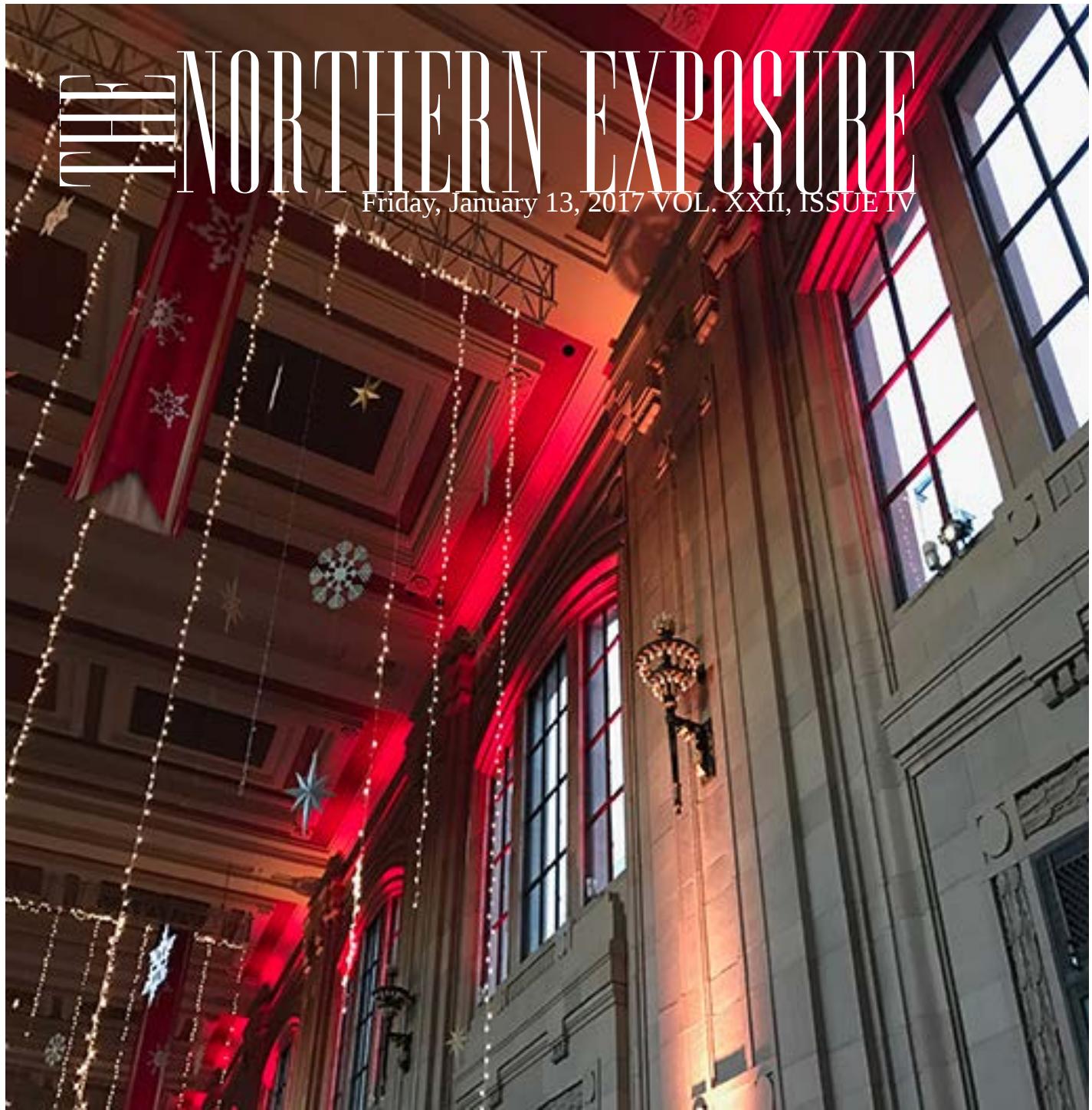


# THE NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Friday, January 13, 2017 VOL. XXII, ISSUE IV



**Find out the  
spookiest details about  
Friday the 13 on Friday,  
January 13! Page 3**

**Check out the most recent updates  
for the boy's and girl's basketball  
team. Page 11&12**  
**Learn which teachers have been  
here since LSN's opening day in  
1995. Pages 6&7**

# In this Issue

# January

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The Northern Exposure will strive toward excellence by reporting news accurately, objectively and thoroughly. Providing leadership through editorials and establishing a forum. "Letters to the Editors" are accepted and encouraged, but should be written responsibly, in good taste, free from libel, obscenities and invasions of privacy. "Letters to the Editors" should be less than 300 words and must be signed. Letters may be delivered to room 2103.

### 1st Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Union Station decorates for the holidays.

**Cover photo taken by Jacob Maschger**

## Table of Contents:

### News

- 3: An Unlucky Day: Friday the Thirteenth-Madi Smith
- 4-5: New Developments Coming to Lee's Summit-Jack Langle
- Feature

- 6-7: LSN Broncos Then and Now-Danielle Zammer

- 7: Teaching the Teachers of Tomorrow-Savannah Henslee

- 8: Battle of the District- Caroline Luna

### Entertainment

- 9: The Government Conspiracy Behind T.V. Phenomenon Stranger Things-Cara Panarisi

- 10: Root for the Royals at the Royals FanFest-Jillian Jamaleddin

### Sports

- 11: The 103rd Annual Ice Skating Nationals Glide into KC-Rebekah Panek
- 12: Boys Basketball Starts Their Turnaround-Will Mauer Girls Basketball: Winning to the End-Savannah Mullen

- 13: Girls Basketball: Winning to the End-Savannah Mullen
- Opinion

- 14: Ready For the Rest of Life-Lexie Talpers

- 15: The Best Movies of 2016-Blair Clark

### Ads



## Bullying, and How to Combat It

ScribedByZoeyBarnes

Bullying. A word that has been drilled in every student since the day their education began. People believe bullying stems from home issues, friend issues, previous bullying issues, however the root of bullying can be traced to a plethora of different reasons. Reasons such as mental, social, economical and physical discomfort or insecurity. Bullying arises from differences and a fear of contrasting ideas. 2016 became quite the year of differences.

