



Patriot Pride Today

Volume 1, Issue 8. | April/May 2026

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

May 13

- 7:00 pm Baccalaureate

May 14

- 7:00 pm Awards Night

May 15

- School in Session

May 16

- 2:00 pm Graduation

May 18

- 9:00 am TR @ Warner

May 20

- 12:00 pm Elementary
Track & Field Day
- 2:30 Dismissal

May 21

- Staff Day
- 10:00 am TR @
Gettysburg

April Showers Bring May Flowers

By Kayla Fasching, 11th Grade



A gorgeous
arrangement
of daffodils
in spirit of
spring.

When it begins to rain in April, it means that spring is finally here! With the lovely rainy days, flowers start to bloom and create colors all around us.

This year, some of the most popular spring flowers are tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths. Tulips come in many different colors, and some would say that they are a sign of new beginnings and life. Daffodils are a very vibrant yellow and are usually one of the first flowers to bloom in spring. Hyacinths are well known for their fresh aroma, which is why they are a favorite for adding a sweet scent to yards and gardens.

Many people notice that these flowers make their lives feel better and believe that the flowers “add color to the world.” They also state that they give the world a sense of life, especially coming out of winter. You can see many different types of flowers in many different places.

These flowers remind us that after storms rain, beautiful flowers will grow. Consider fitting flowers somewhere in your life, and remember, next time it rains that May flowers are coming soon!

Farwell Mr. Wollman

By *Laina Puffer*
10th Grade

Students at Hitchcock-Tulare High School are thinking about the end of school and some are even thinking about next year. As the next year approaches, we often think about teachers that will not be coming back. One of these teachers is Mr. Wollman.

Mr. Wollman has been a teacher at the Hitchcock-Tulare High School for six years. Your time here has been greatly appreciated, not only as a teacher, but also as a play director, Patriot Push-Up King and Oral Interp Coach.



Mr Wollman

You will always be missed here for your silly opinions and random naps. So, Mr. Wollman, thank you for all you have brought to this school, the positivity, and stories.

We also wish you the best in whatever you do next. Thank you again for all you have done for Hitchcock-Tulare!

Earth Day

By *Keilee Schone* 10th grade

Earth day is on April 22 this year and the holiday is celebrated globally.

On April 22, 1970, Earth day was made a holiday by Senator Gaylord Nelson to bring conservation issues to attention. On the first Earth day, 20 million people were seen protesting for environmental protection. It did not expand globally until the 1990s.

It was made to teach people about the environment, and to make people aware that the environment is important and that it needs to be taken care of.

Usually, volunteers come together to clean up their community by removing garbage, which may impact the local environment.

Planting trees is also a popular way to celebrate the holiday. Every year, billions of trees are planted. It's an easy way to support Earth day and its cause.

So, this Earth day, do something that will help the community, even if that's just picking up a piece of garbage.



An individual plants a tree to celebrate Earth Day.

State FFA & FCCLA

By Jocelyn Wagner, 11th grade

The Hitchcock-Tulare FFA Chapter recently attended the State Convention in Brookings on April 20th-22nd. The chapter had 28 members compete at the convention.

The Ag Business team placed 4th, with Preston Wipf receiving 7th, Braxton Jacobs receiving 15th, Aiden Morehouse and Tristan Nowel were also on the team.

The Agronomy team placed 4th, with 2 individuals placing in the top 10, Breckan Estey placed 2nd and Addy Ihnen placed 8th, Gentry Puffer and RaeAnna Knock also competed on the team.

The Meats Evaluation team earned 2nd place, with 2 individuals placing in the top 10, Rylee Knock placed 2nd and Jocelyn Wagner placed 6th. Aiden Frankenstein received 14th place and Derek Johnson received 20th in meat evaluation as well.

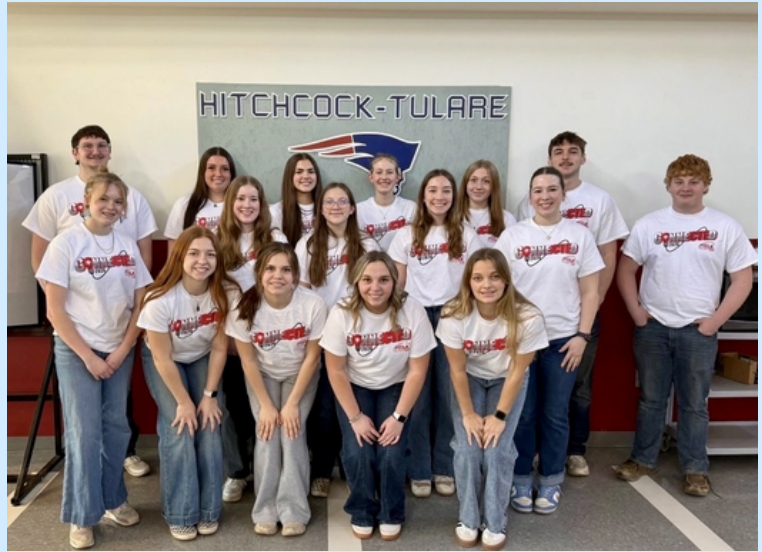
The Nursery Landscape team placed 8th with Max Gilbert, Sienna Stoner, Patrick Maynard, and Devin Enander competing on the team.

