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The Phoenix Times

"SPREADING ITS WINGS AND SOARING HIGH"

The Official Publication of Albuquerque School Of Excellence
13201 Lomas BLVD NE Albuquerque, NM 87112

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NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2020

ASE MOVES COMPLETELY ONLINE

NM Covid-19 Cases Spike by Camree Volk

Due to recent state-wide orders made by New Mexico's Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in connection with the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) has made the decision to suspend its hybrid program and go completely online through the end of the first semester, Friday, December 18, 2020

On November 13, 2020, New Mexico (NM) State Governor announced the renewal of the

State Public Health Emergency, bringing NM back into shutdown for two weeks, effective Monday, November 16.

This was a result of the in-

creasing Covid-19 cases nationally and within the state, as well as the increasing number of hospitalizations; wherein hospitals are close to reaching their

full capacity here in New Mexico.

As a result, ASE's Governing Council (GC) held a Special Meeting on November 17, 2020 in response to the **(Cont. on P2)**

Health and Safety Matters — STAY HOME! ASE campus adheres to strict NM State—Covid-19 guidelines at Albuquerque School of Excellence Campus, 13201 Lomas Blvd NE Albuquerque, NM 87112 and Indoor dining closes at 2266 Wyoming Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM. **PHOTO BY: REBECCA HERNANDEZ**



ASE Equity Council works on helping Native Americans

by: Jackson Tiesi

To celebrate National Native American Heritage Month this November, the Equity Council headed by Jasmin Arias invited Native

American guests and speakers to provide awareness and bridge the knowledge gap between the Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) community and the Native American Lifestyle and Culture.

The ASE Secretary, Daniella Nuñez, who is a Native American shared her thoughts on how she feels every time someone asks her

of what tribe she belongs to. "It was almost insulting to ask if you're from another tribe. Growing up, I would always try not to be disappointed. I would always try to be mindful of what people say because not all people know, so they assume. We all have our differences so I'm glad we can all come together," said Ms. Nuñez. **(Cont. on P2)**

Cont. ASE Equity Council ...

Michelle Curtis who is involved with the Human Trafficking Watch also shared that having come across many people from different tribes all over the world, she has been very mindful of her language and conversations; and always avoided the assumption of people's tribal affiliation, instead, she listens, and observes their way of life, beliefs, culture, and heritage.

It was also discussed during the meeting how Native Americans are dealing with the pandemic and the trying times.

All of the Native Americans invited were

in consensus that across the United States, many Pueblos don't have any running water and internet connection.

It was also stated as a fact that many Pueblos that do have running water and internet do not have consistent resources as well, which became more difficult since the pandemic started.

Due to some restrictions in various Pueblos, as well as in the Navajo Nation, many Native Americans had no choice but to get water from wells which are not safe due to pollution and contamination.

Online Learning has also been a challenge given the lack of internet connection or weak connectivity in most Pueblos.

Thus, the Equity Council decided to help ease the burden that the Native Americans are presently experiencing by donating non-perishable food, bottled water, and other needs that can be of help.

To realize this planned endeavor, Ms. Arias discussed the proposal during the ASE staff meeting and asked for their support to address the immediate need of the Native American Communities or Pueblos.

ASE Student Council plans Lunch Meetings - Marwa Zameer

To provide students the time to socialize and ease the burden and challenges experienced during online learning, the Albuquerque School of Excellence—Students Council (ASE-SC) plan to host Lunch meetings.

In an interview held last November 18, 2020, the members of the ASE-SC headed by the advisers, Ms. Whitney Fien and Ms. Mary Tither discussed their plan of coming up with lunch meetings which would seem like a DEAR class instead of Recess.

This planned activity, if approved is scheduled to be held daily from 12:30 to 1:00 in the afternoon.

According to several

Student Council members, this idea of having lunch meetings came into play upon observation by both teachers and students that class disruption is becoming inevitable.

They added that students cannot resist from talking in class when they are not supposed to.

The ASE-SC members recognize that human interaction and socialization are vital, but were put on hold during this pandemic, which may be the cause of these unlikely disruptions, thus, the second-best thing to be considered is virtual socialization.

With this plan, the ASE-SC stressed that aside from providing students

the avenue to socialize and meet up with their friends and classmates through virtual platform, it will also help resolve the issue of class disruptions.

With the said plan, a teacher will be present during the meeting to monitor students but will be muted and with the camera off.

These planned lunch meetings are primarily designed to cater to the high school students and will be introduced to the middle school department as well, if permitted upon request, but will not be mandatory to any student.

More information will be provided by the Student Council upon approval.

ASE prepares for Science Fair 2021

by: Sydney Koranyi

To invigorate students' interest and enthusiasm in the field of Science, ASE will hold a Virtual Science Fair on January 15, 2021, Friday.

Student participants and judges will be assigned to different breakout rooms with students presenting at different times.

For the elementary level, the completion of a Science project is mandatory for grades 4 to 5; 1st graders and Kindergarteners will have class projects.

For the middle school and high school levels, completing a Science project will be optional.

The mechanics of the competition include the following: Research project; Photo upload of the entry board to a given template; and Virtual Presentation.

ASE students may join multiple competitions using the same board.

A virtual meeting will be conducted by the organizers with the parents and the students to go over on how to attend the virtual science fair.

This activity will be spearheaded by Ms. Suzanne Zamora and the Science Department headed by Mr. Begli Sapayev.

Cont. NM Covid-19 ...

Governor's order, as well as to decide on whether all classes should move completely online, thus, suspending the hybrid program for K-1 or continue with the hybrid program.

In the said meeting, the GC took into consideration the ASE teachers and parents' concerns about the health and safety of the students attending the hybrid program.

Likewise, they also took into

consideration the availability, health, and safety of the teachers.

Dr. Coontz, ASE's Governing Council member presented the motion of moving K-1 students back to online education, which

was seconded by Dr. Duzgun.

The said motion was voted and passed unanimously, finalizing the decision to return all classes online effective November 18, 2020 through the end of the 1st semester.

