



The Saint Pat's Post: "The Green and the Gold News"

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Volume 1, Issue 2

January/February 2018

Catholic Schools Week 2018

By Tamaz Gogoladze

Catholic Schools Week at St. Patrick's Catholic Academy was January 28th through February 3rd. There were many exciting events that went on during that week. On February 1st, St. Patrick's had its annual STEM Olympics. There were many challenges, some of which included using toothpicks and marshmallows to build a sturdy bridge, or using spaghetti and marshmallows to build the tallest standing structure that you can. Grades 6, 7 and 8 were divided into teams of 4 to complete the challenges. Also, grades 1-5 created their own Wax Museum on Wednesday, January 31, portraying famous people. Lastly, on February 2, grades K-8 are going to a mass honoring all first responders and also got to witness a great show from the Harlem Magic Masters. Catholic Schools Week was one busy and fun week! Can't wait for next year!

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What's Going on in the Gaming World

By Joseph M. Geraci



Did you get gift cards for Christmas? Well, I did and surprisingly I didn't spend it all yet! Well, if you have PlayStation Store, GameStop, or Target gift cards etc., this article is for you. Today I'm going to be talking about new games coming out for the PlayStation 4, The XBOX ONE, and the Nintendo Switch. I'm going to start off with a game exclusive to the PlayStation 4 because it's my favorite out of the three. The XBOX ONE has most of the same games. One of the games I can't wait for is "Spider-Man". A new and advanced version of the old Spider-Man games. The white spider on the chest gives Spider-Man a new and creative look! "Kingdom Hearts III" the street date for "Kingdom Hearts III" is November 1, 2018. This is the next game in the Kingdom Hearts series. Kingdom Hearts has most of the Mickey Mouse characters and now it also has the Toy Story characters. A new sports game coming out is "EA Sports UFC 3". This is another boxing game for EA. Something new is that fighters in career mode actually start in the World Fighting Alliance. EA Sports UFC 3 comes out on February 2, 2018. Dragon Ball Fighter Z Day One and Fighterz Edition is out already by the time of this issue's release, but not when this was written! Dragon Ball Fighter Z is an upcoming 2.5D Fighter game. The Nintendo Switch is not so new anymore, but the newest of the three. "Kirby Star Allies" is a new platform coming out for the switch on March 16. Kirby Star Allies is part of the Kirby series. "Yoshi" with its tentative title it's a new side-scrolling video game with Yoshi. It's release is unknown, all we know is that it's coming out in 2018. "Mega Man 11" is the eleventh main entry in the original Mega Man series. It's release date is unknown, all we know is that it's coming out in 2018 like Yoshi. Mega Man 11 will also be coming out PS4 and XBOX ONE. Hope this article helped and you should always know to use your gift cards wisely!

Interview with our own Ms. Curatolo!

By Victoria Palumbo

Why did you choose to come to SPCA?

I have been in Catholic school for 27 years then I was in public school for 3 years. I missed Catholic school and came to SPCA.

What is your favorite part about being at SPCA?

My favorite thing are the students because they make me smile.

How is the education at this school?

The education at the school is getting better and better, especially since we now have iPads and Regents' classes.

Do you like being a principal at this school?

Yes, I love being a principal.

How long have you been a principal?

I was a principal for 11 years for the first time, then I was a superintendent and now I've been a principal at SPCA for two years.

What makes a St. Patrick's education unique?

We offer art, music, sign language, Italian, physical education, Rosetta Stone, algebra, and living environment.

