

A Lee Academy Student Publication

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Katelyn Lagnese, Sponsor





# Letter from the Editor by Alyssa Vassel

I am not someone who travels a lot. I find myself busy during every break and holiday, and I always end up staying at home. In fact, I've only been on a plane three times in my 17 years alive. Here are the three places I have flown to and my experiences on those trips:

## Orlando, Florida (2012)

My very first time on a plane (and my first vacation) was when I was six years old. I went with my whole family to Disneyworld. I don't remember much about the actual plane ride, but I remember the Atlanta airport and hotel in Orlando. The Atlanta airport was the busiest and most crowded place I had ever been. When we landed in Florida and drove to the hotel, I was in complete awe. This Holiday Inn was the most extravagant and magical place I had ever been (I think I liked it more than Disney). There were restaurants, game rooms, movie rooms for kids, and more floors than I could count. I wished that this trip could last forever so I would never have to leave. The next day,

we set off for Disneyworld. It was crowded and hot, but a dream come true. I met dozens of my favorite Disney characters, bought tons of souvenirs from gift shops, and enjoyed a bunch of food from themed restaurants. My most prominent memory from this trip was riding on a Goofy-themed rollercoaster and feeling like I was going to die. Although I don't remember much about this trip, it's a very fond memory and a great story for my first vacation.

## Houston, Texas (2021)

My second time on a plane was a trip to a family friend's house in Houston around the time of Thanksgiving. I was especially excited about this trip because I'd be seeing more of an actual big city than I did in 2012. The plane ride was peaceful, and I took probably dozens of pictures of the clouds. The Fort Worth Airport was much less busy than the Atlanta airport (which I was very grateful for). On the way to the friend's house, I was blown away by the city. There were more skyscrapers and cars than I could count, and all of the roads and bridges connected beautifully under the sunset. The next day, we went to the Houston Aquarium and saw hundreds of unique species of aquatic life before exploring the city. This trip was pretty short, but I enjoyed getting a taste of Texas.

## St. Louis, Missouri (2023)

My last time on a plane was a flight to Washington University in St. Louis. I was invited to WashU's flyin program, which was a preview weekend for prospective students from all states. My trip was completely paid for, so I didn't have to spend a dime on the plane tickets. My first flight was very early in the morning with a layover in Chicago, and my dad made sure that we were two hours early to get to our gate. The plane rides were spent looking out the window at the clouds and skyscrapers, shivering because of how cold it was, and watching about half of Cocaine Bear before falling asleep. WashU ended up being one of the most beautiful colleges I had ever seen. They had a butterfly garden, state-of-the-art residential and educational buildings, and an art gallery with amazing pieces. My friend group and I explored our dorms (which were the absolute best), the museum, the football field, the 5-story library, the merch store, and more for hours. Over the next few days, I did all kinds of activities and learned more about WashU, essay writing, and choosing a college. I became extremely close with my new friends, and I still talk to them today. Even though I

won't be attending WashU, I'm still very grateful for this experience and the people I met during it.

In short, I'm appreciative of every plane ride I've ever taken, no matter how short the trip, and I can't wait to see more of the world in the future!

## All Around Lee by Katelyn Brocato

March is finally here, and everyone is ready for spring break! Here are some of the things going on at Lee Academy this month:

- The new 2024 vintage-designed t-shirt and hoodie order is on sale now! ALL ORDERS DUE BY Wednesday, March 6.
- Baseball and Track Pictures on Wednesday, March 6
- SPRING BREAK: Friday, March 8 March 15
- Registration Ends on Friday, March 22, for new or upcoming students wanting to attend Lee Academy
- Lee Academy Favorite Show: Friday, March 22, @ 1:30
- 10th and 11th Grade take the ACT on Tuesday, March 26. Be at the school before 8 A.M. with a bottle of water, snack, and calculator!
- NO SCHOOL on Friday, March 29

Congratulations to all of the 2024 Class Favorite nominees!

Initiative Club's current project is a donation drive for the Salvation Army in Cleveland. The house with the most donations by **Thursday**, **March 7**, will win a pizza party.

