

Events and Holidays	
March 5-	Mardi Gras and National Cheese Doodle Day
March 16-23-	Spring Break
March 17-	St. Patrick's Day
March 20-	Earth Day
April-	National Poetry Month
April 1-	April Fools Day
April 2-	World Autism Awareness Day
April 4-	Hug a Newsperson Day
April 5-	Prom @ The Hyatt
April 10-	National Encourage a Young Writer Day
April 12-13th -	Estero Theatre's Spring Show <u>Back to the 80s</u>
April 15-	Tax Day
April 22-	Earth Day

2018: Year in Review	
By: Mairin O'Malley News Writer	
Now that we're in 2019, we can look back on last year at everything that has happened. 2018 was a whirlwind of awesome movies, breathtaking moments, and heated political debates. Stunning scientific breakthroughs and catchy new songs were released into the media. Everyone can look back and find something new and exciting that occurred this previous year. The real question is, where to begin?	
Movies	
Thinking back to last year, you could probably think of your favorite movie. Great new films come out every year, and 2018 is no exception. It is definitely a year the movie industry will never forget.	
Black Panther	Released on February 16, 2018, "Black Panther" is the world's ninth highest grossing film of all time. This movie didn't just mark major milestones in diversity, it crushed them. "Black Panther" brought African representation to the big screen like never before.
Love Simon	Speaking of representation, only a month later the film "Love, Simon" came out in theaters on March 16. Based on Becky Albertalli's "Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda", this movie brought significant representation to the LGBTQ+ community. Fans adored this heartwarming coming-of-age story infused with romance and acceptance.
Crazy Rich Asians	On August 15th "Crazy Rich Asians" came out in theaters. Since then, it has been described as "breaking barriers" in stereotypes. Based on Kevin Kwan's best selling novel, it quickly became popular for its all Asian cast and constant humor. It is now the highest-grossing romantic comedy in the past decade, making \$238.4 million in the box office.
News	
Yanny or Laurel	In May of last year, a voice recording of a vocabulary word caught everyone's attention. Some heard Laurel while others heard Yanny. There was much controversy, friends turning on friends, loved ones arguing constantly, the nation was divided, until finally it was confirmed. The recording is, in fact, saying...Laurel.
The Royal Wedding	Who could forget the epic marriage of Harry, Prince of Wales, and America's bright star, Meghan Markle. On May 19, 2018 millions of Americans crowded around their televisions to witness the royal wedding, some even traveled to Europe for a front row seat to history. It can still be said to have been one of the most anticipated events of 2018.
Genetic Editing	Chinese scientist, He Jiankui, made us do a double take when he announced his findings late in November of last year. He has claimed to have altered the genes of twin baby girls so that they had no chance of getting HIV. For many of us, this advancement is straight out of a science fiction novel, but if He's claims are true, it could mean a world of possibilities for the future of genetics. Though still not verified, this could be the largest scientific breakthrough of 2018.
Fortnite	Yes, we all know that Fortnite came out half way through 2017, but this past year it has really blown up. From the months following its release to November of 2018, it gained two hundred times the amount of followers.
	Many things happened in 2018 that we will never forget, but now that the new year has started we can look forward to new adventures in 2019.
How St. Patty's Day Came To Be	
By: Khushi Patel News Writer	
If someone asked you to think of something related to St. Patrick's Day, what would be the first thing that comes to your mind? Most likely, your answer varied somewhere along the lines of <i>green, four-leafed clover, and leprechauns</i> . But, how many of us actually know the meaning of St. Patrick's Day? How many of us realize the rich history that is associated with St. Patrick's Day? Although now we associate the well-known holiday with leprechauns and four-leafed clovers, there is actually much more to this holiday. From the morbid death of a saint in the third century to grand parades in New York City, St. Patrick's Day is a holiday rich with history. The origin of St. Patrick's Day can be traced back to the third century.	
Maewyn, who would later become known as St. Patrick, was born when the Romans ruled Britain. He was kidnapped into slavery and brought to Ireland. A couple of years after his kidnapping, Maewyn managed to run away to France and there he converted to Christianity. As a devout Christian, he decided to try to spread the religion as far as possible. He succeeded in spreading his beliefs throughout France and decided to carry his mission into Ireland. So, in the year 432, Patrick moved back to the place where he was held as a slave to spread his beliefs and bring everyone onto a more righteous path. In fact, a classic icon of the day, the shamrock, comes from Patrick's method of explaining the Trinity.	
On March 17, 461, St. Patrick died and was named Ireland's patron saint. Despite the celebrations that took place on the anniversary of his death, the ones in Ireland were extremely underwhelming compared to the festivities that took place in America. During the 1700s, a rush of Irish immigrants brought the holiday overseas and started the well-known traditions of grand parades and wearing green. Nowadays, a person might see the entire sea of green swarming the city of Savannah during a St. Patrick's Day parade, with corned beef and cabbage being sold at various stalls. Another common sight would be seeing an entire part of the Chicago River dyed green in honor of the Saint's death anniversary. So next St. Patrick's Day, when you're contemplating how to slay a green outfit for the occasion, take a moment to realize the rich history of the otherwise seemingly meaningless holiday.	
INSIDE...	
Book Review	2
Elf on the Shelf	3

