



# The Thinker

Issue 4

62nd Session

June 30, 2022

## Tanner Set to Sing at Cambridge

By Victoria T.

While some people are outside shooting fireworks and others are grilling burgers, the GPGC Chorus teacher, Colette Tanner, will be in Cambridge, England, working on choral music.

Tanner will spend part of July at Cambridge University working on choral music with famous choral composer and conductor John Rutter. He wrote All Things Bright and Beautiful, one of the songs GPGC students might be singing at the end-of-the-summer choral performance.

Tanner was invited to apply for the choral summer course, an intensive program for choral directors who have their master's

degrees or higher.

She initially decided not to apply, assuming she would never be chosen, but some of her friends and past choral teachers convinced her.

When she received a response email, she glanced at it but could only see the first line, which said, "Thank you for your application."

Seeing that, she said she was disappointed because she assumed she hadn't been chosen. She opened the email and was shocked to discover they had accepted her.

At the course, members of the program will, according to the course website, "attend rehearsals, observe demonstrations, and hear from conductors and schol-

ars in interactive lectures."

The King's and St John's College Choirs will be in residence at Cambridge University during the course, which is one of the many things she is excited about.

Tanner has had similar experiences in the past, going to a conference at least three times a year.

She has been to England once before, as well as to Italy on a tour, singing.

One thing she is very excited about for the Cambridge is that in the picture she saw, previous students were all wearing Master's



Colette Tanner  
Photo from Facebook

robes. She asked if she had to bring her own robe, to which the organizers replied that they would supply her with a Cambridge University robe.

## New GPGC Government Passes Cell Phone and Safety Bills

By Victoria T.

In its first two weeks, the GPGC government has passed resolutions and amendments about cell phone use, safety and operating rules.

The first resolution passed allows students to keep their cell phones until their classification's lights out (Epsilon 10 p.m., Gamma 11 p.m., Beta and Alpha 11:30 p.m.). The bill passed 14-3 with no amendments.

The second resolution

allows students to walk in groups of three while within the eyeline of the counselors. It passed 12-1 with a few amendments. The amendments increased the punishment for not following the rules, and allowed the counselors more discretion in overriding the new rule because of safety concerns.

GPGC director Josh Brown introduced an amendment to the government's rules and procedures that  
**See Bills on page 6**

## Fireworks Hold Big Science Inside Small Packages

By Ishan K.

Today, everyone at GPGC is leaving for July 4th break, and what better way to celebrate it than fireworks? Fireworks are the backbone of many July 4th and New Year celebrations, but what's going on beneath the fuse?

The first thing to understand about fireworks are the different parts in it. According to Paul E. Smith, an expert on fireworks, the part of the firework that is lit with a match is called the fuse,

and the outside layer of the firework that you see is called the mortar. Inside the mortar is where the magic happens which causes the colors and light.

Smith says the mortar houses a shell which has many different pellets called stars inside. The stars are made of metals, the specific type depends on the color of the firework. For example, stars made out of copper produce a blue light, barium produces green light, and cal  
**See Fireworks on page 4**

# Meet the Counselors: Abby Fruge

By Victoria T.

Abby Fruge said she became a counselor because she always thought it would be fun and she enjoyed spending time with the counselors as a student. She also, ever since she was a student, always wanted to drive the McNeese van.

Fruge said her favorite thing about the program is being able to provide an environment for students to thrive, enjoy, learn, and grow. She said it is very meaningful for her to be part of creating that environment.

She has many good memories of her time at the program - counselors, the rat lab, ping pong at Rikenjaks, senior trip. During her Epsilon year, she remembers one of her counselors writing, "I see you" on her roommate's door in glow-in-the-dark ink.

She said she had to sing her roommate a lullaby to help her go to sleep, because she was afraid.

She also remembers playing ERS at night, after room check, with her roommate for Brain Bucks.

