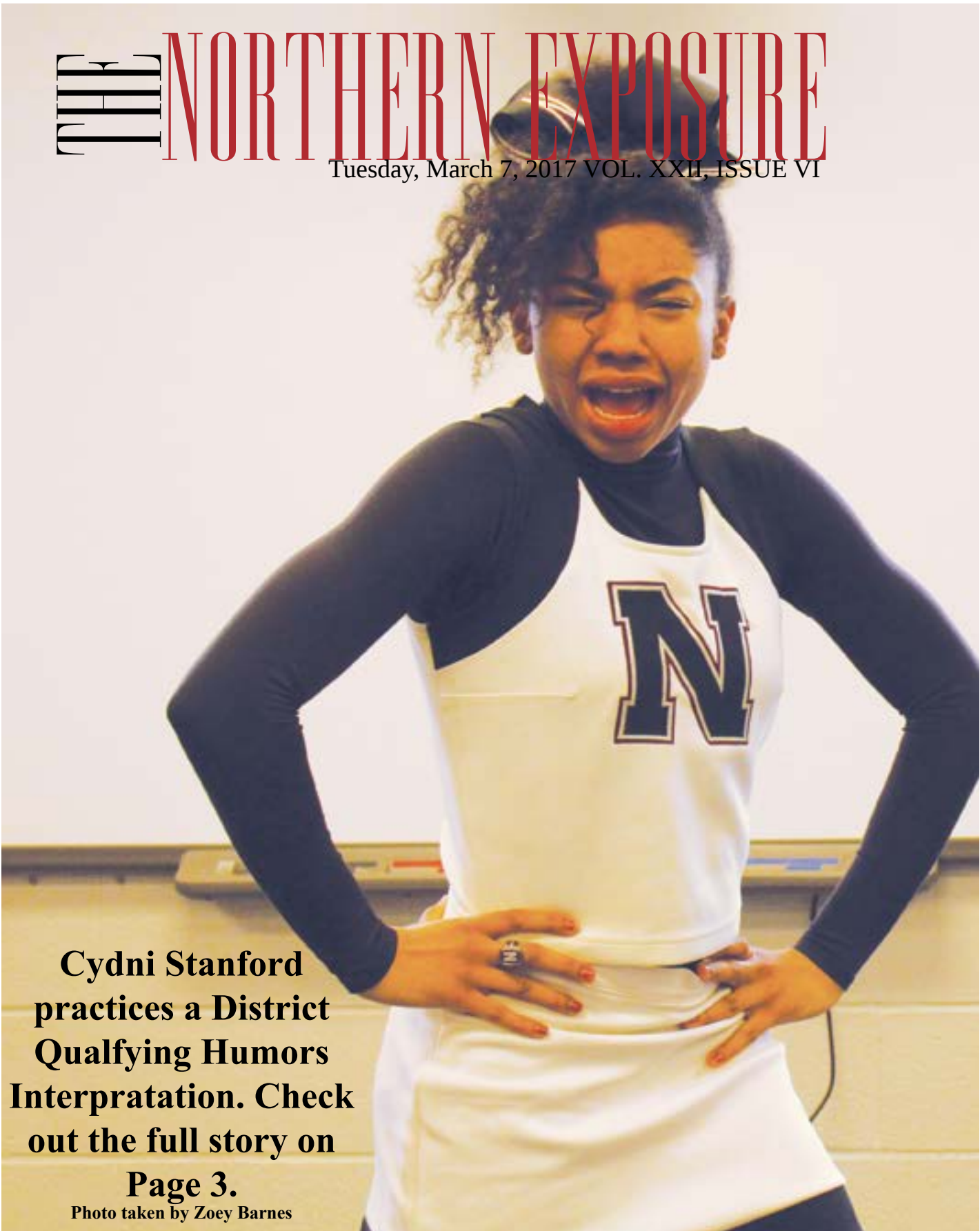


# THE NORTHERN EXPOSURE

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 VOL. XXII, ISSUE VI



**Cyndni Stanford  
practices a District  
Qualifying Humors  
Interpratation. Check  
out the full story on**

**Page 3.**

Photo taken by Zoey Barnes

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## 2016-17 Staff

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## THE POWER BEHIND A KEYBOARD

*Scribed By Zoey Barnes*

Social media is an extremely powerful tool. Social media allows us to know what goes on in the world in an instant. Social media allows us to see photographs of our friends, our family. Social media allows us to see when natural disasters happen or even minutes after a terrorist attack has occurred. Social media allows us so much.

Social media can also destroy a person's livelihood in seconds.

Social media has constantly been ridiculed for the awful things it can produce. It allows high schoolers to make fun of their peers, it allows private things to be shared publically. Social media can be used for destruction rather than creation.

