

The Tiger Tribune

Letter From The Editor:

This month's issue is entirely on pudding pizza! Just kidding - April Fools! This month's issue contains fun prank ideas from our staff, National Poetry Month, Autism Awareness Day, and many more! We wish you all a beautiful spring and hope that you enjoy your last month before finals! (Good luck!)

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

March Survey/Staff Question

By Amir Chermat

What prank do you have planned for April Fool's Day?

Amir	I don't have anything big planned for this year, but one time I swapped my brother's lemonade with a Taco Bell hot sauce cocktail.
Melody	Put an empty cereal box and in the morning when people try to get cereal it's empty.
Anaya	Switch out the sugar for salt. Salty Coffee muahahaha!
Misbah	Create word shortcuts on someone's phone so that they can't text properly all day.
Zahra S.	I'm not sure how this might turn out, but since I've never done it before, I want to prank call my dad.
Ziyad Shaikh	I've always wanted to prank someone by putting an air horn under their chair, so I guess that would be it.
Merwa	Fake poop

National Poetry Month

Maryam Masood

While I often have some trouble understanding why we have national days and months celebrating the craziest and most random things, I was happy when I found out that April is National Poetry Month.

National Poetry Month was established in April 1996 by the Academy of American Poets. It is celebrated each year by millions of people - poets (obviously), students, teachers, librarians and booksellers, and many others. According to Poets.org, the aim of National Poetry Month is "to:

- highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets,

- encourage the reading of poems,
- assist teachers in bringing poetry into their classrooms,
- increase attention paid to poetry by national and local media,
- encourage increased publication and distribution of poetry books, and
- encourage support for poets and poetry.”

For centuries, poetry has been a way for people to express their feelings and tell stories. It lets people share how they feel about something, or tell a story or an idea using the magic and beauty of words. It has an important place in practically every culture, and still is an effective way to share thoughts and ideas.

When I heard about National Poetry Month, I realized that many of us do not really pay much attention to how important poetry is to American history and culture. Influential American poets such as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, and many, *many* others helped record American history and contributed to American culture and identity through their work.

There are many activities you can participate in to celebrate National Poetry Month, including Poem in Your Pocket Day (April 30, 2020). You can visit [30 Ways to Celebrate National Poetry Month | Academy of American Poets](#) to see a list of fun activities you can take part in. Or, you know, you can just read your favorite poems.

Regardless of how you choose to celebrate this month, it is interesting to think about how poetry has helped shape America’s history, culture, and identity. Don’t forget about the importance of poetry! And don’t forget to have fun!

Two Influential African American Poets

Poetry is often used to share ideas, emotions, and stories. Poets throughout American history have used this art to talk about the story and struggles of the American people, and to express their ideas and emotions about certain issues. Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou were two famous African American poets who did just that. In their poems - and their other works - they talked about injustice and discrimination that blacks faced in America.

James Mercer Langston Hughes was born on January 1, 1902, or possibly the year before, in Joplin, Missouri. His famous poem “The Negro Speaks of Rivers,” which he wrote after graduating from high school, was published in *The Crisis* in 1921. His first book of poetry, *The Weary Blues*, was published in 1926, three years before he graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. He wrote many poems reflecting African American culture. In addition to poetry, Hughes also wrote novels, short stories, and plays. He was an important part of the Harlem Renaissance (a period during which blacks started to take more pride in their heritage, and began developing a unique culture, literature, and art). He died in New York City on May 22, 1967. Some of his well-known poems include “Harlem,” “The Negro Speaks of Rivers,” “The Weary Blues,” “Let America Be America Again,” “Dreams,” and “I, Too, Sing America.”

Maya Angelou was born Marguerite Johnson on April 4, 1928, in St. Louis, Missouri. In addition to being a poet and civil rights activist, she was also an author, historian, songwriter, singer, dancer, playwright, stage and screen producer, director, and performer. She is well-known for her seven autobiographical books: *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, *Gather Together in My Name*, *Singin' and Swingin' and Gettin' Merry Like Christmas*, *The Heart of a Woman*, *All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes*, *Letter to My Daughter*, and *Mom & Me & Mom*. In 1993, she wrote the poem "On the Pulse of the Morning," which she delivered at the inauguration for President Bill Clinton. She received the National Medal of Arts in 2000 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2010. She died on May 28, 2014. Among her most famous poems are "Still I Rise," "On the Pulse of the Morning," "Phenomenal Women," and "Caged Bird."

These are excerpts from two poems by Langston Hughes and Maya Angelou.

