This year’s All-School Production, *Hello Dolly*, will transport the audience back in time for a romantic and comedic experience this coming December. These characters will come to life on the auditorium stage on December 12th and 13th.

*Hello Dolly* is set in Yonkers and New York City in the 1890s, where we meet the outgoing Dolly Levi. Dolly is a matchmaker who is on a mission to find a partner for the wealthy Horace Vandergelder. She convinces his niece Ermengarde, Ermengarde’s love interest named Ambrose, and Horace’s two clerks to come along for the ride.

Along the journey, Dolly involves the clerks, Cornelius and Barnaby, in the matchmaking as well. She also discovers her own interests and finds romance in the process.

AHS choir director, Mr. Young, states, “*Hello Dolly* is an American classic of a musical. Just because these songs are older does not mean that they are any less valuable than those from newer shows. It has been a joy watching several of the students fall in love with this material. It sounds simple, but I am just excited because I think the musical itself is great.”

The leads in this year’s All-School Production are: Briana Locon as Dolly Levi, Aiden Box as Horace Vandergelder, Bethany Garrison as Ermengarde, Matthew Saenz as Ambrose Kemper, Sarah Scott as Irene Molloy, Allison Cope as Minnie Fay, Daniel Johnson as Cornelius Hackl, Dakota Beaver as Rudolph, Kerigan May as Ernestina, and Bryce Wehmeyer as Barnaby.

Senior Bethany Garrison states, “I’m really excited to be in *Hello Dolly* this year. Especially, as one of the leads. It’s my senior year so last time, best time.”

Senior Kerigan May states, “I’m excited to perform *Hello Dolly* for my peers and all the schools and it’s going to be very entertaining and funny to watch.”

Senior Allison Cope states, “I feel like the musical is going to be really great this year! We have a ton of great people this year. They are super fun to be around and very hard working!”

Come and follow Dolly along her journey to help her friends find love!
Zoe Grubaugh

Zoe Grubaugh is a freshman here at Altus High School. Zoe was born in Wyoming, and moved to Turkey in 2015. She has lived in Altus since 2017.

Zoe enjoys playing softball and running track for AHS. Her favorite thing about playing softball is traveling places and playing different teams. Her favorite thing about AHS is all of the sports and clubs that are available for students to explore.

Zoe states, “Being a Bulldog to me means not giving up in any sport or academic activity.”

Zoe lives with her mom and dad. Her mother, DaLonne, is a radiation therapist, and her father, Troy, is in the Air Force as a master sergeant in Security Forces. She has two younger brothers, Grady and Bowen.

Grady is 10 years old and Bowen is 7 years old. Zoe enjoys going outdoors with her family.

She would like to attend Ohio State to get her medical degree. She would like to become a trauma surgeon.

One thing you students may not know about Zoe is that she has been to London, England, and traveled all around Turkey. One place that Zoe would like to visit is Italy. One of her favorite hobbies is to go hunting with her father.

One thing that motivates Zoe in her life is her father. Her dad pushes her to do everything to the best of her ability.

One of Zoe’s favorite quotes is, “Believe you can, and you will”. She uses this quote to motivate her to do better sports and academic activities.

Tyler Saxon

Tyler Saxon is a freshman here at Altus High School. He lives with his three brothers and his parents. He hasn’t lived in Altus his whole life though; he grew up in West Virginia.

His three brothers, Tommy, Trace, and Tate, all attend Altus Public Schools. His older brother, Tommy, plays football for the bulldogs. His younger brother Trace is 14 and is an eighth grader at Altus Junior High. His youngest brother Tate, is 12 years old and is in sixth grade at Altus Intermediate School.

Their mom is a nurse at UCMH, and their dad is a manager for both Altus and Elk City’s Air Evac Life Team bases.

He plans to attend a culinary school after high school in San Antonio, Texas. After, he plans to open his own Turkish-style restaurant in Huntington, West Virginia. He has been inspired to do this by his grandma, who is from Turkey and immigrated to the United States in 2005. When she immigrated to America, she lived in Lawton. She even had a gyro business around the time she moved to America. There, she worked and owned the business for a long time.

Tyler states, “She makes me the best food and loves to try and make new foods. She’s who inspired me to become a chef.”

