

The

SUMMIT



GROSSMONT COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWS MEDIA | HOLIDAY 2023

Season of Celebration!



PHOTO BY MYA ALEXANDER

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The staff of *The Summit* is enrolled in an academic media news production course. A main function of *The Summit* is to provide a professional learning experience for students of any major classification who express an interest in journalism and have completed an introductory news writing course. To serve this function, *The Summit* is entirely student-run. Student editors are responsible for all editorial decisions, content and editing. The instructor/ adviser is available for training, guidance and advice, but has no control over the content or editing of the newspaper. Prior review is not exercised. These guidelines have been established to protect the First Amendment freedoms guaranteed to the student press, as well as a guarantee of valuable learning experience in all aspects of newspaper management for the students. **Please direct all inquiries, comments and letters to the editor to summit@gcccd.edu.**

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Summit Staff

What's
your
favorite
holiday
tradition?



CLOCKWISE FROM BACK LEFT: JANELLE CARTER, MARK LEE, ALANA MULLALY, LINDSAY ELIAS, MYA ALEXANDER, ALESSANDRO PABON, AARON LUNA, JACOM CUMMINGS, PERLA CRUZ.

Mya Alexander: My favorite holiday tradition is something very personal, but also something I have been doing since I was 10 years old. I would go with my family downtown and we would all dress up warmly due to the cold weather, and we would all surround this very big tree with other individuals. No matter age, race, gender or ethnicity, we would all show up with food to share and sit around the tree, offering each other, love, kindness and support. This tradition has changed a lot of people over years because a lot of those people didn't have people to celebrate the holidays with, so they would come and find people at the tree.

Janelle Carter: My favorite tradition is when my family gathers around in the family room and opens presents on Christmas morning. It makes me happy seeing everyone's reactions to what they got under the tree.

Perla Cruz: Homemade cooking for my family's potluck is my favorite holiday tradition. Being able to contribute great meals that were made out of love while enjoying each other's company will always be pure.

Jacom Cummings: My family has always celebrated the fall and winter holidays with traditions most people are familiar with. We decorate for Halloween, and in past years have done family group costumes of characters from *Pokemon* or *Teen Titans*. Early in November, we honor our ancestors on Día de los Muertos. Later in the month, we often eat Thanksgiving dinner with my great-aunt's family. Christmas has always been very special to my family as Christians, and we commemorate the birth of Christ with the Nativity story, along with gifts and togetherness.

Lindsay Elias: During Christmas time, my parents would take me and my siblings up to Viejas to ice skate and watch the *Ice Princess* show. It was always super cold so my mom would layer us up, and we would look like marshmallows skating around.

Mark Lee: My favorite tradition is to watch *The Polar Express* every Christmas with my family in remembrance of my father, Luther Lee III,

who was born on Christmas Day. We also like to play Scattergories, Uno and video games together for little prizes you can win and maximum fun!

Aaron Luna: My favorite tradition has been traveling up to Modesto to visit my grandparents for the holidays. Some other traditions include cooking the turkey for Thanksgiving, visiting theme parks to see their holiday decorations, and driving down Candy Cane Lane in Chula Vista on Christmas Eve to see the houses.

Alana Mullaly: My favorite holiday tradition would be making Mexican hot chocolate, otherwise known as Chocolate Ibarra, and Mexican wedding cakes on Christmas Eve.

Alessandro Pabon: My favorite holiday tradition would be my family's Christmas Eve dinner. The dinner is filled with some of my favorite foods. Once all the food is eaten, we all open presents and it is always a good time.

WRAPPING IT UP

The holiday season serves as a reminder that with every ending comes the promise of new beginnings. It's a time to embrace the warmth of family and friends and look ahead to the possibilities of the upcoming year.

Whether you're celebrating traditional holidays or simply enjoying the beauty of winter, don't forget to live in the moment and capture the magic of this time of year.

As we bid farewell to 2023 and welcome 2024, I want to wish you all a prosperous, healthy and adventurous new year.

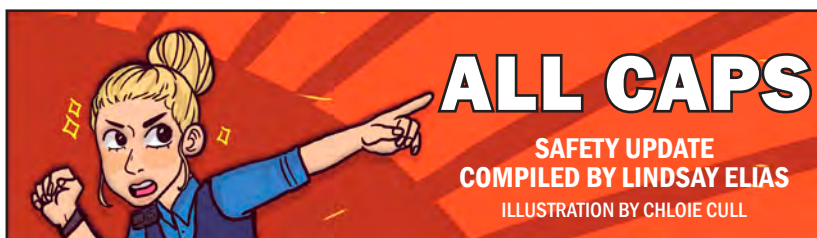


Lindsay Elias

Lindsay Elias, Editor-in-Chief

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

We are very concerned with the quality of our journalism. If you spot a factual error, please contact us at summit@gcccd.edu.



Grossmont's Campus and Parking Services team, a.k.a. CAPS, handle campus safety concerns along with a sheriff's deputy from the San Diego County Sheriff's Office.

Grossmont's Campus and Parking Services team, also known as CAPS, is dedicated to ensuring safety among all students and faculty at the college. These events on campus were among those noted on the crime log* last month.

- **Oct. 12:** Deputies conducted extra patrol throughout the day due to the "National Day of Resistance" Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) event.
- **Oct. 13:** Deputies conducted extra patrol due to Hamas' global call to arms on this day.
- **Oct. 18:** Deputy met with school staff regarding a student-athlete with a criminal record and his eligibility to play sports.
- **Oct. 24:** Deputies checked on a vehicle in lot 3, it was parked there for several days.

