

# G.T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

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## A Riggs Christmas: Music Style

By Moina Syed

It's hard not to like the holidays. Everywhere you go there are lights and decorations and of course the Christmas music you can't escape. From classics like *Jingle Bells* to more modern songs like *All I Want for Christmas is You*, Christmas music is everywhere. Even Riggs' own bands and choirs got into the holiday mood with their annual holiday concert. This year the concert was a combined band and choral concert, with three bands and three choirs performing.

The bands kicked off the evening with the Beginning Band performing *Feliz Navidad* and *The Nutcracker*.

The Concert Band then followed with *Holiday Sleigh Ride*, *In the Bleak Midwinter*, and *Amen!* The Symphonic Band ended the band's portion of the concert with *Bring a Torch*, *Joy in All Things*, and *Sleigh Ride*. They have been performing the ever popular song, *Sleigh Ride*, for so many years that Ms. McKeithan is not even sure how long it's been! She also said that the band tried to pick not only the traditional songs but also some songs that are less familiar.

"In fact, some of the songs aren't associated with Christmas at all, but fit the

After the band the choir took over with some holiday songs of their own.

The Treble Choir sang *The Shepherd's Spiritual*, *A Winter Lullaby* and *Jingle Bells* while the Concert Choir performed *Joy to The World*, *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*, *Glow*, and *Amen! Tell It On the Mountain*. The Chamber Choir sang *Hodie Christus Natus Est*, *Coventry Carol*, and *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*. The choirs also had two special songs that they sang together—*Lo*

*How a Rose/ The Rose* and *Gaudete*.

Mr. Bauck said that the holiday season really brings out a lot of joy in the students. It is, however, difficult coordinating everything, especially with the combined numbers. Some of the songs that they chose were ambitious because the songs were difficult, and they added extra sounds like percussion to some. The choral performances were successful, however, in bringing out the holiday spirit and joy.

Thank you to both Mr. Bauck and Ms. McKeithan, and bravo to the bands and choirs on a great holiday concert!



Senior Jaid Freestone and other Symphonic band members perform in the holiday concert. (Todd Thompson)

feeling of joy and togetherness I associate with the holidays," McKeithan said.

*Lo*

## The Month of January in Depth

By Gracie Jones

Famous for its resolutions and new beginnings, January is also known for being National Staying Healthy Month, National Hobby Month and National Blood Donor Month.

Ironically, studies show that babies born in January, February and March grow up to be less educated, less healthy and less successful than

babies born at other times of the year. Statistics aren't always accurate, however, as Eli Manning, Elvis Presley and Zayn Malik were all born in January, and all were/are very successful.

Some may also say that freedom was born in January, after President Abraham Lincoln gave The Emancipation Proclamation speech on January 1, 1863, altering the purpose of

the Civil War, freeing slaves under bondage.

The last week in January, the Cairo International Book Fair (the largest and oldest book fair in the Arab world) is held in Cairo, Egypt every year. Besides Cairo, the best places to travel in January are Miami, Florida; Bali, Indonesia; Dizin, Iran; and Adelaide, Australia.

Staying at home is fine, however, if board games are played, such

as *Star Wars: Rebellion Board Game*, released in January of 2016.

The *Star Wars* board game was not the only rebellion that took place in January; On January 1, 1959, Fidel Castro seized power in Cuba after successfully leading a revolution that drove out the former dictator Fulgencio Batista.

January has always been a time for change and new beginnings. Whether that

change is losing five pounds or overthrowing the dictator of a country, January has so many new opportunities for fresh starts.

Make this January more than just a month to keep your resolution. Make it a month to make a change and difference. Every day is an opportunity to do so, and it just so happens that January has 31 days. Make it a memorable January 2017.

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# Shoutouts by Steph

As I stated last issue, T.F. Riggs is home to many talented students and staff. And so my purpose of these shoutouts is to recognize those who aren't always recognized. Our school is full of amazing people, and I believe we should know who they are.

Many of you know of the Gov to Gov program here at Riggs, but you may not know the lady behind it. So my first shoutout goes to our fearless Gov to Gov leader, Mrs. Johnson. Mrs. Johnson took over Mr. Kippley's position in teaching the peer mentoring program, and she has done a great job. Not only has she helped many students, but she has been working on some plans to bring a Governor Store to our school. She has

also taken kindness to the next level this past month with her Kindness Campaign. She has dedicated a lot of time

ing those around her. Keep being your awesome self, Mrs. Johnson!

Secondly I would like to give a huge

staff works very hard to make sure that we have food on our plates. You may not feel like they do, but let me tell you that a whole lot goes on behind the scenes.

