

COMMODORE CHRONICLE



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SENIORS MUST READ



College Applicants Could Benefit from a Slow Decision

FAFSA delays prompt Pa. state-owned universities to extend enrollment deadlines

Bill Schackner *Article originally appeared in the TribLive online edition February 19, 2024*
<https://triblive.com/news/pennsylvania/fafsa-delays-prompt-pa-state-owned-universities-to-extend-enrollment-deadlines/>

Pennsylvania's 10 state-owned universities are extending the deadline for thousands of prospective new students to review financial aid offers and decide whether to enroll for fall. The move is intended to mitigate [delays being experienced nationwide](#) with the U.S. Department of Education's revamped Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as FAFSA.

Member universities of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education will either use rolling admissions to continuously scrutinize student applications as received, or establish a decision deadline no earlier than May 15 for students to commit, officials said. The traditional deadline nationally is May 1. — or what typically is referred to as National College Decision Day. The move affects thousands of applicants across the system, whose roughly 83,000 students include those attending Pennsylvania Western University (California, Clarion, Edinboro), Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Slippery Rock University.

“PASSHE universities are doing everything they can to give students and families more time to consider financial aid offers,” said Chancellor Daniel Greenstein in a statement accompanying the announcement.

“We know that most of our students are from low- and middle-income families, and they rely on financial aid to attend their PASSHE university,” he said. “Going to college and earning a degree or credential is life-changing, and those decisions should not be rushed.”

In a substantial update to its financial aid system, the Education Department last year overhauled FAFSA to make it shorter and simpler. But several months of rollout delays mean colleges and universities nationwide are not expected to obtain student financial information from the FAFSA until mid-March. Usually, schools receive the data in early February. The form is used to calculate the size and composition of financial aid packages, which are likely to be sent to students and families weeks later than usual.

Filing the FAFSA online helps determine whether a student qualifies for a federal Pell Grant, the Pennsylvania State Grant, scholarships provided by universities and federal student loans, State System officials said. Nationwide, more than 17 million freshmen and returning students fill out a FAFSA each year. Unease has been growing among many of them that the delay might impact aid amounts available and squeeze their decision-making time.

A small number of colleges and universities from California to Minnesota to Pennsylvania recently announced they are pushing back the traditional May 1 deadline. Some like the State System campuses chose May 15. Widener University suspended plans to observe a May 1 deadline and so far has not set a new specific deadline.

For students weighing offers from IUP and elsewhere, May 15 is not infinite but “can make a heck of a difference” buying some breathing room to think things over, said Thomas Segar, university vice president for student affairs. Going much beyond mid-May begins to encroach on planning for June orientation visits to campus, and that can create another kind of stress, Segar added.

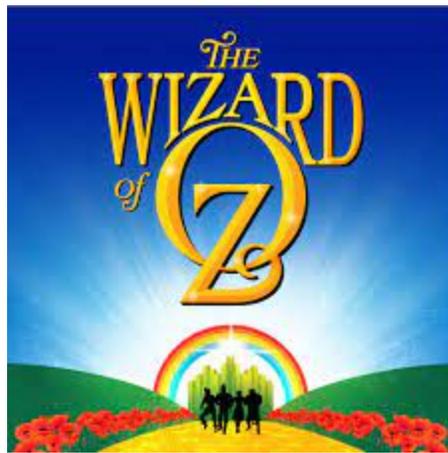
At Slippery Rock, Eli Reibson, 20, a junior, exercise science major from Jersey Shore, Pa. said he thinks two weeks extra are better than nothing and can actually make a difference. “College is expensive,” he said. “This can help you figure out the best deal for you.” Other campuses at least for now have said they will hold to their deadlines while working individually with students and awaiting federal guidance. Among them are the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University and Duquesne University.

At Pitt, Chancellor Joan Gabel earlier this month said admissions representatives have been in touch with students who have been impacted. “Mostly, what we want them to know is that we know this isn’t their fault. And that as the guidance comes out, we will work with them, so that they aren’t thinking they’re forgotten,” Gabel told TribLive.

Duquesne University also has said it was sticking to its overall deadlines but will “work with families on extensions on a case-by-case basis, if needed,” said Joel Bauman, senior vice president of enrollment management.

In addition to the Western Pennsylvania campuses, the State System includes Cheyney, Commonwealth University (Bloomsburg, Lock Haven, Mansfield), East Stroudsburg, Kutztown, Millersville, Shippensburg and West Chester.

