

ALEXANDER,
ND



COMET NEWS

VOLUME 10, ISSUE #4

NOVEMBER, 2020

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The Fall 2020 Staff:

Zoe Beall
Renee Cross
Tianna Dwyer
Randall Gowing
Hunter Hanig
Presley Powell
Colbie Rosco
Cayle Rykhus
Samantha Turnquist
Savannah Wasik

The 46th President Is... The Comet News Staff

Similar to everything else in 2020, this election was like no other.

As of now, Joe Biden has been proclaimed the winner due to earning a total of 290 electoral votes. Either candidate needs 270 electoral votes to claim victory.

Biden had 50.7% of popular votes, with a count of 75,628,813. In comparison, the opposing candidate, President Trump, only managed to pull 47.6% of votes from 71,048,660 ballots. Based on this information, other

world leaders have already congratulated Biden on his win.

Even though a Democrat is possibly taking over in the White House, the Republicans have maintained power in the Senate, with a 48 to 46 majority.

Due to reported inconsistencies, including ineligible voters, polling place workers' affidavits, and reported barring of GOP observers, President Trump is alleging voter fraud. The Trump campaign is now calling for

recounts and filing lawsuits in several swing states.

On January 20, 2021, the new president will be sworn into office. Meanwhile, President Trump maintains executive power. Many news sources are predicting that, if Biden is awarded the presidency, Trump may boycott the inauguration.

*nbcnews.com

*The Associated Press

What are your favorite strange food combos?

The newspaper staff is introducing a new idea: unusual food combos loved by students and staff. Please submit your favorites to us!

These are some of the bunch we've received already:

Mountain Dew and hot chocolate

Cheese pizza and cinnamon

Ice cream and soy sauce

Brownie and avocado

Hot Cheetos and orange juice



Governor Burgam has issued a number of Executive Orders. These orders have postponed sports related gatherings (with the exception of championship events already scheduled,) including practices and open gyms, until mid-December. This is a developing story. Stay tuned to Alexander's website, Facebook page, and text message alerts for updates.

Staff Spotlight



This year, Alexander High School introduced a new math teacher, Dr. Gabbert. Dr. Gabbert is originally from Dickinson, ND. However, before he came to Alexander, he taught at Williston High School. He teaches because he loves it and wants to make students beautiful and smart. The students and faculty at Alexander welcome you!



Mrs. Spildie is the 6th grade teacher at Alexander Public School. She is originally from St. Petersburg, Florida. Before teaching at Alexander, she worked in Lodge Grass, Montana at their school on the reservation. Mrs. Spildie chose Alexander because she heard great things, she likes small schools and towns, and something screamed out to her. She does what she does because she loves teaching and loves to see children learn new things and get excited. This year, she is hoping to prepare students for success in high school and beyond. She wants them to know, that while they're here, she loves them dearly. She would also like to thank the staff and students for supporting her through her cancer journey. She was cancer free on October 20, and wants to thank you all from the bottom of her heart!



Guess who joined our lunch staff? Sarah Rosco recently joined our Alexander quartet of lunch ladies. Our Food Service Manager, Becky Elliot, set her heart on hiring Sarah to join the lunch staff a long time ago. Sarah subbed for someone on the lunch staff earlier this year and was hired on as a permanent staff member. Prior to working in Alexander, Sarah worked at XTO as a production analyst. Starting this year, Sarah has lived in North Dakota for 10 years. Before she moved here, she lived in North Idaho.

The Shuga Shack for Sale! Renee Cross

The Shuga Shack is a very popular site in Alexander, ND. The community loves the many yummy options that The Shack, owned by Scott and Beth Yancey, has to offer.

Recently, the Shuga Shack has gone up for sale. This is because their daughter, Brianna Yancey, will soon be attending college on the West Coast. Since they don't want to be so far away from Brianna, and the West Coast is their home turf, they're heading

back to be closer to her.

The Yanceys moved to North Dakota in 2011, which is when they first opened the Shuga Shack. The original location of The Shack was at Patriot Fuels, at the time, the only other establishment there was the truck fuel station.

Beth stated that a discount will be offered to buyers who decide to keep The Shack local, rather than moving it elsewhere. The Yancey family want the community to continue en-

joying the tastiness and convenience of The Shack. Training and current recipes may be passed on to the new owners. Beth wants to be as helpful as possible to see that the Shuga Shack continues to improve over time.

