

# AUSTIN EAGLE MONTHLY



December 2018

Volume 1, Issue 4



# CONTENTS

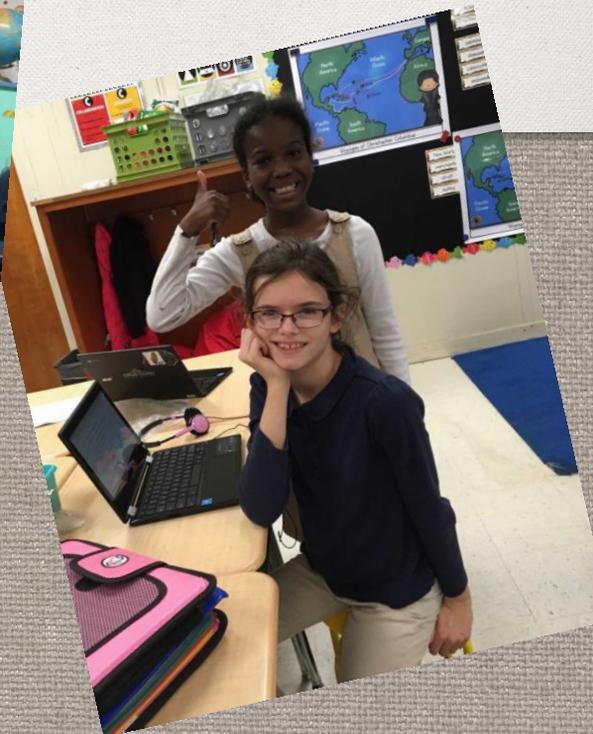
Our Giving Tree	4
Interview with Officer Morgan	5
Austin Lifeguard League	6
Q & A with Ms. Christensen	7
Q & A with Ms. Hildreth	8
Q & A with Mrs. Desai	9
Q & A with Ms. Asher	10
Q & A with Mrs. Stanfield	11
Gold Lion Tamarins	12
Say No to Censorship!	14
The Dangers of Social Media	15



# THE STAFF

Audrey A.,  
Liam B.  
Lydia B.  
Keegan B.  
Mukund K.  
Caroline M.  
Jillian P.  
Jayen S.

Natalie S.  
Trevor T.  
Loren D.  
Janey W.  
Lauren K.  
Beck L.  
Michael N.  
Akshaj B.



# THE GIVING TREE



Do you know what the Giving Tree is? The Giving Tree is a part of the annual Socks & Mittens Drive. Think of them as partners. The Socks & Mittens Drive has been an Austin tradition for three decades! The student council collects the socks and mittens and puts them on the Giving Tree in our cafeteria until the drive is over. Austin got the tree we now have two years ago; before that, there was one made out of paper. Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Johnson are the student council advisors and organize the socks and mittens drive.

Q. How long have you been the sponsors of the socks and mittens drive?

A. [Mrs. Allen] 23 years.  
[Mrs. Johnson] seven years.

Q. Do you enjoy running the drive?

A. [Johnson} Yes, it's important to give to others so they can be warm, especially at the bus stop.

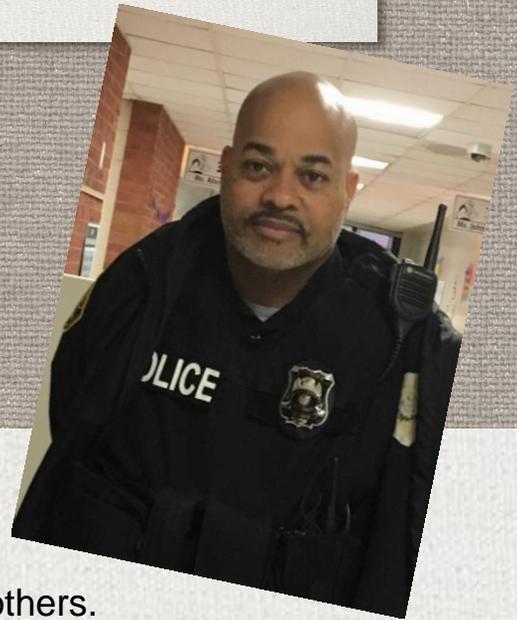
Q. Where do the socks and mittens go?