People who post awful things on social media can be doing it for a plethora of reasons, spite, pettiness, but much of what is typed behind a screen is typed to cause devastation to a person or group in seconds. Once a post is posted, it can never truly go away.

Many people also feel powerful behind a keyboard because of the anonymity of it. Anyone who has a keyboard and an internet connection can post cruel words under an alias and not be punished for it. People can type whatever they want, whenever they want.

This tool can be used for extreme good, a good that cannot be matched with paper and pen.

There is a large amount of power behind the 26 letters on a keyboard. An amount of power that no one foresaw when the internet was created. The only thing that can truly be done is to realize that every person is a person. Every person has feelings and what is said behind a keyboard can hurt more than what is said in front of a face.

Let's embrace social media for its powerful positive impact, not as a means to ridicule and hurt others. Don't hide behind a keyboard.

## Northern Exposure Policy

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.

# Concerts, Crowds, Music, and Artist

SavannahHenslee-StaffReporter

The Sprint Center in Kansas City hosts many events including concerts. There are many upcoming concerts for the months of March and April: Charlie Wilson; Ariana Grande; Radiohead; Chris Tomlin; John Mayer; Lionel Richie and Mariah Carey.

“I am attending Ariana Grande in March, and hopefully Bruno Mars in June,” Alexis Cosper, sophomore, said.

Many people attend concerts, in fact, about 3,141,592,654 people attend concerts each year. (*According to quora.com*)

“I have been to five concerts, I was in the 6th grade when I went to my last concert. I have seen Hannah Montana, High school Musical, Selena Gomez, Jonas Brothers, and Justin Bieber. I am going to Ariana Grande in March with my best friend Cydni Stanford because we love her music,” Cosper said.

Charlie Wilson, a 64 year old Contemporary R&B, Hip Hop Soul, and Funk artist is playing March 16 at the Sprint Center. He is playing his “In It To Win It” tour now and he has been since February 24. Before playing in the Sprint Center he plays in Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles on March 8 and 9, Garden Arena, MGM Grand Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on March 10, and Oracle Arena in Oakland with Johnny Gill on March 11. After playing at the Sprint Center he goes on to play at Chesapeake Energy Arena in Oklahoma City with Johnny Gill on March 17, Verizon Theatre at Grand Prairie in Grand Prairie on March 19, USF Sun Dome in Tampa on

March 23, and many more on his tour up to April 1. Ticket for the Sprint Center concert are ranged anywhere from \$49.50-\$86.00 depending on the seating.

Radiohead, a rock band, is playing April 5. Before playing at Sprint Center they will play at American Airlines Arena in Miami on March 30, Philips Arena in Atlanta on April 1, and Smoothie King Center in New Orleans on April 3. After playing at Sprint Center they play at KeyArena in Seattle on April 8, Moda Center in Portland on April 9, and Greek Theatre U.C. Berkeley in Berkeley on April 17 and 18. Tickets for the Sprint Center concert are ranged anywhere from \$65.00-\$89.00 depending on the seating.

Chris Tomlin, 44 year old Contemporary Worship and Contemporary Christian artist

is playing April 8. John Mayer, a Pop, Rock, Blues, Folk, Country, Soul artist is playing April 14. Ariana Grande, a 23 year old pop artist, is playing March 18.

“I have been to a Taylor Swift, Winter Jam, and Chris Tomlin concert at the Sprint Center. The concert venue was well laid out and every seat feels like a good seat,” Anna Donaldson, junior, said.

Music has a meaning to everyone. For some people that meaning is different than others meaning of music.

“I love to hear music live with good friends. It’s a bonding experience that you can’t find anywhere else,” Donaldson.

Some music is good some music is bad but, different people have different views on what music is good and what music is bad.

“I like going to concerts to

support my favorite artists. I like pop and rap. I cannot stand country music,” Cosper said.

There are some people who love going to concerts and some who do not. Some people go for themselves while others go to go with friends.

“It is just a great way to hear your favorite bands and music,” Grace Mason, Freshman, said.

A concert is great for some people but others prefer a less crowded and not as loud atmosphere. For those

people there are many small coffee shops that offer live music. At a place like a coffee shop it is much less likely

that it would be a big artist that many people know, in fact, many of them may be local artists. Whether small or large venue, live music is a popular activity.

Many performers are coming to the Kansas City Sprint center for a show, including John Mayer.

Photo by Gracie Snook





# TODAY'S NEWS: LOCAL AND NATIONAL HEADLINES

Caroline Luna-StaffReporter

## KCI AIRPORTS FATE REMAINS UP IN THE AIR

Southwest Airlines proudly celebrated 35 years of service at Kansas City International Airport, even though its fate is still questionable.

Southwest's Regional Leader for community affairs claims Southwest has grown from two destinations to 30 since 1982. Furthermore, she states it seated four million outbound and inbound passengers last year (*Courtesy of Kansas City Star*).

