



TRINITY TIMES

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AROUND TCS News in Brief

Martone Advances to PoL Regionals

Sophomore Gabby Martone is gearing up for the New Jersey Poetry Out Loud regional round after taking top honors at the TCS Poetry Out Loud competition in January. Martone will head down to the Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown on Monday, February 27, where she will compete with school winners from Morris, Sussex, Warren, Hunterdon, and Somerset counties. The top two contestants in Morristown will join ten other regional champions at the state finals on the campus of The College of New Jersey on March 9.

Voigt to Vie for State Geo Bee Title?

Eighthgrader Daniel Voigt will soon find out if he will again be among 100 qualifiers for the New Jersey State Geography Bee. Voigt took top honors at the TCS Geography Bee for a second straight year on January 30 and now awaits the results of a qualifying examination. The state bee is slated for Friday, March 31 at Rowan University.

TCS has had one state champion in its history; sophomore Charlie Mills took top honors in 2014. New Jersey as a state has had two national champions since the National Geographic Society started competitions in 1989.

Six TCS Students Take Top Individual Scores at Annual Bible Bee

Trinity Christian School had a very strong showing at the annual Bible Bee for grades 3-8 held at Bergen County Christian Academy on February 7.

Competing against eight other area Christian schools, TCS had individual winners in all but one grade level. The placements are shown by grade level below:

- 3 - Ryan Khan (1st); Nate Falciola (2nd)
- 4 - Jamal Khan (T-1st); Cayden Gibello (T-1st)
- 5 - Joey Falciola (1st)
- 6 - Sammy Chuang (1st)
- 7 - Ethan Serrano-Heyer (1st); Sarah Falciola (2nd)
- 8 - Stephen Cable (2nd)

Sarah Chuang (5), Ben Markowicz (6), and Elena Forrest (8) rounded out the team's excellent performance. Elementary Principal Mr. Nick Scotten has coached the team for 13 years. He credits God's blessing upon the students' studies, as well as strong general Bible knowledge from family and individual Bible study, church learning, and the strong Bible curriculum at TCS.

Upcoming Events

MCAA Junior Basketball Tournament
Fri 2/17 - Sat 2/18

TCS Daytime Open House
Wed 2/22

MCAA Varsity Basketball Tournament
Fri 2/24 - Sat 2/25

TCS Evening Open House
Tue 2/28

Pi Day
Tue 3/14

National Latin Exam
Thu 3/16

FLYING ABOVE THE RIM

Yamasaki Surpasses Scoring Milestone



Junior Peter Yamasaki poses with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dave and Janet Yamasaki, to commemorate his 1,000th point scored. (photo credit: Mrs. Barb Champagne)

by Kyle Eliassen

Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, LeBron James, Kobe Bryant, Peter Yamasaki. These are some of the many high school players who have scored 1,000 points in their varsity careers.

Before February 7, no male player in Trinity history could be named among the ranks of these basketball legends. But Yamasaki, a junior and team captain, led the Trailblazers on the court that day against Kearny Christian Academy with a career total of 994 points. In the first quarter, Yamasaki went to the free throw line twice, making all four free throws. Then, at about the five minute mark, his brother, sophomore Nicholas Yamasaki, stole the ball and started a fast break. Peter took a pass on a cut through the lane and laid it in. The game was stopped and Peter was presented with the ball and a banner commemorating the event. He joins Kate Carbone ('16) as the

only Trinity basketball players to reach this milestone.

Recently, I sat down with Peter to ask how he feels to be one of the greatest players in Trinity history. "I'm truly thankful and blessed to have had this opportunity. I could not have done it without my parents, all the holiday mornings they gave up taking me to the gym or the weekends they lost. I truly cannot thank them enough for that." I also asked how he feels he has changed the varsity boys program, since the team is currently sitting in its highest-seeding in history going into the tournament. "It's all about building excitement. Winning is an attitude. The change in our program cannot be attributed to one person, but to an overall change to a winning mindset of the program." Finally, I asked what his goal is now that he has reached this impressive milestone. "Bring that championship banner to Trinity, where it belongs."

Reflections on President Trump's "Muslim Ban"

by Jurgen Lipps

Since being sworn in as the 45th President of the United States on January 20th, 2017, Donald J. Trump has signed 12 executive orders, inciting varying degrees of controversy. Perhaps the most controversial of these has been President Trump's so called "Muslim ban." The executive order functions to suspend the entry of immigrants and non-immigrants from seven Muslim-majority nations in the Middle East. This order in particular has been widely critiqued by liberals and conservatives as being a poor strategy for keeping Muslim extremists out of the country, not to mention being an overly harsh, unfair, and poorly-executed order. The nuance of this issue is difficult to see, especially due to misleading media coverage, but now that the initial buzz of Trump's order has died down, the issue is much easier to talk about in a clear way.

