

# The Cardinal Times

February 2021 Edition

## Community Spotlight: Hidden Heroes

by Ginna Buller, Junior Editor



**The Calm After the Storm.** Exhausted from hours of taming the flames, Fire Chief Gary Riffe takes a moment to rest and rehydrate before rejoining his team in the fire fight.

The Turpin Volunteer Fire Department consists of members who devote their time to serving our community. These volunteers respond to about two calls per week. They are ready to be called in at any time, no matter how late. A lot of their calls come in from 2 A.M. to 5 A.M., so most people don't even know that they are out there.



The Fire Department has grown from having only one fire truck in the late 70s to now having three trucks. Volunteers come together once a month to check all of the trucks and start them. They also start the generators located on the trucks and leave them running for a few minutes to make sure everything is working properly. After making sure that everything is in place, members will discuss their recent runs, conversing about what went well, what could have gone better, and if communication went well.

One of the biggest challenges that the fire department faces is member availability. Because all of the members are volunteers, getting off of work to help with an accident has proven to be difficult. Thankfully, employers tend to be understanding. Gary Riffe, Fire Chief, said "We always seem to have the right number of people show up at every call. That's just the good Lord taking care of us." Another challenge that they face are the wildland fires that have recently been happening in the eastern part of our county. They have to get 4-5 miles in front of the fire and evacuate people that are in danger.

Today, our fire department not only puts out fires, but also responds to car wrecks and medical emergencies. They have two EMTs, and several volunteers have been through first responder training. The firefighters are always looking to better themselves, and are planning to take a class through Oklahoma State University beginning in March. They will each become certified as a Firefighter 1. Riffe said that he volunteered because it was "another way to serve my community." We are very lucky to have them watching out for us!



**The Destroying Danger.** Trying to slow down a wildland fire in Beaver, firefighter Mike Dowling watches as the deadly fire rages on.



**The Aftermath.** After putting out a grass fire, smoke billows off of the burnt ground.

## Feast or Famine

by Brooklyn Romero, Co-Chief Editor



Pancake Day has been a deep-rooted tradition since 1950 for the residents in Liberal, Kansas and surrounding areas. This holiday is also known as Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday, and it is a celebration that signifies the beginning of Lent. Those who practice Lent often abstain from rich foods, which is why many view Pancake Day as one last chance to eat the foods that they will give up for the following 40 days. While many celebrate both Pancake Day and Lent, people do not always acknowledge the connection between the two.

Both holidays are often observed by students here at Turpin, and many of them shared how they observe each celebration. Pancake Day is taken very seriously by the locals, but because of Covid-19, the festivities had to be changed. Regardless, several students ate pancakes for breakfast or dinner, and in true celebration, some even ate them for every meal!



The survey responses pertaining to the observance of Lent were overwhelmingly similar. A large majority of students explained that they would be giving up or deleting TikTok, a social network for watching and creating short videos, starting on February 17th. Others responded by saying that they would be giving up sugar, soda, and other unhealthy foods. This is common during Lent and is why Pancake Day, or Fat Tuesday, is observed right before the beginning of Lent. It is intended to be one last celebration before giving up the things that distract people from attaining their goals.



## THS Well Represented in Youth Tour Interviews



**A Clean Sweep.** Snagging all three of TCEC's Youth Tour bids to Washington, D.C. this year, are THS juniors Ginna Buller, Gwyn Hannah, and Riley Lehnert. Additionally, junior Sarah Estes was awarded one of two spots at Cooperative Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO.

Each year, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association hosts a Youth Tour in Washington, D.C., in which every cooperative in the nation has the opportunity to send three representatives from within their service area. Those representatives must be juniors in high school, and they are chosen through an extensive application and interview process. This year all three representatives this year were chosen from Turpin High School.

Additionally, Kansas Rural Electric Cooperatives hosts a regional Youth Leadership Camp in Steamboat Springs, CO. A fourth THS junior secured one of two spots to that event as well.

# Cardinals Put on a Show: A Homecoming to Remember

By Aron Fraire, Activities Editor



**Royal and Regal.** Dressed in their finest attire, the 2021 Basketball Homecoming Court comes together for a picture.



**Howdy!** Showing their cardinal pride, 7-12 grade students get dressed up in their cowboy gear!

This year's basketball homecoming was one for the books. The Cardinals had two weeks of the dress up days and eight amazing homecoming candidates. The basketball teams played two unforgettable games. To top things off, the school allowed students to have their homecoming dance.

The theme for homecoming was "Cardinals Put on a Show". The first dress up week consisted of romance, superhero, throwback, Disney, and western movie days. Since Covid-19 cancelled homecoming on the 5th February, Turpin decided to continue the dress-up days. The next week's dress up had a red day, a second western day, black day, white day, and cardinal pride day. Luckily we were able to find a game for homecoming and hold the coronation on the 9th of February.