Although she refused to comment about the Airports foggy future, Mayor Sly James thoroughly discussed KCI's possible future and how it is a necessity for the future.

"This is an asset that we have to take care of. We're going to make it the most convenient new terminal in the country," James said (*Courtesy of Kansas City Star*).

He reminisces upon when KCI first opened people called it Kansas City Inconvenient, but over the years it has become one of the most convenient airports in the area.

A new terminal would cost approximately 964 million dollars in 2015, thus forcing most voters to turn away from the idea.

While adding a new terminal remains a heated topic, James claims if something is not done in KC soon, another place will.



## THE LADY BRONCOS ROAD TO SUCCESS

Girls Varsity Basketball team made Lee's Summit North history by having the first undefeated regular season.

"Practicing with them everyday has shown me how much they care about the game and each other," Clayton Anderson, senior, said.

After games such as playing Blue Springs South High school in February and leaving with a 61-60 victory, the lady broncos pour their heart and soul into the game.

"More people are going to games and supporting the broncos, there is just more involvement overall," Mayson Truman, senior, said.

LSN students and faculty are proud of the lady broncos and their many accomplishments this season.

## NATIONAL HEAD OF SECURITY MICHAEL FLYNN RESIGNS

Head of Security Michael Flynn resigns and is replaced with Gen. Keith Kellogg as acting Head of Security. Reports claim Flynn mislead White House officials about his conversations with the Russian Ambassador.

"I have sincerely apologized to the president and the vice president, and they have accepted my apology," Flynn writes (*Courtesy of TheHill*).

Flynn's relationship with President Donald Trump traces back to Trump's campaigning year in 2016. In his resignation letter, he thanks Trump for his loyalty and compliments President Trump and his team.

As the fate of Flynn's presence in the White House still is still in the air, it is still unknown who will be his permanent replacement.



# Debate and Forensics Districts: The Road to Nationals

DanielleZammar-SocialMediaEditor

Not every individual feels comfortable with standing up in front of a crowd and publicly speaking or performing, especially on numerous occasions. For students who are involved in the Debate and Forensics team here at North though, this does not come across as anything new.

Debate and Forensics is led by Coach Ben Jewell (Debate) and Coach Rachel Russell (Forensics) and offers courses available to all grade levels. It is as simple as taking Debate I or Competitive Dramatics to become a member of the well-recognized team along with an estimated 120 other students. Even though participating within the organization is simple to enroll, it does indeed require quite a bit of work similar to any other class. Including a majority of the weekends during the school year, debaters and forensicators are gone competing in tournaments all over the city. This season, the team is doing exceptionally well. In result of all of the success, certain individuals are on the road to the top by qualifying for the District competition. Tyler Finley, Zander Davidson and Rakayla Brooks include a few.

Districts will have three rounds for all of Debate and Forensics events and will take place during the first three weekends in March. Finley, senior, will be competing in Humorous Interpretation this season. This specific category contains taking a play or a book and condensing it down to a ten minute memorized performance where one

person acts out all of the characters that are involved and attempts to make it as humorous as possible. As the competition is quickly approaching, Finley is ahead of the game with his previous experience.

United States of America, and what that means," Brooks said.

Brooks has been preparing for Districts from the beginning by paying attention to other schools' top competitors and the style of the judges. Focusing on oneself

stands as just as crucial so nerves do not take over when the moment comes. "I would say that I am pretty nervous, because I want to make my coaches proud, and live up to their standards and of course my personal standards. I tend to be a bit of a perfectionist at times. However, once I dive into the element of my piece, it takes me to another dimension and that is how acting and performing can be



"I have been to Districts three times before and this will be my fourth year. So far this year, I have been to finals in my event about five or six times which, I am told, is pretty good," Finley said. Brooks, junior, will additionally be showing off her talents within the event of Program of Oral Interpretation. Usually abbreviated as POI, it includes a mixture of pieces of literature within the form of prose, poetry and drama all arranged together in order to prove a point.

"Basically, I present a ten minute speech, filled with poems, literature, etc to make my audience THINK. In terms of my actual piece, it addresses the idea of being black and conscious of your oppression as a black person in the

therapeutic," Brooks said. As the season is coming to a close with Districts, memories and gratitude are also expressed within the team.

"I am definitely going to miss this program so much. It has taught me so much and I've met so many new people from doing it. I have put so much time and work into this program and I am sad to leave it, but happy to go out with a boom and/or start a new chapter in my life," Davidson, senior, said.

After Districts, the State competition will occur and ultimately Nationals, which will take place in Birmingham, Alabama this season, for qualified performers. Keep up to date with how far LSN's Debate and Forensics goes.

# FREE FUN IN KANSAS CITY

JackLangle-EntertainmentEditor&CoJuniorEditor



## NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT KANSAS CITY

The National Archives at Kansas City is the city's access to historical records and documents relating to the history of KC, and its surrounding states.