EDITORIAL**Decisions: Difficult yet Imperative**

by Camree Volk

On November 13th, 2020, New Mexico State Governor, Michelle Lujan Grisham announced that the state will renew the State Public Health Emergency because of the spiking number of positive Covid-19 cases within the state of New Mexico.

Similarly, Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) has decided to move all classes online until the end of the first semester. Choosing to move all classes back online was a difficult decision for ASE's Governing Council, but they believe it was the best choice moving forward for the safety of the students and staff at ASE.

Online learning has been a struggle for many students and parents this semester. Some students have a hard time focusing while utilizing online platforms, and others need help from teachers, who have become harder to access effectively than ever before. There is also struggle with internet issues during classes, as well as many other difficulties that make online learning challenging.

As much of a struggle as it can be, it is still considered a privilege to receive an education in these hard times, even if it is not always the easiest or most effective way. It is imperative to prioritize appropriately when considering in-person learning

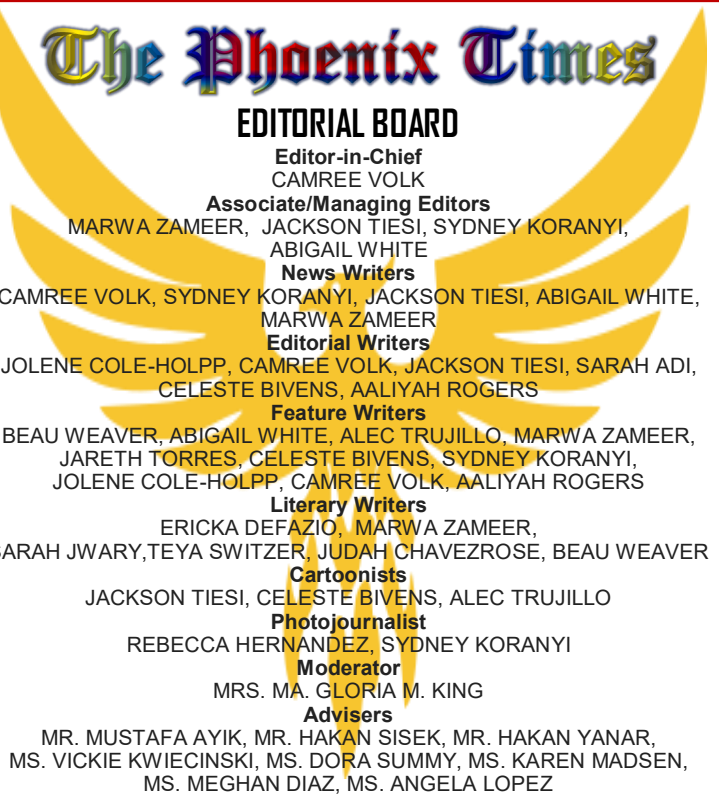
the guaranteed student and staff health and safety. Through that lens, ASE made the decision to continue with online learning. This way, ASE can ensure students' safety, even if at the expense of some luxuries and amenities provided during in-person learning.

Of course, the students' limitations on going outside, due to the state of emergency public health order, makes online learning all the more difficult.

A lot of busy parents with conflicting work schedules, who cannot help their younger children log on to Zoom meetings or assist with schoolwork-related questions are faced with many difficult decisions. A lot of thought and consideration must go into whether or not they need to change their work schedules or invest in a daycare or come up with other creative options.

Parents of older children of whom are stuck inside all day have to face the challenge of keeping them happy and active, without letting them see their friends or play outside. The daily burden of being a parent only increases. Yet, it is important to remember which are to be prioritized during this pandemic, and perhaps the safety of one's family is worth more hard work.

Online learning is just as



The Phoenix Times

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difficult for parents as it is for teachers and students, and that needs to be considered when making difficult choices as a school. As challenging as online learning can be, it is just as important to consider the risks involved with hybrid learning.

Hybrid learning exposes teachers, families, and other staff to the potential and risk of contracting Covid-19. Opening a school would mean continually making purchases of additional cleaning products, adhering to strict sanitation guidelines, as well as finding methods to ensure strict compliance with prescribed Covid-19 safety measures.

On top of this, many teachers and staff become concerned with the idea of starting a hybrid learning plan, thus, choose not to place themselves at risk by

coming into the school. Some teachers for grades levels considering the hybrid model fall under the high risk group and are faced with risking exposure or not be able to teach the children they have been teaching thus far.

With hybrid, the cost of expenditures go up, the risk goes up, and the availability of staff tends to go down.

There are ways to manage the cost of expenditures and staff availability in a school, but the risk of a Covid-19 outbreak cannot be simply overlooked.

Likewise, with the Governor's state of emergency, there is no way ASE could guarantee the safety of their students if they chose a hybrid plan. Of course, health and safety is of utmost importance.