Wizard of Oz



Did you see the movie? Well, now you can see it live at Frazier High School.

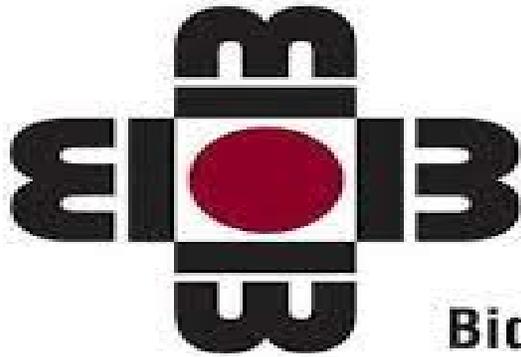
Friday, March 22 at 6:00pm

Saturday, March 23 at 3:00 pm

Saturday, March 23 at 6:00 pm

Check  for updates.

[:https://www.facebook.com/frazier.drama.club.boosters?mibextid=LQQJ4d](https://www.facebook.com/frazier.drama.club.boosters?mibextid=LQQJ4d)



Bidwell Training Center

The Difference with Bidwell Training Center

If you are looking to take the next step towards a fulfilling career, here's how Bidwell Training Center works for you:

No-Cost Programs – Bidwell Training Center believes in investing your mind, not your money. That's why all programs are offered at no cost to students, allowing you to focus entirely on graduating with career-ready skills.

Programs Made to Meet the Needs of Today's Employers – Each program at Bidwell Training Center is assisted by an advisory board made up of local members of each respective industry. They provide input that helps make each program reflect the changes in the career market.

A Thriving Educational Environment – At Bidwell Training Center we recognize that environment shapes behavior. Students are surrounded by beautiful art, architecture, music, and delicious food to help fuel the mind and body.

On Site Experience – Programs at Bidwell Training Center include on-site externships at local companies/facilities. You will get first-hand experience and training in your pursued field, getting you a head-start in a thriving industry.

Hands-On Career Training – Smaller class sizes mean you will get the direct hands-on instruction you need to quickly get many career-oriented skills.

Taking the First Step

You probably have a lot of questions you want to be answered before you apply; Bidwell Training Center will help you find the solutions.

How to Apply – Our Admissions Process

Bidwell offers a 2-Step Enrollment Process to qualify for training at no cost.

1. Information Session – At this time, our Information Session is offered both In Person or Online. The In-Person Information Session is by appointment only. Please contact the Admissions Office at 412-402-9761 to schedule to attend the In-Person Information Session. For access to the Online Information Session option, please complete the [Career Readiness Survey](#) and a Representative from our Admissions Office will contact you with directions to access the Online Information Session.
2. Assessment – Prospective students must take an assessment test and meet score requirements in their program of interest. Assessment testing covers reading comprehension and basic mathematics. Please contact the Admissions Office at 412-402-9761 to schedule your Assessment after you have completed the Information Session.

Online Resources for Success

We know that sometimes the anticipation of taking an academic assessment can be overwhelming. We want to help ease those feelings of uncertainty. To help you prepare for Bidwell's assessment, we would like to recommend the following online resources:

Math

Khan Academy – <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

Math I Can Do – www.mathicando.com

Math is Fun – <https://www.mathsisfun.com/>

Reading

English Maven – <https://www.englishmaven.org/Pages/Reading%20Comprehension.htm>

Requirements for Training

1. Proof of Graduation-High School Diploma or General Education Development (GED)
2. Proof of Residency-must show documentation of Pennsylvania residency
3. **Criminal Record Check required for certain majors

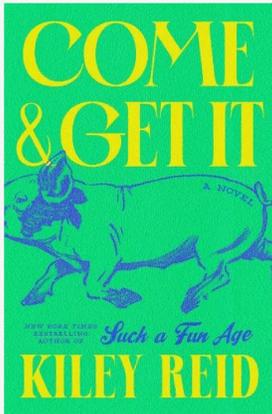
Is Bidwell Training Center Right For You? Get More Info...

If you're interested in discovering your future career and exploring whether Bidwell Training Center is right for you, [fill out the form](#) on this page to receive more information.

