

## This week's big news

### DID YOU KNOW?

Iran is officially called the Islamic Republic of Iran and was formerly known as Persia.



A protest sign

## Calls for change escalate in Iran

More than a month after protests against Iran's government began, massive demonstrations continue in the Middle Eastern nation. Women are leading a push for equality and greater rights. The movement has spread to cities around the world.

### Why did the protests begin?

Iran is a theocracy, which means its government is run by religious leaders who aren't elected by the people. Its laws are based on the leaders' interpretation of Islam (the religion followed by Muslims), which is not the way most Muslims around the world practice the religion. Under Iran's laws, women must cover their hair with a hijab (headscarf) and wear loose-fitting clothes in public, among other restrictions. The protests began after the death of Mahsa Amini, age 22, on September 16. Amini was arrested in Iran's capital city, Tehran, for not having her hair fully covered and died in police custody three days later. The police said she had a heart attack, but evidence shows she died because of mistreatment by police.



A map of the region

### Why is this significant?

The protests represent one of the largest pushes for social reform in Iran since a revolution took place there in 1979. That year, Iran created the theocracy and adopted very strict laws regarding women. The current government crackdown has been so severe that even some government supporters are raising questions. Beyond women's rights, the protesters are seeking improvements to daily life. Iran's economy is in bad

shape, with high rates of unemployment, much of which is a result of government policy.

### How have people reacted?

The US, the UK, and the European Union (EU, a group of 27 nations, mostly in Europe) placed sanctions (financial penalties to punish wrongdoing) on members of the Iranian government for the violent response to protesters. Tens of thousands of people, including Iranians living overseas, have marched in the US, England, France, Canada, Brazil, and other nations to show their solidarity. Some have also cut their hair in public to support the movement. They include Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, an Iranian-British woman who was held in an Iranian prison for nearly six years until March 2022. US President Joe Biden said he had an "enormous amount of respect for people marching in the streets."

### What will happen next?

The protests are expected to continue as long as demonstrators are able to hold out against the government's violent attempts to silence them. Protesters said they believe they are making progress. "We hope that a real change is just around the corner," a protester identified as Fawaz told the BBC, a UK news outlet. "I don't think people are willing to give up this time."

### iran fact file



- **GEOGRAPHY:** Mostly dry and mountainous, with coastal areas on the Caspian Sea, Arabian Sea, and Indian Ocean
- **AREA:** More than 636,000 square miles
- **POPULATION:** 86.7 million
- **OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:** Farsi (also called Persian)
- **CURRENCY:** Iranian rial
- **MAJOR EXPORT:** Oil



**What is happening?**  
Hundreds of thousands of women and men have marched and demonstrated in at least 19 Iranian

## This week's big news

### Severe flooding across Nigeria

The West African nation of Nigeria is experiencing its worst flooding in 10 years. Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency said that unusually heavy rainfall and the excess water from a dam in nearby Cameroon resulted in the disaster.

Floods are common in Nigeria, where the rainy season can start in March and typically ends in October. The 2022 season has been particularly intense. When *The Week Junior* went to press, floods had affected 27 of Nigeria's 36 states. More than 600 people had died and more than 1.4 million people had been displaced from their homes. About 200,000 houses and nearly 272,000 acres of farmland were destroyed. The water also blocked supplies of food and fuel.

Local leaders asked the national government and international agencies to send aid, and authorities promised to help. Sadiya Umar Farouq, Nigeria's minister of humanitarian affairs and disaster management, said, "At times like this, we rally around to support one another."



### IT'S AN AMAZING BIG BOY

Fenrir, a pet cat, has been named the tallest living domestic cat by Guinness World Records. Fenrir, who stands 18.83 inches tall, is a Savannah cat, a breed that is part serval (an African wild cat). His owner called him "a big, lovable goofus."



Fenrir (right)



**ANCIENT RELIGION**  
Hinduism dates back 4,000 years and is the third largest religion in the world, with more than a billion followers.

## Diwali festival to begin

On October 24, the major Hindu festival of Diwali (pronounced de-VOLL-ee), will begin around the world. The Festival of Lights, as it is known, symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance, and good over evil. It is also celebrated by followers of the Jain and Sikh religions.

