple stays. Unless your pursuit of the perfect red delicious rests on the highest branch.

That is when you climb. Reliving childhood memories with every callus built upon your hand and every look from the top seeing the view you discovered on your mini hike to the perfect apple. As you get lost among the even rows of trees, the name of that which you are eating or picking is no longer important.

The autumn atmosphere swallows you whole with soft shivers and the sinking sun, being the only indicator of time, as you lose track counting only apples. Bags fill up. Your escape from the busy city is coming to an end.

You turn and look at the orchard one more time before departure. That same autumn breeze helping the trees wave

**AUTUMN**  
You can pick apples at March Farm in Bethlehem, Conn. as seen here Oct. 11, 2020.



Photos by Vivian Bunker/staff

goodbye to you, and to their apple kin. In that moment you appreciate it all. You appreciate the warmth, every fuzz on your jacket provided to you that day. You appreciate the thinned dirt that is still resting within the crevices of your palm. Most of all you appreciate the gifts of the season, which you get to bring home and devour as a souvenir of your seasonal adventure.

## Quotes for Halloween

Compiled by Roshana Tilkuram  
Staff Writer

“I’ll stop wearing black when they make other colors.”  
~ Wednesday Adams

“Werewolves howl. Phantoms prowl. Halloween’s upon us now.”  
~ Richelle E. Goodrich

“It’s all just a bunch of hocus pocus.”  
~ Max from *Hocus Pocus*

## A short story for Halloween: Ellie and the Werewolf

By Roshana Tilkuram  
Staff Writer



Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

Ellie was a girl who had her secrets.

She kept from people and never really went out much. She was so quiet that when she was around, everyone thought she didn’t know how to talk. Until one day her parents got her a dog, a big fluffy large-eyed dog, and little did Ellie know the dog had his secrets, too.

It was finally that time of the year. Time for scary makeup and cute costumes, plus it was a full moon. The scariest night of all. Ellie got herself a movie set up and got some snacks, getting ready for her night in.

Her dog was in his cage in the basement and didn’t make a sound all night. But was he really in there? To them he was. It was a full moon out tonight. Remember that Ellie’s mom had said to her don’t go out and they left. She went to check on her dog and he wasn’t there.

She looked and called for Dexter every-

where but he was nowhere to be found. There were noises coming from the back of the house where they had hiking trails. She wasn’t scared and she had a lot of secrets so she went in not knowing what she was walking into.

She walked, looking and looking and went deeper and deeper into the woods and then she saw it. A big man-eating creature! She had never been so scared in her life. She tried to outrun the man beast but she fell and got a better look at the animal, and then she knew it was Dexter.

Dexter got close enough and bit her and she screamed but no one could hear her. She was so deep in the woods. Dexter was so angry and he ate her and took her head back to the house and left it on the chair and no one never knew what happened to her until this day...

## Be informed about details of voting in Waterbury Tuesday, Nov. 3

By Danny Ruiz  
Managing Editor

### COMMENTARY

Voting is important and with the Nov. 3 election less than one week away, it is necessary to know if you can register to vote, how you can register to vote and where you can vote.

To register to vote, “you have to be a United States citizen, be a resident of Connecticut and of the town you wish to vote in (and) be at least 17 years old and turn 18 before the election to participate in the general election and have completed confinement and parole

*Check out city’s Registrar of Voters website to learn location of where you vote*

if convicted of a felony (and) have your voting rights restored by the Register of Voters,” according to <https://howto.vote/>

If you are eligible to vote this election, then the next step is to find out how to register to vote.

“There are two different ways you can register to vote in Connecticut. You are able to register online if you have a CT DMV ID, otherwise you are able to complete a paper registration card and deliver it to your local Registrar of

Voters before the registration deadline. CT also has Election Day Registration available. Visit [myvote.ct.gov](http://myvote.ct.gov), for more info,” according to <https://portal.ct.gov/>

What kind of identification is required to vote on election day?

