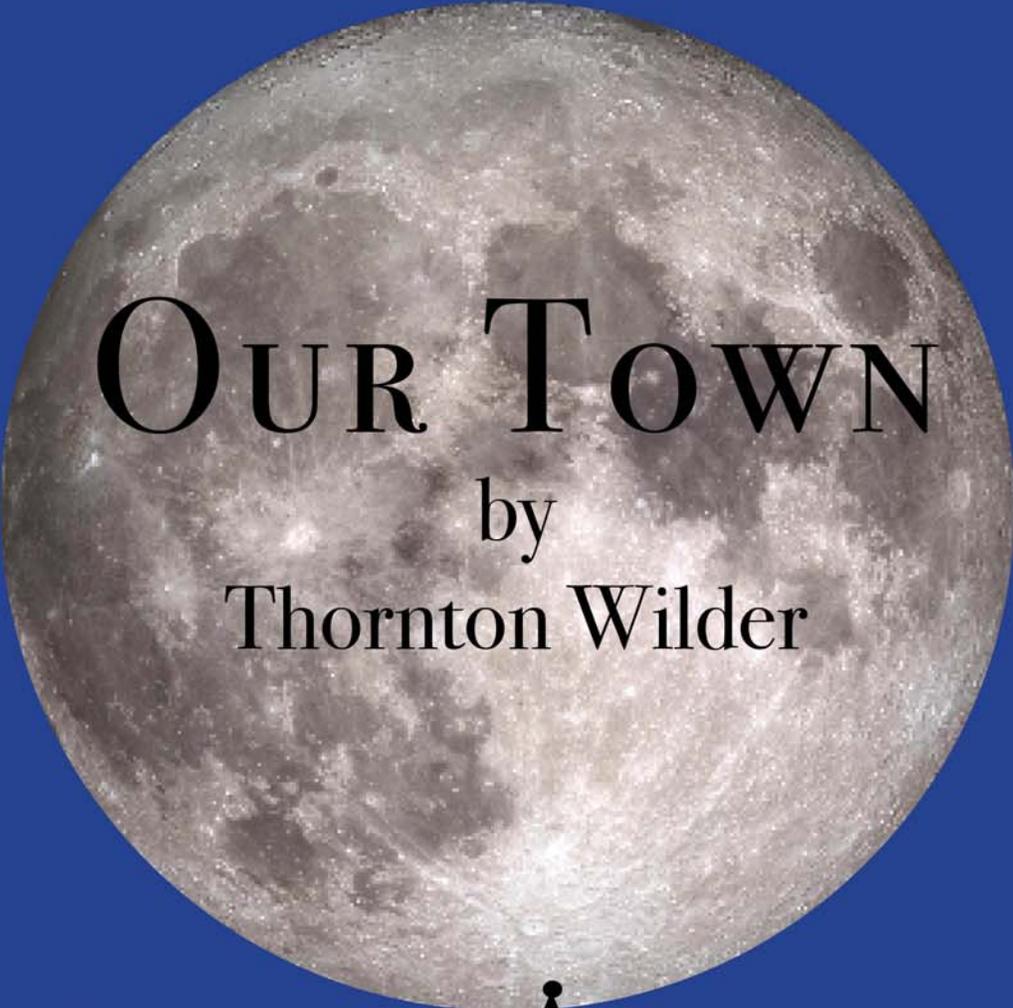


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Grace Academy Presents:



OUR TOWN  
by  
Thornton Wilder



May 3, 4, 5 @ 7:00 PM  
General Admission \$10 Advance \$8

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# The Principal Observes

## Buy Phones Wisely

It is normal for parents to put phones in the hands of their children, some still in elementary grades. If a child should face danger, get stranded, or just need to talk, a phone is an incomparable asset. Because it is the philosophy of Grace Academy to “partner with parents,” we were quick to allow students to bring cell phones to school. Even people who are on tight budgets give their children phones because it enables them easy access to their parents.

Unfortunately, there is often a dark side to giving phones to children if the phone has access to the internet or social media apps. The dangers of the internet are well-known to most parents because the media have chronicled them or parents have discovered them on their own. The entanglements of social media are less known and sometimes unknown. For a boy or girl to be introduced to perverse language, images, or concepts, he or she only needs to be in contact with one person for whom perversity is normal. The friends they interact with in their daily lives and who seem innocent may behave differently when online in Snapchat, Instagram, or other sites. When communicating online, depraved speech and behavior often get normalized, and its easy for well-meaning children to be pulled into it. Living in this fallen world, immorality, deviance, degeneracy, etc. are part of life, but not a part our children should be encouraged by peers to participate in,.

