

The Gator Gazette

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Newcomers make strides with Howard County government

By Hunter Craig

After a long and hard-fought election season, the 2018 election is finally all over. Clerk of Court Wayne Robey swore in all of the newly elected and re-elected officials on December 3, 2018. The Howard County Board of Education welcomed four new board members: Vicky Cutroneo, Chao Wu, Jen Mallo, and Sabina Taj.

Vicky Cutroneo and Chao Wu were the top vote-getters with Cutroneo having a total of 58,426 votes and Wu having a total of 54,254 votes. Being the top vote getters means they will serve a four-year term and would run as an at-large candidate in 2022 if they seek re-election.

Jen Mallo received 53,766 votes and Sabina Taj received 51,842 votes. Both will go on to serve a two-year term and would run again in 2020 by their councilman district if they



Photo by Ritik Saini

seek re-election.

The Gator Gazette had the opportunity to speak to some of the new board members back in December to see what their plans were for the next four years.

We first spoke to Dr. Chao Wu about his goals while he serves on the Board of Ed. "I want to be practical. We don't have enough resources and we need to figure out how to relocate them. Also we need to keep an eye on imple-

mentation procedures. I want gradual changes and gradual improvement that people can see," said Dr. Wu.

Vicky Cutroneo agreed. We asked her what changes she will bring to the board of education and what changes she would like to see with the school system.

"I want the board to be more connected with the community," she said. "I want to start a newsletter that comes out monthly.

It would include what we talked about at the meetings, the votes. As an advocate that was ignored by the board, I want to deliver things to the community that I did not get."

With school system changes, Cutroneo responded, "I would like to have people less worried about image and more on reality and owning things. [We need to] stop looking at our flaws as bad and start looking at them as opportunities to improve."

We also spoke with the Student Member of the Board, Ambika Siddabathula.

When asked about how she plans on working with students she said, "I want to talk about a new thing every week on my social media with friendly updates. I've been giving feedback to the board about the student's concerns and I plan on improving

transparency by making powerpoints for elementary school students and reaching out to students on social media."

She also plans on visiting every middle and high school in the county.

Both legislators wanted to send a message to students.

"I'm accessible," Dr. Wu said. "Engineering is a fun and promising career and I'd like more students to pursue engineering."

Mrs. Cutroneo added, "I'm accessible, too. I believe that student voice is the most important and that they should come to testify. [Students] can really make a huge difference." Mrs. Cutroneo said.

Shutdown wreaks havoc on D.C. area

By Caleb Fields and Hunter Craig

The longest government shutdown in the history of the United States had immediate and long term effects that rumbled through our local area.

In the Columbia region, the government shutdown shook many families. County Executive Calvin Ball and HCPSS attempted to support Howard County residents by extending FARMS enrollment to students in need.

The Howard County Department of Finance suspended residential water service disconnections. The Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks arranged alternative payment schedules for their fees for recreational classes and access to facilities fam-



Photo by Allyson Sears

ilies who have lost pay due to the shutdown.

HCPSS families may immediately apply for the Free and Reduced-Priced Meals (FARMS) program, The Howard County Library System has suspend-

ed library fines and fees during the shutdown, and Howard County will hold a free weekly food distribution for families who have been impacted by the federal government shutdown.

Regardless of what bipartisan agreement may be reached, the community objective is for these government workers and federal contractors to return to work stability without long term impact.

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Club Highlights: Speaking up in school

By Esha Bhatti

February 14, 2018: the Parkland shooting. A moment in history that shook the nation, but also made ordinary people stand for a change. Last March, showing what the youth are capable of, three-quarters of Reservoir walked out of their classrooms to stand in the bitter cold for seventeen minutes to pay tribute to the seventeen victim massacre. Remember the students who led the event, battling against the winds to make their voices heard? Well those were the four sophomores who started it all, together in their period six Journalism class.

After the big success, the team decided to pursue the action part of their organization known as the Student Voice Association (SVA.)