... Continuation on Page 4

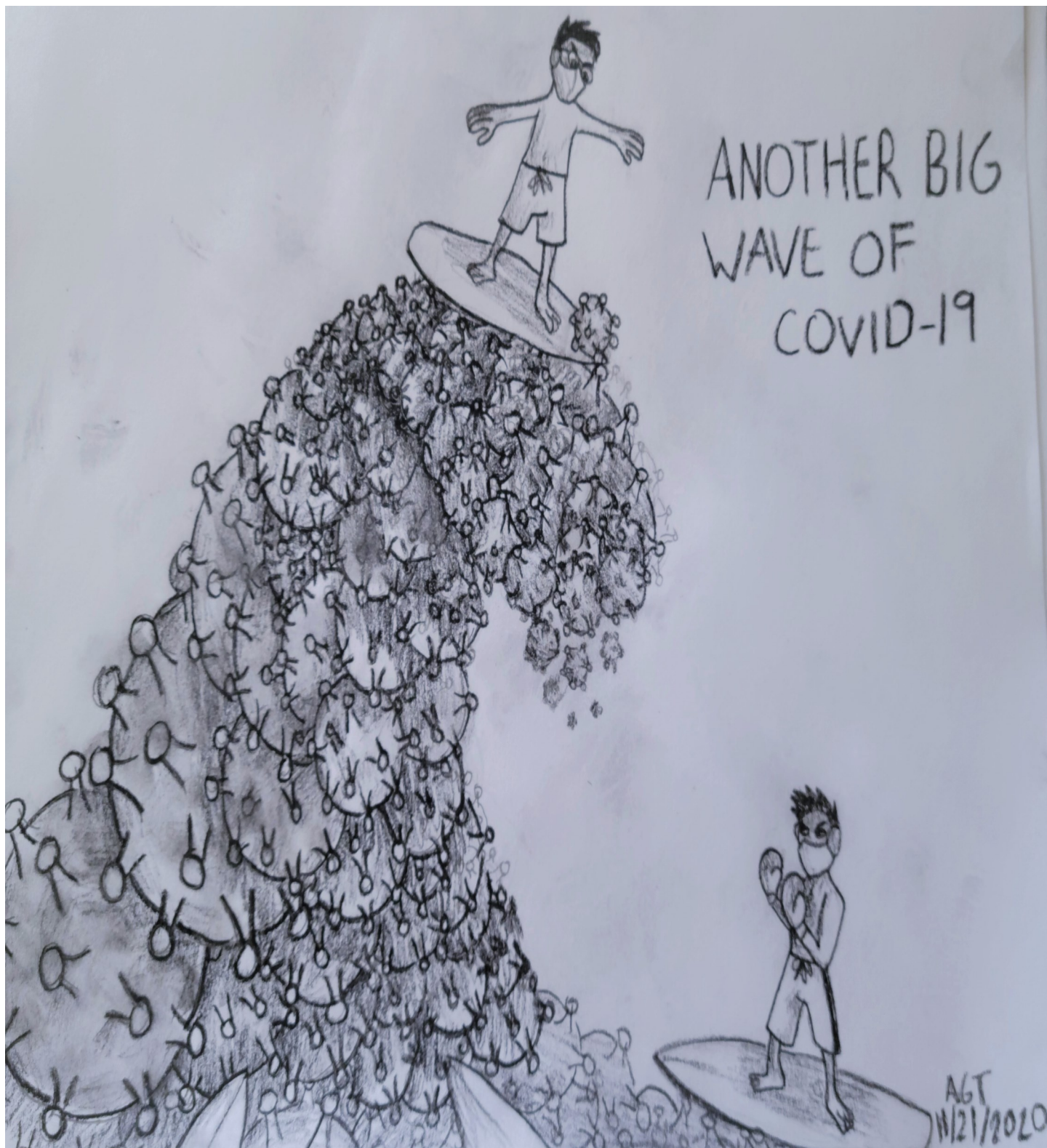
(Continuation... EDITORIAL)

Overall, it was a carefully thought-out decision to close ASE's hybrid plan for now. All factors considered, the health and safety of the students and

faculty was deemed most important. Despite the difficulties, students, teachers, and parents have found a way to manage, and will continue to manage, as ASE does its best to continually

improve the situation for all to make, but it was crucial it be involved. The decision was hard made.

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." - Theodore Roosevelt



HOW SICK CAN A CHILD BE OF COVID-19? by Sarah Adi



Photo Credit: <https://people.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/1098593/>

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recent statistics show that while children have been less affected by Covid-19 compared to adults, children can be infected with the virus that causes Covid-19 and some children develop severe illness.

Children with underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness compared to children without underlying medical conditions.

Current evidence on which underlying medical conditions in children are associated with increased risk is limited.

The children with the following

conditions might be at an increased risk for severe illness: obesity, medical complexity, severe genetic disorders, severe neurologic disorders, inherited metabolic disorders, sickle cell disease, congenital (since birth) heart disease, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, asthma and other chronic lung disease, and immunosuppression due to malignancy or immune-weakening medications.

The CDC also stated that there is no definitive conclusion yet on who is at increased risk for developing the rare but serious complication which is associated with Covid-19 in children called Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C), nor does CDC know what causes MIS-C.

Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs.

Children with MIS-C may have a fever and various symptoms, including abdominal (gut) pain, vomiting, diarrhea, neck pain, rash, bloodshot eyes, or feeling extra tired.

Though what causes MIS-C is still unknown, many children with MIS-C had the virus that causes Covid-19, or had been around someone with Covid-19.

News Credit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html#children-underlying-conditions>

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER



Faith Garcia—Kindergarten

Faith is an outstanding role model and student. She attends every zoom meeting on time, participates in each lesson, and completes all homework assignments. She does extra work as well. Faith shows a particular interest in life science lessons during zoom class and provides evidence of hands-on learning by sending photos of her concept development. For example, she shared her excitement of finding root plants in garden soil after the weather had changed, she provided evidence of bean sprouts shortly after she was presented with our science experiment, and she shared her enjoyment of our changing weather with pictures of herself playing in the snow. She listens well and follows directions throughout each day. Faith is very responsible and respectful to her peers and adults. She and her family show a balance of work and play in her daily routine.

By Catherine Boone

Luna Angel – 1st Grade

Luna is often home with her two older brothers. She is very responsible about logging into our zoom meetings on time and doing all of her work. Luna always raises her hand to answer and often volunteers to lead class cheer/songs. I am impressed with her level of responsibility at such a young age. She is a leader in the breakout rooms and always kind to other students.

By Lisa Aniello

Alexander Enriquez – 2nd Grade

Alexander (Xander) is new to ASE this year and settled right in to our class with a positive attitude towards school work and in meeting others. Xander has wonderful attendance, even when the internet is slow at his house, he keeps on trying to get into the meeting until he does! Xander brings a wealth of knowledge with him. He always has something interesting to say in connection to what we are studying and takes our discussions to another level. Xander is polite and kind and has expressed that he is eager to get to know his classmates better when school is back in session in person. Xander completes his work in a timely manner and often asks for more homework! He is thorough and thoughtful with his work and often takes a photo of himself to insert into the Seesaw homework with a smile and a thumbs up! Xander has had a great first semester.