"It wasn't exactly gambling... We might have gambled... Maybe I ran an illegal gambling ring in my suite," she said. "I was kinda a rule breaker, who would have thought."

"We all did!" fellow counselor Kathy Barrios yelled from behind the Collette front desk.

During her Delta year, Fruge said she remembers volunteering to go to Study Hall, where she DJed James Taylor songs and hung out. She also remembers yelling "Sopaipilla" at her CoHo (Coordinator of Housing), who they called JoHo because his

name was Joe Hollis.

During her Beta summer, she and Barrios made a Russian nesting doll for Grad Fruit Drop. They put a blueberry inside of a lime, inside of a grapefruit, inside of a papaya, inside of a cantaloupe, inside of a watermelon. They also shucked and peeled corn and shoved it into the empty spaces in the fruit, along with their leftover blueberries. She specifically remembers Dr. Brannon saying after they dropped it, "Well that, was a satisfying splat."

During her Alpha summer, she led a successful coup in Mrs. Jessica Markstrom's class.

"It was fantastic," she said, and declined to elaborate further.

She said her favorite class at GPGC was drawing. She said the teacher, Billy Hogan, is wonderful, as well.



**Abby Fruge**  
Photo by Victoria Todman

Fruge said Hogan allows every student to be a success on their own terms. He goes above and beyond to create an individualized experience for each student.

Her favorite teacher, however, was Avee Chaudhuri, who was her English teacher. She said she had never enjoyed English before his class. Now, going back to read what she wrote under his guidance, she said she

# Meet the counselors: Kathy Barrios

By Victoria T.

Kathy Barrios said she decided to become a counselor because she loves GPGC too much to let it go. She was a student at the Governor's Program for five years.

The part that she likes most about the program is the people she got to meet; she said she met all of her best friends here.

Barrios is now teaching Mixed Ensemble, and she said being both teacher and counselor is a strange experience. She said she enjoys it, though and enjoys arranging music.

As a student, she originally didn't want to attend the program, but her dad found the program and sent her after she was identified as gifted in seventh grade.

"The first couple of days, I didn't want to be here,"

Barrios said. "I remember exactly when that changed. It was the third day, in choir. That was the day I met Jonas. It was the first time I realized people actually wanted to be friends with me. I never had that before the program."

Her favorite class at the program was choir, because she loves to sing. Colette Tanner, the choir teacher, helped her discover that love for singing and the courage to try it.

Barrios said she always enjoyed instrumentals, but Mrs. Tanner gave her the courage to sing. Choir was the only class she took for her entire five years.

Her favorite memory of her time at GPGC is when, as a sophomore, her Coordinator of Housing visited their hall for Big Room Check.

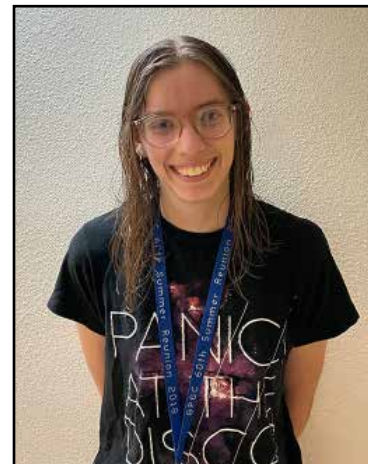
The entire hall yelled

"Sopaipilla" over and over at him, because that was what they wanted to make for their dessert at Senior Banquet.

Sopaipillas are a Mexican Dessert similar to a beignet, but they are larger, fluffier, and hollow on the inside, and honey can be put into them.

Starting in August, Barrios' non-summer job will be as a fourth grade math and science teacher in Mississippi.

**Top: Kathy Barrios**  
**Bottom: Abby and Kathy**  
Photos by Victoria T.



# Who was Darth Plagueis?

By Julien V.

The Star Wars Saga has everyone talking about Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader, yet one of the key characters, Darth Plagueis, is only mentioned in the movies once.