Planning the walkout, they knew that gun violence in schools could not be solved by just one event, but through a platform dedicated for students to use their voices to make a change. Thus the mission statement was formulated: "to give students a voice to speak out on issues that relate to us, as teenagers, in a world full of diverse ideas."

There are currently

about 25 active members in the club. Meetings are held every other Monday after school in sponsor, Ms. Schloss's, classroom. Every meeting has a new, relevant topic that has particularly affected the students.

One knowledgeable member then leads a discussion surrounding the root of the issue, personal experiences, and ideas for change. Discussions have been on various diverse topics from the #MeToo Movement, to the "This is America" music video.

The group hopes to present their ideas for policy reform and protection of schools to congress officials and lobbyists. The SVA also aspires to peacefully protest for change within all social justice issues.

Recently, a few members visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture in DC and they hope to have other educational opportunities in the future.

Los Gators Latinos es fabuloso



Photo by Fadi Bridi

By Madison Bloodworth

Los Gators Latinos is a student group comprised of students from Hispanic backgrounds to establish a safe environment for these students and to advocate for Hispanic Culture.

Vanessa Morales, who has been the sponsor for Los Gators Latinos for over eight years, says that her favorite part of leading is having "the opportunity to guide Hispanic students to develop leadership skills and to connect with other Hispanic students in the

school in a safe and fun environment where everyone is welcome."

Over the past five years, Los Gators Latinos has established traditions during National Hispanic Heritage Month including showcasing their talents during meetings in the atrium, parents preparing lunch for staff members featuring a variety of Hispanic cuisine, and a variety of activities involving music, and dancing.

However, Los Gators Latinos still hope to connect with other clubs

and collaborate on various projects.

When asked how this will be achieved, Morales said, "We can start visiting other clubs or meeting with their executive board to brainstorm and to make it happen. We need to learn more from each other."

Los Gators Latinos continues to provide a safe learning environment for Hispanic students throughout the school to embrace their culture.

Look for the Los Gators Latinos fundraiser during lunch sessions.

Opinion Column

Staggering shutdown

By Hunter Craig

As the government shutdown surpassed one month, what did it take for President Trump and Speaker Pelosi to reach an agreement?

First, we need to take a look at why we're here.

The government is shut down for one reason and one reason only. Trump wants his wall. The president has refused to sign legislation that will end the shutdown until there is a bill that includes his 5.6 billion dollars for a wall on our southern border.

You might be wondering, "I thought Mexico was going to pay for the wall?" Yeah well, I thought



Photo by Ava Garrett

so too. When the president was campaigning he did say that Mexico would pay for the wall, now we are paying for the wall and many people don't want to.

The House of Representatives has never want-

ed a wall, not under Republican or Democratic control considering the GOP had both the House and Senate for two years and never passed a bill that included money for the border wall.

The former House could've included wall

funding in one of the two government shutdown bills we had around a year ago, but they didn't.

That's because this isn't a Republican or Democratic issue. It's a Trump issue.

Ask CJ

By CJ McDowell

How do you get over someone?

You have to come to terms that it's over and it was probably for the better. But that's hard to do. It's hard because you had this connection with someone. You felt close to them - not even physically but mentally. And to not have that person anymore is a loss.

It's difficult because you think that the person who you loved can't hurt you, because when they do it's the worse pain.

Why is it hard? You took risks and opened up and you told them things that you wouldn't even tell your closest friend. They made you feel like you were someone and when that's taken away, you feel alone. It's like you're building yourself back up again. I

feel like we all imagine being in a relationship is like a teenage fantasy. You think everything is going to be all happy and "I love you," but there's a lot of stuff that goes on and it's not that simple.

It's like we have to realize relationships are complex. You get more mature and your reality is a different relationship. When you break up, you have to have that understanding that not everything lasts. So, you just have to try to stay positive.

