

The One and Only Edison Newspaper! It's Everything Edison!

Welcome to 2020!

All the news that's fun to print!

# The Edison Examiner

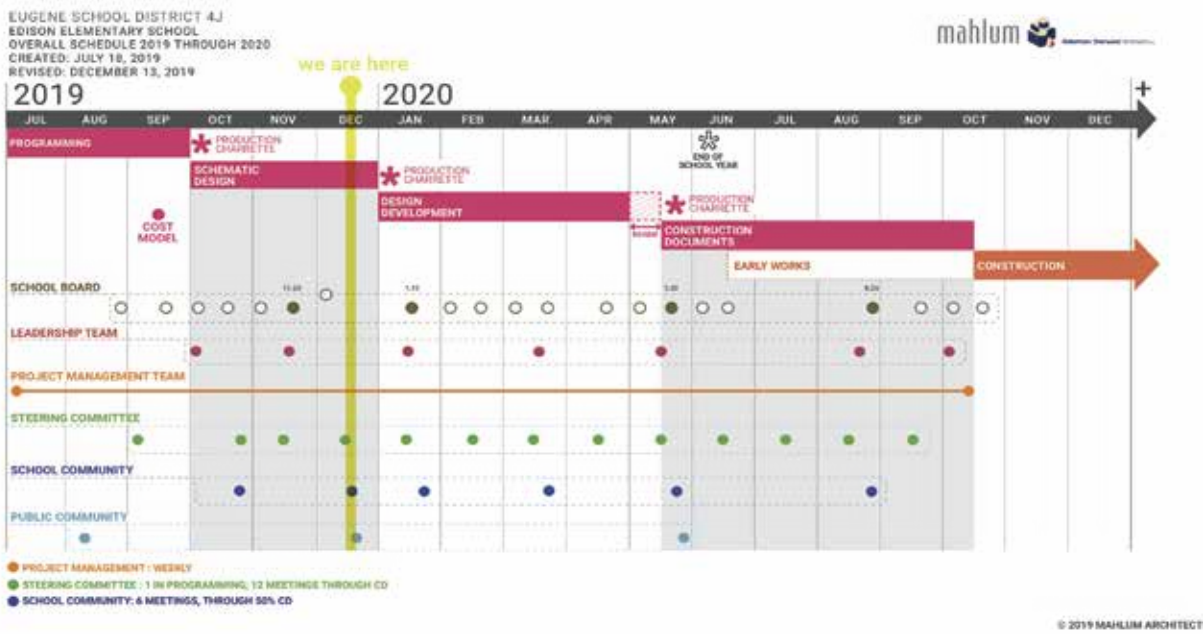
Edition IV, Volume III

January 2020

Edison Elementary Community Newspaper

## EDISON REBUILD NEWS

4j held a community meeting at Edison on December 16th. A presentation was given by the architectural firm hired to design the new Edison building. Community members got a look at the initial design concepts and were able to share comments and ask questions. The shared images and subsequent information are from that presentation.



As you can see there will additional *School community meetings* will be held in January, March, May, and August with the May meeting coinciding with a *Public Community meeting*. "Early Works" refers to the gradual move out and disassembly of the existing building.

4j said they would be "resuing" within the district as much as possible from the tear-down. It was also mentioned that other organizations would be recycling and resuing all other materials that were possible. It was definitively stated the current building will be entirely torn down with none of the remaining structure left standing.



In the above slide you can see the new footprint compared to the existing site.

See additional slides and info on next two pages...

## IN THIS EDITION

- 4j Edison Transisiton/Rebuild Info
- What's Happening at Edison
- The Letters that I Found
- Ollie the Onion
- Beancream 2
- Lily's Culinary Corner
- The Adventures of Tot & Fry
- 2020 U.S. & Chinese New year
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Edison Marker Recycling
- Food Frenzy

## Whats happening at Edison

- 6 Jan.** - No-School Professional Development
- 7 Jan.** - School Resumes
- 7 Jan.** - PC Meeting 6pm-7:30
- 13 Jan.** - Winter Term Treetop classes Begin
- 20 Jan.** - No-School MLK Holiday
- 30 Jan.** - Winter Sing 6pm
- 31 Jan.** - No-School Grading Day
- 31 Jan.** - Treetop No-School day Camp 'Hackathon'
- 4 Feb.** - PC Meeting 6pm-8/ STEAM Night
- 17 Feb.** - No-School President's Day

A Treetop Academics Publication



# Edison New School Floor Plans

## Ground Floor



These floor plans are not finalized, but the basic design is established, we were told. There could be a few modifications in the coming months and additional plans will be presented at the School and Community meetings, although there was no firm confirmation on what would be shared, when.

## Second Floor Plans



Notice the Pre-K classrooms and outdoor play area. A pre-K program on the Edison site was first introduced to the public at this meeting. When 4j representatives were asked about this, we were told this was going to be standard for all new elementary buildings. It is unclear whether the additional pre-k students will be part of, or in addition to, the 450 student projected maximum. 4j did state the pre-k program would be an agency outside of the district such as Head Start. We will follow up on the details.



# The Letters that I Found



By Sylvia Ketchum

Hi, my name is Allura and I live in Paris, France. The year is 1902. And this is the story of how I found letters in the attic of my old brick 1816 apartment. The rest of my family lives all over Europe.

The first time I saw a letter was 3 years ago. I was playing in the attic with my new born sister. I was 10 at that time. My little sister was crawling around and her knee slipped on something. I noticed as soon as her little bald head hit the hardwood floor. I couldn't help but see what she slipped on. I helped her up and brought her to my mother. She and papa took her to the hospital and my grandpa watched me.

As soon as my parents left, I ran straight up to the attic, lit a candle, and ran right to where my sister had slipped. I found 3 envelopes. I decided just to take one for now and leave the rest for another time.