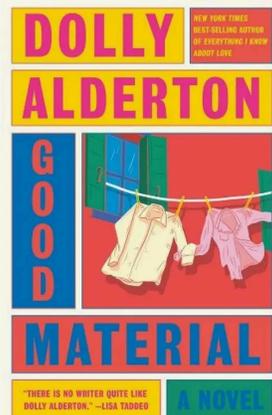
For immediate questions, call 412-402-9761

NEW books for 2024!

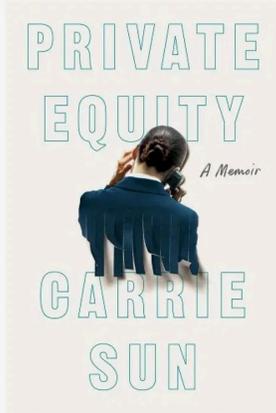
Which one will become your new favorite?



Another study of class and money arrives in Kiley Reid's *Come and Get It* (Putnam). Set on a college campus, with a chorus of voices filling out the multi-strand narrative, the novel depicts a group of University of Arkansas students, professors, and administrators. Campuses are not just centers of academic inquiry and nighttime misadventures, the novel shows, but intersections for people of vastly different resources. Reid, whose first novel probed the sometimes sticky relationship between a nanny and a mother, masterfully captures the quiet misalignments that stem from a varying sense of what's at stake. This is a somewhat old-fashioned novel of manners that acutely captures the modern moment.



Dolly Alderton is something of a modern-day [Nora Ephron](#), bringing a fresh and mordant perspective to the eternal struggle between the sexes. Her last novel, *Ghosts*, had the inscrutable male psyche as the subject of her narrator's torment; her new novel, *Good Material* (Knopf), tells the story of a breakup from a tortured male perspective. Its narrator, Andy, is a 35-year-old London comic who has recently been abandoned by his more corporate-minded girlfriend after a years-long relationship and has found himself having to redefine his place in the world among his coupled-up peers. He has the instinct (if not the perspective in his lovelorn state) that—as Ephron would have put it—everything is copy, and the book finds the amusing angle in even the most poignant moments.



Carrie Sun is the kind of epic overachiever that in a previous era might have been tapped for a prestigious PhD program or funneled into clandestine training for the CIA. The late-stage capitalism equivalent is a position as the personal and professional assistant to the wildly successful CEO of a private equity fund, which Sun documents in her memoir *Private Equity* (Penguin Press). At 29, she sees the opportunity as an even more promising path than the one she had carved out as a financial analyst, but the extreme responsibilities of the position soon took their toll. Sun writes clearly about the demands and privileges of the job, though this isn't a tell-all about abuses in the industry but rather a more probing inquiry into what we deem success and the values underpinning it.



Over the course of a few short months, [Sloane Crosley's](#) apartment was burgled and her best friend died. This coincidence becomes the backbone of a stunning investigation into the nature of loss that is *Grief Is For People* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), an ambitious book lightened by strains of acerbic comedy. Crosley, who is perhaps best known for her effervescent essay collection [I Was Told There'd Be Cake](#) hasn't abandoned her spritely wit, but she is looking more critically at what matters here. A quixotic hunt to reclaim stolen jewelry is intertwined with the equally insurmountable task of better understanding the friend she has lost—a prominent figure in the publishing industry. The loving and complex tribute Crosley has paid to him here will no doubt offer a bittersweet balm to many.

Remember, this list is just a selection. You can always find a book that peaks your interest! Check out your school library, your community library, or an online library if you are interested. You could always go to a book store and buy a hard copy! Enjoy these suggested titles.

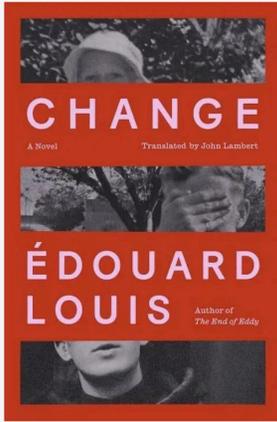
SHOP AT:

Amazon.com

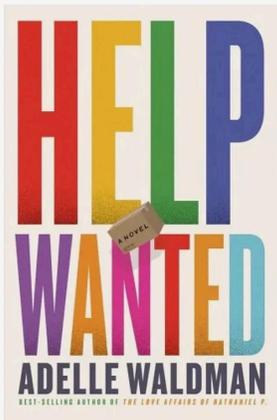
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Thriftbooks.com

