

L O S A N G E L E S

Leadership Academy

The Voice



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April 2017



Good Citizenship Breakfast

BY: **EMILY GABRIELA GONZALEZ**
Managing Editor & Photographer

On March 24, 2017, students that had excellent citizenship were rewarded with a special breakfast.



They were personally invited to attend this breakfast in cafe 1 which was hosted by Principal, Cynthia Cuprill, and Vice Principal, Mario Martinez.

Sadie's Dance

BY: **EMILY GABRIELA GONZALEZ**
Managing Editor & Photographer



On March 17, 2017, leadership students organized and hosted the Sadie's Dance located at the Los Angeles Leadership Middle School.

National Women's Day

BY: **EMILY GABRIELA GONZALEZ**
Managing Editor & Photographer

On March 8, 2017, La Resistencia organized a school event that where they brought in guest speakers such as Wendy Carrillo and Lisa Reider. Students were asked to wear red, as it signifies solidarity. Over-



all the goal was to remember all the empowering women throughout history.

College and Career Day

BY: **EMILY GABRIELA GONZALEZ**
Managing Editor & Photographer



On March 29, 2017, LALA HS counselors, Mrs. Harris and Ms. Elibes, invited multiple people with

different professions to speak to the students. Throughout the day students visited different classrooms to listen to the presentations and ask questions. At the end of the day students gathered in the MPR for a College Fair.

Update on Transgender Rights

BY: **KARLA BRISA ESQUIVEL**
Staff Writer

In the month of February, President Donald J. Trump had revoked the law that former President Barack Obama enforced on the issue of schools allowing transgender students to use restrooms that corresponds with their gender identity. After this executive order was passed, many Civil Rights activists went out to protest against it. The justification behind this new policy was, "former President Barack Obama's policy would allow potential sexual predators access to restrooms and create an unsafe environment for children," Tony Perkins, the president of the Family Research Council, told The New York Times, "The federal government has absolutely no right to strip parents and local schools of their rights to provide a safe learning environment for children." The president and his council are allowing schools to decide on whether they should allow students to use the restrooms according to their gender identity.

Kyler, a transgender student, who lives in the state of Kansas, agreed to do an interview with The Voice about this issue. The Voice was able to get in contact with him through one of the staff writer's friends online.

What is your personal opinion on the executive order that was revoked? We aren't putting anyone at risk. We are more at risk than anyone else because we can get beat up, us trans guys going into girl bathrooms can get beat up. I don't get it, it's stupid. Has this affected you personally? Not really, screw the law. What has your school/workplace done about the new executive order? Nothing. Do you think this is a way to attack the LGBTQ community [more specifically, the trans community]? Yes. In a way of that we've had the right to use whatever bathroom for a while now, then all of a sudden there's so much hate towards us and now on YouTube we're being restricted. They're just so much discrimination now. What do you think we can do as a community to counter this executive order that was passed? Go vote in 2018 so we can get these rights back with the house [of representatives] and the senate. Companies can decide whether or not trans people can go to the bathroom. A good way to fix it (the new policy) is to get more gender-neutral bathrooms. Do you think this is violating the rights transgen-



der students have? Yes. Everyone has to go to the bathroom and you take that away from us; it is just inhumane.

One way the trans community is fighting back the transphobic political climate, is celebrating trans visibility on March 31st. This year's theme is trans resistance (#Transresistance). Trans Day of Visibility (TDOV) is a day to support the trans community and to bring attention to the accomplishments the trans community has done. It is also a way to fight against transphobia and sexism against people who are not cisgender; someone who doesn't identify as the gender they were born into, or someone who doesn't identify as the two traditional genders. Anyone can participate in Trans Day of Visibility by speaking out and spreading the hashtags like, #tdov and #transresistance on social media.

Los Angeles Leadership Academy High School has also found a way to fight against this by putting bathroom signs that allow anyone, regardless of their identity to use the restroom. Cynthia Cuprill, the school's principal talked to one of the staff members about this new bathroom change. She said, "I asked Gloria to order them over Christmas Break. I was watching the news and thought it was ridiculous the new policy. As a social justice school, we need to set the example and this needs to be part of who we are." So this is a way

to support the trans community or trans students? "That's part of who we are at LALA; we are accepting and we don't have an issue with this. We're bringing awareness to students who don't know about this and be more inclusive... I know we have students who feel more comfortable if we have that sign. Not just students but also staff members who would prefer to have this sign. And I think since we're a leadership school I think we should set the example." Los Angeles Leadership Academy is most known for being a social justice school and for speaking out when something is unjust. Their policy is about tolerance and accepting others who are different.

According to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), "we believe that the First Amendment, which bars the government from censoring speech or expression, should also protect individuals' right to wear clothes or groom themselves in ways that express their personal sense of gender... We also believe that the rights to 'liberty,' 'privacy,' and 'autonomy' courts have found to be protected under the Due Process Clause of the U.S. Constitution should extend to transgender people's ability to make decisions about self-expression, medical care, and more, but there isn't much law on that issue yet either." The First Amendment protects the freedom of speech. This can range from public speaking to someone expressing themselves through physical appearance.

Also, according to the Department of Labor, the Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972 says, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance..." No one, because of their gender, should be excluded from having the best learning environment or be discriminated.

Many organizations say what the president has done recently goes against the First Amendment and the Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972 because schools are discriminating transgender students by not allowing them to use the bathroom that correlates to their corresponding identity. It is unconstitutional to discriminate someone by their physical appearance and identity.

LAVERNE COX

BY: **JOCelyn PEREZ RAMIREZ**
Editor-In-Chief

"Anyone who has the audacity to be themselves should be celebrated and not discriminated against, not ridicule, stigmatized, or criminalized," Laverne Cox.

Laverne Cox is an American actress, T.V. producer, and LGBTQ figure. Many people may have known her as the star of Netflix's hit series, Orange is the New Black, Laverne Cox is one of the first openly transgender actress to make history in the entertainment industry to win an Emmy Award and the first black transgender woman to appear on the cover of TIME magazine. In celebrating the extended Women's History Month, Black History Month, and Trans Awareness Day, The Voice highlights the life and achievements of Laverne Cox to demonstrate gender breaking boundaries and representation for the youth of the future.

Laverne Cox was born on May 29, 1984, with her twin brother, M. Lamar, in Mobile, Alabama, to her mother Gloria Cox. Cox was born biologically male and her given name was Roderick Laverne Cox. Growing up, Cox didn't know the difference between male and female, she always identified herself as female. As a kid, Cox was an 'A' student and in third grade, she learned tap and jazz dance. According to an interview in TIME magazine, Cox explained, "...I begged my mother to put me into dance classes and finally, in third grade, she did. Tap and jazz but not ballet. She thought ballet was too gay ... Throughout all of that, I was very feminine and I was really bullied, majorly bullied. There was this side of me that was this over-achiever that loved learning. But then I was also taunted at school. I was called names. I was made fun of." From the third grade, Cox was frequently bullied and harassed for being feminine.

It wasn't so easy growing up for Cox. After years of being tormented and bullied, she decided to commit suicide by swallowing a bottle of pills at age 11. Luckily, Cox survived her incident and from that point forward, she decided to make the best of



her life.

According to Biography.com, Cox attended Indiana University and then transferred to Marymount Manhattan College where she received her BFA in dance. She kept her love for arts and continue to pursue her studies while beginning her acting career.

Cox appeared in several films before landing her big break in Netflix series Orange is the New Black. In 2008, Cox made appearances on Law & Order: Special Victims Unit and then appeared as a contestant on I Want to Work for Diddy. Furthermore, Cox made different roles in several reality series and independent films, such as TRANSform Me (2010). In addition, Cox appeared in many films such as: Bronx Paradise (2010), Musical Chairs (2011), Migraine (2012), Grand

Street (2014), Grandma (2015), The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Let's Do the Time Warp Again (2016), and Freak Show (2017).

Moreover, Cox continues to appear in guest roles in different shows like The Mindy Project and the recent CBS series Doubt. After two episodes, Cox made history again by being the first trans woman to portray a new leading role as a non-trans female attorney and Ivy League graduate in CBS's new legal drama Doubt.

Her acting career gave her the chance to speak out for all transgender youth. Her role as Sofia Burston, an imprisoned trans woman fighting for convenient hormone medications, in Orange is the New Black gave her a nomination for several categories and won her an Emmy award. Cox was then titled as one of the "Most Beautiful" honoree, according to People's magazine. In addition, Cox became one of the first openly transgender actress to win an Emmy award. Her roles and personality inspired many young transgenders to come out and openly embrace themselves.

Besides her acting career, Cox works as a transgender advocate. According to Biography.com, Cox hosts her own column on The Huffington Post where she expresses herself towards gender oppression through her writing. The transgender actress also produced documentaries that follows the lives of transgender youth. For instance, some of the documentaries are: The T Word (2014) and Free CeCe (2016).

