

2018 in Review

By: Sajal Shukla

2018 was a very influential year in the world. There were many bad and good events that took place, but they all contributed to a very unique year. As the year 2018 has come to an end, let's take a look at some of the major events that happened this year.

One of the first major events that happened in 2018 were the winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea. Ninety-six countries came together to compete in various winter sports such as skiing, curling, figure skating, and ice hockey. One of our very own alumni, Kendall Coyne, competed with the U.S. women's ice hockey team, which one gold at the competition. Overall, the U.S. won nine gold, eight silver, and six bronze metals.



Another event that took place this year was the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Seventeen people died in the shooting, making it the largest school shooting in U.S. history. Though this event was catastrophic, it brought up important discussions about gun control in the United States. It also brought people together to mourn the loss of those seventeen lives and to see how we can bring about positive change in the world.



Something else that happened this year was the royal wedding that took place in England. Meghan Markle made history as the first divorced, biracial American woman to marry someone in the royal family. The marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle was a beautiful moment people all over the world were able to celebrate.

Continued on next page



The disastrous wildfires that took place in California this fall were also a significant event that occurred in 2018. From August to November, much of California was overtaken by several wildfires that spiraled out of control and caused so much destruction throughout the state. One of these fires, the Camp Fire, was the deadliest wildfire in California's history. It caused over 80 fatalities and \$16.5 billion in damage. Many people who had to be evacuated from their homes came back to nothing. Although this event was truly sad, there were many stories of heroism that came out of it. There were stories of neighbors helping neighbors and people putting themselves at risk to save animals. These acts of heroism helped give us hope through these difficult times.

Another event that occurred in 2018 was the midterm elections. Democrats took control of the House of Representatives and Republicans remained in control of the Senate. It was an election with many interesting races in different states throughout our country. Also, a record number of women were elected into Congress during these elections. As Americans, it was an exciting day for us all to see democracy taking place within our country.

In the year 2018, there were several positive and negative events that made history, but they all brought us together in different ways. It will definitely be a year to remember.



People

By: Irini Mihas

I know this is probably the weirdest title you have ever read. The title of this article is called people. Who names their article people? Me, the answer is me. You probably want me to get on with the story, so I will.

Think about all the times you crossed the street with people you don't know. Or the many people you see in the mall minding their own business, living their own lives. What about the time where you see someone in the hallways talking to their friend, to people you don't know even by their first name. Have you ever stopped to think about what their life is like? Have you made up their life story in your head? Do they go home to a life full of chaos or is it too calm? Next time you pass someone you don't know, try thinking about these things. Think about how different your life may be from theirs – for better or worse. Does that make you feel any differently? I mean seriously, any differently at all?



What if I told you that one person you passed is struggling with school. Or that another never has anytime to do anything other than school work when they free time because most of the time they're too busy taking care of their family. Maybe one person is struggling with addiction, or they know someone that is? Does this make you think differently about the people you pass by?

I honestly have no idea why I wrote this. I just pass by many people and wonder what their life is like. I also wrote this because many people today are too quick to judge. If you knew the whole story, you probably would feel bad about your previous assumptions. Were all human, and we should start being kinder and not judge at first glance.



Everyone's Favorite Teacher, Mrs. Partin!!

By: Ariana Iglesia and Samantha Miller

Q: Which grade do you enjoy teaching the most?

A: "I enjoy 6th most because the students are very sweet and have many new things to learn."

Q: If you could teach any other subject, what would it be?

A: "Language Arts. I love teaching novel studies and grammar.

Q: What's your favorite music genre and artist?

A: "My favorite music genre is pop. I like Pitbull and Bruno Mars!"

Q: What's your favorite TV show and movie?

A: "My favorite show is the Bachelor/Bachelorette. My favorite movie is Dirty Dancing."

Q: What do you enjoy about Schoology?

A: "Being able to provide classroom work and assignments in a paperless fashion."

Q: What is your zodiac sign?

A: "My zodiac sign is Taurus."

Q: What's something funny your kids do?

A: "Play cops and robbers with their power wheels!"



BODY LANGUAGE

By: Bane Carver

Hi, I am Bane Carver/Erin Hayes. Today I am going to teach you about body language. (Just going to warn you it gets creepy because you may not even know you are doing this) (But I do.) I am going to show you some body language to look out for when you are with others. (Like friends, family, teachers, people in general) Once you read this and pay attention to body language you are going to notice it more. (Just going to say it is sometimes creepy) Some of this you are unconscious or unaware of, others you may know you are doing it.