The archives, perfect for a fan of history, are one of the 13 regional branches in the country.

There are over 60,000 cubic feet of original records from over 90 federal agencies across seven states call the National Archives at Kansas City home, and they are all free to access. *(Photoed above)*

## THE MONEY MUSEUM

The money Museum, located inside the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City is just south of Liberty Memorial and Union Station.

At the Money Museum, visitors can learn how money is made and distributed, get to the hold a gold bar worth more than \$500,000, discover how to spot counterfeit money and much more.

"The money museum provides a substantial amount of education about how economics work and the power of money and it is a very fun place to visit," Autumn Edwards, sophomore, said.

## NELSON-ATKINS AND KEMPER MUSEUMS OF ART

The Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, just East of the Plaza is Kansas City's largest art museum. The museum was founded in 1933 through the combined estates of William Rockhill Nelson, the Kansas City Star founder and Mary McAfee, a local schoolteacher.

"The Nelson is great. They have so much to offer and I love that it is free so that way I can go on a budget," Ezri St. John, junior, said.

The museum has over 35,000 works of art viewed by 500,000 visitors each year.

The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art is a highly acclaimed, free art museum in KC. The museum opened in 1994 and draws more than 100,000 visitors each year.

The museum boasts temporary exhibits along with a rapidly growing permanent collection of art pieces.

Located at Warwick Blvd. and E 45th St., across from the Kansas City Art Institute, the museum is open six days a week, closed on Mondays.



## BRUCE R. WATKINS CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

The Bruce R. Watkins Cultural Heritage Center, located off of the Swope Parkway and Blue Parkway intersection a few miles East of 71-Highway is a center and museum dedicated in the memory of the former Kansas City political-activist with the same name.

The center recognizes the contributions African-Americans have made to the city; in arts, culture, and developments. Admission and parking are both free. *(Photoed above)*

## CITY OF FOUNTAINS FOUNDATION

Kansas City is home to over 200 fountains, making it home to more fountains than any other city in the world other than Rome, and even more active ones than them.

"The fountains in Kansas City are absolutely beautiful, we are so lucky to have so many of them right here in town," Meghan Bell, junior, said.

The City of Fountains Foundation is the organization that routinely maintenances the fountains and keeps them in top condition.

The organization also provides people with a complete map of all the fountains and even sculptures in the city, with history behind almost all of them.

## THE HALLMARK VISITOR'S CENTER

The Hallmark Visitor's Center is the interactive museum dedicated to the international brand headquartered in Kansas City.

At the museum, visitors can learn about the history of Hallmark and its rise to success. Guests can also play with interactive bow creating and animation machines as well as experience all the ordainments and original programing the company has to offer.



# The New Beauty and the Beast is Unleashed

CaraPanarisi-OpinionEditor

The anticipation for the newly released remake of Beauty and the Beast is at an all time high for Disney movie addicts everywhere as soon as the trailers were leaked early last May.

Although the trailer makes it out to be similar to the original Disney classic, nobody knows what to expect or how similar it will be to the 1991 edition of the movie.

In the more recent release of the movie trailer, viewers can assume, by the side by side comparison of the two trailers, that they will have the same base storyline and main scenes as the original film, but with drastically different graphics.

"I expect it will capture the same essence and storyline of the cartoon version, but also add the new exciting elements to the story," Jennifer Iseman, junior, said.

Similarities can be made out as the trailers and leaks begin to scatter social media platforms. Some of the bigger scenes, such as the main dance at the end of the movie in the ballroom with Belle and the beast, or even the smaller details, such as the details of the paintings within the beast's castle, or the withering rose within the glass dome.

"The characters still have the same personalities and the plot is similar in that the beast starts off bad and later turns good and falls in love with Belle," Iseman said.

The two have their clear cut similarities but also contain their fair share of drastic differences. In the classic version, it exemplifies the 90's in a sense of how technology was not as advanced as it is today. In the classic version, they also use cartoons compared to the up and coming release of the movie, which not only uses real life actors as the characters, but overall displays more advanced technology through the high tech characterization of inanimate objects, such as the talking candle.

"I think the technology is going to change it a lot because be-



fore advanced technology it was minimal but still very real, but now with the new technology, everything will be more advanced, more detailed, and more real. I think the biggest change throughout technology will be the beast because he will have so many details and features," Taylor Davis, junior, said.

When it comes to the recreation of a previous movie, it is often difficult, but not impossible, to overshadow the original, or even live up to the hype.

Specifically speaking, the picking and choosing of the actors and actresses for each specific character is crucial in order to make or break the character to shape the storyline of the movie. For this film, the main character, Belle, is being played by Emma Watson.

"I think Emma Watson is a great fit for the part. She is elegant and pleasant in her own ways and fits Belle's personality perfectly," Davis said.

