

The Tiger Tribune

Letter from The Editor:

Welcome to the May issue of the Tiger Tribune! This happens to be the last issue of this 2019-2020 school year, and, sadly, also my last year as Editor-in-Chief. Our current staff, consisting of myself, Misbah Syed, and Rida Abdulwasay, is graduating and will be moving onto the next chapter of our lives. It's been a wild ride connecting with all of you through your writing these past few years, and I have full faith that the upcoming staff will be able to uphold the spirit of our newsletter and continue to make it better and better.

On that note, please **welcome** your new staff for the 2020-2021 school year!

Editor in Chief: Sana Basheer

Co-Managing Editors: Zahra Shaikh and Zayan Abdallah Khan

Publicity Manager: Amir Chermat

Below this letter, we have a farewell note from our outgoing staff, and many amazing articles for your enjoyment, as always.

For the last time, do enjoy the issue and have an amazing rest of your lives :) I will miss you all!

Sincerely,
Jannah Khan
Editor-in-Chief
The Tiger Tribune

Important Note from the Staff:

The year is up! It's been an absolute roller coaster with everything that's going on, especially with the whole coronavirus situation, but I know we'll all be able to stay strong and get through this together. Though our graduation will be virtual this year, it doesn't mean it'll be any less exciting!

Congratulations to our seniors heading off to college! And **congrats** to our 8th graders now advancing to High School! We wish you all the best of luck in your future!

To our readers and subscribers - thank you for your support this past year! Though our current officers are graduating, we're certain our new officers will continue in keeping you intrigued every month! To this year's writers of *The Tiger Tribune*--thank you so much! All of you are amazing writers. Your fresh and unique, inspiring new voice brought invigorating life to our paper every month. Together, you all were the best team we could possibly have! It's been a great honor to work alongside you all!

Also, to our advisor and all the school staff that bring our work to publication every month, thank you for all your constant positivity and support throughout this journey. We have great confidence the *Tiger Tribune* will continue to grow under the care of the dedicated and inspiring writers, readers, and school staff that helped cultivate the newsletter this year.

Thank you for an awesome year, and good luck!!!

Best Wishes,
Rida Abdulwasay
Publicity Manager



May Survey/Staff Question

By Rida Abdulwasay

“What’s the first thing you want to do when the lockdown is over?”

Ziyad Shaikh	Go on a trip somewhere.
Anaya	I'd like to visit Monterey and enjoy the fresh air and the ocean. I also want to explore all the shops and buy a new sweatshirt lol.
Melody	Get outside and get some fresh air and spend time with family & friends.
Zahra	With the lockdown, everyone's mobility has obviously declined. I would want to first go sightseeing or to the beach with my family. I would also like to meet up with friends who I could not see for so long.
Amir	When the lockdown is over, I want to see my dad. I miss spending time and making jokes with him. Also, he owes me twenty bucks!
Merwa	SHOPPING!!
Emily Lunger	I want to hang out with my friends.
Tasneem	Spend the whole day outside- eat out, go shopping, go for a walk.

Abdallah Khan	Run.
Rida	Spend a day in the park, play soccer, and then go get ice cream.

The Grand Opening

Zahra Shaikh

When one thinks about famous sculptures or landmarks built in the Bay Area, the first one that is sure to come to mind is none other than the Golden Gate Bridge of San Francisco, California. Opened on May 27, 1937, this enormous bridge took about five years to construct and held the record of the world's largest single-span suspension bridge at the time. Since it was only open for pedestrian traffic that day, about 200,000 walkers paid twenty-five cents each to check out the long-awaited accomplishment. Before the Golden Gate Bridge was built, the only way from the city of San Francisco to Marin County was by ferry, which slowed traffic. Therefore, the overall idea of such a bridge was already created and proposed as early as 1872, but it was not overtaken by a mass majority of the public until the early 1920s. Fortunately, with a group of intelligent men such as Joseph Strauss, a Cincinnati-born bridge engineer, Leon S. Moisseiff, a consulting engineer, Irving F. Morrow, an architect, and many others, the design was approved, evolved, and successfully put into effect very quickly. Of course, without the brave, strong, and committed workers, the well-thought-out idea would have fallen down the drain. Due to strong tides, frequent storms and fog, as well as cold winds, eleven men died during construction, and several difficulties were faced and overcome. As a result, the Golden Gate Bridge opened in May 1937 to great recognition and as a symbol of progress in the Bay Area during a time of economic crisis. Today, this bridge remains one of the most famous and recognizable architectural structures.