Signal number 1

Feet Pointing

So feet pointing is a big one. Let's say for example you are talking to a friend or a stranger you should pay attention to their feet. Particularly where their feet are pointing. Little do people know, our feet (secretly) tell us where we want to go, what we are paying attention to, and what are brains are telling us to do. If your feet are pointing towards someone, that means you are paying attention to them, or engaged in conversation, you are just interested in the topic and that you are not planning on going anyway anytime soon! If someone's feet are pointed away from you, they are not really engaged in the conversation and possibly their attention is somewhere else. If someone's feet point to the door, that means they want to leave the conversation immediately. Or they really are not interested in the topic, or they have something pressing on their mind.



Signal number 2

Lying

Lying is also really hard to detect in someone. (if they are good at it) But it is still easy to detect with these signs. When people lie they tend to change their head position quickly. The head will be retracted or jerked back, bowed down, or cocked or tilted to the side . Their breathing may also change. They will start to breath heavier because they are nervous that you might find out that they are lying to you. Their voice may become shallow and their shoulders won't be relaxed; they also tend to stand very still because they are holding the lie in. A person may also touch or scratch their nose if they are lying due to a tense feeling or nervousness. Additionally, a person might tend to fidget. They also may be staring or rapidly blinking. Researchers from the <u>Proceedings of the National Academies of Science</u>. Have stated that people normally blink 15-20 seconds per minute. So if someone is blinking more

than that, they are very nervous



Body Language (continued)

Signal number 3

Crossed arms and legs

Crossed arms and legs are physical barriers that suggest the other person is not open to what you're saying. Even if they're smiling and engaged in a pleasant conversation, their body language tells the story. Crossed legs or arms may signal that a person is mentally, emotionally, and physically somewhat blocked off from what's in front of them. Or they prefer to be somewhere else. It could also mean that they are preoccupied; upset, annoyed, worried or shy. To add on, they may be cold so crossing the arms could mean that they are trying to warm their self or hands up.



Signal number 4

Smiling

This one is also very hard to spot between a fake and a real smile. A fake smile usually comes when something your friend said isn't funny, or they want to make a good impression on you. But there really is a way to spot a fake smile. A fake smile would be The vast majority of people that fake smile will show no movements in the upper face area. One of the key things to a real smile is the movement of the eye muscles causing the eyes to close. Additionally, crow's feet (lines by their eyes) appear outside the eyes when many people genuinely smile. Sometimes when many people are truly smiling you cannot see their bottom teeth.

Smiling is the best way to face every problem, to crush every fear, to hide every pain. - Unknown author



And that is all about body language! Stay tuned for more! In the next article.

What did Meat-eating dinosaurs act like?

BY: Elliott Cabrera

Giganotosaurus





When someone thinks of a predatory dinosaur, they think of T-rex and the great giants of the cretaceous period. People think of the strong, smart dinosaurs portrayed in Jurassic Park. Dinosaurs did not really act the way they are portrayed in movie. What did they act like?

The giant Theropods

Theropods are most of the carnivores dinos known to man.

T-rex. Giganotosaurus. Spinosaurus. All of these dinosaurs were huge. These Theropods named, are some of the biggest, but how did they act? Well, they hunted big game such as triceratops and iguanodon. After hunting they would have gotten very drowsy and the fell into a deep sleep. They would sleep for a long time. During this time, you might think they would be attacked. But no; most dinosaurs feared these giants. After getting a good rest, they would hunt again. The young ones would maybe play with each other. Dinosaurs were smart and social creatures. Their brains were bigger than a lizard.

The small theropods.

You have heard about velociraptor from Jurassic park. 1 They were not the size shown in the movie - WAY smaller. 2 They were not as reptilian as in the movie. They had feathers. You might have even heard about utahraptor. The largest of the Dromaeosaur family. (raptor family). These dinosaurs led much more interesting lives than the big dinos. They had to constantly fight for territory and food. In the book, *Raptor Red*, the author, Robert T Bakker dramatizes the utahraptors life. With brawls for mates, and battles with their enemies, the Yellow snouts. They most likely led a life of warfare. These dinosaurs were definitely killers.

The dinosaurs "ending"

No asteroid could wipe out the therapod family. The asteroid hit and the herbivores died immediately after. Saying that an asteroid hit and wiped out all dinosaurs is wrong. We know some apocalyptic event happened. A slice of rock was examined having a span of millions of years. There was a line and before that line there were dinosaur fossils found in the rock. But above the line the dinosaur fossils are not found. This line has become infamous in the paleontological community. What is it? And why is it there? The "raptors" survived, feeding off carcasses of dead bodies. Also, modern birds lived at the end of the cretachous period. So dinosaurs were already evolving. But still the dinosaurs "end" is a mystery.