A. [Johnson] To less fortunate children in DeKalb County Schools such as Kingsley Elementary and Cary Reynolds Elementary.



**By Jillian Palumbo & Audrey Ambler**

# AUSTIN'S SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER RODERICK MORGAN



## **By Keegan B. & staff contributors**

Q. What inspired you to become a police officer?

A. I wanted to better serve my community and help others.

Q. Do you have a police dog at your station?

A. We have three K-9 units assigned to the school police.

Q. What do you like about your job?

A. It's very interesting and fun work, always learning and meeting people.

Q. Do you go to other public schools?

A. Yes, only within my county jurisdiction. I conduct security checks on other schools in this region or other surrounding schools like yours.

Q. How long have you been an officer?

A. I have been policing for about 26 years; started my career in 1992.

Q. How do you react to a Level III lockdown?

A. [It is] the highest level of security threat in a school, meaning that the school is on total lockdown, no movement. My role is to remove the threat or danger to ensure students and staff are safe.

# WHAT IS THE “AUSTIN LIFEGUARD LEAGUE”?

## AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. JACKSON & MRS. JONES

Q. What is the Lifeguard League?

A. [Jones] ALL (Austin Lifeguard League) is a mentoring program to guide students to excellence with caring. It supports students academically and socially.

Q. Who is it for?

A. [Jackson] The program is for students who could use a little extra support getting where they need to be academically.

Q. How does it work?

A. [Jones] Each teacher is assigned a student and they must develop a caring relationship with the student. They assist the student in areas that need support.

Q. How did you think of it?

A. [Jackson] I didn't think of the Austin Lifeguard League. It was Dr. Culbreath's idea and she merged it with the mentoring program that I used to do.

Q. Will it be something that teachers do every year?

A. [Jones] Absolutely!

Q. What will students get out of it?

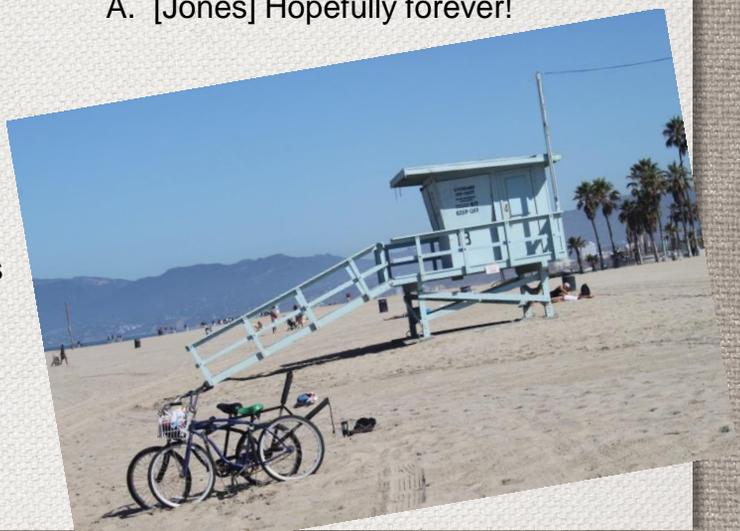
A. [Jackson] Students will gain extra support from another teacher and close an academic gap that they may have in their learning. They are able to build a relationship with a different teacher. It is our hope that the student's grades will go up and scores increase.

Q. Does it matter that students only get to spend 15 minutes with their mentor?

A. [Jones] Yes, it matters. Who wouldn't want 15 extra minutes focused only on you? It's special to know that you have your personal cheerleader helping you to run this course in education.