I took the envelope down to my room. I shut the door and sat on my old dusty bed that was my mother's when she was young. I carefully opened the dusty, red, wax stamped envelope. The year it was sent was 1854.

I took the stiff, browned paper and read:

*Wednesday, December 23rd, 1754*

*Dear Mother,*

*I hope you get these letters. I know you are far, far away right now?! That must be so much fun! I just wanted to write to show you how much I miss you. Anyways, I know there isn't much to this letter, but I love you and I'll see you... well, I can't really say when. Love you!*

*Sincerely, Hannah*

That letter didn't have anything I was expecting. I was expecting it to have lots of deep poetic writing.

## 2 WEEKS LATER

My sister got out of the hospital 3 days later. It turns out she just had a minor concussion. Today I went back up to the attic. I collected the other 3 envelopes that my sister slipped on. I took them back down to my room. I slipped them under my pillow to read tomorrow.

It's Saturday and I just woke up. Everybody else is still sleeping. Well... it's only 5:30. I took one of the envelopes out from under my pillow. This envelope was green with a small red wax stamp on it.

I took out the small piece of paper and read:

*Saturday, February 18th, 1754*

*Dear Hannah,*

*I hope Paris is treating you well for Christmas! I'm sorry I can't make it home in time. But just know that I love you very much. See you in a few months!*

*Yours truly, Mother*

That letter was nice. And it was perfect for this time of year! My family and I are going to go get a tree today! I'm so excited to decorate with a bunch of cool lights and ornaments! I hope I get a new apron for gardening! Anyways, Back to the story....

We just got back from getting a tree and I can't wait to read the next note! I pulled the last note out from under my white flowered pillow and read it.

*Monday, June 1st, 1755*

*Dear Mother,*

*Happy new year! You're coming home next month right? I'm so excited to see you! I really enjoyed the Christmas gift you sent me. Love you!*

*Yours sincerely, Hannah*

Anyways, Back to 1902 and not 1899. I just remembered about the letters I found 3 years ago. I went up to the attic to try and find more letters. I found a whole bag full to the top with envelopes. I took 5 envelopes and brought them to my room. I opened one and read:

*Friday, June 13th, 1755*

*Dear sister, I know you're in Italy right now. But has Father told you the Horrible news?? Mother has become very ill. She has a rare sickness. I hope you are just as worried as I am. Father is taking her to the hospital and I am home with grandpa. I am terribly worried. Anyways, please write back! Yours truly, Hannah*

Today is Thursday and I just got back from school. I'm going up into the attic to try and find more letters. I got a handful more out of the bag. I took them up to my room and hid them in my bookshelf. After dinner I went straight to my room to read a letter.

I took one out from under my pillow and read:

*Wednesday, June 18th, 1755*

*Dear Hannah,*

*Mother is in the hospital right now. We are signing papers for surgeries. I hope mother will be ok, I will update you later, Father*

My eyes got teary. I was very scared. I wanted to know what would happen next! But I was very tired and wanted to go to bed. It's Monday. I haven't read a letter in a long time. Today after school I will read one. I just got back from school. I grabbed an envelope off of my shelf.

*Dear Sister,*

*I'm not sure if Father sent you the letter. But did you hear?? Mother is in the hospital! I'm very worried. What will happen?*

*Please write back, Sister*

My mother came into my room to let me know dinner was ready. "Pasta and-" she began. She saw me reading the letter. She saw the other letters on the shelf. I was worried she would be mad at me. She had no idea that for the last 5 weeks I had been reading letters I found in the attic.

She sat down next to me on my bed. She told me that she had kept a notebook from her grandmother who had died several years ago.

She took me to the attic and started digging through a big box. She pulled out a small brown leather notebook. She handed it to me and told me if I was interested in the letters, then I would be interested in the notebook.

I took the book out of my mom's hand. And read one page:

*February 18, 1832*

*Hello granddaughter! This is my journal. I hope that when I die you find this journal in your home. Love you! Grandmother*

TO BE CONTINUED!



# Edison Recycles Used Markers!

**Want to save the planet?  
Come on and help by recycling all your unused markers!**

We don't mean by recycling them in the blue classroom recycling bins, but by sending them to Crayola so they can recycle them the right way!

At Edison, look for the poster and drop box where you can put your used markers. We will make it obvious, but if you are unsure feel free to ask the office for it's location.

Edison wants to do this because it helps save the planet. Elementary students and kids in general are always going to use markers. By recycling your markers, we can reduce plastic waste from going directly into landfills.



All types of markers are accepted, but make sure they are markers and not just ball-point pens or pencils.

**So, all you have to do is:**

Find some markers (doesn't have to be Crayola markers...any brand is fine) in your house, your school, office, or anywhere!

Plastic material from things like markers causes pollution and majorly affects our environment. Edison wants to help reduce the impact of using so many markers, year after year.

Come to Edison to drop them off and I'll send them to Crayola for recycling!

**Recycling markers is super simple!**

**Easy, and we'll help save the planet together! Let's do it!**

## EDISON REBUILD NEWS CONTINUED...



This is the preliminary site plan for the new Edison. It includes a covered play area, a garden, and soft, hard, and field play areas similar in placement to the current site.