Super
Cool
Happy
On time
Outdoor play
Learning



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Valentine's Day Hacks and DIYs

By Adriana Al-Ola and Sadani Michel



Hello guys! Welcome back to the Green and Gold St. Pats Post. It's Adriana and Sadani. Today we are telling you about Valentine DIYs. Special thanks to Rheya Alexander for making the slime recipes. We will be showing you how to make a heart shaped chocolate chip cookie recipe, valentine slime recipes, and a DIY valentine heart card. We are first going to make the heart shaped chocolate chip cookies. The ingredients you will need will be: 2 ¼ cups of all purpose flour, 1 teaspoon of baking soda, 1 teaspoon of salt, 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened, ¾ cup granulated sugar, ¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar, 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract, 2 eggs, one 12 oz. package (2 cups), Nestle Toll House Semi-Sweet chocolate chips, 1 cup nuts, chopped (optional), heart shaped cookie cutter, Royal Icing, and heart shaped sprinkles. Instructions: Preheat oven to 375 F. In small bowl, combine flour, baking soda, and salt. Then set it aside. In large mixer bowl, beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla extract until creamy. Beat in eggs. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in semi- sweet chocolate chips and chopped nuts (optional). Using the cookie cutter, cut out the heart shaped cookies. Grease an ungreased cookie sheet and put it on the pan. Bake the cookies 9-11 minutes until edges are golden brown. Let it cool on cookie sheet for 2 minutes. Frost with royal icing and decorated as wished. Next up is our heart shaped card. The materials you need would be: 8 ½ x 11 in. white card stock, scissors, craft glue, red paper cut into ½ in. (1 cm) x 5 ¼ in. (14 cm) stripes, orange paper cut into ½ in. (1 cm) x 6 ¼ in. (16 cm) stripes, yellow paper cut into ½ in. (1 cm) x 7 in. (18 cm) stripes, green paper cut into ½ in. (1 cm) x 8in. (20 ½ cm) stripes, blue cut into ½ in. (1 cm) x 9 in. (23 cm) stripes, and purple paper cut into ½ in. (1 cm) x 10 in. (25 cm) stripes. First, cut the colored stripes to the stripes to the right length. You will need two of each color per card. Starting with the smallest and working your way up, bend the stripes into loops to make half a heart. Glue each loop into place as you go. Repeat to make the other half, then glue then together using craft glue. Next, apply small drops of craft glue to the back of the heart. Glue the heart down in the middle of a square piece of card stock roughly 7 in. x 7 in. (18cm x 18 cm). Craft glue dries clear, so don't worry if it runs a bit. Finally, is our slime recipes. The ingredients you will need for the fluffy valentine slime will be: white Elmer's glue 1 cups shaving cream 2 to 4 cups, tide pink dye then mix them all up then you have your fluffy slime. Crunchy Slime: add no water, white glue, and marbles/storage foam balls combine them and you have crunchy slime. So these are our Valentine DIYs, hope you try it out someday. Bye!



Broadway Love Stories

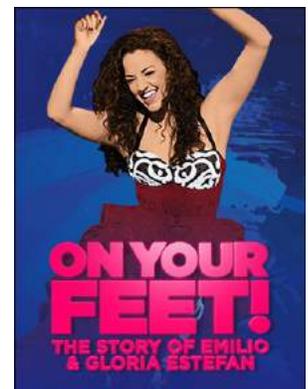
By Rheyra Alexander

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA - Based on the 1910 horror novel by Gaston Leroux, which has been adapted into countless films, *The Phantom of the Opera* follows a deformed composer who haunts the grand Paris Opera House. Sheltered from the outside world in an underground cavern, the lonely, romantic man tutors and composes operas for Christine, a gorgeous young soprano star-to-be. As Christine's rises as a star, and a handsome suitor from her past, Raoul, enters the picture, the Phantom grows mad, terrorizing the opera house owners and company with his murderous ways. Still, Christine finds herself drawn to the mystery man. The phantom kidnaps Christine and has her choose to either be with him or not by turning one of two knobs. Finally, the Phantom changes his mind and allows Christine and Raoul to have a happily ever after.

WICKED, looks at what happened in the Land of Oz, but from a different angle.

