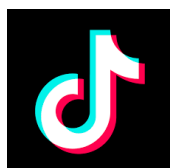
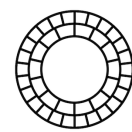


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# RITON VOICE

Triton High School

Triton's Student-Produced Newspaper

November 18, 2022

## Celebrating Day of the Dead

### Not-so-Dead Holiday Celebrated Around the World

By Ixchel Ramirez  
Staff Writer

In Mexico, many people prepared recently for November 1st and 2nd by going to bakeries, and flower shops, and buying items like toys and food. Music played in the streets and kids would have been running around, the smell of food and alcohol in the air. All these things were in preparation for the Day of the Dead holiday, celebrating those who have passed away.

Student Emily Quijada celebrates the day with her family.

"We wake up early, we get all the food ready, we get the mariachi and then we go to the cemetery," said Quijada. "We stay at the cemetery all day, and me and my friends and my cousins, we throw eggs and flour at each other and silly string."

The Day of the Dead is a unique holiday because of how many different traditions and ways to celebrate it there are. Although not all Latinos celebrate it, some do so for religious reasons and others make the most out of it by celebrating and decorating their houses.

The Day of the Dead goes all the way back to the Aztecs and a time when, instead of celebrating only two days, they celebrated a whole month. Over the course of many years, the tradition turned into the Day of the Dead. The Aztecs would pack the month full of festivities and rituals to the Goddess Mectecacihuatl. The Day of the Dead today is mostly celebrated in Mexico for families to welcome back the souls of deceased relatives or people they once knew.

"I know it's about celebrating family members and

friends we've lost and loved ones," said Maya Costonis on what she knows about the Day of the Dead. While she doesn't celebrate she knows many who do.

The most common and traditional way of celebrating is by making an altar and decorating it with items and foods the person who has died enjoyed during their life. Marigolds are the traditional flower for the holiday since they are believed to guide the souls to the families. Another way to celebrate is by visiting the grave of the person. Other Latin American countries such as Guatemala, Peru, and others, also celebrate the holiday but give it different names in different places.

"I don't celebrate it but I think it's cool that other people do," said student Gabby Grant who learned about the day in her Spanish class.

As long as you're celebrating respectfully you can celebrate it too.

Here in the United States, many people get their knowledge from films and other pop culture references. The movie *Coco* is an animated film based on the Day of the Dead and a boy named Miguel who is accidentally transported to the land of the dead. Another film that focuses on the afterlife in Mexico is the *Book of Life*.

*Coco* mainly focuses on Miguel's journey with his family and their troubles rather than on the cultural part of the day. What ends up happening is that they dramatize what actually happens and that's how misconceptions can occur. Like you won't actually be See **CELEBRATE on page 2**

## THS Voters

## Choose Healey

### Classes Participate in Mock Election

By Nate Eaton  
Staff Writer

The Triton High School political science class held a mock election last Monday and Tuesday in the library based upon the Massachusetts governor's race. Students from Mr. Shawn McElligott's classes worked hard in order to win over the crowds of classes who attended.

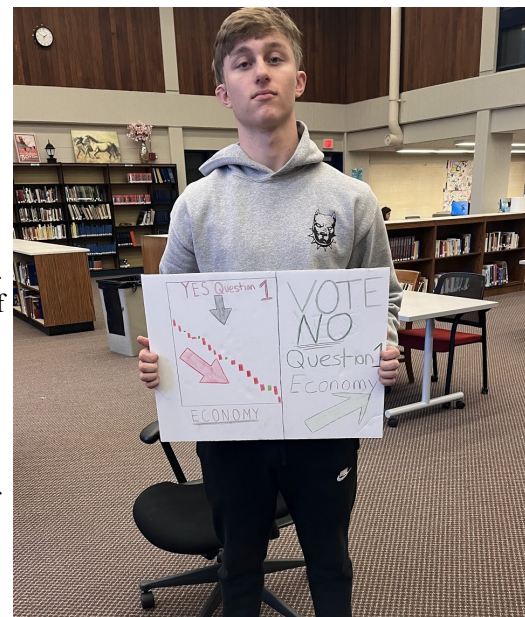
Students had to choose between candidates running in the Massachusetts state governor's race and to vote 'yes' or 'no' on the four questions being asked during this election. Students in McElligott's classes created visual and a plan in order to help them win over the students.

