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# TRITON VOICE

Triton High School

Triton's Student-Produced Newspaper

March 30, 2019

## TATTOOED

By Ethan Tougas  
Staff Writer

Senior Luc-Daniel Metivier is proud of his tattoo experience.

"I got Roman numerals along my upper chest, below my collar bone. The right side is my dad's birth date, and the left side is my dad's death date," said Metivier.

Like Metivier's, tattoos can be an individualistic piece of art used to display a deep meaning, or they can simply be meaningless and fun. Either way, to get a tattoo is a commitment for life — a commitment which is often viewed with judgement. Having two tattoos myself, I wanted to take a deeper look into the tattoos of Triton.

Students in their senior years frequently get tattoos when they turn 18, and some students even go the extra mile to get them when they are 17 years old as I did. I interviewed some students from Triton who have both meaningful, and regretful tattoos.

Metivier shared with us his opinion on tattoos in general.

"I really like tattoos, you know there's a lot of good ones and a lot of bad ones," he said. "Getting a tattoo doesn't really hurt that bad, it just kind of stings."

Senior Emma Leahy shared her experience as well.

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"I have the three stars that are on the top of the *Harry Potter* pages on my left ankle," said Leahy. "I got them for my best friend, she has the same stars on her right ankle. The stars show how special our friendship is and they pay homage to our favorite book series." "I love hearing the meaning behind everyone's tattoos, and it can be a real bonding experience between people."

Going to a tattoo parlor may not be an option for students under 18 who want to be "inked." Lydia Crowley, a senior at Triton, gave herself a "stick n' poke" tattoo on the inside of her middle finger during her sophomore year. "I got a sewing needle, and some black India ink," explained Crowley. "I put the sewing needle in the eraser of a pencil so I had something to hold onto, and I wrapped thread around the end of the tip so it could hold ink. Then I just stuck it into my skin and tattooed myself."

Crowley discussed how she feels about her tattoo two years later.

"It was really stupid of me to do it, but I like it," she said. "It's of a smiley face, and I'll look at it sometimes and think 'that was really stupid'"

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"When I was little I wanted a tattoo. My mom said, 'when you're 16 you can get it,' because she thought by then that I would forget about it. When I turned 16 she owed me that promise so I got the tattoo."

— Liv Mosher, Senior

## Triton's National Champion

John Boyle, Triton Alum, Makes Wrestling History

By Jeremy Duford & Anthony Ostrander, Staff Writers

Down by one with just seconds left, Triton alumnus, John Boyle, was able to force his way into overtime and push through to win a Division 3 National Championship.

Boyle, a 2016 Division Three high school wrestling state champ, had already made a name for himself as one of Triton's top athletes. And in early March, Boyle took home the collegiate national title for the 184-pound weight class. Victory aside, Boyle has remained humble and has credited the success to his family, coaches, and work ethic.

"I've been wrestling since I was in fifth grade for the Triton Youth Program," Boyle said during an exclusive interview with the *Triton Voice*.

Boyle comes from a history of athleticism and combat sports. Early in his life, he practiced judo. Later, he and his brothers switched to wrestling. Boyle's brothers, Luke and Mark, constantly pushed John to become better; both were decorated high school wrestlers themselves, with Luke becoming Triton's only New England wrestling champ. Meanwhile, Boyle's parents helped him train harder than his brothers could.

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John Boyle celebrates after being declared a National Champion (photo courtesy Julia Boyle).

## Aladdin Jr. Takes M.S. Stage

By Sophia McLellan  
Staff Writer

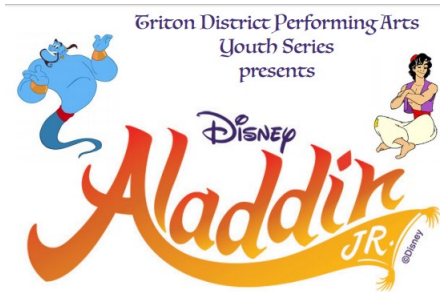
The Triton Middle School has a long history of musical productions and this year's production of *Aladdin Jr.* is promising to be a hit.

Every year, the Triton Middle School produces a musical production, and there is a lot that inspires students and staff to run them. The cast members get to choose what musical production they want for the next year.

Staff and cast members have been working very hard to make this production successful. They have been rehearsing since October and will continue to work and rehearse until the performance of the production on Friday, April 5 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 6 at 2 and 7 p.m.

"Students are excited, hardworking, and have a vested interest in a production that they have selected. They always amaze us with their commitment and talent," said Walter Hardy, the 21st Century Community Learning Centers coordinator

for the Triton Regional School District. As part of his work, Hardy secured a nearly \$47,000 grant this year to fund the production and future theater and arts programs for the middle school age group.



Josiah Bell, one of the cast members who is playing the role of Jafar is excited for the show.

