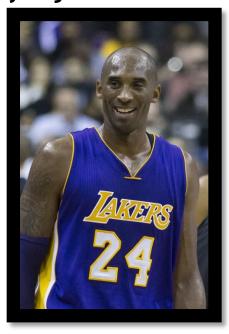
# Voice of the Highlander

## **February 2020 – No. 7**

The student newspaper of Robert T. Hill Middle School in Dallas, TX.

### Kobe dies at 41

By 8th grader Ian Marchand



On January 26, an NBA legend, who is considered the greatest in some eyes, Kobe Bryant, died in a helicopter crash at a very young age, 41. This was a tragic time in the world of sports after later finding out that his 13-year old daughter, Gianna, was in the helicopter too.

The helicopter was carrying nine people, including Kobe and Gianna.

According to most sources, the helicopter had caught fire, causing a malfunction in the handling making the aircraft.

The helicopter went down crashing in the hills of Calabasas, killing everyone on board.

Kobe was a legend in basketball, and out of it. He was a 5-time NBA champion, 2-time finals MVP, 2-time gold medalist, a MVP, and 2 time scoring champion; just to name a few.

Kobe's loss will be mourned by all.

### **Coronavirus**

By 8th grader Jaime Batista



The widespread Coronavirus is increasing at an alarming rate. It has already spread to 16 countries as of January 2020.

Should you be afraid of it? It is only a matter of time before we know how dangerous it can get.

We asked several students their thoughts on the matter, and most resulted in them saying they would rather stay in the safety of their home.

Already the streets of Wuhan (the city in China where is started) is completely empty because everyone is staying at their homes due to the lockdown of China.

If the virus ever goes out of control, just remember to stay away from sick people, and stay in the private enclosed space known as your home.

Remember the ones that died to this virus. No one wants to go that way.

### 8 Kobe Bryant 24



By 8th grader Cody Fulenwider

Kobe Bryant was a wellknown accomplished figure in the sport of basketball. His career high was when he single handedly scored eighty-one points in a single game.

Kobe Bryant wore the number eight later switching to the number twenty-four. One things for sure, he has made a huge lasting impact on the world of basketball.

Kobe has inspired many people go on with the sport that they love and become that they never thought possible of themselves. He was also a proud father of three daughters and he had a loving wife. He was a great Basketball player and no doubt had a long life ahead of him.

Kobe's legacy will live on in the hearts of many Basketball players as well as his many fans. Kobe will not be forgotten, and will no doubt hold a place in history.

### TRENDING SHOES

By 8th grader Breanna Bailey



Almost every month there is a new trending shoe, or a trending color of shoes. Here at Robert T. Hill Middle School most of the students keep up with the trending shoes.

We spoke with a couple of students about what shoes they liked and there were lots of different shoes that students mentioned. Some shoes that we have never heard about.

Some students have even said that they will be buying "Kobe Bryant" shoes in honor of him and his daughter's death.

We hope for more new shoes and clothes.

### **Baseball**

By 8<sup>th</sup> grader Ceferino Cruz Martinez



Baseball is about to start!

"I'm excited to be on the team," said 8<sup>th</sup> grader Evaristo Hernandez.

This year we think we going to get to the finals. The team thinks this year they will have a good baseball team.

Last year, they didn't get to the finals. The goal for the team is to win all the games and represent Robert T Hill Middle School. The baseball coaches are Mr. Fuentes and Mr. Morriss.

We wonder if this year they are going to work hard to be the

best baseball team in the district? If you have questions, go to Coach Fuentes. You can find him in room 216.

### The Stanky Legg!



### By 8<sup>th</sup> grader Kaylon Edwards

The Stanky Legg first debuted as a song in 2009 and was released by the hip-hop group GS Boyz. The music video popularized the stanky leg dance, which involves extending one leg and circling that knee, and then doing the same with the other leg.

Here at Hill, the dance is still performed by many students.