The Massachusetts governor's election took place the same day as the mock election. Two candidates, Maura Healey on the democratic side and Geoff Diehl on the republican side, went up against each other in a vote for who will become the next governor of Massachusetts. In the end, Healey won both the Triton and Massachusetts election.

At the same time of the election, voters were asked to decide on ballot questions.

Question One asked for a tax increase of 3.4% towards people who make an income over one million dollars. Question Two asked about dental insurance and lowering the rate the customers have to pay. Question Three asked to allow more licenses for distribution to those who have their license to sell alcohol. Question Four asked if voters to approved allowing driver's licenses to be issued to those who are not US citizens.

"I saw posters around the halls and thought they looked See **VOTE on page 2**



Senior Jakob Lennon holds a poster representing his groups topic (Photo: Nate Eaton)



An offrenda of a Marine biology office including pictures of sea animals (photo courtesy Melba DeJesus, a marine biologist in Mexico, aunt of the reporter).

## 'Whatever You Do, Do Not Squish Them'

### The Origins, the Spread, the Effect, and the Prevention of an Invasive Species

By Nick Doucot  
Staff Writer

They stowed away on ships to get here. They invaded our homes, and they're damaging our crops. It's in the name. They stink.

Brown marmorated stink bugs are a true bug species that are native to East Asian countries such as China and Japan. The bugs are characterized by their odor, which many compare to cilantro, which they release when threatened or injured through glands in their abdomen.

Not only do we find the bugs affecting our agriculture, we can't escape them in our homes or in our school. Stink bugs end up finding their ways into buildings when temperatures drop by entering through cracks and other entry points like windows.

Accidentally introduced to the United States through being present on cargo ships, the first documented stink bug specimen was collected in September 1998 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where

it is believed to have first been introduced. As time went on, these bugs spread and became an invasive species. According to PBS.org, as of November 2011, brown marmorated stink bugs spread to 34 states, including Massachusetts.

Throughout the Eastern United States, the brown marmorated stink bug has been easily destroying crops. Apples, apricots, pears, cherries, corn, grapes, lima beans, peaches, peppers, tomatoes, and soybeans are some of the crops that they eat. Stink bugs puncture plant tissue with their stylets (piercing mouth) to get the plant juices that will serve as their nutrients. When this happens, the plant loses vital fluids, which can result in seed distortion, seed destruction, delayed plant maturation, and increased susceptibility to infections. Could you imagine eating a fruit during lunch that you don't even realize is going to make you sick?

One doesn't have to worry too much, however, as they are harmless insects. Outlooks of them at Triton vary. Senior Bryan Nichols is apathetic towards the insects.

"Unless they're on my bed, I really don't care," said Nichols.

Senior Emma LeBlanc is one of many who deals with the pests in her home and finds them to be a nuisance.

"They're everywhere," said LeBlanc. "My mom literally had to buy a vacuum just to suck them up."

Vacuuming is one method of getting rid of them. Two exterminators from Freedom Pest Control in Merrimac, gave other ways to deal with them. "Whatever you do, do not squish them. We all know it isn't pleasant. Seal



A dried up, deceased stink bug found in a windowsill, dime used for scale (Doucot photo).

up points of entry and set up insect traps." said one exterminator. It is recommended that a basic repellent for stink bugs consists of hot water, dish See **BUGS on page 2**

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# How Vibrations Change the World

## The Power of Music and Concert Culture

By Ugo Nascimento  
Staff Writer

Modern, vintage, barbaric or ancient, music has been present throughout the entirety of human history, and it has been of vital importance to society.

Historians and archaeologists believe that the first signs of music can be traced back to Hohle Fels, a cave in southern Germany where back in 2014, discovered a rudimentary bone flute dated to 40,000 years ago, having already existed before the first sign of an organized civilization.