Bullying was a huge topic throughout the news in the past year, hidden under words like terrorism, xenophobia, homophobia, racism, nationalism. Bullying became an umbrella term for the fear of differences and the time has come for the fear of people different than ourselves to end.

With the election, these differences arose more so than ever. In an era that is supposed to be progressive; America, and the world seemed to take a step backwards. In 2015 gay marriage was legalized, but then in an act of terrorism the largest mass shooting in America occurred at gay club in Florida. In 2016 America saw an increase in police brutality, in school shootings, in peaceful protests that ended with murder, and Americans let it happen.

Bullying not only occurs in schools, but around the world and it is time for the amount of bullying to decrease. So how can this generation aide in ending these long and arduous battles for fundamental human rights?

We must spread kindness. We must stop fearing people who do not look like us, who do not act like us, who do not love like us, we must stop stereotyping entire masses of culture. One article certainly cannot change the world, but people who read it can. Bullying, not only is it tragic for the people who endure it, but tells future generations that this hatred is okay.

Speak up for the people who cannot. Spread love to the people who need it. Show kindness to everyone. A better world, with less hate, can start with a simple smile to someone in the hallway.



MadisenSmith-StaffReporter

**A**s Friday the 13 comes and goes, many people plan to go about their day as normal. On the other hand, some people stay in bed all day, avoiding all the unlucky mistakes that may occur throughout the day.

“The only thing that concerns me about Friday the 13 is any irresponsible behaviors that others might do because of their own fears,” Sarah Schmoll, social studies teacher, said

The fear of Friday the 13 has a long scientific name, which is “paraskevidekatriaphobia”. This word originates from the Greek words “Paraskevi” which means Friday, “Dekatris” which means thirteen and “phobia” meaning fear. The fear of the number 13 itself is an entirely different word though. Its scientific name is “triskaidekaphobia”. Although these names are not very heard of, they are both still represent common fears throughout the world.

“I am not really afraid of Friday the 13, it is really just a superstition, and I am not really big into things like that. I think bad things can happen any day of the week, and they do not just jam themselves into one bad day every year,” Mia Hamaker, sophomore, said.

“Triskaidekaphobia” has been traced all the way back to the 19th century when Jesus and his disciples

sat at the table for the Last Supper. Jesus and his 12 disciples sat to eat, and Judas, the one who betrayed Jesus, is said to have sat at place 13 at the table. Some say this could have been the beginning of the number 13 superstition, especially for Western cultures. Although, some others have traced the fear of the number 13 to a Norse myth.

This myth is about 12 gods who had a dinner party in their heaven, which is known as Valhalla. However, a third visitor, Loki who was uninvited, crashed the party. He arranged for Balder the Beautiful, the god of joy and gladness, to be shot with a mistletoe arrow by Hoder, the god of darkness. With Balder’s death, the world was said to have gone dark, and from that day on, the number 13 has been said to be an unlucky and sinister number.

“Thirteen is just a prime number, and it just wants to be left alone. Regardless of the old wives tales, there is nothing spooky about 13 floors in a building or 13 people at a table. It is just a number,” Hamaker said.

“Paraskevidekatriaphobia”, is the fear of the number 13 and the fear of Friday

combined to create a super unlucky day. Friday is known as an unlucky day because in the Christian religion, Jesus is said to have been crucified on a Friday. Along with that, some people also suspect Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit on a Friday.

“I am not afraid of the number 13, except for the fact that it is odd and a prime number, which is scary. Thirteen is just another number, however it may be associated with bad luck because many cultures have associated it with evil,” Jacob Sellinger, sophomore, said.

Some superstitions about Friday the 13 include if someone cuts their hair on Friday the 13, then someone in your family will die, if a funeral procession passes a person then they will be the next to die, if 13 people are eating at a table then the first one to stand will die, 13 floored buildings are haunted, and when someone turns 13 a poltergeist will haunt them for a year. Whether or not one believes in these superstitions about Friday the 13, there is no stopping it.

Photos by Gracie Snook

# New Developments Coming to Lee's Summit

JackLangle-Co-JuniorEditor&EntertainmentEditor

Over the last 25 years, the population of Lee's Summit has grown from a population of just 48,000, to one over 95,000- more than doubling in size. Now the sixth largest city in the state of Missouri, Lee's Summit is one of the fastest growing suburbs in the Midwest. From the next few months and through the next few years, Lee's Summit will be seeing development like it never has before, and it has residents excited.