“For voters who are voting for the first time in a municipality, and lacked proper identification when registering, some additional types of identification may be required. Contact your local registrar of voters’ office or visit [myvote.ct.gov](http://myvote.ct.gov),

for more information on ID requirements,” according to <https://portal.ct.gov/>

In terms of where to vote, there are a number of polling places throughout Waterbury. Where you vote depends on your address. Visit [www.waterburyct.org/registrar](http://www.waterburyct.org/registrar) to find out the exact location of your polling place, or check out [www.vote.org](http://www.vote.org) ‘polling place locator.’

The phone number for the Waterbury Registrars of Voters

office is 203-574-6751, and the office is open Monday through Friday from 8:50 a.m. to 4:50 p.m. On the office website there is a city voting district map as well as a list with addresses of the corresponding polling places to vote.

Voting is important. It is a critical part of our republic and if you are old enough to vote, then it’s a right you should most certainly exercise, and exercise proudly. But remember, don’t just vote, educate yourself before you do so.

## From national exams to gender dress codes, how school in Jamaica differs

By Roxanne Windeth  
Staff Writer

### COMMENTARY

“Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself,” said John Dewey, American educator and philosopher.

No matter the school or the country, all schools have the same purposes regardless of where the school is located however, schools in Jamaica compared to those in the United States are quite different. The Jamaican school system has school uniforms, with most students separated by gender. U.S. schools are more technological and seem to have more resources than schools in Jamaica. Finally, the Jamaican school system sorts children at age 10 to go to the best schools based on their results on an exam.

The Jamaican school system has school uniforms. Some schools are separated by gender and the teachers’ discipline for bad behaviour ranges from detention to being kicked out to a less privileged school. Girls normally wear a skirt and a top or a dress with a buttoned up shirt underneath while the boys wear khaki pants and the shirt to

*Imagine one smart board for an entire school to share: high school in Jamaica*

match. The shoes are normally of the same color and similar design. Failure to comply will get you sent home or to the office for a day. The older students normally wear a tie to separate them from the younger students. Our prefects are usually wearing blazers to separate them from the regular school body.

No phones are allowed in school or you can be suspended and it will be confiscated for an entire year. No hoodies can be worn, only a plain cardigan. The boys’ and girls’ clothing colors differ. Boys and girls cannot wear the same color cardigans because the colors are used to differentiate the gender. In U.S. schools, the uniforms do not differentiate the gender. We can wear whatever color shoes we desire and we are allowed to have our phones; they just can’t be used during our classes.

In addition to school uniforms the United States is also more technological. During the coronavirus pandemic when students had to switch to virtual learning, many U.S.

schools loaned the students computers so that they could be able to continue virtual learning online. The Jamaican students don’t have this luxury. Most of them do not have wifi for classes and they can’t afford computers so some kids still aren’t able to work virtually. Some children don’t even have phones in Jamaica unlike the United States where most children have phones and computers. U.S. schools have smart boards in each classroom, as well as computers. At my previous high school in Jamaica we had one smart board for our entire school. No one in our class had a personal laptop; we all had to go to the computer lab or the library. This includes teachers, too.

Last but not least, the Jamaican school system sorts kids at age 10 to go to the best schools based on their results in an exam. In Jamaica, what the United States knows as middle school, we call primary school. We normally attend primary school for six years; at the end of the 6th year a national exam is

taken. The results of these exams determine the high school you get to attend. If you do very well you are placed in the top ten high schools in Jamaica. If you didn’t do as well you are placed in a school that’s not of a high ranking.

The grades are also separated from highest to lowest. For example, if you are in grade 7 there are five different 7th grade classes. In each of these classes the students are placed in a ranking from highest average (also known as the GPA) to those with the lowest average. They believe that doing this will encourage students to do very well. I see this as if they want us to compete to see who will be placed in the best grade 7 class.

This also happens at the end of grade 11, which is where our high schools end. At grade 11 we also take a national exam to see if we can be accepted into college or even get a stable job. If you don’t pass those exams you are less likely to be employed after high school.

# Cases increase but students rise to occasion

By Emmanuel Yankson  
Staff Writer

As predicted to happen with the cold weather setting in, coronavirus cases in the United States have been rising, with many states including Connecticut reporting more than 1,000 cases in the last seven days as reported by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

However, this fact has not been lost on Kennedy High School,

which still maintains social distancing in classrooms, mask wearing, hallway floor markers, and more.

"I believe that the students are doing their personal best to follow the school's guidelines," said Damien Josephson, a junior.