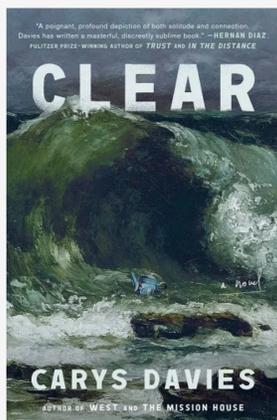
bookshop.org



Change (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), by the French writer Édouard Louis (The End of Eddy, Who Killed My Father), is a work of autofiction that reads a bit like the confessions of a madman: a breathless account of Louis's hard-won transformation from Eddy Bellegueule, a lonely and beleaguered little boy from northern France, into a celebrated author and public intellectual. What makes it so unsettling? There's the bracing directness of Louis's prose, translated into English by John Lambert; the fitful structure, crammed with self-conscious annotations and swift shifts in form; the unsparring examination of poverty and extreme privilege in modern France (and, when you squint your eyes, sort of everywhere else too); the rendering of an appetite for better, different, more that can no longer reasonably be satisfied. Here, self-invention is an act of brutal violence with no discernable survivors



The events in Adelle Waldman's fleet-footed novel, Help Wanted (Norton), take place at a box store of declining fortunes in upstate New York—a setting that in Waldman's steady hands proves to be a crucible of ambition and survival. We are with Movement, the corporatized name given to the employees who show up at 4 a.m. to unload trucks full of household goods and move them to the retail floor. Waldman is unsentimental about her low-wage protagonists, investing them with foibles as well as everyday heroism, and she's mesmerizing on the details of their work, the mechanical belts, the "throwing" of boxes, the meticulous unpacking. A single paragraph on the difficulty of untangling bras has thrilling specificity. In their petty and casually unempathetic supervisor, Meredith, the novel finds its engine of suspense, a middle-management villain whose team comes to believe must be promoted to be vanquished.

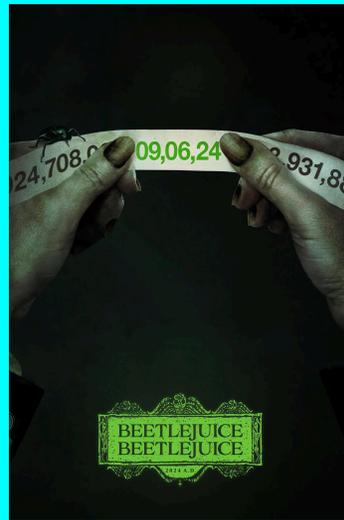


On a remote island off the coast of Scotland, a lone tenant—insulated by distance and his own rare dialect from 19th-century society—is preventing the landowner from turning the property over to more profitable uses. A minister is engaged to convince the tenant to leave. But not long after he arrives on the island, he suffers a terrible accident and is forced to recuperate under the care of the very man he's been sent to evict. This strange premise is the backdrop for the surprisingly gripping novel from Welsh novelist Carys Davies, Clear (Scribner), which feels a bit like a thriller set against a history lesson rendered fantastically vivid. Eventually, the minister's wife sets off for the remote island to find her husband, and her arrival disrupts the powerful intimacy that has arisen between the tenant and the minister, raising questions of belonging, ownership, and how we forge the bonds between people and place that are really durable.

Take a break
from reading and
go see a movie



'The Fall Guy' (May 3, in theaters)



'Beetlejuice 2' (Sept. 6, in theaters)



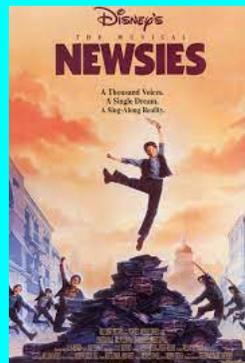
'Joker: Folie à Deux' (Oct. 24, in theaters)



'Gladiator 2' (Nov. 22, in theaters)



'Wicked Part 1' (Nov. 27, in theaters)



Streaming now

8th Grade Takes a Tour of the Newly Expanded Western Territory

Let's travel back to the 1800 with the eighth grade students who created articles based on Western Expansion. Writing persuasive and informative articles about Westward Expansion from the point of view of the settlers.