## SUMMIT PLACE

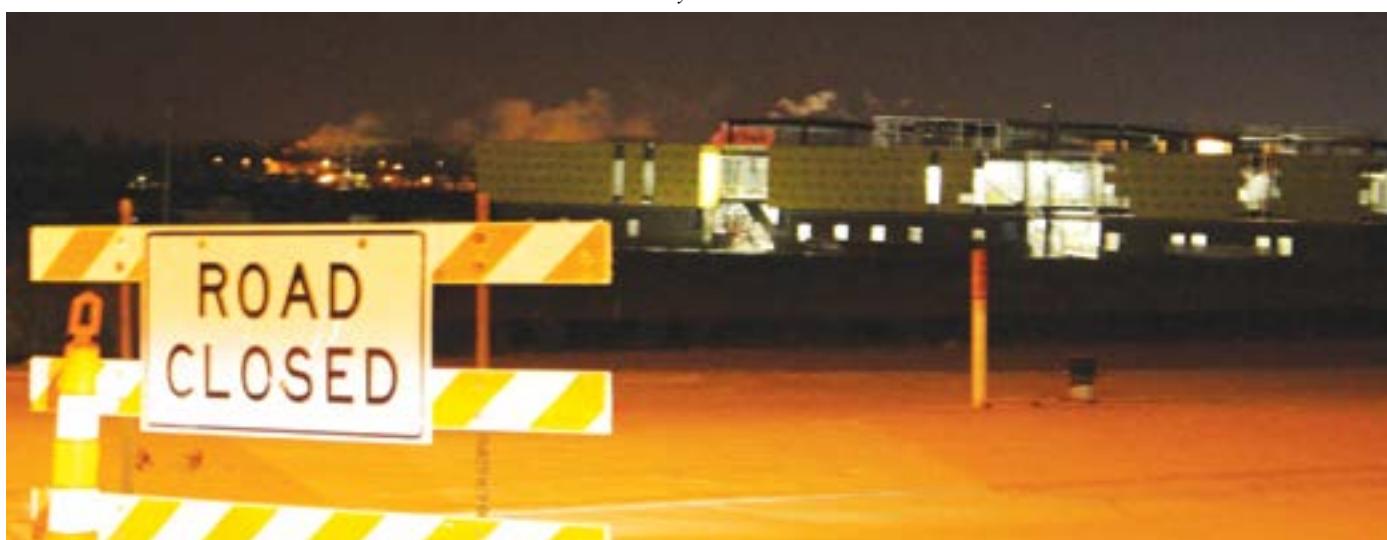
Summit Place, what will soon be the third major shopping and retail development center in Lee's Summit has been in the works since 2006. The project broke ground in late 2016 and is expected to be finished this fall.

The 352,000 square-foot development will be located at NW Blue Pkwy. and NW Ward Rd., adjacent to the already existing, Summit Fair. As the construction thickens, the city and developers continue to work with the citizens to bring the city all of its needs.

"Council roles in these developments usually involve meeting with developers, city staff members and citizens. It plays a vital role in helping these developers plan streets, lighting, water, sewer, etc. for their projects and for knowing what the codes and rules are," Phyllis Edson, Lee's Summit City Councilmember, said.

Sam's Club will be the anchor tenant of Summit Place and along with it there will be new restaurants, other shops, and a 90-room hotel. Next to this property will sit the new Missouri Innovations Campus and 'Summit Orchards' a future multi-family development to come to the city.

Construction begins on the new Summit Place Shopping Center (Below). Renovations begin on the B&B Theatres 16 (Right).  
Photos by Gracie Snook



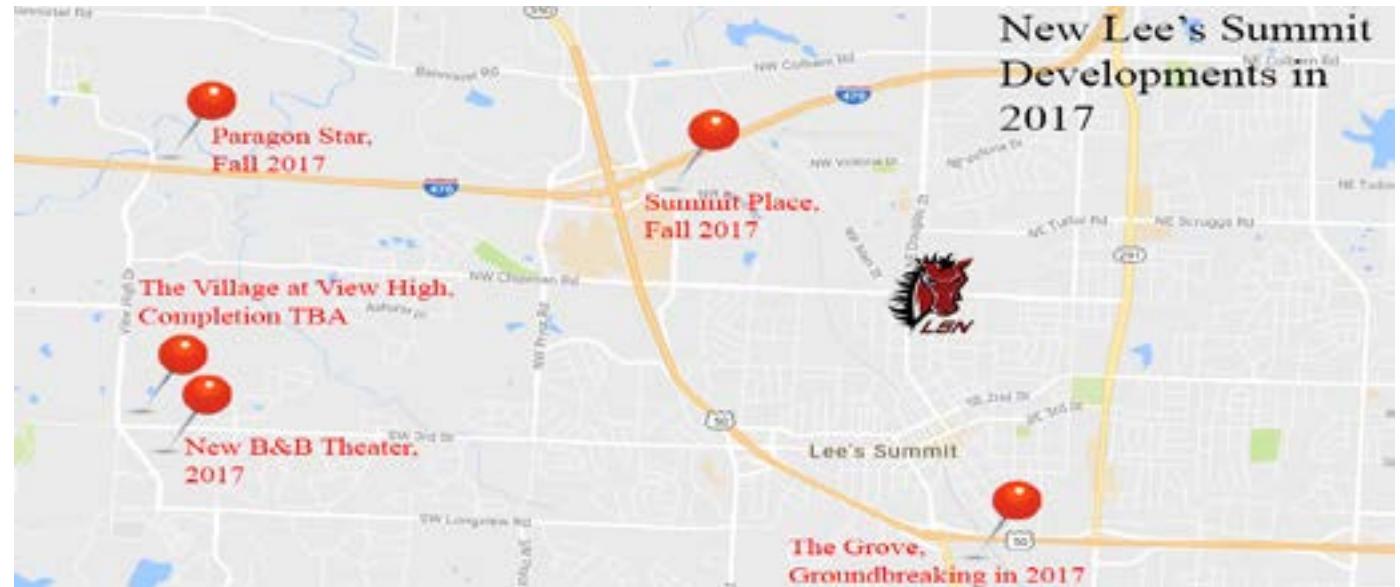
## THE GROVE

At 50-Hwy. and S-291-Hwy., the Lee's Summit Planning Commission is making plans for another new mixed-use project that will be just a walk from Downtown.

The project called, 'The Grove', will be built on a site of 83 acres where plans were previously held to build the \$1.4 million headquarters for Exergonix. The plans eventually fell through.

At The Grove, the city wants to build a variety of shops and restaurants as well as 384 apartments in buildings that will be 4-5 stories tall. The project is in an effort to develop more of the land south of 50-Hwy. along 291 to grow the city's reach.

"No tenants have been publicly identified yet, but we expect to release names in the first quarter of next year," Daren Fristoe, The Grove Project Manager, said.



## THE VILLAGE AT VIEW HIGH

The Village at View High is yet another major shopping and retail development coming to Lee's Summit in the near future. The 74-acre planned project will be at the northeast corner of View High Drive and SW 3rd Street on the west side of town.

In the fall of 2016, the Planning Commission voted 6-0 in favor of the project and development went under way.

There are also 312 apartments planning to be built at the northwest corner of the property, adjacent to Fred Arbanas Golf Course. The apartments are planned to be 'luxury apartments' with one-bedrooms renting at \$1,000 a month and three-bedrooms for \$1,700.

