

TORNADO TIMES

Apple Festival Queen Pageant

Ashley Miller, staff writer



Heels and flats, poofy dresses and flowy ones, curled hair and updos. No two contestants looked alike, yet we were all competing for the same thing: to be crowned the 2015 Griggsville Apple Festival Queen. It all started on August 2nd, as 8 girls, Kayce Smith, Kayla McCallister, Bailey Powers, Makenzie Flowers, Courtney Nash, Ashley Miller, and Jordan Bright, stood in the park with retiring queen, Rachel Lightle. Everyone was in tea dresses with

pretty hair and makeup, getting our pictures taken. Six Sundays, the loss of Makenzie Flowers and gain of Ashlyn Crone, 2 ushers, Ryan Kelley and Dawson Nash, and one late Thursday night practice later, we were awaiting our first chance to meet the judges. With only 5 minutes to impress, contestants had to both think calmly and formally.

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News:

With the presidential races looming on the horizon, do you know who you're looking forward to winning? Check out how GP voted.

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Tornado Times is the quarterly publication of the GP Journalism class.

Calling All Singers!

Like to sing? Missing your middle school chorus days? Well then you'll be excited to know that chorus at Griggsville-Perry High School is back! Mrs. Susan Curry would like to invite all that are interested to join her in the band room on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 7:45 A.M. to 8:25 A.M to sing their hearts out! This is a great opportunity to get involved and possibly find your hidden talent.

Apple Festival Queen, continued

With both political questions and an awkward “Did you shave your legs today?” thrown in, all the contestants kept their cool and made it through. At 6:15ish (we’re on Apple Festival time) we made our way back to the stage to introduce ourselves for the evening. Flawless. The next time we graced the stage, 7:00 depending on who you asked, was with our dance to a remix of “Singing in the Rain and Umbrella”. Not so flawless but it was still so much fun, and of course we weren’t actually judged on our performance. After that all 8 pairs of rain boots were “free to enjoy the festival” for an hour or so, which of course resulted in all the contestants finding a corn dog or other various festival foods. The town hall was full by 8:00. Hair had been changed and makeup redone, and by 8:30 we were all being tied and zipped into our dresses. Let me tell you now, getting into a corset dress is not a quick task. By 9:00 we were headed for the stage. After a few minutes of waiting and of course a late raffle drawing we were escorted onto the stage, one at a time. The contestant’s speeches ranged from Disney movies, to the community and courage, to being a strong, independent woman, to stories and hobbies. All of the questions were received and given beautiful answers in return. Everyone did an amazing job and by the time the last contestant left the stage, we had absolutely no idea who would come out on top.

Before they took us back to the stage to announce the crowning, there were a few minutes dedicated to the ushers to show off their tuxes, which was hilarious. Once we were escorted back to the stage we laughed as it sprinkled rain and we wiped our eyes from Rachel’s final speech. Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, Brian Shoemaker started announcing the winners. First the Community Scholarship was presented to contestant number 3, Ashlyn Crone. All the contestants voted the next award, Apple Princess, separately after their interview. This was given to contestant number 2, Ashley Miller. Best orator award, presented next, was declared a tie between contestants 4 and 7, Bailey Powers and Kayce Smith. Now it was time to announce who placed that evening. Contestant number 6, Jordan Brite, took second runner up which home. First runner up was given to contestant number 4, Bailey Powers. Finally, the crown was announced. With shaking hands, a look of astonishment, and probably one of the most memorable reactions to a crowning ever, contestant number 7, Kayce Smith was formally crowned. Congratulations to everyone who participated, placed, and of course overall had fun, and thank you to everyone who came out to support the girls. Congratulations to our 2015 Apple Festival Queen, Kayce Smith. **Enjoy your reign, you deserve it!**

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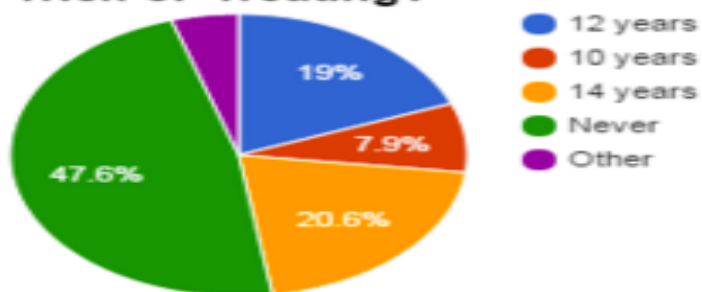
Have ideas you want to share? Want people to buy your homework? Consider taking Yearbook and Journalism next year!