# On the Prowl

Estero High School  
21900 River Ranch Road  
Estero, FL 33928  
(239) 947-9400

March, 2019  
Volume 1, Issue 2

**Editor in Chief**  
*Christine Sells*

**Advisor**  
*Scott Leiderman*

**Principal**  
*Clayton Simmons*

## News Writers

*Mairin O'Malley*

*Khushi Patel*

*Olivia Reeves*

*Brian Potter*

# A Court of Thorns and Roses

By Khushi Patel

News Writer

Written by Sarah J. Mass, A Court of Thorns and Roses is the first book in the series of the same name. It takes place in an alternate universe where faeries and humans are fierce enemies. The book follows Feyre, a human, through her struggles in Prythian, a magical faerie realm.

Feyre is taken to Prythian and kept under close guard as punishment for killing a faerie. While imprisoned, Feyre starts to uncover many secrets about her captor, Tamlin. As she uncovers more secrets about Tamlin, her feelings start to turn from hatred to love, making Prythian all the more dangerous for a human like her. Because of her newfound feelings, Feyre finds herself with the weight of the future of the entire world on her shoulders.

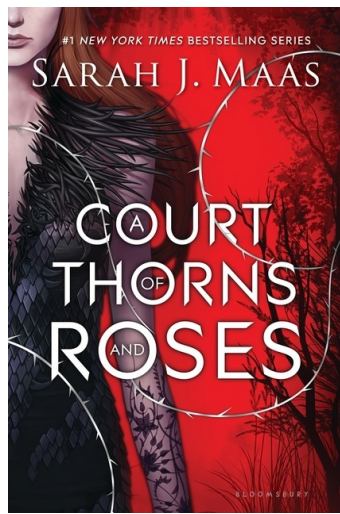
Feyre is a head-strong character, who has been through a lot of tough times. After her family went bankrupt, she was entrusted, at a young age, with the job keeping her family alive by her dying mother. Although this responsibility took a toll on her relationships with her father and sisters, she did her best to never give up on the vow she had given her mother, even during her imprisonment in Prythian.

On the other hand, Tamlin, Feyre's love interest, is the classic "mysterious guy with a tortured past." Although that might seem cliché, Mass does a

good job of making sure that he still possesses some unique characteristics and qualities along with an interestingly detailed backstory. As Feyre uncovers more and more of his past slowly, Tamlin grows to be more than just the 'rude kidnapper' in the reader's perspective.

Sarah J. Mass does an incredible job re-telling the classic story of *Beauty and the Beast* that we have all grown up with. The book contains an emotional roller coaster, where the reader feels emotions like hatred, love, desperateness, and hope, one after the other. Mass also does a great job of creating a picture in the reader's mind with intricate details, like "His nose, cheeks, and brows were covered by an exquisite golden mask embedded with emeralds shaped like whorls of leaves."

Although the book had moments when it was particularly cliché, the thrilling plot and fast pace of the book did more than make up for it. Overall, the book is a must read if you like a healthy mix of action and romance.



# Science of Love

By Khushi Patel

News Writer

No matter what you do, there is no possible way to avoid the topic of love. Whether it be through the couples that you see while you walk down the hall or the sub-par Netflix movies, there is always a reminder of love lingering around you. Depending on your views and your relationship status, these reminders could either be comforting or annoying. No matter your views on this topic, one thing remains constant when it comes to love: the science behind it. When you take a deeper look into the concept of love, a certain process can be recognized.

When you experience *LUST*, the first step, increased levels of estrogen and testosterone are being released by dopamine, one of the brain's neurotransmitters. If you've ever noticed during the early stages

of having a crush that the sky seemed bluer and the grass greener, you can thank dopamine for that.

The second step in the process of falling in love is *ATTRACTION*. Feelings of giddiness and nervousness when you're around your crush or not being able to sleep and eat are all parts of this stage due to decreased levels of serotonin and an increase in dopamine and norepinephrine.