In addition to keeping their distance, both students and staff have been religiously following other

guidelines set by the district.

"I have made sure to always keep a mask on," said Aimee Reinozo, a senior. "In addition I always make sure to wash my hands when possible."

Although the times are becoming increasingly uncertain, Kennedy continues to show its spirit, unwilling to back down from the challenge coronavirus poses.

# Breonna Taylor's life, death deserves mention

By Roshell Walters  
Staff Writer

Breonna Taylor was a 26-year-old ER technician who was wrongfully murdered after police forced themselves into her home Friday, March 13, 2020 without properly alerting Taylor or her partner Kenneth Walker; she was shot multiple times and her boyfriend Walker was charged with attempted murder of a police officer.

"She took care of a lot of people, so a lot of people need her bad right now, including me," said Walker in news reports.

The police involved in the shooting: Jonathan Mattingly, Brett Hankison and Myles Cosgrove, have stated that they did alert the residents that they were police officers, and they said they didn't enter the home forcefully.

Though their stories have changed multiple times, none of the officers have been charged with the death of Taylor.

"I know, or I'm fairly positive that before turning to look at, to know that he had left, or know that he is being moved, I'm almost positive that I had fired, or fired during those flashes and during that vivid, those vivid white and black and gray colors I was seeing," said Officer Cosgrove when questioned about the incident.

The only officer that was charged in regards to what happened that night was Hankison for endangering Taylor's neighbor during the shooting.

Even though Taylor's death was ruled a homicide by a coroner and even though the police knew of her death, they wrote in their police report that Taylor had suffered no injuries and that no forced entry had occurred.

"You probably wouldn't even know about it. If I didn't live, you probably wouldn't even know about Breonna Taylor," Walker said.

## Flash Fiction

### The Bird

By AJ Barbieri  
Staff Writer

I see a bird every Halloween.

He doesn't know I'm there. He just sits on the third street light on the left. Waiting. Waiting for someone to notice him before he flies off. But our spirits are linked. And I believe in mutuality. And I believe the bird believes, too.

Me and the bird are one in the same. While everything around us is crazy, we persevere. We get through life by whatever means possible. We survive.

I hope the bird notices me one night, however we may present ourselves. I want to thank him for being a muse. I want him to know he, like everyone, is not alone in the universe.

*To read more Flash Fiction, "(a) series of very short stories" originally created this summer by writers for The New Yorker magazine, visit [www.newyorker.com/books/flash-fiction](http://www.newyorker.com/books/flash-fiction)*

## CONGRATUATIONS TO THE EAGLE FLYER STAFF

**FOR WINNING A 2020 NATIONAL NEWSPAPER FIRST PLACE AWARD FOR A HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPER**

**FROM THE AMERICAN SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION (ASPA)**



**TOO MANY CHOICES** What candy is your favorite? Check out page 2 for the informal poll regarding what treats Kennedy staff, students and graduates like best. Photo by Janaya Santos/staff

# Join The Eagle Flyer

Kennedy's award-winning student newspaper

in-person students,  
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at-home learners, email our adviser  
Dr. Cybart-Persenaire at  
[acybart-persenaire@waterbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:acybart-persenaire@waterbury.k12.ct.us)

KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

# TRIVIA NIGHT?

TEASE  
YOUR  
BRAIN &  
WIN  
PRIZES!

VIRTUAL ON  
GOOGLE MEET

*Thursday*  
**NOVEMBER 19TH**

*Prizes:*  
GIFT CARDS  
AMAZON FIRE STICK  
BEATS HEADPHONES  
MINI FRIDGE & MORE!