In *The Revenge Of The Sith*, Plagueis - a powerful sith lord, is mentioned in the opera house scene. The books, however, contain much more of the lore behind the character.

As a child originating from the great Muun house of Damask, he obtained riches, respect and land. Being a Muun, he had a tall slim body, a long head, pale skin, three hearts, and many other unusual traits.

His parents were matched together by the sith lord Darth Tenebrous to create a powerful sith lord of proportions that the galaxy had rarely seen.

With a midichlorian count of 15500 (midichlorians determine how easily one can manipulate the Force, if at all) and an early control of his strength in the Force, he was already deadly as a child. His apprenticeship to Darth Tenebrous increased his power.

Darth Tenebrous was a bith with a heavy faith in wealthy organizations, science, and math that eventually led to his death. Biths are a species of beige skin, usual height, and thick heads that contain brains usually reserved for math, music, architecture, and the sciences.

After Plagueis murdered his master, he continued previous genetic experiments that involved cloning beings, reviving the dead, and adding to his own midichlorian count. Soon after he took Darth Sidious as his apprentice, he tipped the Force from the light side to the dark

side. In doing such, the Force revolted and created Anakin Skywalker, the most powerful Force wielder ever to walk the universe.

Not only did Darth Plagueis inadvertently create Anakin, he also instituted the blockade of Naboo and other universe-shaping events that made Star Wars what it is today. However, all of this power was not enough to save him from the treacherous Rule of Two, in which in order for a sith apprentice to become a master he must challenge and kill his master.

So as the two sith lords were celebrating Sidious's victorious campaign for Chancellorship and their seeming victory at the blockade of Naboo, Plagueis fell asleep only to be struck down by Darth Sidious wielding force lightning. Such is the tragedy of Plagueis the wise.

## New Film Class Provides Creative Outlet

By Meredith G.

Last week, on Thursday, GPGC students were able to take a Film Class in the Collette lobby.

Julian Quebedeaux, who was the teacher, taught students how to use a professional camera, and many things about how to properly film videos, and take pictures.

The students learned how if the iris of a camera is wide open it will make the picture brighter, and if the iris is more closed, it will make the picture darker, and many other things along those lines.

They also discussed things in photos that make them more appealing to the eye. Such as, a frame in a frame, or when you take a photo of something that already has a frame around it. The example shown was a picture of a place, seen through an archway, a frame in a frame.

The students were also assigned to take some footage, of anything, and, there will be an editing class, to create a video of their choosing.

## Weekly Themed Trivia

By Lydee F.

Every week there will be a fun, themed trivia quiz for you to try to complete. Record your answers and hold onto them until the next week, when the correct answers will be revealed, and a new quiz will be given. There will be 10 questions each quiz, and the 10th question will be the same every week: What was this week's theme? We won't force you to complete the quiz, either. There are only two rules: try your best and have fun!

Question one: Who was the smartest U.S. president?

Question two: Which U.S. president was never married?

Question three: How many U.S. presidents were left-handed?

Question four: Was Barack Obama born in New York?

Question five: Who was Benjamin Harrison's grandfather?

Question six: Was Franklin D. Roosevelt a cheerleader?

Question seven: Who was the only president unanimously elected?

Question eight: Which president was also an accomplished architect?

Question nine: Who is the only president to have been born on Independence Day?

Question ten: What was this week's theme?

## Miles to Go

**We need your art,  
writing, poetry and  
creative works!**

**Send in your submissions to  
milestogo@gpgc.org**

# MCU Sets Additions (Pt. 2)

By Julien V.

Last week we covered some of the upcoming Marvel movies but there are still movies to come.

Following Ant Man and the Wasp: Quantumania, the next movie will be Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 which is set after the events of Thor: Love and Thunder and The Guardians Of The Galaxy Holiday Special.

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 will be released in May of 2023. Formerly fired, now rehired, James Gunn will be the director.

The original cast will be returning, and the most prominent theories suggest that the objective of this movie will be to find Gamora after the events of Avengers Endgame.

