

# Monthly Mustang



Illustration of four delegates to the Continental Congress From left to right, John Adams, Robert Morris, Alexander Hamilton, and Thomas Jefferson. - Getty Images



Grayson Rigsby, Ford Prescott, Grace Goff from Mrs. Sudduth's Kindergarten bring class donations to the MPR.

## HAPPY 275<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY TO

### THOMAS JEFFERSON BY GREY WARREN

“ We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life , liberty , and the pursuit of happiness .” These inspiring words were written in the Declaration of Independence by the third president of the United States, Thomas Jefferson.

Thomas Jefferson was born April 2, 1743 in Shadwell, Virginia to Peter Jefferson and Jane Randolph. When he was 14 years old, his father died. He inherited all of the land his father then owned. At the age of 29, he married Martha Wayles Skelton and they had six children. Sadly, she passed away after just ten years of marriage.

Thomas Jefferson had an outstanding political career, after first practicing as a lawyer. He was the nation's third president, George Washington's Secretary of State, John Adam's Vice

President, the Governor of Virginia, and a member of the Continental Congress. He had a great impact on the shaping of our new government and the American dream.

However, Thomas Jefferson is also a controversial character. No one is perfect, yes not even you, and Thomas Jefferson was not perfect either. He owned 200 slaves, with almost half under the age of 16. Many of these lived at his beloved Monticello, his famous estate located in Virginia.

He did free several slaves during his life, but this was obviously not one of the better things he did in his life.

Overall, I think it is safe to say, that the United States of America would not be the same without Thomas Jefferson. He has become popular again thanks to the Tony-award-winning musical “HAMILTON,” coming to the Hobby Center soon.

## OVERFLOWING TREASURE CHEST!

BY ANDREW BENITEZ

Do you get excited to get something from a treasure chest when you go to the doctor? I sure do!

Our school helped an organization called Candlelighters to collect treasure chest toys for kids fighting a battle with cancer. We all brought in special treats to fill a treasure chest for kids at the hospital. We filled over 25 boxes of treasures!

Thank you to everyone that participated. The small treasures will bring big smiles to kids that need it most. Sometimes the little things can make a big difference.

About Candlelighters:

Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Family Alliance provides emotional, educational and practical support to families of children with cancer. Candlelighters serves all children with cancer and their families, long term survivors of childhood cancer and their families and bereaved families treated at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Children's Cancer Hospital and Texas Children's Cancer Center. Candlelighters partners with families and shares their journey as they battle the disease and the tremendous financial burden they inherit immediately upon diagnosis. <https://candle.org>

## EXPLORING THE GREAT OUTDOORS

BY EMILY TANG

What did you do for your spring break? I went camping. I learned a lot, including how to fish and canoe. It was fun! We went to Huntsville State Park with three families on Friday. The kids in the trip were Mike, Joy, Yuna, Steven, Susan, my brother Ethan, and me. It took me a while to fall asleep the first night. The next morning, I woke up to birds' chirping. We went to the fishing pier. Joy taught us how to catch fish. To start, you need to put bait (worms) on the hook of the fishing rod. Then, you push a button and cast the rod. It is time to wait patiently. The fish will bite the bait and get hooked on. Now, reel the string up quickly, and you have a fish! We caught a total of 17 fish! What a success!

After lunch, we went canoeing in the lake. I learned that in order to go forward, you need to row backwards, and to go backward, you row forwards. To turn left, you row toward the right, and to go right, you row toward the left. The heavier person sit in the back, and the lighter person sit in the front, to prevent the boat from tipping over. The water looked glittering from sunshine, and the



clouds looked like cotton candy. We enjoyed wandering around on the peaceful water.

We played catch and collected wood to set up campfire. Parents grilled pork, beef, and sausages, and toasted sweet potatoes and corns. We had a yummy feast! We toasted jumbo size marshmallows on the campfire. It tasted crispy, sweet, and gooey. When it became dark, it was a little chilly, so we got closer to the campfire to stay warm.

Sunday was the last day of our camp trip. We packed up everything just before it started sprinkling. What a perfect timing! I felt sad when I waved goodbye to my friends. Overall, it was a memorable trip that I enjoyed the beautiful spring and had adventurous experience with fishing and canoeing.