Before critiquing the order, it must be made perfectly clear that the "Muslim ban" is not a Muslim ban in the way that many who read a news headline and develop an opinion on it think that it is. The order is a temporary ban on the entry of immigrants and non-immigrants from seven Muslim majority nations. The order is not a permanent ban on Muslim people. The order is not a temporary ban on only Muslims from those seven nations; rather, it is a ban on everyone from those seven countries. The only reason the word "Muslim" should ever come up in this conversation is to clarify that these countries are all Muslim majority nations, and even the Left has, by

now, seemed to recognize that Muslim-majority nations and Muslim nations produce more Islamic terrorists than secular nations or non-Muslim majority nations. So to be perfectly clear, this executive order is temporarily banning entry of all people, regardless of religion, from seven countries of which the vast majority of people are Muslims.

Critics of the ban have practically all stated the same few, but important and notable concerns. On what grounds should the United States deny access of legitimate refugees to the asylum that they actually do need in the US? Is it moral to "say no" to refugees in dire need? We've all heard these questions before, and they demand that all those supporting the ban think of them and formulate a response. A more notable critique, however, has been that the list of seven nations in the executive order does not include Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Lebanon, or Pakistan, despite the fact that these nations have produced far more terrorists who have killed far more innocent people than any of the seven nations on the list. Interestingly enough, the United States has a history of business with some of these excluded nations, which may or may not play into the decision to keep them off the list.

While the ban is, at best, a noble attempt to slow down or halt the problem of terrorist immigration into the U.S., it does have its benefits, and those who oppose the ban must consider some of them before denying every aspect of the ban outright. Douglas Murray,

Basketball Teams Gear Up for Tournament Play

All three regular seasons for the Trinity Trailblazers basketball squads have come to an end, as the teams finish preparations for one last hurrah in the upcoming Metro Christian Athletic Association tournaments.

The junior high squads hit the hardwood tomorrow and Saturday at the home of Abundant Life Nutley. The third-seeded girls (7-3 MCAA) will match up with second-ranked Abundant Life Nutley at 6:15pm, while the third-ranked boys (8-4 MCAA) will square up with second-seeded Parsippany Christian at 7:15pm.

The varsity boys (15-10, 9-7 MCAA) meanwhile secured a 4-seed for their tournament, after losing in overtime at Bergen County Christian Academy last night, 33-27. They will host Abundant Life Nutley in a play-in game on Tuesday at 5:30pm.

The Trailblazers would love your support during tournament play! The Times will provide a full season recap and team honors in our next edition, plus we'll preview the forthcoming track and baseball seasons!

Athletics Applebee's Fundraiser a Success

By many measures, the first Applebee's breakfast fundraiser in Parsippany was a big success for the TCS Athletics Department.

Ticket sales and donated tips allowed the department to raise \$933 to use for various athletics needs, such as new uniforms for the junior high soccer team. 132 tickets were sold, which led to a restaurant filled with TCS families, friends, students, and alumni. Athletes were responsible for serving, hosting, drink orders, and bussing tables, while the restaurant supplied pancakes, sausage, and eggs.

Athletics Director Mr. Mike Sifonios noted the atmosphere and fellowship was truly wonderful. He added that this event has potential to be a successful annual event for the athletics department.

a British writer, journalist, commentator, and debater has proposed a list of questions which protestors of the ban must address and answer. Included in this list are questions like, "Do you accept that America (like many other countries in the world today) has security problems? Does the whole world have the right to live in America? If you believe in giving some people asylum, as I do, who should be given priority? Should asylum be forever? Is it wrong that the Trump administration says it wishes to favour Christian refugees over Muslim refugees? How do you identify the type of Muslims who America should indeed welcome?" The entire list is well worth the read, and it is sure to make anyone think twice about their opinions on the subject.

The bottom line is that America has legitimate security concerns which must be addressed. A large scale, universal immigration ban on seven Middle Eastern countries is probably not the best way to address these concerns. Add in his thoughts about "The Wall," and President Trump's ideas of national security are certainly unique, and we have never, as a nation, seen anything like it before. One major relief, however, is the President's willingness to recognize terrorism as a religious issue instead of a socioeconomic one. The termination of this issue will not come in the form of bans and executive orders, however, and many people hope that our government has the wisdom and patience necessary to deal with this problem.