We wanted to ask and interview some students to get their opinions on the dance, so we asked a couple of them some questions related to it. "The Stanky Legg is imprinted into my heart and soul," said 8th grader Elias Lane. When we asked how he felt about the dance he said, "I learned about the Stanky Legg from the media."

"I didn't regret it a single bit," said 8th grader Jamie Batista when we asked him how he learned it.

We love the diversity of dances at Hill, they make people and days more interesting at school.



Congratulations to the Hill Band for doing an amazing job at their first competition!

## Softball

#### By 8th grader Savannah David

Softball is about to start, and I am very excited about it. If you are interested in joining softball you will need these things completed before you can start practicing.

First of all, you would need a physical filled completely and turned into Ms. Thibodaux in the gym.

Secondly, you would need rank one cards filled out and you could go to the gym for that as well.

Finally, you would need to be passing by the end of this six weeks (Feb 21).

## Mrs. Tseng's Leg Update

By 8th grader Evelyn Vazquez

Mrs. Tseng is a 6th, 7th and 8th grade STEM teacher here at Robert T. Hill. She has been teaching here for 11 years.

Mrs. Tseng injured her leg while setting up her classroom last fall.

"My leg is getting better, but it's still painful and I wish I could sit for longer," she said.

We asked her, "When are you going to be able to walk again?" She said, "It depends on my therapy."

She also said, "My family was very surprised and worried when I hurt myself."

Mrs. Tseng's seems to be doing better. Even though she's still in pain We all hope that Mrs. Tseng's has a fast recovery.

# Jumanji Review

By 8th grader Angela Tapia



Jumanji: The Next Level came out December 13, 2019.

Some have yet not seen it or even heard about it. As a result, we asked 8th grader Evaristo Hernandez some questions about the movie to tell us a bit about it.

"The movie is basically about a group of friends travel back into a video game for a friend," said Hernandez.

We hope you go see the movie and tell us what you think!

## The Scammys

By 8th grader Demarion Wreh



The Grammys is an award show that acknowledges the artist who've worked hard and perfected their craft throughout the year.

Recently, they have been handing out Grammys out like charity and they are receiving immense backlash for these actions

The snubbing of some artist is not a new thing it and has been going on for 50 years.

Now it has gotten worse and black women are the victims.

"I just think Nicki should receive an award, she really has paved the way for a lot of rappers," said 8<sup>th</sup> grader Savannah David.

Not only Nicki is a victim, but Rihanna is too.

"I just think it's not fair period, especially for Rihanna," said 8<sup>th</sup> grader Jocelyn Shombert.

Hopefully the Grammys will recognize and see that these women in general are very talented and gifted. They deserve more than the fake gold award. They deserve and thank you and an apology. This award does not define how amazing these people are.

# **Esports**

By 8th grader Andrew Sivess



In the month of November, the esports club was created. Gamers all around the school rejoiced, myself included, but the club hasn't met up in weeks. There haven't even been any competitions.

One of the people in the club, 8th grader Kaylon Edwards, thinks the club is great. "I think it's very creative," he says.

I am also in the club, and I hope the club meets more often in the future.

For more info about Esports, visit Ms. Grant in room 203.

### Happy Valentines

By 7th grader Katie Dotson



Valentine's day is a special day. You, and your lover, have a day for yourselves. Those

who don't have a lover may get one. There are events going on at the school. We are having a Valentine's dance and an event called Val-o-grams.

Thursday, February 13, is when the dance will be held. I believe there will be food. There should be music. There will be no school the following Friday and Monday. You can go with a couple, with a friend, or by yourself. The price is about five dollars.

Valograms, you can send a flower to a friend or lover. They are on sale at all lunches on Fridays. They cost two dollars each. Have a nice Valentine's Day.

# The incredible Brisa

By 8<sup>th</sup> grader Emely Rodriguez



You have probably seen or heard Brisa in lunch or hallways. She's short, black hair and always carries a purple folder.

Anyway, we decided to interview her, so

you'll know her more. She's one of my closest friends.