* The Clery Act is a federal statute requiring colleges participating in federal financial aid programs to maintain and disclose campus crime statistics and security information. A daily crime log is kept allowing the public to view the most recent information.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

COMPILED BY AARON LUNA*

NOVEMBER

- 9:** Spring into 2024, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (10-172)
Pathways to Work Info Session, 11 a.m. to noon (Hyflex)
Exploring Majors Workshop, 2 to 2:30 p.m. (Online)
Fine Dining Series, 5:15 to 7 p.m. (60-173) \$
Cadence Vocal Jazz Ensemble, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

10-11: Veterans Day holiday observance

12: Deadline to drop semester-length class with "W"

13: Spring registration starts
Spring Into 2024, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. (10-172)

14: Spring Into 2024, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (10-172)

15: Exploring Majors Workshop, 12:30 to 1 p.m. (Online)
Spring into 2024, 1 to 3 p.m. (10-172)

16: *Breaking Boundaries*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

17: *Breaking Boundaries*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$
Four Ways to Manage Your Debt, 10 to 11 a.m. (Online)
All About Credit, 11 a.m. to noon (Online)

18: *Breaking Boundaries*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

20-25: Thanksgiving break

21: Food Distribution, 1 to 3 p.m. (Main Quad)

29: Respiratory Therapy Previews, 11 a.m. to noon (Online)

30: Exploring Majors Workshop, 11:30 a.m. to noon (Online)

DECEMBER

1: Financial Aid Fridays, 9 to 10:30 a.m. (10-172)
Grossmont Symphony Orchestra & Master Chorale, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

5: Work-Based Learning Info Session, 10 to 11 a.m. (Hyflex 60-140)
Jazz and Vocal Jazz Ensembles, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

6: Exploring Majors Workshop, 12:30 to 1 p.m. (Online)
Love Languages, 2 to 3 p.m. (Online)

7: Concert Bands Winter Concert, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

8: Griffin Community Concerts: *Viva Espana!*, 6 p.m. (PVAC) \$

13: *Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker: Redux*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

14: *Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker: Redux*, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$ |
Exploring Majors Workshop, 2 to 2:30 p.m. (Online)

15: Financial Aid Fridays, 9 to 10:30 a.m. (10-172)

16: End of fall semester

19: Grossmont Jazz and String Ensembles, 7:30 p.m. (PVAC) \$

21: Instructors' Grade Deadline

22: College and district offices closed until Jan. 1

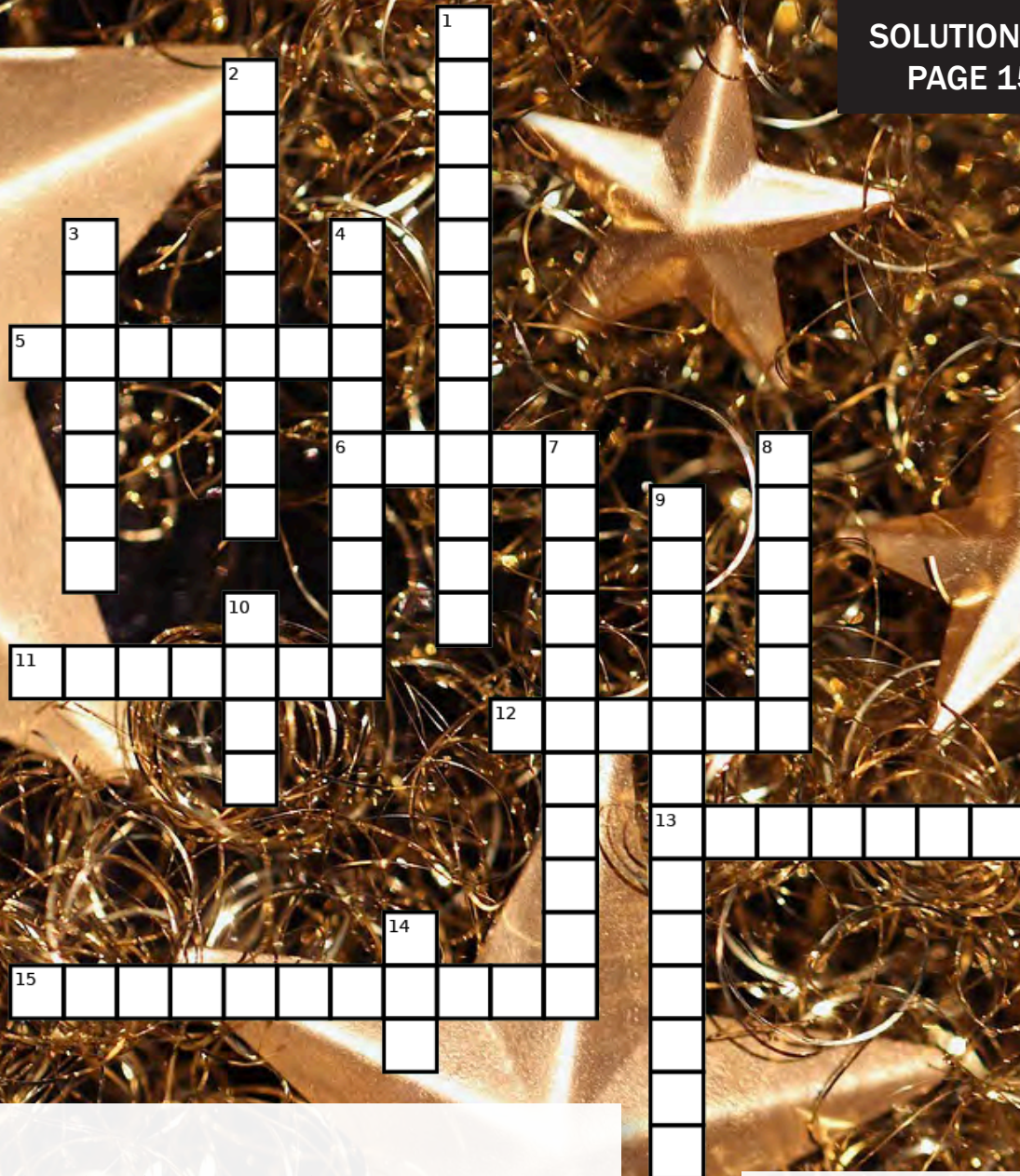
*Events subject to change; visit grossmont.edu for online meeting logins and latest info. | \$ Indicates admission cost