Q. How long will it last?

A. [Jones] Hopefully forever!



By Caroline M. & Loren D.

# Q&A WITH MS. CHRISTENSEN

Q. When did you start teaching?

A. I started teaching six years ago.

Q. Do you like second grade or do you think another grade is better for you?

A. I love second grade! I don't see myself wanting to change grades anytime soon.

Q. Do you like your class this year?

A. Yes, they are very smart and good. 😊

Q. What is the most important thing that your students are working on right now?

A. My students are learning addition and subtraction with regrouping, so I keep telling them to practice their "fast facts" often!

Q. What inspired you to teach?

A. My mom most inspired me. She's not a teacher – she majored in business – but she loved teaching my siblings and me. She also taught me to love learning.



By Jillian P. & Audrey A.

# Q&A WITH MS. HILDRETH



Q. How many years have you been teaching?

A. I have taught for five years, four of them in kindergarten.

Q. What inspired you to teach?

A. I love kids and I love learning, so I wanted to help kids love learning, too!

Q. Do you like teaching at Austin?

A. I LOVE teaching at Austin!! The kids are the BEST!

Q. Do you like kindergarten or do you think another grade is better for you?

A. I love teaching kindergarted and I hope I can do it for the rest of my life. 😊

Q. Do your kindergarteners act like preschoolers?

A. Sometimes at the beginning of the school year, but once they learn the rules and routines, they start to look and act like kindergarteners.

Q. Do you think the school days should be longer?

A. I do not think the school day should be longer. I think I would feel way too tired. 😊  
Great questions! Thank you for interviewing me!!

By Tess K., Audrey A., and Jillian P.

# Q&A WITH MRS. DESAI

BY AUDREY A. & JILLIAN P.



Q. How many years have you been teaching?

A. Twelve years. (Six years in Chicago; six years in Georgia.)

Q. What inspired you to teach?

A. I volunteered at a local junior high and tutored kiddoes in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade in math and Spanish.

Q. Do you like teaching at Austin?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you like teaching first grade or is another grade better for you?

A. First and second grade.

Q. Do your first graders still act like kindergarteners?

A. No, they are more independent.

Q. Do you think the school day should be longer?

A. No.

# INTERVIEW WITH MS. ASHER



**By Tess K., Audrey A., and Jillian P.**

Q. How many years have you been teaching?

A. Seven.

Q. What inspired you to teach?

A. I like watching kids learn and connect complex ideas.

Q. Do you like teaching at Austin?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you like teaching at Austin?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you like first grade or do you think another grade is better for you?

A. I love first grade. It's #1!

Q. Do your students still act like kindergarteners?

A. They're learning how to be individuals so they're constantly learning to grow and mature.

Q. Do you think that the school day should be longer?

A. No. Kids should be kids. They need time to play, socialize, and explore the world outside of school.

# INTERVIEW WITH MRS. STANFIELD



BY CATHERINE L.

Q. How do you feel about your experience so far at Austin Elementary School?

A. It's been amazing! All of the students, teachers, and parents have been so welcoming!

Q. Do you prefer any other grades or is third grade perfect for you?

A. Third grade is my absolute favorite! Especially third grade math.

Q. Have you ever taught before or is this your first year?

A. This is my tenth year of teaching!

Q. What is your favorite subject?

A. My favorite subject is math and I am teaching it now and am very happy!

# GOLDEN LION TAMARINS

BY MICHAEL N.



A golden blur runs through the treetops of Brazil. It's moving at a high speed no one has ever seen. Meet the endangered Golden Lion Tamarin!

Golden Lion Tamarins are perfectly adapted to Brazil's Atlantic Forest. Their claws extend and give them tremendous grip and agility. The tail also helps them balance in the treetops. They have golden-orange fur all over their body, which is darker in some places, a lion-like mane, and long toes to help them climb the forest trees.

