You may have seen the Tecumseh Dance Team perform at the half time of home boys basketball games, but not everyone knows that the team is having their best competition season yet. At their most recent competition at Bloomington South High School, the girls were up against their toughest competitors. They were able to pull off second place, falling just 3 points short from first place with their hip hop routine, but they placed higher than the defending state champions, Bloomfield High School, which is a huge accomplishment. The highlight of this competition however, was receiving first place in the jazz category and beating rival, Mount Vernon. This win achieved Coach Jessie Pemberton’s goal from the beginning of the season of beating our rival. With regionals and state just around the corner, the team is working very hard to improve their technique and perfect routines with the help of coaches Jennifer Ward, Jessie Pemberton, and Rustin Howard. As the girls prepare for upcoming regionals, they hope that you will show up at the boys basketball game for Senior Night on February 14th and even make the trip to Logansport High School on March 7th to support them at regionals!

Junior Erin Pemberton, Junior Gracee Sullivan, Sophomore Emily Bogan, Freshman Emily Cross, Senior Breah Bailey, Junior Lillee Sullivan.
Club Photo Schedule

Wednesday - February 12, 2020
Periods 1 & 2

7:40am – All seniors report to HS gym for graduation year picture. They will report to 1st period directly after the picture is taken (unless they are in another group).

1) Senior Grad picture
2) Yearbook
3) Class Officers (Grades 9-12)
4) HS Student Council
5) TRIBE
6) BKOM
7) FCCLA
8) FFA
9) Art Club
10) International Club
11) Academic Bowl
12) HS Concert Choir
13) HS Archery
14) Fishing Club
15) Trap Shooting Club
16) Green Team
17) HS Concert Band
18) State Percussion Ensemble
19) Pep Band (w/middle school students)
20) Musical Cast & Crew (w/middle school students)

Wear your club t-shirts! Some students might have multiple costume changes!

- Questions? See Mrs. Ripple.
2020 Polar Plunge
By Elliott Byers

On Friday, January 31, twenty-two Tecumseh High School students participated in the Polar Plunge at Scales Lake in Boonville. In order to participate, each contestant had to raise at least $75. Tecumseh was well-represented, earning the honors for the most students participating and the most money raised, beating Boonville, Castle, Mount Vernon, and Vincennes Lincoln.

With the five schools that participated, over $20,000 was raised. The polar plunge was started twenty-one years ago to raise money to support the Special Olympics. 2019 was the most successful year for the plunge, raising nearly $900,000 state-wide to support year-round events for the Special Olympics. The money raised goes directly to fund events for over 17,000 Special Olympics athletes throughout Indiana.

To learn more and get involved in a Polar Plunge, click on the Polar Plunge tab on the Special Olympics Indiana website or listen or join the THS Team for the 2021 Plunge.

Thanks to the following students and teachers for their participation: Layne Pemberton, Gabe Bradley, Cory Susott, Griffin Tuley, Caleb Werner, Simon Hahn, Cheyenne Horn, Levi Lillpop, Jared McKinley, Hannah Miley, Allison Riley, Kie Silke, Hannah Barrett, Kylee Watts, Kinsley Heinichelbech, Lane Patterson, Emily Cross, Travor Curtis, Dustin DuPont, Nick Gallagher, Ashtyn Green, Erin Horne, Kimberly Allen, Gracie Sullivan, Ethan Knotts, Megan Siekman, Makayla Hughes, Mr. Daming, and Mr. Loveless.
Grade School Tour
By Madison Carpenter

The Grade School tour is a field trip the middle school and high school choirs go on to Lynnville and Elberfeld Elementary Schools. This year we sang and danced to “Under the Sea” from The Little Mermaid. We go on the grade school tour to show the elementary kids what Tecumseh Choir has to offer. Junior Kyle Grant said “My favorite memory of the tour is doing the dance every year and being with the choir.” Senior Madison Ballow said “My favorite part is coming up with the dance and watching it come together.” Freshman Madeline Blair said “The best part of the grade school tour was when we were on our way back, we all were singing just some random songs.” If you are interested in being a part of the grade school tour next year, be sure to sign up for choir next year!

Teacher Spotlight: Michelle Rexing
By Kyra Ethridge

Q: If you had to teach a subject other than what you teach now what would it be?
A: History

Q: What is your favorite animal?
A: Her beagle charlie

Q: Does a straw have one or two holes?
A: No holes it’s just a tube.

Q: What accomplishment are you most proud of?
A: Eion Stephens becoming a state FFA officer.

Q: Where did you go to college?
A: Purdue

Q: What are some of your hobbies?
A: Farming, being an aunt, and sports.

Q: What is your least favorite color?
A: Purple with a red hue.

Q: What is your dream vacation?
A: Ireland
**Student Spotlight: Remmington Lett**

By Lizzie Richardt

Q: What would people be surprised to know about you?
A: I like to dance, I’m not very good but I like to dance.

Q: What’s your dream car?
A: 1968 Cutlass S Convertible

Q: Who is your favorite book author?
A: Sarah J. Mass or Holly Black

Q: What are some of your hobbies?
A: Reading

Q: What did you want to be when you were younger? What do you want to be now?
A: I wanted to be everything under the sun. Now I want to be a pharmacist.

Q: What is a food you find is weird?
A: Eggs...are weird.

Q: What would you name your autobiography?
A: I would want to name it after a classic but with a twist.

Q: If you could be any fictional character who would you be?
A: There’s so many. All of them that have hot boyfriends or husbands.

Q: Who was your childhood celebrity crush?
A: I don’t remember having one.

Q: What is the most dreaded chore you do?
A: Vacuuming...more than anything.