# Thanksgiving Word Search

**Thanksgiving**

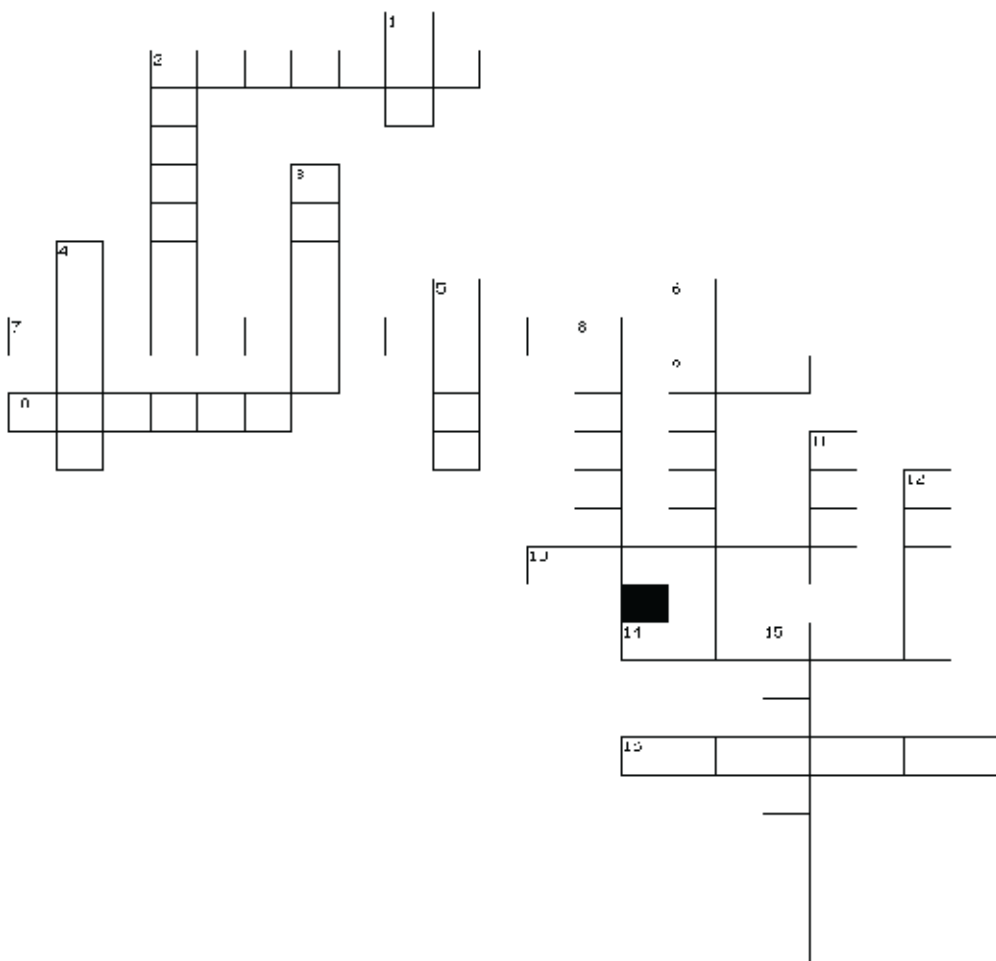
- Turkey
- Pilgrim
- Meal
- Friends
- Autumn
- Leaves
- Friends
- CranberrySauce
- Cornucopia
- Pumpkin
- Gratitude
- Bread
- Harvest
- November
- Gravy
- Relatives
- PumpkinPie
- Corn
- AppleSauce

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

# Thanksgiving

# Crossword

Below are the clues



**Across**

- 2. Traveler started Thanksgiving
- 7. A round green vegetable
- 9. Yellow, Orange, and \_\_\_\_ leaves
- 10. Falling from Autumn trees
- 13. Weird orange fruit
- 14. Farmer's Bounty
- 16. Thanksgiving month

**Down**

- 1. Baked Pumpkin \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Mashed \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. A fun day with \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Popular Thanksgiving bird
- 5. A popular sauce
- 6. Baskets of fruit
- 8. Be \_\_\_\_\_ for family
- 11. On the cob
- 12. Lots of food
- 15. Healthy food

# THE MUSINGS OF BEANCREAM

By: Vivian, Sylvia, & Sawyer

Last time we saw Beancream he was traveling all over the world and when he finally got home, Beancream heard a knock on the door. He opened it and no one was there. He heard a knock AGAIN, and went to go answer, but nobody was there. He heard a knock AGAIN, and no one was there. He got tired of answering the door so he just called a servant to do it and went to his bedroom and took a good long nap.

He was interrupted by a KNOCK ON THE DOOR!!! But, this time there was finally someone there and she was wearing a black suit with purple lined inside and a lot of technology, gadgets, and microphones.

Beancream thought she looked suspicious. She then told him, "I'm no harm to you," as she spoke in a really heavy English accent.

Beancream was very weirded out so he didn't know what to say. He just stood there staring at her intently. Eventually, she stepped inside and rushed to the gold room. It turns out... she was an evil spy. After using her tech stuff to investigate, Beancream yelled and called and screamed for his bodyguard and personal police patrol. His bodyguard got there first in about 3.385 seconds. He guarded Beancream while the police took her away to the police station and investigated the technology stuff.

The green eyed black cat was shouting at the police saying that she was his "cousin".

The police said, "considering Beancream called the cops, she probably wasn't his cousin." In fact, he knew they weren't cousins because SHE was a Siamese cat and Beancream was black and white. This is proof that she is very evil because she lied!"

Beancream was very upset, but that spy gave Beancream in idea!

BEANCREAM WAS GOING TO BECOME A SPY!!! He would solve mysteries and get more money for himself.

First, Beancream had to ask the kitty cat government. He told them he wanted to become a spy. The cat government first made him sign a contract. Then Beancream had to take a quiz on how to be a spy. And... he passed! Yay!

His first assignment was to go to the jail and find out what that lady was doing in his house. After talking to the evil spy cat, the good kitty cat government detectives found that the lady was a MURDERER & evil spy.

How did the government find out you may ask? Beancream's detectives asked the police to see her records. They knew there was something weird about that cat. I mean just randomly showing up at the house uninvited and said she was his "cousin?" And, she hid her identity as a murderer, and still became a spy? She is so evil!



## Edison Swing School Info

COMING SOON @ WILLARD SCHOOL SITE



**Swing School:** A temporary school site ("swing school") will be prepared at the Willard property (29th & Lincoln) to house first Edison Elementary School and then Camas Ridge Elementary School during construction of the new buildings at the existing school sites.