Truancy Policy

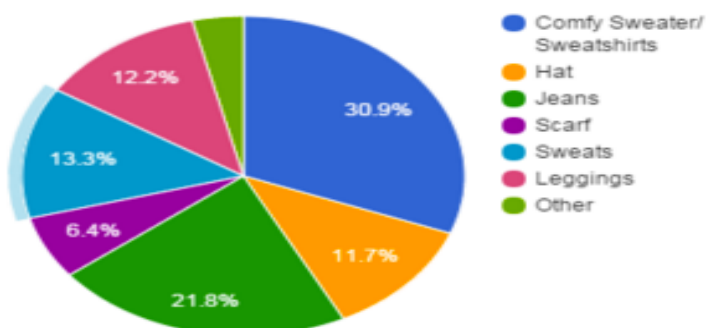
Kobie McCallister, staff writer

This year's truancy policy from the handbook states "Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and district. Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered chronic truants." Students are not allowed to miss more than 9 days. The consequences of a parent knowingly letting a student be truant is a violation of State law and will be charged with a Class C misdemeanor, 30 days in jail, and have to pay \$500 in fines. Children between the ages of six and seventeen must attend a public school with the exception of attending a private school, parochial school, or being homeschooled as long as certain requirements are met. So far this school year less than 10 cases have been discussed in all of Pike County compared to over 100 last year. Many students still come to school even when they are sick to not risk missing too many days or having to take finals. Other students feel like if they already have to take finals then they don't have to come to school, which causes them to be truant.

When are you too old to go Trick-or-Treating?



Fall Clothing



Back to G-P

Madison Barker, staff writer

Is it safe to say that you were prepared to return to class? I'm certain a few individuals would say no to that question. Even though it's hard to give up your summer vacation, the back to school season can be an exciting, and sometimes, a stressful time of year.

I'm sure most students found it hard to realize their summer was over already and weren't all that thrilled to come back to class and tons of homework. Back-to-school season for some is extremely busy time, with teachers getting thing together for classes and students making sure they have the supplies they need. Especially for Freshmen coming in, high school can be intimidating with it being a new environment.

However, coming back to school can be a fun and enjoyable experience. There have been multiple changes made to the school already this year. We have a new principle in the high school, along with some new teachers joining us this year. There's also plenty of new students at G-P. Being able to meet these new faces and making friends is a great part of a new school year. Also, the new school year can be a great chance to get involved in school activities. You can join clubs with people that share the same interests as you or be an athlete on a team. If you don't want to play on the team you can still be a fan and cheer on the Tornados at events. However, you decided to get involved in the school accomplish something you appreciate.

Love Conquers All, Finally

Kayla McCallister, staff writer

History was made this summer on June 26, 2015: The day love won. The Supreme Court ruled marriage bans against same-sex couples as unconstitutional. This was a historic victory for the gay rights movement that people will remember for the rest of their lives. When our generation has children, they will probably find it odd that love was not legal in every state when we were kids. Justice Anthony Kennedy said, "They ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law. The Constitution grants them that right." Finally, more people are starting to realize

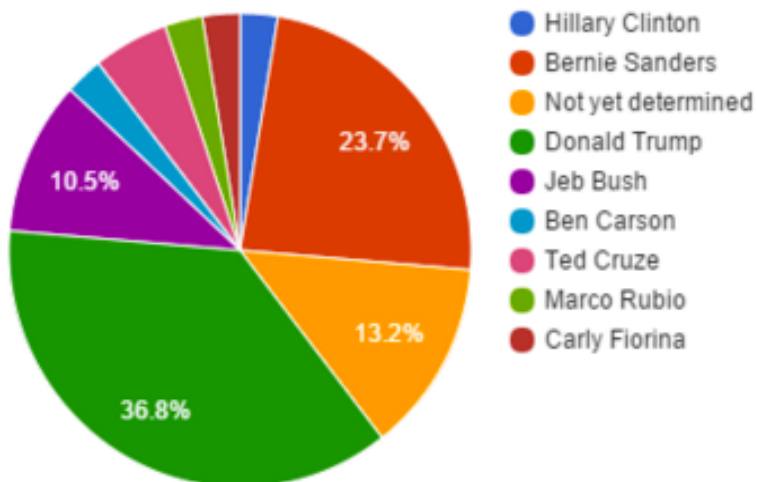
this is a basic human right and although this is the day that made millions of people extremely happy, there are always people who are against it. On Twitter, I have seen many people say that because gay people can get married in the United States they are moving to Canada (where gay marriage has been legal since July 20, 2005) or Mexico (also legalized this year on June 3). If you know me, you know I'm very open-minded and I respect everyone's right to have an opinion, but only if that right doesn't disrespect anybody's existence. If you want to educate yourself on issues relating to this basic human right, or just want to

buy some cool stuff, you can go to www.hrc.org, the website for the Human Rights Campaign (the largest LGBT civil rights advocacy group in the United States).