By Cristina Sherman

Jace Murdic - 3rd Grade

Jace is a role model in his class! Even though he joined the school year a little later than others, he jumped right in to his class work with full force. Jace is a participator in class discussions and has great attendance. I am happy to have you in class, Jace! Keep up the great work!

By Mrs. Alexandra King

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER

Triniti Green – 4th Grade

Triniti is responsible for her school work and completes it on a daily basis. She engages in the class Zoom meetings by participating and volunteering regularly. Triniti follows the class rules consistently. She is respectful and is a peace maker among her classmates during discussions and social time.

By Mrs. Stromberg



Tatianna Anderson – 5th Grade

Tatianna is new to ASE and has worked hard to keep up with the school requirements. She now shares daily on Zooms and is a leader in small group/breakout rooms. I'm proud of her for sticking with it when the going gets tough.

By Ms. Suzanne Zamora

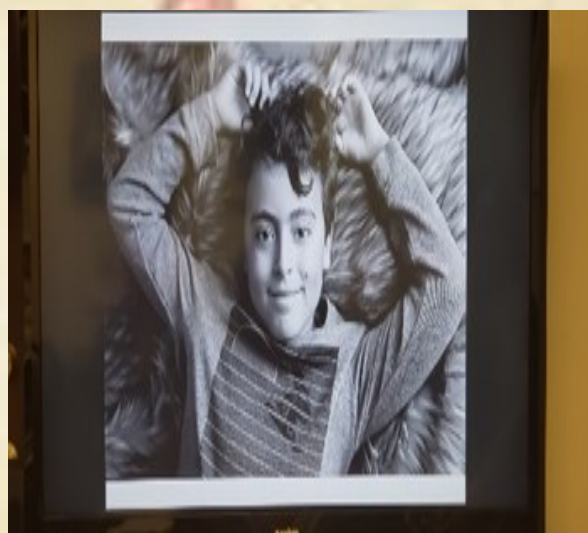
Tatianna has really pushed her self this semester. She has grown a lot emotionally when it comes to handling situations she feels overwhelmed by. She has put in a lot of effort and dedication to her school work and class work and has been successful.

By Ms. Atkinson

Joell Velilla – 6th Grade

Joell is always polite and a pleasure to have in class. He helps out whenever asked, and seems to be a kid that other kids look up to and look to in general due to his intelligence and overall positive nature. He is an excellent student too, maintaining good grades in both sections of Math.

By Mr. David Naylor



Beau Weaver – 7th Grade

Beau carries the class discussion most days and is very good to complete all required work. More than that, he has established himself as a leader in the online environment by being always ready to assist classmates and share his observations in class.

By Mr. Norcross

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER



Marwa Zameer

Marwa Zameer – 8th Grade

Marwa is a very good student. She is very responsible and dedicated to her academic endeavors and the school paper. She is well-mannered and fosters admirable values and character.

By Mrs. Ma. Gloria M. King

Katie Tran – 9th Grade

Katie consistently completes excellent work and advocates for the needs of herself and her classmates.

By Ms. M. Tither

Atiyaalrahman Hammad – 10th Grade

Atiya is a great kid to have in class. He is always there, and always responds. He is polite and considerate and seems to be totally willing to help others and always try hard to get better at math and actually understand the topics that we cover. I enjoy having him in class.

By Mr. David Naylor

Haydee Ventura-Lopez – 11th Grade

Haydee has such a fresh perspective in her schoolwork and in class. She is engaging with other students and her teachers. Her academics are impeccable--on-time with assignments. She really stays on top of things!

By Ms. Karen Madsen

Mariam Salehseif—12th Grade

As an assistant principal and guidance counselor of the Class of 2021, I know all of the seniors well, including Mariam Salehseif, since middle school. She has improved tremendously as the year has progressed from middle school to high school. She is a very hardworking, dedicated, and excellent student that strives to do her best. I believe that she is going to graduate with straight As' and a perfect GPA. She also took so many Dual credit courses at CNM and Advance Placement courses. As her guidance counselor, It is a pleasure to recognize her accomplishments by awarding her student of the month. Keep up the excellent work, Mariam!

By Mr. Hakan Yanar, M.Ed.



Mariam Salehseif

A Lady with Multiple Hats by Sarah Adi

"May the wind under your wings bear you where the sun sails and the moon walks." -JRR Tolkien

A quote that is embraced by this well experienced person, Ms. Angela Lopez.

Ms. Lopez is a proud Lobo! She has earned a degree in Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a Minor in Sociology from the University of New Mexico.

This extraordinary lady wears a lot of hats at Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE). She presently holds the position of Human Resources & Outreach Coordinator in-charge of Communications, PTO Liaison, and COVID Point - School Representative.

Ms. Lopez has 17 years of experience in the Restaurant and Events-Management industries and is on her 2nd year in ASE

having previously held an Educational Assistant position.

She says that transitioning careers has been an exciting time in her life. She also said that she loves learning all that she can about ASE and bringing her skillset into the organization. She added, "I see great potential in ASE and I'm proud to be a part of our program's growth."

As a proud mom and wife, she loves spending time with her husband and children, travelling, watching college basketball, and enjoys being with her cats.

Among her other favorite quotes that she lives by are: *"Those who don't believe in magic will never find it."* - Roald Dahl and *"No one is YOU and that is your superpower."* - Unknown



We are so lucky to have such dedication from Ms. Lopez.

Fun with Music During a Pandemic By: Abigail White

Ms. Kuchar has always had a natural gift when it came to music, "Music is in my blood," she said. When she was little her dream was to become either a famous opera singer or a Broadway singer. As Ms. Kuchar grew up, she realized that her true

passions are teaching and performing opera here in New Mexico.

