



In Loving Memory

(Cont. from pg. 1) These are just a few of the touching words our Skinner family shared with us and I'm sure you can see why so many people loved her.

Mrs. Esmeralda Chavira put an extra light into the world and truly made it a better place for every one she met. We can't always grieve this loss but we can find hope in her example and cherish the memories that we have of her. She will always be in our hearts and our thoughts.

In Loving Memory Mrs. Esmeralda Chavira

October 7, 1982

By: Yurub Aden & Ciriah Torrez

January 1, 2017

A mother, a wife, a sister, a friend and educator, these are all things that Mrs. Chavira was. She lit up every room and had a smile beyond comparison. Though her time on earth was cut short, her legacy lives on.

Esmeralda Chavira was born in Zacatecas, Mexico on October 7, 1982. She lived in Mexico until the age of six and then she lived in Chicago until she Denver, CO. She got her management. However, after years, she realized she wanted a 4th grade elementary school. After teaching for a couple years, she realized she wanted to become a principal her masters degree from MSU.



her family moved to Chicago. was a teen and then moved to bachelors degree in business working in business for a few to be a teacher and became teacher at Castro Elementary. years, she realized that she and went back to school to get

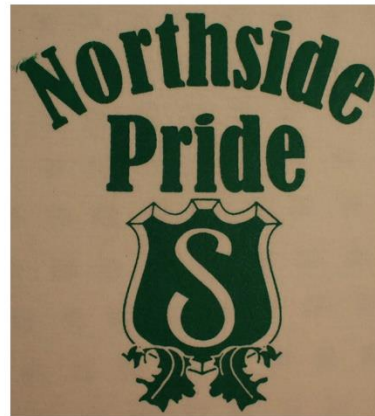
Her life was filled with like her mother and father, her loving husband and a beautiful touched the lives of so many. touched by her grace and said, "she was very friendly and fact is that Mrs. Chavira was They didn't know this about husband showed up to Skinner for lunch and Ms. Chavira realized this was her cousin.

many wonderful people three younger brothers, a daughter. Mrs. Chavira Our Skinner family was also beauty. Ms. Chavira (treasurer) had a big heart." One interesting Ms. Chavira's cousin by marriage. each other until Mrs. Chavira's

Many students and staff didn't know Mrs. Chavira until this year and so it's fascinating to see the bond and impact she had on so many of us. George Duran-Alvarado said, "She had a perfect smile" and we all know she did. Here are some things that people had to say about her; Litzy "a friend", Isaiah "happy and pretty", Paula "bubbly", Reyna "nice, kind and loving", Mrs. Reyes "friendly, humble and she always made me feel like an equal." The list goes on and on . (cont. pg. 6)



Sign-up today and join us for some after school fun. Providing snacks, academic support and activities such as: STEM Scouts, Swimming, Silk Screening and Finger Board Club. If you have any ideas for a class or club you would like, let us know. The Neighborhood Center is focused on helping scholars grow.



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Skinner Cares Day 2017 - Pg. 2



Boys & Girls Basketball Page 3 Sar Saw playing tough defense.

In this issue: Holidays explained, teacher highlights, community shout out, 5 craziest rollercoasters



Skinner Cares Day 2017

A Day We All Came Together!
Gabby DeSantiago

On February 9th, Skinner scholars all came together as a community and celebrated this years annual Skinner Cares Day. SCD is a momentous day that only happens once a year. Every student stays with their learning family and pairs up with another learning family for the entire day. Each class gets to play many fun and exciting games and activities. One of Ms. Hale's favorite activities is the cross the line activity because she said, "this helps kids see what they have in common" and SCD's her, "favorite day of the school year." The purpose of the games and activities are to bring our students closer together.

All of our scholars got to come together by painting their handprints on a mural outside the field that is in memory of Mrs. Chavira. Each learning family also had a potluck with a variety of wonderful food. Sharing food and a meal together is also a pleasant way to get to know someone. The potluck may just be the most popular part of the day.

The main focus of the day was in fact getting to know each other and for our 6th graders it was also about bullying and how it can affect people. We got to watch a movie called *Bully*. The movie was sad but the message helped us better understand what kids who are bullied actually go through mentally and emotionally. Many of us had an exceptional time, including 6th grader Giovanni Melone. To him SCD is "an opportunity to meet new friends and understand the struggles some people face." One 8th grader named Jaime Guereca, who is in leadership and helped organize the day, said, "the day was amazing."

Skinner Cares Day was very warm and inviting, which may be why Ali Rahma expressed that "people are being open and some kids shared their stories." And I am sure that many of us can relate to our fellow scholar Ty-Shawn Thompshon Jr. when he voiced his opinion on bullying, "I want to prevent bullying because it's harsh."

After this memorable day we have some ideas on how to prevent bullying and also how to advocate for those in need of a helping hand. From start to finish Skinner Cares Day was an absolute success and will always be a day that is anticipated by both students and staff alike for years to come.