Also, how would you like feeding an entire school? Next time you see them, give them a "thank you" because they deserve it!

My third shoutout

goes to a freshman who is nothing but positive energy (which is what we want at Riggs). This kid happens to be Grady Klundt, whom I'm sure many of you know. When you hear of Grady, don't you just think of a big smile and him laughing? Grady, keep it up. I have not found one person who does not like you.

You bring out the best in people. As you move through Riggs and life, I can guarantee you that people are

going to continue to appreciate your personality. Your outlook on life is nothing but positive, and that

Bauk and his mother, Mrs. Lindbloom. I was given an amazing opportunity to accompany both

choirs in a combined song during the Christmas choral concert. Without the support, compassion and help from these people, I would not have been able to get on that stage and accomplish what I did. It was not only a thrilling experience, but it was one of the best moments of my life thus far. I have nothing but love for all of you. Thank you all so much for believing in me!

I wish I could put a shoutout in the paper for everyone. Please know that each and every one of you make our school and community a better place. Keep up the good work, Riggs. Let this new year bring out the best side in you. Happy 2017, and I hope to see your dazzling face in my shoutouts very soon.

## EDITORIAL



The Gov to Gov Kindness Campaign bulletin board which is located in the lunchroom. (Courtesy)



Gov to Gov students kicking off their Kindness Campaign. (Courtesy)

highly recommend you get to know her because she has this special way of positively affect-

ing those around her. We have not only one, but two meals provided for us at school, plus all the extras. The lunch



Freshman Grady Klundt and his prized shot this year. (Courtesy)

is exactly what needs to be at Riggs. If you see Grady, give him a high five because he seriously rocks! Thank you for making our school and community a better place, Grady!

I would like to give my last shoutout this month to a group of people that mean the world to me. So here is a final shoutout to both treble and concert choir, Mr.



## A New Year for You

Happy 2017 y'all. By now New Year's has come and gone, and no matter how bad the year of 2016 was for you (whether it was your grades, an important political issue, or just life in general), there's always the hope that 2017

**Mattie Jones**  
**REFLECTIONS**

will be a better year. To recap the past year's events would be upsetting and redundant, partly because every possible media platform has already covered them a million times. Instead, focus on what is awaiting in the future. Not only are we that much closer to summer, but it's the beginning of a new semester. This new start means that new chances are available. Oh, and did I forget to mention that KOH was right around the corner?

You should also think about how this year will be another great opportunity to make memories with your friends. It's another year of sleepovers, beach days and thousands of pictures stored on your camera roll. However you choose to spend this time, start the year off right with some of

your favorite people. Friends almost always make life just a little bit better. Also, always remember to keep an open mind. You never know when you'll find a new way or place to make memories, or maybe even a new friend to share them with.

Keep in mind that even though you're trying to stick to that New Year's resolution with every ounce of determination, it'll be out the window the first time you say: "Well today's a cheat day." In other words, you'll be happier for giving it up anyway, so trading a "healthy lifestyle" for that piece of cake and a Netflix binge really can't be that bad. You could even invite some friends over to share the cake so you don't eat all of it. That'll put you just one step closer to getting "healthy."

No matter what 2017 has in store for you, I wish you the best of luck. Hopefully this year will be the start of something new and exciting for each and every one of you. Happy New Year and enjoy this next chapter in your life!

## 2017: It's a New Year, a New America.

As the saying goes, "out with the old, in with the new." That definitely rings true in Washington this year. Come January 20, President Obama will pack his bags and make room for the new president: Donald Trump.

Trump and his transition team, headed by Vice President-elect Mike Pence, already began the transition process months ago. They nominated key cabinet picks, filled many White House staff roles and worked with the Republican-controlled Congress to draft legislation to pass in the new year. As these events unfolded, they were met with excitement from some

**Amanda Pugh**  
**POLITICS**

Republicans, speculation and suspense from others, and sheer terror-stricken panic from Democrats — which you have likely seen in their last-ditch efforts to recount votes, get electors to change their vote and even abolish the electoral college.

Why are Democrats so upset? The reason is quite understandable: Trump and his friends in Congress plan to undo all of President Obama's legacy. Everything he has done these past eight years is gone. Obamacare: gone (Congress is making plans to repeal that). Obama's dangerous deal with Iran:

gone. Millions of illegal immigrants pouring in: gone. Doubling our national debt: gone. Letting the United Nations walk all over the United States like a worn out door mat: gone. Allowing ISIS to rise to power: that's gone too. A trend is obviously being set in place: no more Obama and his way of presidency. All of Obama's accomplishments stand to be eliminated.