Laverne Cox continues to break gender boundaries through her work as an actress and LGBTQ advocate. She is an icon to the transgender youth and is loved by millions of people who watched her roles. Her work as an LGBTQ advocate has brought awareness for the transgender youth and opened doors for many young transgenders. She has inspired many young trans to follow her steps and come out of their shells. Cox continues to extend and represent the importance of Black History Month, Trans Awareness Day, and Women's History Month.

Inside This Issue...

March Madness

Page 2



Seniorities

Page 3



The Flash

Page 12





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Students, faculty and community members with strong opinions are highly encouraged to write a guest commentary or a letter to the editor, which may be published.

Send letters to the editor:
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Viewpoint
March Madness

BY: **KAREN JOCELYN GARCIA**
Staff Writer

March Madness consisted of the 26.2 miles “Stadium to Sea” LA Marathon, which began at the Dodger Stadium and ended up at Santa Monica Beach. Five students, including myself from LALA, participated in the LA Marathon with Mr. Robinette and made it to the finish line. The Marathon began at 6:50 am, but we all started around 7:20 am due to thousands of people.

My biggest preparation for this marathon was having self-motivation and positivity, other than that, I did not prepare. I felt like a movie star running through Sunset Blvd, having my picture taken every five miles or so, and being offered cups of water, gatorade, beer (which I did not take), sunscreen, and slices of oranges. It was a fun experience, especially getting free food and littering. My biggest challenge was running/walking six hours non-stop with blisters on my feet, but they said “blisters are sexy”. I wanted to cry and give up because my feet were hurting, on mile 24, but I knew I was almost done and eventually made it to the finish line.

I asked some of the marathon



finishers regarding their experience running the marathon and Senior, Sandra Flores expressed, “I felt good running the marathon. I didn’t know what I was doing besides running, until I realized that it would take me a long time. I did like it, especially because it was my birthday. My biggest challenge was trying to walk after mile 23 because I wasn’t tired, but my feet were already hurting along every step I took. I did not train for this, even though I always go to the gym and have soccer practice. However, it was a good experience, and I am able to say that I ran a marathon on my birthday.”

Junior, Rudy Fernandez also stated that he felt fine during the first half of the marathon and

towards the end he felt like falling down and giving up. When asked on his thoughts and experience on the March marathon, Rudy Fernandez responded, “I liked the end when it was all over and I could eat all the food they were giving. That was my real motivation to finish the race.” Furthermore, he said that it was also fun to see people running and dressed up in their job attire, like Police Officers and Firefighters carrying their 60 pound tanks of oxygen. Rudy says, “My biggest challenge was my head telling me to give up and thinking about ways to give up. I didn’t prepare for the race, I just stay active and play basketball.”

Running 26.2 miles without training was tough, but we all made it to the finish line. A special shout-out goes to: Sandra Flores, Rudy Fernández, Carlos Arellano, Kimberly Aguilar, and Mr. Robinette for becoming marathon finishers.

Have an opinion?

Write for The Voice

Submit your opinions to the editors at

thevoice@laleadership.org

Upcoming Events

- 4/25/17 coffee with the principal
- 4/26/17 15 weekly grading session

YPI NEWS

- 4/10/17- Heal the bay at Santa Monica
- 4/11/17- Griffith Observatory
- 4/12/17- Bonelli Park
- 4/14/17- California Science Center.

The Voice Ch-Ch-Ch Challenge

April Challenge

The first student to answer the question:

Will receive
A Special Prize

You Must Answer this Riddle:

What has rivers but no water, forests but no trees and cities with no buildings?

The first student to tell Ms. Estrada
will receive the prize.



News & Features

Seniorities

BY: **KIMBERLY ZAVALA**
Staff Writer

Is there really such thing as “senioritis”? Senioritis is a crippling disease that strikes high school seniors, according to Urban Dictionary. The Merriam-Webster defines “Senioritis” as an ebbing of motivation and effort by school seniors as evidenced by tardiness, absences and lower grades. Parent Teens on About.com says parents typically begin to notice signs of senioritis around mid-senior year – or possibly sooner. High school seniors start to stress more on homework, classwork, and graduating. It is easier for them to run away from their responsibilities by staying home and doing nothing.

The Voice interviewed some seniors on campus asking them whether they had senioritis. When asked if she thinks she has senioritis, Monica Garcia a current senior responded, “Yes, because we have benchmarks, essays



for classes, research papers due, artworks due, we have to make sure we pass our classes, we want to graduate, we have to make sure we do My LALA, My Life, and make sure it’s good.” When asked the same question, senior Jennifer Soto expressed, “I believe I have senioritis because I want to drop out and I want to throw a fit with all my teachers, because all the work stresses me out.”

Some questions that might help seniors out are: Do you

miss school often? Is it difficult to wake up in the morning for school? Do you value your education less? Or are you procrastinating, and waiting until the last minute to finish your work? Do you sleep instead of studying for exams? Do you sign yourself out in the middle of the day, just because? Do you get bored in the middle of your classes? Do you get irritated easily? And most of all, are you just lazy to do anything at all? Are you infected with

senioritis? If you answered YES to most of these questions, you might just have senioritis.

According to Concordia University, there are four strategies to prevent senioritis. Usually, seniors show most of the symptoms at school, and teachers don’t really know what to do; however, The University of Concordia has a solution for teachers. Teachers can try to reduce senioritis by reminding students the importance of their work, helping them process their emotions, teachers can also change their lesson plans a bit, and apply some college level skills to the high school routine. Laura Franco from Seventeen.com listed eleven best ways to cure senioritis, here are some: “Start a countdown calendar, Talk your feelings out with anyone who will listen, Fake it until you make it, Take your Snapchats to a whole new level.” But most importantly, focus on GRADUATION.

Advice Column

BY: **LILIBETH HUERTA**
Staff Writer

Hello Los Angeles Leadership Academy High school Seniors! I know Senior year can be stressful for some of us, but you can always come and see me for help. My name is Lilibeth, most of you know me, for those of you who don’t I’m willing to encourage and help out those that want to succeed in their senior year because I know how stressful it can be as a senior in high school. If I can do it, everyone else can do it too. Nothing is impossible in life. I believe in the class of 2017, but I’m also concerned about this year’s class.

We all have moments in life where we think that dropping out of high school seems like the best solution to ending our stress. If there are people willing to support the senior

class, then we will all be able to succeed. Deadline extensions are necessary for some students who need the extra time in certain situations because sometimes they have other priorities that are not school related which takes up most of their time. If a student tells their teachers about their current situation, then they can make some arrangements with the student. Then the students have the responsibility to make sure they turn in their work on time. On the other hand, students who work hard on their study habits for have a better chance on being successful in life. My advice is: Communicate. Communicate. Communicate. I recommend you speak up for yourself by explaining the situation(s) you are encountering. This type of communication helps the teacher know that you

are concerned about your grades and graduating.

According to the school’s student handbook, the school provides all of the information given to the teachers, and each student sitting at a desk has to complete their work on time (page 1 & 2 Meyer, John.). It’s a big mission for all teachers to persuade and make students do what they’re advised to do in order to receive a grade for his or her class. Not to mention encouraging students doing the work properly and academically in an informative way of turning in the assignments. The school’s norms state that each student needs to make an effort and not create excuses that explains why they didn’t do their assignment. A lot of students don’t know this but when teachers care for their students they’ll do anything to support the

achievement of their goal in completing and learning the content. My advice: If you do not understand an assignment as for help! It is better to ask for help and receive help than not knowing the content and missing the assignments or completing them incorrectly..

If students work hard for what their thriving for they will succeed and be somebody in life. Don’t forget it is never too late. Students in LALA have access to all the tools that will help them succeed, but if they don’t use it then it’s a waste of time. In summary my advice to all 2017 Seniors is: It is important to do the work on time because there’s 7 more weeks left until graduation day; don’t waste your time not doing anything.



Did You Know... Nike



BY: **MARTIN ORTIZ**
Staff Writer

Nike has come a long way from making only track shoes to making shoes for every type of sport. It has become a multibillion dollar business and sponsors many athletes such as the legendary Michael J. Jordan, but everything has a beginning and Nike didn't start with a big bang.

Nike was first known as Blue Ribbon Sports (BRS), it was founded by Phil Knight and Bill Bowerman. According to Alicia Mathew, an author for Success Story, Bill Bowerman was Phil's former track coach and was looking for ways to enhance his team's running shoes for better performance. Knight went on to get his Masters in the Arts of Business and came up with the idea of making shoes in Japan and importing them here to sell. For many years, everyone ignored his idea until Knight decided to buy shoes in Japan and resell them in America. He decided he would sell the shoes to his former coach but instead they ended up pairing up with each other. According to Knight and Bowerman, they sold Japanese Onitsuka Tiger (now known as ASICS) until 1970 when Knight grabbed the family's waffle iron and put rubber in it, thus creating the Nike Waffle Outsole. Steve Prefontaine was the first candidate to use the shoes and luckily went on to break 7 records for the 2,000-10,000 meter dash in Mexico in 1969 and in Munich, Germany in 1972.