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**SOLUTION ON
PAGE 15**



DOWN

1. Fourth Thursday of every November
2. What do you hang on the Christmas tree?
3. Hanukkah tradition of spinning a _____.
4. The 25th of December
7. The Times Square New Year's Eve ball drops in what city?
8. Bird served on Thanksgiving
9. What do you put gifts under?
10. Drink you leave for Santa
14. Popular Thanksgiving dessert

ACROSS

5. Jan. 1 is the beginning of the _____.
11. Food you leave for Santa
12. _____ the Snowman
13. Hanukkah candle holder
15. The day after Thanksgiving



MASTER THE CHAOS

Use these Griffins' latest tips and tricks for successful shopping without the stress. | STORY AND DESIGN BY ALANA MULLALY

Living in the United States comes with a lot of interesting customs and traditions. Among these, one standout practice is Black Friday. The day after filling our bellies with turkey and stuffing, we head to the mall to get our shopping on.

On Black Friday, shops offer discounted prices on many products, including school supplies, both in-store and online. This day marks the beginning of the holiday season and shopping.

However, the day can be stressful for some due to large crowds and the fear of missing out on a great bargain.

If you are a die-hard holiday spender and partake in the bountiful sales of Black Friday, here are some tips and tricks to help you out on this stressful day.

Sonja Rice, an avid Black Friday shopper, advised utilizing Black Friday deals online. This lets you shop at the convenience of your own home and saves you time traveling from store to store.

Shopping online also allows you to compare prices from different retailers and find the best deals.

Isabelle Williamson said to shop on Black Friday's counterpart, Cyber Monday. If you don't like the rush and chaos of Black Friday, Cyber Monday focuses on online shopping. It offers similar discounts and deals but in a more serene online environment, complete with its own set of advantages.

However, if you prefer the traditional in-

utilize the deals on both Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

Other helpful tips and tricks are to plan ahead and make a list of all the items you need or want. This will help you decide on what stores to go to and help with preventing impulse buying.

Following retailers on social media

“Go out the earliest you can because there’s lots of early bird deals on Friday morning.”

—MICHELLE GARCIA

store experience, arriving early can prove beneficial. Big corporate retailers like Target, Best Buy and Walmart will have some early bird specials that you won't want to miss.

Another shopper, Michelle Garcia, said to “go out the earliest you can because there’s lots of early bird deals on Friday morning.”

To get the ultimate shopping experience,

allows you to see exclusive deals or flash sales.

Above all, remember to prioritize safety, patience and self-care by staying hydrated and well-rested. Black Friday presents an excellent opportunity to check off your holiday shopping list, and these tips and tricks will help you make it one for the books. 🐦

Holiday History

BY ALESSANDRO PABON

How did our festive traditions begin?

The year is starting to come to an end, which means the holiday season is right around the corner. During the last couple of months of the year, the majority of America will be celebrating Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. All three of these holidays have a lot of history and culture behind them that some people might not know about.

Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863 when Abraham Lincoln declared the last Thursday of November as a day to promote unity and give thanks for any blessings you may have received that year.

Congress later declared the fourth Thursday in November a federal holiday in 1941, solidifying its place in American holiday culture.

However, before it became an official holiday, it is believed the first Thanksgiving celebration occurred in 1621, when the pilgrims and the Wampanoag people ate together to celebrate a successful harvest. What many people do not know is that many native tribes celebrated successful harvests every year before Europeans stepped foot in the Americas.

Throughout time, the culture of Thanksgiving has changed slightly with the incorporation of football replacing celebrating a successful harvest.

Carlo Gonzaba, a student at Grossmont, said: "My dad always makes a turkey for my whole family. Then we go to my tia's house to watch the Dallas Cowboys play on TV and spend time with family and eat good food."

Thanksgiving is a very old American tradition that has always included spending time with loved ones and enjoying good food.

Christmas is a religious holiday celebrated throughout the world, and it has a history that dates back to 336 AD.

Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, but in the Bible, it never says the day Jesus Christ

was born. During the Roman Empire, the Roman Church picked the date Dec. 25 to compete with other holidays and try and get people to convert to Christianity.

Over the years, Christmas started to gain its yearly traditions many of which were from other Roman holidays that got mixed into Christmas.

For example, giving gifts to one another is one of the main traditions of Christmas today, but it was not originally a Christmas tradition. It was from the Saturnalia (Roman holiday) tradition and many people brought that tradition over to Christmas.

When looking at the state of Christmas today, it is undoubtedly one of the most celebrated holidays of the year. It has many traditions that include Christmas trees, carols and lights shining on top of houses. There are even people who are not religious who still put Christmas trees in their house and listen to Christmas music, which shows the evolution Christmas has had throughout its lifetime.

New Year's celebrations have been going on since the beginning of time. The first celebration of the New Year dates back to around 2000 BCE in Mesopotamia and was celebrated during early March.

The switch from March to January began first in the Roman Julian calendar, but many people still celebrated during March. It wasn't until 1582, when the Gregorian calendar became standardized and the majority of the people used it, that the new year was celebrated on the first of January.