Long before Dorothy arrives, there is another girl, born with emerald-green skin. She is very smart, fiery, misunderstood, and possesses an extraordinary talent. When she meets a bubbly blonde who is exceptionally popular, their initial rivalry turns into the unlikeliest of friendships, until the world decides to call one "good," and the other one "wicked." This is the incredible untold story of an unlikely but profound friendship between two young women who first meet as sorcery students at Shiz University. The blonde and very popular Glinda and the misunderstood green girl named Elphaba were best friends. But following an encounter with the Wonderful Wizard of Oz, their friendship reaches a crossroads and their lives take very different paths. Glinda's unflinching desire for popularity sees her seduced by power while Elphaba's determination to remain true to herself, and to those around her, will have unexpected and shocking consequences for her future. Their extraordinary adventure in Oz will ultimately see them fulfill their destinies as Glinda the good and Elphaba the wicked witch of the west.

ON YOUR FEET! is the inspiring true story about heart, heritage and two people who believed in their talent—and each other—to become an international sensation: Gloria and Emilio Estefan. Through a series of flashbacks we see Gloria as a girl in Cuba, singing and dancing because that was in her spirit and heart. Her family fled to Miami as Batista was overthrown. As part of that departure, Gloria's mother, also Gloria, lost her dream of performing. As Gloria turned into an adult with her own songs to sing, her mother was the last one on the support train. It was her grandmother Consuelo who pushed and encouraged her. Eventually Gloria caught the eye of Emilio Estefan, the leader of Miami Sound Machine. He became Gloria's first and only love. As their music evolved so did their relationship. Originally relegated to Spanish speaking venues and radio stations, the two of them planned and negotiated to rebrand. Their journey was not paved with gold and they played every gig they could scrounge, even weddings, bar mitzvahs and more until their music was finally recognized. Eventually Estefan became a chart topping success. The success brought problems of its own. They had to endure exhaustion and live out of a suitcase. There was also a horrific accident that landed Gloria in the hospital with the possibility that she would never walk again. But she survived and thrived with a breathtaking comeback. This is a story of the delicate web of family, friends, fame and fortune. There are no guarantees in life and the road is paved with disappointments. This is a story of passion and determination. This is a story of an American dream by way of Cuba.



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Grace's Political Update

By Grace Gillespie

On November 8, 2017, Justin Brannan was elected for city council in the 43rd district.



Here's some information about the newest city council member.

Justin Lee Brannan is a small business owner, community activist, organizer, and city councilman elect from Bay Ridge Brooklyn. Born: October 14, 1978 in Brooklyn, New York. Education: College of Staten Island

"This is your victory," He said to a room full of cheering supporters at Cebu Bar & Bistro in Bay Ridge shortly after 10 PM. "Real challenge comes from the ground up, and that's what we did tonight". - Justin Brannan



Jack's Sports Spotlight

By Jack McMahon



Hank Aaron's birthday just passed in February, so I'm going to be writing a little bit about him. Hank Aaron was born on February 5th 1934 in Mobile, Alabama. Aaron had seven siblings including Tommie Aaron, who also played in the MLB. When Aaron first started in the MLB he played for the Milwaukee/Atlanta Braves; where he played for the majority of his career. With them, Aaron broke the home run record! After his amazing 20 years with the Braves he went on to the new Milwaukee Brewers where he finished his career. "Hammer Hank" is one of the best baseball players ever to step up to the plate! Happy Birthday, Hank



NFL 2018 Final Bracket

By Daniel Edwards



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The History of Groundhogs Day

By Sam Shahem



Groundhogs Day is every February 2nd, it is personally my least favorite event. Many people think Groundhogs Day is a hoax, but many people choose to believe. Here is the history of Groundhogs Day. Groundhogs Day is perhaps one of America's weirdest traditions. Every Feb. 2, people wait for a large, furry rodent to see his shadow and then we predict the weather based on the animal's actions. In 1886, the Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper printed the first news of a Groundhogs Day observance. The next year, everything fell into place.