For serious inquiries only, call Beth Yancey at (701) 580- 5199.

Alex Kids: What are you thankful for?

Cayle Rykhus & Savannah Wasik



Kenly Duncan, from grade 5, is thankful for family. She is traveling for Thanksgiving.



Declan Linseth, from grade 1, is also thankful for family. He is going to his grandma's house.



Elisabeth Albright, from grade 3, is thankful for her family, and is staying home for Thanksgiving and having family come up.

Colbie's Corner

Colbie Rosco



Question 1:

"My ex is from another school. We broke up last week, and he still wants to be part of our friend group. He keeps texting my friends. What should I do?"

Answer 1:

Sounds like you need to suck it up, buttercup, unless you've got the guts to tell him to drop your friends' numbers and get lost.

Question 2:

"My mom is embarrassed to take me in public with her friends. What should I do?"

Answer 2:

Throw a tantrum like a toddler: dress up as silly as you can, drop to the floor, and start calling your mom names right in the middle of a highly populated place. Let's see how that works for you.

PG in Ag Class

Presley Powell & Samantha Turnquist

On October 10, 2020, Mrs. Denowh took her Ag 1 class and Danielle Murphy to preg check cows on the Johnson Farm.

Using an ultrasound and a glove sleeve, the vet checked to see if the cows and heifers were pregnant, and how far along they were. Using the ultrasound, they could see the

cow's heartbeat, her ribs, the calf's legs and the calf's skull.

The kids also got to help move the cattle along, and help in any other way possible. The group had tons of fun on their field trip with Mrs. Denowh!



Distance Learning: Adapting to Changing Numbers Tianna Dwyer

We were so excited to get back into the school building this year. None of us knew what to expect as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to unfold. Everybody came back, amid uncertainty.

Compared to the Fall of 2019, nothing about this year is typical. Both students and teachers have had to adjust to sudden changes in schedules and instruction. It seems this year has been resistant to becoming a regu-

lar school year. Everyone wants things to be back to normal, but with all the restrictions that are being placed, we must continue to work with new methods of teaching with technology. Because of our shared experiences in the spring, administration has also had a better idea about the expectations for, and academic progress of, students.

Although everyone gained a better understand-

ing of technology, there have been some issues, as well. The biggest problem so far has been with technology itself. Students and staff have reported complications with technology not working, especially when they need it the most.

Distance learning is not going away for the foreseeable future. Alexander staff and students will continue to adapt to the changing needs of students and instructors.

Sports Update Samantha Turnquist

Our Comet athletes have been very active this month.

The football team lost their last game against Drake during the playoffs. However, the volleyball girls won third at districts after playing three different games!

In their first game, they played three matches and won all three against New Town. Against Willis-ton Trinity Christian, they

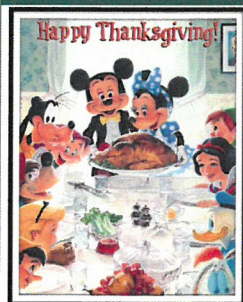
played five matches and only won two out of the five. In their last district game, they played White Shield and won all three games. On November 10, our volleyball girls played their hearts out. Sadly, it wasn't enough, when they took the Tioga Pirates to 5 matches.

Governor Burgum has since issued a mask mandate and postponed all winter extracurricular

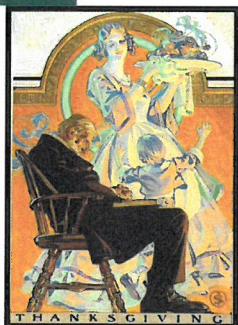
activities until December 14. However, volleyball and drama are allowed to finish their state tournaments.

Several of our Alexander Comets received awards this fall: see page 7.

Art Corner Zoe Beall



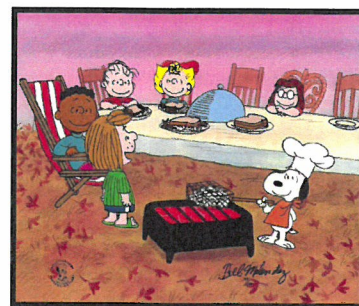
Walt Disney's famous take on Norman Rockwell's *Freedom From Want*.



Childhood Thanksgiving by Joseph Christian.