The Farm Safety Quiz Bowl team was a top 4 finalist with Sawyer Miller, Tucker Gilbert, Cash Chaplin, and David Bixler competing on the team.

Partners Jocelyn Wagner and Rylee Knock and partners Addy Ihnen and RaeAnna Knock received 1st in their division for Agriscience Fair.

Morgan Bottom, Tucker Buchholz, Braxton Jacobs, Regan Lutte, Aiden Morehouse, Tristan Nowel, Sienna Stoner, and Preston Wipf all earned their State Degrees.

The Hitchcock-Tulare FCCLA Chapter attended the State Conference in Sioux Falls on April 26th-28th with 17 members competing. Seniors Gracyn Bixler and Rebecca Huizenga and Freshman Brynn Binger and Josephine Wiebe placed in the top 5 in their project areas. Regan Lutter, Tess Bixler, Jocelyn Wagner, Patrick Maynard, Preston Wipf, and Aiden Morehouse all received gold with their projects.



H-T FCCLA Chapter Members

How to Finish School Off Strong

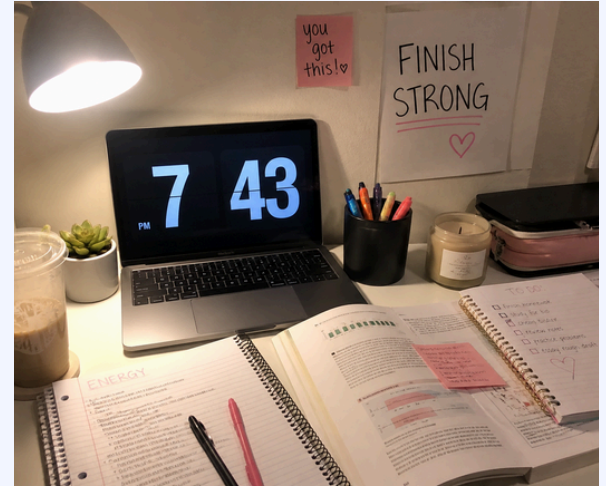
By *Olivia Fasching*,
10th grade

As the school year is coming to an end, it's really easy to lose motivation. Summer is so close, and honestly, most students are already mentally checked out. But these last few weeks still matter more than people think. Finishing strong can help your grades, lower stress, and make you feel way better going into the summer.

One way to stay on track is by setting small goals. Instead of stressing over everything at once, just focus on getting one assignment done at a time. Using a planner or writing things down can actually help a lot with staying organized and not forgetting important stuff.

It's also important to still try in class. Even if you'd rather be anywhere else, paying attention and participating can really help your final grades. If you're confused, asking for help now is way better than waiting until it's too late.

Also, don't forget to take care of yourself. Getting enough sleep and taking breaks can make a big difference. Ending the year strong isn't just about school. It's about providing to yourself that you can finish what you started.



Last stretch of the school year—
staying focused and pushing
through.

Prom/After Prom

By *Madisen Watson*, 11th Grade



L to R: Kenli Hooks (11), Laina Puffer (10), Olivia Fasching (10), Madisen Watson (11), Jocelyn Wagner (11), Becca Huizenga (12), & Dannika Seaman (12).

Some sophomore, junior, and senior girls pose for a picture.

On Friday, April 17th, the gym was beautifully decorated into a warm and charming place as students gathered for this year's prom theme, "Rustic Romance."

Students arrived in beautiful dresses and sharp suits, taking photos and enjoying the moment with friends and family. As they walked down for grand march, their parents took pictures and funny videos creating a wholesome and fun moment.

For seniors especially, the night was a meaningful celebration of friendship and the end of an important chapter in their lives.

For post prom, the students and their dates were bused over to the redfield bowling alley. They had a lot of activities they could choose from like bowling, darts, pool, fuse ball, and more, they also had food for them to eat if they got hungry. After that, they went back to the school to get prizes and go home.

Mother's and Father's Day

By Sydnee Stoner, 12th grade

Mother's Day and Father's Days are holidays in May and June when families celebrate their parents at home or at a restaurant by giving gifts, writing letters, and showing appreciation for all they do.

For Mother and Father's Day, you can get them a variety of gifts. You can make thoughtful gifts like a homemade craft, buy them flowers, or maybe even buy them their favorite snacks or drinks. Even something like a photo or a small gift that shows you appreciate them!