In India, where nearly 80% of the population is Hindu, Diwali traditions are passed down through families. People tell the story of Rama, who killed the demon king Ravana and returned home to his wife Sita.

presence and ask her to bless them with wealth, happiness, and good fortune.

The festival lasts five days. On the first two, people clean their homes and put up colorful decorations. The main celebration, on the third night, is called Lakshmi Puja and includes feasts and

On the last two days, families exchange gifts and say "Happy Diwali" to each other a goodyear ahead. In the final day of Diwali, with the last day of the festival, people return to their homes.

**The week's biggest stories, curated for kids**

## National news

### DID YOU KNOW?

The US Preventive Services Task Force was created in 1984 and consists of a volunteer panel of 16 medical experts.



Asking questions is one way doctors screen for anxiety.

### If you feel anxious



If you're feeling anxious, talk to a parent or other trusted adult. Many worries are common and normal, and talking to someone can help you understand what you're feeling. An adult can help you identify activities that make you feel better. They can also schedule an appointment with a doctor if that seems helpful.

## National news

### TASTY TREAT

The brown bears of Alaska's Katmai National Park feed mainly on sockeye salmon.



### New booster approval for children

The Centers for Disease Control announced that children between ages 5 and 11 are now eligible for the updated Covid-19 booster shots. Until now, only children ages 12 and up qualified. The updated boosters, available after completing initial vaccinations, target the most contagious variant of the virus and are important for keeping kids healthy, experts said. Booster shots for children under age 5 are being studied and are not yet approved.



The male bear 747 won the contest.



### Statue of Liberty crown reopens

People visiting the Statue of Liberty, which stands 305 feet tall in New York Harbor, can again climb up into its crown for sweeping views. The statue, a gift from France to the US in 1885, was closed to the public in March 2020, and visits to the statue's pedestal resumed in 2021. Tickets to visit the crown, which is 377 steps from the statue's lobby, have sold out for the month of October.



### Coin honors Chinese American

A quarter depicting Anna May Wong (1905–1961), considered the first Chinese American film star, is being released to the public. Wong is the fifth woman to be featured in the American Women Quarters Program, a four-year initiative celebrating women's contributions to the nation. Previous honorees have included Native American Chief Wilma Mankiller and astronaut Sally Ride.

## Fat Bear Week winner is named

Fat Bear Week 2022 concluded on October 11, with Bear 747 crowned this year's champion. Fat Bear Week is a competition held every fall at Katmai National Park in Alaska. It began as Fat Bear Tuesday in 2014 and is meant to celebrate brown bears as they put on weight before they hibernate (go into a deep sleep) during the winter.

Gaining weight is crucial for bears and allows them to survive hibernation. They do not eat or drink for about five months and can lose up to one third of their body weight.

Triumphing out of a field of 12 bears, male bear 747 claimed his second title, having previously won in 2020. He received more than 68,000 votes, defeating female bear 901, who was competing in her first Fat Bear Week. Bear 901 mounted a strong rookie campaign, including knocking four-time champion Otis out of the tournament. Overall, a record 1,027,655 votes were cast this year.



Female bear 901 was the runner-up.

A scandal erupted during this year's contest when officials realized that fake votes were being submitted for Holly, the 2019 winner. "Like bears stuff their face with fish, our ballot box, too, has been stuffed," Katmai National Park announced. Park officials don't know who submitted the fake votes but said it was easy to identify and discard them. In the future, they said measures will be taken to prevent fake votes from being submitted.

Even among the many huge bears in the park, 747's size is impressively large, as he is thought to weigh about 1,400 pounds.

"You're looking at one of the largest bears in the world," said Mike Fitz, Fat Bear Week's creator and a former park ranger. He called 747 "a giant among bears."

Candice Rusch of explore.org, which helped run the competition, said, "The important thing to remember is that despite which bear wins the most votes, they are all winners."

### THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Camel takes the drive-through at In-N-Out Burger in Las Vegas" UPI



National news focused on the facts



# The big debate

## Should gas-powered leaf blowers be banned?

Some people think they're the best tool for the job, but others say they're not worth it.

### What you need to know

- Leaf blowers were invented in the 1950s to clear large amounts of leaves from an area (such as a lawn).
- They were originally powered by gasoline, but today, about 85% of leaf blowers are electric.
- A recent study found that using a gas-powered leaf blower for one hour emits as much pollution as driving a car 1,100 miles.
- California, Washington DC, and Seattle, Washington, have banned gas-powered leaf blowers.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

Electric leaf blowers can blow air at up to 260 miles per hour.

Autumn is here and leaves are changing—and falling—around the country. Many Americans use leaf blowers to clear leaves and other debris from yards, parks, streets, and sidewalks. Leaf blowers typically run on electricity, or battery. People use them to clear leaves and get the job done quickly. Some types aren't very noisy, though. Others say they pollute the environment.

**Interactive debates celebrate multiple perspectives**

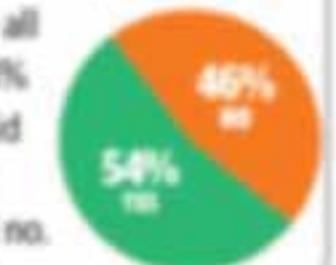
Now that you've voted in our poll, we'll be featuring more interactive debates next week.

### No—this tool saves time and energy

Gas-powered leaf blowers have more power, which means they get the cleanup done faster and more effectively—and without the hassle of dealing with a cord or recharging batteries. The extra time and effort might not be a big deal for homeowners, but it is for professional landscapers who clear many yards a day. Meanwhile, weaker types of leaf blowers have to operate longer, which uses more energy. The power plants that supply the electricity for this non-gas equipment can pollute and harm the environment, too. And it's not like electric- or battery-operated leaf blowers are silent, either—they still make plenty of noise for the neighbors.

### LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked you if chocolate is the best Halloween candy. You're sweet on all treats: 54% of you said yes, and 46% said no.



The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of The Week Junior, and the page is not funded by third parties.

# People

## Paving her own path

TV host and engineer Emily Calandrelli believes science is for everyone.

Throughout her career as an engineer, scientist, and television personality, Emily Calandrelli has always reached for the stars. She even goes by the nickname "Space Gal." Her new children's book, *Stay Curious and Keep Exploring: 50 Amazing, Bubbly, and Creative Science Experiments to Do with the Whole Family*, is packed with her favorite experiments and scientific facts.

Calandrelli, age 35, told *The Week Junior* she originally wanted to be an architect (person who designs buildings and spaces). Then a college course in engineering (the design of programs and machines) changed her path. "That experience kicked off my obsession with the aerospace industry and space exploration," she said. "And I have not turned back ever."



Merriam-Webster

After earning a degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering from West Virginia University, Calandrelli continued her studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). In 2017, she made guest appearances on *Bill Nye Saves the World*. In 2020, she got her own Netflix show, *Emily's Wonder Lab*, which she co-produced. Her new book includes fun family-friendly experiments and explores the science behind things like how hot-air balloons work.

With this new book, as well as her show, lectures, and advocacy work, Calandrelli seeks to encourage young people, particularly young girls like she once was, to pursue the study of science. "I want kids to take away the idea of curiosity and the idea that science is everywhere," she said.



Emily Calandrelli

**SPACE GAL**  
While in college, Emily Calandrelli interned at NASA, the US space agency.

## OVERHEARD



Clay (also known as Dream)

### Making a big debut

Fans had only known Dream, the popular YouTube gamer, as the person behind a white smiley face mask. But on October 2, the 23-year-old, whose real name is Clay, revealed his face. Days later, he also met fans at a video convention in California, where he told BuzzFeed News that he felt more free finally meeting people in person. Since creating his YouTube channel in 2014, which features videos of him playing Minecraft, he has amassed more than 30 million subscribers. In his face-reveal video, Clay said his channel is "living proof that anyone can do anything."



"I've often wondered why I became so popular. I think I reach people because I'm with 'em, not apart from 'em."