2016 Presidential Race

MiKayla Smith, staff writer

In the 2016 Presidential Election, which candidate is going to get your vote?



Elections are quickly approaching, and candidates from each party are doing all they can to win over voters. Big issues that dictate which candidate may or may not get votes would be topics regarding Gun Control, LGBTQ+ rights, Planned Parenthood, illegal immigrants, marijuana, health care, public education, etc. With these controversial topics it is very rare to find a candidate that is 100% agreeable with when it comes to their plans/ideas and beliefs. After interviewing 87 students at Griggsville-Perry High School about

Continued on page 5

2016 Presidential Race, continued

their opinion on politics, the results below show where they stand for the 2016 Presidential Election. (Note: 48 students do not pay attention to politics, therefore they chose not to vote.)

As you can see, Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders were the top two candidates. Trump with 36.8% of the votes and Sanders with 23.7%.

Donald Trump is a real estate developer, business author, and now, presidential candidate for the 2016 Presidential Election. Trump is seeking nominations from the Republican side. Trump being pro-life, wishes to ban abortion and fight ObamaCare abortion funding. In March of 2011, Trump said "No gay marriage; no same sex partner benefits." In April of 2011, Trump said we should legalize drugs and use tax revenue to fund drug education. Trump believes common core is "a disaster." Trump is a very strong believer in upholding the second amendment. In September of 2015, Trump said "Illegal Immigrants populate many criminal gangs. This is a country where we speak English, not Spanish."

Bernie Sanders is an American politician, the junior United States Senator, and now presidential candidate in the 2016 Presidential Election. Sanders is seeking nominations from the Democratic side. Sanders is pro-choice, as well as supporting funding for family planning. In July 2015, Sanders said that we should have the right to love each other, regardless of sexual orientation. In June of 1997, he also said that we should never accept racism, sexism, or homophobia. Sanders said we should decriminalize marijuana and study recreational legalization. Sanders believes we should have quality, affordable education from childcare to higher ed. In July of 2015, Sanders said there should be instant background checks, and there

should be no guns for criminals or the unstable. "Guns in Vermont are for hunting; but in L.A. are for killing." Sanders says we should secure the borders, without building a fence. He also believes we should offer a path to citizenship and waive deportation for DREAMers.

If you are of age, and you choose to vote in the 2016 Presidential Election, I urge you to study each and every candidate thoroughly and choose wisely. Your vote matters.

Lady Tornado Volleyball

Lexi Kessinger, staff writer

The Lady Tornadoes volleyball team came into this season with a new coach and hopes for a winning season. Coach Lexi DeSpain managed to improve the chemistry of the team and keep it fun in the process. The volleyball team made a trip to Culver Stockton College to watch a volleyball game as a way of team bonding. There were injuries and illnesses that affected the lineup and made girls get moved around to different positions. They younger players really stepped up and help out the team when they needed it. Through theses changed the girls still managed to win games and keep a positive attitude. The amount of games won has improved from the 2014 season.

The Lady Tornadoes have improved their record to 11-9 entering their last home game on October 13th. The team has a 7-3 record in the WIVC conference and a 3-1 record in the PCC tournament. The Lady Tornadoes hope to wrap up their season by winning the Pike County Conference tournament. The Ladies have a extremely good chance of winning their regionals this year, which has not happened for many years here at G-P.

Grading Scale Changes

Kenzie Flowers, staff writer

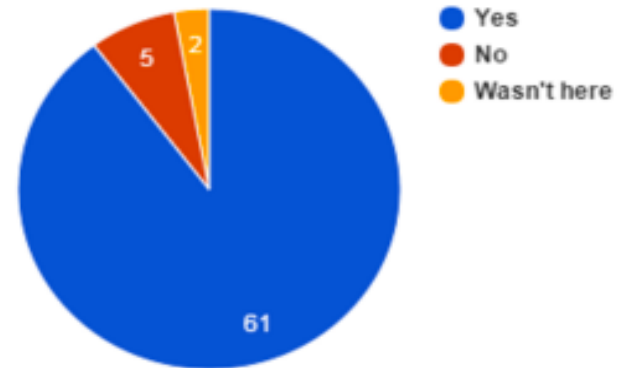
The petition to change the grading scale was a major ordeal last year. Teachers were voicing their opinions, students went to talk at a school board meeting, and there were even students, including myself, who talked on the local news about the issue. I was one of the students that was interviewed on the news last year.