# Mental Health by Aila Newton

Now that March has approached, let's talk about mental health. Our mental health improves at the start of spring. Science has proven that bright colors help us feel better. But even with that, some people have depression and anxiety all year round. When you don't properly engage in self-care, it negatively affects how you feel and act. Here are some tips and tricks to help improve your mood:

A good night's sleep is very important because it sets your mood for the upcoming day. It's also important to drink water even if you're not thirsty. Setting a good routine in the morning is ideal because you can add order to your life and have time to yourself before anyone else wakes up. Cleaning your room and keeping it clean can also motivate you to do tasks and help you feel less stressed about the things you need to accomplish. Lastly, sometimes you need to get out of the house. Being cooped up only makes you more agitated and stressed because you have too much time to get stuck in your own head. Instead, try going to local events or sports games to keep entertained and enjoy yourself with friends.

# **Colt and Filly Sports by Tatum Young**

The basketball season has come to an end. It was a great season for all the teams. The junior high boys ended their season as Districts Runners-Up. The varsity girls placed 3rd in the District Tournament and made it to the North State Tournament where they played Winston Academy. Although they lost to Winston, they had an amazing run. The varsity boys won the District Tournament and advanced to North State where they placed 4th. The varsity boys moved on to the State Tournament where they played Christian Collegiate and ended their season.

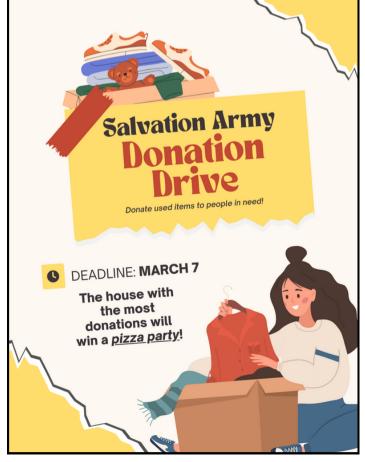
William Walker was chosen as an MAIS All-Star for basketball. The All-Star game is March 1, but sadly he will not be able to play due to injury. William Walker was also named District MVP and had a total of 1,852 career points. Montavian Artis, Jonathan Redwine, and Tra'V Curtis received the All-District award. Sandy Tillis was named All-District Honorable Mention. Rachy Branch, Avery Jackson, and Bella Favi were also named All-District players. Katelyn Brocato received an All-District Honorable Mention.

Baseball season has officially started. The team had their season opener on February 19 against Magnolia Heights. The baseball team also played Bayou Academy on February 23, where Darren Williams hit one over, scoring two runs. The baseball team will continue to play non-conference games for the next few weeks.

The golf team had their season opener February 19-20 at Old Waverly Golf Course. They participated in the Oak Hill Invitational.







# All Houses

**Orlov Caspian Tarpan Laaka** 

## Clothing (men's, womens, and children's)

Shirts, sweaters, pants, jackets/coats, shoes, dresses, skirts, pajamas, tuxedos, hats, jewelry

## **Household Goods**

Blankets, kitchen utensils (forks and spoons, plates, bowls, pots and pans, etc.), pillows, bedsheets, lamps

#### Miscellaneous

Stuffed animals, toys, bicycles, board games, ice/roller skates, sports equipment (golf clubs, tennis rackets, etc.), umbrellas, CDs



## Senior Spotlights by Kelly Chow



## **Ethan Peyton**

Ethan Peyton has attended Lee since the 7th grade. He has received the Citizenship Award. He plays football. When asked about his advice for the underclassmen, Ethan said, "Don't be lazy." He plans to major in Entomology.



## **Montavian Artis**

Montavian Artis has attended Lee since the 9th grade. He plays football, basketball, baseball, and track. When asked about his advice for the underclassmen, Montavian said, "Work hard every day." He plans to major in Wildlife Management.