Jeon Leon Gerome Ferris' painting of *The First Thanksgiving*.



Charlie Brown Thanksgiving illustrated by Bill Melendez.

Recipe of the Month: Snack Acorns

Tianna Dwyer

Acorns

- I Package Hershey's Kisses
- I Box 'Nilla Wafers, or other small, flat cookies
- I Small Bag Chocolate Chips
- I Canister Canned Chocolate Frosting

Instructions

"Glue" the flat side of a Hershey's kiss to the flat side of the 'Nilla wafer using frosting.

Keep going until you run out of ingredients! Rest on their tops until frosting sets.

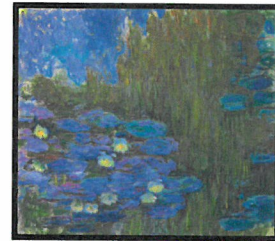
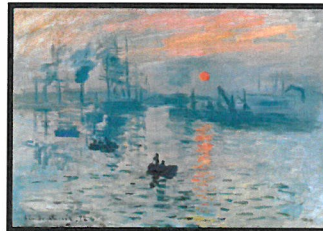
"Glue" chocolate chip to top (rounded side of wafer) and rest completed acorn on its side until frosting is set.



Artist of the Month: Claude Monet

Zoe Beall

Claude Monet was born November 14, 1840 in Paris, France. At an early age, Monet discovered his love for art. His mother supported Monet's art dream, however, his father did not. Monet's father wanted him to go into business. After his mother's death, Monet officially decided to pursue art. That path to art came to a halt once Monet decided to serve in the military for Algeria from 1861 to 1862. During his service, Monet was discharged due to health reasons. Once Monet returned to Paris, he continued to work on his art. Some of his artwork was even featured in Salon Art Shows. Claude Monet then became known for his impressionist artwork. His most famous paintings include *Impression Sunrise*, *Woman With a Parasol*, *Nymphéas en Fleur (Waterlilies)*, and *Japanese Bridge over a Pond of Waterlilies*.



Staff Spotlight



Mrs. Hall has lived in the area since 2010. She is originally from West Seneca, NY, which is a suburb of Buffalo. Before moving to Alexander, she was an English

teacher in a Navy Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) high school. Mrs. Hall chose to work at Alexander School because she was moving to the area and wanted to continue educating. Mrs. Hall hopes that her students learn to use the English language with confidence, and that they learn to be analytical, tolerant, kind, and reasonable through the examination of the literature analyzed and discussed in class.



Amber Hanig was born and raised in Alexander and has lived here her whole life. Amber worked at the cafe or stayed at home before she started working in the school as a lunch lady. Amber chose Alexander because it was convenient and she wanted to torture her kids. The reason she is a lunch lady is just because she has always been in the food industry. Her goals are to teach kids a healthier lifestyle through making good food choices.

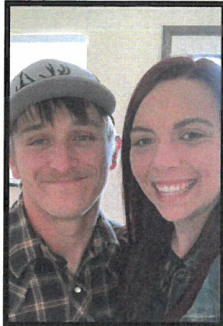


One teacher we all may have had is Mrs. Turnquist. She actually graduated from APS, as well, and has been teaching here for about 14 years!

One reason she chose to become a teacher is that because, in college, the education major classes looked more fun and interesting than the classes she was taking at the time. She is a resident of Alexander, and that is one of the reasons she chose to work here. Mrs. Turnquist's kids also went and still go to school here. The superintendent at the time convinced her to teach here and leave her job at the NW Infant Development Program through Minot State University at Williston. Mrs. Turnquist chose to be a teacher because she likes to see children learn to read and watch their "ah-ha" moments.

Falling in Love in Alex

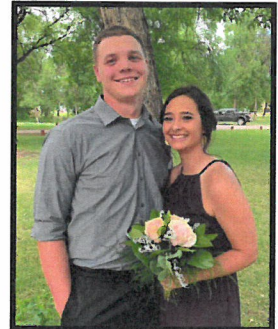
A number of Alex staff members have made "The Big Commitment" recently. Congratulations, everyone!



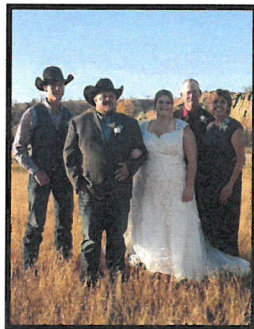
MaKenna and Brandon

MaKenna Hudson and Brandon Sandvik were engaged on August 1, 2020. They plan to be wed on October 23, 2021.