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### Dear Kiran by Kiran Kehta



*Dear Kiran,*

*Next year, I'm going into sixth grade, and I'm scared I won't make any new friends, since all my friends are going to different schools. HELP!!! :(*

*- Middle School Loner*

Dear Middle School Loner,

Well, you already made friends at WUES so you're bound to make friends at your middle school. You can also ask around and find out who's going to which school, and see if you have anything in common. That way, you're not entirely alone. If you and your friends are really close, then

find time to play video games, go to the movies, play sports, ect. Hope this helps! - Kiran

*Dear Kiran,*

*I accidentally said something rude to someone, so I apologized, but they won't forgive me! How do I make it up to them?*

*-Big Mouth*

Dear Big Mouth,

First of all, many people have accidentally said something rude to someone, including me, so you're not alone. Second, make sure the person you want to forgive you understands it was a mistake. If they still don't believe you try and be extra nice and caring towards them. Just remember, choose your words carefully, in case you have to eat them later!

- Kiran

### THE MARVELOUS MRS. McCLINTOCK

BY CADEN WARREN



Q: What grade do you teach?

A: I teach 3rd grade.

Q: Favorite subject:

A: Science. Science is hands on and I am a nature kind of girl.

Q: Did you always dream of becoming a teacher?

A: Since I was in kindergarten and my desire never changed.

Q: Did you teach at any school before this one?

A: Yes I taught 4th grade at Coppell ISD for 2 years teaching and 1 year teaching kindergarten at a private school.

Q: How many years have you taught?

A: This is my 10th year.

Q: Does anyone inspire you?

A: A lot of people inspire me in different ways but God most.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: I like Scranimals.

Q: What is your favorite movie?

A: Lion King is.

Q: Which college did you go to?

A: I went to West Texas A&M.

Q: Where is your favorite place to visit? A: Anywhere I can fish or scuba dive.

Q: What is your favorite hobby?

A: Gardening.

Q: Do you have any children?

A: Yes 2 girls Maddie(4) and Abby(2).

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: I have a classroom pet bearded dragon Lily.

Q: What's your favorite color?

A: Currently light pink.

### GETTING TO KNOW MS. PARISH

BY OLIVER TSAO AND ETHAN SHOR



Q. How long have you been teaching here at West U?

A. 15 years.

Q. Are there any 4th Grade teachers still here from the time you were new to West U?

A. Only Ms. McIntyre.

Q. Have you taught any other subject besides reading, if so which one?

A. Yes. Science but reading is my favorite.

Q. Have you taught any other grade?

A. Yes. I taught 5th grade in the Hill Country.

Q. Did you want to be a teacher when you were a

kid? If not, what did you want to be?

A. Yes, I wanted to be a teacher. I would play school with a big black board.

Q. What is your favorite book?

A. Anne of Green Gables and many more.

Q. What book would you recommend for kids.

A. Any classic.

Q. Did you go to West U as a kid?

A. No, I went to Mark Twain Elementary.

Q. Do you have a pet?

A. Yes. I have a cat, Annabelle, and a dog, Lady Cheney.

Q. What's your favorite dessert?

A. My peach cobbler with Hill Country peaches.

Q. On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate this interview? (Ethan's idea)

A. A 10!

### BEFORE YOU TAKE YOUR DOG ON A WALK, CHECK THE TEMPERATURE

BY JACK REID

It is very important to make sure your dog does not get overheated. Dogs can only pant to cool themselves off, which is very inefficient. Taking your dog out on a hot day can give your dog heat stroke, which can be very harmful, or even burn your dog's pads (the skin under the foot). Heat stroke is a dangerous condition in which temperature regulating mechanisms fail, resulting in fever and/or unconsciousness. It can be very difficult to recover from heat stroke.

The maximum recommended temperature to walk your dog is around 80 degrees Fahrenheit. That is even pushing it. Imagine you were wearing a fur coat - it's good in cold weather but a difficulty in hot weather. Would you want to go outside during Houston summers



wearing a fur coat? Overweight, aging and short nose breeds, like pugs and bulldogs, are at a higher risk for heat stroke. During summer time, it is recommended to take your dog on short walks before the sun comes up and after the sun goes down.