Ms. Kuchar teaches in a more interactive way. "One of my strongest teaching beliefs is that movement is thinking," said Ms. Kuchar. Because of this,

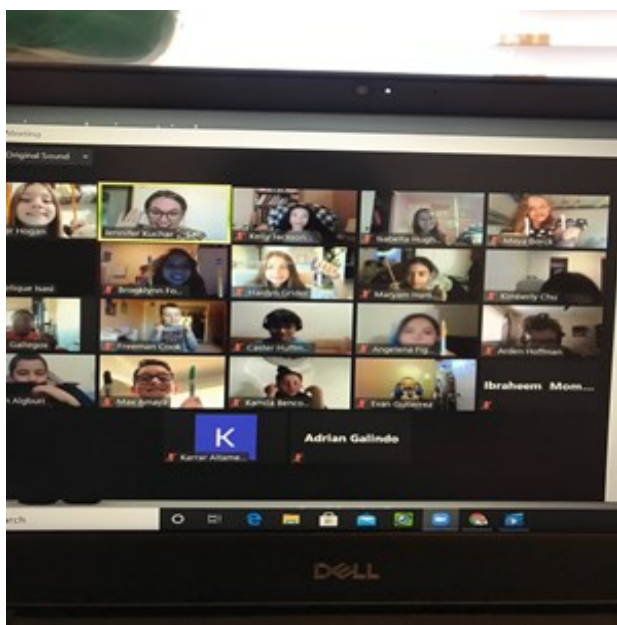
she starts each lesson with a warm-up, but not just any warmup, a dance warm-up! After which, they continue with their Do Re Mi activity to review their sight-reading and pitch reading, as well as the use of sign language. Towards the end of class, they usually wrap up with an engaging group activity usually involving composition building, group choir singing, or beginning piano lessons.

Due to online schooling, Ms. Kuchar's class has become much more technology-based

than before, much like the rest of the school curriculum. She uses fun apps to keep her students engaged. Some of these apps include Groove Pizza, Sound Trap, Jam Board, and MuseScore. A lot of Ms. Kuchar's students enjoy writing their own songs, one of those kids had even already written 13 songs in his free time.

Despite the pandemic in the background, as well as the challenges of online learning, Ms. Kuchar said that she is very happy with how well the students have been doing and how much extra time they have spent willingly and enjoyably to work on their big projects.

Ms. Kuchar cannot wait to get to see all her students in person when the time comes. In parting, Ms. Kuchar said, *"For now, I am blessed that online learning in music class is working and pushing me as an educator to adapt to the technological era!"*



SHARE TO INSPIRE

A Veteran Woman with a Multitude of Adventures

By Sydney Koranyi

"Always look on the bright side of life!" by Monty Python. A quote that reflects this inspiring lady's love for comedy, especially puns.

Meet Ms. Karen Madsen, the Dean of Students for the Secondary Level, a Social Studies Teacher, and the sponsor of the French Club, "Bien sur, je parle francais" here in Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE). She is a Level-2 Certified Teacher in Elementary and Secondary Education with endorsements in Math and Social Studies. She has seven years of teaching experience and is in her 4th year here in ASE.

Her educational background says a lot about her career and her passion. Ms. Madsen received her Bachelor of Science in Political Science at the United States Air Force (USAF) Academy, Master of International Relations from Troy State University, Master of Military Sciences from Air Command and Staff College, Master of Elementary and Secondary Education from Wayland University.

Ms. Madsen has served 21 years of active duty in the United States Air Force as Human Resources Officer and Inspector



General; and served for four years at the USAF Academy.

She was born and raised in a military lifestyle and considered herself a "military brat." Her father served the United States Air Force, thus in her first twelve years of life, she had moved twelve different times.

These early experiences shaped her love for travel, culture, and languages. She has been to 32 countries and 42 states; speaks French and German and is now learning Spanish and Turkish.

Ms. Madsen has been blessed the opportunity to experience free fall parachuting, fly gliders, riding in helicopters, seeing the Berlin Wall and the Great Wall of China, visiting the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) between North and South Korea, standing at the foot of the Eiffel Tower and the Washington Monument, touring castles and palaces in the United Kingdom, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Korea, and China.

This free-spirited woman also loves reading, watching movies, solving puzzles, and listening to music. If that is not enough, add to her resume of fun and adventure her experience of having the chance to watch the real Elvis Presley in concert!



Ms. Madsen is a loving wife and a proud mom.

In parting she says, *"I am so grateful to the military and the VA for my education, and to all the businesses and restaurants who still honor veterans with discounts, including free donuts on Veteran's Day!"*

Ms. Madsen, we are more grateful for your great knowledge, vast experience, and admirable service to our country.

You are a pride of ASE!



SHARE TO INSPIRE

A Proud Veteran by: Rebecca Hernandez



"I've been blessed to have had a good variety of adventures and creative work in the past and strongly believe it is this variety of past experiences that help me relate to students and teach them something; even if it's not always Math." – Mr. Norcross

Mr. Terry Norcross is a Middle School Math Teacher here in Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) and carries with him eight years of teaching experience.

He earned a degree in Bachelor of Business Administration with Minor in Fine Arts from Eastern New Mexico University.

This admirable man has been a member of the United States Marine Corps. During his military service, he was assigned in Okinawa Japan as a Disbursing Officer of the 2d Force Service Support Group. Later, he was assigned as a Comptroller of the 2d Surveillance, Reconnaissance and Intelligence Group in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

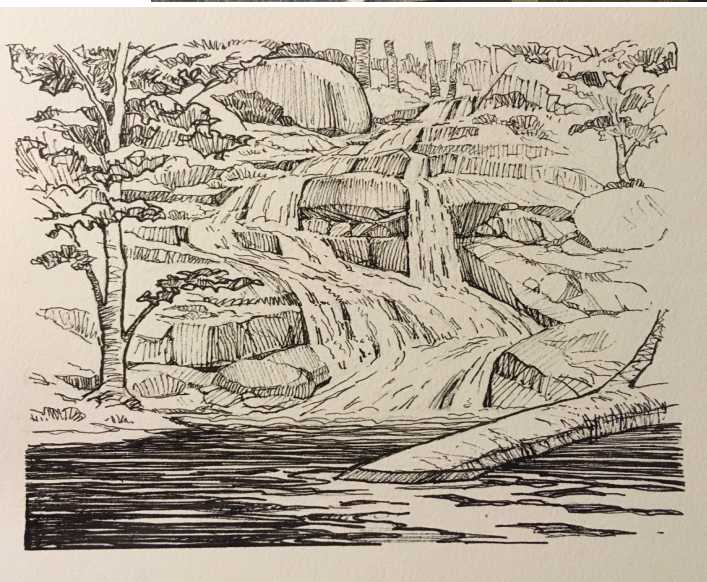
Mr. Norcross is a proud veteran who has proudly served his country for four active years. In November of 1994, he was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain.