Along with Emma Watson playing Belle, the beast is being played by Dan Stevens, Gaston is being played by Luke Evans and Belle's father is being played by Kevin Kline.

These actors and actresses have solid performances in various movies and many people have high expectations for these characters to shape the movie and make or break the final production.

"I think that the Disney movie lovers will like it because it brings the excitement back to the old Disney movies so they will not be forgotten. I think it will be just as good as the original and I think it will have a great turn out," Kyn-dall Robinson, junior, said.

The Beauty and the Beast is unleashed in theatres across the nation on March 17.

A remake of the Disney classic Beauty and the Beast opens in theaters March 17th 2017.  
Photo courtesy of ew.com



# Double Tours Come to Kansas City

## Decker

Rhayla Huff-Staff Reporter

**K**C Double Decker Tours is a locally-owned business that takes guests to the best barbeque joints and the hit destinations around Kansas City.

The tour is 90-minute long and stops at nine different KC destinations: River Market, Country Club Plaza, Westport, National World War I Museum, the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Crown Center, College Basketball Experience, Steamboat Arabia Museum and Boulevard Brewing Co.

“There is so much to see and do that many people do not realize. We also have a long-standing and rich history that connects us to so many other cities across the country. When we give the history of our city and point out major attractions to visitors (and locals), they typically had no idea there was so much behind the city that has made it what it is today,” Bethanie Schemel, co-owner and tour guide said.

Riders are given the option of leaving the tour and staying at one of the eight stops, or they can hop back on and continue on with the tour. If they wish to get off and stay off, they must communicate which destination will be their last. However, the bus makes a continuous loop around the city, and guests are allowed to get back on at any given point, if they payed for the round-tour.

The couple that started the business, Karl and Bethanie Schemel, made it originally so the bus could show people around Kansas City and take them to local barbeque joints.

“My husband (Karl Schemel) and I opened the double decker tours because after running our KC Barbecue Tours for a few years, we saw how much all of our guests really enjoyed the sight-seeing portion of that tour. We knew we did not have a way to connect many of our major attractions in Kansas City, so we decided it was time to bring a double-decker bus and hop on-hop off option to the city,”



Schemel said.

Driving by all of the best fountains and shops, the Double Decker tour keeps the riders entertained. Included within the tour, riders are given all day hop on-hop off privileges, a map of the tour route, and of course-the guided city tour.

The trip costs \$30 for adults-ages 13+, and \$25 for children aged 5-12. Children under the age of five are free.

“Once we started KC Barbecue Tours, I wanted to know as much as I could about the city and the restaurants we visited, so I could give accurate information to our guests. The more I learned about the city, the more I wanted to know and communicate the information I learned to others,” Schemel said.

The “Hop on-Hop off Day Pass” is for anyone that wants to go to a few of the destinations, but not all of them. There is another option, the “Single Loop City Tour” that gives riders a guided tour around the city.

“Hop on-hop-off” is available for reservations or walk-ons throughout open hours from 10:00a.m. until 5:30p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. On Saturdays, guests can feel

free to get a spot on the bus earlier in the morning, starting at 9a.m. If the rider is wishing to sightsee, without stopping at any of the designated tour destinations, that takes no longer than 90 minutes.

“I would say that if you talk to any small business owner who has built a business from the ground up there is always a hesitation that the business may not work out - however, that hesitation is what drives many business owners to work long hours to ensure their business is successful. I know that has certainly been a driving force behind the many hours my husband and I have put into making sure the tours are successful and every guest has a positive experience,” Schemel said.

The company encourages reservations, as seats come first serve. Though it is recommended to reserve a seat, tickets can be purchased directly from KC Double Decker Tours at the kiosk in Crown Center.



# FOURTH FRIDAYS IN DOWNTOWN LEES SUMMIT

Rebekah Panek-Staff Reporter

Most people know about First Fridays, but are not aware of Fourth Fridays. Fourth Fridays is back again, in Downtown Lee's Summit. There will be an event for every Fourth Friday from now until August, each event will last three hours and has a different theme. Fourth Fridays takes place in downtown Lee's Summit. The Art Walk started in 2012, with only three venues participating, for the 2016 season; there is an average of 10 venues. This month's there will be an Art Walk, which includes artist receptions, artist showcase and music in the park, a street theatre, and yoga in the streets.

Each month has its own theme. The theme for the 24th of March is "Makers in March", which will be featuring the Art Walk. The 28th of April's theme is "Art in Our Schools" and "Alley Kick-Off", the 26th of May is "Music in May", the 23rd of June is "Art for a Cause" and "Cocktail Crawl", the 28th of July is "July for Guys" and the 25th of August is "Art in the Alleys".

Many of the themes get repeated year after year, some of the moths themes that stayed the same are, May, June, July and August.