Golden Lion Tamarins are omnivores with a diet of insects and fruits. Their scientific name is *Leontopithecus Rosalia*. The Golden Lion Tamarin's predators are birds of prey, cats, Mustelids, and large snakes, making them secondary consumers.

The Golden Lion Tamarin is endangered for two reasons. Before European settlers came to South America, the Tamarin habitat stretched all along Brazil's coastline. Today, less than 10% of the tamarin habitat remains. In the 1500s, settlers from Portugal started moving into the Atlantic Forest and began cutting down many trees. The tamarin

population went down quickly. Golden Lion Tamarins are also endangered animals because of overexploitation.

Luckily for the tamarins, some measures have been taken to protect them from extinction. The first measures were taken in 1975 when there were only 122 tamarins left in zoos. Scientists started to look at wild Golden Lion Tamarin breeding behavior. They observed breeding behavior and were able to fix



## GOLDEN LION TAMARINS (CONTINUED)

certain errors that they notices. By the mid 1980s, there were about 500 Golden Lion Tamarins in zoos! However, the tamarins in Brazil were dying out, so in 1984, 15 monkeys were released, and in 2007, many trees were planted to support the tamarins' survival.

To see the Golden Lion Tamarin, visit the Atlantic Forest. You'll have an amazing time watching these small mammals zip through the trees. If you want this cute, furry animal to be removed from the endangered list, you can always donate to help save these adorable animals.

By Michael N.

# CENSORSHIP IN SCHOOLS IS WRONG!

BY BECK L.

One type of censorship is the removal of materials from school library collections and it has risen significantly in recent decades. Librarians and teachers have censored certain books in school libraries, which in my opinion is wrong because it takes away the chance that others in the future will read these books. This is true, according to writer and researcher Crystal Lombardo, because “Books, particularly books that have been banned or challenged, contain themes and passages that makes people think.” Censoring books protects children from reading inappropriate content but censoring libraries violates the First Amendment.

The first reason why censorship in schools is bad is it is depriving readers from the opportunity to read them. According to the American Library Association, “Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view, rather, they are an attempt to remove material from the curriculum or library, thereby restricting the access of others.” According to Lombardo, “Books are a way to go places you’ve never been and to experience different things without leaving the comfort of your bed or couch.”

The second reason censoring books isn’t right is it violates the First Amendment, which protects several basic freedoms in the U.S., including freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the right to assemble, and the right to petition the government. It is part of the Bill of Rights. The American Library Association contends that “Censorship by librarians of constitutionally protected speech, whether for protection or for any reason, violates the First Amendment.”

Third, some people think that censorship protects children. “It prevents young children from reading material inappropriate for their age, says Lombardo. “Censoring library books prevents exposure to material perceived as offensive.”

In conclusion, censoring books is wrong and it violates the First Amendment. School libraries should not be censored because it deprives people of the opportunity to read potentially mind-expanding, controversial, or challenging ideas in the name of protecting young children.



# FIVE FACTS ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA

BY JANEY W.



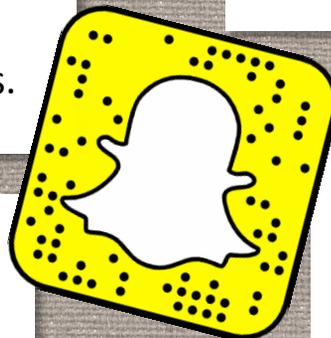
Social media are websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking.

1.  
Most teenagers are on social media and it can sometimes break friendships by spreading false rumors or posting private messages without permission.

2.  
Social media can cause depression. Say you were at a party and posted about it on social media and a friend found out that you were at the party without them and they might feel left out.

3.  
One good thing about social media is that you can sometimes make friends.

5.  
Beware of social media!



4.  
People can find out your username and even personal information about you, like your real name, address, phone number and even more!





**ENJOY THE WINTER BREAK!  
SEE YOU IN 2019!**