Today most traditions consist of fireworks, parties and the countdown to the New Year's Day. Fouad Sabeeh, a Grossmont alumni, said, "I go over to family's house for a get-together and watch the New York countdown."

New Year's Eve is a time for rejoicing, no matter how you celebrate going into the new year. 🍷

ILLUSTRATION BY NINI KVARATSKHELIA



Balancing security and privacy sparks debate. | BY LINDSAY ELIAS

The installment of security cameras on campus has been delayed following an ongoing debate. The initial procedure began around five years ago when the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Council wanted to move forward with purchasing cameras for the campus.

When the topic was first introduced, there was a lot of support, but since then there has been some push-back.

While the primary aim is to enhance campus safety and security, concerns have been expressed such as the level of transparency, facial recognition, discrimination, the locations where the cameras will be placed, who will have access to the data and the procedures following data that has been retrieved.

"We want to make sure we are protecting our students, especially our vulnerable and marginalized student population," said Sharon Sampson, who is an instructor in the Administration of Justice Department.

Academic Senate President Dr. Pearl Lopez said, "What are you putting in place to protect our students so that if there is an incident, there is an actual process of how you're going to support our students and not go to direct punitive measures."

As of now, it is unclear who in the district can access the footage and when.

The current plan for the location of the new cameras does not include the parking structure due to not having the proper electrical lines built into it.

"Our entrances and exits should be monitored as well, and that's not part of the existing plan," Sampson said.

Supporters of the cameras argue that having a surveillance system in place will hold those responsible who have committed a crime. They also highlight the potential of cameras to provide valuable evidence in cases of incidents as well as aid law enforcement.

Grossmont Student Anthony Adams said: "I think it's a good idea as long as it's used for safety purposes, like if someone's car gets broken into or if somebody is in danger. As long as it's to help keep us students safe, I'm all for it."

There is no expected date for the installment of the cameras, but students will be receiving a survey, possibly in the spring, regarding student opinion on the camera installment.

Students who would like to voice their opinions are encouraged to go to the ASGC office in Building 60. 🐦



SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

STORY AND PHOTO BY MARK LEE

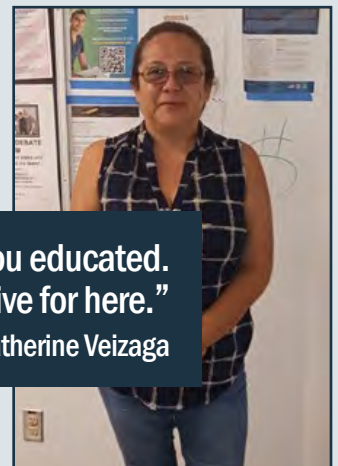
The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) at Grossmont College is about those who have served in the military, as well as the families who also support them and, in a way, serve right alongside them.

"We serve the veterans and their families here," said Katherine Veizaga, the Veterans Resource Center Specialist at Grossmont.

For many veterans, this is the light at the end of the tunnel that keeps them going. Veizaga said she is very passionate about caring about all the vets and their dependents.

"Our goal is to get you educated," she said. "Excellence is what we strive for here. We will not waste your time."

The Veterans Resource Center is phenomenal for all branches of the military and is open to those currently serving or transitioning from base to civilian life. Off-Base Transition Training, or OBT, is a program embedded into the resource center to assist veterans in resume writing after graduation, making sure they get all certificates from the studies for which they qualify, and supplying them with a surplus of financial aid and resources. Laptops, scantrons, backpacks loaded



**"Our goal is to get you educated.
Excellence is what we strive for here."**

—Katherine Veizaga

with supplies, food and beverages, and Veterans are encouraged to always have as much as they need.

Every semester about 500 students take part in the program and receive aid from the Veterans Resource Center. Of those students, about 90% are Veterans and 10% are their dependents, Veizaga said.

It's scary and lonely at times when your loved one is deployed and away from the family. It's the bond between family when you're out in the field protecting your country that holds them together and helps them to never give up. So, when Veterans come back and engage in their education again, they are received at Grossmont with open arms and all the resources available to achieve their goals.

To all the veterans and their families, thank you for your service! 🐦



PHOTO BY ERIK LINDSTROM

College students prioritize their study environments. For many, the goal is to maintain focus to achieve academic goals. If that's what you're looking for, here are some nearby recommendations to inspire your study sessions. **BY PERLA CRUZ**

COFFEE SHOPS

LESTAT'S

To begin, Lestat's is a coffee shop with comfy seating and free WiFi. There are a few locations, with menus varying from \$6 to \$15 for sandwiches, pastries, coffee and more. A welcoming energy lights up the place as everyone is in their zone, encouraging you to aim for the exact level of focus.

"Lestat's is a lovely place to study at," said Amy Holmes, a second-year student at Grossmont currently working toward transferring to SDSU by 2024.

Lestat's on Park

Location: 4496 Park Blvd., San Diego

Hours: Open 24 hours

Lestat's Hillcrest

Location: 1045 University Ave.,

San Diego

Hours: 8 a.m. to midnight

Lestat's on Adams

Location: 3343 Adams Ave.,

San Diego

Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Website: lestats.com

LIGHTBULB COFFEE

A unique, aesthetic spot that will make you feel comfortable is Lightbulb Coffee. Prices range from \$3 to \$17, offering different eats from wraps, bagels and sandwiches, as well as coffees served in lightbulb-shaped cups.

Johnny Alvarado, a regular customer, often gets the turkey avocado wrap with Turkish coffee as a drink. "This place is very spacious with a fun menu," he said.