The developers and city officials working on this project have hopes that the luxury apartments mixed with the new shops and restaurants can attract a new wave of residents and their families to Lee's Summit.

## MOVIE THEATRES

B&B Theatres, the owners of the Lee's Summit 16 Movie Theater on Douglas St. plan on building a brand new 'cinema' in the redevelopment site on the historic Longview Farm.

The theater, which is to be near The Village at View High, will house seven screens. Each screen, curved across the wall, will have stadium seating surrounding it, with leather recliners. They will also have surround sound inside.

With this new theater, B&B also plans on upgrading and remodeling the existing Lee's Summit 16 for residents on the north and east sides of town.



NEWS-FRIDAY JANUARY 13 2017  
LEES SUMMIT NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

# LSN Broncos Then and Now

DanielleZammar-SocialMediaReporter

## Ms. Akins

Ever since 1995, Jeannine Akins has been aiding students in learning art. Akins was the Mr. Bronco sponsor for 16 years and the prom sponsor for 18 years. Additionally, she continues to be involved with the Missouri Fine Arts Academy.

## Ms. Matthew

As Shellie Matthew teaches her final year of English, students and staff thank her for all that she has done since the beginning and remember the legacy that she will leave behind. Matthew has been on the Site-Based Team since 1995 as well as holding a position of a faculty department sponsor within National Honor Society. She has been on the graduation speech committee for many years and also has volunteered to be a queen candidate while lip syncing during student council spirit weeks.

## Mr. Hilbert

Michael Hilbert, business teacher, has been closely intertwined with North for twenty-one years and has made an impact within school activities. A few organizations that Hilbert was involved in and is currently involved in follow; coach of boys basketball, past coach of baseball, chair within the homecoming parade organization committee, prom chaperone, current sponsor of Fellowship of Christian Athletes/Young Life club and past sponsor of Future Business Leaders of America.

## Ms. McCain

Shelley McCain, lead guidance counselor, created the schedules for LSN's first students back in 1995. Ever since, she has been providing her expertise in means of colleges, classes and everything in between. McCain has been the head coach of the Northern Stars throughout North's career and recently began teaching personal finance during summer school seven years ago. Furthermore, she has served on almost every committee within the school including Bronco Smart, the talent show and spring enrollment conferences.

## Ms. Lillygren

Tricia Lillygren, math teacher, shares her knowledge with her students on and off of the court here at North. Lillygren has been the head coach of the girls basketball team and the assistant softball coach ever since the building opened and continues that passion to this day.

To this day, Steve Taylor serves the athletes of North with his training expertise. Taylor also teaches physical education classes, such as the strength and performance class and IB sports.

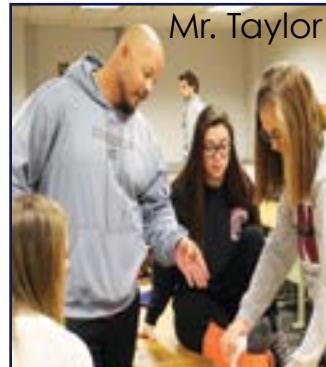
## Mr. Taylor

## What kept you working at LSN for this long?

**Akins:** "LSN is a great place to work. This district has a great reputation and it trickles down to North too. Our principals have always been student centered with support for staff as well. Those two items combined speak volumes for why I have been here for over 20 years."

**Taylor:** "I enjoy teaching and I enjoy LSN. We generally have had good kids, plus getting to know and building relationships with students and staff members over the years is very fulfilling."

**McCain:** "Everything. I love the variety and diversity within the school. I love that our teachers are 100% committed to our students and the depths we will go to help a student be successful. I also love that we are a family. No matter the crisis or celebration, we are there for one another,"



## Have you taught anywhere other than LSN? How do they compare to LSN?

**Akins:** "I taught at Raymore-Peculiar for 10 years. I loved that place and yet North is a place I love too. Just like people, jobs have variety and it is the opportunity to do and teach different things."

**Matthew:** "I taught in Independence for five years and at Lee's Summit High School for three years before coming to LSN. Both schools were very different to LSN mainly in friendships. People at the other two schools were not as friendly and as caring as the staff and students at LSN,"

## What impact have your students had on you over the years?

**Lillygren:** "I am impacted every day by my students and athletes. Each has his/her own story, struggles, strengths and achievements. I have formed so many great relationships with students that have lasted well beyond their high school years."

**Taylor:** "I have learned many things from them, but probably the biggest impact is when I see kids as they become adults in the community. It is really enjoyable to hear their stories of North and to be able to see them in a different setting."



### What will you miss most about LSN?

**Matthew:** "What I will most about this school is the students and staff. The people in this building are my second family and have shared twenty-two years of my life with me,"



## What do you like about LSN?

**Hilbert:** "I love the traditions that were established early on and for the most part, have continued. I had so much respect for Mr. Elliot and several of the veteran teachers who opened LSN and wanted to be a part of LSN. Also, I love the building with the classic brick,"

**McCain:** "Everything. I love the variety and diversity within the school. I love that our teachers are 100% committed to our students and the depths

we will go to help a student be successful. I also love that we are a family. No matter the crisis or celebration, we are there for one another,"

## Do you plan on finishing your teaching career at LSN?

**Hilbert:** "I hope to be able to finish teaching here at LSN but you never know what might happen in the next couple of years. I think that I can retire in six years,"

**Lillygren:** "I definitely will retire as a Bronco. I could have four, five, six years left, I don't really know. I still love teaching here and why stop doing what you love? I do not want to retire just because I hit a magic number established by someone else. I am still having fun in the classroom and I will retire when I am ready to (or when I am invited to leave),"

## Teaching the Teachers of Tomorrow

SavannahHenslee-StaffReporter

Once to twice a month a group of students who want to go into the education business meet. It is sponsored by Ovie Oghenejobo so they can meet and talk about their future. This group is LSTA. They learn about the pay and benefits of teachers and many other aspects of being an educator.