"Melanie Martinez is the best singer," said Brisa Martinez.

"Victoria is my favorite animal," said Martinez.

That's some stuff about Brisa you may find interesting.

Now you can talk to her in the hallway or at lunch. I'm sure you're going to hear her because she is loud.

She's a very nice friend to have. She is nice to me and others.

### Dear Highlander:

**Your Questions Answered** 

By 7<sup>th</sup> grader Julissa Gomez

Dear Highlander,

My name is Monica, and I have been bullied a lot for my body shape and height. I need help. I am always scared to go to school because I think that they are going to fight me/hurt me.

Sincerely, Monica

Dear Monica,

You should not be afraid to go to school because of them bullying you. You can tell an adult that you trust, and talk with the counselors, so that

they can help you find a stop to this. Please don't feel afraid to stand up to them and let them know that you are not afraid.

Sincerely, Julissa Gomez Dear Highlander,

My name is Lily and I am being forced to do drugs even though I don't want to. They want me to do drugs just so that I can be cool.

Sincerely, Lily

Dear Lily,

If you don't want to then you don't have to. Nobody can force you to do anything that you don't want to be. Tell your parents about this and if those kids think that smoking is cool that's on them, but you are already cool for being you.

Sincerely, Julissa Gomez

Dear Highlander,

My name is Dani and I need help because there is a lot of drama in my life and a lot of people are trying to fight me and it's so stressful. I feel so alone sometimes. Please help.

Sincerely,

Dani

Dear Dani,

I know that drama can be a stressful thing to you, but you should talk to the office or the counselors so that they can put a stop to this. Don't be afraid of them and no you are not alone, people are here to help you.

Sincerely, Julissa Gomez

# Counselor rocks at Hill

By 7th grader Moo Paw



Mr. Seals is a 7th grade counselor here at Hill. He has been teaching at hill for two years but have been teaching for 31 years.

Mr. Seals was born in Houston, TX. Mr. Seals like to visit interesting places.

"New York is my favorite place to visit," said Mr. Seals.

During his spare time, he likes to read, and he started going to the gym.

Mr. Seals is an awesome counselor here at Hill. we are excited to learn more about him in the future.

### **Movie Review:**

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil
By Ty'liyah Smith



The movie Maleficent: Mistress of Evil has been doing very well since its release in October 2019. Millions of people lined up for hours to even see this movie. It was a very action filled and interesting movie.

A few students here at RTH have seen the actual movie in theaters.

"I really liked the ending," says 8th grader Breanna Bailey.

"I liked all of the action," says 7th grader Julissa Gomez.

If you want to go and see it head over to Hollywood Theaters. You only have to pay \$2.

What is your favorite movie?

# The cookie box extravaganza

By 8th grader Corlynda Malvern



The cookie box creation will be a well put together piece.

Cookie box creation will be from the girl scout cookies sold.

The people involved are girl scouts and Coach Thibodaux.
They are from the already sold boxes of cookies.

This creation is a new thing this year.

The inspiration is to get girls to get out of their comfort zone and socialize with new people at school or in the community.

### Walter is so lit

By 8th grader Frank Cochran



Over the weekend, I got a new dog. His name is Walter.

He is also a bull terrier. He is a very good boy who loves memes and wants to live in isolation. I don't make the rules. Demarion Wreh, also in 8th grade, said, "He looks very cool". We can only agree.

Walter has been a great dog. He has also changed many lives. Thank you, Walter.

### **Newspaper Staff:**

Corlynda Malvern Frank Cochran **Moo Paw Iulissa Gomez Emely Rodriguez Andrew Sivess Katie Dotson Demarion Wreh Evelyn Vazquez** Savanna David **Kaylon Edwards Cody Fulenwider** Ian Marchand Angela Tapia Ceferino Cruz Martinez **Breanna Bailev Jaime Batista** Ty'livah Smith **Azalia Gonzales** Mr. Ault - Advisor