Lightbulb Coffee

Location: 8138 La Mesa Blvd.,

La Mesa

Hours: Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Website: lightbulbcoffee.com

SPACEBAR CAFE

Enjoying a great atmosphere while studying is a must. Operated by veterans, Spacebar cafe is a wonderful place to get clarity on what you're studying. This cafe houses events including Wine Wednesdays, open mic on Fridays and much more. Ranging from \$4 to \$25, the menu offers a great variety of pastries, breakfast and brunch, with drinks to offer on the side. From my personal experience, this place has benefited me in many ways, from academically to hanging out with friends or family.

Spacebar Cafe

Location: 7454 University Ave.,

La Mesa

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Website: atspacebar.com

GROSSMONT COLLEGE LIBRARY

Studying at cafes might get expensive for those who love coffee, so libraries are vital. You can bring your own food and the long aisles of books and the comforting scent draws you to focus on your last-minute assignments, catch up on homework, or simply delve into your studies. Grossmont College's library has multiple resources you can get help from such as borrowing technology to reserving study rooms.

Grossmont College Library

Location: Building 70

Hours: Monday to Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Fridays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Website: grossmont.edu/library

GHD HEALTH & WELLNESS LIBRARY

Another library option is the Grossmont Healthcare District's Health & Wellness Library, formerly called the Herrick Library. Located off La Mesa, the library offers study space and a creative environment surrounded by health resources. Right now, the library is also hosting a mental health-themed exhibit by Grossmont College's Art Department.

GHD's Health & Wellness Library

Location: 9001 Wakarusa St, La Mesa

Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays,

9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Website: herricklibrary.org

LIBRARIES



What are the positives and negatives?

BY AARON LUNA

You've probably heard all about it recently in the news: Name, image and likeness for student-athletes. Over the years, it's become something of a larger issue, going from whether athletes can receive payments from video game companies, to the concept of endorsements as a whole.

This seems to be changing as of late. For those who are unaware, name, image and likeness – or NIL for short – are parts that make up the “right of publicity” in the advertising world. In short, it's a legal concept used to allow or prevent an individual from promoting a product.

The NIL concept can apply to not just athletes, but also celebrities, internet stars and even politicians. Having said that, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, or NCAA, has been under scrutiny for decades for not seeming to honor the concept.

That all changed in 2019, when California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the Fair Pay to Play Act, allowing student-athletes to earn some money, and setting a precedent for how colleges would treat monetary gains for college athletes. This was further solidified in June of 2021 with the NCAA suspending NIL rules for current and incoming athletes. This has expanded the market for many colleges and incoming students, leading to some universities capitalizing on them with separate NIL web stores.

Many people in the collegiate community have voiced a very positive opinion toward NILs. Grossmont Women's Volleyball Head Coach Brooke Callahan seemed optimistic over the concept of endorsements.

“I feel that student-athletes should, in some way, benefit from that if others are getting positive financial gains from them,” Callahan said. “I think just like anything else in the world, they should be able to also benefit from it.”

Callahan added that if she had the same opportunity during her time in junior college and collegiate sports, she would have taken advantage of it, although the women's sports market still has a lot of untapped potential.

Her players, Chelsea Trendler and Alyson Guise, seemed to agree.

“Negatively it wouldn't harm anybody very much, but positively it could help others transfer out into the portal and get somewhere bigger,” he said. “It gets them more exposure to other places, promotes their sport.”

Jason Allen, the associate dean of Athletics at Grossmont, expressed hope for the future.

“I do think that eventually it will be a very positive thing, allowing grown folks which most college students are to make money off their hard-earned efforts to represent their colleges,” he said.

There is no telling the future of NIL, but one can hope it will lead to a more prosperous environment for college athletics. 🐦

In their season opener, the Grossmont men's basketball team gave it their all against Cypress College, in a 75 to 54 loss.

The Griffins started out strong, however, getting the first points of the game. After going on a seven-to-nothing run, Grossmont's Thomas Metcalf (0) fouled a Cypress player, putting him at the line, where he made both free throws. After steady scoring throughout the half, Cypress took the lead 12-9. After that, the Chargers held on for the rest of the game.

Despite this, there were signs of potential. Out of reserve players, Elijah Williams (4) was the ironman of the game. Williams had 24 minutes off the bench, along with five points, four rebounds, a block, a steal and an assist. Out of the starting lineup, the three best performers were Brandon Tully (24), Amari Leflore (5) and Tyrone Lester (10). Lester put on a show, getting five rebounds including four on defense, while scoring nine points, and also getting a block, a steal and an assist.

A product of Patrick Henry High School, Lester was optimistic about playing with other local talent, but also said he doesn't think it should be a main focus.



“In my opinion, I don't think it's important,” Lester said. “Private schools or local schools, it doesn't matter. As long as we just work hard in the summertime and we just become a good team and stay competitive, that's all that matters.”

In spite of the rocky start to the season, Grossmont's assistant coach James Hyneman seems hopeful for a successful season.

“They did a lot of good things, because they're well-coached,” he said. “We had opening game jitters, (when we) really got past that it was a little too late to make that move. But there were still some positive voices for us as a coaching staff.”

Hyneman concurred with Tyrone on the prospect of playing with local talent.

“It's nice to see that we're getting that type of attention from the local community players at the high school following us with what they see,” the coach said. “Grossmont will provide them with the level of education they need to move on. We will also try to get them what they need hopefully to move on and play basketball.”

The Griffins will take part in the Gene Victor Memorial Classic at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, California, over the Veterans Day Weekend, before coming home Nov. 21 to play LA Harbor, followed by Santa Ana Nov. 28. 🐦

It's Content Heaven at GRIFFIN RADIO

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ALANA MULLALY | DESIGN BY DYLAN RALLS



**ANTHONY ADAMS,
ZERAVAN ALI AND
AARON LUNA.**

Do you love music, talking and good laughs, and need a place to take your mind off of school? Well, Griffin Radio has you covered.