With such "yuge" policy changes compared to the Obama administration, the Trump administration will surely put America on a new course. Some are for it, others not so much. With all due respect to the current president, maybe the fact that Americans couldn't quite bring

themselves to elect one of his co-workers shows that America is fed up with the way things were. Who did they elect instead? Not just any old Republican, but an orange-tinted businessman who angrily tweets at three a.m. Then again, maybe Obama and the rest of his party will continue to believe that the only reason Hillary Clinton lost was because most of America is racist, sexist and a whole "basket of deplorables."

Either way, America is about to change under our new president. Whether you see it as making America great again or making America hate again is up to you. Happy 2017 America. It's sure going to be an interesting one!

## What is Your New Year's Resolution?

"To pay off the national debt."  
-Vicente Ramirez, 12

"Spend more time with my family and be more spontaneous." -Ms. Postma

"To do more things with passion and purpose." - Arden Koenecke, 11

"Be more me!" -Emma Mesman, 12

"Try and be nice." -Mr. Snyder

"To love myself from my best features to my flaws." -Hattie Shaffer, 9

"Figure out what to do with my life, graduate high school, and hopefully be financially set for the next few years all within a few months." -Kara Brusven, 12

"To take more photos!" -Emily Kist, 11

"I honestly don't have one."  
-Brice Mertz, 11

"Not to eat junk food." -Jordan Lutmer, 12

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**



# The Man Behind T.F. Riggs High School

By Sarah Eckert and Kailee Schultz

South Dakota native Doctor Theodore Foster Riggs was a remarkable man, so much so that a high school was named after him in our state capital. That being said, most of the students have lived here all their lives and hardly know his story. Pierre takes in a few new students and a few foreign exchange students each year. As a new student myself, I only find it appropriate that all of the student body—native, foreign, or new—be informed of our school’s history.

Riggs’s parents, Thomas Lawrence Riggs and Cornelia Margaret Foster Riggs, were missionaries with the Sioux Indians. Riggs was born in an Indian village in South Dakota on July 7, 1847. He and his father traveled, visiting his father’s “out stations” and staying in teepees, following his mother’s death in 1878. He was married in 1914, became a widower and had two sons, Tom and Foster.

In his youth, Riggs attended mission school with Indian children as well as traditional elementary schools in the East. His future aspirations as a physician were not intended to be urban. He graduated with a Bachelor’s from Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin, and then in 1903 he received his Doctorate in Medicine from Johns Hopkins medical school in Baltimore. He knew he wanted to return home to Pierre, South Dakota, that had a



Dr.T.F. Riggs. (Courtesy of the South Dakota State Historical Society)

humble population of 3,000.

After surgical training, and visiting medical centers in Berlin, Vienna, Berne and London, Dr. Riggs returned to Pierre in 1909 to begin his medical practice. He retired from his career in surgery in 1955, making 46

years of fascinating achievements. An article written about Riggs, “City to Honor Dr. T. F. Riggs” by Harold S. Milner, states “None of Dr. Rigg[s]’s 15,000 ‘more or less’ major operations stand out, because ‘they were all important.’” A woman of age 96 reached out to Principal Mutchelknaus in October. She was kind enough to share her interaction with Dr. Riggs when she was two years old. When she caught her left hand in an electric clothes wringer, doctors at St. Mary’s Hospital decided that the hand was to be amputated. However, Theodore F. Riggs stepped in and saved the hand after 13 operations. In the letter she addressed to Mr. Mutchelknaus, it is written, “All went well and my hand healed and has been as useful as anybody’s allowing me to lead a full and rich life. So as I think back on my time at PHS and think of TF Riggs High (where 3 of my children graduated), I think of the great man who came to serve the people of Pierre and who changed my life beyond what I can imagine.”

In 1927, Dr. Riggs was elected to the Pierre Independent District School Board of Education where he served for 30 years. He was president of the Board from 1931 to 1933, then from 1940 to 1954. He was a State Medical Consultant for the South Dakota Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (1944-1961) and the Department of the Service of the Blind (1948-1953). “His services to the state of South Dakota and the rehabilitation of the physically and mentally handicapped persons is unparalleled.” Because of his service to the Board of Education, the newly constructed high school in Pierre, South Dakota, received his name. A public recognition day was held in his honor on May 16, 1948, to honor his dedication to many organizations around the community. He received “distinguished service awards” from the State Educational Department, the State Medical Association, the State Advisory Board and the Selective Service system.

Doctor Theodore Foster Riggs died in 1962, and was buried in the Riverside Cemetery in Pierre, South Dakota. Although his life has long since passed, his memory lives on. He is alive in the heart of the woman whose hand he saved, he is alive in all of the Indian villages in which he called home, he is alive in our high school, in the lobby’s mural, and he is alive in St. Mary’s hospital where he left his greatest mark.