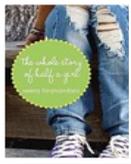
Heat stroke could potentially be dangerous to your furry friend.

Even if you don't think it is hot

outside, your dog might think differently. Remember, dogs can't sweat and they are constantly wearing a furry jacket they can't take off. Before you take your dog outside, check the temperature!

**Book Reviews****THE WHOLE STORY OF HALF A GIRL BY VEERA HIRANANANDANI reviewed by Prisha Shivani**

Just when Sonia thought it couldn't get worse- it job. Since the family did not have funds to send school. She knew this was a bad idea from the start! school. During this year she discovers what really make her whole again! Read the book "The Whole out more. the book "The Whole Story of Half a



did! This half Jewish, half Indian girl's father loses his Sonia to private school, she was moved to a public She knew she would miss her friends at her old matters and who her true friends are in order to Story of Half a Girl" by Veerna Hiranandani to find Girl" by Veerna Hiranandani to find out more.

**Towers Falling by Jewell Parker Rhodes reviewed Yutia Li**

Towers Falling is an amazing story of resilience and hope. It is a Bluebonnet Book. In this book, Dèja has to start fifth grade in a new school. Projects about her home and family reveal how different she is from her whole class. But when her teacher, Mrs. Garcia, gives an assignment on the two towers



missing from the skyline, Dèja is very confused. With help from her new friends Ben and Sabeen, she slowly learns about the devastating attacks of the Twin Towers, and something her father has been hiding from her ever since she was born. I highly recommend Towers Falling for you.

**The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley reviewed by Zain Imam**

The War That Saved My Life tells the story of a girl named Ada, whose foot was damaged at birth. Her mother was embarrassed of her and never let Ada go outside or discover the world around her. During World War II, Ada escapes to a safe rural



area of England with her brother. They live with a nice lady throughout the war and Ada discovers the world for the first time. To find out just how this war saved Ada's life, you must read this intriguing story.

**Percy Jackson and the Olympians Book 1: The Lightning Thief By Rick Riordan reviewed by Will Dudley**

Percy Jackson and the Olympians follows the adventures of Percy Jackson, a 12 year old boy who lives in New York City. The Lightning Thief is the first book of the series. Percy Jackson has trouble in school, but his troubles get



worse when he learns that Greek Gods are out to get him. This book is packed with adventure and humor. If you are interested in Greek Mythology, the Percy Jackson series of books is one that you will enjoy.

**TAX RETURN DAY**

Dear I.R.S.,  
Please remove  
me from your  
mailing list.



What day around April 15 stresses parents out every year? If you guessed Tax Return Day you are correct!

In this article you will learn about why we pay taxes and what tax returns are.

Why do we pay taxes? One reason we pay taxes is because it is considered a civic duty.

If you don't pay taxes you could be fined or even be put in prison! It also pays the salary of government workers

and supports common resources such as firefighters and police. Plus, they are used to keep roads in good condition and fund government programs.

Tax returns are when you give your due taxes back to the IRS. Tax day falls on April 15, unless it ends up on a weekend which in that case it is usually on the following Monday or Tuesday (i.e. This year Tax Return day is on April 17). Tax returns are based upon a family's income. If you have no job or earn very little money you do not have to pay taxes. People prepare tax returns to send to the IRS. If you have paid extra in taxes the previous year the government will repay you a back.

As you have learned, taxes are very important. Taxes and tax returns are good to know about later in life. And don't forget... April 17 is coming soon!

## KIDS KITCHEN

BY EMMA BERNAL, KAI GOMEZ & CAROLYN RAY

Ciao! Greetings from Italy.



Did you know this recipe was made by one of the writer's grandmother? It is one of the best lasagna recipes out there. If you love this Italian food, continue reading.

### "Friendship" meat lasagna

#### Ingredients:

- 1 box of lasagna noodles
- 2 1/2 lbs. of ground beef

- 2 lbs. of shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 white onion
- 3 ripe tomatoes
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 1 red pepper
- 1/2 cup of ketchup (secret ingredient!)
- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- Optional: thyme and paprika

#### Beef Lasagna Sauce:

##### Cooking Directions:

In a saucepan with the spoon of olive oil sauté the ground beef until it is done. To make the sauce, blend the cut onion, tomatoes, red pepper, garlic, ketchup, and all the seasonings. (if you

wanted to add the thyme and paprika) Add the sauce to the meat and simmer at low heat for 15 minutes.