During the 2019-20 year, the existing Willard gym will be renovated, portions of the old facility will be removed, and swing school classrooms will be constructed with a combination of pre-fabricated building space and some modular buildings that can later be relocated for use at other district sites.



**Fall 2019:** Removal of old Willard classroom wings

**Winter 2019:** Site prep & renovation of Willard gym

**Spring 2020:** Construction of new classroom spaces

**Summer 2020:** Installation of new playground

In summer 2020, Edison Elementary School will move to the Willard site to make way for removal of the old Edison building and construction of the new school.

## Lily's Culinary Corner

By Lily Sykes

Hi! My name is Lily. I really like cooking with my mom. I am going to share a few recipes with you! I'm going to share a Peanut Butter Pie recipe with you that I don't like! I make this recipe all the time for my step-dad because he really likes it. Plus, it is really fun to make.



### Preparation:

1. First, you crush the OREOs in the stand mixer (or rolling pin)
2. Melt 2 TBSP of Butter in microwave and mix it in with OREOs
3. Take this mixture. Put it in the pie dish and bake for 5 minutes(clean your stand mixer)
4. In the stand mixer, mix the entire tub of cool whip, all the peanut butter and the cream cheese until smooth.
5. Put the mixture in the crust.
6. Cool in the fridge until you eat it.
7. ENJOY

### Ingredients:

- OREOs (24 of them)
- 1 tub CoolWhip
- 1 ½ cups Peanut Butter
- 2 TBSP of Butter
- 8 oz Cream cheese

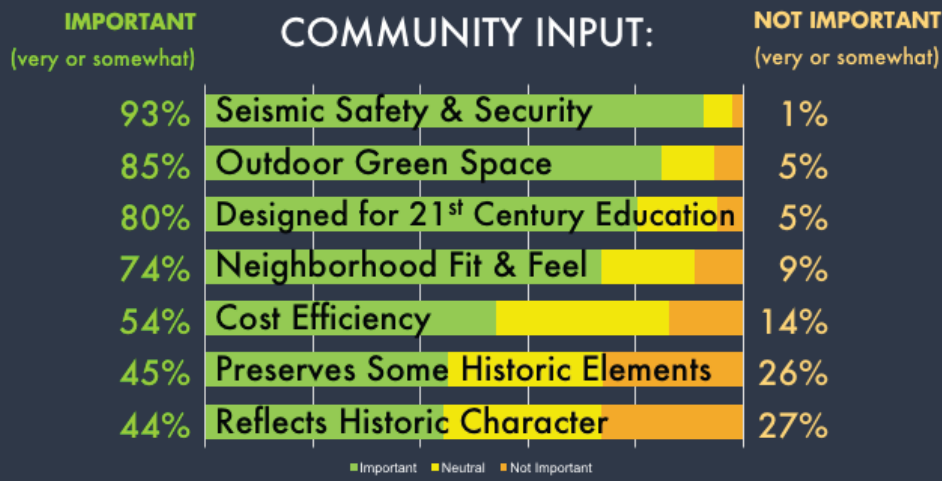
### Tools You'll need:

- One pie dish
- One Stand Mixer
- A bowl



# REPRINT: EDISON DESIGN DIRECTION

## EDISON DESIGN PRIORITIES: WHAT WE HEARD



All Edison rebuild Info. Reprinted from 4j website

Before beginning architectural design work for the new Edison building, the district held community meetings and posted an online survey to provide information about the design and construction process, discuss what had been heard from prior community engagement, and hear more from the community on what is important in the design of the new school for this neighborhood.

Community input was sought on architectural style approaches and on the importance of partially preserving some original building elements among other values for school design. Community input emphasized safety, the importance of honoring nature and green space, and fitting the neighborhood in scale and design.

## Who's Who

### Reporters & Writers

Sylvia Ketchum  
Avery Connors  
Saksham Sinha  
Feng Wang  
Sawyer Hanley  
Nehal Singla  
Vivian West  
Lily Skyes

### Editor:

Jason Aulicino  
jason@treetopacademics.com

### We'd like to thank

\* Our Pets...because they love us and we love them!

\* Our Teachers for showing us how to read, write, and learn so we can do this kind of thing!

\* For all other Edison staff for helping us everyday! We appreciate everything you do for us!

\* Parent Council and parents for providing so much time, effort, and resource for Edison students

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you have a story you would like The Edison Examiner to consider for print?



## POTENTIAL DESIGN STYLE: WHAT WE HEARD

Northwest Style



62% Like

Traditional Style



52% Like

Contemporary Style



21% Like

Northwest and traditional design approaches were well-received; fewer people preferred a more contemporary design approach for the new Edison.

## HONORING THE PAST: WHAT WE HEARD



**INTERPRETIVE PRESERVATION:** Save and relocate some historical elements or artifacts into the building.

56% Like



**PARTIAL PRESERVATION:** Preserve and incorporate a portion of the existing facade into the new building exterior.

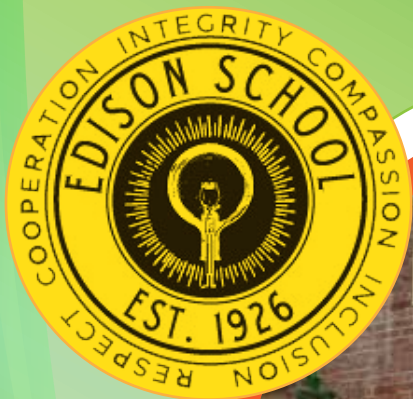
33% Like



Most respondents preferred acknowledging the school's history in some way but not attempting to retain part of the original brick building facade. Many community members emphasized that what is most important is to design the best school possible for students' education, now and in future.