The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club celebrated for the first time at Gobbler's Knob, and the newspaper's editor declared that Phil, the Punxsutawney groundhog, was America's official weather-forecasting groundhog. The idea of Groundhog Day comes from an ancient Christian celebration known as Candlemas Day, which marked the midpoint between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. On Candlemas Day, clergy would bless candles needed for winter and distribute them to the people, the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club's website says. Superstition held that if the day was sunny and clear, people could expect a long, rough winter, but if the sky was cloudy, warm weather would arrive soon.

The Germans then expanded on this tradition, introducing the hedgehog to the mix. They believed, according to the Groundhog Day website, that if the sun appeared and the hedgehog saw his shadow, there would be six more weeks of bad weather, or a "Second Winter."



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By Ava Canade

Today I will be showing you how to make Valentines Day Doughnuts! We are going to make a vanilla doughnut with strawberry glaze and chocolate with 2 colored vanilla glaze. *this recipe comes from Live Well Bake Often

For the chocolate doughnuts you will need:

- 1 cup All Purpose Flour
- ¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ⅛ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup buttermilk
- ½ granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- (For the vanilla doughnut do not use cocoa powder)

For the Vanilla Glaze

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- ½ teaspoon of vanilla
- 3-4 tablespoons of milk or as needed
- Red food coloring for the chocolate doughnut
- (For strawberry add either strawberry extract or a little jam to your vanilla)

Additional Toppings

- Heart or Valentine's Day sprinkles

For the doughnuts:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Spray your doughnut pan with non-stick cooking spray and set aside
2. In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, cocoa powder (if making chocolate), baking soda, and salt.
3. In a separate bowl, mix together the buttermilk, sugar, egg, butter, and vanilla until combined.
4. Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients and mix until just combined.
5. Spoon the batter into the doughnut cavities only $\frac{2}{3}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way full.
6. Bake for 8-10 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.
7. Remove from the oven and allow to cool in the pan for about 5 minutes. Then transfer to a cooling rack.

For the glaze:

1. In another bowl, mix all of the glaze ingredients except for the food coloring or jam. If your glaze is slightly thicker or you want to thin it out add more milk.

To Assemble:

1. First, if making the strawberry dye all the white pink and add either jam or strawberry extract. For making the two toned, separate the glaze into two bowls and color one pink and add either jam or extract.
2. Dip the top of your doughnuts in either the pink and white or just the pink.
3. Top your doughnuts with sprinkles and any other topping and you are done!

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February Fun Facts

By Sean Aronsen

Hey! Have you ever lost or forgot something in this month? Well, I have come up with a list of special events in February. Sorry if I didn't include some, I may have missed it.



-Black History Month

We honor African American culture, traditions, and people.

- Groundhog's Day– the 2nd

Phil the groundhog will leaves his burrow and if he sees his shadow, 6 more weeks of winter

-National Wear Red day– the 2nd

If you wear red this day, you support heart disease:

-Super Bowl 51– the 4th

Two football teams go for the championship:

-Rosa Parks Day– the 4th

We honor Rosa Parks, a African American woman who didn't move back to the bus when a white woman boarded the bus too:

-Abraham Lincoln's Birthday– the 12th

We honor our 16th president's birthday

-Ash Wednesday (2018) and Valentine's Day– the 14th

-Chinese New Year– the 16th

Chinese New Year is between the 15th and 22nd:

-Presidents Day-20th

We celebrate our first president's birthday, and our 16th.



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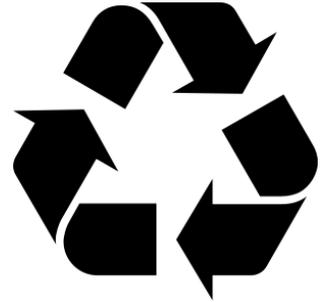
Recycle Challenge

By Ewa Pekala

Egg cartons, cereal boxes, plastic bags, and water bottles. These are some of the things and more that the Seventh and Eighth Grade Enrichment Program needs for their recycling challenge for Catholic Schools Week. In this challenge they have to create a practical, usable object. The purpose is to promote reducing, reusing, and recycling. The two grades are set up in groups of four. Each group has a different plan. A group of seventh boys is making a birdhouse, which will be made out of cereal boxes.