Remembering L. Frank Baum

By: Emily Lunger

When you think of the *Wizard of Oz*, what likely comes to mind is a yellow brick road, red heels, and a lot of flying monkeys. Introduced in the early twentieth century, these images have remained part of both our literary and film culture; however, the genius behind this imaginative story deserves just as much distinction as the unique concepts in his story as his 164th birthday approaches this May.

L. Frank Baum began his writing career as a journalist, eventually writing his first book (*Father Goose*) in 1899. The success of this book encouraged Baum to continue with his fairytale-inspired literature for children, and he soon published the famed *Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in 1900. After his publication of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, L. Frank Baum transformed the landscape of American literature for children. While children were previously limited to the stories of Grimm and Anderson, Baum's new novel provided an inventive take on the traditional fairytale by focusing less on moral imperatives and introducing the unique characters we still love today.

Frank Baum went on to publish thirteen more books in the *Oz* series and saw his novel turned into a theater production in 1902. Twenty years after Baum's death, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* was turned into a film starring icon Judy Garland. This film brought Frank Baum's imagination to life on screen and ensured that the novel's legacy lasted into the twenty-first century. L. Frank Baum has had a lasting influence on our society through his imaginative works, and his legacy remains to be seen in our literary and film culture.



The Book Column: May Edition

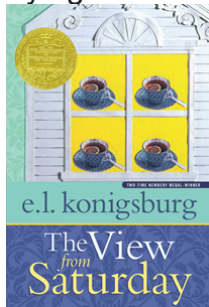
Tasneem Nasim

Welcome back CWCS students! I hope this edition of the Book Column finds you in the best of physical *and* mental health in the midst of such trying times. Here are some great books that teach us the positive impact that unity and working together can have on our lives. Have a great summer and see you next year!

Middle Schoolers: *The View from Saturday* by E. L. Konigsburg

This award-winning novel tells the story of The Souls, a team of quirky sixth-graders (Noah, Nadia, Julian, and Ethan) competing in the Academic Bowl. It was a surprise to a lot of people when The Souls won the sixth-grade Academic Bowl contest at Epiphany Middle School- and an even bigger surprise when they beat the seventh grade and the

eighth grade, too. So it's not long before people start to ask their team leader, Mrs. Olinski, how exactly she happened to pick such a random set of students who not only seemed to work well together but also enjoyed each other's company- who made *such* a great team. It happened at least partly because all four of them- Nadia, Noah, Julian, and Ethan- had all been connected through a series of hilariously interesting events. This is a novel about a team, a class, a school, and a series of contests. But more importantly, it is a novel composed of four amazing short stories (one for each team member) that will definitely crack you up but will also show how working together and trying to understand one another can lead to something truly amazing.



High schoolers: *Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson

Jade is living in two different worlds at the same time. She goes to a mostly-white private school (where she was accepted for a full scholarship) even though she actually lives in North Portland- known for its “bad neighborhoods” which are predominantly black. Her mom is always telling her to grab all the opportunities she can get- which is why she’s accepted the scholarship to her school and even Saturday morning test prep opportunities. So when she gets an invitation to join Women to Women, a mentorship program for black girls, Jade immediately accepts. But she soon starts to realize that the program feels more demeaning than helpful- it’s definitely for “at-risk” black girls- from “bad” neighborhoods. And just because her mentor is black doesn’t mean she understands Jade- in fact, Jade can’t connect with her at all. And Jade’s best friend from school doesn’t seem to understand, or care, about the racism Jade faces on a daily basis. Jade knows she could show everyone a thing or two about the real world and how to make a real difference if she had the right opportunity- or maybe if she used the opportunities she already had. This novel will show you how stopping to listen to each other and trying to understand each other can have such a powerful impact.



*This book contains some mature topics. Please check reviews before reading.