The Griffin Radio, a class here at Grossmont College, gives students the chance to develop leadership skills, “on air” personalities, and their overall maturity.

Dr. Evan Wirig, audio-video professor in the Media Communications Department, has been teaching for 30 years, and 27 of those have been in radio.

“It’s my favorite class to teach. I’ve always liked the aspect of the mystery of radio,” said Wirig, who called radio the “theater of the mind.”

Wirig said his goal is to allow students to create the illusion of what people sound like to how they are. He lets his students take control and mentors them along the way.

Students Aaron Luna, Zach Braunwarth, Anthony Adams and Zeravan Ali are all part of the MCOM 119: Radio Station Operations class. Along with other classmates, they are the masterminds behind the college’s Griffin Radio. They run the show, playing music and reporting on news, weather, local events and PSA promos.

“We also do a bunch of events for the school,” Ali said. “We go out, we make announcements, we do interviews, playing music for all sorts of events.”

Luna said his favorite part about the radio is all of it, including the freedom you have on air.

Right now Griffin Radio has a low enrollment rate. At one point, there were 30 students enrolled in the class consistently; now it’s less than half of that.

The radio staff says this could be due to the pandemic and low enrollment rates overall. But the reality is that a lot of Grossmont students don’t know about this program.

Ali said the radio needs to be more active by having a stronger social media presence and doing more events to spread the word about what Griffin Radio is all about.

To learn more about Griffin Radio, check out its Instagram, @griffinradiosd, or catch them on air Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the TuneIn app. 🐉

HOROSCOPE

for
the
new
year

Learn about your future path and uncover your zodiac's full potential.

STORY BY MYA ALEXANDER | DESIGN BY KIRA INIQUEZ

ARIES

This year will be all about challenging yourself to take the risk of leaving the past behind and letting go. Many Aries this year will either get engaged, married or fall deeply in love with a water sign or an earth sign. Aries, you're stepping out of your comfort zone into the world of passion and earning what's yours. Beware of fake friends who will turn their backs on you. You'll have to make the wise decision of whether or not this friendship is worth the risk. Aries, don't be the fool; no one likes being the fool. Doors are being opened for you. You cannot let anything get in the way of your path. Are you ready to reach success? Your finances will be worked out; some may get a raise and or a bonus.

LEO

It's all about being true to yourself this year, Leo. Keep your head up. When you take the leaps you've wanted to take, you'll be 10 times closer to your goals. The less you procrastinate, the more confident you'll be. You are very close to owning that house, and yacht, and enjoying those summers you've dreamed of. Let's get started, Leo. Love will not be a top priority, but one or two exes will try to slither their way to you. However, don't fall for their tricks. Stay focused on the goals that you have been longing to achieve. Your reality is in your hands, not in the hands of others.

SAGITTARIUS

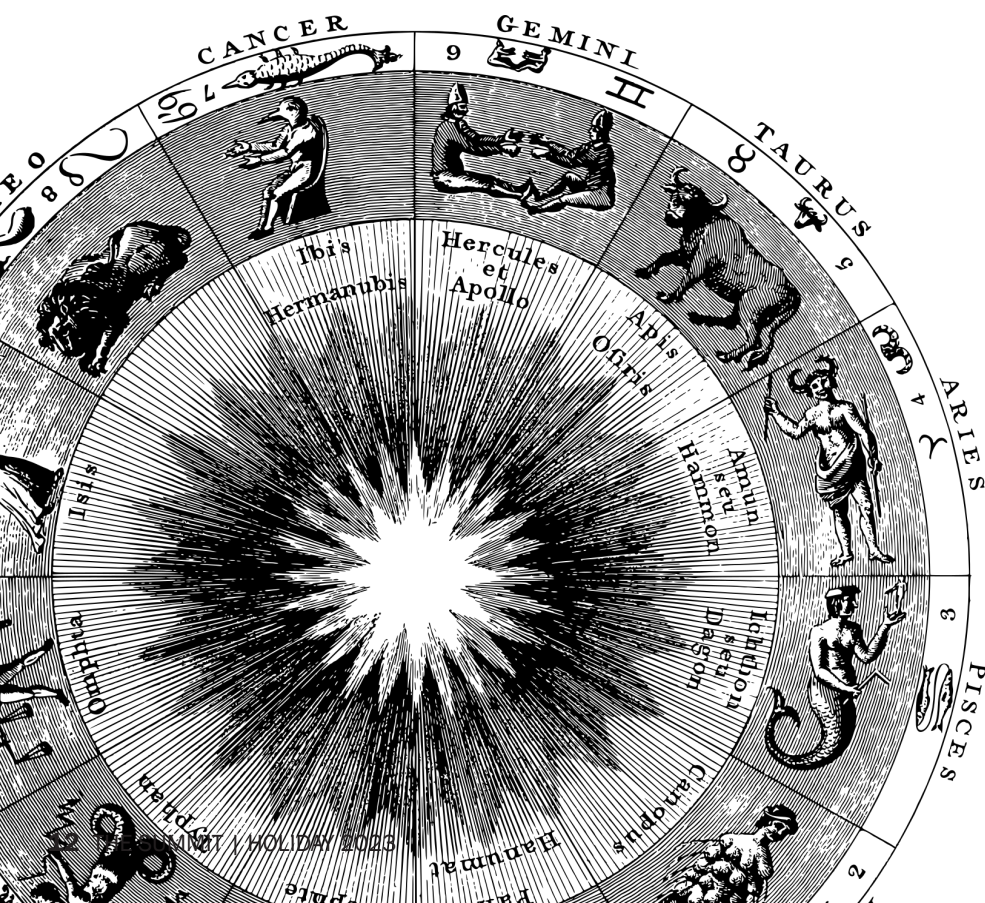
Sagittarius, your patience will be rewarded. Get ready for a year full of fun adventures and exciting opportunities. This year will be all about curiosity and an exploration of love with some new romantic partners who will peak your desires. In your finances, your career will help you with whatever you plan to do, which can either be based on what you love doing now or something completely new in the future. Be mindful of over-extending your energy to those who do not serve you. This year will bring you endless opportunities and an understanding of who you are becoming as the leader that you want to be inside and out.