#### Béchamel Sauce:

##### Ingredients:

- 3 cups of milk
- 1 tablespoon of butter
- 4 tablespoons of flour
- 1/2 white onion
- 1 can of cream milk
- Salt and pepper

#### Cooking Directions:

Boil two cups of milk; separately in the blender and mix the third cup of milk with the cut onion, butter, flour, cream of milk and salt and pepper. Blend well and add the sauce to the boiling milk. Stirring continuously let it boil for 5 minutes.

#### Lasagna noodles:

Cook lasagna noodles according to package directions

#### Assembly:

Grease a baking pan. Arrange a first layer of noodles, then add a layer of the cooked beef lasagna sauce, béchamel sauce and mozzarella cheese. Add a second alternating layer of pasta, the meat sauce, béchamel sauce and cheese. Cover the pan with aluminum paper and bake at 350 degrees for about 25 - 30 minutes. Remove the aluminum paper and broil for 5 minutes.

Voilà! Now you have a scrumptious dish waiting for you to eat. Bon Appétit!

## TAKE YOUR DAUGHTER TO WORK DAY

BY CAROLYN RAY



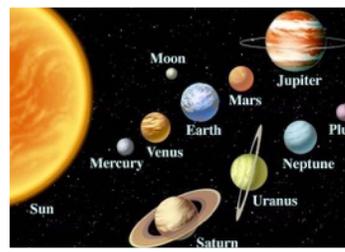
2003 they finally allowed boys to join. Even though this is not a National Holiday, the U.S., Canada, and Australia participate. 39 million people joined in the U.S.

On every fourth Thursday in April, parents can their kids to there offices/work place. Wether your dad is a lawyer or your mom is firefighter, you go with them and see what they do everyday.

During the summer of 1993 the Ms. Foundation for Women created Take Your Daughter to Work Day. On there 10th anniversary also in

Going to your parents work place can improve kids interest, health, and improve the chances of you working.

How to do it: ask you parents and make sure they can do it, don't tell them the day before because they might have something already scheduled. Make sure your parents office is doing this event. Then ask teachers and school if you may do this. Then on April 26 go.



## TAKE A TOUR OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

BY RYAN WEXLER

This month third graders were asked to choose any planet in our solar system that is not Earth or a dwarf planet (that would be Pluto) to research and write an essay about. The project is part of learning about Earth Science. Students will learn about the size and the position in the solar system of their planet. They will also learn their planet's characteristics and other interesting facts. Students must have a child friendly book about their planet so that they can work on their research project in class. When the research papers are finished, the students will present their projects to the class. I can't wait to see what everyone has learned!

## Austin Field Trip

By Paul Pichon

The exciting field trip for 4th grade takes them to the capital of Texas, Austin, and would be an incredible experience. Austin has a variety of field trips because it has many historical places. The 4th graders will visit the Bob Bullock Museum and inside it, The Spirit Theater.

Did you know that the Bullock Museum was made in 2001? This museum talks about the different aspects that happened in Texas history. Nearly 8 million people have explored this structure. Believe it or not, La Belle, the ship that René-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle used to find a trade route with the east, was found in 1995 and located here in the museum.

In the Texas Spirit Theater, you could take a journey through Texas history with the film, Star of Destiny or you