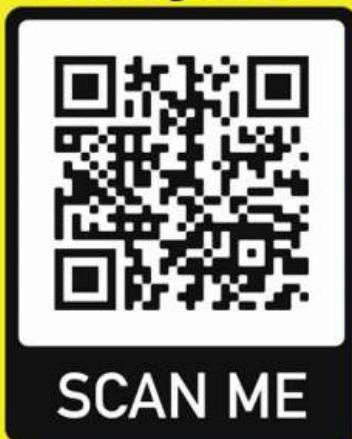
MEET OPENS AT 7:45PM  
TRIVIA STARTS AT 8 PM

**SENIOR CLASS ONLY!**

*Register using our Google Form on the Google Classroom beginning Monday October 26th. Registration will close on Wednesday November 18th. You MUST be registered for the event in order to take part. There is no cost for entry! You will be removed from the Google Meet & Kahoot if your behavior is deemed to be inappropriate.*

**FREE TO PLAY AND WIN  
YOU MUST REGISTER TO PLAY**

To Register:



**CLASS OF  
2021**

**DON'T LET COVID RUIN OUR FUN!**

Scoop on upcoming winter sports:

## Girls' basketball hopes for healthy season

By Jazmin Estrella  
Sports Editor

Seeing how the majority of the fall sports were able to have a season, Kennedy athletes who participate in winter sports wonder what is in store for their season come November 2020, and with this uncertainty, players have their fair share of hopes and worries.

"My hopes for this season is to be able to play a full and successful season. It's my senior year and it really would mean a lot to me to be able to play my last high school season the way I imagined it," said senior Amaryllies Rivera, a member of the girls' basketball team. "Some worries I have for this season will have to be not being able to play at all or the basketball season being cut short. I would be really disappointed if my senior year is ruined because of COVID-19."

There are plenty of things the team members had been looking forward to.

"Things are, and will be, up for debate or be changing constantly. This is something the world has never seen in over 100 years (since the Spanish flu). I don't think anyone fully understands it or has the perfect solution and we're just going to have it take it as it comes and be grateful we get to play at all."

**Ms. Burke,  
girls' basketball coach**

"I was looking forward to shooting the ball more when I received it and scoring double digit points," said Nyla Smith, a sophomore on the girls' basketball team.

"Goals that I am looking forward to accomplish this season

are to be scouted and to try and take my Lady Eagles to the NVLs," said Rivera.

Has there been a definite answer as to whether they will have a season?

"I think things are, and will be, up for debate or be changing constantly. This is something that the world has never seen in over 100 years (since the Spanish flu). I don't think anyone fully understands it or has the perfect solution and we're just going to have to take it as it comes and be grateful that we get to play at all," said head coach Ms. Burke, a physical education teacher.

As of now are there any regulations in place for the scenario in which the season is allowed?

"There are rules similar to fall sports. Everyone needs to do a symptom check every day and have their temperature taken. I



Illustration by Mayra Lovos/staff

think while you're not playing you'll have to wear a mask," said Burke.

Given the worse case scenario that the season does get cancelled, how would the players feel?

"If the season gets cancelled I will be upset but there's a valid reason why it will get cancelled so I'll just prepare for next year," said Smith.

Despite the disappointment this would bring, at the end of the day the team prioritizes safety first.

"I hope that we have a season! But it's looking like we are going to, which makes me so happy! I just hope that everyone stays healthy," said Burke.

"I hope that we get through the season without anyone getting sick or hurt," said Smith.

## Try yoga this Halloween for new spooky, character experience

By Dr. Nirupama C. Nigam  
Science teacher

*India remembers forefathers in Pitru Paksha with yoga based on legends, literature*

COMMENTARY

One of our favorite holidays is coming soon. I love Halloween because it is a lot like Yoga. In Yoga, we pretend to be in different characters by making the body into a different shape: an animal, something from nature, or a different character.

In faraway India, like in Halloween, the forefathers are remembered in Pitru Paksha (Sanskrit: pitru = forefathers, paksha = fortnight). At that time, some Yoga schools perform yogic poses in groups with legends from ancient literature. Most of the members wear jet black or stark white dresses and the yogic drama unfolds.

I will give a glimpse of a yoga sequence which can be done for Halloween under the guidance of a Yoga teacher.

1. In real practice the Yoga session ends with **Corpse Pose** (*Shavasana*); but here it starts with Corpse Pose!

Lie onto the back and let the body rest like it is in a coffin, with the arms to the

sides and legs about one foot apart.

After about five minutes the corpse opens the eyes to meet the black cat, cobra and spider.

2. **Black Cat Pose**  
(*Marjaryasana*)

Start on all fours and round your spine like a black cat, tucking the chin into the chest. Then tuck the toes under and come into a squat.