The most dominant factor in maintaining long-term relationships is the *ATTACHMENT* you feel towards a person. The primary hormones that contribute to the attachment felt towards an individual are oxytocin and vasopressin. These are often known as the "cuddle hormones" since they are released during times of bonding between two people.

In the end, there is still more to know about the brain and its working during love. While neuroscientists try to figure the rest of it out, let's revel in the fact that- for better or for worse- love exists all around us.

# Super Smash Bros. Ultimate

By Brian Potter

News Writer

9/10

The Super Smash Bros (SSB) series has become such an iconic image in gaming that it is difficult to discuss fighting games without hearing its name at least once, and for good reason. Super Smash Bros Ultimate (SSBU) is the newest edition to the series, and it is amazing. Masahiro Sakurai, the creator of the game, deserves all of the credit he receives from fans. However, before we delve deeper, here is a bit of context on the series. SSB is a fighting game where video game characters from multiple series come together to battle. You

have Nintendo characters like Mario, Ridley, Ganondorf, Sonic the Hedgehog, Snake from the Metal Gear games, Bayonetta, and even Fire Emblem characters like Ike and Lucina.

Now to the game itself. In each version of the series, the character roster usually changes. However, the first notable point about Ultimate is that every character ever introduced in the series is playable. That's over 70 different characters! This gives a player many different styles with which to experiment. The game also includes many different stages from multiple games on which to fight. If you prefer to play solo, the game gives many opportunities for that as well. There's Classic Mode, All-Star Smash, Century Smash, and, of course, the Adventure Mode "World of Light". The story mode itself is not too special, but it does what it sets out to do, be entertain-

ing.

However, the game is not perfect. The characters are not always balanced and there are constant shifts in power as characters are improved and altered. However, this is to be expected from a fighting game. The levels in "World of Light" can get boring and repetitive, however, Sakurai has stated that he does not enjoy putting a story mode in SSBU, so he wouldn't put too much effort in it. The online mode can be seen as "problematic" due to how you must pay to play online, while in the previous game it was free. Not only that, but game modes when playing online are pretty restricted.

Overall, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate is a masterpiece that is worth playing for any gamer out there. Lots of thought went into it, and despite having a few minor flaws, the game is certainly worth the \$60 price tag.



# Estero Advice

**Dear On the Prowl,**  
**My boyfriend has cheated on me before. I was an idiot to take him back because he's starting to act weird. He won't let me on his phone and says I'm paranoid. What should I do?**  
**-Paranoid Girlfriend**

*Dear Paranoid Girlfriend,*  
*You are not being paranoid. If your boyfriend has cheated on you before, it is highly plausible that he could be doing it again. In your current situation, three things could be happening:*

- 1) He is cheating on you again.*
- 2) He's not cheating but he is lying about something else entirely.*
- 3) He isn't cheating or lying to you.*

*Your course of action will depend on which situation turns out to be true.*

*The best way to figure out if he's cheating on you would probably to just have an honest conversation with him. Communication is an important factor in serious relationships. But if you're constantly on edge and can't get past the feeling he's cheating on you, you'll have to end it. You can never be in a real relationship with him if he can't be trusted.*

**Dear On the Prowl,**  
**My parents never trust me and always think I'm lying. How can I get them to trust me more?**  
**-Trying for Trust**

*Dear Trying for Trust,*  
*If you have gotten into trouble in the past, the best way to gain your parents trust back is to avoid the things that you should not be doing. By being honest and keeping your parents informed about your actions you can show that you are not the trouble they think you are. Over time, they will come to see you have grown and become more responsible.*

*If they automatically assume you are getting into trouble, it may not be your fault. Your parents were once your age and know what teenagers can get into. Parents automatically assume the worst because they want to make sure you are safe. Yes, they can be annoying, but your parents just want you to preserve your future.*

**Dear On the Prowl,**  
**I watch the news and I'm beginning to freak out more and more about the world. How can I become less worried but still be informed?**  
**-Concerned and Confused**

*Dear Concerned and Confused,*  
*Everyone feels this way at some point, in fact, it is good that you are worried about our world. Most of us grew up with this amount of violence on the news and are now desensitized to the world around us. Over time our minds have become numb to the fact that so many people are dying or such terrible things are happening. It is okay to worry about our world, it is incredibly messed up, but know that there are people working who are trying to make it a better place.*

# Wildcats In The Making

By: Olivia Reeves  
News Writer

Run by Mrs. Doten, the Little Wildcats program is part of the Early Childhood Education class offered at Estero High School. Students in the class learn the basics of how to care for and teach small children in a kindergarten-like environment.