Ending

So, know you know a little more about dinosaurs!



Sea Slugs by John Pempek

When you think of the word "slug", you don't probably think about an incredibly beautiful animal. However, there is a good chance that you will be amazed at the extraordinary, unique, colors and patterns on sea slugs. The pictures below can show this.



As the photographs show, sea slugs have made many people think of the word "slug" in a very different way. If these pictures interest you in any way, then keep reading this article to learn more about these incredible, unique, and sometimes downright bizarre animals.

First, lets talk about different kinds of sea slugs. They move in a wide variety of ways. Some crawl on the seafloor, some float near

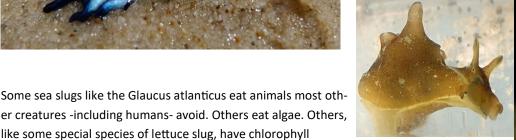
the surface, others even "fly" through the water with wing-like fins. Sea slugs live in almost all tropical oceans. Most of the colorful species live on coral reefs in shallow water. Many have what appears to be clusters of tentacles on their backs. These are actually gills. Most sea slugs are tiny and cannot be easily seen. Some can fit on a child's fingernail. The largest of the sea slugs is not as beautifully colored as the others, but it is still amazing. It is so big that an adult man can barely fold it on his arm. It is black in color and is a species of sea hare. These slugs are

common in tide-pools, pools of seawater that are underwater in high tide and out in low tide, and sea hares are usually colored brown, black, or green. They range in size from the length of a slug you see in your garden to the giant that you see to the right.

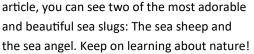
One of the strangest sea slugs is the species known as Glaucus atlanticus, "The Blue Dragon Slug". It has limb like appendages, eats poisonous Portuguese man-o-wars, and has been washed up on beaches almost everywhere. It looks more like an alien than a sea creature. You can see a picture of it below.



Some species of sea slugs can also be kept in captivity. Some of these include species of sea hares, electric blue sea slugs, and lettuce slugs (seen below, sea hare on top left, electric blue sea slug bottom left, lettuce lug on right).

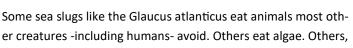


Sea slugs are not anything like the slugs we see on land. They are some of the most diverse and colorful creatures in the sea. As a final part of the









like plants do and get food from light energy. There are even sea slugs that eat other species of sea slug. A slug called Navanax does this (see a photograph of it below).





Combat Robotics - getting started guide

By Elliott Cabrera

It is August 11th, 2018. In the Peoria civic center. It is a convention; there are booths of arts and crafts. But hidden away in the back, is what this article is mostly about the CIRC (Central Illinois Robotics Club) robot competition.



WHAT IS ROBOT COMBAT?

It is not a robot boxing match. It is hobby robotics. If you have ever built a remote controlled race car, you are doing hobby RC work. Same thing. You use motors and other parts you would find inside a remote controlled car.

WHAT IS ROBOT COMBAT LIKE?

Robot combat is basically 2, homemade robots go and have weapons such as spinners, wedges, flippers, launchers, and sometimes fire. The matches are fun to watch. Robots are flung across the arena, pieces everywhere. My uncle was competing on August 11. I got a special view behind the scenes. After a robot leaves the arena, the team goes to the pits to fix their robot for their next fight

Here is a video for a fight at CIRC

The robots in the video are beetle weight= 3 pounds

BUILDING A ROBOT-

To build a robot, you don't need to be rich. It depends. If you want to buy titanium for armor, that could be hundreds. But if you want to use some aluminum for a wedge, that could be 15 -30-100 dollars. I am in the process of making a beetle weight. I use Lexan for body armor and some aluminum for a wedge. I will make a separate article for how to build a robot. WARNING! KNOW HOW TO BUILD A ROBOT AND THE SAFTY BEFORE ATTEMPTING! LIPO BATTERIES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO EXPLODE! KEEP SAFE DISTANCE FROM SPINNING WEAP-ONS! TEST ROBOTS IN SAFE AREA! ROBOT NEEDS TO BE FAILSAFE (ABLE TOO SHUT OFF WHEN IT LOSES CONNECTION)!

WHY IS COMBAT ROBOTICS FUN?

Combat robotics is an actual sport. It is a team sport in which a team builds a robot and competes in a battle. The thing about it is that the spectators go have a great time watching robots get destroyed. But what about the teams that build the robots? They have to rebuild their robot with modifications. Robot combat is so popular, it is televised in 2 shows I know: Battle Bots, and Robot Wars.