Science, History, and Religion Collide in New Documentary

Dr. Del Tackett tackles the historicity of the book of Genesis in a one-night theater event

by James Batista & Mr. Messer

Former Trinity banquet speaker and creator of The Truth Project, Dr. Del Tackett, is the host of a new documentary called *Is Genesis History?*, showing in area movie theaters for one night only on Thursday, February 23.

The documentary seeks to provide answers to many century-long questions surrounding the book of Genesis, such as "Was the universe created in six literal days?"; "Was there a global flood?"; and "What happened to the dinosaurs?"; It gives a positive, evidence-based case for the Bible's historical reliability.

"Millions of people have sincere questions about the origins of the earth and humanity," Tackett said. "And there are contrasting views of our history, one of which is in the book of Genesis. The question is, which view is accurate? *Is Genesis History?* makes a positive case that the Bible is historically reliable."

The project came together partly due to a conversation filmmaker Thomas Purifoy, Jr. had with his 10-year-old daughter. "She wanted to know how the things in the world are explained by what she reads in the Bible. Her questions led me down a lot of different paths where I heard and saw some amazing things. I tried to put as many of them as I could into the documentary."

The presentation will begin at 7:00 pm with the documentary itself. Then, Tackett will be joined by scientists and theologians on a moderated panel to discuss the impact Genesis is having on current historical scientific studies. Nearby theaters that will be showing it are the Wayne 14 theater near Willowbrook Mall in Wayne, the Rockaway 16 theater in Rockaway, and the Clifton Commons 16 theater just off of NJ Route 3 in Clifton. You can find out more about the film, watch a trailer, and download a free eBook at the documentary's website, isgenesishistory.com.

Devotional: Carver Models the Gospel

by Mr. Douglas Prol

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well.
~James 2:8

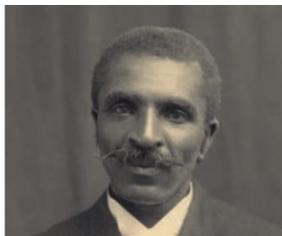
Who is George Washington Carver and what can he teach us? Hopefully, that is not a question that would remain blank on your test paper. Most remember him as a renowned horticulturist who invented over 300 uses for peanuts, as well as hundreds of uses for the soybean and the sweet potato, all in an effort to help former slaves recover a purposeful life in the post-Civil War South. In fact, Carver almost single-handedly reinvented land management there, following the ravages of too much cotton and tobacco farming. He was so brilliant that Henry Ford and Thomas Edison tried to hire him, but he said no. Carver wasn't after fame or fortune. He earnestly desired to be used of God to be of the greatest good for the greatest number of his people as he could. George Washington Carver is an amazing figure whom TCS has selected to learn from this February during Black History Month.

George Carver was born into slavery in 1864. With the end of the Civil War, and of slavery, he was reared by his former owners as their son. Carver was excluded from school after school, even from Sunday school, growing up in segregated America with poverty, lifelong discrimination, and the KKK. But having come to faith in Jesus Christ at an early age, he was able to see each and every obstacle as a blessing and an opportunity to learn. As a passionate Christian, he kept his eyes on Jesus, saying, "How my soul goes out to people who have not found the first principle of true



Photos (from top): At Discovery Park of America in Union City, Tennessee, Tackett and paleontologist Dr. Marcus Ross explored the collection of dinosaur bones. // Geologist Dr. Steve Austin explains to Tackett how sedimentary strata in the Grand Canyon can be seen across North America. // At Tennessee's Memphis Zoo, biologist Dr. Todd Wood and Tackett discuss human origins. [courtesy Compass Cinema]

NEWSFLASH! - TCS students who attend the film may be excused from Thursday homework assignments - more info in home room next week!



George Washington Carver, pictured in 1910. [Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons, in public domain]

happiness and divine love, which must rule the world."

Carver was a boy who marveled at God's creation, a young man who hungered for knowledge, and an aging scientist who taught the world the true meaning of freedom. Empowered by the Spirit of God, Carver endured wrongs with gentleness and compassion for all men. He ministered the gospel and imparted biblical wisdom to his fellow mistreated Blacks and to privileged Whites. In his later years, Carver was often on the speaker's circuit, where he entreated all, "Fear of something is at the root of hate for others and hate within will eventually destroy the hater. Keep your thoughts free from hate, and you will have no fear from those who hate you."