### The architects designing the new Edison will be asked to:

- Design to fit the neighborhood in scale and green space
- Consider traditional and northwestern design styles
- Honor the building's history through historic displays and potentially by repurposing some materials in an interpretive preservation approach, not by preserving any portions of the facade in place.



Treetop Academics & Edison Presents

**PLEASE JOIN US**

**S.T.E.A.M. KIDS NIGHTS**

**NO NEED TO SIGN UP**

**FREE TO ALL EDISON K-5TH STUDENTS**



**S.T.E.A.M.**

**Kid Night**

Leave your kids for a Fun-Filled Evening of S.T.E.A.M. Related Activities

**February 4th**  
Kinder-2nd grade  
6-8pm at Edison

**March 3rd**  
3rd-5th grade  
6-8pm at Edison

Science



Technology



Engineering



Art

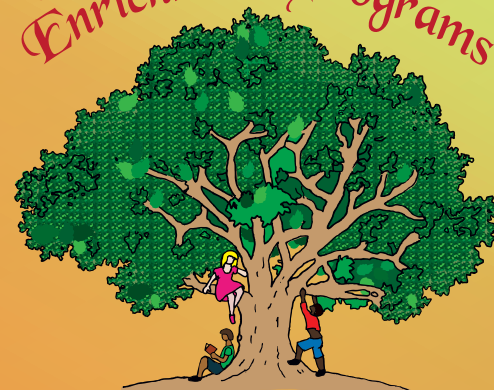


Math



Join Treetop Academics for a fun-filled evening of S.T.E.A.M. related activities. This project-based evening of rotating activities will be an opportunity for students to collaborate with others, individually create, and learn beyond the classroom!

*Treetop Academics Enrichment Programs*





## FOOD

## FRENZYY

By Sylvia Ketchum

HI! My name is Mac and Cheese Mkenzie! I hope you like my fancy cooking talk show name! OPPS!! I just gave away the surprise! I will be hosting a cooking talk show! Before the contestants come in I will explain the rules! There will be 3 contestants and only 1 winner! They will go through a series of cooking competitions! The appetizer, entre, dessert and a special drink! They will be on a one episode journey for... \$50,000!!!

LET'S MEET THE CONTESTANTS!

"Hi, my name is Julia and I am a mom of 7 kids. I think I am a pretty good baker and cooker. All of my kids are always willing to try my food. But I am worried about this competition because of the drinks. At home I just throw some milk or juice or water into a cup. But I think I will do well at this competition."

WOW! That's a lot of kids to cook for!

"My name is Brian and I have a pit bull but no kids. I have little experience with cooking but I think my steak is pretty good. I also feed my dog food every day and he thinks it's pretty good. But then again, I do get his food from the store. I think I will be good at this and will have a chance at winning."

OK! Let's meet the last contestant!

"Hi my name is Lillian. I'm 11 years old. I started cooking when I was 3 and when I was five, I went into the Little Miss Salt and Pepper pageant! I don't like to brag but... I think I have the best chance at winning! OH WHO AM I KIDDING?! I LOVE TO BRAG!!!! Any ways, I'm gonna win and I know it."

Ok. Looks like we got a SASSY contestant today! Let's start!

The first round is the appetizer round! You will have to make an amazing, spicy, delicious dish!

You have 1 hour! Your time starts..... NOW!

**Julia:** "Ok, go to the fridge"

*Oh! Looks like Julia's already headed for the fridge! Be careful, it's cold in there! Looks as if Brian is going straight for the kale!*

**Lillian:** "Ok. I could probably win this by using... CARROTS!"

*Ohhhhh! Lillian's using carrots!*

**Julia:** "Oh! Pickles!"

*Looks like Julia's making something from pickles!*

**Julia:** "Ok. I need salt, pepper, and paprika."

**Brian:** "Oooooohhhh my. I DON'T NO WHAT TO MAKE!"

*Brian's headed for the pantry! OOOHHH!! He's headed for the strawberries!! I wonder what he will make with those.*

**Brian:** Ok. Let's see. Oil.

**Lillian:** "I need olive juice."

*Looks like Julia's throwing some pickles into the deep fryer!*

**10 MINUTES!!!!**

**Lillian:** "UUUGGGHHH!!!"

**One minute!**

**30 seconds! You better be dishing up those appetizers!**

**Brian:** "AAAHHH! I'M LIKE FREAKING OUT RIGHT N-"

*3,2,1! Alright! Times up, put your tools down!*

*Ok! Lillian? Wheel me your dish!*

*Alright! So tell me young mam, what did you make?*

**Lillian:** "Well... I made honey dipped carrots. I dipped rainbow carrots into honey and let the honey crystallize in the blast freezer. Once they were done, I sprinkled a teaspoon of pepper over them."

*Wow! Ok! Let's taste!!!*

*Hmmmm... very sweet, spicy... DELICIOUS!*

*I think you have a good chance of winning!*

*MOVING OOOONNN... Brian! Bring me your dish!*

*What have you prepared for me today?*

**Brian:** "I made oily strawberry galore!"

*Hmmmm. Never heard of that before. Sounds..... Interesting. LETSA TASTE!*

**Brian:** "WAIT! I would like to tell you how I made it. So first I dipped 5 strawberries into oil. Just plain oil. I drizzled the oil onto the pan, cooked it for 30 minutes, sprinkled pepper over them, put them back on the pan, cooked them for 5 more minutes, dipped them back into OLIVE OIL this time and sprinkled salt in them."

Ok. I'm scared to taste thissss. Ok. 3,2,1... hahaha! I don't mean to laugh... BUT THIS IS DISGUSTING!!

Brian: "..."

Sorry. I can't eat this.

Brian: "Heh heh heh..."

Ok. Next!!