The front of Mrs. Doten's room is arranged like any other classroom in the school. This part of the room is for the Level 1 Early Childhood high school students. The same cannot be said for the back half of the room. It has been transformed into a Pre-K classroom, complete with a outdoor playground, toy boxes and tiny chairs for the kids. Whilst observing the class, kids ran in and out of the room, bringing toys out to the playground and playing with their friends. One girl, Savannah, was building with blocks before bounding off to decorate cookies with the group. Others, such as Oliver, burst in from outside when Mrs. Doten announced the cookies.

The course material is broken up into four levels. Students start in Early Childhood 1, in which they learn the basics through bookwork and packets. Mrs. Doten explained, "The first year is structured; they have paperwork and they watch a powerpoint and answer their questions. It's reading type paperwork, they read the text and fill in the blanks." This initial year in the program teaches the students what information they will need to know for the following year(s) without impeding on their future interaction

with the kids. They learn such things as how to plan a lesson, how to complete projects and crafts, and just how to work with the kids in general. Once they have completed the Level 1 class, students can move onto Level 2 and so on, where they get to work with the kids in the back of the room. Levels 2,3, and 4 all have similar classwork but each level learns and practices specific skills needed for teaching in a pre-k or kindergarten classroom environment. When asked what his favorite part about being in the class is, a level 4 student, Ramiro, said this: "Definitely watching them learn and grow is my favorite part."

The high school students prepare everything for the class. They use their first class period to plan the lesson and activities for the rest of the week. A level 4 student in the program said "We plan 4-8 activities, depending on the week." Each day, the level 2-4 students are responsible for teaching a 15 minute educational lesson to the kids and keeping them busy. In an interview, Mrs Doten listed what types of lessons the kids complete; "Little kids aren't ready yet for 100% academics, so they get their lesson on the alphabet, practicing letters, and writing their name, and then, of course, only 10-15 minutes later

and they're done. After that, they get some free time." Once they have fun trying it themselves beforehand, the high school students demonstrate how to complete projects such as painting and paper crafts that require use of fine-motor skills. "We interact with the kids and make cute crafts. We make a lot of crafts." said a student who wishes to stay anonymous.

The course offers the high school students the opportunity to earn a state certificate in Pediatric First Aid and CPR training to better enable them to work in a child-care facility in the near future. "When they are done, they get certificates that they can take to a daycare and say 'here's my certificate, I can be employed'" was stated by Mrs. Doten when asked about the certification's benefits.

The class truly offers a great environment for students to work with kids in a fun, realistic classroom setting and achieve real certification that will benefit them professionally in the future.



# Is There An Elf On The Shelf?

By: Khushi Patel  
News Writer

On the dates of December 13 & 14, 2018, students from theatre, chorus and dance all came together to produce a musical, *Elf on the Shelf*, for the enjoyment of all.

The musical follows the story of Emily and Twiggy, as they meet and come to know one another. During the beginning of the show, we are shown Twiggy being sent to a family as an Elf on the Shelf due to his misdemeanors at the North Pole. The Elf on the Shelf program is a fun project where elves spy on children to evaluate whether they should be on the naughty and nice list. Twiggy is assigned to Emily, a senior in high school who is upset about losing a picture of herself with her departed father. As the story progresses, we see Emily and Twiggy come to understand each other better and realize the connection that they share due to Emily's father.

This show was filled with iconic holiday songs and emotion. With perfect comedic timing by the actors, beautiful singing by the chorus, and graceful choreography by the dancers, *Elf on the Shelf* was truly enjoyable and entertaining to watch as an audience member.

Not only was it enjoyable for the audience, but the cast and crew of the show also had fun while preparing for the performances. Alexander Montalvo, the actor who brought Twiggy to life, immensely enjoyed portraying "a character that [he] could relate to." The role gave him multiple opportunities to let his funny and goofy side out during rehearsals. Alex loved having the chance to "work with all the fun people [he] knew."

Camryn Cole, a senior in the choir, explained that they had started rehearsing for the show 6 weeks in advance. Parts of rehearsal that Camryn found most amusing were "when people would mess up while harmonizing and snapping." Bumbles like those eased the tension

caused by stressful rehearsals.

Yamila Perez, a freshman, was part of the elegant dance team that performed on stage multiple times throughout the show, her favorite being the dancing finale. Yamila found a tremendous amount of joy in expressing herself through movements during the performances.