Some popular gifts you can give your parents are flowers, cards, candy, clothes, tools (kitchen or shop tools) or maybe even something that's framed like a photo or a drawing, to a letter. Some popular traditions to make them feel appreciated is making them breakfast, giving them homemade gifts, or even just spending time together with them!

Mothers and Father's Day is celebrated to thank and honor your parents for all their love, care, and the important roles they play in our lives.



In this picture, a family is gathered around and their children gave them mother and father day gifts.

Patriot Track & Field

By Tess Bixler, 11th Grade

Track Season has officially started! The spring weather is coming and school is almost out.

Track and Field has so many different and fun events! Some are javelin, shot put, discuss, long jump, polo, triple jump, relays and so many running events.

This year's track season has gone very well so far, all the athletes in track have put their full effort into all their events.

The next track meet is on May 18th, in Warner. If you can't make it to that one don't worry, State Track will be held in Sioux Falls on May 28th through the 30th. Be sure to come watch and support our Patriot Track and Field team!



Summer Plans

By *Danika Jacobs, 11th Grade*



We are in our last month of school, which means summer's coming up. What are your plans for the summer?

I asked a couple of students what they had planned. One said they are "going to be working most of the time." They also said that they are "going to hangout with their friends and family as much as they can."

Another student said that they are "going to travel and go see family." They also "hope to be able to fish with their family as much as they can."

Summer is the time to do what you enjoy. A lot of families like to go on trips and go camping, fishing, hiking ,and going to the lake. They also like to have family gatherings and do grill-outs.

May Word Search

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

By Jimmy and Evelyn Johnson - www.qets.com

Birds	Hose	Seeds
Butterfly	Maypole	Soil
Emerald	Memorial	Spring
Flowers	Mother	Sprout
Garden	Nest	Sunshine
Grass	Plant	Taurus
Honeybee	Rain	Wheelbarrow

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to keep the student body informed, connected, and engaged while highlighting the achievements and stories that matter most to our community. Covering everything from sports and academics to arts and student life, the newspaper is created by students, for students.

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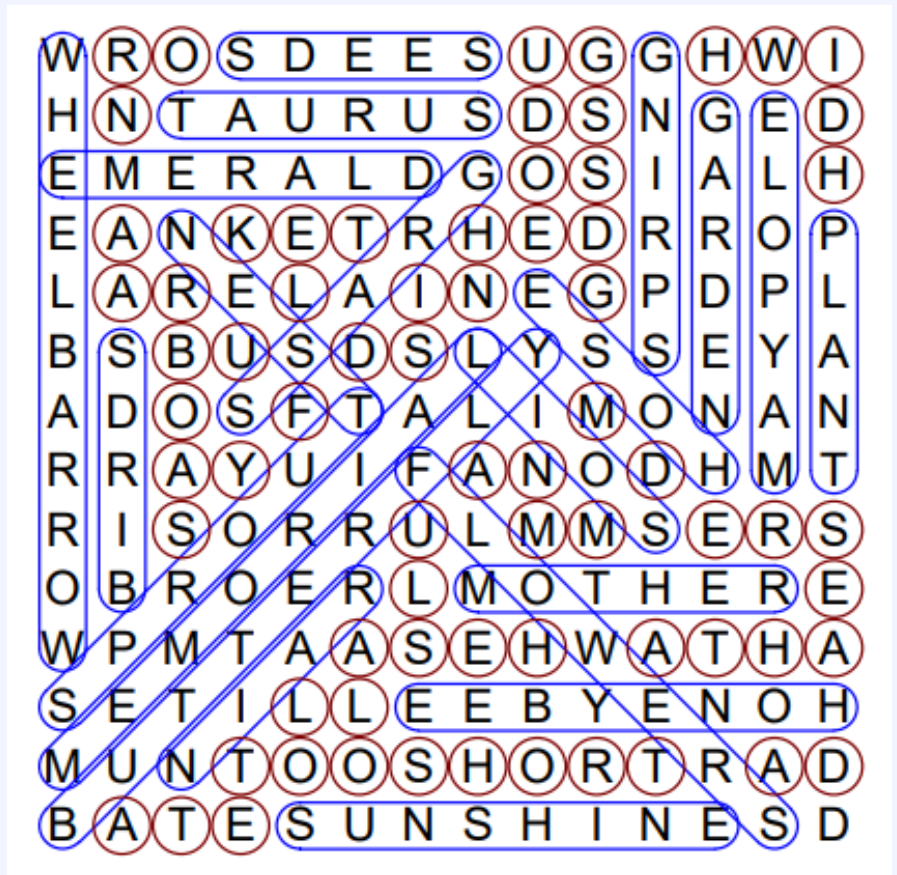
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May Word Search Key



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