Tyler’s favorite part about Altus High School is the available sports programs. He’s most motivated in life by football. During the spring he says he will be more motivated by baseball.
Vex Robotics

VEX Robotics is new to Altus High School as a class and a club. The STEM class is offered fourth and sixth hour for all grades. Students not enrolled in the class can meet for the club on Thursday afternoons.

VEX Robotics is similar to Bot Ball. However, this class comes with many more challenges and opportunities. Both programs have obstacles but with VEX, students can use a joystick to guide the robot on a 12x12 board.

Students are learning to code and build structures. VEX Robotics helps students become new innovators, thinkers, and problem solving leaders.

The class introduces a way for students to get more involved and earn scholarships. One example of a scholarship earned through VEX is the Harvey Mudd Scholarship. This offers a $10,000 scholarship to a student who has participated in a VEX Robotics Competition in high school.

The first competition is scheduled for January 11th in Yukon. The Robotics team is working hard in preparation for their first competition. Sophomore Yamilet Benitez states, “I really like VEX Robotics because you can take from real world examples and put them into the actual robot. It is a trial and error process.”

AHS would like to thank many people including Nathan Covington, School Liaison Officer and Air Force STEM Representative for buying the Robotics team robots, notebooks, tools, a new banner, and their 12x12 practice board.

Let’s Chalk About It

On October 2, Altus High School students Marka Kirby and Alison Nichols were awarded the Judges Choice Award at the Anadarko Chalk Art Festival.

Contestants have to pay an entry fee of $10 to compete. The artists are given four hours to create a composition in chalk in a 6’x6’ concrete section. If the composition is not finished in the allotted time, it is automatically disqualified from the competition.

This kind of drawing is especially difficult, because the contestants are on their hands and knees for the duration of the drawing period as well as having to finish a large scale project in a short amount of time.

They competed against students from other high schools around Oklahoma. This allows the contestants to showcase their unique art styles.

Judges usually focus on five components in each entry: design, color mixing, composition, drawing, and completion. The Judges Choice Award symbolizes top ten and is a very competitive placement.

Altus High School art teacher Mr. Avila states, “Both girls did an awesome job.”

Allison Nichols states, “We both really liked the butterfly and the flower. We thought it would stand out. It was also fun to go and represent Altus.”

Congratulations to the talented artists for participating and representing Altus well.
From Class to Home

Earlier this school year, the Altus school district welcomed the new Altus Public Virtual School. This program is free through the school and is designed for students who would better benefit in an online learning environment while continuing to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities such as sports, band, and academic teams.

Janet Harms, Director of Alternative Programs for APS, states, “Altus Public Virtual School is an online learning program for students in grades 5 to 12 who prefer to learn from home. APVS allows students the ability to manage their schedule while still earning a high school diploma.”

Altus Public Schools has partnered with Odysseyware for students to receive these educational services. This program also meets all criteria in order to graduate. APVS also provides the opportunity for juniors and seniors to take classes at Western Oklahoma State College. Those who are enrolled in Altus Public Virtual School will be eligible to receive a state-sponsored tuition waiver sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. If any students who are interested, you can contact Mrs. Harms in the front office.

Teacher Spotlight: Paul Loe

Mr. Paul Loe is one of the newest technology teachers here at Altus High School. The is his first year teaching, but he has coached Lady Bulldogs soccer for two years. He is also the assistant coach for the freshman volleyball team.

He was born in London, England, but he grew up in Houston, Texas. He graduated from Northbrook High School. He attended The University of Texas, Houston Community College, University of Mount Union, and Oklahoma Central University where he received his Business Administration degree.

Mr. Loe states, “I enjoy helping and interacting with people. I hope I can be a positive influence on the students here at Altus High School.”

He has been married for 21 years to his wife, Angie. His wife works at Jackson County Memorial Hospital as an occupational therapist. Their daughter Brianne is a sophomore, at Western, and their son Eric is a freshman at Altus High School. They have four dogs, Leo, Bane, Winston and Kodak.

Some of his hobbies include soccer, running, biking, hiking, working out, listening to music, and traveling.

Something students may not know about Mr. Loe is that he ran the London Marathon. He was also interviewed by the Today Show at the Tour de France. He is retired Air Force, and his favorite college team is the Texas Longhorns.