Dr. Riggs will forever be remembered as the man who served Pierre, South Dakota, for the pure sake of caring for the people in his hometown. When students look at our school or walk into it, a new meaning of our school should come forth. Hopefully the current and future students of T.F. Riggs High School will learn more about him and his extraordinary impact.



T. F. Riggs High School. (Courtesy)

## Sibling Rivalry: Vicente(12) vs. Jano Ramirez (10)

Compiled by Gracie Jones and Sydney Larson

**What is the most annoying thing your sibling does?**

\*Diego and Sofia are their younger siblings.

Vicente: It’s annoying annoy that he is greasy.

Jano: He leaves a grease stain on everything he touches.

**Who’s funnier between the two of you?**

Vicente: Not Diego, that’s for sure.

Jano: Probably Sofia.

**Who speaks Spanish the best?**

Vicente: Both of us speak it very well, unfortunately, Diego can’t.

Jano: Neliz Favidad.

**What do you appreciate about your sibling?**

Vicente: That he is not Diego.

Jano: I like how good he makes me feel compared to Diego.



Brothers Jano (left) and Vicente Ramirez in their best Halloween costumes. (Courtesy)



# Lady Govs Start Season Strong

By Nathan Zimmerman

The Lady Govs basketball team was able to pull out a

win in their home opener against the Brookings Bobcats, winning by a score of 72-67. The team is looking to continue this strong start in January as they start off the second semester with three straight road games in Yankton, Sioux Falls and Huron. All three opponents have less than 40 seed points, hopefully allowing Pierre to continue



Senior Tori Thorpe boxes out to reach for the rebound. (Todd Thompson)

their positive beginning.

The 2016-17 Lady Govs team is split in half in terms

of upper and lower classmen. The team currently has four seniors, two juniors and six sophomores, giving the team strong experience for future years. One of the four seniors that has helped out the varsity team through-

out her high school career is 5'5" guard Hallie Jerome. Jerome has been a crucial

player to the Lady Govs team, and noted how their team this year compares to past seasons in her high school career:

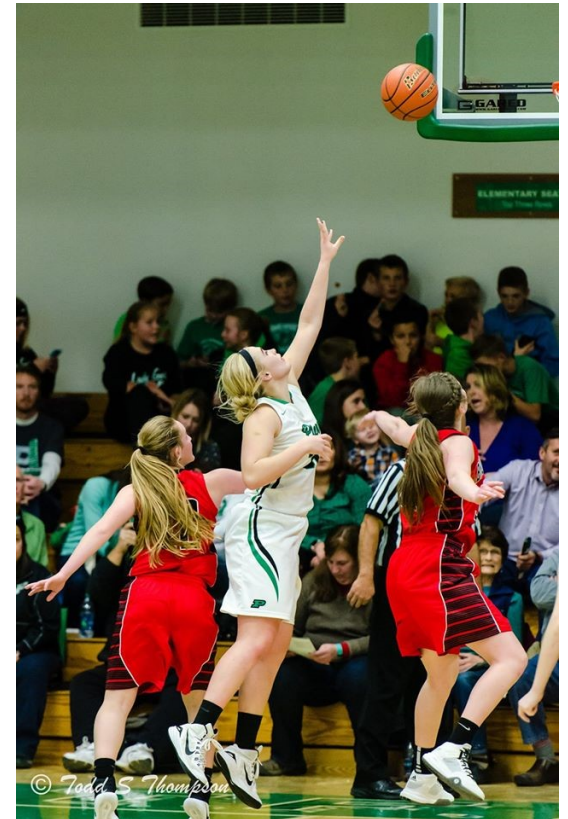
"I think we have the potential to be just as good, if not better than the last two years. I think our strength is our team chemistry. We understand each other's strengths and get along on and off the court," Jerome said.

The Lady Govs are staying confident and seeking a winning streak this January. The season open-

er gave them a great inside look at what may be at stake

this season, along with their test on the road as the new semester falls upon T.F. Riggs. The girls basketball team will be back on the hometown grind in January on the 12th and 17th against the Mitchell Kernels, a district rival, and the Rapid City Central Cobblers, both at 7 p.m.

Bring your Pierre pride!



Senior Maddie Reinke pulls up a shot during the home opening game. (Todd Thompson)

## January Home Games

### Girls Basketball

Jan. 12, 4-7 pm

Jan. 17, 4-7 pm

Jan. 28, 2:30-5:30 pm



### Gymnastics

Jan. 14, 12 pm

Jan. 16, 5 pm

Jan. 28, 12 pm

Good Luck!