Surround yourself with caring people who will be there for you and can check up on you to make sure everything is fine. Make it feel like it's a blessing. Everything happens for a reason, even if you don't know what that reason is or why. Try to find the positive

side.

The next time you learn to not be so vulnerable, and that will help you in the next relationship.

I actually listen to sad music because that's my way of letting it out. Go to the mall. Watch a movie. Some people go through a phase where they focus on anything else, they replace the time of grieving or dealing with things with anyone, with another person. Better to deal with it sooner.

After some period of time, you do eventually get over it.

You realize that you can get over them. You've created a new phase of confidence. You feel powerful. Getting over that person was such a struggle and you persevered. And now you're a better person.

CA Fires: Scorched lives

By Madeline Kim

If you've been paying attention to the news these past couple of months, you've probably noticed the tragedies in California. Unstoppable wildfires were relentlessly burning homes, trees, and destroying everything in its path, leaving thousands of people homeless and hungry. Jobs were lost and savings disappeared. One could say that this has been one of the worst wildfires in history.

Recently, Trump says he has ordered FEMA to cut off funding for the fires and its residents via Twitter. According to CNN, Trump has claimed that the wildfires were a result of forest mismanagement and nothing else. The fact that the President does not believe in global warming baffles most of America, but

many Republicans stand alongside the government's side.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who represents a district in California, condemned Trump and called out his tweet, saying that it was a "threat that insults the memory of scores of Americans who perished in wildfires last year and thousands more who lost their homes."

Many have their suspicions that another reason why Trump cut off funding is to save money for his dividing wall between the U.S. and Mexico, another issue that remains to be controversial.

In my opinion, although the fires were started by a careless campfire, thousands of people's homes were burned down nevertheless and should not be held accountable.

Getting technical in schools

By Maggie Dickie

Have you ever considered the effects of using technology in school?

This year in Independent Research my topic explores technology used by students. Many teachers are incorporating technology into their classes to teach new information in an engaging way. Some of the research I have completed suggests that when technology is involved, students tend to be more interested in what they are learning.

When students are more engaged they may be more likely to obtain a deeper understanding of

the concepts being taught.

The National Education Association (NEA) states "Educators have been remarkably creative with limited computer access, but if technology is to be more integrated into instruction, more computers must be made available for students use."

However, not all technology use in class is helpful.

Teachers who do not allow students to experiment with technology are not advancing their digital skills. Allowing students the use of technology in class-

rooms helps to benefit their digital skills.

In high school, most students have a phone or computer allowing them to be technologically advanced in class.

Unfortunately, many of the schools that I am researching either don't have technology or don't have enough for everyone in the school.

It is hard to dictate how the technology will be divided, but maybe with time students will have greater access to technology.



Image by Fadi Bridi

Mook's World by Noire Lineberry



Arts and Entertainment

Shaking up the burger game

By Maria Newell

Recently there have been exciting food options added to the Columbia Mall area. Many new restaurants were put in the mall and one of those is Shake Shack.

Shake Shack is a national chain known for being a burger place. The menu contains different kinds of burgers and sandwiches. Shake Shack was originally very popular in New York and is now here in Maryland. It originated as a hot dog cart in Manhattan, New York.

"The cart was quite the success, with Shack fans lined up daily for three summers," quotes their website.

While at the restaurant I had a ShackBurger, root beer float and cheese fries. I've had burgers from



Photo by Allyson Sears

many different restaurants, and nothing came close to this. Their root beer float was delicious. It was really creamy and sweet, I definitely recommend it. Lastly their cheese fries tasted like carnival fries. It reminded me of the HoCo Fair and

summer.

Overall, I give Shake Shack a 5/5. It has options for everyone and uses fresh ingredients. The service was great and quick. I highly recommend eating there if you want something quick and amazing to eat.

Becoming a best selling book

By Amnah Malik

Former First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama, recently debuted her own autobiography, *Becoming*.

Released on November 13, the novel sold more copies in 2018 than any other book in the United States and was published in 33 different languages.