Among his favorite veteran experience was when he visited Mount Rushmore with his family. According to Mr. Norcross, he felt a great honor and gratitude to the country when all veterans in the audience, including himself were invited on stage for a formation and were introduced to the crowd near the end of the evening ceremony at Mt. Rushmore.

Mr. Norcross is a loving husband to his wife of 30 years now, Carla. They are proud parents of three young adults, Lane, 19, Kendall, 21, and Coley, 24.

He enjoys biking or motorcycling, kayaking, fishing, golfing, and sketching. "I have a hard time staying still and am most happy when I've got a new challenge ahead," says Mr. Norcross.

Mr. Norcross, we are grateful for your service and honored to have you here in ASE!



MEET The Phoenix Times Editorial Board

Sarah Adi

Different race, skin color, and religion does not make one more superior than others. I strongly believe it makes the world fascinating, because it would not be if we were all the same. We are all special.



My name is Sarah, and I am an 8th grade student of Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) who has numerous interests.

I am thirteen years old, I am proud to be in the 8th Rutgers class and to be a staff member of The Phoenix Times (School Newspaper). I have been studying here in ASE since 3rd grade, making this my sixth year here.

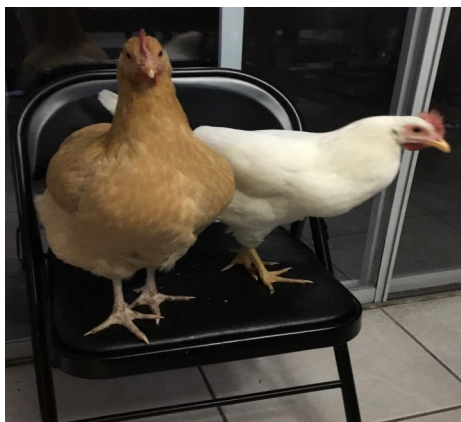
My hobbies and interests are numerous. I love cooking, creating arts and crafts, baking desserts such as brownies, cookies, and cupcakes, drawing, coloring, and making scrapbooks out of them.

I also love having pets, now, I have two animal companions, a rooster named Cotton and a hen named Banana. I gave them their name because their feathers remind me of cotton and banana. Cotton and Banana love being around people and be petted.



Most of all, I love and enjoy spending time with the people that mean everything to me, my friends, and my family.

I am happy to have such kind, understanding friends, classmates, and teachers at this center of education!



Camree Volk

My name is Camree Volk. I am proud yet humbled to say that I

am the Editor-in-Chief of The Phoenix Times.

I am in 8th grade and am proud to belong to the Rutgers class. It is my second year in Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) and I am honored and proud to attend school here.

Last year, I was a part of ASE's MathCounts team and attended last year's competition with the rest of the MathCounts team.

I enjoy acting, track running, reading, and writing among other activities. I have also participated in a multitude of theater shows as a hobby.

My main goal at the Phoenix Times is to encourage others to develop the love for writing. Likewise, I want to be a good role model and a good leader for my fellow students and staffers.



HISTORICAL FIGURES

Compiled by: Beau Weaver and Aaliyah Rogers

Susan B. Anthony

(February 15, 1820 - March 13, 1906)



Photo Credit: <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Susan-B-Anthony>

In 1851, she met Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who became her lifelong friend and co-worker in social reform activities, primarily in the field of women's rights. In 1852, they founded the New York Women's State Temperance Society after Anthony was prevented from speaking at a temperance conference because she was female. In 1863, they founded the Women's Loyal National League, which conducted the largest petition drive in United States history up to that time, collecting nearly 400,000 signatures in support of the abolition of slavery. In 1866, they initiated the American Equal Rights Association, which campaigned for equal rights for both women and African Americans. In 1868, they began publishing a women's rights newspaper called *The Revolution*. In 1869, they founded the National Woman Suffrage Association as part of a split in the women's movement. In 1890, the split was formally healed when their organization merged with the rival American Woman Suffrage Association to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association, with Anthony as its key force. In 1876, Anthony and Stanton began working with Matilda Joslyn Gage on what eventually grew into the six-volume *History of Woman Suffrage*. The interests of Anthony and Stanton diverged somewhat in later years, but the two remained close friends. Credit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_B._Anthony

Ida Bell Wells-Barnett

(July 16, 1862 – March 25, 1931)

She was an American investigative journalist, educator, and early leader in the civil rights movement. She was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Over the course of a lifetime dedicated to combating prejudice and violence, and the fight for African-American equality, especially that of women, Wells arguably became the most famous Black woman in America.

Wells' role in the U.S. suffrage movement was inextricably linked to her lifelong crusade against racism, violence and discrimination towards African Americans. Her view of women's enfranchisement was pragmatic and political. Like all suffragists she believed in women's right to vote, but she also saw enfranchisement as a way for Black women to become politically involved in their communities and to use their votes to elect African Americans, regardless of gender, to influential political offices.