If the fundamental purpose for a youngster to have a phone is to have immediate contact with mom or dad, then a parent should buy a phone that allows phone conversations and texts and nothing else. Manufacturers make phones that do not have access to the internet or applications. Immediate contact is all our children need. Purchasing these simpler phones will encourage young people to use their phones for communication and avoid the darker areas of social media.

Though they argue otherwise, our kids do not need the same powerful devices that parents have. Young people want phones for the same reasons adults do, though their needs are less. They also give kids status among their peers and entertainment when they please. These are not good reasons to buy a phone for a child when there are significant risks attached to them.

Sadly, cell phones have become a Trojan Horse that delivers filth to the minds of our generation. I urge parents to rethink the phones they have put in the hands of their children. If they have not purchased one yet, it is easy to buy a basic phone. If the youngsters already have a smart phone, it is difficult to pry it loose. I realize that many students have these phones and I am not criticizing the parents who have already bought phones for their children. After all, I gave them to to my children. However, time and experience have given me perspective and it is worth the fight because the innocence and

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## Calendar

**Green: Elementary Events**

**Red: Secondary Events**

**Blue: All Other Events**

HS Play, *Our Town*, **May 3-5, 7 p.m.**, [Read more...](#)

Teacher Appreciation Week, **May 7-11**, [Read more...](#)

3rd-6th Grade Concert, **May 8, 7 p.m.**, [Read more...](#)

Senior Tea, **May 11**

K-2 Concert, **May 14, 7 p.m.**, [Read more...](#)

Secondary Concert, **May 15, 7 p.m.**, [Read more...](#)

Senior Chapel, **May 16**

Vision Screening, **May 17**, [Read more...](#)

PK Meet & Greet, **May 18, 10 a.m.**, [Read more...](#)

For the entire calendar, including events for 2017-18, see the Grace Academy Events [calendar](#) and Grace Academy Athletics [calendar](#).

## Elementary Impact Students of the Month of April

Karina Butok  
Maci Niethamer  
Jala Jimenez  
Keyon Carmichael  
Ariel Henry  
Abigail Fuhrman  
Catherine Velazquez  
Chloerissa Wells  
Gavin George

## Secondary Impact Students of the Month of April

JH Abbey Boas  
JH Braxton Pearce  
HS William Chen  
HS Natalee Harter

Congratulations!

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## Annual Survey

### Grace Eaglebots Earth Day Event Participation

On Saturday, April 21, several Grace students, along with their families, helped plant trees to improve the fish habitat at Quilceda Creek, during Marysville's annual Earth Day event. Adopt-a-Stream Foundation supplied 1,400 trees and pre-dug many holes. Trees were planted along the southeast bank of the creek at Strawberry Fields.

From a television monitor, attendees were able to watch baby Coho salmon swimming via a webcam placed in the creek. Organizers packed the day with lots of activities for young planters.

Grace Eaglebots hosted the Poop Toss game and shared the importance of cleaning up pet waste with participants. More than 60 children played the game and received prizes. Other activities included t-shirt decorations and a life-size board game of the lifecycle of salmon that taught the importance of being a good environmental steward.

The event was well-attended by residents from Maryville and surrounding communities. The weather was cooperative. The sun played peek-a-boo through a plethora of cumulus clouds, sending down warming sun rays. There was a minute-worth of hail, but no rain.

A variety of snacks were provided. Rich, warm chocolate milk warmed hands.

Grace's Eaglebot, Pearce Hess and National Honor Society student, Ethan Hess, spent most of their time planting trees with a final count of 88 planted trees between the two of them. Thanks to all who attended, especially the Timmermans and Wentlings.

### Secondary Finals Schedule

Our Secondary Finals are [scheduled](#) over three half days, June 6, 7, & 8. This gives the students opportunity to get ready each afternoon for the next day's finals as well as afford them some rest in preparation for their exams.

A supervised room will be provided for students desiring to stay on campus to study until 3 p.m.

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## Grace Cafe May Online Special

### Summer Tutoring

Are you interested in finding summer tutoring for your student? Ruth Kline will be on campus offering private tutoring for Grace Academy students in grades 1-6, focusing on reading, spelling, and math. Rates are very reasonable with family discounts available for multiple children. Space is limited! You may contact Mrs. Kline at [rkline@graceacademy.net](mailto:rkline@graceacademy.net)

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