**Lillian:** "Ok so I made carrots with salt and soaked them in boiling tomato juice."

*Ok. LETS ME EAT CARROTS!*

*Hmmmmmmmm.... Interesting.*

**JULIA!**

**Julia:** "So I made deep fried pickles, sprinkled with pepper, salt and a pinch of paprika.

*Ok! Hmm... crunchy, spicy, delicious!*

*Ok. I have a lot to think about.*

*Please go to the waiting room.*

**5 loooooong minutes later...**

**CONTESTANTS! I HAVE THE RESULTS!!!**

# The Adventures of Tot and Fry

By Sawyer Hanley and Avery Connors

Hi, We're Tot and Fry! I'm a french fry! And I'm a tater tot! We live in the fridge together. We are total B.F.F.s (Best Food Friends Forever.) We go way back.

It all started at the farm when we were a potato. Then one day a huge monster came towards us. He had fur stuck on an oval ball and two blue balls with it plus a red line a bump in the middle and it was attached to a line on a BODY!!! It was the worst. He cut us up and we got put into a bag then threw us into Shop Mart!!! We were put into a glass case and listed for \$7.99 each.

One day a little boy wearing a rainbow hat with brown, green, and mustard yellow shorts came. He was pulling a woman with a beige sweater on.

"GIVE ME TOT AND FRY! GIVE ME! GIVE ME!!!" said the boy. "Mama, can we please get a tater tot and a french fry?"

"No," said the lady.

He jumped up and down. "GIVE ME!!!!!!!" and the lady grabbed Tot and I and brought us to a counter.

"That will be \$15.98," said the cash register.

"THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS!!!" yelled the lady.

The man stared at her blankly. "Pay up," he said.

"TTTTAAAAATTEEERR TTTTTOOOOOTTT ANNNND DFFRRREEENCCCHHH FFFFRYYY!!!!!" screamed the boy.

"Fine," the lady said, she handed him some green paper.

*That all leads up to now.*

## FRY'S VERSION

We're in the fridge together. The bag exploded from our excitement. Tot is now running around yelling, "THIS PLACE IS SO AMAZING!!!"

I am just shivering. "This is too cold," I say.

Tot is still running. Suddenly, he runs right straight into a red round circle.

"Excuse me." The red round circle had an British accent. "Who are you?" he said.

Tot looked surprised, "I'm Tot! And this is Fry!"

The red round circle looked at me.

"I am Apple," he responded.

All of a sudden two little blue dots came over.

"I am Blue and this is Berry. Would you like us to bring you two to your shelf?" they say.

I am so scared in this cold place I look at Berry.

"Is there warming in the shelf?"

Berry looked at me and pointed upwards.

"It is colder upstairs," he informs me. I shiver.

"Is our shelf upstairs?"

I feel myself shaking. Blue walks in front of Berry.

"The 'pataters' go down," he says, pointing Berry's finger down.

"Muffins! Here kitty, kitty! Here!"

The two blueberries looked up at the door, pushing it open. And a BIG FAT fluffy monster appeared. "JUMP!!!" yelled the two blue berries. I looked at Tot he was already seated on the fluff ball monster. "COME ON!!!" Tot yelled. Berry told me that it was a cat. I was scared. I have no idea what a cat is. I slowly walked inch by inch to the edge of the fridge. "JUMP!!!" yelled Blue.

"JUMP!!!" they all yelled. I jumped. I flew. I was petrified. Then there was something fluffy to cushion my fall.

"You made it!" Yelled Tot.

Later, Tot and I were on the shelf.

"This is nice and warm!" I exclaimed.

I jumped in my paper bag. Berry looked at us.

"Be sure to be hidden in the bag at the times I say. Breakfast starts at 8 o'clock sharp, unless Billy sleeps in. Then be hidden at 8:30, we do not want you to be eaten on your first night. 9-11 you are safe but be hidden a 12 or else. After that you must be in your

bag at 7:30, dinner is the most dangerous. There will be announcements before each meal. But make sure to be aware, snacks could happen at any time. Enjoy your night!" he said.

It was 7:30 in the fridge. I heard a loud call.

"DINNER IS STARTING NOW! GET IN YOUR BAG IMMEDIATELY!!!!"

We both jumped into the paper bags.

"I'm scared" I say.

"Be quiet!" said Tot.

The door opened. The boy in the rainbow hat appeared.

"I WANT A TATER TOT!!!!" he yelled.

"No," said the lady in the beige sweater. "We need a healthy diet, we are having salad."

The boy looked at her. "NO!!!! I WANT A TATER TOT!!!!!"

The woman in the beige sweater frowned.

"Fine, but we will have salad tomorrow. Let me grab the bag of Tater tots."

I looked up. Suddenly Tot was swinging through the air.

"NO!!!!!" I yelled.

The lady looked disappointed. "We are not just having one random tater tot. Grab the whole bag."

Berry rushed down to my shelf.

"Quick undercover! What are you doing?"

I started to cry, "I want to be eaten."

Berry looked at me questioning.

"What are you doing? Stop lying! Get in the bag! This is the most ridiculous thing I have heard! NO food wants that."

"I can't leave Tot," I complain.

Berry looked sincere. "I know it is tough having some food be eaten, but you just have to live with it."

I was crying in my bag. Then I heard them start to eat. I slept.

When I woke up I saw Tot.

"Good morning Fry," he smiled, "I wasn't eaten."

"YAY!!!" I woke up, Dancing around then the announcement came.

"You know the procedure! Breakfast! Get in your Bag! NOW!!!"

The door was open.

"I'm going to have a french fry!" Yelled the boy.

I was swinging in the air.

"NO! PUT IT DOWN!!! YOU GET FRENCH TOAST!!!! WE HAD POTATOES YESTERDAY!!!" the lady screamed, getting impatient.

I felt so relieved. The lady put me back in the fridge.

"Will you go feed Muffins, Billy?" said the lady.

The boy looked up, "NO!!! I will feed Muffins later!"