The coronation began right before the varsity girls game. Homecoming was a great experience for all of the senior candidates. Cesar Anchondo didn't expect to win Homecoming king. He said "I had a very fun time and I am glad to be part of this whole experience." Not only did Cesar have a great time but so did Aidaly Ramos and Saylor Parker. Aidaly said "I had a great time and

was happy to see Saylor win homecoming queen. It's funny to think she was once a flower girl, but [now], she was crowned homecoming queen." It was a big deal for Saylor Parker. After four years of playing sports for Turpin, she got to stand in front of the community one last time. "Homecoming is a memory I won't forget. I could not have asked for a better last time playing on my home court." she stated.

The homecoming games were ones no one will forget. The girls game was a close one. The crowd was going wild, and everyone was on the edge of their seats. The crowd was screaming, shouting, and talking smack. Unfortunately, the girls lost by a free throw, but we were able to get back at them with the boys game. The boys ended up beating Elkhart by 20 points. Elkhart didn't have a chance, and we sent them home with one more loss on their record.

Homecoming week was a great one; it was one that many will remember. Two whole weeks of dress up days with eight of our favorite seniors, A dance that wasn't stopped by Covid, and a great homecoming night of basketball.



**Be Quick Without Hurrying.** Trying to beat the defender, junior Ginna Buller shoots a quick shot from the short corner.

## Cards and Lady Cards Have Much Improved Seasons

by Aldo Espino, Photo Editor



**Let's Bounce!**  
Keeping his eyes on his teammates, junior Aldo Espino brings the ball up the court.

The high school boys and girls basketball season has come to an end. Both teams had a great season. The boys team played Mooreland at Shattuck on the 12th of February. They struggled in the first and second quarter, but senior Cesar Anchondo got hot in the third quarter, making it a six point game. Unfortunately, Mooreland extended the lead and the Cardinals lost with a final score of 51-72, ending their season. They ended with a 9-10 record, almost doubling their wins from last year. Coach Bebermeyer had a great relationship with his players and understands what each player can do. "What's important right now is how hard we work in the summer to be way better than we are now." Bebermeyer stated. Junior, Aldo Espino said that overall, the season was a success because "we bonded a lot and had

great communication. Even when we made mistakes, we helped each other and tried to make the coach proud... we got better as a team and that's what's important."

The girls lost the Regional Consolation Championship to Shattuck. They fought hard against the Indians, exchanging bucket after bucket, but it wasn't enough to get the win. They ended up losing 62-57. The girls had a great season, ending with a 13-11 record. This year's girls team has seen a lot of improvement from defense to offense, which led the girls to have an amazing year. Although they did hit some rough patches in the year, the girls got through it and had an amazing run in the playoffs. Senior, Saylor Parker, left a piece of advice, "Never stop chasing your goals. You will come to a point where you will play your last game, so be able to look back at your high school career and know you did everything you could to accomplish your goals."



**Rainmaker.** Loading into her shot, senior Saylor Parker gets ready to drain a three for the Lady Cardinals.

## Better Sore Than Sorry

by Isaahia Olvera, Sports Editor

This year's powerlifting meet was held on February 17th in Snyder, Oklahoma. The team came back home with a "8-man state powerlifting runner up" plaque. The team this year was made up of 4 seniors, 1 junior, 2 sophomores, and 1 freshman.

Senior Riley Ratzlaff competed in the 181 weight class. Ratzlaff had previously competed in the USPA meet in Lawrence, Kansas. When competing, he set a new record for bench, 284 lbs, and deadlift, 484 lbs, and he still holds the records. Powerlifting takes a lot of hard work and dedication. "I started

powerlifting in seventh grade, so this year would be my fifth year doing it. I do it because not very many people around here do it and it is a great way to keep my mind off of things.” he stated. Ratzlaff finished first in the 181 weight class and brought home a gold medal.



**Train Insane, and Get Those Gains.** Putting on their game faces, seniors Riley Ratzlaff, Bresson Edelen, and Dakota Wills prepare in different stages of their deadlifts.

Coach Hannah, who is the football and powerlifting head coach, starts to prepare his lifters early in the year. Hannah stated that preparation for a meet requires you to “eat a good breakfast and get warmed up before lifting heavy weights” His pre-lift pep talk is very simple. Hannah tells his lifters “Listen to the commands and focus on lifting techniques.”

The team this year had one freshman, Brayden Ratzlaff, who placed fourth. This year was his first year of powerlifting, and he stated that he plans on doing powerlifting for the rest of highschool. Brayden’s first powerlifting meet “went way better than I thought it would. I was nervous in the beginning, but having my brother and coach helping me with everything made it all a great experience.” Brayden was in the 123 weight class. He squatted 235 lbs, bench pressed 120 lbs, and his deadlift was 275 lbs. Razlaff was proud of the way that he performed, declaring “I got more than my goal, my goal was just to go.” Once again we’d like to congratulate our powerlifters on bringing home the runner-up title!