♥ Valentine's Day ♥

There are different stories as to the origins of Valentine's Day. One story dates back to 496 B.C., all the way back to ancient Rome. Saint Valentine is the man responsible for this month of love. One legend is that St. Valentinus was a priest who served during the 3rd century in Rome. The emperor at the time was Emperor Claudius II, who said that single men made better soldiers than those with wife and families. St. Valentinus realized the injustice of the law and continued performing weddings in secret for young lovers. When Claudius found out, he ordered St. Valentinus to death. Other stories suggest that St. Valentine was killed for helping Christians escape Roman prisons. According to this story, Valentine sent the first Valentine "greeting" to a young girl he loved, who was his jailers daughter. Before he died, it is rumored that he signed his last card, "From your Valentine", an expression we still use to this day. Although the origins of Valentine's Day are murky, we still celebrate the day with the ones we love.

♣ St. Patrick's Day ♣

St. Patrick's Day celebrates the Roman Catholic day of the patron saint of Ireland. The patron being St. Patrick, who died on March 17, 461. Did you know that he wasn't even Irish? Saint Patrick's birth name was Maewyn. He was born in Roman Britain and was kidnapped, put into slavery and brought to Ireland. He escaped to France and became a Christian. He returned to Ireland in 432 as a missionary to spread the word of Christianity. According to legends, the Shamrock signifies the Holy Trinity. Corn beef and cabbage are an American Irish dish eaten on this holiday. American Irish families were so poor, they could only afford corn beef and cabbage. Back then, only Irish families celebrated the blessed holiday but nowadays every one can celebrate.



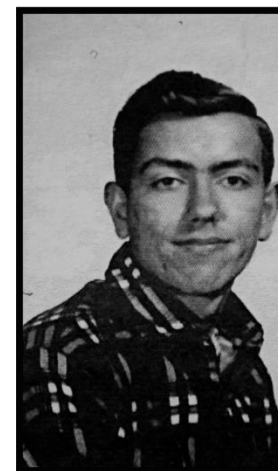
By: Sebastian Gomez and Emma Piburn

8th Grade Teacher Highlights

By Lucia Reyland-Slawson

We asked the teachers what their favorite book was? Ms. Voskes and Ms. Zolger both like *The Great Gatsby* and Mr. Earp likes *The Lord of the Rings*. Mr. Murray wanted to be a vet when he was young and Mr. Reagon wanted to be a lawyer. Mr. Graeve always wanted to be a scientist. Ms. Maruyama wanted to be many things like: a fireman, a forest ranger and a doctor. Mr. Baker said if he was on a team of four people the other three would be Shaquille O'neal, Reggie Miller and Michael Jordon. Ms. Frahm said Katniss Everdeen (for her survival skills), Alicia Keys (for her writing and musical abilities), and Laurie Hernandez (for her athleticism and spirit). Finally, we asked what their favorite genre of books were and Mrs. Torres likes science, self-esteem, and spirituality books. Mr. Dehning likes suspense novels. Mrs. Montoya (social studies teacher) likes adventure books and she especially likes *The Hunger Games* and *The Harry Potter* series. Mr. Trowe likes history to learn how we got to where we are today. Mrs. Kitchen likes fantasy because she loves to dream and get away.

Skinner Community



Ray McAllister is a life long resident of the Northside. He still lives in the house that his parents bought in 1955. He attended Skinner and North in the 60's. He has three children, Samantha, D.J., and Daniel, who all attended Skinner and North. Daniel, who currently is a junior at North, is the Viking's mascot: Magnus. His mother had Elizabeth Hope Skinner as a principal. He is the current President of the Northside High School Alumni Association and hands out snacks after school for the Neighborhood Center at Skinner. He has dedicated countless hours in service to Skinner and North. He has great stories of North Denver as it was and as it has grown over the years. He exemplifies Northside Pride.
Picture of Ray from NHS.
Thank You!



On February 18, the Denver North Chess Tournament took place with over 100 students from across the city coming out to play. Three of those players were our very own Gabriella Leafgreen, Seferino Barros and Cambell Darlington. All three played like champions and Cambell took 2nd place over all by winning four straight games. Checkmate!

"Chess is not for timid souls"
-Wilhelm Steinitz



Scorpions in Action

Girl's Basketball



The Skinner girls basketball team had a great season and made it to the playoffs. The girls only lost one game all season! We asked Ryan Seagle how the team got along and she responded that they "treated me like a friend." As some of you know, Mr. James Duran is the coach he wants the players to not only be good but to work as a team. Jayde Sanchez said, "Mr. Duran makes us do a lot of running" and Destini Manis adds, "coach works us hard so that we're ready for the games." They worked hard and played hard... Scorpions on 3!

Boy's Basketball

The boy's basketball team played tough and had some great victories.. They made the Skinner family proud. Jake Drummond said, "we have improved tremendously since our last season and are a more mature team." The team played so well together and maybe it's because like Eli Reed said, "we are all friends outside of basketball." The team credits their improvement to their training and coach. About coach Peterson Cyrus Jenkins said, "we practice our jump shots, layups and run drills." Great Job Gentlemen.