Loretta Lynn, the legendary country music star who died on October 4 at age 90, rose to fame in the 1960s and won three Grammys (top music award) and a Lifetime Achievement Award during her career.



## DID YOU KNOW?

California two-spot octopuses have glowing blue spots on each side of their head.

An octopus expertly uses its arms to catch prey.

## Fun octopus facts

There are about 300 species of octopuses, and they are found in waters all over the world. Species range in size from 2 inches to 18 feet long. Octopuses also have three hearts, and they are considered highly intelligent. They can avoid predators by changing their color or releasing clouds of black ink as a distraction.



## Octopuses are skillful hunters

In nature, octopuses hunt mainly with their sense of touch, using their eight arms to feel out their environment for hidden creatures. Researchers at the University of Minnesota recently studied a different way octopuses hunt—when they identify prey based on sight. The study findings show that while the movement of octopus limbs can look chaotic and uncoordinated, the marine creatures are quite consistent and methodical in how they approach prey.



An octopus pounces on a crab.

have one eye looking out. They then placed either fiddler crabs or white shrimp in the tanks to see how the octopuses would try to snatch them, capturing the interactions on video. The crabs and shrimp behave differently when trying to escape from predators, so using both species gave the researchers an opportunity to see whether this led the octopuses to use a different arm for hunting depending on the prey.

Wardill's team found that the octopuses almost always used the same arm to grab their prey. Specifically, the second arm from the middle of the octopuses' body, on the same

side of their body as the eye, caught the prey. If they needed more arms to grab prey, they would use the ones next to the second arm.

The octopuses also attacked differently depending on the prey. When faced with crabs, an octopus would pounce on top of the crab with its whole body, a behavior called "parachuting." However, when catching shrimp, which are fast and more capable of escaping predators, the octopuses would take one arm and reach out very slowly toward the shrimp, then grab it and latch onto it with its other arms to haul it in.

Wardill and his team hope to do more research. They want to study the octopus's brain as it attacks prey to develop a better understanding of what role the creature's nervous system plays in selecting the arms it uses.



## PLACE OF THE WEEK

Canyonlands National Park, Utah

Shaped by the Green River, the Colorado River, and its tributaries (freshwater streams), this national park is divided into four regions—the rivers, Island in the Sky, the Needles, and the Maze, a series of interwoven canyons. The desert landscape of Canyonlands is a result of millions of years of erosion. The area has had human inhabitants for more than 10,000 years, including the ancestral Puebloans. Visitors today can hike a short trail to the park's iconic Mesa Arch. The park is teeming with wildlife, including mountain lions, desert bighorn sheep, and ravens.



A raven



## SUPER SPOTS

The word "cheetah" comes from a word in Hindi (an Indian language): chita. It means "spotted one."

A cheetah explores its new surroundings.

## Cheetahs arrive in India after 70 years away

Cheetahs have been reintroduced to India for the first time since 1952, when they were declared extinct in the country. In September, eight wild cheetahs were transported by plane from Namibia, Africa, as part of a project to bring cheetahs back to India. Cheetahs became extinct in the country after losing their habitat and being hunted.

The five females and three males, which are between 2 and 6 years old, spent their first few weeks in India in a smaller enclosure to get used to their new

home. Experts planned to release them into a larger area in Kuno National Park, near India's capital, New Delhi, on October 17. The protected area is nearly 1,500 acres of forest and grassland, with prey like antelope and wild boar for the big cats to eat. The cheetahs have been fitted with tracking collars so experts can keep tabs on them.

At least 20 cheetahs have been sent to India from Africa, where the population is now

## Animal of the week Cicada killer wasp



People have been confusing the cicada killer wasp with so-called "murder hornets," which arrived in the US in late 2019. Cicada killer wasps look similar but are native to the US. They are not aggressive toward humans.

- **LIFE SPAN:** A year, starting as larva
- **HABITAT:** Underground burrows

inches long

paralyzes them.

**News from nature informs an eco-conscious generation**



## Good week / Buzz



### Beavers

California is looking to use beavers and their dams as part of its nature restoration efforts. Research has revealed that beavers help to protect the environment in many ways, including preventing forest fires and floods.