"I have always enjoyed being in musical productions," said Bell. "My favorite part about playing Jafar is that I get to be a mischievous villainous character that wants total control." "I believe if everyone behaves and none of us miss our cues, we will be nearly one hundred percent successful. It all depends on people's behavior backstage," said Bell.

*Aladdin Jr.* tells the story of Princess Jasmine, who is feeling hemmed in by her father's desire to find

her a royal groom. Meanwhile, the Sultan's right-hand man, Jafar, is plotting to take over the throne, according to Hardy.

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**If You Go**  
**What:** Aladdin Jr.  
**When:** Friday, April 5 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 6 at 2 and 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Triton High School Auditorium  
**Cost:** \$5 at the door. Dress in Disney costumes, admission is free!

## Under the Radar

Hidden Gems of Newburyport

By Mackenna Faucher  
Staff Writer

NEWBURYPORT — Whether you're dining, exploring, or shopping in Newburyport, you're likely to miss the businesses that don't always make the paper.

Instead of going to Lexie's for lunch or dropping dollars at Ganesh, the *Triton Voice* went out exploring hidden gems of the Port and encourages readers to try them out.

Despite the popularity of other jewelry pieces, it seems that sterling silver rings are taking the lead. Kaya and Pretty Poppy are two fairly popular jewelry stores located downtown. Although they have a good reputation, you'll have the best luck finding rings at the Village Silversmith. Open 7 days a week, the shop features sterling silver rings at low prices. There's typically a few racks set up with prices at either \$15, \$20, or \$25.

As an owner, of some of their pieces, I can say that they're safe to wear in the shower or at the beach without tainting. The cheaper the ring, the smaller the design usually is, so if you're into bulkier

pieces then it may not be for you. Along with rings, the Village Silversmith has pendants, earrings, charms, and bracelets. You can personalize a necklace as well by picking out your own chain and charm that they'll combine. If you can't find something you love, try their locations in Rockport, Gloucester, Hampton, Peabody, Salem, and Portsmouth.

Just down the street and to the right, is the Purple Onion Cafe. When it comes to quesadillas, soups, sandwiches, and wraps, this quaint cafe typically does not come to mind. Nevertheless, its the place to be.

Located at the heart of downtown on Inn Street, the cafe has indoor and outdoor seating. You can watch your home-cooked style food be prepared right in front of you. For those of us who aren't into trying something new, they have Caesar salad, roast beef, grilled cheese, chili, and chicken bowls. Whatever your order can be customized with types of sides, breads, meats, and vegetables. Personally, I used to go here when I was

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# OPINION: The True Value of a Degree

By Joe Luciano

The cost of a college education has been rising rapidly over the past 20 years, significantly faster than inflation. The average cost of a four-year degree from a private college lies just below \$140,000. The cost has risen but the value received has been equivalent or less.

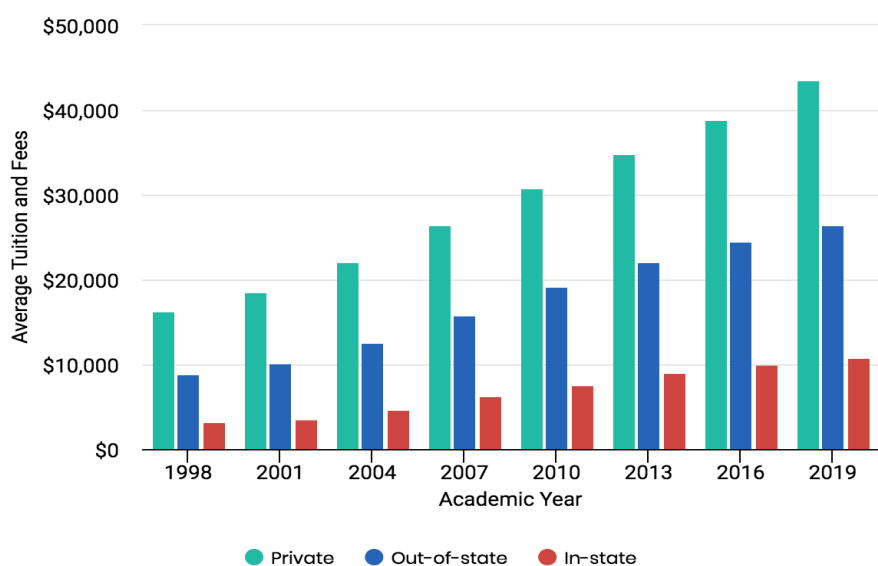
The value of a degree has been studied a countless number of times all with a similar result: The increasing costs of college are certainly worth it. "The most compelling motivators for pursuing a college degree include increased earning potential, career and/or vocational preparation, and quality of life," according to the article "Is College Worth It?" by Pamela M. Christian, Ph.D.