Credit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida_B._Wells

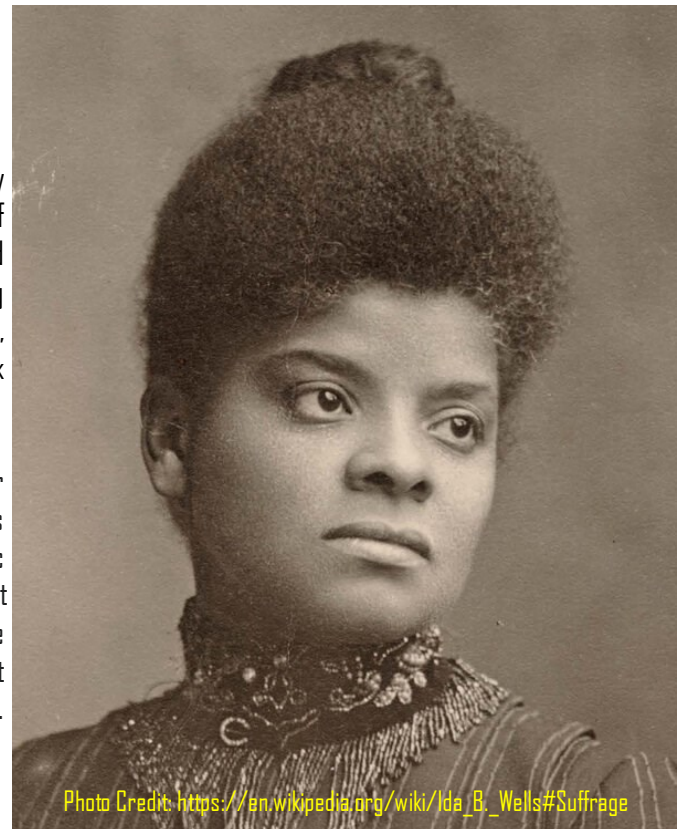
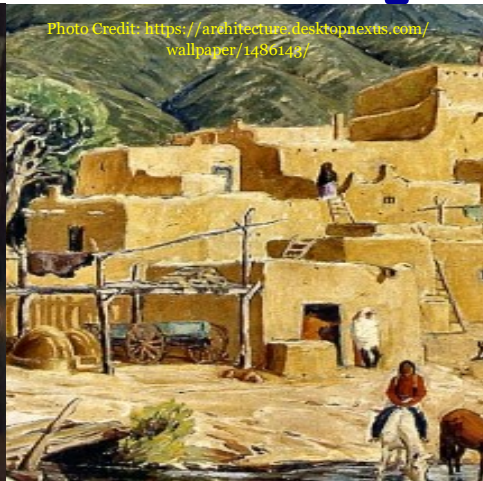


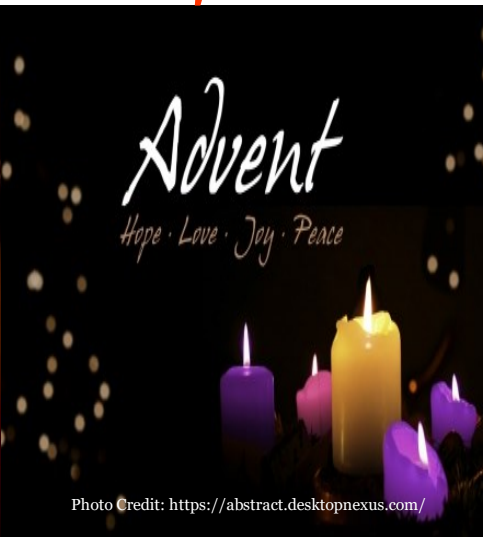
Photo Credit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida_B._Wells#Suffrage

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER : HOLIDAYS, OBSERVANCES, AND CELEBRATIONS

National Native American Heritage Month - **NOVEMBER**



Advent- November 29, 2020-December 24, 2020



Universal Human Rights Month- **DECEMBER**

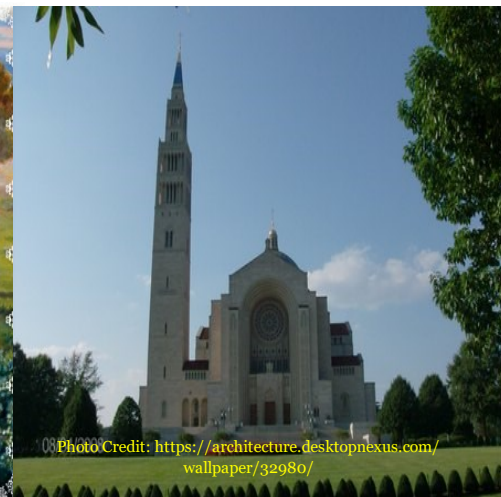


NOVEMBER—DECEMBER : HOLIDAYS, OBSERVANCES, AND CELEBRATIONS

St. Nicholas Day – December 6, 2020



Immaculate Conception Day – December 8, 2020



Hanukkah – December 10-18, 2020



NOVEMBER—DECEMBER : HOLIDAYS, OBSERVANCES, AND CELEBRATIONS

Start of Winter (Winter Solstice) – December 21, 2020



Christmas Day– December 25, 2020



New Year's Eve – December 31, 2020



THE SUN WILL RISE

Written by Ericka Defazio

Chapter 3: Out of Time

Michael gaped.

"This is crazy," he told himself, "There is no way this eccentric, *annoying* Raylie? Kaylie? is my sister. I refuse to believe it."

Raymie managed a tight smile. "I know it's hard to believe, but please do believe it. I am your older sister, and I have to take you quickly to Headquarters to decide what to do."

Michael shut his mouth. Then he spoke.

"Uh, *Raymie*, I think you have the wrong person. I am an only child, and I am still an only child. I have no recollection of you, so I'm sorry, but I think you are going to have to leave now." He started edging toward the door.

"Almost there..." he whispered to himself as his hand reached for the handle. "Almost there..."

YANK! A seemingly invisible force pulled his hand away, breaking his wrist in the process.

"Ow!" Michael yelled in pain as he slumped toward the office floor, cradling his injured wrist.

Raymie stared down at him, no expression of pity on her now stony face.

"I've been very lenient with your antics so far, little brother," she said in a voice of steel, "but I am going to have to force you to do my orders if you don't follow them yourself."

She waved her hand toward the half-open door, and it sealed itself with a sharp click.

"I will excuse your impertinence this time, but next time, you'll fight with a broken wrist." She knelt beside him, wrapped her hands around his wrist, (here he gave a sharp exclamation of pain, but at the sight of her face desisted), and, after a brief numbing feeling, the pricking sensation in his wrist was gone.