"We talk about the dynamics of being a teacher and pursuing a career in education and working with children," Ovie Oghenejobo, social studies teacher, said.

For people who know they want to be educators but are unsure what area of education they want to be in, LSTA can help them decide. Many students have been waiting for a club or group of some kind to help them learn about being a teacher and what to expect in the education business. It has given students a way to educate themselves so they can educate others in the future.

"I have known since I was in second grade that I want to be a teacher and so whenever I heard that a club was being started for people going into teaching I thought it would be really beneficial," Meghan Bell, junior, said.

They get to talk to teachers and other people that are in the education profession. They have many ways of learning what it is like to be in the business of education. Oghenejobo gave multiple ways in which they learn about the system.

"Testimonies, observation, tutoring, guest speakers, small lessons, research, etc," Oghenejobo said.

The group is not just for a specific type of education. It is for anyone going into any type of educational job. Bell wants to be an elementary school teacher, while Rachel Geringer, freshman, another member of LSTA, wants to be a high school teacher.

"I know I want to go to college and I do want to become a teacher of high school but I'm not really sure about where yet," Geringer said.

With forming such a new group, students hope to provide future educators a place to learn and grow.

"The easiest part is just how welcoming the group is when you're in, it's like we don't know each other but immediately we kind of fit in because we have the same interests and goals for in the future," Bell said.

The organization hopes to increase meeting times over next semester.

"Time, it's hard to get everyone who is interested in this club to meet at the same time," Oghenejobo said.

They are passionate about their goal and want to improve life for themselves and others.

"The thought that kids are passionate about a career that doesn't pay that well and care enough to influence others in an educational setting and influence others tugs at the strings of my heart. I enjoy the kids. That's what it's all about," Oghenejobo said.

For more information about LSTA ask Oghenejobo in room 2124. LSTA is a group open to anyone. If anyone is even just considering a job in the education business LSTA would be a great group to help students decide if there are some things they are unsure about.

# Battle of the District

*Students from all three schools discuss their opinions on their home turf.*

Everyone always accuses North of being a jail, but even if we are a jail at least we are safe. The jail will prevail!"  
Mayson Truman, LSN senior, said.

"They used the blueprints of that [a prison] to make north so it is like a prison," Amondo Delacruz, LSHS senior, said.

"I did notice a lack of windows driving by but I have never been inside," Blake Furnell, LSW senior, said.

## Environment

"I would not switch because all my life I have been surrounded by North with my dad being a coach here and I have never known any other school but North. No other school has such a strong emphasis on tradition and a sense of family in my eyes," Kaitlyn Hilbert, LSN senior, said.

"I think that LSW's building is super nice looking and pretty, but it is not practical. With the whole weather situation you constantly have to go outside to get to class. The doors are unlocked and it is the same with LSHS. They have to go outside and the doors are unlocked. With LSW, if it is all glass, what if there is a tornado? The school is going to fall apart and that is just unsafe. If there is an intruder with the doors being unlocked at LSW or LSHS it would be easier for them to just walk in," Truman, said.

Lee's Summit High School is known as the oldest LS in the district. With multiple buildings spread out throughout the campus, raises the question how safe the campus is. However, the campus being over sixty years old has not experienced any major difficulties regarding their building structure thus far.

"I probably would not switch because LSW is home to me and all my LSHS friends are graduated so it would be pretty pointless to go anywhere other than LSW," Blake Furnell, LSW senior, said.

"I do not think I would want to go to any other school because of the people at LSHS and the environment," Kristen Davidson, LSHS senior, said.

## Academics and Teachers

"The majority of our teachers and the IB program at LSN is superior to the other schools," Truman, said.

"We have the best sports and academics of the three schools and everyone here is pretty cool," Furnell, said.

"Teachers know how much work we have with all our classes and tests," Davidson, said.

## Sports

"Each school excels in a different sport so I cannot say one school is the best in sports. People generally think West is good at sports just because they have been good at football in the past," Hilbert, said.

"In general, LSW has been one of the best schools with athletics," Davidson, said.

"LSHS has had State Champion soccer teams and softball teams, but LSW continually beats the other LS schools in a lot of sports," Davidson, said.

## Student Opinion on the Three Schools

"Personally, I think our school spirit is funny. Our student section is hilarious and I think we are better than the other schools. We come up with better chants and themes at games. We are more creative with the things we say than other schools," Truman, said.

"I for sure have school spirit and I feel that I share it with the entire school, especially when it comes to intra-city competition. Sure we all have friends and family at other schools but TitanVille is where it is at," Furnell, said.

"I ranked LSHS third because they are older. Not a lot of notable things happen at that school, unless it is sports related. It is not like they are necessarily bad, but I would say West and North are probably the better schools when you look at the big picture," Ike Okonkwo, LSN senior, said.

## Rivalry

"North and West are most definitely the strongest rivals. I feel like there is a big disconnect between LS and West because West is a lot newer and Lee's Summit is older, but North being right in the middle allows us to relate to West better. This makes that rivalry more competitive," Okonkwo, said.

"I feel like each school has an individual rivalry with each other, but overall I feel like Lee's Summit and North team up with each other against West because we are the older schools. We do more with LS then we do with West because West is farther away," Truman, said.

"LSHS and west, we just have a weird strong rival against them I do not know if it is the same vice versa but it probably is," Delacruz, said.  
"LSN and LSHS have the biggest rivalry. West is on the other side of town and is the newest and often times gets left out. LSHS and LSN can come together to share a hatred for West," Hilbert, said.



# The Government Conspiracy Behind T.V. Phenomenon

# STRANGER THINGS

CaraPanarisi-OpinionEditor

“Stranger Things” is a Netflix-original series that was released in July 2016. It attracted the attention of all ages of people across the nation almost overnight.

As soon as the popularity of this show increased, it seemed as if the show and its characters were being mentioned in all forms of social medias.

“I started to watch the show in September, I watched it because I saw something on Twitter about it and I wanted to see where the reference was from,” Sara Mullins, junior, said.