### Pilot

More than 100 pilot whales died after becoming stranded on a beach in Australia. About 100 workers were able to free about 44 whales to return to the ocean. This is not the first time whales have been stranded in this area.

A guardian rock  
www.gettheweekjunior.com  
superstars.org



## Photos of the week

## Photos of the week



# The world in pictures

PHOTOGRAPH BY IAN GILMORE FOR THE WEEK JOURNAL PHOTO BY MICHAŁ TONCZAK

**Totally twisted**  
Ian Gilmore shot this detailed photo of a nasturtium seed head.





# Sports

**FUN FACT**  
Pickleball was invented by three dads from Bainbridge Island, Washington, who wanted to create an activity for their kids.



## Big week in Major League Pickleball

Pickleball was invented in 1965, but over the past few years, it has become one of the fastest-growing sports in the US. There are currently about 5 million "picklers" throughout the country.

The sport's professional league, Major League Pickleball (MLP), is growing as well. In 2023, it will expand from 12 to 16 teams, and MLP recently announced that several top athletes from other sports have invested in new teams. Big names include National Basketball Association stars LeBron James and Draymond Green, National Football League quarterback Tom Brady, and former tennis star Kim Clijsters.



LeBron James

### THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

In the National League playoffs, the San Diego Padres beat the Los Angeles Dodgers, who had the best regular season record this year, while the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Atlanta Braves, last year's World Series Champions. In the American League, the top-seeded Houston Astros swept the Seattle Mariners. They will play the winner of the New York Yankees and Cleveland Guardians matchup.



The Padres celebrate

#### Upcoming tournament



On November 17, CBS will air *Pickled*, a celebrity pickleball tournament hosted by Stephen Colbert. It will raise money to help homeless people in the US. The 16 players include Harry Potter's Emma Watson, Elf star Will Ferrell, and *The Amazing Race* host Phil Keoghan.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Concussions were first recognized by Rhazes, a Persian physician in the 10th century.



Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa

## NFL changes concussion policy

The National Football League (NFL) has made a move aimed at keeping its players safe. On October 8, it announced an immediate change to how players are diagnosed and treated if they appear to have suffered a type of traumatic brain injury (TBI) called a concussion. A concussion can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. It can damage brain cells and cause headaches, memory loss, and other issues. Repeated brain injuries can have devastating effects.

The NFL reviews its concussion guidelines each year. This latest change, however, came after Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa was injured during a game. On September 25, he was hit by an opponent and knocked his head on the

turf. He stumbled afterward but had a medical evaluation and was allowed to return to the game. Four days later, after another hard hit, his body froze (a sign of a TBI) and he left the field on a stretcher. Doctors confirmed he had a concussion.

Many people, including the head of the group that represents NFL players, expressed concern over why he was cleared to play again. The league reviewed its concussion guidelines. The head of the group of players, who appeared at a press conference, said, "It's a speechless moment when you see your son play football and you're worried about him."

#### SPOTLIGHT ON...



### Noelle Lambert

AGE: 25 SPORT: TRACK AND FIELD TEAM: US PARALYMPICS

After Lambert played one season of lacrosse at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, she had an accident that caused her to lose her left leg above the knee. She returned to the team with a prosthetic (artificial) leg and became the first above-the-knee amputee to play college lacrosse. She later switched to track and field.