Ancient civilizations also used music in sacred rituals, festivities and funerals mainly to appease the gods. Today in many religions music is used as a worship tool, believed to pierce deeper into the soul, creating a stronger bonds between human and gods.

Music continues to have a lot of power. Take for example "Strange Fruit" by Billie Holiday. With lyrics describing lynchings, the song caused Holiday to serve time in prison. Despite such punishment, Holiday felt the need to talk about the South's lynching culture during the 1940's and 1950's. Abel Meeropol, a song-writer and poet from New York, was the author of "Strange Fruit," originally named "Bitter Fruit," but even Meeropol agreed that Holiday's voice and performative characteristics made the poem more interesting, and accessible.

More recently, Childish Gambino released a song criticizing police brutality against the black community. The song, "This is America," was a complete hit, reaching No. 1 on Billboard's charts, and even winning a Grammy for best song of 2019. Gambino also came up with an acclaimed music video to accompany the song, where riots and violence can be seen in the background, outshined only by Gambino's dancing, facial expressions and moves. This was Gambino's way of criticizing the American government for trying to muffle the issue.

"You just a black man in this world/You just a barcode," Gambino's sings in "This is America."

"Music is a means of creative and emotional outlet," said Patrick Kelly, Triton principal. "It creates many opportunities for people to share experiences regardless of culture, race, language, religion..."

Students at Triton said that listening to music is important to them throughout their days.

"Sometimes I don't feel like talking to anyone really," said senior Jessica Rocha. "Some days I just need to hear Rutherford talk to me and I'll feel better."

Music has been proven to take an important part of the brain's mental development and social awareness, even being responsible for altering moods by stimulating brain chemicals. Notes, tunes, tempos and pitches are important to accurately portray the artist's expectation for the listener's emotions.

For example, what often escalates the fear of a horror movie spectator is the tense music that surrounds the scene. When the brain receives information from the ears about something that can potentially hurt the individual, it sends commands to the body to prepare for a drastic change, the body tense



A photo of the final free concert given by The Grateful Dead in 1968 (photo by Jim Marshall).

up, chills runs through the skin and sometimes even experience cold sweat.

The same can be said about other emotions as well. If an individual hears a song of their like, the brain releases a neurotransmitter called dopamine, the same neurotransmitter released during pleasurable activities.

A survey by AARP (American Association Of Retired People) a magazine that focused on issues that affect people over 50, reports that listening to music can reduce levels of anxiety and depression. The survey also highlighted that adults with no previous musical experience, who have now been exposed to it, have an above average well-being score.

Music taste can say a lot about an individual's personality but can it also can show what they hope to be presented as. Sometimes though people's likes can be very contradictory to their looks.

Although not many people enjoy completely diving into the crowd's energy when attending a concert, others find them necessary for a deeper connection to the vibrations and the whole experience overall. History teacher Chad Richard was a concert-bug during his college years, so much so that he was present when history was made in Rome, NY.

"I was there for the whole three days of Woodstock 99," shared Richard. "I saw Green Day light the stage on fire, and not in a figurative way."

Richard compares his previous experiences with concerts and reports that the younger generation will probably never see what he saw and felt during those events. The enormous expansion of technology, and the effortless ways to record music, strips the notion of freedom that people seek when they attend these types of events. It is understandable and appreciated that nowadays the technological tools necessary to hold bad people accountable for their actions are widely available in everyone's pocket, but on the other hand having media all around us may make some fear being judged. However, Richard still encourages young adults to go to concerts.

"When you are younger it gives you a sense of adventure," said Richard. "Especially for kids around here (Rowley area) where the days can feel really similar, going to a concert is a fun, reasonably safe way to have an adventure."

# Soles4Souls at Triton

## Program Teaches Students to Give Back

By Maggie Reilly  
Staff Writer

At Triton Regional High School students are getting involved with not only their own community issues but worldwide issues as well. The Soles4Souls organization helps to give to families who are in need of shoes. Students have now been given the opportunity to donate their own shoes to help this cause.