"The show turned out to be really good. It was amazing working with hardworking and dedicated people who made this show to be the best out of all the shows so far," states Yamila.

And thus ended our first semester, with a wonderful show by our school's own talented performers. Everyone, whether they be in the audience or on the stage, had a great time following Emily and Twiggy through their holiday season, while preparing to start their own.

If you missed this wonderful performance, be sure to attend the next production, *Back to the '80s* on April 12/13.

# Q&A With The Super Smash Bros!

By: Mairin O’Malley

News Writer

What could be better than playing your favorite video game all afternoon after school? Playing your favorite video game with a large group of other Nintendo lovers, of course! You may not have heard of them but they super at Super Smash Bros. The Super Smash Bros Club is held in Mr. Leiderman’s room after school every Tuesday from 1:40-2:30 pm. Last month I had the privilege of interviewing both its president and historian. Let us see what they had to say.

**President:** Eduardo Mora  
**Historian:** Brian Potter

**Q: What is the overall purpose of Super Smash Bros?**

Eduardo: Basically, it is just a way for people to relax so they can blow off steam.  
Brian: You come on in and have fun for a few

minutes. People are very passionate about it. It's very nice to just get together in the gaming community and play.

**Q: What games do you play?**

E: Mainly Super Smash Brothers Ultimate.

**Q: How many members do you guys have?**

E: It varies on the day but usually at least ten.  
B: Yeah, about ten is the average, but like Eduardo said, it varies.

**Q: Are the majority of your members ninth graders?**

E: We’ve got tenth, eleventh, and ninth graders. No Seniors, but pretty much everyone else.

**Q: Are you looking to expand?**

E: We want as many people as we can. We may also play other games later on.

B: We may just expand to (other) Nintendo games in general. That would be interesting because Super Smash Bros already has a huge community of people and to incorporate all of Nintendo would be just amazing.

**Q: How would you like the club to expand in the future?**

E: First I want to start tournaments; not just in the club but include other schools possibly. Then we may raise some money for the club and school as well. This years is kind of just to get things going.

**Q: What are some interesting things about this club that people otherwise might not be aware of?**

B: What we usually do is we get tournaments set up. Even if you don’t have the game or the switch you can still play. Really anyone can just come in and enjoy it.  
E: We have people that bring (the game), and so many people bring their own stuff. There’s plenty for everyone.

## ★ Horoscopes ★

### Aries

*March 21st-April 19th*

Treat others the way you want to be treated. Being kind to others will not only make them feel good, but you as well.

### Taurus

*April 20-May 20*

Keeping secrets can be difficult. Bottling everything up will only make things worse. Try opening up to a few close friends so the stress doesn’t begin to take its toll.

### Gemini

*May 21st-June 20th*

You have been a bit isolated lately. Surround yourself with your friends or family. Study with a group of friends and let yourself relax. It’ll do you some good.

### Cancer

*June 21st-July 22nd*

This month will prove financially difficult. Don’t be afraid to ask for some help. People will be more generous than you might think.

### Leo

*July 23rd-August 22nd*

Everyone has different methods of getting over a bad day. Next time you have a bad day don’t reach for a pint of ice cream, do something active instead. This will make you feel accomplished and happy

### Virgo

*August 23rd-September 22nd*

With all the pressure from Valentine’s Day it’s easy to feel stressed. Talk to your friends or your significant other and explain how you feel. They might be more understanding than you would expect.

### Libra

*September 23rd-October 22nd*

Take a chance! Try something out that you’d never normally do, but know you could enjoy. Who knows, you might just surprise yourself.

### Scorpio

*October 23rd-November 21st*

Just because the school year is almost over doesn’t mean you can’t turn things around. Take a moment to get everything organized and you will find some of your stress levels reduced, even if just by a little bit.

### Sagittarius

*November 22nd-December 21st*

If you find yourself tired and worn out, try taking a breather from life’s stresses and talk to someone about why you’re so stressed. It will help take the edge off and let you calm down.

### Capricorn

*December 21st-January 19th*

Take a risk and try something new! The excitement will fulfill your curiosity and may lead you to a new hobby or passion. Think with your heart before your head this month.

### Aquarius

*January 20th-February 18th*

This month, treat yourself to something special. It could be for your birthday or just because. You focus most of your attention on others and it’s time to think of yourself first for a change.

### Pisces

*February 19th-March 20th*

If you haven’t already, try making an after New Year’s resolution and sticking to it. Experiment with artistic projects or crafts to release your excess energy.