In 1985, Nike decided to design a signature shoe for Michael Jordan and their sales increased dramatically since then. They then went on to create clothes and other accessories for Jordan which made lots of sales. They started signing international teams as well as their very own U.S. men and women soccer teams. Eventually, Nike was sponsoring a great number of teams and players around the world. Jordan's shoe gained most popularity in the youth in America and each retro shoe since 1985 hasn't lost its value but instead raised its value. Original 1985 Jordan 1 Chicago's, that released in 1985, were originally sold at \$64.00 but now they are worth a couple thousand dollars depending on the shoes condition. Many "Sneakerheads" which are known to be extreme sneaker enthusiasts have made a living buying rare Jordans and reselling them to collectors but have yet to collect them all, since Nike will continue to come out with different versions of Retro Jordans.

Nike is working on a couple of new projects this year including the world's very first athletic hijab (a head covering made of cloth used by Muslim women in public). It would be a traditional hijab made of lightweight polyester that stretches and will be sold for \$35 once it releases. Nike is attempting to expand trade to Middle-Eastern companies and this hijab is likely to cause political distress since ads will feature Muslim athletes. As we all know our president has controversial views on Muslims and advertisement. With products like these, athletes from Middle-Eastern countries would feel more comfortable playing sports, thus creating a higher variety of different people with different cultures and backgrounds.

Nike has come a long way from a waffle shoe to one of the world's largest sport shoe and apparel company. Its new projects are always changing the world. Some use Nike for athletic purposes and others use it just to make themselves look good. Whatever the reason is, Nike will continue to provide people with apparel that's sure to make everyone look good and feel confident about themselves.

Update on Anaheim incident

BY: **EDGAR JUAN**
Staff Writer

A handheld video device recorded and captured an off duty Anaheim police officer engaged in a scuffle with a young boy. The teenager, a 13 year old middle school student, was accosted after school while several other teens looked on in horror. The video depicted the police officer clenching the 13 year old boy in an effort to detain him. In addition, the video also recorded the officer pulling a firearm from his pocket and discharging the gun within inches of the teen boy. It was unclear if the officer intended to shoot the teen; however, the officer shot his weapon within close proximity. The confrontation occurred on February 22, 2017 by Euclid Street and West Palms Road near Loara High school, stated by Anaheim Police Department. The off-duty officer, identified as Kevin Ferguson, was left on administrative leave while the teen was taken to custody.

The conflict started when he and other students were walking home from school and a female student stepped on the officer's lawn. In which the officer cursed at the girl when telling her to get off his property. Afterwards, the 13 year old boy came into her defense and spoke up against the off-duty officer. Soon after, the officer and



the 13 year old boy started having a scuffle with the police officer attempting to detain him. According to journalist Kate Mather from The Los Angeles Times, "The situation quickly escalated from there. At one point, another teen rushed the officer, sending him tumbling over a line of bushes. The officer then reached into his jeans and drew a gun, firing a single shot." Above all, no one was injured by the gunfire for the reason that, the officer was aiming his weapon towards the ground as stated by Anaheim Police.

This brought controversy to the Anaheim Police Department by angered protesters which, protested near Euclid Street and West Palms Road. Likewise, this was an organized protest to have the officer fired, who was said that he was to be on administrative leave by the LAPD. Meanwhile, as few as 24 protesters who were ten men, eight women

and six minors were arrested for acts of vandalism for breaking windows at the house and shattering car windows, including the officer's car. In addition, the crowd also tried to get inside the officer's house. These protesters also, spray-painted a garage door and broke a windows of neighboring houses.

Soon after, the Anaheim Mayor Tom Tait expressed his thoughts on the situation stating, "like many in the community, I've seen the video and I'm very concerned about what it shows." "Anaheim is committed to a full and impartial investigation," Tait said. "Our city will move forward without delay." Moreover, the LAPD mentioned that they would launch an internal investigation about the issue which will hopefully, reaching a fitting conclusion to this issue.

Coca-Cola

BY: **JOSE ORTIZ**
Staff Writer

Sprite, Fanta, Nestea, Minute Maid, Smello Yellow, Simply Orange, Dasani and Golden Peak are all drinks under the monopoly of Coca-Cola. Coca-Cola's history began in 1886 when the curiosity of an Atlanta pharmacist, Dr. John S. Pemberton, led him to create a distinctive tasting soft drink that could be sold at soda fountains. He created a flavored syrup, took it to his neighborhood pharmacy, where it was mixed with carbonated water and deemed "excellent" by those who sampled it. Dr. Pemberton's partner and bookkeeper, Frank M. Robinson, is credited with naming the beverage "Coca-Cola" as well as designing the trademark, distinct script, still used today.

Coca-Cola being the top soft drink competitor, they do not reveal the process of how to make their main drink, but they do inform us of their main ingredients. Coca leaves are the most prominent flavor that enters your mouth. According to an article by Kofi Bofah, at Leaf.tv, in the early years of the company's life,

Coke was used for medicinal purposes such as curing headaches. The Coca leaves they used were not processed to remove the cocaine which in turn the drink had tiny, but noticeable amounts cocaine within the liquid. Nowadays, the plants are put through an extraction process before being put to use. Coke gets their caffeine from the Kola nut. The Kola nut provides 23 milligrams of caffeine for every one can that is packaged.

According to the nutritional label on the cans of Coke, for every 12 fl oz or about 355 ml, the drink contains 35 grams of sugar. According to Kofi Bofah, "Coca-Cola is sweetened with pure cane sugar or high-fructose corn syrup... American consumers drink Coke Classic made of high-fructose corn syrup, which is cheaper to acquire and transport within temperate climates." The sharp flavor you taste comes from the added phosphoric acid that is added alongside caramel. The actual formula is held at Sun Trust Bank in Atlanta, Georgia. Only two Coke executives are known to know the recipe and are not allowed to travel together in case for an unforeseen accident.

In a one on one interview with Jesus Jose Ortiz, an account manager at Coca-Cola, I was able to ask him:

Myself: What benefits are you entitled with your role?

Mr. Ortiz: They offer 401k, pension, and health benefit.

Myself: What is the salary for an account manager?

Mr. Ortiz: The starting salary for an account manager is 50,000 a year.

Myself: What's your experience like in Coke?

Mr. Ortiz: Working at Coke can be fun and rewarding.

Myself: Can you reveal any secrets?

Mr. Ortiz: Regretfully I cannot reveal any secrets.

Although the company cannot reveal the exact way they create their product, they allow us to know Coca leaves are the primary source of the products flavor, the Kola nut gives the drink its caffeine, the add phosphoric acids to give it the sharp taste, and the only two known executives that have the recipe are not allowed to travel together under any circumstances.



News & Features

Amanda Knox: Commits Murder?

BY: **EMILY GONZALEZ**
Staff Writer & Photographer

Amanda Marie Knox was born in Seattle, Washington on July 9, 1987 to Edda Mellas and Curt Knox. Knox graduated from Seattle Preparatory High School in 2005, according to Biography.com and attended University of Washington where she planned to pursue a degree in Linguistics. "By all appearances, Amanda Knox was an ordinary college student. She threw loud parties, was named to the Dean's List, and worked several jobs to pay her tuition. Friends recall her as a kind, gentle individual," (Biography.com). Knox seemed to be another ordinary student. In 2007, Knox went abroad to study in Perugia, Italy; she planned to attend the University for Foreigners for a year to further pursue her linguistics degree. Once she arrived in Perugia, she met Meredith Kercher. Kercher was a British student who had also come to Perugia, Italy for a year to pursue a linguistics degree and later became roommates with Knox.

According to Biography.com, on November 1, 2007, Knox was supposed to work at Le Chic, but her boss, Patrick Lumumba, told her not to come in. She had no job to attend, so Knox headed to her boyfriend's, Raffaele Sollecito, apartment. "Knox and Sollecito reportedly returned to her apartment the next day around 12 p.m. and found the front door open, windows broken and blood in the bathroom. Knox called Kercher's phone, but there was no answer." According to CNN.com, on November 2, 2007, "Meredith Kercher is found dead in the house in Perugia, Italy, that she shared with Amanda Knox. Police say her body is partially clothed, with her throat cut." Knox's mother requested for her to come home, but she chose to stay in Perugia.

Knox and Sollecito were taken into police custody where they would be interrogated for the following five days after the discovery of

Kercher's body (Biography.com). According to CNN.com, on November 5, 2007, Knox confessed she was home while the murder was taking place and she also incriminated Patrick Lumumba. Lumumba had an alibi and was found innocent after two weeks of being incarcerated. Knox was later sued for damages, and Lumumba was rewarded 40,000 Euros. On November 6, 2007, Knox said, "In regards to this 'confession' that I made last night, I want to make clear that I'm very doubtful of the verity of my statements because they were made under the pressures of stress, shock, and extreme exhaustion. Not only was I told I would be arrested and put in jail for 30 years, but I was also hit in the head when I didn't remember a fact correctly." (CNN.com). She was forced to confess, but she soon took back her confession.