The following movie in the MCU will be The Marvels, or as some call it "Cap-

tain Marvel 2." The Marvels will be set after the events of Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3.

Those who have not seen the shows Ms. Marvel and WandaVision may want to consider watching them before watching The Marvels, because the events in these shows will directly correlate with it. Joining Captain Marvel will be Monica Rambeau and Ms. Marvel.

After The Marvels, fans will see something many hoped for yet were denied due to copyright issues: a Fantastic 4 movie.

Because Marvel only received the rights to these characters in March of 2019, production will take longer than most. Marvel has no confirmed date nor title.

Next week, stay tuned for the last part of the MCU movie article string.

# Fireworks

Continued from page 1

cium produces orange light.

Once the stars are ignited, they release the color, and some metals produce other effects as well, such as bright sparks.

Smith says the final and most important material of a firework is a black powder. This powder was invented more than a thousand years ago, and is the part that allows the fireworks to fly up into the sky.

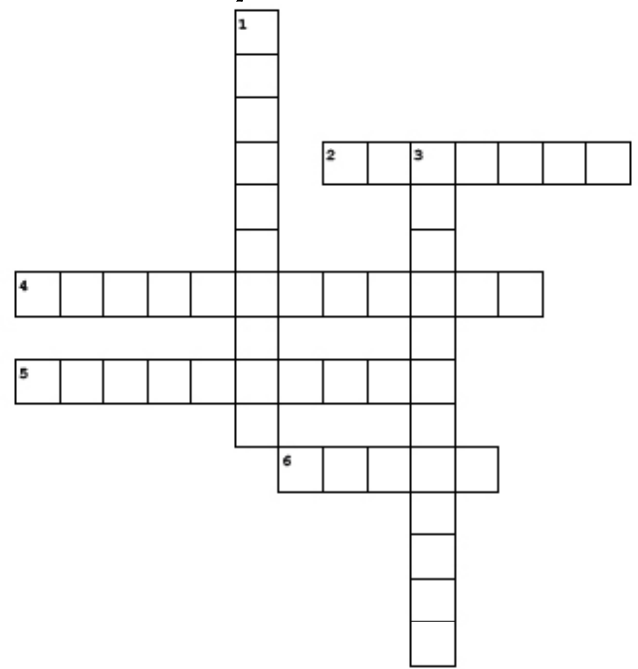
So, to show the timeline of a firework and how all these parts come together in a firework, according to the Ontario Science Center, at first, the fuse is lit by a person. This fuse carries the fire into the mortar, and right below the shell. This ignites a

black powder. The black powder explodes and causes lots of force to be let out, which causes the shell to propel upwards into the sky.

The ignition also lights a timed fuse inside the shell. So as the firework shell propels into the sky, the fuse inside of it slowly starts to burn, and after a certain time, it ignites some more black powder, which causes all the stars in the shell to ignite and explode into the beautiful fireworks we see.

Overall, fireworks are a wonderful and exciting thing people of all ages use to celebrate, but there is a surprising amount of science behind the scenes. So the next time you see a firework, you'll finally understand what's going on underneath the hood!

# Holiday Crossword



### Across

- 2. The month when everything is decorated to scare people.
- 4. \_ Day, celebrated on the Fourth of July.
- 5. The day to celebrate love and affection.
- 6. The first day of \_

is the day people shout “\_ fools!”

### Down

- 1. The day people celebrate the end of slavery.
- 3. The day celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November.

# Word Search

By Victoria T.