Divided into three parts; "Becoming Me," "Becoming Us" and "Becoming More," Obama describes her early life as a young girl in the South Side of Chicago to her role in the White House.

With strong writing and firsthand stories, she reveals her personal opinions on politics, life in the White House, and society in general.

As famous people,

especially political figures, are not often seen as "ordinary," the book makes for an interesting read. It provides an inside look into the woman everyone seems to think they know.

"There's power in allowing yourself to be known and heard, in owning your unique story, in using your authentic voice," Obama writes, "And there's grace in being willing to know and hear others."

Her formidable career as an attorney, wife, mother, public servant, and Second Lady of the White House proves to bring intriguing insights.

Mixing honesty with optimism, Obama crafts a story unlike any other political memoir.

Arts and Entertainment

Spiderman webs in audiences across the country

By Allyson Sears

The Golden Globe winner, and critically acclaimed movie "Spider-Man into the Spideverse" has been thrilling theatres all over the world.

The new movie was a risk worth taking as it brought in 339.3 million dollars worldwide. Directors Peter Ramsey, Rodney Rothman, Robert Persichetti Jr., and Bob Persichetti were well surprised when they found out the movie was doing well. They went in taking a risk with the new graphic design type they had in store, but it ended up being a success in the end.

Developing a story line like no other, this movie really made me feel like anyone can be a hero.

I will admit I was a bit hesitant at first when I heard this movie was coming out. After what happened to



Image by Fadi Bridi

Spider-man in "Infinity War" I was a tad bit confused as to how the producers were going to make this work. After finally being convinced to go see the movie I was in awe of everything. From the graphic design and characters, to the dialogue and humor that occurred this movie made my favorite movie list.

The movie follows around high schooler Miles

Morales as he embarks on his journey after being bitten by a radioactive spider. Miles is the definition of funny as he goes through life learning how to use his new powers. But as all Spider-man movies have a plot twist so does this one.

The universe is in danger when a billionaire businessman man wants to catch all Spider-mans, and girls, in the multi-universe. By creating a portal to do

this he changed the time dimension bringing them all together. The 1940's, manga, and even the Looney Tunes were all included as Spider-men/women. Now together, they must race against time and close the portal to get back home before they are erased for forever.

But I'll stop there, the ending is too good to give away. One of the better parts of the movie was the music that went with it.

"Sunflower" by Post Malone and Swae Lee was probably one of the best songs in the movie and grew in popularity shortly after. There really wasn't anything to dislike about the movie.

The storyline, character development, and comedy brought the whole movie together.

The best thing about the movie was the message they were trying to send.

Miles started off as your ordinary high school student who was slumping through life, then the next minute he was learning who he was and protecting the streets of New York City.

He was handed down the mask and expected to do what no other teenager probably could at his age and from that he learned a lot of valuable life lessons.

Just like today you can do whatever you want to do because anything is possible. The only question that's left now is, who can really be behind the mask?

My rating for this blockbuster: four stars out five stars. If you don't see it in the movie theater, it's definitely worth the rental fee.

Mural mania hits Reservoir

This March, Reservoir's PTSA and Art Department will be hosting a nationally prominent mural artist from Baltimore, Michael Owen, to work with students to plan, collaborate, and paint a large scale mural in the Reservoir atrium. The theme will highlight "Unlimited Possibilities" as shown through the school's new mission statement: "Reservoir High School will honor and nurture the dignity of all students and staff by developing a learning community full of unlimited possibilities, endeavoring to understand, respect, and amplify the diverse experiences of all." The Reservoir Art Department and Michael Owen, famous for his Baltimore Love Project, will be looking at ALL submissions placed in the Mural Idea Box located in the Main Office, Guidance Office, and Room 111. Got an idea? Use this space to design your own vision for the mural!

Extra! Extra! "Newsies" come read all about it

By Camille Williams

This spring, the Reservoir Theatre Department will be performing Tony Award-winning *Newsies*.