Have any recommendations/ books you’d like to see/ feedback for this column? Email at tasneemnasim08@gmail.com

The True Story of Thanksgiving

By Ziyad Shaikh

In American schools, children are taught of a happy meeting between the Native Americans and the Pilgrims in which everyone lived happily ever after. However, that is just a part of the dark and bloody truth.

The Separatists were a branch of the Puritans, who were hated by the English king James I. To escape persecution, they migrated to Holland in 1608. However, because they feared to lose their identity, they started looking for a new place to migrate to. Finally, they decided to move to America. They asked King James for a patent that would grant them the right to build a colony. In order to pay off the investors, they planned to catch fish. The Mayflower set sail from Plymouth, England, on September 6, 1620, loaded with around 100 passengers, both male and female. Six months later, the ship reached Cape Cod, and a boat full of people was sent to shore to inspect the area. Unfortunately for the settlers, they didn't know how to fish and ended up stealing from homes in the area. On December 8, 1620, the First Encounter occurred between the Natives and the Pilgrims. It was a small skirmish, but no one died. On December 12, they landed on New Plymouth. They did not step on any specific rock, but folklore insists they did. By March 1621, they had 44 deaths due to bad conditions. Then, they met Samoset, who spoke to them in perfect English. The Pilgrims were building over a Native American village known as Patuxet which had perished in the recent epidemic. The village was part of the territory of the Wampanoag, whose chief Massasoit had realized what was happening. Squanto, another young native Indian, was presented to the newcomers and taught them basic survival in perfect English. Just a little back story, Squanto was from the Patuxet and was kidnapped by Europeans seven years earlier in 1614 and was given as a slave to a merchant in London, who taught him English and arranged for his escape. Massasoit took him with suspicion, but he needed a translator to talk with the newcomers. Massasoit sent one of his men to live with the newcomers and keep an eye on Squanto. In October 1621, the Pilgrims had a successful harvest, and they held a feast to celebrate. They invited Massasoit to join them, and he brought some cattle and 90 men for the feast. Now that is just the story that is taught to kids in school. Squanto began to think that he could overthrow Massasoit, as he had the advantage of being an English speaker. Massasoit heard of this and demanded Squanto be handed for execution. When the Native Indians went to take Squanto, a new ship of settlers arrived, wanting to build a colony near present-day Boston. These new settlers abused the Massachusetts locals, which triggered the Native Indians to kill them. Upon hearing of this plot, New Plymouth leaders began supporting the Natives. Over time, more and more settlers began setting up colonies in the area, which outnumbered the Natives. The newer settlers ignored peace treaties and just gobbled up the land. The Puritans thought that anything or anyone who was not Christian would have to be eliminated, and that included the Natives.

There is nothing wrong with enjoying a meal with loved ones on Thanksgiving, but always remember what truly happened. (See, [for example](#), editor's note)

Escape

by Merwa Saleh

Gunshots fire in the distance.

Bam! Bam! Bam! One after another without pause.

I don't stop running. My breathing becomes loud and heavy; my legs burn.

I scan the area with my eyes a million times, looking for a place to hide. Nothing. Just miles and miles of grass.

The gunshots pause and shouting replaces them. They'll catch up with me soon if I don't find a place to hide. Fighting them isn't an option. Three against one; everyone knows how that'll end.

Overthinking about my options, I lose focus and trip, ending up with a mouthful of dirt. I scramble back up and run my hand across my mouth when I spot a cornfield ahead.

The excitement fills me as I pick up speed and run towards the field.

The cornfield I run into is pitch black; the corn stalks so tall that the moon can't get any of its light in.

I hear the men jump into the field behind me. I'm beginning to think it'll be better if I sit here and hide, letting them think I'm still running.

I go deeper a little more before I crouch down and listen.

My breathing is so loud; I try calming it down by breathing slowly in through the nose, out through the mouth.

The three men are getting closer, making me break into a cold sweat. I hear their footsteps coming closer and closer to my hiding spot. I retreat deeper into the cornstalks.

I close my eyes and pray as they slowly jog past where I'm hiding. I wait a few minutes that feel like hours.

A hand grabs my shoulder from behind me. Punches are thrown before I break free and start running.

Plessy v. Ferguson: The Supreme Court Case That Justified Segregation

By Maryam Masood

On May 18, 1896, the Supreme Court made a decision that would support segregation between blacks and whites for nearly sixty years afterward. In the case of *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation was not unconstitutional.