As you can see from these articles, the majority of the kids in our high school feel as though administration did not follow through on what was being changed on our grading scale. Yes, out of the students that signed the petition, we all knew the grading scale would change but the +/- change to our GPA was not what anyone expected.

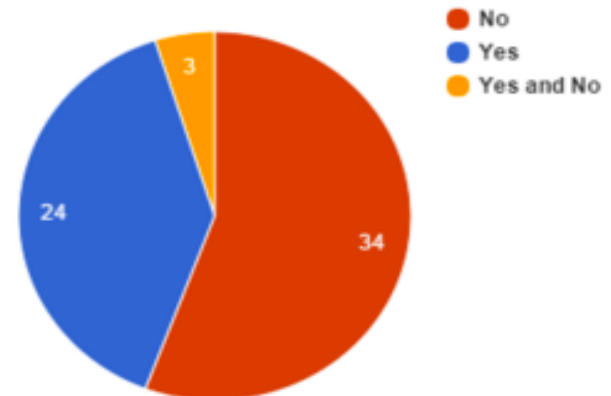
One anonymous student said on my survey, "I'd rather have the old scale back, the new one causes more problems. I think the new scale will cause me to not get into NHS this year." Another student, Kobie McCallister, said, "I'm very disappointed in the school board's way of not giving the students what we petitioned for and worked so hard for." I personally believe the 10 point scale has helped the kids that are really trying to stay eligible and are barely making it, but it's punishing the students that pride in their grades and maintaining a decent GPA. For example, there could have been a student last year with a 93.5% in every class and had a perfect 4.0 GPA. With the change that has been made for this year, that same student will only be getting a 3.7 with the same grades. That's kind of irritating for kids in that situation, don't you think? That 0.3 points could be a major difference when looking to see if they qualify for scholarships and even getting accepted to colleges.

Where's the incentive for the kids that work their tail off to get an A to only get a 3.7 until they get their grade up to a 95%? "The fact that they withheld the information about the 3.7 A- from the voters isn't right. They should have explained it better because we literally got the

Were you one of the students that signed the petition last year?



If "yes" to signing last year, do you feel like the grading scale in effect for this school year is what you thought you were getting?



Answered by only sophomores, juniors, and seniors - (Responses from 67 out of 71 students that this applies to)

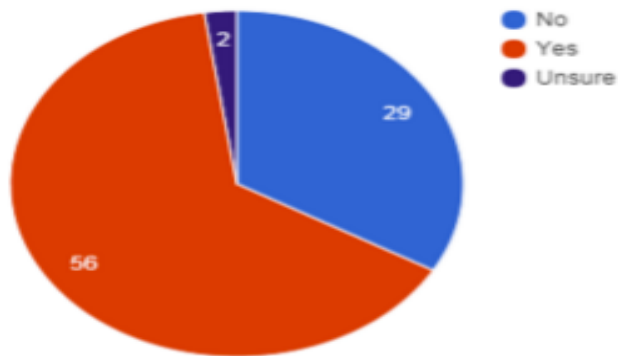
exact opposite of what we wanted. An A- should still be a 4.0. The whole point of the changed scale was to help us" says another

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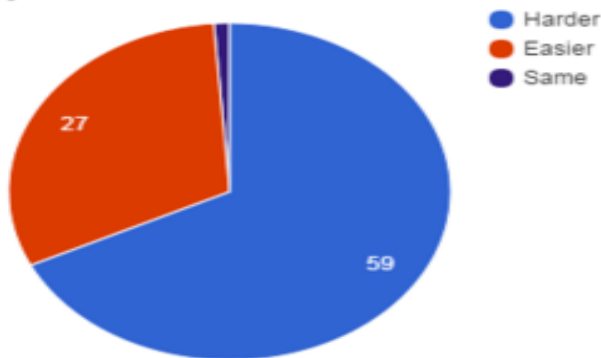
Grade Scale, continued

anonymous GPHS student. There's always going to be a few students that don't care either way and go with the flow, but above all, most students are going through their days almost feeling cheated by our superiors.