Contributing Authors:

Landen Sanner
Logan Soloman
Alexis Rishel

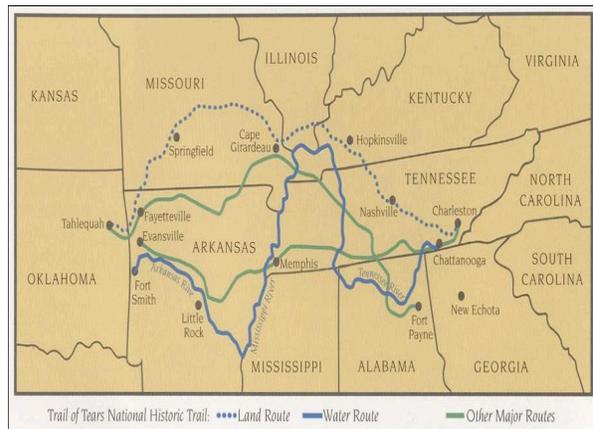
Taylor Opalenik
Martin Diamond
Colt Kerestes
Khloe Howard
Caleb Hixenbaugh

The Land of Opportunity Still Shines Bright The Westward Expansion

History, on the Oregon Trail.



Get rich quick!



Informative Article- The Oregon Trail is one of the most famous routes for settlers to travel. For some, it was a struggle, but for others it could lead to a better life. The trail was 2,170 miles, but 4,340 miles there and back. Some fought diseases and experienced harsh weather, and some lacked food, water, and supplies. In order to travel on the trail, you could purchase a wagon or draft animals which are very expensive. Prices could be up to \$1,000 which is now close to \$25,000. The journey wasn't short either, it would take 6 months. The trail totaled 400,000 people of all ages. Some were settlers, farmers, miners, ranchers, and business owners. On the trail, some could get attacked by Indians, but it was a very rare sight. However, there were a total of 400 deaths due to the Indians. In order for settlers to travel along the trail, settlers could purchase a horse and wagon which was an easier alternative to walking. Purchasing these things wasn't cheap, it could be up to \$1,000 to purchase these items.

The Expedition of a Lifetime



Here Comes the Gold

Persuasive Article- Are you looking to become rich? Then come down to California! Women are allowed! 5% of people who move here are women! Isn't that amazing? Women can work in mining camps, provide food, clothing, and equipment. California is also against slavery. Isn't that great? We are very welcoming and accepting. Our population also exploded! It went from 800 to 25,000! Isn't that crazy? Also, the gold saved us! If we found gold any later, Mexico would still own California. Mexico didn't treat California well, so this was a good thing we found gold after them. I think you should really move West, don't you?



The 49er Life

You got a sad, poor family in the East? Change that by moving out here in California where the Sun shines and many crystal clear waves hit the glorious beaches here. Get your whole family out here and strike it rich or start up your own family business for there are many opportunities for everyone in your family. Come stay at John Sutter's, recently founded, "New Helvetia" colony along with other settlers out here. Want to make you and your family have a greater life? Become a 49er and prospect, the act of panning for gold along a stream, to your heart's content. But remember, you must stake-a-claim before mining to avoid conflict with others. German-Irish immigrant Levi Strauss struck it rich even though he didn't prospect for gold by selling tough, heavy duty, denim pants to miners. Not having any luck

prospecting for gold, start your very own business like Levi Strauss! You can become very wealthy just by selling clothing, food, and equipment to miners. Are you a woman who wants to make a fortune in California? Don't worry, there are many things for you to do! Women can make wonderful money cooking meals, washing clothes, and opening up boarding houses! Are you a slave? Don't fret because slavery is forbidden here in California! Come to California if you're a slave so that you can be freed just like Biddy Mason. Biddy Mason was a slave who was brought here who was freed. After she was freed, she became wealthy, a property owner, and a leader. One last thing, we welcome everyone through all ethnicities! We await your arrival in California, a beautiful state with many opportunities!

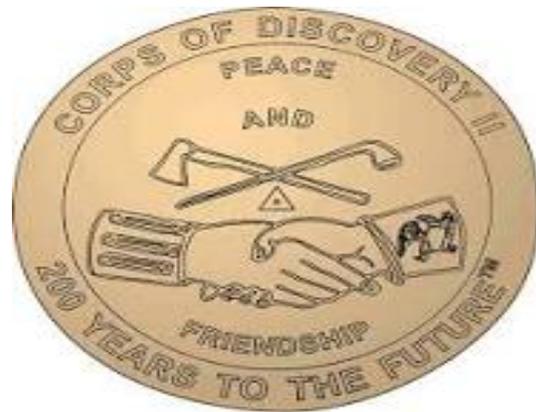
**Don't
Rest
When
You
Can
Move
West**



Move to California soon to get more opportunities to get rich! The California area is undergoing a gold rush. People are moving in quickly from around the world to get rich.