Tarynn Jacobson and Brody Nieuwsma became engaged on August 15, 2020. They plan to be married on November 13, 2021.



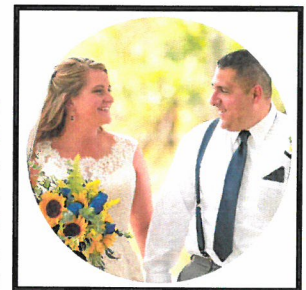
Tarynn and Brody



Nettie and Casey

Nettie Johnson and Casey Denowh, engaged on December 24, 2019, were married on October 3, 2020.

Alexandria Brummond and Mike Rizzo became engaged on July 30, 2019, and were married on July 25, 2020



Alexandria and Mike

November Fun Fact Zoe Beall

The colonists and the Wampanoag most likely ate eels, shellfish, lobster, clams, and mussels at the first Thanksgiving.

*Smithsonianmag.com

Comet Count

The hotly debated Thanksgiving question:

Jello

pudding



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Gamers Corner

Randall Gowing and Hunter Hanig

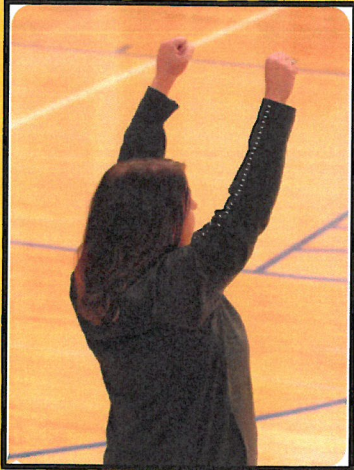
Rocket League is a game that is free to play on Xbox One, PS4, PC, and Switch. Rocket League was developed by Panic Button Games, and Psyonix. The game came out July 7, 2015.

Rocket League is a soccer game with a twist; instead of controlling a player, you control a car. You can customize your controls to suit your preference.

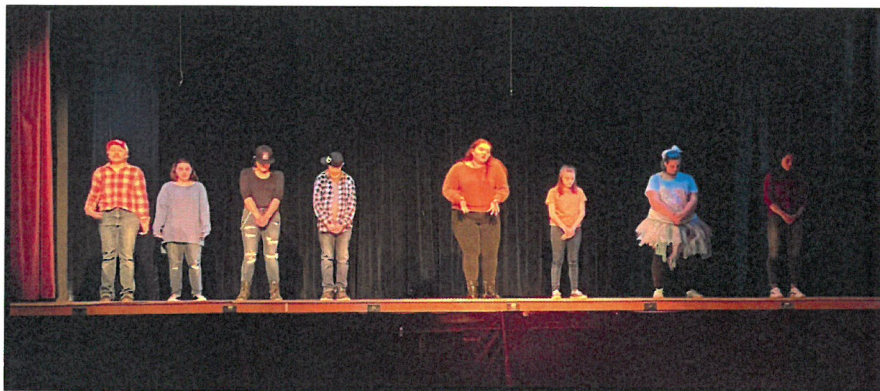
Rocket League can be played casually, or competitively. The game has won seven different awards: British Academy Games Award for Multiplayer; BAFTA Games Award for Best Family and Social Game; The Game Award for Best Sports/Racing Game; BAFTA Games Award for Sports; BAFTA Games Award for Evolving Game; and The Game Award for Best Independent Game.

This game has a 100-tier pass that gives players free rewards for ranking up. There are 8 different ranks: unranked, bronze, silver, gold, platinum, diamond, champion, and grand champion. Your rank is based on the skill you display and your win/loss ratio as an unranked player. Once you get your rank, the more games and potential wins you can earn, and consequently, the higher your rank becomes.

**Congratulations to Coach
Terrille Jacobson**



**District 15
Coach of the Year!**



All members of the Drama Team took home Superior Acting Awards! From left to right: Alex Sims, Paiten Iverson, Brook Rykhus, Jacey Tow, Brianna Yancey, Mercedes Dybas, Zoe Beall, and Tayla Ybarra.