The primary benefit of attending college is the correlation it has to an increased income when compared to that of high school graduates. The average retirement age is 67 and with that said, "If a college graduate works from age 25 through age 67, a bachelor's degree will provide an \$899,808 benefit, representing more than a 6 percent annual return on an investment of \$140,000," according to Christian.

The 6 percent annual return on that investment certainly looks great on paper, but that is assuming that the costs are all paid upfront which is not very common for the average student. Most students would take a loan out for most of that, and on those loans, the interest rates currently sit at 5.05 percent to 7.6 percent, according to *US News*. This means that for the first 10 to 20 years or however long it takes to pay off the loans, an extra 5-8 percent of the monthly payment will be lost.

Besides the interest that is not calculated, there is the opportunity cost of the four years directly after high school to attend college. The median income of a high school graduate is just over \$37,000 annually or \$718 weekly, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. After income tax of roughly \$4,250, the gross take home pay \$32,750 and for the four years, the opportunity cost reaches \$131,000 lost to the four years for the chance of additional income.

Average Tuition Growth in National Universities, 1998-2019



Source: US News, "See 20 Years of Tuition Growth at National Universities."

## BOYLE from page 1

Boyle's mother, Margaret, is a former Strongwoman, a woman who competes in strength athletics. Later, she started a gym in her house with her husband, Mark. Growing up around weights, combined with the influence from all of his family, naturally Boyle started to lift weights, too.

Once high school started, Boyle was already a competitive and strong wrestler, but he still had a lot of work to do. He began wrestling and lifting weights more and more, following in the footsteps of his brothers.

"Having brothers who did better than me in high school was a huge motivator for me," said Boyle. "Once I started competing in college, nothing made me happier than taking it to the next level and impressing them."

Influenced by his brothers, Boyle had a consistent and working plan to succeed. This plan, however, was not only designed by Boyle and his family. Triton Coach Shawn McElligott (Mac) and Assistant Coach, Brandon Hayes, saw the potential Boyle had and pushed him to his limits during his high school years.

"Being a member of Triton Wrestling was extremely important for my success at the college level," said Boyle. "It was that consistent support that gave me the confidence that I needed up until now."

Mac claims Boyle is a "Hard worker, never slacked off in practice, great competitor, [and he] always wanted to wrestle against the best."

Unfortunately, Boyle's career was sidetracked when he dislocated his patella and stretched his MPCL ligament as a junior in high school. Despite needing multiple surgeries, he continued to work out as much as possible, constantly improving. "The injuries have given me a drive," said Boyle.

Boyle was able to come back for some of his senior year, competing up

until the New England Championship, winning a state title on the way. Freshman year of college, Boyle had surgery for the last time on his knee, finally taking the chance to recover the best he could.

Boyle's sophomore year in college, he was able to earn All-American status. Getting a taste of the action on the national level, Boyle was hungry, but saved his appetite for this season.

"One thing that separates me from a lot of athletes is my ability to do more than what is expected for me," said Boyle. "In the season, I would practice five days a week and find times to lift in between."

Using this as a formula for success, Boyle was able to finish his season 33-6. The week before Nationals, he faced a tough opponent and placed second at regionals. At Nationals, Boyle squeezed out a 6-3 victory. He then just had to wait for his final match.

"Before my National Finals match I was pretty calm. I was able to acknowledge how important it was to win for me and my team, but I didn't let it make me nervous," Boyle said.

The match itself was one made for the movies. Down by just one with seconds remaining, Boyle was given a point because his opponent was stalling. Now 3-3, the match was forced into overtime.

"Going into overtime I was thinking of one thing and that was doing whatever I could to get that takedown. At this point I was too close..." said Boyle.

In a dramatic style, Boyle was able to quickly take down his opponent in overtime, securing the national title. As the crowd erupted in roars, Boyle smiled modestly and got his hand raised.

"As soon as I saw the ref give me the takedown, I felt pure relief," said Boyle. "Nothing is more satisfying than accomplishing a goal that you've been working on for years."

# OPINION: Vending Machines & Schools

By Mike Fish

Schools around the world have vending machines available for students to use, however, many people find that these machines are harmful to children, dispensing foods that many believe do not belong in a student's diet.

Vending machines have been around since the 1880's when they were dispensing post-cards. Nowadays, there is a much wider range of options of vending machines, from those that dispense Oreos and KitKat Bars to those that offer DVD's.

No matter where you are, you can practically throw a rock and hit at least one vending machine; they're everywhere. Food machines tend to contain high-sugar snacks and drinks, such as various candies and beverages like Powerade or Coke. They are found outside of stores such as Wal-mart, and especially in schools, such as Triton. At Triton, there are a few vending machines that offer water, and, to my knowledge, do not work properly. However, we also have a vending machine in the cafeteria for snacks, and a few soda-like drinks. These attract students at all times of the day, especially during lunch.