Mr. Loe’s favorite quote is “Two things scare me. The first is getting hurt, but that is not nearly as scary as the second, which is losing,” by Lance Armstrong.
Altus Gets Gaming!

This year, Altus High School has given students the opportunity to participate in E-sports gaming. Around 80 students have signed up to play.

Senior Draven Ybarra states, “I can’t wait to get the E-sports season started.”

Students who signed up for E-sports will be allowed to participate as long as they have good grades, good attendance and good behavior. Each week the top performers will compete in the tournaments.

Practice will begin before November 1st, and the season is set to start in January.

Students will have the opportunity to play many different games. A few of the games include: Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, Rocket League, NBA 2K20, Madden 20, and Minecraft Survival Games.

NBA 2K20, Smash Brothers Ultimate, Madden 20 and Minecraft Survival are played individually, but Rocket League is a multiplayer game, so students can work together. Some schools allow for games with violence, but AHS has a no violence policy for E-sports.

Superintendent Roe Worbes states, “I am very excited about the opportunity E-sports may provide for some students to be a part of a team who may not otherwise be involved in an AHS activity and also the opportunity for stu-

Pink Out for a Cure!

Pink Out is a tradition in Altus Public Schools. This event occurs in October, the main focus is the Pink Out game.

This year Altus Public Schools will once again participate in the Coaches vs. Cancer campaign. Altus was previously recognized for raising over 15,000 dollars last year, which was the most of any public school in Oklahoma.

The Coaches vs. Cancer campaign is through the American Cancer Society. All the money raised goes back to local cancer patients who need financial assistance.

Some of the things Altus Public Schools did to raise money was sell over 530 shirts, passing of the bucket at halftime, Paint the Town Pink and a Pie in the Face to the teacher with the most tickets in their jar. Mr. Martin, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Harms, Mrs. Beckner, Coach Terry and Mrs. Sherman all got a pie to the face at the Pink Out pep-rally on Friday. Altus Public Schools hopes to beat last year’s earnings.

The school that earned the most in the district, besides Altus High School, received a pep-rally from That Altus Band, AHS Cheer and Dance teams and the football team.

This is also a week to raise awareness. This year three Altus students were made the honorary captains of the game. Brayden Baltazar—7th grade, Elizabeth Fixaco—6th grade and LuisAngel Martinez—1st grade were selected as the captains for the game. Go bulldogs!
Maggie Landers is a senior at Altus High School. Maggie grew up in Altus, Oklahoma. She lives with her parents, Justin and Jamie Landers. She has two older brothers named Jesse and Ty Stevens, and a nephew named Leo.

In her free time she enjoys cheerleading, going to Stillwater to watch sporting events, and hanging out with her nephew.

After high school she plans to attend Oklahoma State University.

Maggie’s favorite thing about Altus High is seeing Mrs. Snapp everyday. Something students may not know about Maggie is she has met Senator Inhofe. He gave her a tour of the United States Capital building in Washington D.C.

One of Maggie’s favorite things about AHS are the pep assembly’s. She loves how they come together to celebrate the Bulldog family.

Maggie states, “My parents have always been my biggest motivation in life. I have always done my best to make them proud. They have always supported me, and they are my biggest motivation.”

Maggie states, “Being a Bulldog means being a part of a family, and always having someone there to support and encourage you.”

A quote that means a lot to Maggie is, “Don’t treat people as bad as they are, treat them as good as you are.”

D’Marco De la Paz is a senior here at Altus High School. D’Marco lived in Italy, but was raised in Altus, Oklahoma.

D’Marco lives with his parents, Lizette and Francisco, and younger brother, Giancarlo. His mom is a retired Air Force veteran. His dad is a retired Army Ranger. He has an older sister named Crystal and an older brother named Justice.

Outside of school, D’Marco enjoys playing video games, going to concerts, and film-making.

After high school D’Marco plans to attend Rose Hulman Institute of Technology on a football or swim scholarship.

D’Marco has worked at the Altus City Pool as a life guard since his junior year.

His favorite things about Altus High School are the culture, Blue Crew, and Link Crew.

Something students may not know is that he has over 95 thousand followers on a social media app called TikTok.

D’Marco is motivated to reach his goals so that he can have the future of his dreams.

D’Marco’s favorite quote states, “Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced,” by Soren Kierkeguard.