PISCES

This year will be about spiritual growth and healing for a lot of you. You will seek clarity on a lot of things, including your childhood trauma, and start to realize it was never you that was the problem. Pisces, you will need to be more affectionate. Your spiritual journey will be taken for a twist and spin, but you will be able to grow stronger and have abilities to grow emotionally and physically. You may find yourself drawn back from people. You must learn to base your trust on those who care about you and don't feel the need to take advantage of you. Your talents will guide you toward your future career and, based on your finances' growth over the years, gain advancements and be open to new adventures. The things you will have to face will be conclusive of what you are born to do.

CANCER

This year will be about discipline and learning what steps you must take in order to manage internalized behaviors. You may find this can be somewhat difficult, but through the lessons, there will be many blessings to be earned for you, Cancer. In your love life, a lot of you can either be double backing from love and or attracting new lovers or counterparts



by simply being your lovely self. You may also find some finances going through a bit of a struggle since you may have an unexpected charge or fee, so be on the lookout for your purchase or even someone trying to put a crazy fee on you. Remember this year can either make you or break you. But through all of this, there will be many valuable times to smile through. This year will give you new, unforgettable perspectives and lessons. Are you ready, Cancer?

SCORPIO

This year is all about setting goals and fully being accomplished. Last year for a lot of you Scorpios was a blast, but now it's time to get fully serious, whether that be a career or job, a relationship or even some legal matters. A lot of you Scorpios will come into some new contacts with either a business or matters of self-creation in your life. Your finances will be emulated and some of you may land a high-quality job where you're constantly on the go, but it looks like your love life may be put on hold for some of you. Love will come and go, but only a good hand of you will be engaged and or married this year. This is your year, Scorpio; get ready to be on the lookout for new expansions and be full of life.

TAURUS

This year will be all about success and progression toward those tiny details that seemed trivial to you last year. Rather than trying to please everyone so desperately, Taurus needs to put on their thinking cap and seek self-validation. Knowing you love nice things, this person will court you and charm your pants off when it comes to matters of the heart. Your financial situation will change as you either get back into school for something you love or stay at the job until you find a higher-paying position. Taurus, I see you enjoying the present moment and making lasting memories with your loved ones, while going on late-night adventures with your friends. Get ready for a year full of life and extravagant times. Get your party on and smile onward.

VIRGO

As a result of brand-new lenses, Virgo will be able to deal with the challenges they face this year. In 2024, you will be very busy with work, school, relationships and trying to find some time for yourself. Managing your finances will allow you to buy that house, car or ring you've been eyeing for some time. As Virgos, you will marry or get engaged to someone who has been in your life since childhood and has shown only sensual love and compassion. The need to set boundaries with others

will be very clear on what needs to be said and to whom in the idea of letting go and stopping holding onto the past. New doors will start to become wide open and so will your eyes. Don't forget to get yourself an evil eye. There will be a particular person who may try it, but it won't work, Virgo.

CAPRICORN

This year will be all about moving in any way possible, especially traveling worldly, taking trips back to back. Capricorns you will be unstoppable with the endless opportunities and exploring new things like foods, love partners, lifestyles and even fashion lines with some very big industries. A lot of you will hardly be home long enough for a week or two since your phone will be ringing daily. You must also be grounded in order to get what you need fully accomplished this year. Your finances will be involved with corporations you've been getting a lot of great partnerships with, and make sure to not just sign anything before reading the final print. You will notice that you're more in the entrepreneur mindset with the ability to multitask and hardly get some sleep in but, those long nights will one day rub off on you in a lovely hotel close by clear waters and a drink in your hand, Capricorn. Don't allow your subconscious to take over; complete your task one day at a time and keep your handy notebook around. You're beginning to earn people's respect while being seen as one to not be played with. No matter with your relationships or finances, your life is coming together in 2024. This year will be full of trips to the bank and a lot of cups of coffee on a plane to your next location.

GEMINI

This year will be all about reflecting on what you managed to set aside and prioritize. No matter how long it takes to happen, there will be a few silent moments where you will need to step back and let life unfold by itself, without taking too much control. When it comes to your love life, you will meet very exotic romantic partners who are going to surprise you when you least expect them to show up in your life. They will be around for marriage or to fall in love with you very fast; two people fighting over you but, who will you choose? The finance aspect will be held back a little with either a family emergency or a bill that's overly due, so make sure to take care of your finances and not put these things on hold for too much longer. The year will make you be able to take back your happiness and worry less about how people think of you and how you perceive yourself. Don't overthink things; be ready to take

life by opening up your mind to endless opportunities with new or old people who are seeing you blossom. This year is about you, Gemini. Ready to take the first step toward enjoying yourself?