When people began to get more into the series, more fans of the show started to discover parallels between Netflix’s sci-fi hit and the real life conspiracies that people across the nation had developed years ago.

In the 1980s, stories of the supposedly real-life government experimenting showered the nation. This idea of experimenting was known as “The Montauk Project”. These series of government experiments were said to be carried out in Montauk, Long Island at either Camp Hero or Montauk Air Force Station.

“I think the real life theories were a good reason to make the show because it is interesting and you get pulled in wanting to watch more,” Alexis Roe, junior, said.

The main focus of the government-based experiments was to develop and alter people to have psychological abilities, such as the ability of time travel, teleportation, and mind control.

“Being based on conspiracies keeps the show interesting because it does not seem realistic and it makes it more interesting to watch so you find out what happens next,” Roe said.

These alleged experiments were carried out on all ages of people, but “Stranger Things” specifically brings about the idea



Many people believe that Stranger Things is based around different conspiracy theories

Courtesy of <http://cdn.inquisitr.com/>

of the kidnapping of kids in order to experiment on them.

The show is based around the disappearance of Will, who is one out of the four boys in a small group of friends. As high hopes that their lost friend, son, and brother, Will, is in fact missing, and not

While the boys are searching for their friend, they come across a girl in a forest named “Eleven,” who has escaped the experimenting. She does not have a name other than just a number. This shows that there were at least ten other kids that were being tested.

There are people across the nation who have told escape stories from the experimenting, and have also believed that they these events over time due to repressed memories. These conspiracies and stories are not confirmed to have been true, but they are not confirmed to have been false,

either. “I do not think these real life theories are true because they seem too crazy to actually happen in real life,” Roe said.

Aside from the experimenting being done on kids, there are other parallels between the conspiracies and the show’s storyline.

“I have noticed that besides the kidnapping and experimenting of kids, the writers of the show also bring up the idea of an alternate dimension,” Zane Daugherty, junior, said.

Season 1 may have ended, but the journey has just begun for the kids and families within the show “Stranger Things”. There aside from just experimenting on her, are many unanswered questions and fusing stories to be explained.

“The thing I look forward to most about season two is to find out if they found Barb,” Mullins said.

Although the conspiracies may or may have discovered more information about not be true, the storyline of “Stranger Things” is a different take on sci-fi, and has sparked the interest of many people as it scatters through the media and is added to “To-watch” lists.

# Root for the Royals at the Royals FanFest

JillianJamaeddin-StaffReporter

For all the Kansas City Royals fans out there, Royals FanFest is the place to go. On January 27 and 28 the event will take place at the Kansas City Convention Center, Bartle Hall. Exclusive access for Season Ticket Members is available from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. on January 27, and from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on January 28. The Royals FanFest will also be open to all fans from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on January 27, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on January 28.

The fest provides a family friendly event for Royals fans of any age. Numerous activities take place that interest a wide variety of people. One reason Royals fans enjoy the gathering is a result of the range of the activities.

"[The Royals FanFest is a family friendly place to go because of the] fun games for the kids and great things for the adults to do at the same time," Ryan Shortino, learning lab teacher associate, said.

Several events occur including player and staff appearances, player autographs, and activities for the whole family. Player autographs are accessible

to the first 150 fans for each session on a first-come, first-served basis. Each fan can have one item autographed per player.

Another event includes



the Teva Royals Diamond. Specific activities on the diamond consist of clinics on hitting, fielding, and pitching, home run derby, a kids open play, appearances by Royals players, Slugger, KCrew, and more.

Along with that, there are multiple interactive games Royals fans can participate in. The interactive games are composed of accuracy pitch, bunting challenge, steal home challenge, speed pitch, batting cages, slider, and the Little Slugger's Playground. The playground for younger chil-

dren will include batting cages, throwing target walls, and a steal home challenge.

"I would go to another fan fest because I really liked

the experience, and there was always something fun to do while you were there," Julia Mattis, sophomore, said.

The Royals FanFest exists as a unique and exciting way to promote the team and upcoming season to fans. Plus, guests will have an opportunity to purchase Royals merchandise at the team store during the event. Several people view the Royals FanFest as a creative way to get fans energized for the approaching baseball season.

"It brings the excitement

to the upcoming season and allows them to introduce any new players they get in the off-season," John Gage, science teacher, said.

For families planning to attend the fan fest all day, purchasing food at the fest is available. The food will be Ballpark-themed including nachos, hot dogs, and other themed food. Additionally, more seating areas will be provided at the Royals FanFest compared to previous years.

Tickets can be purchased as a one-day pass or a two-day pass. Prices for adult and youth tickets differ. An adult ticket for a one-day pass is \$17, while a two-day pass costs \$23. Youth prices for a one-day pass are \$11, and a youth ticket for a two-day pass is \$15. Tickets can be purchased in advance at royals.com/fanfest, by calling (816) 504-4040 or visiting the Kauffman Stadium Box Office during business hours (Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Purchasing tickets is also possible at the event. Various parking options are accessible to fans as well. Parking costs vary at different parking locations (a parking map is available on the Royals FanFest website).

# The 103rd Annual Ice Skating Nationals *Glide into KC*

RebekahPanek-StaffReporter



The U.S. Figure Skating Championships are being held at the Sprint Center in January of 2017

Photo by Jake Maschger

This year is the 103rd annual US Figure Skating Nationals. This year the event will take place in downtown Kansas City at the Sprint Center. The competition will last the 14th to the 22nd of January. People from all around come to watch the event each year. There will be many different types of skating and they will all be judged on the ISU judging system. The last four days will be when the champions are chosen.

The event will last over the course of nine days, on Saturday; the first day will be the juvenile's competition, and then on the second day is Novice. The third day will consist of the junior skaters, then the last four days will be the championship skates.

"Ice skating is like no other sport because of how you glide across the ice, it is definitely my favorite part," Wachtstetter, said.