3. **Poisonous Serpent Pose/Cobra Pose**  
(*Bhujangasana*)

Lay on your tummy with your legs together like a tail. Start with the head down like you are hiding, then on "3," press your torso up and hiss, wiggle around like a scary snake!

4. **Spider Pose**  
(*Lootikasana*)

Sit with the legs apart, knees slightly bent. Reach for arms in between your legs, under

the knees, and wrap them up around the shins. Tuck your head down like a spider crouching on a web.

The corpse gets afraid on meeting such spooky characters and looks around for help to find a crow.

5. **Black Crow Pose**  
(*Kakasana*)

From the squat, lift the balls of the feet and place the knees in the armpits. Lean forward and engage the core to lift the feet up into Old Black Crow Pose, balancing on the hands. Come down to rest, then prepare to come into a squat.

The corpse knows that according to Hindu scriptures, the crow is a mediator between the dead and the living. So, the corpse tells crow that he wants to return to earth.

The crow tells him to worship Hanuman, the Great Monkey God who is believed to ward off evil.

6. **Great Monkey Pose**  
(*Hanumanasana*)

Sit with ease with one leg in front and one behind. Bend a little backwards with raised hands.

The Great Monkey blesses the corpse and the corpse returns to earth bowing to the Great Monkey with folded hands at the back (Namaste).

7. **Reverse Prayer Pose**  
(*Viparita Namaste Pose*)

Instead of folding hands in front, fold them back to match the spirit of Halloween!

The yogic drama ends with group meditation upon 'Gratitude Toward Forefathers.'

To view helpful photographs of these yoga descriptions, visit the website [Freepik.com](http://Freepik.com) which gives royalty free photos with attribution.

## BLM urges no one should worry about violence at home, taking walks

By Ilesca Torres  
Staff Writer

*Protesters seek equal human rights for all in peaceful manner while remembering lives lost too soon*

COMMENTARY

The Black Lives Matter movement is one of the biggest movements in U.S history.

For many decades black people have had to fight for basic human rights in the United States, and many have been killed by police or American citizens. Now in 2020, there have been protests because of the death of George Floyd and many others. These deaths were caused by the people you'd think would protect you the most.

"If you diminish the fact that people are trying to have a movement to be treated equally and have basic rights because they want to live without fear, that's just not right. While all lives do matter, this is a movement for the ones that don't seem to matter though many people's actions," said Casey Krugh, a protester in Pennsylvania.

People saying that "all lives matter" isn't fair to the movement since those people think that saying "Black Lives Matter" means that only their lives matter.

"Human rights shouldn't be up for debate. Of course, some bad people need to get arrested for what they have done but white people especially have so much privilege

only because of their skin color. While people of color and LGBTQ people have to be oppressed and treated like animals," Krugh said.

The movement itself is one of the most important movements worldwide, especially to those who raise awareness.

"The BLM movement is so important, it is. So many lives lost because people and police want to be racist or homophobic," said Leah Forde, a protester in Connecticut.

Forde noted how lives were taken from people either at a young age or any age that didn't need to be taken regardless of what the people may or may not have done.

"All the lives that have been lost is disgusting, no one should have to worry about getting killed in their own home, taking a walk, or anything at all," Forde said. "It's not fair that those innocent lives have been taken away when they had their whole life to live still."

Which is why some believe the protests, peaceful ones, are so needed.

"I think they were needed. I don't necessarily think they should've got violent," said Dalina Maldonado, a BLM

supporter in Connecticut. "They were supposed to be peaceful protests. (Police) were stopping the riots but no one wanted that and there's literal proof minorities, especially POC, are treated unequally by the system and it isn't fair whatsoever. Their skin color or their background doesn't mean they aren't worthy. The protests were an eye-opener to the public and a lot more people are becoming more aware of how horrible our system is."

Police were throwing tear gas at protesters when they were peacefully protesting, and those involved in the protests and BLM movement want everyone to work together peacefully without injury.

"So many people can help fight for the rights of others because it should never be earned or even made law. Today they look away from same-sex marriages, the rights of black people and others (that) shouldn't be up for debate," said Maldonado. "Those are rights people are born with but many people believe that since they're different from them that they don't deserve to be treated like an actual human being."