The case continued and in December 2007, there was a new suspect by the name of Rudy Guede. Guede's DNA matched the DNA they found on a vaginal swab taken from Kercher's body; he claimed that he had relations with her, but he was in the bathroom while "another man killed her" (CNN.com). On July 11, 2008, Knox, Sollecito, and Guede were charged with the murder of Meredith Kercher. Guede requested a fast-track trial; he was found guilty and was sentenced to 30 years. Knox and Sollecito's murder trial began on January 16, 2009. Knox claimed that she was hit and was treated horrible while in police custody. By December 4, 2009, the jury found Knox and Sollecito guilty; Knox was given a 26 year sentence and Sollecito a 25 year sentence (CNN.com). On June 1, 2010, Knox goes to Italian court once again to face slander charges for the accusations she made against the police.

On December 11, 2010, Knox claims, "I've been condemned for a crime I did not commit." (CNN.com). On June 18, 2011, two prison inmates testify that Knox was not involved in the murder of Kercher, but they were viewed as unreliable wit-



nesses. June 27, 2011, Guede refused to testify that Knox and Sollecito were not involved in the committing of the murder. Two days later, June 29, 2011 "Forensic specialist tell the court that DNA evidence linking Knox to the alleged murder weapon is unsound, giving a boost to her appeal." While Knox's DNA was a match to the DNA found on the murder weapon, Kercher's DNA was said to be unreliable amount. On October 3, 2011 Knox and Sollecito's (2009) murder conviction is overturned by an Italian jury. Unfortunately, on March 26, 2013, "the Italian Supreme Court rules that Knox and Sollecito should stand trial again." On November 26, 2013 "An Italian prosecutor says Knox should receive a 30-year sentence for the 2007 killing" (CNN.com). On January 30, 2014 Knox and Sollecito are once again convicted of murder; Knox, sentence was increased to 28 years and Sollecito's sentence remained at 25 years.

Knox was interviewed by CNN saying, "I did not kill my friend. I did not wield a knife, I had no reason to." Meredith Kercher's murder case was a very long and difficult trial, but on

March 27, 2015 the Italian Supreme Court overturned the murder convictions of both Knox and Sollecito. Since then, the case has officially been closed and Knox along with Sollecito were freed (CNN.com).

According to Vogue, after her long trial Cox returned back home, West Seattle. "Since her release and return to the U.S., Knox finished her degree at the University of Washington (the same college she started studying in before she was arrested in Italy), worked for a bookstore, and in 2014, she began writing theater reviews for a small local paper called the West Seattle Herald." After receiving her degree, Cox worked as a freelance journalist, according to Biography.com. Knox had problems adjusting to living back in the U.S. Knox just wanted to be seen as a normal civilian, but she would often get recognized for being that girl who stood trial in Italy. Knox is the author of a bestselling book *Waiting to be Heard: A Memoir*, a book based on her personal experience. Also, Netflix released a documentary titled *Amanda Knox* on September 2016 (Biography.com).

Artist Spotlight

Khalid

BY: **SAMANTHA MORA**
Staff Writer

Khalid is a 19 year old music artist from El Paso, Texas. Khalid sings/raps over beats that send good vibes. Have you ever heard a song that puts you in your "feels"? Khalid tells the stories we've all wanted to tell over soothing beats. In a short documentary titled "Saved", Khalid says, "I love when people tell me that I can't do something 'cause that just makes me wanna do it even more."

Spotify says, "Raised by a military family, Khalid lived in Germany and upstate New York before settling in Texas." Coming from a military family has helped Khalid become the person he is today. Eddie Cepeda of Noisey says, "Articulate and well-traveled, he carries himself with certainty and poise, and he is relentlessly polite." At a very young age, Khalid's mother took up an audition and sparked a passion for music in him. Khalid was interviewed by Fader and told them, "I decided to get into music after watching my mother, she's been singing since before I was born."

Throughout 2016 and earlier 2017, Khalid had released several singles, but hadn't released a full album. But On March 3rd, 2017, he dropped his first album, *American Teen*. The album made it to #1 on Apple Music and as of March 16, he is currently still in the Top 20. Old hits such as Khalid's breakout single "Location" are included in his album, along with new songs that are equally as great such as: "Shot Down", "Young, Dumb & Broke", "American Teen", etc. Above all songs, "Location" is the most known song by Khalid. "Location" is a three minute love song about wanting 'in person' contact, outside of the world of social media and sub-tweets. He uses his lyrics and calm vocals to create his kind of art, and his outcomes are unique.

On Sunday, March 5th, I had the chance to meet Khalid. He was having a signing at the clothing store named Dope, on Fairfax in Los Angeles. I waited in line from 2:00 p.m. to around 4:00 p.m. and while we stood around, Khalid's friends came out. Immediately, the stalker in me had to talk to one of them. My friend hesitated so I had the following conversation with



a person who chose to remain anonymous. I'll call him "The Guy".

The Guy probably noticed how happy we were because he approached us first and said, "So you guys are really excited to see him?" The Voice responded, "Yeah! Can't wait!!" "He's super chill, have you met him before?" The Guy asked. The Voice answered, "I figured, his music shows that side of him already. And no, I haven't sadly." The Guy then added, "He's the kind of person that you'd just wanna talk to all day." The Voice replied, "I know, I wish I could." The Guy gave us a smile and said, "Well, you're almost there. Have fun!"

Finally, my friends and I had made it to the table where he was sitting. He was singing his songs, that were playing on the

speakers in the store and it was breathtaking. I saw him mouth my favorite lyrics to his song "Location" and he sang, "Send me your location, let's ride the vibrations. I don't need nothing else but you." And let me tell you, his huge smile immediately made my friend and I smile even bigger, and then he greeted us one by one. As soon as he said, "hello", I was speechless. He signed his CD and we took a picture. Before we could say anything, our turn was over, sadly. We were so happy because our pictures and videos caught the moment for us. It happened so fast but the memory will last forever. Khalid is a very talented musician that has a different style from others. If you would like to listen to him, his album is on iTunes, Spotify, and SoundCloud and plays on Pandora.



Interesting Exoplanets

BY: **DAMIAN CHRISTIAN LEPE**
Staff Writer

An exoplanet or extrasolar planet is a planet that orbits a star other than the Sun. “Today, there are more than 1,000 confirmed exoplanets discovered by a single telescope: the Kepler space telescope, which reached orbit in 2009 and hunted for habitable planets for four years,” states Space.com. Some of these exoplanets are so interesting and bizarre you’ll have to see them to believe it. According to Space.com, exoplanets come in a huge variety of sizes and orbits. Some exoplanets are full of ice and others are rocky. Some of these massive planets orbit close to their parent star. Moreover, NASA is looking for a planet that can possibly hold life for humans.

Although scientists have not yet found another planet suitable for humans, they have discovered many other outstanding planets. Some of these exoplanets are: Kepler-78b, WASP-12b, TrES-2b, and 55 Cancri e. According to Cbsnews.com, “Kepler-78b appears to be made of rock and iron, just like

our own planet. They measured the planet’s mass to determine its density and content. It’s actually a little bigger than Earth and nearly double its mass, or weight.” This exoplanet can possibly be a suitable planet for humans because it is made up of similar proportions of Earth and it is bigger.

According to Cbsnews, “Kepler-78b is in the Cygnus constellation, about 400 light-years from Earth -- a distance of some six trillion miles.” Kepler-78b can possibly be a suitable planet, but this planet may be consumed by its star in a few billions of years. Astronomically speaking, that is short. On the other hand, WASP-12b is actively getting pulled apart by its parent star, much to the delight of astronomers who can watch the process unfold. So much material has been pulled away from the planet, it has been pulled into a football shape. Astronomers have estimated that WASP-12b has about ten million more years until it is completely pulled apart by the star.

TrES-2b is an exoplanet that is darker than coal. This planet is



so dark because it reflects less than one percent of its sun’s light, but it is not all dark. “This planet is so hot that it emits a faint red glow like a coil on an electric stove,” according to Space.com. Scientists believe that it’s the gases in the planet that absorb all sunlight. “55 Cancri e is an exoplanet that was believed to be the first known planet to consist largely of diamond, due in part to the high carbon-to-oxygen ratio of its host star. Artist’s concept,” according to Astronomy.com. This planet is 40 light years away. This is a short distance compared to all the other

exoplanets out there.

According to Csmonitor.com, these exoplanets are important because they can lead to the future of planetary discovering and mapping. They can also show the environments such as the dust and debris around these different exoplanets. It is possible that scientists can discover other habitable Earth-like exoplanets. Discovering all these new exoplanets and their solar systems can help scientists have a better understanding of our own solar system. There are many exoplanets out there in this universe and of course some will be extraordinary.