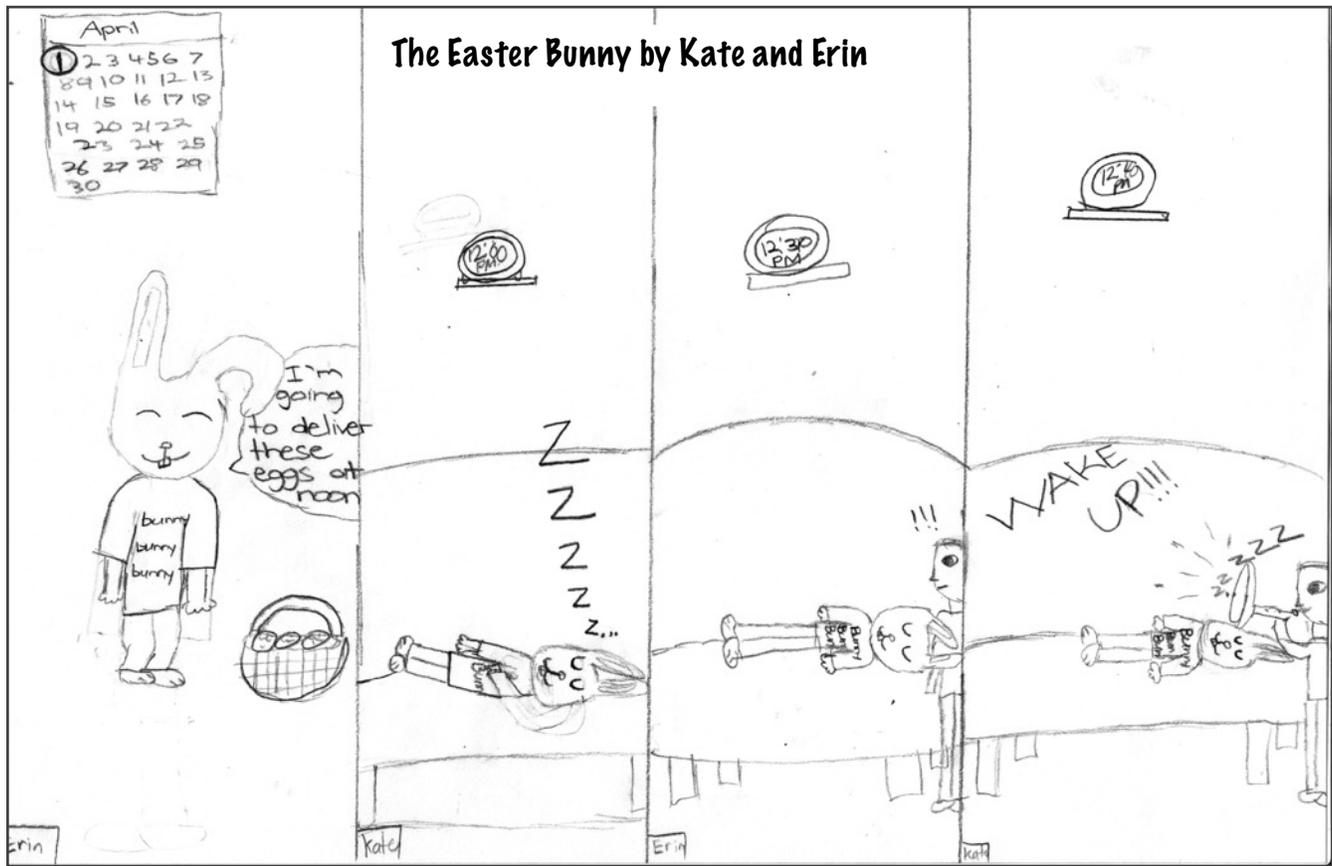


*4th Grade class at the state capital last year.*

could experience the story of the French ship, La Belle with Shipwrecked. This theater is the only one in Austin with multi-sensory effects. Here in the theater, there are 200 seats.

The Bullock Texas State history museum is the perfect place for people no matter the age to discover the story of Texas. With the 4D theater and IMAX for visual learners, it will be a fantastic experience. This is what you will see and find once you are on the Austin field trip.

by Weston Bennor



**Spring Riddles by Seriah Thomas & Emily Tang**

- Q. What season is it when you are on a trampoline?
- A. Spring-time!
- Q. When do monkeys fall from the sky?
- A. During Ape-ril showers.
- Q. Can February March?
- A. No, but April May!
- Q. What flowers grow on faces?
- A. Tu-lips (two lips)
- Q. Why is the letter A like a flower?
- A. A bee (B) comes after it!



- Q. What is a baby chick's favorite food?
- A. Egg plants!
- Q. Why dig the farmer plant a seed in his pond?
- A. He was trying to grow a watermelon!
- Q. What do you call a girl with a frog on her head?
- A. Lily!
- Q. What does the Easter Rabbit get for making a basket?
- A. Two points like everybody!
- Q. Why did the farmer bury his money?
- A. He wanted to make his soil rich.

### April Showers by Mattie Edward