Excerpt from "Let America Be America Again" by Langston Hughes:

O, let America be America again—
The land that never has been yet—
And yet must be—the land where every man is free.
The land that's mine—the poor man's, Indian's, Negro's, ME—
Who made America,
Whose sweat and blood, whose faith and pain,
Whose hand at the foundry, whose plow in the rain,
Must bring back our mighty dream again.

You can read the [full poem](#)

Excerpt from "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou:

You may shoot me with your words,
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air, I'll rise.

You can read the [full poem](#)

Stress Awareness Month

By Amir Chermat

On a daily basis, thousands of people in America feel stressed by grueling work from both school and careers. Although they may not know it, or are not willing to admit so, stress can have a very negative impact on our health. According to The American Institute of Stress, stress can cause depression, anxiety, heart attacks, strokes, as well as direct effects on the skin just to name a few. Stress can also escalate insomnia as disorders such as Parkinson's disease.

Many American employees and employers do not know how dangerous stress can be, which is why Stress Awareness Week launched in April, 1992. This year, The Health Resource Network is sponsoring the event. During the month of April, the HRN is working with health care organizations to create educational materials dedicated to teaching others about the effects of stress.

During the month of April, remember to reduce stress in your work environment. Simple strategies such as planning ahead of your work deadlines or aiming for at least eight hours of sleep every night. Simple things like these can help reduce your daily amount of stress and overall improve your health.



Coming to America

By Melody Moy

*dedicated to my grandparents, who immigrated to America

Boom! Boom! Boom! Violet heard these sounds every night as she huddled in bed every night in fear. Soon, it got so bad that Violet would have to leave her country and come to America.

Violet was 12 years old and had a younger sister. She was ambitious, brave, and bold. She bought the next boat tickets, and early the next morning, she started to pack. Unfortunately for her, the next day, she was late!

“Wait! Wait!” she yelled, gasping and running at the same time. The captain was merciful to her and let her board. He even helped her with her belongings too!

“Thank you for your kindness, sir!”

Coming to America was hard, because Violet was in the lower deck, and it was cramped there. But she remained ever so hopeful. They sailed for days and days across the ocean. All of a sudden, they accidentally almost crashed into another ship! Luckily, they were safe. The day after, the most wonderful surprise came. Dolphins! Dolphins leapt above the ship, clicking.

Soon they were in America. Violet was confused by the new sights and sounds. She couldn't understand the signs, and she couldn't understand the people. Week after week, she'd ask passersby, “Excuse me, but do you know of a place to live?” or “Excuse me, I'm looking for a job.”

But what Violet really wanted was to publish her very own book. One day, she stumbled across a publishing company. “Excuse me, are you looking to hire?” she asked. The man at the counter frowned.

“I'm sorry, I don't understand you.” She wrote something on a piece of paper. The man smiled.

“Jerry!” He yelled. Jerry translated for him, and the man introduced himself. “If you're looking for work, you've come to the right place. I'm Michael Thompson, and I need an

assistant. Maybe Jerry could help you with your English!” Violet worked with Jerry and Michael week after week running errands but also learning the skills of the trade. She even saved enough money to rent a room!

One day, Violet got very sick. She had to go to the hospital, and she didn’t have enough money. Plus, she was missing work, which meant she wasn’t making money either. The landlord came, shook his head, and gave her a paper. It read “FINAL EVICTION NOTICE.”

She thought to herself, “Now I’ll never write that book.” Eventually, she felt better and soon enough was working again. Certainly, she wanted to help new immigrant families. A few years later, as she stood on the dock with her newly published book, she ran to hug her family. She had truly learned about the hope in America.

No Housework Day

Ziyad Shaikh April 2020

Just think about it, you have had a long day at school or at work, and you just want to come back home and relax for the day. However, as soon as you walk through the door, you are attacked by a list of chores and tasks to be done in the house. This could include washing the dishes, doing the laundry, dusting the furniture, or even cleaning the bathrooms! Well, there is a remedy for escaping all that. Every 7th of April, there is a holiday known as “No Housework Day.”

All you must do is ignore any household chores, and fulfill your heart’s desire, such as any undone task, hangout with friends, go and eat the fridge, or anything else you find joyful. Think about it, one whole day to do whatever you want except household chores. These words can be music to some people’s ears. The only flaw is that it is only for a day, so that just really sucks. A solution for that is to negotiate with your parents to get more freedom, or else you will be stuck performing errands for the rest of the year. Anyways for just one day, kick back and relax with no housework, and give yourself a day of leisure.