Do you feel that the new grading scale has helped you this year, as it was supposed to do?



Do you think it's easier or harder when it comes to keeping your GPA where it was last year?

**Fall Polls**

Kaylie Scoggins, staff writer
Ashley McCarter, staff writer

Throughout this issue, check out the fall polls – see what's popular, what's coming up, or even just if your opinion won!

Top Ten

Kaylie Scoggins, staff writer

Personal Top Ten

- The Hills - The Weekend
- Hotline Bing- Drake
- House Party- Sam Hunt
- Flex (Ooh Ooh Ooh) -Rich Homie Quan
- Again - Fetty Wap
- 7/11 - Beyonce
- Jungle - Drake
- 6god - Drake
- Marvin Gaye - Charlie Puth ft. Meghan Trainor
- Drunk in Love- Beyonce

Billboard's Top Ten Pop Songs

1. The Hills-The Weekend
2. What do You Mean? - Justin Bieber
3. Can't Feel My Face- The Weekend
4. Watch Me- Silento
5. Good for You- Selena Gomez
6. Locked Away- R. City ft. Adam Levine
7. 679 - Fetty Wap ft. Remy Boyz
8. Cheerleader - OMI
9. Hotline Bing- Drake
10. Lean On - Major Lazor and DJ Snake ft. MO

Top Ten Country Hits

1. Kick the Dust Up- Luke Bryan
2. House Party- Sam Hunt
3. Girl Crush- Little Big Town
4. Buy Me a Boat- Chris Janson
5. Crash and Burn- Thomas Rhett
6. Like a Wrecking Ball- Eric Church
7. Loving You Easy- Zac Brown Band
8. Break Up With Him- Old Dominion
9. Tonight Looks Good on You- Jason Aldean
10. Burning House- Cam

College Bound Seniors

Congratulations to seniors for their acceptances!

Lexi Kessinger – SIUe

Kayla McCallister – Culver-Stockton, Carthage College, IC, Concordia

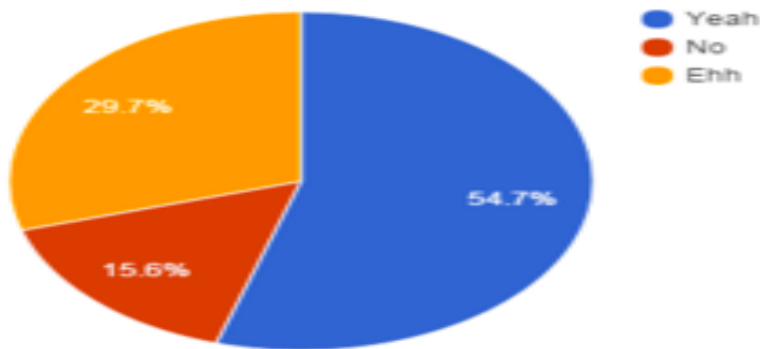
Bailey Powers – Maryville University, IC, Culver-Stockton

Macey Sargent – JWCC

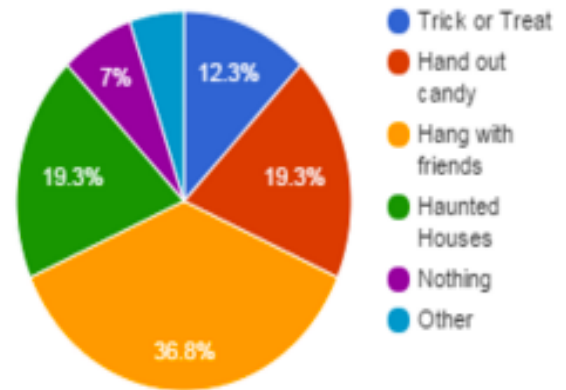
MiKayla Smith – Northland College, MacMurray, Culver-Stockton, Hannibal-LaGrange

Kayce Smith – Hannibal-LaGrange, McKendree University

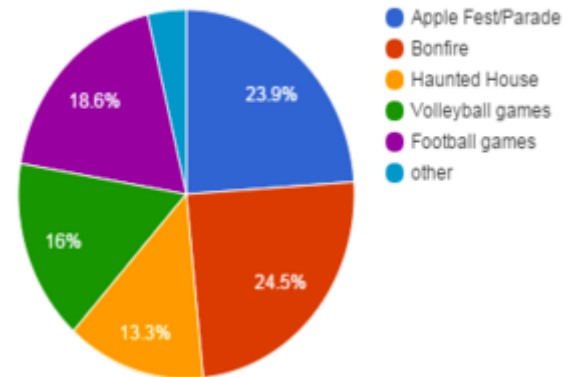
Are you looking forward to winter?