**Groundhog Day 2020**

By Orie Tuley

Groundhog Day is held on Feb. 2, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania every year, and you might be thinking how a groundhog lands the job of predicting the weather. If you’re not familiar with the tradition, here it is: if the groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, sees his shadow, we’re stuck with six more weeks of Winter; if he doesn’t see his shadow, we luck out with an early spring.

Sunday morning, Phil emerged from his den and did not see his shadow, so we are getting an early spring.

The tradition dates back to 1887. It is said to have originated from ancient European weather lore in which a badger or a sacred bear predicts the weather, rather than a groundhog. It also has religious origins, as it’s kind of like Candlemas Day, which is also on Feb. 2. According to an old English song, “If Candlemas be fair and bright,/ Come, Winter, have another flight.”
**WHO’S YOUR CELEBRITY VALENTINE?**

By Layne Pemberton

Everyone has a crush on at least one celebrity, whether or not you want to admit it. If you were to be asked “Who would your celebrity Valentine be?” Who would you choose? I asked a few students who theirs would be, here are their responses.

**Haley McDaniel** - Tom Holland
**Emma Spaulding** - The Hammer
**Leah Beach** - Matt Damon
**Breah Bailey** - Cole Sprouse
**Chloe Wade** - Dave Franco
**Savannah McGee** - Zac Efron
**Zaira Pagett** - Timothee Chalamet
**Jordan Yates** - Keanu Reeves
**Emme Ashby** - Oscar Isaac
**Kyler Duncan** - Shakira
**Elliot Byers** - Jennifer Aniston
**Eric Henry** - Margot Robbie

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**THE DARK HISTORY OF VALENTINE’S DAY**

By Riley Browning

All around the world Valentine’s Day is celebrated on February 14th, as the holiday of love. Gifts, flowers, and candy are exchanged between loved ones. What some don't know is the dark background behind this holiday. Around A.D 270 the Romans celebrated Lupercalia, where they made animal sacrifices and beat women (in hopes to make them fertile). Women would be lined up and beaten, then each man would pull a woman’s name out of a jar and they would then become a “couple.”

On February 14th A.D. 300, Saint Valentine, an important figure in the Catholic Church, was executed. To honor his death and also try to get rid of the Lupercalia tradition they created St.Valentine’s Day. Now, instead of this day being negative it is portrayed more positive and happy. Hopefully, you all will find a way to celebrate your love on that day!
Origins of Leap Year
By Emme Ashby
2020 is an exciting year for many reasons: the Summer Olympics, the 46th presidential election, and of course, Leap Day. This phenomenon takes place every 4 years at the end of February. Instead of 28 days in this short month, the calendar tacks on an extra 29th day, lengthening the year by a whole 24 hours.

But why does this happen in the first place? And why do we only experience a Leap Day every four years? According to Evan Andrews of history.com, the answer to this question may not be as confusing as you think.

To explain in short, Leap Years happen to make up for the fact that Earth’s Orbit does not precisely add up with our 365-day calendar. When we celebrate the ball drop on New Year’s Eve every December 31st, we celebrate one full orbit of the Earth around the Sun. But, this is not entirely accurate. It takes exactly 365.2421 days to complete one full rotation, which corresponds to about 365 and ¼ of a day. Leap Day is added to make up for this missing time, recalibrating our calendar system with the stars.

Although the Egyptian people successfully calculated the need for a Leap Year, this practice wasn’t implemented until Roman dictator Julius Caesar joined forces with astronomer Sosigenes to reform the calendar system. In 46 B.C., the Roman calendar was changed to include 12 months and 365 days, with an extra day every 4 years.

In 1582, the Gregorian calendar was introduced by Pope Gregory XIII to address the fact that the solar year is .242 days longer than 365, not a perfect fourth. In his model, Leap Years do not occur on years that are divisible by 100, but not 400. To this day, the Gregorian calendar is the model that we use, although it is not quite perfect. Experts say that there will be other discrepancies to analyze in about 10,000 years. But for now, enjoy February 29th. You can only do so once every four years!

Four Things That Happened on Feb. 29
By Eden Addis
It always confused me why we called it a Leap Year if we were adding a day instead of skipping one. Maybe it’s because we skip all the things that happened on February 29th for three years. Nevertheless, we get the chance to commemorate the significant, strange, and mediocre happenings once every four years. Here are a few for you to think about.

1. On February 29th, 1940, an Oscar was awarded to a black actor for the first time. Hattie McDaniel won the Best Supporting Actress award for her portrayal of Mammy in “Gone With the Wind.”

2. The Family Circus comic strip debuted on February 29th, 1960.

3. In 1964, North Carolina High School basketball game went into overtime at 44 points, finally coming to an end after 13 overtimes with a final score of 54-52.

4. In 1972, John Lennon’s visa expired, beginning a 3 ½ year battle for Lennon to remain in the United States.
As usual, the 2020 Super Bowl didn’t disappoint. A hard fought game between the Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco 49ers took place on Sunday, February 2nd in Hard Rock Stadium, home of the Miami Dolphins NFL team. With 103,219 people in attendance for the game, the stadium was rocking. However, that number doesn’t even measure up to the other 102 million other people who watched the game on TV.

Although it wasn’t a picture perfect game, quarterback Patrick Mahomes led the way for the Chiefs throwing for two touchdowns with 286 yards against the 49ers strong defense. Jimmy Garoppolo, the 49ers quarterback, had a strong game, as well, with 219 yards, but it wasn’t enough to overcome the Chiefs. Mahomes, along with the rest of the Chiefs were clutch down the stretch scoring 21 points in the 4th quarter. The Chiefs went on to win 31-20 and would be crowned Super Bowl LIV Champions!