Sports Staff: Will Kazenske, Kaleb Foth, Mason Ramirez & Frankie Vigil

Basketball is one of the most popular sports in America, but how many people know how it started. In 1891, a Canadian P.E. teacher named Dr. James Naismith invented the game at a YMCA in Springfield, Massachusetts. The first game ever played had 18 players and a soccer ball was used. William R. Chase made the first point ever by putting the ball through a peach basket. The game was named basketball. Many colleges sponsored the sport like: Yale, Minnesota, Dartmouth, Columbia and even the NAVY. In the early days of collegiate sports most teams played less than 15 games. In 1901, Yale went 10-4 to win the championship. The next year, Minnesota became the first undefeated team in history with a record of 11-0. These early games always had problems with injuries because there was a shortage of trained referees. To help promote basketball and keep it safe, the Intercollegiate Athletic Association was created in 1910. Would you want to play basketball the way it was played when it first started?



- Will Kazenske

Book Reviews By Lucia Reyland-Slawson

Fangirl

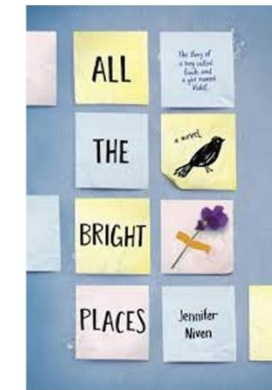
By: Rainbow Rowell



Cath is a freshman at Lincoln University with her twin sister, Wren. They were both excited for college until it actually starts. At the beginning, Cath has no friends and is miserable, but Wren is having the time of her life. But then Cath meets Levi, and he is everything she had ever hoped for. He was the one who changed her life.

All The Bright Places

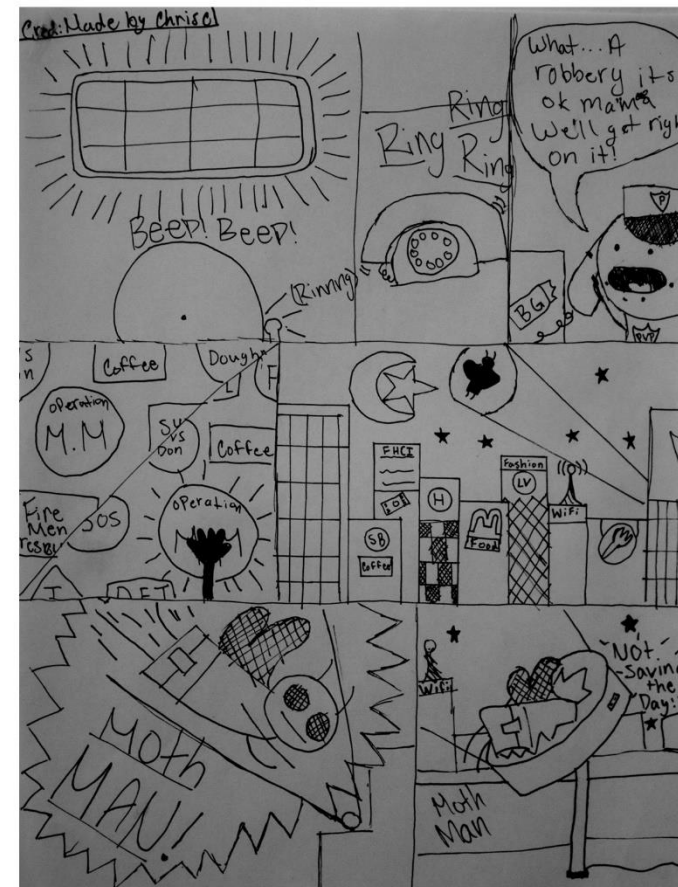
By: Jennifer Niven



Violet and Finch meet on the ledge of the school bell. They don't know who saved whom, but many believe Violet saved Finch. They start to hang out more and more, and they like each other more and more. People begin to think about them differently after what happened. Finch's world starts to shrink, while Violet's begins to open.

MOTH MAN

BY: Christopher Cabrera



5 Craziest Roller Coasters in the World

By: Alex Stone & Sophie Seymour



1. Kingda Ka- At Six Flags Great Adventure in New Jersey, the Kingda Ka's first drop is over 400 ft. There are immediate turns that make the ride absolutely terrifying.



2. Sky Scream- Located in Holiday Park in Germany, the Sky Scream includes vertical twists going up and then shoots you straight down. Sky Scream is a wild ride.



3. Goliath- At Six Flags Great America in Illinois, USA. The wooden roller coaster is one of the few wooden roller coasters to go upside down. It has a 180 ft. drop that speeds up to 72 mph and has a very steep drop of 85 degrees.



4. Formula Rossa- The fastest roller coaster in the world! The ride is located in the United Arab Emirates in Abu Dhabi. While it doesn't have any giant hills or loops, it has a maximum speed of 149 mph.



5. Takabisha- The Takabisha, located in the Fuji-Q, Japan, is the steepest roller coaster in the entire world. Although the ride only goes 62 mph, it has a 141ft drop and a 121 degree free fall.