After the Reconstruction, states began to pass laws mandating segregation. In 1890, Louisiana passed the Separate Car Act, a law that established segregated railway carriages (Florida was the first state to segregate railway cars, in 1887). In 1891, a group of black professionals in New Orleans formed the Citizens' Committee to Test the Constitutionality of the Separate Car Law. Homer Adolph Plessy, who was seven-eighths white and one-eighth African American, was chosen to be the plaintiff in the committee's case.

On June 7, 1892, Plessy purchased a ticket on a train from New Orleans to Covington, Louisiana, and took a vacant seat in a car reserved for whites. When he refused to move to the car for African Americans, Plessy was arrested and jailed.

After being tried and convicted by a New Orleans court, Plessy filed a petition against the judge, John H. Ferguson, saying that the Separate Car Act violated the 14th Amendment (the 14th Amendment granted citizenship to anyone born or naturalized in the U.S., including African Americans). The case was taken to the Louisiana Supreme Court, and then to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court delivered its verdict on May 18, 1896. It ruled that the Separate Car Act did not violate the Constitution. Justice Henry Brown wrote that the 14th Amendment only protected blacks' legal rights, not their social rights, and that since the Separate Car Act required both cars to be equal in facilities, the Separate Car Act did not violate African Americans' legal rights. Justice John Marshall Harlan was the only justice who opposed the Court's decision.

The Supreme Court's decision approved the "separate but equal" doctrine and validated the practice of segregation. For the next five to six decades, this ruling would be used as legal justification for laws segregating pretty much everything, from schools and neighborhoods to drinking fountains and phone booths. The Court's verdict in *Plessy v. Ferguson* allowed segregation to continue for nearly sixty years afterward.

The Supreme Court's decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson* was finally overturned in 1954 in the famous case *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Sources:

[*Plessy v. Ferguson*](#)

[*Plessy v. Ferguson Summary, Facts, and Significance*](#)

[*13th Amendment*](#)

[*13th Amendment: Simplified Summary*](#)

[*Segregation in the United States*](#)

The Eiffel Tower

By Melody Moy

Built in 1889, the Eiffel Tower still stands today as an impressive historic monument in France. Why was it built? Because of a fair! It was built because of the Grand Exposition that was supposed to take place after they built it. It took only two years to build, and some crazy stunts have been done on it by trapeze artists and parachutists. There are also fireworks performed here for every New Year's. Over 7 million people visit it every year! There are 1,710 steps to get to the top of the Eiffel Tower. Whew! That's a workout! It's made out of iron and was also named The Grand Old Iron Lady of Paris. The Eiffel Tower can also sometimes sway or move with the wind and can shrink and get bigger if it gets too hot or cold. The tower also includes restaurants. Both of them are French five-star restaurants. There's also a champagne bar located at the top of the tower. It is also used as a radio transmitter and has an antenna at the top of it. Lights light up the Eiffel Tower every night. There are elevators to get to the top of the tower too. Also, even though the tower looks bronze today, it used to look red-orange. They repaint it every couple of years and do repairs on it too so that it stays in shape.



May the 4th Be with You!

By Amir Chermat

On May 25, 1977, George Lucas presented a movie that would change the world forever. The world saw the lightsaber for the first time and was introduced to characters like R2-D2 and Han Solo. People loved *Star Wars* then, and more than forty years later, we still do (at least, depending on the movie).

The original *Star Wars* is the 2nd highest-grossing movie in the country (and 4th in the world), but it certainly didn't seem like it would be that way before it released. Prior to the release of *Star Wars*, Lucasfilm was falling into hard times. In 1971, George Lucas released the film *THX 1138*. *THX* was another sci-fi movie, but a lot more bleak and bland than *Star Wars*. Lucas had the idea of a space-fantasy film but was afraid that he wouldn't have the chance to make it after the box-office failure of *THX 1138*. If it weren't for the success of *American Graffiti* (a film inspired by George's teenage years in Modesto and a big success), he probably wouldn't have. Lucas was denied by two film companies before being able to create *Star Wars*!