George Washington Carver understood the truth that all human beings are image bearers of God and of equal worth before Him. He understood through firsthand experience the pain and abuse of racial discrimination, part of the selfish and ugly consequences of mankind's sin. But Carver's life was and remains a sterling testimony to the power of grace alone to change hearts. He can still teach us today, as we hear the echo of his loving exhortation, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and the strong, because someday in life you will have been all of these."

Editor: Jurgen Lipps
Photography: Grace Markowicz
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Reporter: Joseph Boch

TIMES PERSPECTIVES



Getting "Reel" with Danny: Patriot's Day

by Danny Champagne

Patriot's Day depicts the events of the infamous Boston Marathon bombing, following a diverse array of witnesses of the event, including the terrorists themselves. The movie especially focuses on Tommy Saunders, a police sergeant willing to do anything to take down the bombers and keep our country safe.

Patriot's Day is a spectacular film in which Peter Berg delivers another eye-opening true story that most Americans thought they knew. While the movie did not set any records at the box office, it told a unique, inspiring story about unlikely heroes, survivors, victims, and villains. It showed the strength and resilience of the city of Boston and its residents after a life-altering event such as this one was. And it gave a perspective on the bombers that most would not have thought of at first glance. While Mark Wahlberg and Kevin Bacon deliver their typical (nearly) flawless performances, the movie does not put a spotlight on the actors, but rather it puts viewers in the shoes of the characters themselves and brings us back to the actual events. I would strongly recommend this movie to any patriotic American who wants to recall a piece of modern history.

From a Christian perspective, I would recommend seeing *Patriot's Day*. The values set forth are commendable from any point of view, and even if the main characters are not Christian, we all can still learn from and appreciate them.

(Editorial note: The Times presents this material without strictly endorsing the viewing of this or any other film. We firmly believe entertainment choices are to be made in a family context.)

Opinion: The American Flag Deserves Respect and Protection

by Charlie Mills

After the election of President Donald Trump, protesters who were unhappy with the results took to the streets of America. Some of these protestors also burned the American flag. The then President-elect Trump expressed some strong beliefs on the subject, tweeting on November 29, "Nobody should be allowed to burn the American flag - if they do, there must be consequences - perhaps loss of citizenship or year in jail!" This statement shocked the liberal media, which believes flag-burning is a protected right.

The desecration of venerated objects, such as the flag, which is a national symbol, was long punishable and certainly shameful. In the 1989 case *Texas vs. Johnson*, a ruling was reversed that previously banned the act. But the Supreme Court declared flag burning a protected right of free speech under the First Amendment. The thing is, the freedom of speech relies on the fact that such heinous acts of disrespect against the country won't occur. If someone wants to complain about the country, burning the American flag isn't the way to do it. As Mr. Trump said, such desecration should be punished by jail time when it is clear that the flag was burned in hatred for the country. But others still protest that they have the right to say and do whatever they want in response to events that don't go their way. To them, the First Amendment is an excuse to whine about things that don't please them,

Reporter: Daniel Champagne
Reporter: Kyle Eliassen
Reporter: Hannah Genberg
Cartoons/Reporter: Charlie Mills

Action-Reaction: We Ask, You Answer

by Hannah Genberg

In lieu of our standard "Out of the Bochs" segment (it must have been placed in storage for the time...), we would like to present you with yet another riveting survey.

Many people in the United States celebrated Valentine's Day this week, so the Times decided to ask members of the TCS elementary some questions on the theme of love.

(Q1) What do you think Love is?

"Money." -Ben (6th)

"A weird feeling when people like each other." -Margaret (4th)

"Jesus dying on the cross" - unknown (1st)

"Being kind/nice to people" - Tristan & Mariana (K)

(Q2) What are some things you do for someone you love?

"Play with them and build something for them and giving them something they want." -Wesley (K)

"Give them chocolate." - Rachel (4)

"Take their place." -Griffin (5)

"Relieve them all things that stress them." - Samuel (6)

(Q3) Who or what do you love most?

The most common answers were parents and God, although others love their siblings and food as well.

(Q4) What is your favorite Bible verse about love?

The most commonly stated verses were portions of 1 Corinthians 13, John 3:16, John 15:12, and 1 John 4:7.

Have a fun idea for another survey? Share your best questions with us at the Times!

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Thanks to Gabby Martone and *Is Genesis History?* press team



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