"Now," she continued as if nothing happened, "I will give you a brief overview of what was and is going on. First of all, the sun isn't normal. Hasn't been for the last 24 hours. And it is very worrisome. Second of all," here she paused to check her buzzing watch, "Ahh, sorry, let me answer this." She started tapping the watch. Michael took advantage of this by observing his sister and making mental notes as he went.

"Okay, first of all, this is my sister." It took a couple times of repeating this in his head to actually accept it. "Second of all, she broke my wrist and didn't care... What was that thing she did with her hand? Was it, (Michael shook his head unbelievably) *magic*?" He reprimanded himself. "No, Michael Brian Demios, (here he cringed, that middle name definitely wouldn't earn any rewards) Hems. Stop it. Magic is for itty-bitty children. Here you are, in an office, with a crazy sister who is probably not your sister, thinking about magical happenings. You live in present-day New York. Snap out of it."

Meanwhile, Raymie had turned around, looked sternly at Michael, and said,

"Michael, are you serious? You *still* think I'm not your sister? Do you want me to prove it to you?"

Michael's head spun. Did his sister *read* his mind? Almost immediately, as if he had spoken the words aloud, Raymie answered:

"Yes, Michael. I can 'read' your mind. It isn't that difficult, actually. You have a very low thought film. And now, I can't explain everything because Kay just messaged me. We have to go immediately."

"Wait a second," Michael started, but Raymie cut across him, "NO!" she said. "We have to go NOW!"

He still desisted. "But Raymie, I know this is important, but why do we have to rush because of the *sun*?"

Raymie turned, halfway to the door.

"Because," she said in a soft voice, "if it gets closer, we will die."

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

Ang Kalikasan at Ang Apat Na Uri Ng Panahon (Filipino) Sulat ni Celeste Bivens



Photo Credit: <https://nature.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/302356/>

Habang dumadaan ang tag-init, Pumapalit ang Taglagas
 Ang mga dahon ay nagsisimulang magbabago ang kulay.
 Mula sa berde hanggang pula, kahel at dilaw
 Nagniningning ang gintong sinag nito habang lumalamig ang simoy ng hangin

Ngayon ay panahon na ng Taglamig
 Ang mga dahon ay simulang nahuhulog mula sa mga puno
 Ang mga yelo ay nahuhulog mula sa kalangitan
 At nagdadala ng malamig na simoy ng hangin

Ang napakagandang kalikasan
 Ay nagbibigay sa atin ng kasayahan at kalinga
 Habang ang panahon ay nagbabago
 Ang kalikasan ay mananatiling pareho

Tuwing Tagsibol, mga bulaklak ay sumisibol at mga dahon ay nagsisimulang tumubo
 At sa panahon ng Tag-init, ang mga bulaklak ay humahalimuyak habang ang mga dahon ay mananatiling berde
 Ang yakap ng mainit na simoy ng hangin s maaliwalas na kalangitan
 Katuwaan and dulot sa liwanag na dala



Photo Credit: <https://nature.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/1435283/>

Translation: Nature and its Four Seasons Written by Celeste Bivens



Photo Credit: <https://nature.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/1196179/>

As summertime passes, Fall takes its place
 the leaves start to change their color
 From a soft green to red, orange, and yellow
 Bright golden colors as the cool breeze wipes over us

Now it is Winter's turn to watch over us.
 the leaves falling off from trees,
 snow flakes descending from the sky,
 With the cool and chilly breeze

Nature is exceptionally beautiful
 it provides for us and nurtures us
 as the weather changes,
 nature stays the same.

During the Spring, flowers bloom and leaves start to grow
 Then comes Summertime, flowers spread its sweet fragrance as the leaves stay green
 Warm air embraces us and the sun stays shining,
 As we joyfully welcome its golden rays



Photo Credit: <https://nature.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/1298417/>

Christmas

By: Beau Weaver

My Alarm rang noisily,
I get up casually.
Today is the day,
I run downstairs tracking my prey.

I peer down at the gifts,
They call me down towards them.
I resist the torture,
But my stomach twists.
I now feel like an explorer

I run back upstairs.
Finally, hours have passed,
And I stare intensely at my parent's door.
I'm starting to want to roar.

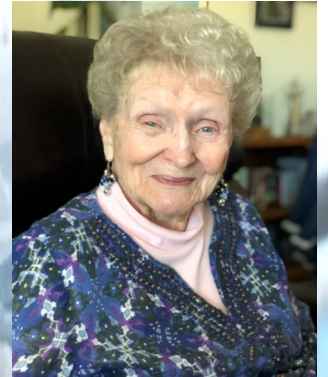
Footsteps approach me,
I look up with glee.
There they are! Mom and Dad!
I open the gifts and what I find is equivalent to a gold carat.

Photo Credit: <https://abstract.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/2195792/>

Thank You

By Teya Switzer

Thank you for those times before
Even though there can't be more
Thank you for the happy things
That you always said to me
Far away you're listening
Even though you're resting



Thank you for always being happy
And making sure I'm always laughing
Thank you for staying so so long
But the sun must set on everyone

I'll miss you when I see the flowers in my garden
I'll miss you when I sleep at night
I'll think of you when the wind is blowing
I'll think of you when the sun shines bright

Even though you're far from me
I know that you are smiling
You will always be with me
So thank you for everything

For Billie "Momo" Nail

Who lived 91 years and could not have been a better great grandmother

Photo Credit: <https://nature.desktopnexus.com/wallpaper/1123707/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS!!!

- **January 4, 2021** - Start of 2nd Semester and 3rd Quarter
- We pay tribute to loved ones who lost their battle against the coronavirus, contact us to share your story.
- * Send us photos of your family members who are frontline workers, first responders, and/or essential workers and we will include them in the next issue.

Photo Credit: <https://www.desktopnexus.com/search/hanukkah/>

FOR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS OR ARTICLE CONTRIBUTION:

Please email Mrs. Ma. Gloria M King at mking@abqse.org

SUBJECT LINE: The Phoenix Times
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