Inspired by the Newsboy Strike of 1899, *Newsies* tells the true story of the charismatic Jack Kelly. After the titans of the publishing industry raise paper prices, Jack brings together newsboys all across New York City to revolt against the unfair conditions.

The performances are on March 29th & 30th at 7pm and March 31st at 2pm, as well as April 5th at 7pm and April 6th at 2pm & 7pm. Tickets will be for sale online for \$12 or at the door for \$14.

With direction by Jessica Binder and Dr. Knauf, *Newsies* features an award-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman, including the iconic songs, "Carrying the Banner," "Seize the Day," and "Santa Fe."

Ms. Binder explained, "We were among the first schools in the na-

tion to receive the license for this show (last year when our group became a finalist). We will be featuring actors from high school, middle school, elementary school, and alumni!"

The musical also exhibits athletic choreography by Rachel Kemp, incorporating many elements of dance and gymnastics. This makes the show so exciting and thrilling to watch, as well as to perform.

Reservoir High School won the rights to *Newsies* last year in Playbill's "Seize the Day" contest.

The RHS Music Department was nominated because of their help in the community.

As a result of the competition, Reservoir won the free royalties to the script and music.

Any additional information about *Newsies* can be found on the Reservoir Theatre Department website, <https://reservoirtheatre.weebly.com/spring-musical.html>.

Artwork by Arielle Frey

The Gator Gazette Policy

The Gator Gazette Newspaper is a student run extra curricular activity at Reservoir High School. We strive to recognize all points of view and hear every voice. It is our policy to accept written opinions from readers that may be printed in the Opinions section, but names may be withheld upon request. Letters may be submitted to any newspaper editor or placed in Ms. Goldberg's mailbox in the front office. Except for clearly marked staff editorials, the articles appearing in the Opinions section do not reflect the views of the Gator Gazette or Reservoir High School, but rather those of the individual reporter.

Arts and Entertainment

On the red carpet: Golden Globes

By Zoe Schlossnagle

January 6, 2019 was an exciting night for the stars of Hollywood and the film industries that work with them. From heart-touching familial moments to historic firsts, the 76th Golden Globe Awards was one to remember.

With a strong opening monologue from hosts Brooklyn Nine-Nine's Andy Samberg and Killing Eve's Sandra Oh, the audience was quite entertained. Sandra Oh is a Korean-Canadian actress, most famous for her 10-season role as Christina Yang on the hit ABC series Grey's Anatomy. Sandra and Andy were both energizing and humorous while presenting awards at the show. With all the amazing acting experience under her belt, it's no wonder that she took home the Globe for Best Actress in a TV Drama. This makes her the first woman of Asian descent to win multiple Golden Globes, and the first person of Asian descent to host. Amidst all the excite-

ment of her win, she took some heart-warming time to thank her parents in Korean.

Sunday night's winner of the Cecil B. DeMille award for film achievement went to the man himself, Jeff Bridges. Despite a slightly brambly acceptance speech, his lovable humor and personality shone through, making the whole audience smile.

A new companion to the Cecil B. DeMille award, is the Carol Burnett award for achievement in television. Introduced this year, it honors Carol Burnett, a comedy legend. From running a self-named sketch comedy show for eleven seasons, to winning awards like the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor and multiple Emmy's, Burnett deserved every bit of that honor. Her acceptance speech was joyful and nostalgic, filling everyone watching with a sense of warmth, as her comedy often does.

Grande at the top

By Leann Alhashishi

Ariana Grande, the actress and pop singer, has just been crowned Billboard's "Woman of the Year", and rightfully so. From releasing smash hits like "God is a woman" and recently "thank u, next", to surprise engagements, Grande has held herself up despite everything 2018 threw her way.

It all began when Ariana's first single from her new album came out, "No Tears Left to Cry" in April. The song gained 36.9 million U.S. streams in its first week alone. The year looked bright for Grande. She released two more singles, and eventually her fourth studio album, "Sweetener".