The Next Fourth Friday of March is 24, the event will last from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. The organizer for Fourth Fridays is Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street. The venue is in

Downtown Lee's Summit on SE Third and Douglas.

At the art Reception the visitors can go around and look at the art before the event starts. The artist showcase will show off the artists works and showcase their different talents.

Miranda Chaffin has never been to Forth Fridays, but sees many reasons why it would be a great experience.

"I'm interested in going to Fourth Fridays because it would be nice to not have to drive and find parking so far from home, in Kansas City, I could just take a quick 10 minute cruise and be there, I also love art and culture. I want to see what lees summit has to offer," Chaffin, Junior said.

The weather for Friday the 24th of March the next Fourth Friday, will be a high of 64 and a low of 31 degrees, and will be mostly cloudy.

Jen Steller, the staff member who is in charge of putting together events together sees a strong future for Fourth Fridays.

"We are still in a growth period for the event, so we

envision it becoming bigger and better! We would love to feature more types of interactive art and showcase our unique downtown, as well as unique local artists," Steller said.

Fourth Fridays is free to the public, about 200-500 people attend the event each month.

In the past years, the Art Walk has featured things like, Free drawing classes, make-and-take art projects, a poker run with fantastic prizes. Plein Air, which is when artists paint outside

According to Steller this his event has something for everyone. From live music in Howard Station Park, to homemade goods to traditional paintings, the offerings are very diverse. Each month of the Fourth Fridays, Art Walk has a different theme, and this year they range from Art in our schools to Art in the Alleys. Each month is different and the art and artists featured reflect those changing themes.

Downtown Lee's Summit is hosting a festival called Fourth Friday's which features an art walk.

*Photos courtesy of Jen Steller*





# LSN ATHLETES CHOOSE THEIR NEXT STEP

WillMauer-SportsEditor

## Mallory Lepper - Southern Baptist (Soccer)

'Signing. It's a huge relief and it's a really cool moment where you look back through everything you've done and how hard you've worked and just kinda say, "wow it was all worth it."'



## Lilli Davis - Arkansas Little Rock (Soccer)

"I am excited to take the next step in my soccer career and grow even more as a player. The girls on the team are really good and I am excited for the challenges ahead of me."



## Gianna Palmentere - Central Missouri (Soccer)

"The most exciting thing about going to the next level is that I will have a special bond with my team as we grow into adults. And learning more about myself and getting better each day."

## Keelie Fothergill - Creighton (Soccer)

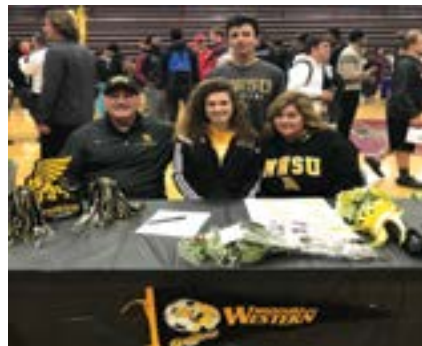
"I was searching for a school that could feel like home. KCMO



has been home all my life, and I have grown to love this city. When I visited Creighton, I felt right at home. I could picture myself living, studying, and playing soccer there. After getting a feel for what life would be like as a Bluejay and meeting the coaching staff, I knew I wanted to be apart of their team and their school."

## Jordan Jennings - Missouri Western (Soccer)

"The best part of my recruiting process has been the fact that I was able to prove to myself that I really am good enough to play college soccer. It instilled a little bit more self confidence in my mind which has helped me in both soccer and basketball. I'm thankful that my college coach saw in me what I never did. He allowed me to open up and feel like maybe playing at the collegiate level was attainable for me."



## Da'Ron Davis - Missouri University (Football)

"I would like to thank my volleyball coach Mrs. Shelby Hoffman for solidifying my confidence in myself this season, and pushing me to my full potential. I would also like to thank every single one of my family members for showing unwavering support for me."

## Cierra McGee - Avila (Softball)

"I'd like to thank my parents mostly; their constant love and support is great. Also, all of my club coaches and teammates because I wouldn't be who I am or where I am today without them. Also, Coach Honeycutt for the opportunity to play at the collegiate level."



## Hayden Bradford - Allen County (Baseball)

"The best part of the recruiting process is to see all the schools interested in you as an athlete and talking to all them. It is very humbling to see all the schools that are interested in you playing for their program."



## Alexis Mitchell - South Dakota (Soccer)

"I chose this school because the coaches see the potential in me, and I got a feeling of home the first time I stepped on campus and still continue to get that feeling every time I visit."



## Cameron Hairston - Connecticut (Football)

"My dad definitely helped me the most. He pushed me to do well in school along with teaching me how to play football and helping while talking to colleges."