Witch Doctor hits Tombstone with a spinning drum

Links- https://

www.dimensionengineering.comappnotes/ simple robot/

https://hacklab.hk/?s=how+to+build+an+antweight+robot

Design- https://www.tinkercad.com/#/

https://www.sketchup.com/

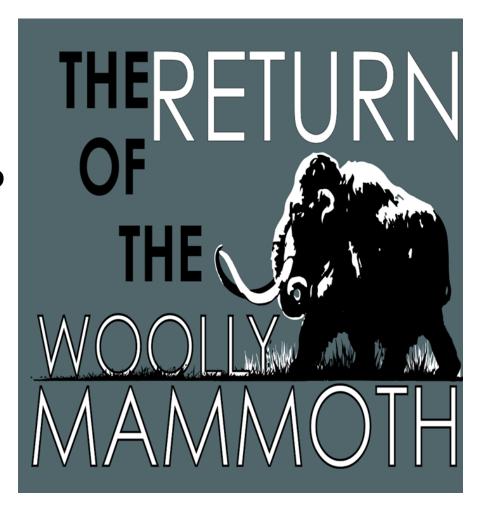
Design is important because it lets you know what you want to make, and how it will look like

Remember, you can always choose different sites. I am just showing what I use.



Can We Bring Back the Mammoth?

And
what about
other
extinct
species?



By: Alec Cabrera pages 12—16

This may seem like science fiction or a hoax, but this is real, and it has been going on for a long time and it is happening right now. With new technology it is now possible to bring back the woolly mammoth. But what other species can we bring back? And how? Everything you need to know about the epic quest to bring back animals that are extinct will be explained on the next 4 pages!

HOW?

Well, the way the mammoth will come back is from its DNA. Like Jurassic park, people are finding Mammoth bones, tissue, and even trunks from the melting polar frost in Siberia. All those objects contain mammoth DNA, which can be used to bring it back. In fact, there are so many bones that some people have made a living off of selling mammoth tusks. Usually DNA wears off very quickly, but, because these bones are preserved from ice (And mammoths haven't been gone for that long- they became extinct about 3,500 years ago- they were there

when the people in Egypt were building the pyramids!) , their DNA is perfectly preserved and can be used to clone it. That is what **SOOAM biotech** in South Korea wants to do. It is a company that sells cloned dogs. So if your beloved pooch passes away, call this company and they will bring back your dog for \$100,000! Now they are trying to clone the mam-



moth. But Harvard's revive and restore program also wants to bring back the mammoth, in a different way. They want to put mammoth DNA into an Asian elephant genome- elephants genes, that make up what you look like and act like, so these people are trying to "Mammofy" it, or in other words make an elephant look like and act like an mammoth. However, the more detailed way you clone an extinct animal is: 1. Get DNA samples from tusks, trunks, hair, etc. 2. Get the DNA samples and test it, when you are done testing put it in a crisper gene editing device, which is the newest cloning machine that can copy and paste strands of DNA. 3. Then you have to artificially make a womb for the DNA to make an embryo of an (extinct) animal. Than make that animal give birth. That is how you clone one. How you "Mammofy" one is very similar, get DNA samples, and inject it into a descendent of that extinct animal. Make that descendent breed, and they will give birth to that extinct animal. This may make it sound easy, but it is really complicated and the crisper can mess up the genetic code. Where would they put the cloned Mammoth? Well, the place that they will probably put it is Pleistocene park, a biological experiment in Siberia. I will tell you something crazy: The woolly mammoth will have friends. They are also thinking about putting ancient ice age horses and cave lions with it! It might even be an ice age theme park!

Why mammoths?

Well, the reason people want to bring back the mammoth is because of 3 main reasons:

- 1. to save the environment from global warming. Mammoths can save the environment because they plan to put them in Siberia's Pleistocene park, a frozen tundra with lots of ancient ice, but under all of the ancient ice are tremendous amounts of greenhouse gases but all the ancient ice is melting- but if it all melts, it will release a huge amount of greenhouse gases into the air and make earth much hotter. So, they want the mammoth (and other herbivores) to go eat the grass and bounce the sun's light off of the ice to prevent it from melting.
- 2. Curiosity. What did mammoths look like, feel like, and act like? We can't learn this from bones, so they want to "Remake it" to learn about it and study it.
- 3??? Who knows what else they want it for-something shady, of course. Could scientists be making the mammoth as a weapon or for something else?



What else are they trying to clone?