This is the opportunity of a lifetime. If you are a woman you can be making bank! The jobs available for women include cooking, washing clothes, and running boarding houses. If you are a forty niner prospecting for gold, look along banks of streams. You can be a placer miner which is when you use pans or other devices to wash gold from loose rock. Before you start panning you better stake a claim so you getting rich doesn't turn to violence. If you move out please try out mining. It could lead to you finding your favorite pair of pants made by Levi Strauss!

The Adoption of Texas & California



Persuasive Article- *The Lewis and Clark expedition is a serious ongoing event. I know what you're thinking, "Oh the West is dangerous, oh there's too many risks". But who ever said taking a risk was a bad thing? Are you tired of living around the same people? Don't you miss seeing lots of beautiful open land? If this is you then you need to join the **Corps of Discovery**. Join **Lewis and Clark** on their expedition to explore the wild west. The U.S. has recently doubled in size due to the **Louisiana Purchase**, so hop aboard and see what this land has in store! Come meet and be guided by **Sacagawea** through the untouched forests. See animals never seen by U.S. men and women. Sure it used to belong to **Spain/France** but not anymore and lets all enjoy it's ours. Live a life worth living, do it out West!*

Informative Article- The Mexican American War was very impactful on the expansion of the U.S. This war had all begun with our belief in **Manifest Destiny**. Our population is growing more each day and we're running out of room for our daily lives. However our president, **James Polk**, is here to remind us of our fate to own all land from the Atlantic to Pacific ocean. We couldn't be more thankful for his efforts in obtaining Texas and Oregon as U.S. states. But it doesn't stop there, supposedly there's talk about **wanting California** too! You see the **Californios** have been feeling less and less connected to Mexico, and the **Anglos** want to take this opportunity to become independent from Mexico. Once this happens the U.S. can claim it. The downside of this would be the possibility of war with Mexico. However our army leader, **Zachary Taylor**, is fully prepared for this possibility.

Don't Be A Pest and Move Out West



Mapping the Unknown, One Step at a Time

Strike it Rich in the Golden Fields

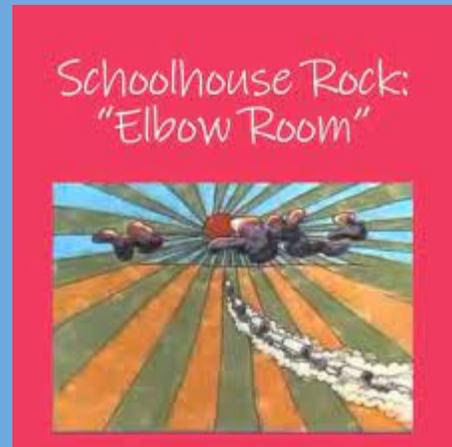
Persuasive Article-

Are you living in the east and tired of the poor farmer lifestyle? You're in luck because gold has just been discovered in California. Become a forty-niner and move out west to California today to strike it rich. Look around, everyone is moving out west. Everyone is invited, even women. If you're a woman and can't mine, that's fine. You can cook meals or wash clothes instead. Want to know another good fact about California, no slaves. This means it's much safer and better out here. Come meet new people, we grow in population every day. There's always new people to meet. So what are you waiting for, move out west.

Informative Article-

Just last week a new group of people called the Corps of Discovery set out on a journey to explore our newly purchased western lands. The expedition is led by Lewis and Clark and is a very dangerous travel. There are bugs, risky Native American contact, and worst of all, no outside contact. The bugs kept them up at night and brought them horrible diseases. Our people are unable to talk to our fellow Native Americans. This causes many communication problems. Luckily we have a personal translator, a shoshone woman named Sacagawea. She is helping us talk to the Native Americans and get through the Rocky Mountains. Through this expedition our country is gaining many things. Some of these things include new information on plants and animals, we have maps of the new western lands, and this has caused many Americans to move out west. This expedition is giving our country new life out west.

Remember the song "Elbow Room" from Schoolhouse Rock was about Western Expansion and Manifest Destiny. The Middle School performed the show in November. Did you see it? Why not?



Congratulations to the winner of the eighth grade tshirt design for the Class of 2028

Ben Domonkos

The design incorporates elements of the Frazier School District's colors along with the history of Commodore Perry, and the philosophy of the class of 2028.