Water Inside Earth’s Mantle

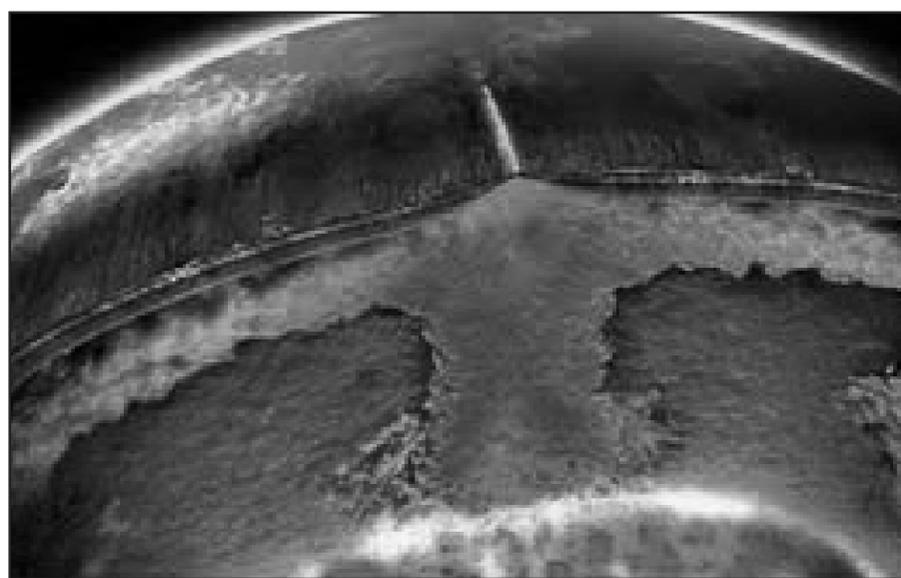
BY: **FRANK GUZMAN**
Staff Writer

According to National Ocean Service, humans have only discovered 4% of the ocean and more is yet to be discovered, but most people don’t know that the Earth has water deep within its mantle. This water helps scientist understand the water cycle which can help us uncover many mysteries.

A rare mineral called Ringwoodite is formed by this “trapped” water, as reported by LiveScience. Ringwoodite is formed at high temperatures and pressure of the Earth’s mantle between 525 and 660 km (326 and 410 mi) as reported by LiveScience. According to the article called “Hidden Ocean Locked Up Deep in Earth’s Mantle”, by Joseph Castro, he stated, “Laboratory stud-

ies have shown that the mineral can contain water, which isn’t present as liquid, ice or vapor; instead, it is trapped in the ringwoodite molecular structure as hydroxide ions.” In other words, this mineral is neither liquid, gas, or solid which makes this mineral extraordinary for its unusual form.

On the other hand, it also helps scientist understand the water cycle and where it came from originally. According to the article, “Oceans of water may be locked deep inside Earth” by Megan Fellman-Northwestern, “Scientists have long speculated that water is trapped in a rocky layer of the Earth’s mantle located between the lower mantle and upper mantle, at depths between 250 miles and 410 miles.” In other words, scien-



tists have been puzzled as to how the water cycle in Earth functions, and this discovery can help scientists answer this question. The article also says, “Now they have uncovered evidence of what may be the planet’s largest water reservoir bound up in rock deep in the Earth’s mantle.” This discovery has given many scientists a boost for their research.

Deep within earth’s

mantle, lies a whole ocean with compressed water. Scientist are looking at this discovery as a new source for water, which can also be used as a jewelry. It helps scientist understand the water cycle, moreover, we can use the mineral called ringwoodite for appearance purposes, such as having it on a necklace or ring, due to the fact that it is a rich mineral.



News & Features

Top Three Worst Diseases

By: **CHRISTIAN RODRIGUEZ-MUNOZ**
Staff Writer

Diseases has been a long term killer of man, but there were some that were far worse than others. Diseases have killed millions and even billions of people. However, most people don't know the names of the worst diseases known to man.

Smallpox is one of the most gruesome diseases known, as stated in Medicaldaily.com. From 1880 to 1980, smallpox had killed about 500 million people. This disease insists on causing high fever and body aches, which causes the appearance of a rash, at that point the person is the most contagious. For the people that died from smallpox, they had the appearances of lesions in their mouth, eyes or any opening of their body according to Medicaldaily.com. The lesions would eventually appear hard and peel off causing a horrendous odor known as "smallpox smell." This disease would be transmitted by coming in contact with others that are infected, an infected bodily fluids or other contaminated objects such as beddings or clothing as so stated by the Department of Health. Thankfully, this disease has been eradicated from Earth, as stated by PBS.

The Black Death, or as you may know the Plague, was a terrifying disease



that wiped out 60 percent of European population in the 1350's, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The first symptoms of the Black Death were fevers, headaches, chills, sudden feel of weakness and boils on the groin or the armpits. These boils would grow to the size of apples or even eggs. Additionally, blood and pus would come out of the boils and this is a sign that death would come quickly. Unfortunately, this disease is still around infecting up to 1,000 to 2,000 people a year with 95 percent of the cases coming from sub-Saharan Africa, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or CDC. This disease is transmitted through bites from an infected flea.

AIDS/HIV is a very well known

disease nowadays that is not as deadly as it was before. Although AIDS is a the condition and HIV is a virus, HIV later on develops into AIDS if not treated. The disease seemed to come out of nowhere, the CDC reported that five previously healthy gay men had a lung infection in June 5, 1981 as stated by AIDS.gov. Within days, the number of people infected grew. By December 10, 1981, there were 270 cases of AIDS, 120 of them were already dead, according to AIDS.gov. The disease is transmitted through certain fluids in the body such as semen, blood, rectal fluid, vaginal fluids, and breast milk according to AIDS.gov. The symptoms of AIDS/HIV are a severe case of the flu in the first month of infection, then there's

a periods in which the virus creates an army of cells that will later on infect all of your T-cells(these cells help kill other infected cells) and make them create new viruses you will not be able to fight according to Medicaldaily.com. Within time other symptoms that will appear such as, "rapid weight loss, recurring fever, fatigue, long-term swelling in the lymph glands, sores in the mouth and genitals, pneumonia, red or purple blotches under their skin or in their mouth, memory loss, depression and other neurological disorders" according to Medicaldaily.com. This disease is still around and scientist don't have a cure for it, but they do have treatments that will let people go on and live longer. The treatment is called antiretroviral therapy or ART. It helps control the virus and reduce the chance of them infecting others. People diagnosed with HIV or AIDS continue to pass along the disease if not treated, so that is why people should always have safe intercourse.

These diseases together have killed billions of people and two of them continue to kill. The best thing to do is take care of yourself and get regular check ups with your doctor. You might not get the Black Death, but you can still get AIDS/HIV so remember to be safe.

Human Leather



By: **MARTHA RODRIGUEZ**
Photographer & Staff Writer

If anyone is looking for some human leather look no further! Just go online and search up Humanleather.co.uk. The website offers a category of accessories and clothes made of 100% human skin. This online business acquire their human skin through donations, yes people are willingly donating their skin. As any individual would ask, "Wait isn't this illegal?" This online business is not illegal; however, it is expensive to maintain a human leather business, making the products they make expensive as well. The owners of the website are also very picky with what type of human skin they want. This industry isn't really anything new: it existed in the time of slavery.

The practice of using human skin as leather material has existed for ----- many years. Since then it has become lost do to the modern times. Mainly because of "social and religious taboos"(HumanLeather.co.uk). Their

was a newspaper transcript printed in March 17, 1888, talked about a physician who wore shoes made of real human skin and when the man asked the physician "Is the down trodden African still beneath your feet." The physician's response was, "I suppose you mean to inquire (ask) if I still wear shoes made of the skin of a negro. I certainly do, and I don't propose (plan on) changing in that respect (privilege) until I find a leather that is softer and will last longer and present a better appearance," according to Humanleather.co.uk. He then started saying that he could be accused of being racist, but he states that he joined a rebellion whose mission was to free the African Americans, as proof that he wasn't racist. The physician also said that he'd wear a white man's skin for the same reasons he wears African Americans. He then came out saying that "if anyone has a desire to wear my epidermis (his skin) upon his feet after I have drawn my last breath he has my ante mortem permission." ("What Is Human Leather?" Human Leather Exclusive Products) he's basically saying he give

anyone permission to use his skin to make shoes out of it.

According to the owners of the Humans Leather website, they specialize in "producing exquisite and exclusive product" which means that they sell to those that are in a high social class; rich people. The owners have even hired experienced master craftsmen to carefully hand craft the product requested by the client. They're also very picky with what type of skin they want. Turning down some potential donors, they only accept the highest quality of human skin. The areas of the body they're interested in are mainly the back and abdomen because the skin has no breaks and its continuous. The owners also requires that their clients and sponsors do not mention their contract details to anyone.