Well, the extinct species that Harvard is focusing on is the passenger pigeon (which is the one they have worked on the most, and the one they are almost done with.), health hen, and of course the mammoth. Other people are thinking about cloning the dodo, the Tasmanian tiger, various bird species, the woolly rhino, the Moa (Looks like an Ostridge- but no wings! They are also super close to finishing it!), saber toothed cats (more specifically, cave lions!), 40,000 year old ancient ice age horses! And even early humans! But the one that is the craziest, the most wild, and the one that seems impossible, but possible (that Harvard is not doing), are the dinosaurs. Yes, the dinosaurs. I did not misspell it. THE DINOSAURS.

Dinosaurs!?

Harvard, other scientists want to inject DNA into a chicken's genome.

think people chose the worst dinosaur first.) Lately, people have been saying dinosaurs are very similar, DNA wise,



Velociraptor (Honestly, I to bring back that birds and especially the

chicken. So if this is true, we can clone Dinosaurs!! But there is a problem- where will that DNA come from? DNA wears off over time, so many people say it is impossible. (Well, 65 million years ago is a lot of time.) But, scientists found a tick- that feasted on the blood of dinosaurs- with a dinosaur's feather trapped in amber! The amber protects the DNA of the dinosaur, so that means they got the right stuff!! Will the dinosaurs roam the earth once more, or will evolution continue and will the dinosaurs be stuck in the Mesozoic era? Only time will tell.

Has anyone ever successfully cloned an

extinct animal?

Yes, because they already did- well at least for seven minutes. An extinct animal, the Pyrenean ibex a relative to goats that lives in Spain and France, went ex-



tinct in 2000, when the last living one of them was killed by a falling tree. But then scientists took some of the Ibex's DNA and injected it into a goat. The goat than gave birth to an ibex clone! But, sadly, seven minutes later the ibex clone died because its lungs failed. Now you are probably thinking "If we could bring back an ibex, The Ibex.

What else can we bring back?"

Controversial - Cloning

Well, these aren't things to make you forget everything you just heard, these are things that

people don't like about cloning. Are scientists just making some genetically modified hybrids, like in Jurassic World?

Here is what one person said about all this dinosaur



cloning, "We can create all kinds of weirdo stuff by modifying a gene here and there," says Norell, "We could modify humans to have a tail. That doesn't make us a non-humanoid monkey. That just makes us a human with a tail." From the news article popular mechanics. Lots of people don't like the idea of bringing back prehistoric animals. "They had a reason why they went extinct." People say. I agree with them. Dinosaurs and mammoths were gone because they couldn't keep up with evolution and went extinct. I agree with bringing back species that humans killed to extinction, because it fits in our time period and can repair broken ecosystems. But a prehistoric animal is the odd one out. It doesn't belong here. It is cool, but is not right. Many people think that they are creating a Frankenstein like beast. Only time will tell.

Below are links of the latest news on cloning.

Links are below:

https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/animals/a21622026/jurassic-world-how-to-clone-a-dinosaur/

http://reviverestore.org/projects/woolly-mammoth/

2019 Winter Word Search!

By Samantha Miller

SNOW SNOWFLAKE HOLIDAY SNOW-SUIT COLD MITTENS SCARF HAT IGLOO ICICLES SNOWMAN

QSFH FSXVJOO FWZCBMLPIYT SD GHJK YGFSQZXFG
TU JHPL GDSNOWQTC HOFUFKQ IKIQWERTYUIOPAS
DFGHJKLZXCVBNMHOLIDAYCQWERTYUIOPASDFGH
JKLZXCVBNMQGIMPSGCEJUYBVXZWQOIHLYAXQPM
ACOLDCWFGKPT GH Z K FBGHTESQA OPHBCEKJNBT
HATCQTPOUFHDSXC HYIPTSNOWSUITQWERTYUIOP
LKJHGFDSAZXCVBNMITTENSQPALZMWOEIRITUTYA
SDFGHJKLGVHBJNKMLPOIUTEDHDCXZAQTIUYRSCA
RFQAWSEDRFTGYHUJIKOLPMIGLOOYGVIPOKLMJN
HBGVFCDXSZAQWERTYUIOPIETICICLESWOTYVGBH
IUHKLPOQAEDSWZTXDFGHJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZS
NOWFLAKEQAWSEDRFTGYHUJIKOLPOIUYTRWQAG
H HLOGEBFGWSNOWMANJKXCGHTYIOPLKJHGFDSA
ZXCVBNMJUYTGHBVFREDQAPOYGHULKJNMBGVSX
DFERCGHTQAWSEDRFTGHIQZASDERPOIUFGMTRQ



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