Another group of eighth grade girls is making a jewelry box, also out of cereal boxes. Next seventh and eighth grade girls are making a vanity. They are using their friend's tri-fold display board. Finally a group of eighth grade boys is making an airplane piggy bank out of water bottles and cardboard. This challenge is to show that you can make easy everyday objects out of recyclable items. Recycling is very important as waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment. Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gases are released from rubbish in landfill sites. Recycling helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste.

It reduces the need for extracting (mining, quarrying and logging), refining and processing raw materials. All of these create substantial air and water pollution. As recycling saves energy it also reduces greenhouse gas emissions, which helps to tackle climate change. By using recycled materials we save energy consumption, which keeps production costs down. With recycling people can have something to do with earth's overall health and keep the air, water, and land clean. That is why recycling is very important.



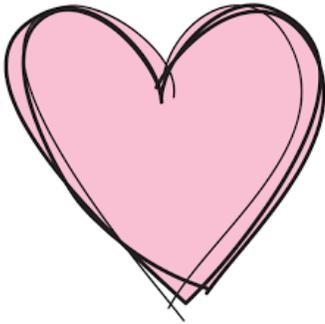
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The History of the Mysterious Valentine

By Julia Miranda

Valentine's Day is coming up soon. It represents love and affection by many countries around the world. Usually, people think that Valentine's Day is only about that, which it's not. Valentine's Day has an origin, or back story to it. Where did the traditions of exchanging flowers and candies come from? And what about the name? We don't know much about the patron saint of Valentine's day, St. Valentine.

In fact, the story of this saint is full of mystery. There are theories of how Valentine's name ended up on this holiday. One theory is that, when Emperor Claudius III decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives or families, he made it illegal for young men to get married. Valentine saw this as unjustifiable, and as a priest, he still performed marriages for young lovers in secret. When Claudius found out about this, he sentenced Valentine to jail, and soon, death. While in jail, Valentine fell in love with his jailer's daughter. Right before he was executed, he sent a letter to the girl and signed it, "From Your Valentine." We still use this expression today.



The theme of romance for Valentine's Day has a back story as well. It doesn't sound too interesting, but during the Middle Ages, birds' mating season began on February 14. Talking about romance, valentine greetings went back as far as the 1400s. The oldest known valentine is still in existence today. It was a poem written by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned. The flowers that we give to one another on a Valentine's day comes from the old-fashioned custom of sending floral bouquets to pass on non-verbal messages. This tradition was introduced in the 18th century by Charles II of Sweden. Each and every flower had a particular meaning to it. That meant it was possible to have an entire conversation using only flowers.

To top it off, Valentine's day has many messages and meanings, depending on your perspective. It could be a bit scary and sad, or really interesting.



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Alumni Spotlight

By Mr. Moloney '09

Frances Reardon Clark '49

Frances Reardon Clark, Class of 1949, was born in Brooklyn, NY on April 18, 1935. Frances and her sisters, Edwina '44 and Patricia '46, all attended and graduated from St. Patrick's School. After graduating St. Pat's, Frances went on to Fort Hamilton High School. Frances was married to her beloved husband, Frank Clark, for 65 years. Frank courageously fought for our country overseas in the Korean War. Frances likes to call herself a "domestic engineer" because she was the "best stay at home mother" says her daughter, Marilee (Clark) Fitzgerald '73. Frances and Frank's three other children are Frank '66, Edward '67, and Donna '67. Frances and her husband were blessed with 8 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild. Famously known by all at St. Patrick's Parish as "Gigi", Frances has given her time and heart to the community of St. Patrick's for her entire life..and still does! Frances lives right around the corner in the same apartment since she was born! Thank you, Frances, for your tireless effort in supporting St. Patrick's and catholic education!