## MacKenzie Numm - Park University (Volleyball)

"I would like to thank my volleyball coach Mrs. Shelby Hoffman for solidifying my confidence in myself this season, and pushing me to my full potential. I would also like to thank every single one of my family members for showing unwavering support for me."



## Da'Ron Davis - Missouri University (Football)

"I am the first person to ever go Division I and play football for any college in my family. To me that is a trend-setter; I am setting a trend for my family." (Courtesy of Gridironnow)





# March Madness: Start Filling Out Your Brackets

JillianJamaledin-StaffReporter



Get ready because the NCAA March Madness tournament is about to start. The college basketball tournament begins on March 14 and ends on April 3. A total of 68 division one college basketball teams, out of the 351, will compete for the championship. The final four will take place at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Arizona. The semifinals will take place on April 1 and the championship game will be held on April 3. CBS is set to be the network to air the final four games.

With the division one men's basketball championship nearing, basketball fans are becoming more eager to for the tournament to start. One tradition multiple fans are excited for, along with other March Madness activities, is filling out tournament

brackets. As the tournament advances fans are anxious to find out if their predictions were correct.

"I fill out a bracket with a group of my friends. Sometimes we get together and watch the games, but even if we don't I will most likely have them on at my house," Nikole Muncy, math teacher, said.

Going into the March Madness tournament, team strategies come into play and help them advance through the tournament. Basketball fans also have an idea of what strategies they think will be useful in assisting teams succeed throughout the tournament.

"I think useful strategies to help teams include] playing solid defense, rebounding and free throw shooting," Tricia Lillygren, math teacher, said.

Not only are men's college basketball fans thrilled to watch

their favorite teams and players compete, but they are also eager to see the Cinderella, or lower ranked teams play in the tournament. The matchups of teams playing each other create different competitors from what some of the teams have played during the basketball season.

"I love the first and second round games. You always have a team that does not get in very often and they have nothing to lose, but everything to win. Watching the first couple rounds is always enjoyable," Muncy said.

The college basketball tournament also exists as a way to get basketball fans more ambitious for the next season. Along with that, the tournament can help teams gain supporters. Not only do the teams gain from playing, but so do the programs during March Madness. Overall, the March Madness basketball

championship exists as a beneficial way to stimulate support for further college basketball seasons to come.

"March Madness is a great way to promote teams and make people more excited because of all the upsets that happen and the competition involved," Mimi Brown, freshman, said.

The first ever March Madness tournament started in 1939 and has grown drastically since then. Along with that, filling out brackets and making predictions for the final four has become a competition all its own. Over the years of the tournament, both the teams and fans have learned not to count any team out because lower ranking teams, or Cinderella teams, have surprised people by coming out on top.



# Boys Tennis is Causing a Racket

MadiSmith-StaffReporter

Spring is coming, and that means the boys tennis team is starting to practice for the upcoming tennis season. With swinging rackets, the boy's tennis team is looking forward to a successful year of tennis.

"We believe that anyone should be given the opportunity to learn the sport and benefit from participating in a lifelong sport. We have been blessed with great facilities and resources at LSN and try to bring out a love for the sport," Stu Reece, tennis coach, said.

On February 27th the boys began their first team practice of the year. With Coaches Stu Reece, Dr. Graff, and several others leading the way, the boys will play their first matches against Lee's Summit West on March 21.

"My favorite part about tennis at North is the atmosphere of the team. We all want to get better and win districts, but we also know it is important to relax and have fun," Connor Young, senior, said.

The boys tennis team practice every day after school lasting anywhere between an hour to

two hours. When the weather is nice and warm, the boys will practice on the tennis courts just outside the school. But when the weather is not great, and it is raining, the boys practice indoors, normally in the wrestling room.

"I am looking forward to playing an awesome sport will all of my friends, and to be outside and enjoy the weather," Clayton Anderson, senior, said.

Practice begins with a quick warm up which normally includes the players running around the courts a few times

and some stretches.

"I enjoy the team atmosphere most in a tennis match, we all cheer each other on every time we win a point on any court during the match, the energy is incredible," Young said.

After a warm up, the players practice many different skills needed to win a tennis match, like practicing their serves, and working on forehand and backhand skills.

"My favorite part about boys tennis is their spirit and humor. The guys are so funny and crack me up on a daily basis,"

Sarah Graff, coach, said

Along with learning how to play tennis, the coaches teach the players lessons and skills for life. Standing up for one's self, and reliability are just a few.

"My coaches truly care about me and want me to succeed in the sport and as a student," Anderson said.

Tennis is a no cut sport at North, which means that anyone can join with no prior experience needed.

"My favorite part of tennis is the individual struggle each player faces in figuring out what it will take to win the match, because there are so many parallels between tennis and the challenges we face in life dealing with doubt, fatigue, and various challenges we each face," Reece said.

The boy's tennis team will be competing in multiple matches throughout the months of March, April and May.