Even after Lucas finally found a company willing to fund his movie (20th Century-Fox), there were still troubles in production. Lucas was given a small budget to create the

movie with, and he had still yet to create his galaxy far, far away. Lucas originally wanted to create a film adaptation of his favorite sci-fi comic series *Flash Gordon*, but he could not afford the rights to the character. Lucas drew inspiration from the Vietnamese war, as well as the works of Edgar Rice Burroughs (the author of *Tarzan*). Surprisingly, none of the films and novels Lucas was inspired by were science fiction. Sci-fi was not very popular in 1977, so Lucas promised to focus on romance, action, and fun. Lucas wrote ADVENTURES OF THE STARKILLER: The *Star Wars* in 1975. This original draft was similar to the final movie, but also very different. One of the most glaring differences was that Han Solo was originally going to be a lizard! Luke Starkiller would have trained under his father Anniikin to become a Jedi Knight alongside his several brothers. Lucas made constant revisions until he was able to write the *Star Wars* we know today in 1975, right when the movie crew started filming.

There are plenty more stories about the production of *Star Wars*, including the toys made out of socks at the last minute, but I chose the story of *Star Wars*' birth as I thought it was the most inspiring. The film companies that George Lucas went to, his film crew, even his actors, all thought that *Star Wars* was going to be a failure. However, Lucas persevered and created a film that would change movies forever. I ask any aspiring writers out there to take criticism like Darth Vader took Han Solo's blaster bolt in Episode 5 (not at all!). Let the Force guide you, and follow your dreams no matter how stupid they sound. Who knows, you could end up selling it to Disney forty years later for four billion dollars!

*Please don't, however. The Disney Trilogy was trash!



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Who are we?

We are the Speech and Debate club! We meet twice a month on Moodle, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Fridays. Joining us is a perfect opportunity to get involved with your school and help improve college resumes! The club is open to everyone from grades 7-12, and there are no prerequisites nor any qualifications needed to join. The Speech and Debate club will help members refine communication skills and prepare students for real-life situations such as presentations, speeches, debates, etc. in a fun social environment. Friendly competitions such as mock trials, debates, and interviews are held alternately during our meetings. The link to our [Moodle Room](#). Feel free to drop by to check our club out! **All are welcome!**

How to Join:

Joining us is very easy!

1. Locate us on Moodle through the Misc. Courses/ Tutoring Special/ Ed Clubs folder or by searching "Speech and Debate" in the Moodle search bar.
2. Once you've reached the Moodle page, click on the "enroll me" link.
3. Or just simply send us an email at cwcsspeechanddebate@gmail.com!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please email us at cwcsspeechanddebate@gmail.com or email our advisor, Mrs. Matranga, at tmatranga@cwcharter.org.

Connecting Waters Tiger Tribune Is Looking for Staff and Content Submissions!!!

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- Want to publicize your work?
- Do you have original content to share?
- Want to experience the thrill of journalism?
- Looking to get involved in your school?
- Need leadership credits or school activities on your transcript?

Showcase your work in the Connecting Waters Newsletter today!

Connecting Waters Charter Schools *Tiger Tribune* is accepting staff for the 2020-2021 school year! We are looking for people to write stories, articles, polls, research, and develop creative content!

Being on the newsletter team earns you both leadership and journalism credits and will look fantastic on college applications!

Writer Positions: We are always accepting new writers!

Each writer receives 1-2 assignments each month.

Assignments range from writing stories and articles to creating puzzles and graphics to conducting surveys and interviews, and more!

Content Submissions: We are always accepting content submissions!

- Original stories
- Drawings/graphics
- Flyers/advertisements
- Letters to the editor

To join our team, just send an email to cwcstigertribune@gmail.com with your name, age, and grade level! Or just simply fill out this [form](#)

Any Questions?

Email us at cwcstigertribune@gmail.com.

The Letterbox

Now, readers like you are able to contribute suggestions, fun facts, jokes and comments for improvement to our newsletter! All you have to do is email your contribution to cwcstigertribune@gmail.com with your name and grade level, and check here next time our newsletter comes out!

This is ideal for those of you who don't necessarily want to or have time to commit to becoming staff writers - however, if you *would* like to become one of our regular staff writers, please email us at cwcstigertribune@gmail.com with your name, age, and grade level - we look forward to working with you!