There are many different types of skate styles, such as; partner dance, boys and girls

freestyle, pairs freestyle, free-style dance, ladies and men's short, pairs short, ladies and men's freestyle skate.

There are many things to expect at the ice skating nationals.

"There is a lot of people who come, there are a lot of different events as well. It's just really neat to see pair skating and singles women and men. That's really fun to watch," Katie Beeman, senior, said.

Nationals is known to be a big deal, most participants are almost Olympic level skaters.

Ice Skating is a very hard sport, Lindsey Molzen, junior, shares why it's difficult.

"Falling, falling and getting back up is the hardest part," Molzen, said.

The local sponsors supporting

this event are; Crown Center, Hallmark, Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund.

Metals will be presented to Men's singles, Ladies singles, Pair skating, and Ice Dancing. The defending champions are Adam Rippon, Grace Gold, Tarah Kayne/ Daniel O'shea and Maia Shibutani/ Alex Shibutani.

Figure skating used to be scored on a 6.0 system, but was replaced by the ISU judging system that was designed by the International Skating Union. There is a technical panel and a judging panel. The Technical panel uses instant replay to make final decisions on whether the take off and landing, of the skater were all in order.

Their decision determines the base value of the element. The base value is the scale they are scored on; it ranges from three to negative three. The judging panel is composed of nine judges and one referee. The judges are sent elements from the Technical Panel.

An examples of the elements are the different spins, jumps, and moves the skaters do. After the elements are sent to the judges and they rate them on the three to negative three scale.

The Figure Skating Nationals is seen as a big event and is very important to the skaters and the people who go to watch. It is a great opportunity to have this event held in downtown Kansas City.

# Boys Basketball Starts Their Turnaround

WillMauer-SportsEditor

Winter brings snow, holiday parties and perhaps the best of all, basketball. The NBA and college teams are in full swing as well as high school ball, as teams around the state play to advance to the final four in Columbia.

The Broncos finished below .500 last year, only winning two conference games and only seven overall. But one element they do not lack is experience. There are nine upperclassmen, all who played varsity basketball last year.

"We have to return the most varsity experience of anyone in our league. In addition to being experienced, I think our guys are talented and athletic. Their off season work habits have been tremendous and they want to be good," Mike Hilbert, head varsity coach, said.

One thing the basketball team does not lack is scoring, in the first seven games they have scored 70+, but failing to stiff competition, going 4-5.

The team is looking to create an up-tempo, high possession game. This will create shots for everyone and the experience and

depth will show throughout the year. The team has high athleticism, trying to play hard defense which will turn into easy shots in transition for the offense.

"We have a lot of great shooters on our team and the flow of the game gives everyone equal opportunities to shoot the ball. We do a great job to share the ball and hit the open shot," Logan Jenkins, junior guard, said.

The defense has struggled at times in the early goings of the season, giving up at least 68 points in their four losses this season. When they are playing an up and down game, they are susceptible to giving up fast break as much as they are initiating them.



North boys basketball team played in a game against Raypec.

Photo by Gracie Snook

The Broncos have some big games coming up against conference opponents. The team always wants to do well in their conference games in order to be in contention come playoff time.

"I think our biggest games

would have to be our conference games because you need to win those to win the conference. But if I had to choose a couple I'd say the other Lee's Summit schools because it's always an intense rivalry

when we meet on the court," Hayden Bradford, senior guard, said.

The team always loves playing at home, as the

Crimson Crazies provide a favorable home court advantage.

"Playing in front of the crimson crazies is awesome. They provide so much energy and the atmosphere they create is hard for the opponent to deal with. Not only is playing at home a great thing, playing in front of them is very motivating," Jenkins said.

Friday nights in high school basketball are intimidating for any team, but especially during rivalry games. Come out to support the boys team on the 27th, when they face rivals Lee's Summit West at the LSN Field House. They also play Lee's Summit at home on February 10th.

Having the upperclassmen with varsity experience

is pivotal when playing rivalry games, on the road or at home. Dealing with the phenomenal atmospheres around the city is difficult for the younger players. It is crucial for



the team chemistry to be fantastic with the crowd screaming during every possession, so the unity between upperclassmen and underclassmen is critical.

"I think the young guys have meshed really well with us older guys because all of us have the same goal and we have to stay together to achieve that," Bradford said.

The goal is to be hitting their stride at the end of the season and carry the momentum into postseason play. The Broncos hope to go back to Columbia, Missouri to play at Mizzou Arena in a final four for the first time since 2011.

# Girls Basketball: Winning to the End

SavannahMullen-StaffReporter

Girls basketball has been making their rounds, starting off with varsity winning a tournament and winning eight out of eight. Winning against Kearney 55-

other good teams such as Kearney and St. Teresa's Academy. However, both games were won by the Varsity team. The final was 28-27, giving junior on varsity basketball, the Broncos the tournament said.

championship.

There are 13 games left

in the season for varsity and JV girls basketball. With teacher at North. Donovan also one tournament included in those 13 games for both.

and is a physical education teacher. JV coaches are Lauren Fruits and Bruce Hickam. Fruits is the business teacher at North. Hickam is North's campus supervisor.

Aaliyah Johnson is the main team captain for varsity. However, the other captain switches from game to game.

“One thing that comes to mind when playing the next game is working as a team better, which we already do,



games so far while JV also winning a tournament and winning seven out of eight games so far.

At North last year varsity girls basketball ended the season with 18-7. Last year, JV girls basketball ended with 12-10. With this year, the season has just begun but they are already have won many, so far varsity is undefeated while JV has only lost one game.

“One of our mottos is to play each game day by day, so as long as we can keep that in the back of our minds at every practice and game, then we can do good,” Jordan Jennings, senior on varsity basketball, said.

Varsity has won against

53 and St. Teresa's Academy 59-55.

“We treat each other like sisters and nothing else. We

have each other’s back 100% of the time,” Alexis Griffin, junior on varsity, said.

Varsity supports each other as a family while JV does the same. JV has had some close calls but have pulled through on all games while they sit at 7-1.