Soles4Souls is a non-profit headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee. It receives shoe and clothing donations from community donation drives, individuals, schools, and other methods. Soles4Souls then distributes the donated items to various programs around the world to help those in need. The mission is to make a measurable impact on people and the planet.

Students here at Triton High School are always looking for opportunities to give back and contribute to a good cause. Triton Community Service Club is constantly trying to find resources for them to do so. One of those resources is Soles4Souls. Alex McManus, junior at Triton, has gotten very involved in this project. She came across Soles4Souls and was instantly intrigued.

"I did a little more research on their mission and they won me over in a matter of minutes. I reached out to one of their ambassadors and it was all smooth sailing from there." McManus said.

Soles4Souls was created in 2006, and since then, they have kept over 83 million shoes and pieces of clothing from going to waste. They did this by distributing to all states in the U.S. along with over 100 different countries. Not only is Soles4Souls providing for those in need but they have also created sustainable jobs with this organization. Since 2006, the non-profits total economic impact is \$475,218,499 and climbing, which can be found on the Soles4Souls website.

This drive will be helping people in developing countries to launch and sustain their own small businesses by reworking, and then reselling your shoes. By donating shoes, it is giving people an opportunity to break free from the cycle of poverty. There is a goal set to collect around 500 pairs of shoes during this year's drive. This alone would provide food, shelter, and education for a family for 9 months. It might not seem like much but to these families it makes a huge difference. Even if the 500 goal isn't met everything still counts. Even if only 100 pairs of shoes were donated, it would provide food, shelter, and education for a family for just about 2 months. Either way this can change people's lives for the better.

"I think it's a great idea and I'm looking forward to participating in any way I can," said Anna Webb, Junior at Triton High School.

If you are interested in donating to the shoe drive it will run through the month of November from the 1st-23rd. There is a drop box in the High School and Middle School main offices along with other locations around Newbury, Salisbury, and Rowley.

**TRITON SHOW US YOUR SOLES4SOULS**

We accept ALL styles & sizes of shoes (even single ones!)  
Your shoes will create sustainable jobs and help families in developing nations start and sustain a small business.

**Donate new and used shoes from Nov. 1st - 23rd**

**We are 4 making a difference.**



### BUGS from page 1

soap, and white vinegar. "Kills them after a little bit," the other said.

Stink bugs are just tiny foreign invaders that serve as nuisances rather than threats. After 20 years of spreading, they aren't looking like they're going to leave any time soon. They were inadvertently introduced to many ecosystems and they serve as a widespread pest to United States agriculture. It's wishful thinking to be able to crack down on a species of common insects with wings but there are still certainly ways to keep them from stinking up your life too much.

According to StopBMSB.org, an anti-stink bug initiative, as of 2021, the brown marmorated stink bug species has been detected in 47 U.S. States and four Canadian provinces. Only 11 of the 47 states deal with these stink bugs as a severe agriculture problem. There's really no telling what could become of this spread.

### CELEBRATE from page 1

able to see the dead if you steal from an altar. It's not a good thing to do but you won't be transported to a whole other world.

At the end of the two-day celebration, many are left with relief and happiness and ready to do it all over again the following year.

### VOTE from page 1

really good," said senior Nick Doucot.

"I think it's a very complex concept that allows us to express our creativity and thoughts through posters and our (own) information" said senior political science student Jakob Lennon.

Political science students created visual aids that represented their candidate or question. They varied from posters to infographics with large visuals and text to appeal to student voters. Students enjoyed working on this project and liked having the freedom to express their own political thoughts.

"I enjoyed doing it (but) I believe that people weren't as creative as they could have been," said senior Jesse Lind.

In the end, the Triton vote did mimic the actual election results as Healey is the new governor, and questions one, two and four were voted yes and question three resulted in a voted no.

Students who have participated in the mock election got to see how a real election runs. Students who are turning 18 or are already 18 can look forward to an upcoming election in the next few years.

Scribe Magazine

*A Merry Holiday*

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