**Game on** I started lacrosse in seventh grade. A bunch of us were playing, so



**Professional, college, and kids' sports coverage for both players and fans**



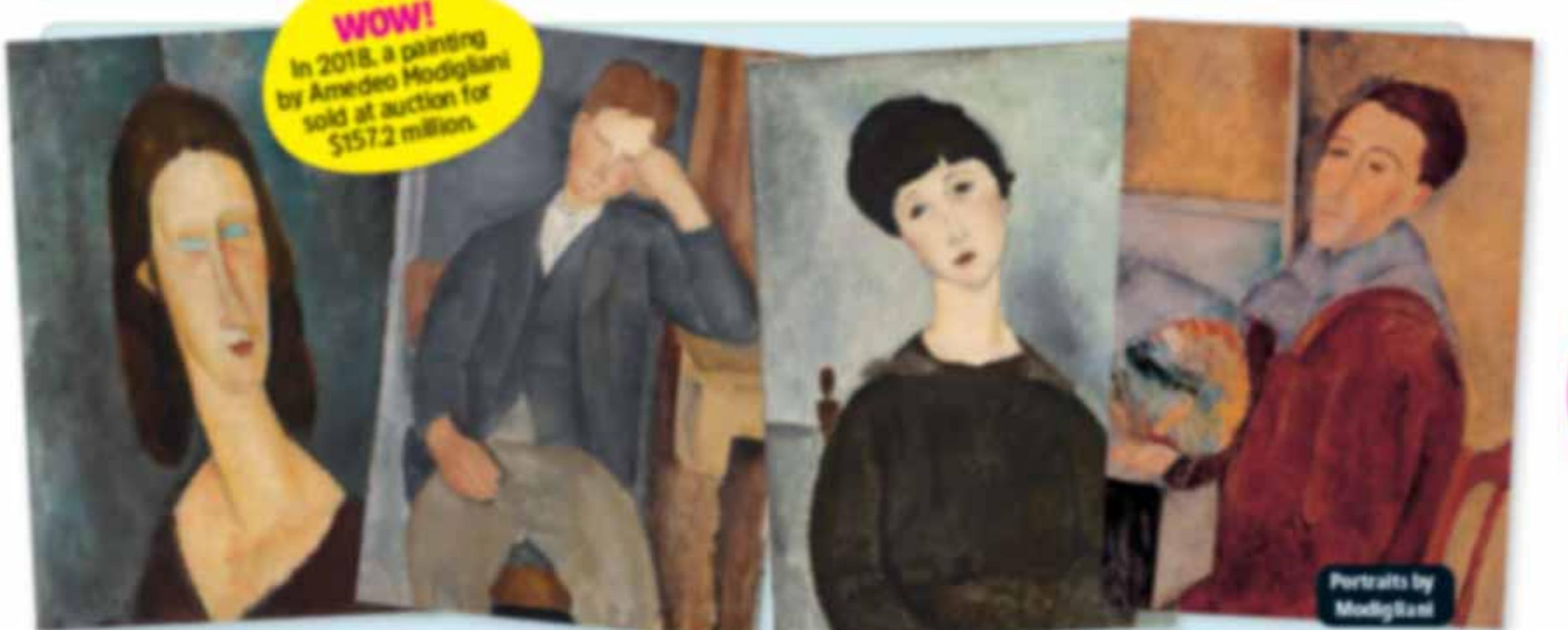
#### COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: Okan Yetik

Team: Great Falls-Reston Soccer

"Coach Okan has been my soccer coach for two years now. He is very encouraging and always knows what to say to help us do our best and become better players. Practice is so much fun because he always plays with us. He is very nice to all the players on the team. Also, he is my dad." —Julian

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, and a short bio to [theweekjunior.com](http://theweekjunior.com). Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why you think your coach deserves the title.



**WOW!**  
In 2018, a painting by Amedeo Modigliani sold at auction for \$157.2 million.

Portraits by Modigliani

## Artist's work examined

The exhibition *Modigliani Up Close* shows what researchers have uncovered about how the famous painter made art.

A new exhibition at the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, reveals some of the artist's techniques. The Barnes, which turns 100 this year, is home to the largest Modigliani collection in the world, with 116 pieces. The exhibition, "Modigliani: The Art of Creation," runs through January 2023. It features 40 paintings, sculptures, and drawings from the artist's career, which spanned from 1901 to 1920.