In the tourna-



Girl's basketball teams up against long time rivals the Lee's Summit Tigers.

Photos by Jacob Maschger

# Ready for the Rest of Life

Lexie Talpers-CoEditorInChief



As seniors begin second semester, many of us have started to feel the lag in the school day. We are simply here to be here and we feel that our time is being wasted when we could be in college or getting started on the rest of our lives instead.

Last May as I watched the seniors walk across the stage at graduation, all I could think was; ‘Wow I am glad that is not me’. Now, I can not wait to receive my diploma and move on to the next stage of my life.

“I am really excited to graduate. I feel like I have been here for so long and done so many homework assignments that I can not do anymore, I am past my limit on homework assignments,” Kaitlyn Hilbert, senior, said.

I still love being able to see my friends every day but I am tired of coming to school just to sit in class, do busy work, and be tested over information I do not



see as necessary to learn. I feel like most of the seniors are tired of coming to school.

“Being a senior is pretty cool, it did not come with all the perks I thought it would. I still have a lot of busy work,” Garet Blankman, senior said.

Even though I have severe senioritis, I know I will miss some things about my school, especially seeing my friends and just being a second away from my next class, instead of having to walk across an entire campus.

“I will miss people from LSN because we have been together for so long and we have grown so much together,” Hilbert said.

As a senior I have no-

ticed there are two types of seniors: those who take hard International Baccalaureate or Advanced Placement classes and have a harder schedule, and those who take multiple gym classes and study halls and just skate by with the bare minimum. I feel that those who are actually taking hard classes are more prepared for college and begin the next chapter, just because all the hard classes they have been taking have prepared them for college.

“I am ready to graduate because I am ready to get in with a group of more mature people than just those in high school,” Mandy Kilgore, senior, said.

I have been feeling senioritis since the end of my ju-

nior year. I cannot wait to go to college, meet new people and try new things.

Senior year has not been what I expected. I expected to have a lot less homework and I thought I would feel older. I remember my freshman year when I would see all of the seniors and think about how old they looked. Now that I am a senior I do not feel that I look older compared to the underclassmen. As second semester begins, all I can think about is how excited I am to walk across the stage at graduation and receive my diploma and begin the next phase of my life. So I am ready for second semester and I am ready to be done with high school.

# THE BEST MOVIES OF

Blair Clark-Jr. Editor

# 2016



## HORROR/THRILLER FILMS



Although personally I do not watch horror films, I was expecting *Lights Out* to be the best horror film of 2016. Surprising to me, *The Conjuring 2* is the favorite of 2016 in the Horror and Thriller category. The sequel to the original, from what has been said, is terrifying and keeps you interested throughout the whole film. What comes next is very unexpected. It is set in 1977 where a family believes their house is full of evil after their daughter shows signs of possession.

"It had a lot of unexpected events throughout the whole film. I think this is the best one of the sequels, but if there was another one after this one, I do not think it would be as good," Katie King, sophomore, said.



## COMEDY FILMS

Central Intelligence and Deadpool are the favorite comedy films of 2016. Deadpool, a somewhat superhero movie, breaks the fourth wall and Deadpool actually talks to the audience. He is played by Ryan Reynolds and was formerly a Special

Forces operative. After an evil scientist tortures and disfigures him, he turns into Deadpool. He is left with quick healing powers and tells of his life story of hunting down the man who tries to destroy his life, Ajax.

"It is really funny and has a bunch of sarcasm and I really liked how Deadpool talks to you," Calyssa Marra, junior, said.

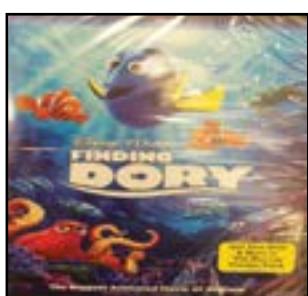
In Central Intelligence is about two guys that have known each other since high school. One was bullied and one was the jock. Later on in life they end up meeting again and come together to prevent worldwide chaos. From what has been said about Central Intelligence, it is one of the funniest movies people have seen. It stars Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart as the main characters, Johnson as the one bullied in high school, and



Hart as the jock that everyone loved in high school.

## ACTION/ADVENTURE FILMS

Captain America: Civil War took the name of best action or adventure film for 2016. This is the most recent of the movies that Captain America has been in since 2011 when he starred in Captain America: The First Avenger. This film is all about how Captain America and Iron Man start feuding. They begin arguing over whether or not superheroes should still be able to defend the human race without government interference. Black Widow and Hawkeye are forced to choose a side. The film keeps you on your toes throughout this adventure filled movie.



## LIGHT HEARTED FILMS

With an almost unanimous vote, *Finding Dory* has been deemed the favorite light-hearted movie of 2016. I have seen the movie and I do agree that it was a pretty great movie with a happy ending. It is a movie meant for any age whether you are 2 or 82, it just makes you feel good. The film is the sequel to *Finding Nemo*, but this time Dory is trying to find her parents. It takes you on a crazy adventure through the ocean and through an aquarium. SPOILER ALERT: Dory does find her parents along with the help of Nemo and Marlin through her journey.

"I loved it because I loved *Finding Nemo* as a child. I always wanted a sequel to it and when it finally came out, I had to go see it," Danielle Barnette, sophomore, said.

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An advertisement for Talley's Collision Repair Service. The logo features a red, stylized script font for "Talley's" above the words "Collision Repair Service". To the left of the text is a graphic of a spray gun. Below the main text, there is smaller text: "410 South Douglas - 816.524.5566" and "WWW.Talleysbodyshop.com".

An advertisement for Custom Clothing Free Style Lee's Summit &amp; Sign Company. The logo is a large, stylized circle containing the words "CUSTOM CLOTHING" at the top, "EST. 1992" in the center, "FREE STYLE" in large letters, and "LEE'S SUMMIT &amp; SIGN COMPANY" at the bottom. To the right of the circle, the address "406 SW DOUGLAS" is listed, along with the phone number "816.525.9191".