The founders get their human leather from people. People who are near to their death voluntarily donate the skin from their back and abdomen to the owners of the human leather website. The owners of the website value those who donate their skin and they reward (money) the donor's closest living relative or relatives handsomely. The owners of the website Human Leather have made most of the items requested by their clients; as long as it does not require a large amount of leather, because they have a limited amount of leather sizes that they are able work with. Meaning that they only stick to making things that can be produced from their limited leather supply. The items that can be purchased on the online site are human leather wallets that cost about \$14,000, human leather belts are sold at approximately \$15,750, and some human leather shoes are sold roughly for \$27,000.

Expensive right, well there's a reason, they produce these products for a "small but highly discerning clientele"("What Is Human Leather?" Human Leather Exclusive Products) people that already have everything they desire. In addition, human skin is the the finest leather anyone could ever obtained. The human skin is flawless "and has the smallest grain size which makes it the smoothest, softest leather on earth," according to Humanleather.co.uk. If someone were to purchase one of their products they'd have to go thorough a waiting list, but the founders of the Human Leathers website can't divulge that information. However, the payment process for all potential buyers is simple he or she must contact them by email and then one of the founders will then give the client the details on how to pay them depending on what they want to purchase. They do ask, that their clients pay them in advance. Guaranteeing their customers satisfaction, with the finished product they demanded because they've never had any of products they sold, returned. The proprietor also try to minimize the time a client waits for the delivery of their products. There are times when they get multiple orders at a time so they then go by first come first served.

If you had the chance to actually purchase something made of human skin would you do it? Or would you donate your skin so that some rich person can enjoy you in a fashionable form? To learn more about the process and history of human leather search Human Leather- Ferris State University and at the very bottom of the page you can click on the link called 'The Mercury, Saturday March 17 1888 to read the original article.



Update on DAPL

BY: **YULISSA ANDREA JIMENEZ**
Staff Writer

No DAPL (Dakota Access Pipeline), Stand with Standing Rock, Water is life, and “Can’t drink oil! Keep it in the soil!” are all names that represent the environmental and native battle that has been occurring in North Dakota. It has been about a year that No DAPL has been fighting for freedom, since January 2016. The Dakota Access Pipeline is a 1,72-mile conduit slated to carry crude oil from North Dakota to Southern Illinois (Sammon, 2016). This pipeline runs through the Standing Rock reservation which belongs to the Sioux tribe. The treaty from 1868 stated in the National Archives, promises that the United States would continue its battle against the Sioux in the Black Hills of North Dakota until the government confiscated the land in 1877. To this day, ownership of the Black Hills remains the subject of a legal dispute between the U.S. government and the Sioux.

The Sioux tribe began to protest the United States Army Corps of Engineers on April 1, 2016 from building the pipe underneath their land. The Army is involved because its engineering branch manages the river and its system of hydroelectric dams, which is owned by the federal government.

The Sioux tribe has found the U.S Army

Corp of engineers and U.S Government’s Dakota Access Pipeline as harmful for their environment and especially their water access. The Sioux tribe do not agree with the U.S Army Corps of Engineer invading their homeland. These pipelines have caused many health issues to the Sioux tribe as stated by Dave Archambault II and chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, “It will not be just harmful to my people but its intent and construction will harm the water in the Missouri River, which is the only clean and safe river tributary left in the United States.” This issue is affecting everyone in the Lakota and Dakota concluding the human rights abuse against water.

Many water protectors (protesters), have been arrested due to the actions for No DAPL. Around 750 were arrests in the Dakota and Lakota region since August according to MPRNEWS. The police and U.S Army involved in the protest have used their power to abuse peaceful protesters by beating and pepper spraying them.

Furthermore, citizens of Washington D.C are still protesting for No DAPL to stop the pipelines from being built underneath the Standing Rock Reservation. As stated on MPRNEWS, “A federal judge declined Tuesday to temporarily stop construction of the final section of the disputed Dakota Access oil pipeline,

clearing the way for oil to flow as soon as next week.” On March 7, 2017, the supporters of Standing Rock held a protest in Washington D.C. Starting Tuesday, tribal members and supporters plan to camp each day on the National Mall, with teepees, a ceremonial fire, cultural workshops and speakers. The Native American leaders also plan to lobby lawmakers to protect tribal rights.

The tribes argued about the pipeline because it’s threatening the Native Americans cultural sites and their water supply but, “In February, Boasberg declined the tribe’s request to order an immediate halt to the pipeline construction, ruling that as long as oil wasn’t flowing through the pipeline, there was no imminent harm to the tribes,” as stated on MPRNEWS. The court battle isn’t over, as no final decision has been made on the merits of the tribes’ overall claims. As of today, authorities last month closed the camp in advance of spring flooding season and set up roadblocks to prevent protesters from returning. On Friday, March 10, the Standing Rock Sioux tribe march to the White House. There is a protest, which will take place in March called American Indians protesting Trump, Pipeline with March. If you are interested into knowing more about No DAPL and updates you can visit <http://standwithstandingrock.net/>.

The World According to: Marenly Roblero



BY: **YULISSA ANDREA JIMENEZ**
Staff Writer

Born on November 25, 2010, Marenly Roblero is the second youngest out of her five siblings. Marenly is seven years old and attends Los Angeles Leadership Academy Primary School. She enjoys going to school, but dislikes waking up early. Moreover, she loves her family and friends and is full of spirit. She may be shy at first, but once you get to know her, she is open minded.

The Voice sat down with primary student Marenly Roblero to get her thoughts about his world.

The Voice: Who is your favorite superhero?

NR: Spiderman.

The Voice: What is your favorite color?

NR: Purple.

The Voice: What is your favorite food?

NR: Tacos.

The Voice: What do you want to be when you grow up?

NR: I want to be an actor when I grow up.

The Voice: What kind of games do you like to play?

NR: I like to play tag with my friends.

The Voice: What is your favorite animal?

NR: I like dogs.

The Voice: What T.V. channel do you like to watch?

NR: I like to watch Disney Channel.

The Voice: What do you think about technology?

NR: I love it.

The Voice: What is your favorite hobby?

NR: Going out with my family all the time.

The Voice: What’s your favorite candy?

NR: Chocolate.

Sony Vs. Microsoft



BY: **FRANK GUZMAN**
Staff Writer

Who is Sony and who is Microsoft? These are both companies that sell many technological devices. Sony and Microsoft compete with each other on a daily basis to sell and promote their products. They come up with new inventions that are similar to each other, but their functions work differently. Most people are familiar with the phones and systems they sell; these two items are what makes them compete against each other frequently.

First, the systems, which are the PS4 and Xbox I, have a huge difference. In fact, they both get the job done of entertaining individuals and keeping them satisfied, but they get the job done differently. Graphical performance is one thing that separates them from one another. Venture beat, an American technology website, stated, “Sony’s device

is constantly getting better results in multiplatform games.” In the end, the Playstation 4 will have more FPS(frame per second) giving the player a better feeling of graphics, although Microsoft lacks power, they are still improving their graphics by making updates when necessary.

Additionally, Playstation controllers have some differences from Xbox 1 controllers, one being the SHARE BUTTON. Only PS4 has this option, which allows players to quickly take a screenshot or record a fifteen minute video. Venture beat stated, “This is another feature that Microsoft says it is working on. A Twitter app is coming, and Xbox boss Phil Spencer said the capability of ‘Xbox, to take a screenshot’ through Kinect is coming in a future update.” Microsoft is surely working on their very own SHARE BUTTON.

Consequently, hackers target Sony more than Microsoft and has

been recorded by The Huffington Post, in the article titled “Why Does Sony Keep Getting Hacked?” that “Sony has been hacked over 10 times. Over 1,000,000 profiles were exposed by the hackers while Microsoft defense system had little attacks.” This is a major issue as it takes Sony offline until the issue is resolved. Additionally, the Playstation Network also known as PSN was targeted purposefully as told by the hacking group, Lizard Squad. In an interview with a gamer girl, who goes by the name of EARBASH123, she was asked, do you prefer PS4 over any other system, if so why? She responded saying, “Yes, because it has better graphics and more updates than older generations and Xbox was just never reliable.” EARBASH123 also brought up issues that occurred within Microsoft flagship console the Xbox 360. EARBASH123 stated, “I had my console breakdown, in which, my console power button started blinking red” This is known as “Microsoft’s red ring of death”, in which a Xbox 360 console hardware fails or there is an error.

Both systems have better benefits over the other, which separates them from being a like. They compete against each other with their product that they sell, although they sell products that are the same, they have what other products wouldn’t.



News & Features

Cesar Chavez Day

BY: **KATHERINE GARCIA**
Staff Writer

Cesar Chavez made a big impact on the Latino Society. Chavez was an American Labor Leader and Civil Rights activist in the early 1960's. He was born on March 31, 1927 in Yuma, Arizona. Chavez dedicated his life to improving treatment, paying, and working conditions for farm workers. He led marches, called for boycotts, and went on several hunger strikes. Additionally, he faced a lot of challenges throughout his whole battle. His dedication to his work earned him numerous friends and supporters, like Robert F Kennedy and Jesse Jackson, who supported and fought alongside Chavez. Cesar Chavez was against violence and the workload given to farm workers. He fought for the dignity of all farm workers. Due to a hunger strike, Cesar Chavez died April 23, 1993, in San Luis, Arizona.