LIBRA

This year will be all about taking ambitious plans and turning them into even bigger endeavors. The monumental triumph will surely be compatible with what you have aligned on top of what's very important toward what is truly valuable to you. Your finances will be doubled; some of you may find a lucky number that will play a major part of your life in your finances toward your career choice. Love for you, Libra, will come and go since you may not want to settle down fully and explore the options that will be flocking left to right. You will be asked on many dates; you may let them chase you since you love to chase affection from anyone who looks your way, Libra. The year will make you realize just because you're alone doesn't mean you're alone; you will have family and loving friends who admire you simply for who you are. This year is going to give you a ton of clarity and self-appreciation toward what you need versus what you want in life from people around you. This will grow and change you, Libra. Are you ready to get started?

AQUARIUS

This year will be all about those you love and the ones who love you. Since you're such a big open-hearted person, you'll be the center of attention. You will be able to draw a lot of gazing things, especially in the love area of your life. You may beware some new romantic partners may be somewhat out of their comfort zone, which will either be hard or a brand-new exciting challenge for you to take up. Some may chase you while others may blow you off, but let one door close the other ones. Your finances will be increasing; it seems a lot of you are trying very hard to save up for that big house and family you've always dreamed of. While you will be on the ins and outs, you will be able to have the time to learn more about who you are and what you will not tolerate, since last year you vowed to not put up with any more lies or secrets. People will be drawn toward you left to right, and you'll be charmed as well with that lovely face of yours. It will get you far but don't take advantage of this. Be ready to use your wits and hit the year off strong with a kick. This year will be nothing but endless passion and a courageous mindset toward your life that is soon to become a reality. 🦋



My experiences as a Starbucks barista have given me insight on individuals based on their orders.

Caramel Macchiato

Brown Sugar Oat Milk Shaken Espresso

Customers who order this beverage look for something to sip that'll give them energy to power through their day. It's one of the strongest coffee beverages on the menu due to it containing blonde shots, which is the strongest bean of espresso that's served at Starbucks. People enjoy the fact that it includes oat milk since plant-based milk has been a hot commodity in recent years. People who drink this beverage probably spend long hours typing away on their computers or on the move trying to cross off their to-do lists.

Matcha

on the creative side and love customizing their drink by adding various milks, cold foams and syrups to the beverage.

Chai

Chai drinkers are a barista's favorite because of how simple it is to make the drink. Customers who order chai enjoy sugar and spice and everything nice. They prioritize taste and flavor which is perfect because that's exactly what this drink contains. Its notes of nutmeg, cloves, ginger, cinnamon and more make for the perfect blend of tea. Overall, people who drink chai tend to be nonchalant and easygoing individuals.

Pink Drink

Those who go for this drink will be the first to tell you that they don't like coffee. Many who are fond of this beverage could be due to one or both of these reasons. It's pink and it's delicious. Lovers of the pink drink have outgoing and bright personalities. The drink itself is vibrant and the color plays a role in how customers enjoy their beverage. Some want to include an extra strawberry

What does your usual say about you?

REEL TALK | BASED ON A TRUE STORY

Art imitates life in these films based on real-life drama.



KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON

| Review by Jacom Cummings

Killers of the Flower Moon is the latest film from director Martin Scorsese, loosely based on the 2017 book of the same name. The movie revolves around a real series of murders within the Osage nation in Oklahoma, and how they connected to a greater conspiracy to steal oil money from the tribe's descendants. Leonardo DiCaprio stars as Earnest Burkhart, a simple-minded veteran who arrives on the reservation and marries Molly Kyle, an Osage played by Lily Gladstone. As a mysterious wave of homicides begins surrounding Molly's loved ones, Earnest is influenced by the dark intentions of his powerful uncle William King Hale, portrayed by Robert De Niro. *Killers of the Flower Moon* draws the audience into its 1920s setting with attention to detail, filled with production design and music that evoke the historical period, all contributing to an atmosphere of wealth and community. The film's story finds its heart in Molly and Earnest's relationship, but largely focuses on Earnest's conflicted role in the graphic violence, setting the stage for themes of betrayal and greed. Fans of Martin Scorsese can expect the director's typical crime drama formula, and many viewers might find themselves tested by the runtime of nearly three and a half hours. Still, *Killers of the Flower Moon* stands not only as one of this year's best movies, but also as a heavy reminder of the vicious injustices in America's past.



ZODIAC | Review by Alana Mullaly

The movie *Zodiac* is a psychological thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat. Based in the 1960s and 1970s, the San Francisco Bay area had a notorious serial killer on the loose named "Zodiac." The Zodiac taunted the police and media by sending encrypted messages to newspapers, keeping them guessing what his next move was. The film follows the journey of investigators (portrayed by Mark Ruffalo and Anthony Edwards) and journalists (played by Jake Gyllenhaal and Robert Downey Jr.) as they develop an intense fixation on uncovering the identity of the "Zodiac" murderer. This movie will have you going on a full-blown investigation of your own to find out who the true "Zodiac Killer" is. *Zodiac* is a must-watch for fans of true crime, offering a compelling narrative without the documentary-style approach. It has the perfect amount of suspense and action that

will leave you wanting more.



SITTING IN BARS WITH CAKE

| Review by Janelle Carter

Sitting in Bars with Cake is a drama based on the book and real-life story of screenwriter Audrey Shulman. The film explores the lives of two best friends named Jane, played by Yara Shahidi, and Corinne, played by Odessa A'zion, living in Los Angeles. Jane despises the idea of becoming a future lawyer like her parents would wish and has a dream of following her passion of becoming a baker. One night, Jane brought a cake to celebrate Corinne's birthday at a bar. The cake being a hit gave the girls a plan: Jane would bake cakes for a whole year in hopes that she'd find a boyfriend along with a boost of confidence. As they embarked on their cake-baking journey, they discovered that Corinne received a health diagnosis that would change both of their lives forever. Pop some popcorn and gather your loved ones to watch this heartwarming story as it might make you shed a few tears. Don't forget your box of tissues.