L X U Q E I T T W U N U S R M G W M Q M Y Q Q  
 E D M M N I X M R W Q W M B F U Y N N P O D V  
 S O I F R C K J D A N P T C X E H B Z V T H S  
 I E E L R H H Z E S D U T R J C C A Y U M N R  
 L Z C O F T Q D G A S I T V O N R Z E J E L M  
 E J W W J H G F Q P R D T W X A A R E C A A F  
 G T C E L Y F T Q V G E Z I M D N D V H T G T  
 A H O R L O U A M Y K C W B O F A I N U P D O  
 C I G E O F N H H I P I M D O N U P Z M I V P  
 Y N I W T A S N V H N W Z X F P S E B B E Y E  
 R K F W A U I V K S U O N E G I D N I P F O W  
 Y E T O A N E A G X O P R Y U B D E H R V J L  
 A R I E F A S K T H E H O B B I T A K E Z F P  
 H W E Z Z N B K A R P Y Z H E E Z T Y O H O N  
 Z G S H M R E N A D T A E R G K Z C L C G U K  
 Z E R A Z Y F D Y N E M H S E R F D W A S X Q

### Scrambled Word

Bank:

DOOAITNP  
 NSRASWE  
 TRA  
 RABSTMLUI  
 ONCCTLFI  
 IDLPMCAYO

OGRENETMNV  
 DASRG  
 EDAHR  
 UMC  
 IMSLEOTOG  
 OFIFASICL

REPDI  
 YARN  
 ESECNIC  
 HSBRU  
 RITVAI  
 FOU

# Trivia Answers

By Lydee F.

Here are the answers to last week's trivia quiz, and don't forget to try out this week's quiz!

**Answer one:** Breaux Bridge is known as the "Crawfish Capital of the World."

**Answer two:** The lightning whelk is Texas' official state shell.

**Answer three:** Arizona was not an official state until 1912.

**Answer four:** California has the nickname "The Golden State."

**Answer five:** There are 6 different climate zones in Georgia.

**Answer six:** Florida has the most golf courses in the United States of America.

**Answer seven:** You can see five states from the Capulin Volcano.

**Answer eight:** Mississippi's state dish is butter cookies.

**Answer nine:** Alabama built the first rocket to put humans on the moon.

**Answer ten:** Last week's trivia quiz theme was Southern states.

## Week 3 Word Search Answers

By Victoria T.

. S E R E N D I P I T Y . . N B A .  
. . . . . S E N I O R . . . . .  
W P . . . . . T R I V I A F .  
A A P I T B U L L T E R R I E R U G  
R S . . W . . . . . N A  
R T . . O . . . . . D M  
I . L O R E . . . . . A M  
O . . . D . . G U E S T . . . Y A  
R . . . . C R O S S W O R D . . . .  
S A P P A L A C H I A N . . . . .  
. . . . . C O U N S E L O R S . .  
. . . . .

# Crossword Answers

By Meredith G.

## Week 2

1. The last word in the translation of what is on the back of our shirts.

Required

2. The style of Government this year.

Athenian

3. What we pass around and read every summer.

The Hobbit

4. What everyone turns their head for when they hear it hitting the floor.

Brainbucks

5. Where we live.

Collette

6. The Musical this year is The \_\_\_\_ Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.

Twenty Fifth

## Week 3

1. The light waves that are 1 picometer long.

Gamma Ray

2. What the columns on the periodic table are called.

Groups

3. The measurement that is represented as  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Micrometer

4. What the Freshmen are doing experiments on all summer.

Plants

5. The speed of light is about \_\_ hundred million meters per second.

Three

6. Atomic number 21 on the periodic table.

Scandium

7. The \_ flask, which is usually the stereotypical bottle scientists use in movies.

Erlenmeyer

# Dog of the Week

By Elizabeth B. and Lydee F.

The dog of the week is...

## The Samoyed!

Samoyeds are very affectionate and good with children. They have a thick fluffy double coat, and should be groomed twice monthly. They tend to be very playful and open to strangers but can also be vigilant and adaptable. They have lots of energy and need a lot of stimulation. They are easily trainable and need some kind of job or activity. The average Samoyed lives 12-14 years and almost never drools, according to the AKC.



Image from Shutterstock

# Seen and Heard

\*in gravelly narrator voice\* "Your parents taste like ground chicken." - Gabriel G.