**Congratulations
Drama Club** for winning 1st place
at the Regional Competition!
ON TO STATE!

The club also received personal congratulations from the author of their play:
“...And Others,” Dennis Bush.



Renee Cross and Tianna Dwyer:
Both earned:
All District Tournament Team
and
All District Team



Lane Rider
earned:
All League Team



Annual **"GIVING TREE"**

Let us start by telling you about the **GIVING TREE**. This project was organized to help our Comet families with Christmas. We have all experienced hard times and now is the time we can help. We collect information from the families that help us know what their needs are. Items might include clothing, shoes, school supplies, gift cards, hobbies, toys, books, etc. Each person that has requested help will have an ornament on our tree with their requests. The ornament will have a number which identifies, for us, who is the recipient. The Giving Tree is confidential for both the givers and the recipients.

So, how can you help? We need families that are in need to let us help you this Christmas. We also need people who are willing to share their blessings with our Comet families by helping us fill the tree with all the needs that have been requested.

Recipients ~ thank you for allowing us to help this Christmas. Please provide requested information for all family members on the back of this letter. Return the form to the school office. Please provide as many details as possible for the requested items. As stated earlier, all information will be confidential. Please return the form to the office by **Wednesday, Nov. 25th**.

Givers ~ The **"GIVING TREE"** is in the entrance of the Alexander Public School. You can stop by and grab an ornament (or multiple if you so choose). Provide the ornament number you have taken to the front office. Please return the gifts along with the ornament (or number) by **December 8th** to the school office. The items do not need to be wrapped.

Thank you for your contribution and giving heart. Our Comet Family is forever grateful.

Blessed are those who can give without remembering & take without forgetting.

Parent Name: _____

Contact # _____

Return form to the office by Wednesday, Nov. 25th

Individual #1

Age _____ Male/Female Clothing Sizes _____ Shoe Size _____

Needs/Wants (clothing, hobbies, toys, etc.) _____

Individual #2

Age _____ Male/Female Clothing Sizes _____ Shoe Size _____

Needs/Wants (clothing, hobbies, toys, etc.) _____

Individual #3

Age _____ Male/Female Clothing Sizes _____ Shoe Size _____

Needs/Wants (clothing, hobbies, toys, etc.) _____

Individual #4

Age _____ Male/Female Clothing Sizes _____ Shoe Size _____

Needs/Wants (clothing, hobbies, toys, etc.) _____

Individual #5

Age _____ Male/Female Clothing Sizes _____ Shoe Size _____

Needs/Wants (clothing, hobbies, toys, etc.) _____

Individual #6

Age _____ Male/Female Clothing Sizes _____ Shoe Size _____

Needs/Wants (clothing, hobbies, toys, etc.) _____

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 SUPER NACHOS	2 CAVATINI CORN GARLIC TOAST	3 POPCORN CHICKEN BOWL MASHED POTATO CORN	4	5
6	7 PIZZA BURGER OR CHICKEN PARM FRIES	8 MINI CORN DOG CHIPS WITH CHEESE	9 SCALLOPED POTATOES & HAM CARROTS BUN	10 PHILLY STEAK SANDWICH CRISSCUTS	11 BREAKFAST FOR LUNCH	12
13	14 BAKED CHICKEN OR COD RICE PILAF BROCCOLI	15 SPAGHETTI OR ALFREDO GREEN BEANS GARLIC TOAST	16 TACO IN A BAG	17 COOKS CHOICE	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27						

Breakfast is served daily from 7:30-8:00
 Hot Breakfast (served Tuesday & Thursday)
 is as follows:
 12/01: Pancake Wrap
 12/03: Breakfast Sandwich
 12/08: Biscuits & Gravy
 12/10: Breakfast Burrito
 12/15: Eggs to Order & Hash browns
 12/17: French Toast & Sausage Patty

HIGH FIVE LUNCH MENU:
 Dec 04:
 B-Notable (Cereal, juice, crackers) & Milk
 L-Summer Sausage Sandwich, Chips, Vege, Fruit, Milk
 Dec 18:
 B-Notable & Milk
 L-Turkey Sandwich, Chips, Vege, Fruit, Milk

NO SCHOOL! See you January 04th!!
Have a Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year from
Becky, Terrie, Amber, Sarah, Ed, & Mary

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER. MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
 WE OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE ENTRÉE CHOICE DAILY, ALONG WITH A COMPLETE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE BAR.