## **Tatum Young**

Tatum Young has attended Lee since the 7th grade. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, Crown Club, Initiative Club, and the Colt Chronicle Newspaper staff. She was on the Homecoming Court in the 9th grade, a class favorite in 9th

grade, and a class favorite nominee in the 10th grade. Tatum plays soccer, basketball, softball, tennis, and track. Her advice for the underclassmen is "not to take anything for granted because time truly does fly by." She never imagined how fast her senior year would go by. When asked about her favorite teacher, Tatum said, "My favorite teacher at Lee is Dr. Humber. He never fails to make me laugh or cheer me up first thing in the morning." She plans to major in Finance at Mississippi State.







## **Movies by Hallie Reece Pitts**

Lots of fun new movies are coming out this March. There are many different genres for everyone's liking. Here are some of my favorites that I think you should watch!

**Damsel** (March 8th) - A young woman agrees to marry a handsome prince -- only to discover it was all a trap. She is thrown into a cave with a fire-breathing dragon and must rely solely on her wits and will to survive.

**Imaginary** (*March* 8th) - Imaginary is an upcoming American supernatural horror film directed and produced by Jeff Wadlow and written by Wadlow, Greg Erb, and Jason Oremland. The film stars DeWanda Wise, Tom Payne, Taegen Burns, Pyper Braun, Veronica Falcón, and Betty Buckley.

Ghostbusters Frozen Empire (March 22nd) - The Spengler family returns to the iconic New York City firehouse where the original Ghostbusters have taken ghost-busting to the next level. When the discovery of an ancient artifact unleashes an evil force, Ghostbusters new and old must unite to protect their home and save the world from a second ice age.

**Immaculate** (*March 22nd*) - An American nun embarks on a new journey when she joins a remote convent in the Italian countryside. However, her warm welcome quickly turns into a living nightmare when she discovers her new home harbors a sinister secret and unspeakable horrors.

Arthur The King (March 15th) - An adventure racer adopts a stray dog named Arthur to join him in an epic endurance. An unexpected encounter. An unlikely bond. An unforgettable adventure. Based on the incredible true story.









## POP into 2000's Culture by Morgan Hollowell and Kenzie Cook

## Music

The 66th Annual Grammy Awards was just recently held on February 4, 2024. Some notable awards include "Best New Artist," which was awarded to Victoria Monet. Billie Eilish and FINNEAS won "Best Song of the Year" with "What Was I Made For?" from the *Barbie* movie. The biggest and most anticipated award that is saved for last at the show is "Album of The Year." Taylor Swift's album "Midnights" won this award, making it her fourth

album of the year win. While accepting another Grammy, Taylor Swift announced that she would be releasing a new album. This album is called "The Tortured Poets Department" and will come out on April 19. Swifties are very excited about this album and cannot wait to hear what it sounds like!

**Celebrity Gossip** 

Campbell "Pookie" Puckett and her husband Jett Puckett pulled their best OOTDs together at the Tory Burch Fall/Winter 2024 show at New York Fashion Week. For the February 12 outing to the New York Public Library, the Tik Toker was turning more than just her husband's head in a Tory Burch black tank and skirt with gold jewelry and an updo hairstyle, plus a Cartier ring that her husband gifted her in her latest TikTok. Jeff donned a Bonobos tweed jacket, navy pants, and a white button-down shirt. The duo has taken NYFW by storm, appearing at shows like Alice + Olivia and PatBo. Naturally, the couple has documented several of their outfits for each event on TikTok, with Jeff providing his signature doting commentary on his wife's looks. "Princess Pookie has now upgraded to Queen Pookie," Jett explained in a TikTok as the couple showed off their outfits for the PatBo show. "This is a queen outfit. It's one of my favorite outfits I've seen you wear in a while, babe."

## **Fashion by Lily Gist**

Spring is closely approaching, so what better time to talk about floral patterns than now? Floral patterns get a bad reputation for being old, outdated, ugly, and grandma-looking, and yeah that's somewhat true. No one wants to walk around looking like your grandparent's couch, but with that said, floral can be cute with the right pattern and colors for your skin tone. However, if you still don't like the floral look, you can opt for the more trendy use, actual flowers. It's easy for floral patterns to look dull, but using actual flower decals can be chic.