Cesar Chavez Day was first es-

tablished in 2014 by Barack Obama. It takes place March 31st, which is his birthday. It celebrates the birth and legacy of the Civil rights and labor movement activist. In 2008, Obama stated that the holiday was to be celebrated because of the legacy he left behind, and the morals he taught us, such as caring for our community, and always speaking out. Obama quoted, "Chavez left a legacy as an educator, environmentalist, and a civil rights leader. And his cause lives on. As farmworkers and laborers across America continue to struggle for fair treatment and fair wages, we find strength in what Cesar Chavez accomplished so many years ago. And we should honor him for what he's taught us about making America a stronger, more just, and more prosperous nation. That's why I support the call to make Cesar Chavez's birthday a national holiday. It's time to recognize the contributions of

this American icon to the ongoing efforts to perfect our union."(Senator Barack Obama March 31, 2008.) Chavez taught us the importance of helping out our community. Also, Cesar Chavez is the day we acknowledge his dedication and accomplishments, and it also serves as a tribute to his commitment to social justice and respect for human dignity.

It's been a tradition for Los Angeles Leadership High School students to participate and celebrate Cesar Chavez Day. "The tradition started 6 years ago, it's all about giving back and helping our community." said Gloria, the office manager. On Cesar Chavez day, LALA students participated in different types of activities, that Leadership had arranged. Leadership assigned each advisory a task. For example, freshman advisories helped out around the community, Ms.Lindsay's advisory went to the Lincoln Heights library

and helped out, Ms.Lopez advisory went to the Hollenbeck police department, Mr.Robinette and Mr.Soto went to Montecito Park. The rest of the advisories stayed and helped clean the school, organize and help make it better.

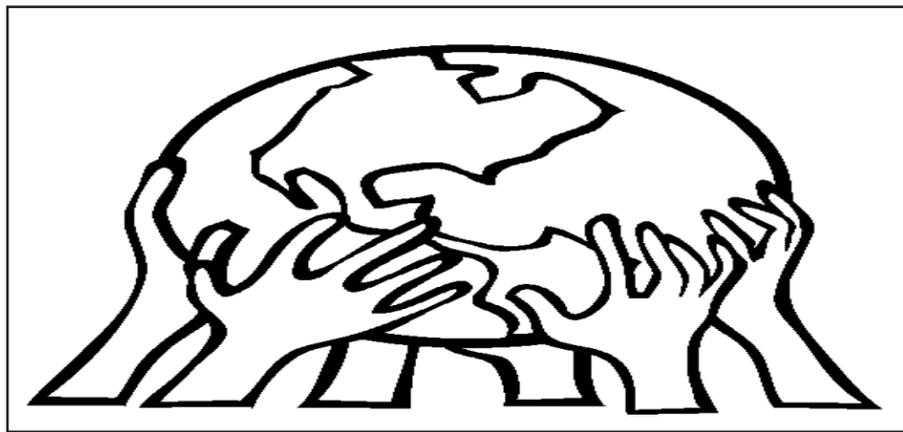
Cesar Chavez Day is an important holiday because it's the day where we help our community and take the time to help others in need. Also, we acknowledge Chavez's accomplishments and hard work. Chavez taught us making America strong and healthy in our community. When asked how our principal felt about Cesar Chavez Day, she said, "I love it, it's one of the few days that people are doing things for others, not just for themselves. Chavez taught us to take care of our community, not just our own needs." Cesar Chavez is a day for students to choose how and who to help. It's a day to learn and lend a hand.

Earth Day

BY: **TRAVES JASPER RODRIGUEZ**
Staff Writer

Celebrated on April 22, Earth Day is a worldwide event that shows love to our environment. It is now coordinated globally by Earth Day Network, and more than 193 countries celebrate it each year. Earth Day was first celebrated on 1970 and has continued to be celebrated ever since.

According to Earth-day.org, Earth day was founded by Gaylord Nelson who was a U.S Senator from Wisconsin. Nelson had an idea for a national day to focus on the environment after witnessing the damages of the huge 1969 oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Afterward he was inspired by a student anti-war movement, he realized he could start a movement all he needed was to be heard. In addition, Senator Nelson announced a national "teach-in" to raise aware-



ness by teaching the public on environmental issues in 1970. He persuaded Pete McCloskey to serve as his co-chair, McCloskey was a conservation-minded Republican Congressman. Nelson then recruited Denis Hayes a national coordinator from Harvard. After being recruited, Hayes built a national staff of 85 to advocate events across America?.

Earthday.org states that on April 22, 1970 20 million Americans took the streets, parks and auditoriums to show for a healthy, maintainable environment in massive coast to coast rallies. Many colleges and universities organized protests

against the rotting of the environment. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political distribution, getting support from: republicans, democrats, rich, and poor, farmers, city slickers and labor leaders. Due to Earth Day 1970, the United States Environmental Protection Agency was created and so was the passage of the clean air, clean water, and Endangered Species Acts.

"It was a gamble, but it worked," a quote from Gaylord Nelson. This quote matters because it shows how Earth Day 1970 hit it's rare critical alignment of gathering many different supporters. From here on, Earth Day

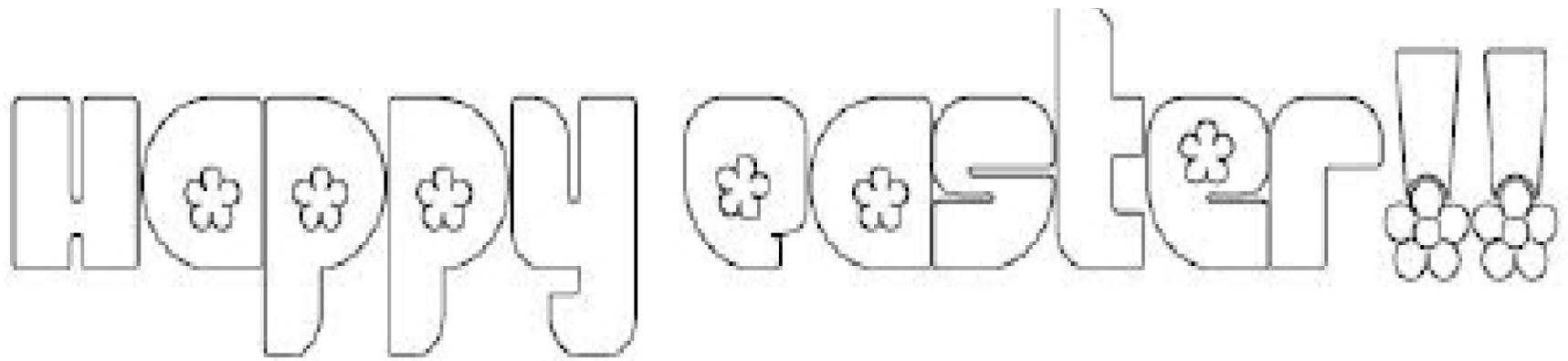
continues growing through the years. Earth Day Network says that in 1990, Earth Day went global and 200 million people in 141 countries participated in the event. In 2010, for the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, 225,000 gathered at the national mall for a climate rally according to Amp.livescience.com. Today Earth Day Network collaborates with more than 17,000 partners and organizations in 174 countries as stated by History.com.

On Earth Day people either clean up the park, beaches, or they either have a worldwide day of play. 2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day. You should always try to keep the Earth clean and healthy. Earth Day falls on Saturday, April 22 don't forget to show the Earth some love by keeping it healthy and clean.