What do you do for Halloween?



Which fall activity have you done or going to do?



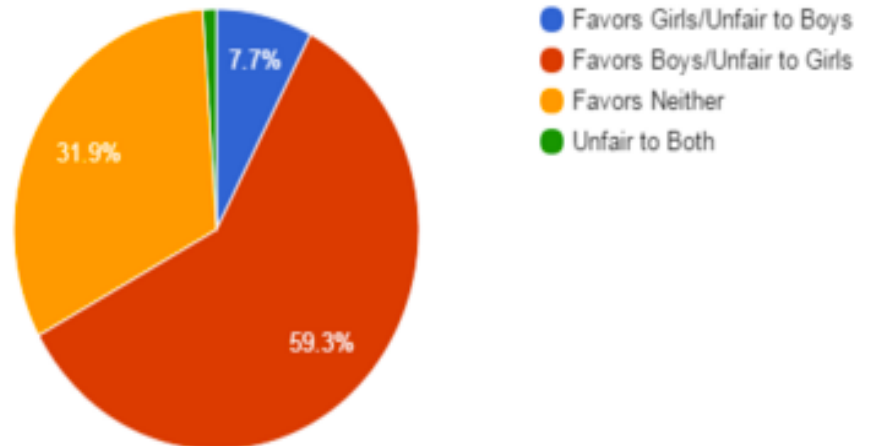
Individuality

Maleah Richard, staff writer

Individuality is defined as the quality or character of a particular person or thing that distinguishes them from others of the same kind. In a conforming society teenagers feel a need to express their individuality in several ways, with clothing being one of them. The purpose of the school dress code policy is to keep students modest.

Some Griggsville-Perry students, however, feel that the policy is unfair. Over half of the student population feels that the policy is unfair to girls. Out of a poll of 91 students, 54 feel that the dress code policy is unfair to girls.

Regardless of gender, all students deserve a comfortable learning environment. Does that comfort require the sacrifice of individuality? When students are worried about their appearance, grades may suffer as they worry about how they are perceived by their peers.



Book Reviews

Kayce Smith, staff writer

All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven

Theodore Finch and Violet Markey first meet on the ledge of their school bell tower, six stories up, freezing and terrified. Theo coaxes Violet off the ledge, before she does the unthinkable, and even lets everyone else think it happened the other way around. They soon find that they can be themselves with each other and both finally start to just live life for awhile. This is, essentially, the story of a girl saved by a boy who couldn't save himself. I highly recommend that you read this book if you liked *A Fault in Our Stars* by John Green or *Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell.

The Haven by Carol Lynch

If you like sci-fi/futuristic books, this is definitely a book for you. Established in 2020, The Haven Hospital & Halls is the premier care facility for Terminals, kids and teens with the Disease, a sickness that claims their bodies piece by piece until they can no longer survive. Williams tells a first-person narrative of Shilo, a terminal girl living at the Haven who soon finds out that the place she's always known is a place full of lies. This is a riveting novel that will leave you on edge from the very beginning.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs

Yes, this is another Sci-fi book, but what can I say? They're all so good! After the murder of his grandfather, apparently by a make-believe creature, 16-year-old Jacob Portman goes to Wales to learn the truth about his grandfather's past. There, he finds all the children of the orphanage where his grandfather lived as a child alive and well, and still children. As Jacob discovers more about his grandfather, he soon discovers that he and the children are being hunted by a monster only he can see. Riggs use of haunting black-and-white pictures throughout *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* give the story a sense of realism that you'll only discover if you read it for yourself.

Book Reviews

Allison Huntley, staff writer

The Immortals by Alyson Noël, is a sequence of novels on psychics and Immortals. It's about a girl named Ever Bloom, and one day something terrible happened; her parents, sister, and her dog all died in a car accident. She then had to go move in with her Aunt Sabine. Each book talks about new problems that Ever and/or her friends encounter.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians by Rick Riordan, is a series about a kid named Percy Jackson. One day on a field trip Percy's world gets turned upside down, he is attacked by one of his teachers and finds out that his history teacher and his best friend is not at all human. If you like exciting books you should read this series.

The Giver by Lois Lowry, the novel follows a boy named Jonas through the twelfth and thirteenth years of his life. Jonas is selected to inherit the position of Receiver of Memory, the person who stores all the past memories of the time before Sameness.

Favorite Holiday or Event