*3 minutes later.....*

"Billy! Please feed the cat!! I am cooking your breakfast for you!"

"No!"

*8 minutes later.....*

I heard a jingle of a bell. Then the door opened.

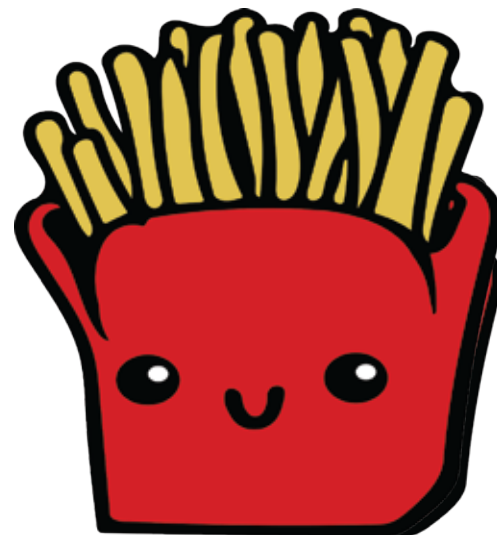
"Meow."

We were both screaming, "NO!!!!!"

*Nom. Nom. Nom.*

*The End.*

*Make sure to read Tot! By Avery Connors*



2020 American and Chinese New year

Dungeons & Dragons

By: Feng Wang

By: Emmett Coughlin (Guest Contributor)

The New Year in the United States and China are the same because they have the same the first day of the year, and both use the solar calendar. YES! Chinese and America use the solar calendar, but Chinese also have the spring festival, which is different.

My zodiac sign is rabbit. What's your zodiac sign? There are 12 zodiacs for 12 years. "Zodiac" means different animals, which represents the year of your birthday.

The 12 Chinese zodiacs are a mouse, a cow, a tiger, a rabbit, a dragon, a snake, a horse, a sheep, a monkey, a chicken, a dog and pig.



2020's Spring Festival is January 25th. Today, China has two holidays. One is the Spring Festival, which is followed the Lunar calendar recorded the Moon. The other is the New Year, which is the first day of January, followed by the solar calendar for the Sun.

Long, long, ago China used the lunar calendar, which is recorded by the Moon. Chinese traditional new year is followed with the moon, but the solar calendar is followed with the sun. Now, we all use the solar calendar.

There is a legend, which is the heavenly court, where Jade Emperor organized a game. The game is the first 12 animals to cross the river, and they can become the lunar calendar. The mouse crossed the river first and so, the mouse is the first zodiac. 2019, is the year of the pig in the Chinese zodiac.

The next new Zodiac cycle is to start, and the mouse is coming.

Happy new year! Happy mouse year!

Dungeons and Dragons is a game where you create a character and adventure your way through a world of imagination. The character you create can interact with the environment, fight evil monsters, converse with royalty, and much more! Be ready to roll initiative\*.

One of the main adventures created by the writers of Dungeons and Dragons (D&D) is Waterdeep - Dragon Heist. The adventure explores several villains plots, including but not limited to Manshoon, a clone of a powerful wizard with control of a faction in the city; Losser Mirklav, a halfling necromancer planning to raise a skeleton army; and Xanthar, a paranoid beholder crime lord.

A beholder is a large sphere with a central eye and many eyestalks; these eyes have strange powers. The characters can protect 100,000 gold pieces from these villains. This is not for characters that just hack and slash. There is a real code of laws! There are also several good spellcasters in Waterdeep.

NOTE FOR DM's: you can set the adventure at any season to get special effects such as... rain that reduces visibility, sweltering heat that gives you exhaustion, and extreme cold.

\* Initiative is the roll to determine order in combat



The Adventures of Tot and Fry continued.....

TOT'S VERSION

It was 7:30 in the fridge.

"DINNER IS STARTING NOW, GET IN YOUR BAGS IMMEDIATELY!!!" I heard the announcements say. We both jumped in the bags.

"I'm scared," Fry said.

"Be quiet!" I said.

Then I was swinging through the air.

"I WANT TATER TOT FOR DINNER!!!" a voice said.

Then a lady said no. I relaxed a little, still overwhelmed. I couldn't hear anything. All I heard in the end was the lady finally agreeing. I was so scared.

"But we are not having a random tot we are having a whole bag," said the lady.

Then I was set down. I heard other muffled screams. Then Blue came over to me.

"DID YOU GET GRABBED ON YOUR FIRST NIGHT!!!?" said Blue.

I was too scared to answer. All I heard was the lettuce screaming down a shelf.

"THEY'RE HAVING SALAD FOR DINNER TOMORROW!!! WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE!!!" they were screaming.

I was so scared then, I heard the other tater tots yelling for help. I cried myself to sleep.

The next morning:

"Good morning fry," I said. "I wasn't eaten."

Then the announcements came. I jumped in my bag not wanting a re-do of last night. I peeked out all I saw was fry flying through the air.

"Fry!!!" I yelled.

I didn't even know what the lady was saying. Then he got set back down.

"Will you go feed Muffins Billy," said the lady

"NO, I DON'T WANT TO!!!" Billy said.

3 minutes later....

"Billy feed the darn cat. I'm cooking breakfast for you" said the lady.

"No" Billy replied.

8 minutes later...

I heard a jingle. The door opened and I heard a meow.

"NOOOOOOO!!!" we were screaming.

NOM.NOM.NOM

The end

Make sure to read fry by: Sawyer Hanley



# Ollie the Onion- A Sad Story

Warning: Unedited and tons of run-on sentences!

By Abby Ketchum (*Examiner Emeritus*)  
(Guest Contributor)

Ollie the onion lives a good lifestyle, and by that I mean he lives in a hanging plant that has bushy green leaves in a brown basket, and that basket has nice dirt in it and Ollie likes to eat some leaves from the plant so he doesn't go hungry; although the person who owns the plant sometimes wonders why the leaves are partially chewed and then shrugs and gets back to doing the human stuff that Ollie the onion finds extremely boring, because since Ollie is an onion all he likes to do is sit around, and like I told you before, eat the leaves off the plant he lives in.