**We’re Not Finished.** Proud of what they have accomplished, the powerlifting team shows off their awards. The 8-man team (left to right) are So. Keison Holmes, Jr. Aron Fraire, Sr Cesar Anchondo, Sr. Riley Ratzlaff, So. Blake Johnson, Fr. Brayden Ratzlaff, Sr. Dakota Wills, and Sr. Bresson Edelen.

## This-or-That ?



11 Box Of Chocolates	OR	48 Dipped Strawberries
42 Red	OR	16 Pink
Conversation 17 Hearts	OR	37 Heart Lollipops
44 Roses	OR	13 Lilies
14 Movie Theater	OR	45 Netflix
14 Brunch	OR	44 Dinner
21 Fancy Restaurant	OR	34 Home-Cooked Meal





# February SCOREBOARDS



with Cesar Anchondo

## HS Girls Basketball



Boise City	29-24 W
Elkhart	45-46 L
<u>Districts:</u>	
Mooreland	39-53 W
Shattuck	61-56 L
<u>Regionals:</u>	
Waukomis	53-35 W
Laverne	51-54 W
Shattuck	57-62 L

## Powerlifting



R. Ratzlaff	1st, 181 lbs
D. Wills	5th, 181 lbs
B. Edelen	5th, 157 lbs
A. Fraire	5th, 132 lbs
B. Ratzlaff	4th, 123 lbs
8-MAN STATE RUNNER-UP!!	

## HS Boys Basketball



Boise City	42-40 W
Elkhart	73-60 W
<u>Districts:</u>	
Mooreland	51-72 L



### High School

02/01	Jaylin Harris
02/12	Crystal Melchor
02/13	Kylie Huntley
02/19	Brianna Heitschmidt
02/19	Meira Hannah
02/26	Zylee Ipson
02/26	Saylor Parker
02/26	Anay Rios
02/29	Angelica Melendez

### Junior High

2/08	Ginevieve Jones
2/09	Andrea Mendoza
2/27	Ryan Olguin

### Elementary

02/01	Daniel Armendariz
02/01	Emily Baier
02/02	Nicole Rivera
02/04	Conner Booth
02/05	Xzavian Miranda
02/05	Alejandra Aguilar
02/11	Jakzenny Duarte
02/11	Yanilett Olguin
02/15	Kouper Berens
02/17	Keera Chavez
02/17	Ricardo Ruiz
02/19	Elizabeth Hernandez
02/24	William Meddock
02/24	Kaydence Shumaker
02/25	Sophia Trayler
02/26	Axel Porras
02/28	Jonny Cabral

## **A+ A+ Student of the Month Awards A+ A+ A+**

Turpin Schools recognizes February's Students of the Month, sponsored by Groendyke Transport, Inc. for their hard work and achievement. Students are nominated for this award by teachers, based on their accomplishments during the current month. Nominees are then presented to the administration for a vote. Three winners receive a certificate and a Sonic gift card. Senior selectants will also be eligible for a \$500 Bank of Beaver City Scholarship, to be presented to a pair of THS seniors at their graduation in May.



Senior student of the month is Cesar Anchondo. He is the son of Francisca and Rigoberto Anchondo. He is currently maintaining a 3.5 GPA and is taking four electives at THS, those being yearbook, wellness, zoology, and career exploration. He played football, basketball, and made district DB as well as 8 man All-Star! His favorite part about being a Cardinal is "how close our community is. As an athlete, you like seeing the community really close to one another and be involved with school activities."



High school student of the month is junior Lizzete Aquino. She is the daughter of Juan and Marquina Aquino. She is a 4.0 student taking two electives at THS, those being a TA for math and medical terminology. Lizzete is also enrolled in two college classes: college algebra and a CNA class. Lizzete is involved in basketball and track, and she is also looking forward to helping coach a little girls basketball team! Her favorite part about being a Turpin Cardinal is "how we emphasize our unity. Our small community does the best job trying to support everyone in whatever it is."



Junior high student of the month is Hadley Campbell. She is the daughter of Bill Campbell and Trish Delay. She is an A and B student, taking art and band. She plays basketball track and cheer, and she is a member of 4-h. Hadley's favorite thing about being a Cardinal is "being able to cheer her team on."

***Congratulations*** to these top notch Cardinals!!

And ***Thank You*** Groendyke Transport Inc. for sponsoring our Student of the Month program in February!!  
We appreciate your investment in our students!!



### **Sonic Gift Card Winner**

The random drawing winner for poll participation this month is 8th grader, **Carson Peters**. Congratulations!!!