World Autism Awareness Day

Zahra Shaikh

“I cried all the way home. I cried for 2 days, hoping and praying that I would be able to provide this child everything he needed.” These words came from a mother of two kids diagnosed after hearing that they were diagnosed with autism. Her heartfelt story begins with her first child being diagnosed with autism after discovering urgent symptoms such

as repetitive behaviors and speech or sound delays. In order to improve her children's lives, she stated, "My ultimate hope is that one day soon my children will live in a world where they will be accepted and appreciated, despite their differences." Families like hers whose members are facing such a serious illness hope to be accepted in society. Fortunately, in order to ease their efforts, a United Nations representative from Qatar, her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, wife of his Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, the Emir or king of the state of Qatar, proposed a holiday, "World Autism Awareness Day" in the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution was later passed in council on November 1, 2007, and was established to be held on the second day of April. Today, it brings several individual organizations around the world together to aid in treatment, research, diagnosis, and acceptance for those affected by autism. Therefore, the thirteenth annual World Autism Awareness Day will be celebrated on April 2, 2020. Try your best to recognize the people with this developmental disease and participate in educational activities, with the aim of increasing your understanding and acceptance of the fierce fighters. So, show your love and support and help spread kindness and autism awareness on this holiday!



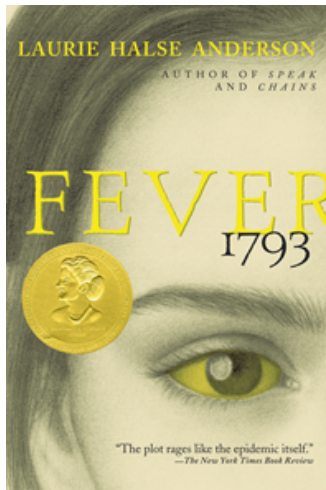
The Book Column:

Tasneem Nasim

Welcome back, CWCS students! Here are some gripping novels to read during your free-time. Enjoy!

Middle Schoolers: *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

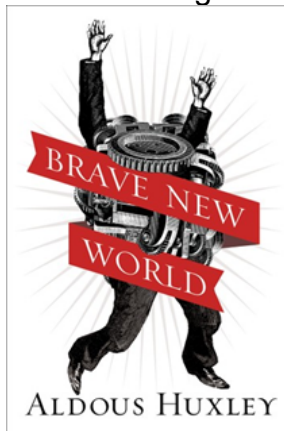
This award-winning novel tells the story of fourteen year old Mattie Cook, fighting to survive in a yellow fever stricken Philadelphia. It's late summer 1793 when the novel begins, and the streets are buzzing with mosquitoes and rumors of fever. There are reports of many people who have caught the fever, and the death toll is constantly rising--even including Polly, the serving girl at the Cook Coffeehouse. Mattie has no time to mourn for her friend, or even fight with her stubborn mother about her plans for the future of the family-run coffee house business, as the fever starts to claim more and more lives and gets closer and closer to home. But when the fever strikes Mattie's sturdy and seemingly invincible mother, and Mattie is left to take care of herself and her frail grandfather, she must start a new fight—the fight to stay alive. This novel will keep you hooked until the end. It is definitely a must-read!



High schoolers: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

You've probably heard of the dystopian novel 1984 by George Orwell. However, many students haven't heard of the equally chilling (and more interesting, in my opinion :) dystopian novel, *Brave New World*. The novel is set in a futuristic World State inhabited by genetically modified human beings (they are literally created on conveyor belts/mass produced) who are socially ranked on their intelligence level (which is predestined from birth). The novel predicts huge scientific advancements in reproductive technology, sleep-learning, psychological manipulation and classical conditioning. It warns readers of our growing need for instant satisfaction and constant entertainment through the characters of the novel, who have been brainwashed (or rather, conditioned) to take drugs so that they won't have to deal with negative emotions and reality, and are encouraged to be sexually promiscuous. I've read this novel multiple times, and it is definitely chilling to see the accuracy of some of Huxley's predictions from almost 90 years ago and how similar our society is to the World State described in the novel. This novel will definitely leave you with something to think about, and it is definitely a must-read!

*This book contains mature topics and multiple explicit scenes. Please check the [review](#) before reading.



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

Join The Speech and Debate Club!

Who are we?

We are the Speech and Debate club! We meet twice a month on Moodle, from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm 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. Click 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!!!

- Do you love to write?
- 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 Water's Tiger Tribune is accepting staff for the 2019-2020 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!