The person that bought the plant Ollie lives in is short and they have short brown hair that sometimes covers their icy blue eyes that are already covered by round, black wire glasses and that same person bought the hanging plant Ollie lives in at a small plant store when they moved to where Ollie lives, which is unknown, and the person waters the plant every day, which Ollie appreciates because it gives him water and Ollie deeply enjoys the water while he is observing the person at their desk with their thick wooly sweaters on and their bowls of noodles and their headphones that have the volume turned up a little too much so Ollie can hear what they're listening to.

The person who Ollie observes everyday sometimes comes home from what Ollie hears is called "school" looking sad, and sometimes happy, and Ollie wishes desperately he could talk, but instead watches the human some more and looks at their black desk with the tiny cactuses on it and Ollie wonders with stars in his eyes what it would be like to touch a cactus because they look so pointy and maybe that's why the human comes home sad sometimes because they don't wanna see the prickly plant they have to see while writing or reading or drawing or eating or listening to music or making music with a small piano that makes many different sounds or making music with a pleasant wooden instrument with four strings that Ollie's never seen before and often puts him to sleep with the human's strumming and soft singing.

Ollie the onion cries sometimes, and not just because he's an onion and is helplessly forced to cry sometimes because he is constantly around himself, but because the human cries sometimes too, and Ollie can do nothing but sit and watch the human cry for hours and Ollie is crying too but he doesn't want to, he wants to be strong and look at the human and give them a hug and tell them everything will be okay and eat noodles and play music together while looking at the small cactuses and Ollie remembering his home that he wanted to leave so badly, which was the hanging plant above the human's desk... But these were only Ollie's dreams.

Today was a tragedy for Ollie, and he cried for hours too, imagining this is what the human felt like when they came home and forgot everything else in the world except what made them sad, and Ollie didn't know what made the human cry, but he was crying because the hanging plant fell after something came into the human's room through the door that was still cracked a little since this morning the human left in a rush and didn't close it all the way; Ollie didn't think much of it at the time but was now very scared because if the human found him on the floor with the plant they would surely through him away, not wanting an onion hanging from their ceiling, so Ollie cried some more.

The thing that knocked Ollie down was much bigger than Ollie, and Ollie never got to see it again after the thing knocked him down because the thing knocked him to where his eyes were facing against the ground, and Ollie couldn't see, and that's also why he was crying because Ollie didn't want to die alone on the ground not being able to see anything at all from the short human's room ever again, but of course he couldn't really see, but Ollie sensed it, and Ollie also couldn't really cry, but he imagined crying and it was so real that lying face first on the human's floor the tears surrounded him until he could cry no more and his onion skin was wet and dripping and Ollie was trying to cry but couldn't.

When the human found the plant on their floor they picked it up, and Ollie was saved because the human picked up the basket in a way that knocked Ollie underneath the human's desk where he could see the human's feet every morning and night and afternoon and could see when the human pulled the chair out because it got farther away from him and he could see when the human dropped a pencil or a piece of paper or their cup, but Ollie hated it when something broke because the things broke when they hit the ground and Ollie was extremely close to the ground and when things broke they echoed in Ollie's ears and made him cry because Ollie's small world was breaking piece by piece.

Ollie didn't see much of the human anymore, and when he did, they were on a small device Ollie's never seen before but Ollie finds it quite fascinating because he's heard so many sounds coming from it like bangs and crashes and voices and screams and laughs and buzzes but Ollie can never figure out why the human uses it so often because they never sit at the small desk anymore and draw or eat noodles with their headphones on, and Ollie is thinking that the human is changing and maybe he should too.

Today was the last day Ollie would see the human for a very long time, because the human came in and gathered some things and Ollie watched as the blue bedspread was pulled off and stuffed in a bag along with books and markers and the hanging plant and Ollie saw them throw it away in a garbage can and he was sad, of course, he's grown up with those things around him and then the human laughed and jumped as someone else came in the room and they talked and whispered and cried and hugged and Ollie wondered what was going on but before he could figure it out both the human's disappeared...

Ollie cries a lot more now and he is wondering why he cries so much; he is an onion, and has no care in the world at all, he can just live his life under the desk but he is no longer able to live without the human there, and the scratch of their pencil on the paper, and the music from their headphones, and their dancing when no one else is watching, and Ollie is just sitting under the desk waiting, waiting for a day when the human will come home and they will sweep under the desk so Ollie is no longer constantly sneezing from the dust gathering around him.

It's hard for Ollie to breath with all the dust building up around him and everyday Ollie tries to talk to himself because he is lonely but only gets that feeling when someone asks if you're okay but you can only nod because you were fine but then when someone cares about you, you get all choked up about to cry but you can't because... well, Ollie doesn't know why he can't cry, no one is there to scold him or hug him or cry with him, he just won't cry because he's afraid he'll live the rest of his lonely life as a sad life.

Life is hard for someone who lives in an empty room that has dim lights and no life but yourself and the occasional dust bunny, but Ollie tries to make the best of it because after the first few months Ollie's eyes lost all their tears so he decided to make his life better by trying to roll out from under the desk and live in the small ray of sunlight that shines through the human's curtain, but Ollie has no way to escape the endless, depressed darkness.

Ollie decided he might as well be happy in his remaining lifetime under the desk, but he just sat there and went into that state that many people have been in where you decide to do something useful and not a waste of your time but you just sit there thinking, "Should I do this... what will I be missing in life if I do, or if I don't..." and Ollie thought about it for days because he had nothing better to do when suddenly, something happened that changed Ollie's life under the dark, dark desk...