### Girls Hockey

Jan. 22, 11 am



# Boys Team Looks For a Comeback

By Nathan Zimmerman

The boys basketball team did not have the start that they wanted, but are they are now looking ahead to turning their season around. The Govs basketball team is looking at starting off the new year against Yankton, Sioux Falls, O'Gorman and Huron. These teams may be some tough competition, but this fact won't phase the Governors in their run for saving their season.

This year's team has only two returning players that started in the previous season. This wasn't going to be a surprise to the team, so the rebuilding process has been going on since the end of last season. One

of these new faces that has contributed to the process is Hunter Jockheck. Jockheck, a 5'10" senior guard, often

I want to show them a good work ethic, and it all starts at practice."

One other significant change to this year's team is its decrease in height. The Govs only have two players that are taller than 6'2" this year, so their approach during the game has had to change quite a bit compared to last season. Tate Johnson, a 6'2" senior center, talks about the many factors that help a player to be skilled down in the post:

"I think, being a post player, you need to know how to feel your op-

ponent and decide where to go from there, and I think I got that pump fake mastered," Johnson said.

The Govs are looking to turn their season around this January. One important component to a team's success is home court advantage. You can catch your Governors at T.F. Riggs on January 10, 19, and 27 against the Huron Tigers, Sturgis Scoopers and the Aberdeen Central Golden Eagles.

G o v s !



Seniors Jack Adam and Brad Dean jump up for the rebound. (Bob Grandpre)

came into the game as a bench player last season, but is now finding himself on the floor more often. Jockheck described how his role has changed from last year into what it is this season:

"I feel like this year I have to be more of a leader for the young guys.



Sophomore Jack Maher goes up strong in the paint against the Bobcats. (Todd Thompson)

## January Home Games

### Boys Basketball

Jan. 19, 4-7 pm

Jan. 27, 4-7 pm

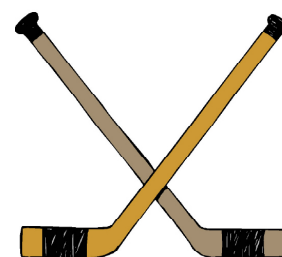
### Boys Hockey

Jan. 22, 1 and 3:15 pm

### Wrestling

Jan. 16, 4 and 5 pm

Jan. 21, 11 am

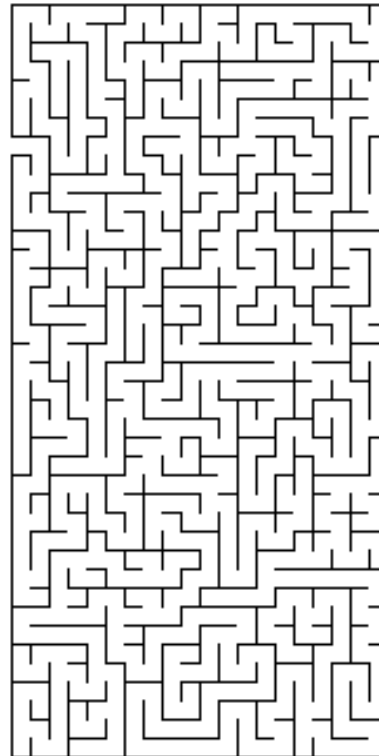




## Sudoku

6			9		7			
	1	2						
5	8	7						9
8				7	6	5		
	4		1		3		2	
		6	5	4				3
3						6	7	8
						1	3	
			3		1			4

## Maze



## GOVERNOR STAFF 2016-2017

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**How to Play Mystery Man and Woman:** Think you know who the mystery man or woman is? Go put your guess in the box in the office. If your guess is correct, you will have a chance to win a prize!

## Mystery Man



**What is your most defining characteristic?**

My genuine personality.

**Favorite singer/band?**

I only listen to the classics.

**Favorite show to watch on Netflix?**

*Breaking Bad*

**What is your New Year's resolution?**

To get a new fantasy football team since mine is so disappointing every year.

**Favorite thing to do during your open?**

Go get breakfast pizza.

## Mystery Woman



**HINT:  
THIS  
MONTH'S  
MAN AND  
WOMAN  
ARE BOTH  
SENIORS!**

**What is your most defining characteristic?**

My hair.

**Favorite singer/band?**

Alessia Cara.

**Favorites to watch on Netflix?**

*10 Things I Hate About You* and *Gilmore Girls*.

**What is your New Year's resolution?**

Get buff.

**Favorite thing to do during your open?**

Go home and eat lunch.