Afterwards, her year began to go downhill. Videos of Pete Davidson, her then fiancé, making unsavory

jokes about the Manchester concert bombing surfaced. A short time after, the heartbreaking news came out that Mac miller had passed away. Many stars, Grande included, paid tribute to him. A while later, Pete announced that he and Ariana had called off their engagement. This series of events opened up discussions about Ariana's mental health. As if to reassure the masses, Grande released the pop smash "thank u, next", making the internet explode. The song gave Ariana her first #1 on the Billboard Hot 100, the biggest day and week for a female artist in Spotify's history, the most watched youtube video in 24 hours, and much more. With this song and her upcoming album, Ariana's insane year ended on a high note.

Allison Austin: Howard County M.L.K. Essay Winner

By Aminah Malik

Each January, the Howard County Office of Human Rights runs an essay competition in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. and the day dedicated to him.

Middle and high school students are encouraged to write about a time they spoke up for what was right and connect it to Dr. King's teachings.

This year, Reservoir Junior Allston won the contest with her essay entitled "Walking Out to Walk Forward" about last year's walk out against gun violence.

She wrote about learning public speaking and writing from her father, a pastor. Allison is known for her exemplary spoken word, making presentations at prestigious events across the county throughout the year, and it is only fitting that her essay was equally

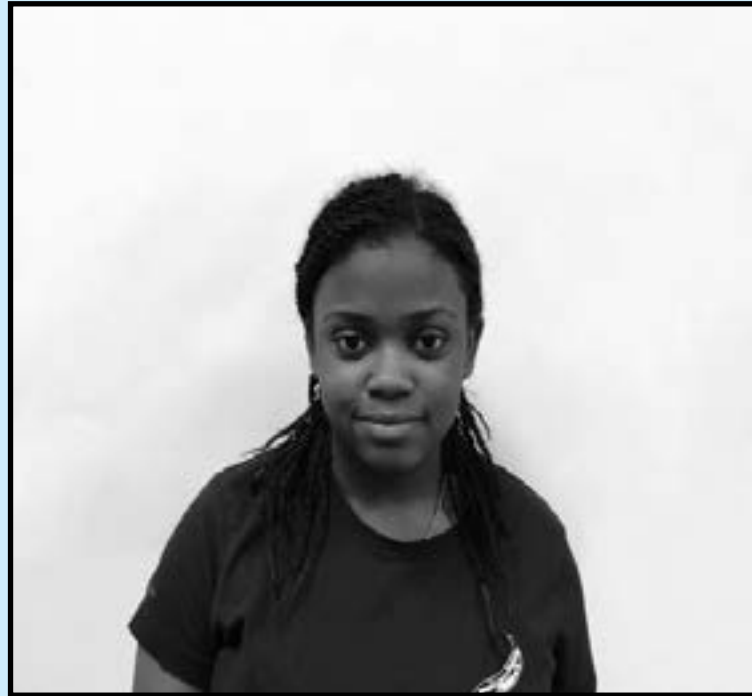


Photo by Fadi Bridi

as impactful.

Allison says that spoken word is an outlet for her to get people to listen. She uses her skills to bring "awareness to many issues such as domestic violence, gender inequality, racial inequality, gun violence, and more."

Allison's work will be presented at the upcoming Black History Month HCPSS Black Lives Matter panel discussion, and The Swamp Literary Magazine.

This month appears to be just an example of future bylines for Allison.

Delta Scholars Fashion Show



The Delta Scholars' Fashion Show will be held on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 6:30pm in the Reservoir atrium. Tickets will be sold during lunches in the atrium and cost \$5/person in advance and \$7/person at the door. The fashion features student models showing off a variety of fashions from local sponsors, including JC Penney's and Men's Warehouse. Funds from the event go towards Delta Scholar's service projects, conferences, and leadership trainings. Come enjoy a Reservoir tradition!