The snacks and drinks our machines offer are not terrible for students health as far as some snacks go; they are not just chocolate bars and junk food. There are even vacuum-sealed apple slices. The snacks from school machines have to meet federal guidelines that outline the requirements for the nutritional value. "To meet Smart Snacks (government) nutrition standards, snack foods sold in schools are required to have: less than 200 calories, less than 35 percent saturated fat, 0 grams of trans fat, [and] nutritional value instead of 'empty calories,'" according to healthyvending.com.

In addition to this, vending machines bring in extra revenue for the school, and any extra money the school can get is a fantastic. "Most vending machines will earn less than \$5 in weekly income. Similarly, a well placed vending machine can earn more than \$100 each week," according to smallbusiness.chron.com.

Although the school is most likely not earning \$100 per week, it most certainly makes at least \$20 per week; I see at least three to five students go to the vending machine per day. I watched the vending machine for a week to count the consumers, and saw a total of 20 students, meaning that the vending machine brought in a bare minimum of \$15, considering the lowest cost item is \$0.75. And that was just in one lunch per day, never mind the other times of the day and the other lunch periods.

Vending machines, given the right conditions and standards, can be more than helpful for schools and students alike; providing healthy snacks for the students as well as revenue for the school. However, without these guidelines, vending machines do not belong in high schools across the country.

## ALADDIN from page 1

When Jasmine sneaks out of the palace incognito, she forms an instant connection with Aladdin, a charming street urchin and reformed thief. From there, the story continues the classic tale.

Triton School Resource Officer John Lucey, one of three co-directors of the show, said he thinks the production will be successful.

"We have a very talented cast that are a lot of fun to work with," said Lucey. "The majority of the blocking and chore-

ography are done with input from our cast members which allows for full participation from everyone. The students involved in the show have good character work and good instincts. I think that anyone who comes to see the show will enjoy the story, the music, and the laughs."

The other two directors include teacher Joyce Bell and Deanna Dawson, a former director of the middle school band.

"It's a fun show that is similar to the Disney classic we all know and love," said Lucey.

## GEMS from page 1

little for their kids menu but stopped once Dos Amigos opened. As another great place to find quesadillas and bowls, Dos Amigos does not compare to the Purple Onion. Often, one of my friends wants Mexican food while I rather have something simple. Since Dos Amigos only offers mainly Mexican foods, it can be tricky. As for price, they are both on the moderate side of the spectrum. If you're looking for the cheapest option for a bowl, Dos Amigos would be the way to go. If you want to be closer to Market Square, have more food options, and eat outside, then the Purple Onion is worth a shot. You can count on the lines being less crowded due to its unsung reputation.

If you're in the mood to shop, but don't know what you want, you're sure to spend money by wandering into Best of British. From cheap tea to perfumes, they have every type of British goodie. If you're hungry, you can try two popular British candy bars called Wispa Biscuits and Ginger Crunch Creams. Next time you're about to grab a snack from Richdale's, try a new food from here. The store is large with corners focused on fragrance, clothing, and food. Although the beauty products are quite expensive, they feature high end brands like Crabtree & Evelyn, Barbour, and Mason & Pearson. The store has been in Newburyport for 25 years and the employees are always welcoming. Besides the British goods, they also have classic souvenirs like flags of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Its located directly on State street and is typically open every day of the week from 10 AM to 6 PM.

It can be tricky to go against the norm and try a new restaurant or store located in Newburyport. Although Abe's will always have the best bagels and Souffles is perfect for a Sunday morning, there's no harm to trying some hidden gems!

## TATOO from page 1

but it still serves its purpose and it makes me smile." Mr. Graham Eaton, a fifth Grade English teacher at Salisbury Elementary and a Triton High School track coach, gave his opinion about students with tattoos.

"I have no negative views of them," said Eaton. "A tattoo would not change my opinion of them or be a distraction in class. They should be 18 years old of course. I would hope that an 18 year old has put some thought into the tattoo that they want and has looked through portfolios of artists, rather than getting the 'best deal,'" said Eaton.

Eaton has numerous tattoos himself, some of which are directly related to his job as an English teacher. "My knuckles have 'Read More' tattooed on them in traditional style lettering. I teach fifth grade ELA so it fits and I enjoy it," said Eaton. "My left arm features an unfinished sleeve with a host of picture book characters, including *Where the Wild Things Are* and Dr. Seuss characters. These are books I grew up loving and shared with my classes over the years. I am not sure what I will be adding yet. I am waiting for something to strike me."

In a short survey sent to the student body, students told us what tattoo they would get inked on them. A sample:

- "Something related to reading or writing"
- "An Owl"
- "A heart on my finger"
- "Wings on the back, like Adam Levine because he's my idol."
- "A quote probably"
- "Polish Eagle Cross"
- "One to reflect my personal journey"