\*in gravelly narrator voice\* "Black eyed peas." - Gabriel G.

"I don't eat my shirts, Abe. That's you." - Julian V.

"What did I do? Why am I white?" - Grace J.

"I ain't no mole!" - Grace J.

Leo Kudla: "Why are you peeing so much?" "The water is endless, as Grace said." - Abe M.

"Bearded Julian." - Brooklyn M.

"I never get in Seen and Heard because I'm not funny." - Victoria T.

"Meredith x Wall?" - Elizabeth B.

"Join the dark side; we have cookies." - Gabriel Garfield

"I like her eyeballs." - Abe M.

"Press Y to open inventory." - Gabriel G.

"I thought I heard Leo up here, so I was like, 'so they just let anyone up here, huh?'" - Maddy W.

Lydee Fontenot: "What's one distinct thing about all the students here?" "Umm... Jace looks like Ronald McDonald..." -Meredith G.

\*To Jace\* "Sometimes you just stand." - Gabriel G.

\*Victoria makes random sound\* "This is why I should've been Leader." - Leo K.

\*Hugs plant\* \*sighs happily\* "No more cowboys." - Meredith G.

"It's called karma; It's pronounced 'ha.'" - Abigail Fruge

"I wasn't trying to make a joke, I was trying to give birth to a pear!" - Jace S.

"He's deformed- \*wheeze\* I love him!" - Elizabeth B.

"Gorilla Ambush." - Abe M.

## Bills

**Continued from page 1**

set specific meeting dates and times for government meetings and outlined other operational rules. Under the new amendment, which passed 13-0, only members present during the roll at the beginning of the meeting would be allowed to vote and speak. Further, if people in the lobby are distracting, the leader or government advisor can clear the lobby.

The amendment also allowed for bills and resolutions to be amended during the course of a meeting. Students will make hall calls five minutes prior to the time of the government meeting.

The newly passed phone bill is not the first in the GPGC's history. Counselor Abby Fruge said during her

first four years as a student, phones were picked up at lights out at the counselors' discretion.

During her last summer, Fruge wrote a bill to allow students to keep their phones all the time. Upon becoming a counselor and seeing the effect it had on students, she said she realized the bill was a mistake. Students were taking their phones out of the dorms, not socializing with each other at meals, were on their phones or sleeping in class, and sleeping late.

"It was terrible," she said. "It was tragic. It did every student a disservice."

The students who knew each other would message their friends, but the Freshmen suffered. Since older students weren't talking, the Freshmen didn't get a sense of the social atmosphere the program was supposed to

provide, she said.

A resolution to ban the song 7 Years from being played in the lobby failed to pass by a vote of 0-10, with the general consensus being it was a violation of student liberties.

## Fruge

**Continued from page 2**  
was impressed.

Outside of the program, Fruge worked at the Children's Clinic for two and a half years. She also had two other jobs on campus, with the SGA and with the Mc-Neese Honors College in the English department.

"Ya gurl works," Fruge said. "She like gettin' paid. Got expensive taste."

After the program this year, Fruge is headed to medical school.

## Art

# Prompts

By Elizabeth B.

Day One: Fire Alarm  
Day Two: Apple  
Day Three: Gradient  
Day Four: Cedar Wood  
Day Five: Rainbow

## Have a joke!

What's so good about Switzerland?

To be honest I don't know, but the flag is a plus!

## Word of the Week

By Lydee Fontenot

### Paradox

[ pair-uh-docks ]  
noun

a seemingly self-contradictory statement that when investigated may prove to be well founded or true.

"A type of question that is un-answerable." -Victoria T.

"A really hard riddle." -Maddy W.

"Something that's not supposed to happen." -Samson W.

"A doctor who is paranoid." -Gloria J.

## Editorial Staff:

Elizabeth B.  
Lydee F.  
Meredith G.  
Ishan K.  
Victoria T.  
Julien V.