Ben Hammerly and Brendon Ellis practice their serves for the upcoming season.

*Photo by Ethan Frostestad*



# Create Some Art, Ease the Soul

SavannahMullen-Staff Reporter



High school can be stressful but some kids have ways to relax and not be stressed. Some students resort to things like sleeping or yoga, meditation or use of music or art. Art is a great way to relax.

Seven classes, 48 minutes each and then when you get home you have approximately two hours of homework. On top of that you have extra curricular activities and you have to eat and relax, spend time with your family, all while you are encouraged to have a job. In this day and age, the amount of stress normally is high and when you take advanced classes it is even worse.

As for me, I am an IB diploma candidate and have over three hours of homework almost every night. I had to stop working during the school year due to how I could not handle the amount of stress that school causes me. Luckily enough, when I do have the time, I go straight to creating art or just doodling for that matter.

“Art is something I love to do, so I am always pushing myself to get better and better,” Miranda Chaffin, junior, said.

Art is a getaway to me and for some other people, it is a way to ease the mind. Those coloring books for adults are something that

helps relieve stress and you can do it just while you watch TV.

“I usually do not have free-time because I work so much and have homework, but when I have free time I may do art with my friends so I can knock out two birds with one stone,” Sarah Carpino, senior, said.

Art eases the soul in the way that it incorporates everyone and everything. It brings people together, whether it is for school or just playing around with new ideas.

There are many ways to learn the correct techniques and personal niches to be a good artist such as learning at school. School is stressful but having one hour a day that is dedicated to an art class makes the day go by easier.

As for me, I have taken an art class every year and beginning this year I am taking IB visual arts. It allows me to force myself to do art outside of school and create my own projects. That may sound stressful but it allows you to have

your creativity fly.

“In my free time art is what I automatically go to. Especially in school when I do not have anything to do I will listen to music and just draw. I normally like to sketch in my sketchbook or plan out new ideas for new pieces,” Desirea Cervantes, senior, said.

For most art classes at North, we have to have a sketchbook and have to periodically do many things in them. For instance, IB visual arts you have to create your own ideas and concepts which we create in our sketchbooks.

Sketchbooks are a way to relieve stress but art can also cause stress, but a good type of stress. I know for me I get frustrated when I am unable to make something look the way I want it too which causes some stress but when I surpass it, the stress was worth it and made me feel better than I did at the beginning.



# Phones in the Classroom: Good or Bad?

BlairClark-JuniorEditor



We are constantly surrounded by phones, chromebooks, and other types of technology. Our world has become full of technology, where everyday something new is coming out and every few months there is an update to our phones. Kids are now getting phones at a younger and younger age because phones are becoming more and more prominent.

Adults are constantly complaining about how kids and the younger generations are always on their phone. Many teachers are also fed up with kids on their phones, distracted and not paying attention in class. They do cause a distraction, but they also can have some educational benefits.

"Students can not control themselves and they get sidetracked by incoming text messages," Eric Davis, social studies teacher, said.

Whether or not phones should be out in the classroom is usually at the teacher's discretion. Most times, at least in my classes, students are pretty good about staying off their phones while class is going on. There also is not much service in the school, so when students are on their



Students ignore teacher while on phone during a lecture.

Photo by Gracie Snook

phone, it is usually to listen to music.

"Listening to music while working on homework and other assignments helps me focus," Izzy Medrano, sophomore, said.

I can see where teachers get frustrated with phones in the classroom, but I also think they can help students learn as well. There are apps that can be downloaded that are good for studying or just to access information for projects. Then again, chromebooks are there for a reason and have more restrictions.

"Chromebooks are just as much a problem except the fact you can not hide very well if you are using your chromebook," Davis said.

Yes, chromebooks have restrictions and the school has blocked most website that are used for entertainment purposes, but students have found plenty of ways around what the school has blocked. Chromebooks are just as much of a distraction, if not more of one, in my opinion. At least with phones, they have to have service, which is not easy to find in the school.

"Even if you are not watching a movie

or doing something you are not supposed to, it is easier to just pretend like you are doing actual work when you are not," Jennifer Collens, junior, said.

In my opinion, there is a right and a wrong time for phones to be in the classroom. If a teacher is in the middle of teaching, there is no reason for students to be on their phones. If it is just a work day, phones are okay. I think teachers worry about students not getting work done because of their phones, but when it comes down to it, if a student does not get their work done, their grade will show it.

"For me, I think the right time would be when the individual does not have any extra work to do and has a decent grade in the class," Medrano said.

Whether or not one thinks phones should be used or allowed in a classroom is ultimately up to that individual. I think everyone can agree that any use of technology in any place can be a distraction, but in today's society, there is no way around it with all the new advancements everyday. The important thing is that students know how to put down their phone and pay attention in class.

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