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Guest Columnist

By Special Invitation

Our Second Grade Communion Retreat

By The Second Graders
And Ms. Rutherford

On Saturday, January 20, 2018 the second graders had their First Communion Retreat. Here are some of their thoughts about the day.

"It was just the 2nd graders from St. Patrick Catholic Academy and the Parish School of Religion."

"We liked eating the bagels and pizza."

"We listened to a story about a bread maker who invented pretzels."

"I liked making pretzels out of clay. We made pretzels because Jesus is the Bread of Life."

"I really liked reading the story, "An Invisible String."

"I loved singing our Communion songs!"

"I liked the prayers on the prayer cube that we made."

"My favorite part was the tour of the church."

"We received books that labeled all of the things we can see in church."

"We saw relics from real saints under the alter table."

"In the Sacristy, I liked seeing the different clothes the priest can wear for mass."

"We got to see where they keep the unblessed bread and wine, but we did not get to taste it yet."

All of the students thought that it was a very good day!

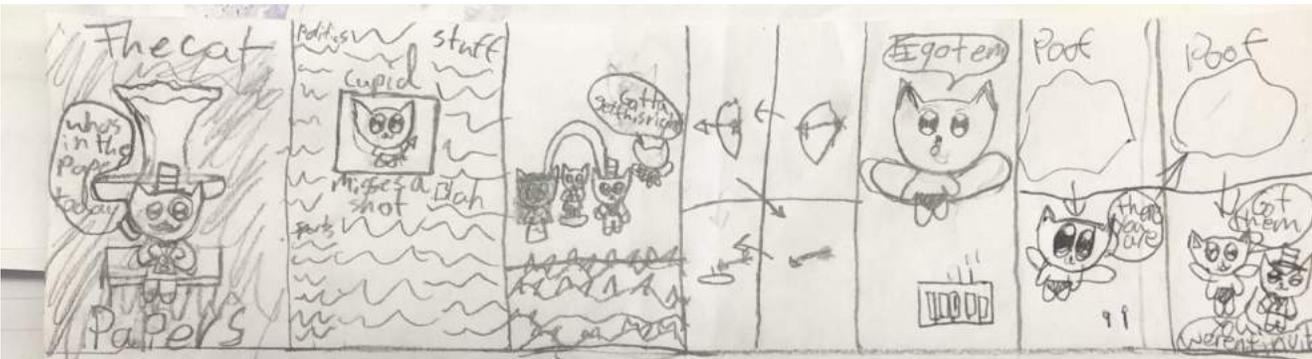


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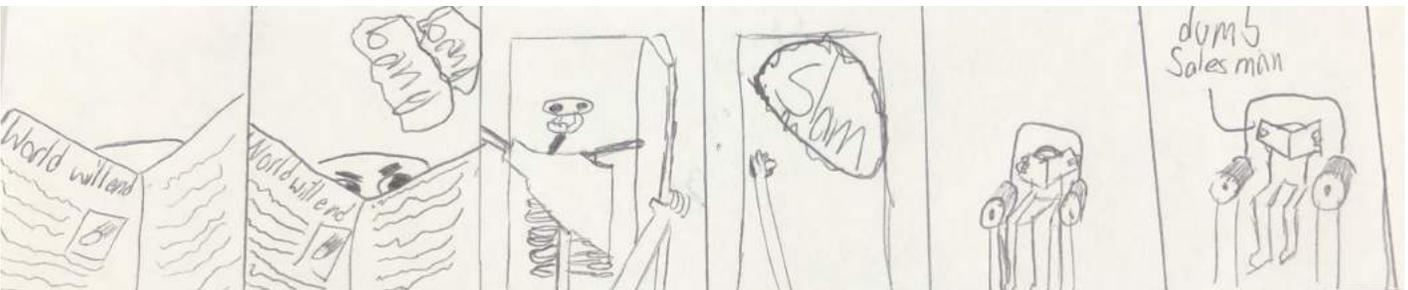
Comic Strip Section



By Joseph Ilgin



By Sebastiana Ombrellino



By Justin Polito