Sports

Winter athletes warm up crowds as they shine

By Madison Bloodworth, Camila Mendez and Aminah Malik

Dylan Altman

Dylan Altman, a junior at Reservoir, has wrestled for the Gators for three years. He was recommended by Mr. McIntyre, wrestling head coach and history teacher at Reservoir, for recognition of athlete of the winter. Through his many years as coach, Dylan is among a few of the fastest improving wrestlers he has ever seen. McIntyre describes this improvement as going "from being thrown into varsity as a 195 pound freshman who had never wrestled before and lost almost every match to placing third in the county tournament as a sophomore, pinning a state champion along the way." It was Altman's hard work, dedication, and natural ability to lead that earned him the title of co-captain of the wrestling team. "This year he has proven himself against top competition, but he is also a

leader in the practice room, both on and off the mat," said Coach McIntyre.

Dylan Altman got introduced to the idea of doing wrestling during the fall athletic season on the football team. Coach McIntyre, also a coach for JV football, suggested to Altman he should wrestle to improve his football playing. He described football as one of his biggest influences for wrestling, saying, "I played football and I wanna be the best I could be, so I tried other sports to get better at football." Altman also found that he got along well with coaches and his fellow athletes which pushed him to play more sports. The influence of coaches and teammates along with his own determination to become a great athlete all motivated him to succeed in wrestling.

Motivation is among the most important factors to being a good athlete. Dylan

says that in general his motivation "is that I wanna have a good life." He also understands that in order to have one, he'll "need to do certain things like get through school." As far as wrestling, Dylan finds motivation in completing goals he has set for himself as well as not wanting to disappoint his coaches. "My coaches have put a lot of effort and time in me and I don't wanna let them down," said Altman. His teammates have also helped each other work hard not only during the season, but outside of it too.

During Dylan Altman's time on the wrestling team, he says he has learned how important communication is from his coaches. He describes it as "in the real world with a job, if you don't communicate like when you're gonna miss work or be late, you get fired." Dylan has also had to face his share of challenges throughout his three

years and has learned how to tackle them. Most often he'll have to wrestle against someone better than him. He writes, "I overcome them by studying film and working harder in practice, that way the next time I wrestle them I'll beat them." Dylan Altman has not only exceeded everybody's expectations by improving so much over a small amount of time, but his own. "My freshman year I thought it'd be crazy if I ever beat someone on varsity, but now it's not crazy. My sophomore year I thought it'd be crazy if I ever beat someone on the rankings, and now it not," said Altman when describing a quote he liked.

Kate Abunassar

The girls' varsity basketball team is currently 3-1 in the county and 4-2 overall, with a promising remainder of the season still ahead. Sophomore Kate Abunassar, the team's shooting

guard, has played exceptionally both this year and last year. She has been playing basketball for around six years but is also an athlete on the golf and lacrosse teams. A natural athlete, she made varsity as a freshman. Kate displayed her talent last year, racking up 15 points against Centennial in an outstanding game. Performing even better this year, she and the rest of her team hope to bring home not only a county but also state championship for Reservoir. With the team's improvement in speed from last season to this one, their goal is definitely within reach. Kate says her favorite thing about the winter season is being around her team, as "they are family" to her. With two years still remaining in her high school career, she has time left

Allied bowling: a striking season

By Camila Mendez and Maddie Bloodworth

Over half of the winter sports season has gone by and the Allied Bowling Team has had a fantastic run this year.

"The Allied Bowling team ended their season third in the county with an average team score of 97%. The team improved with each game they bowled and had many comments from other coaches on the Gators great sportsmanship," said the club sponsor, Ms. Mueller.

Team members are Gillie Eisenberg, Alex England, Wesley Baker, Austin Johnson, CJ Allen, Sophia Varns, Matthew Pham, Akshi Ramanan, and Ryan Thibaudeau. Within this



Photo by Jade Louis

group of individuals are several returners and a few first timers.