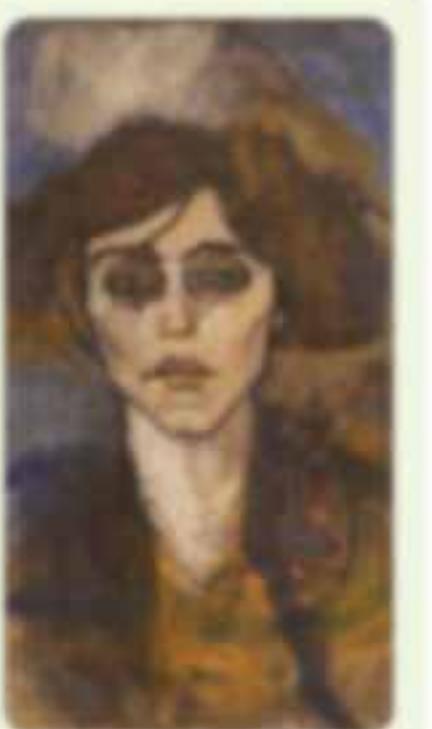
Surface of his canvases. She said it fit perfectly with the Barnes's mission of "close-looking." The experts discovered that Modigliani would sketch on his canvases and also paint on top of existing art. In one case, he painted on a board covered in green paper. Rather than cover up underlying colors, he often used them in his compositions.

A goal of the show is for people to question what they see when they look at art. Modigliani can also inspire experimentation with materials. Barbara Buckley, chief conservator of paintings at the Barnes, told *The Week Junior*, "You can see what you have and use it in a creative way."

**The latest in entertainment news and reviews**



Head (from around 1911)



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**GENIUS ALERT**

Mensa, a society of highly intelligent people, has approximately 145,000 members in about 90 countries.

The Mysterious Benedict Society cast

## New season of mystery series

The *Mysterious Benedict Society*—a television series based on the award-winning books of the same name by Trenton Lee Stewart—is back for a second season. The show is about four orphans recruited by the genius Mr. Benedict to stop his evil twin's schemes. The first two new episodes arrive on Disney+ on October 26.

This season, Mr. Benedict's twin, Dr. I.D. Curtain, tries to control people by selling them fake happiness. To foil his plan, the kids must go on a global scavenger hunt. Mystic Inscho, who plays orphan Raynie, told *The Week Junior* that the show's usual mix of riddles and puzzles will be more challenging than last season's. He also

revealed that the characters will be evolving. "I'm excited for everyone to see the new spectrum of emotions the four kids experience," he said.

The new season has elements from the second book in Stewart's series, including a journey across the ocean. At a recent event, executive producer Phil Hay revealed that those scenes were filmed on the historic Queen Mary, one of the largest ships of the 20th century.

The show will explore the ideas of authentic happiness and doing what's right. It also shows how it's possible to closely bond with unrelated people. Inscho said, "These orphans come to rely on each other and build a family in that way."

### MOVIE NIGHT

Shark Tale (2004)

PG

This comedy, set in an underwater reef city, follows Oscar, a small fish who dreams of fame and fortune, and Lenny, a kindhearted shark who can't please his tough-guy dad because he refuses to eat other fish. When Oscar is unable to repay a gambling debt, he is taken to dangerous waters as a punishment; Lenny happens to be there with his brother, Frankie, who is trying to get him to hunt fish. Frankie is suddenly killed by an anchor, and after Lenny swims away in sorrow, Oscar makes it look like he slayed the shark himself. Word spreads, and his dream of being a celebrity comes true—except that it's all based on a lie. Meanwhile, Lenny worries he'll be shamed if he returns home, so he enlists Oscar to help him hide. How long can the pair keep each other's secrets?



**THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST**



**Kids Baking Championship: Trick or Eat**  
(Discovery+)

In the Halloween special of this competition series, four fan-favorite bakers return to the kitchen. The kids battle to create the best Halloween-themed dish in hopes of winning \$10,000 and baking equipment.



**The Owl House**  
(DisneyNOW)

The award-winning series known for its diverse relationships is back with the first of three final specials. It continues the story of Luz, a human teen who found a magical realm and learned to be a witch. Now she and her pals are stuck in the human world and want to get out.



**Island of the Sea Wolves**  
(Netflix)

The misty landscape of Canada's Vancouver Island is surrounded by some of the world's most violent seas. This new documentary series introduces viewers to the animals that live in the area, including Spiro the eagle, Cedar the wolf, and Sky the sea otter.