Barb Mueller, Reservoir's Administrative Secretary and allied bowling coach, has

seen much improvement with everyone. Ms. Mueller describes the team to have great sportsmanship and be "the loudest at the bowling alley

cheering fellow teammates as well as other teams."

Reservoir's Allied Bowling Team appears to be on track to end their season strong.

The team has recently participated in the county 'Super Bowl.' They did an outstanding job placing second overall in the county for that event.

Sports

Racing around with indoor track

By Maggie Dickie

Indoor Track is one of the many winter sports students can participate in here at Reservoir. There are almost 170 athletes on the team this year, making Indoor Track the largest winter sport. So many students are involved because there are no cuts based on times. Everyone is accepted and included.

Tryouts for indoor track are similar to a normal track meet. It has a series of events usually including 800 meters, 1600 meters, 400 meters, 200 meters, 55 meters, 55 meter hurdles, long jump and/or short jump. Some track meets have addition events as well such as pole vaulting or relays. Tryouts are timed by the coaches and athletes run the events they think they will do the best in or events they want to try out. Athletes who receive a varsity time at tryouts are given a varsity jersey. However, athletes can also get a varsity jersey if they run a varsity time at a meet during the season. The coaches make sure that every athlete runs in at least one or two meets a season, but many of the varsity-level athletes get to run more. Almost of the meets are on an indoor track which is 200 meters as opposed to an outdoor track which is 400 meters.

For daily practice, sprinters, hurdlers, jumpers, and some others, stay inside if it is too cold to practice outside on the track. Distance and mid-distance runners, however, almost always run outside since it's hard to run long distances inside. There are workouts multiple times a week for all athletes and there is practice six days a week. It does take up time and it is not an easy sport, but it is a lot of fun and it can be a great way to make new friends.

Some runners have trouble deciding if they want to be a sprinter or a distance runner. Sprinters, including hurdlers, do fast short distances and work on their

anaerobic systems. Distance runners work on their aerobic endurance by not going as fast as sprinters but running longer distances. Runners who do distance tend to also do cross country, soccer, field hockey, or another sport where running is involved. Sometimes the best way to decide if distance or sprinting is right for you is by talking to the coaches and trying out the different events at tryouts.

Since a lot of people on track are interested in it for different reasons, there are many people who you may not have otherwise met. It can be fun to meet new people and see them in school when you wouldn't have known them if you weren't in track. Especially when you're a freshman or new to the school it can be hard to find friends outside of your classes. With track, bonds are created from seeing people almost everyday and can help connect you to more people in the Reservoir community.

Not only does track help athletes make friends and get more involved in extracurriculars, but it also helps motivate students to exercise more. Most people know that exercising can promote a healthier body, and by getting involved in a sport, students can be pushed to exercise more than they would otherwise. Additionally, some students use indoor track to help them condition for other sports. For example, if you play a sport in the fall or in the spring, track could help you stay in shape while you are in your off season.

Indoor Track draws in many students from the Reservoir community and creates a very welcoming environment. The coaches are committed, caring, supportive and work to help their athletes improve. It is important that students at Reservoir know what Indoor Track is really about. Outdoor Track starts in the spring.

The Gators chomping season: a winter recap



Photo by Ava Garrett



Photo by Ava Garrett

With an overall record of ten wins, five losses, and zero ties, the Reservoir's girls basketball team is next to be ruling the courts. The team started off the season with a loss, but jumped right back on their feet, to then go onto a strong winning streak. The boy's basketball team is also doing an outstanding job this year with a current record of eleven wins, three losses, and zero ties. They are currently fourth in the county and are on the path to states.

Scores:

- 1/31/2019- Reservoir VS. River Hill
Reservoir 49 - River Hill 42
- 1/25/2019- Reservoir @ Oakland Mills
Reservoir 55 - Oakland Mills 64
- 1/16/2019- Reservoir VS. Glenelg
Reservoir 56 - Glenelg 55
- 1/11/2019 Reservoir VS. Wilde Lake
Reservoir 71 - Wilde Lake 66