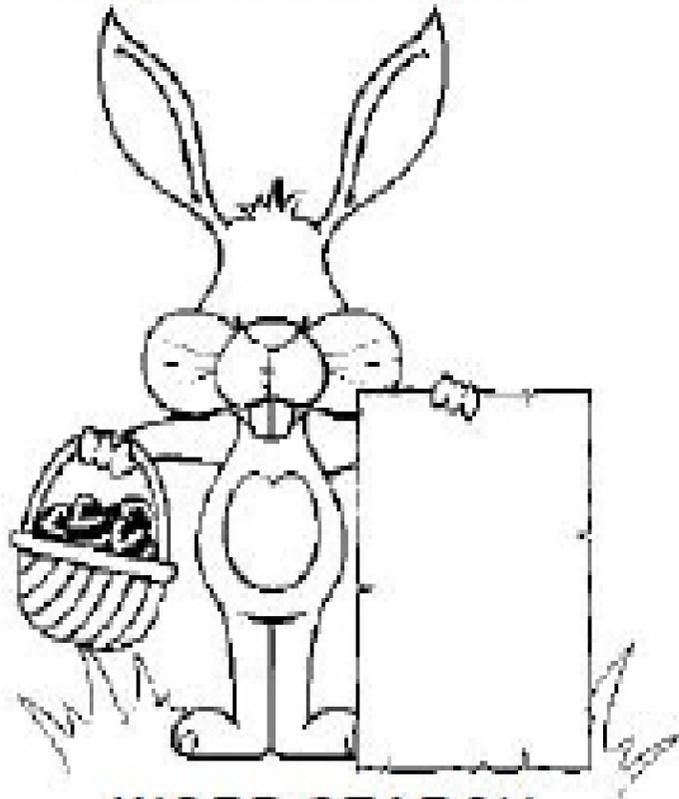


Activities Page

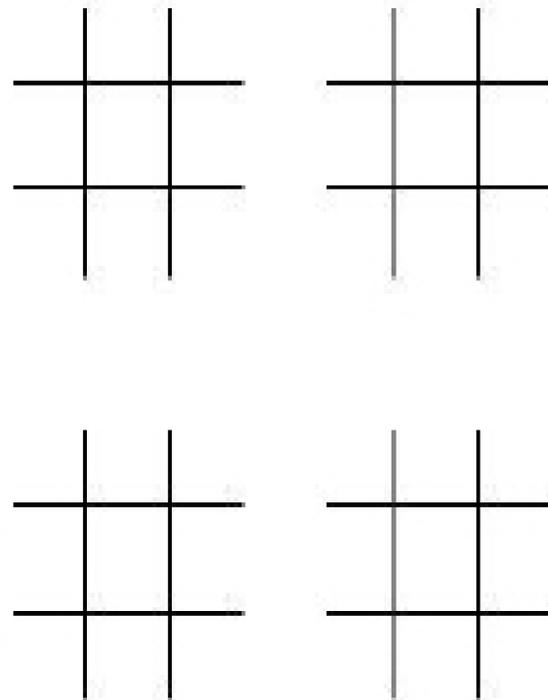
Name: _____



Color the Easter Bunny & write your own message too



TIC-TAC-TOE



WORD SEARCH

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

How many words can you make from

EASTER BUNNY

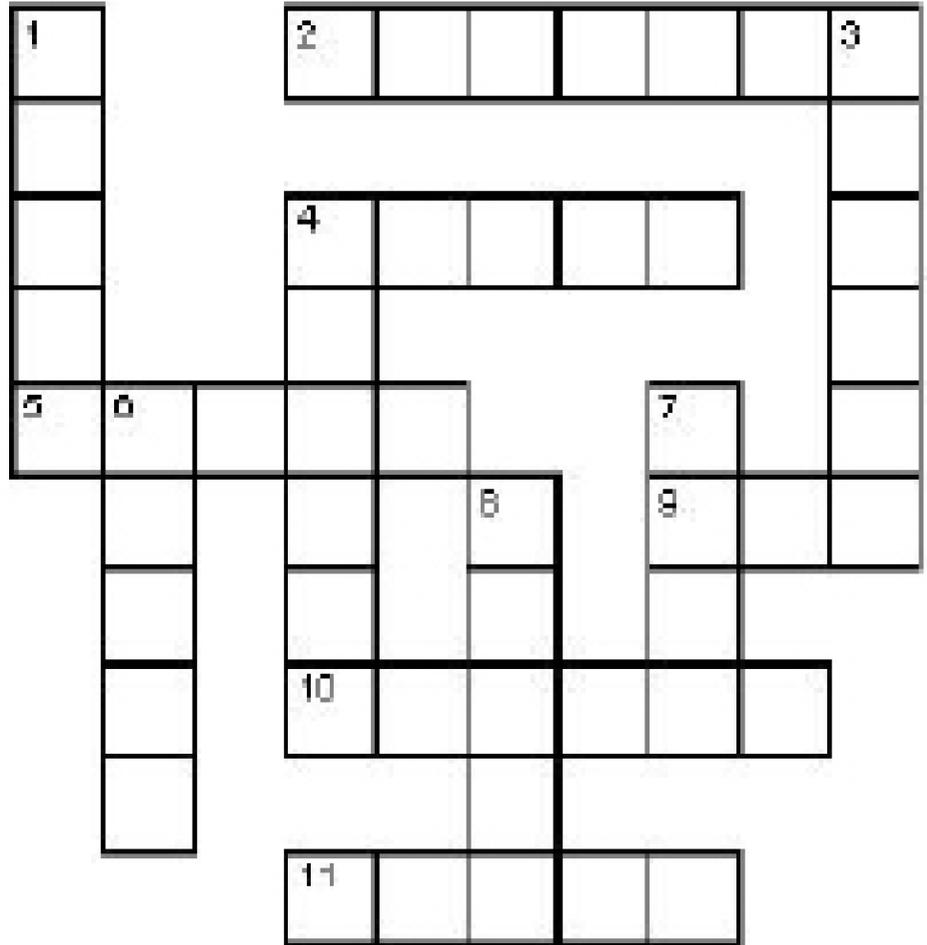
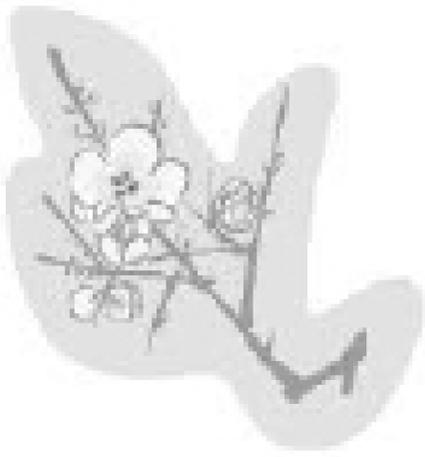
- | | |
|--------|-----------|
| EASTER | DECORATE |
| EGGS | BASKET |
| BUNNY | CHOCOLATE |
| CHICKS | PARADE |
| SPRING | BONNET |
| PEEPS | FIND |

Get more free printable activities for kids of all ages at www.printables4kids.com.



Activities Page

Spring



Across

- 2. April showers bring May _____
- 4. In spring, farmers _____ crops.
- 5. The first month of spring.
- 9. Easter _____
- 10. _____ blossom trees.
- 11. Spring _____; vacation



Down

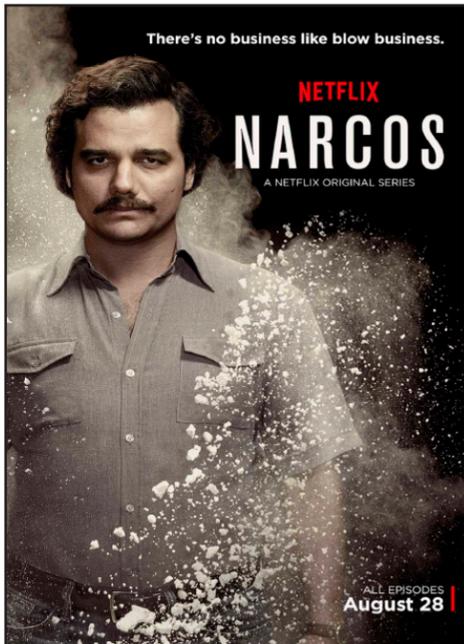
- 1. Flowers _____ in spring.
- 3. The season after winter.
- 4. Let's go on a _____
- 6. A month in spring.
- 7. An animal that wakes up in spring.
- 8. Birds that fly north in spring.





Series Review

Narcos



BY: SAMANTHA SOVALBARRO
Staff Writer

Narcos, is rated an 8.9 out of 10 from thousands of viewers on IMDb. This Netflix series, is rated TV-MA (mature audience) because of its brutal violence, torture scenes, drinking, smoking, graphic language, and sexuality. This show is not recommended for young teens, because it is based on the notorious Colombian drug lord, Pablo Emilio Escobar. On Netflix, Narcos is in the category “Popular on Netflix.” Narcos has about 3.2 million viewers for each episode that airs on Netflix, according to an article, “We Finally Know How Many People Watch Netflix Shows” by Victor Luckerson. Narcos is filmed in Bogota, Colombia, because they wanted to film the TV series where Escobar did the majority of his business according to IMDb.

Narcos is based on the life of Colombian drug lord, Pablo Emilio Escobar and how the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) tried so hard to stop him. The Narcos cast members were chosen from all over North and South America. Most of the actors are not from Colombia; therefore, it was difficult for them to adapt to the Colombian accent. Most Colombian viewers were upset because they used non-Columbians for a Colombian based TV-series, also because they were not able to portray a Colombian accent properly, stated from TheGuardian.com. From a Colombian point of view, they will be upset because they used non-Colombian actors for a Colombian series.

The series begins where Javier Peña and Steve Murphy, American DEA agent, try their best to take down Escobar. However, with Pablo paying off officials to cover his dirty work, giving money to the poor, this makes it seem as if Pablo is just a normal person who enjoys helping out people in need. Some of the dirty work officials did for Pablo are: letting them ship drugs into other places, keep them out of trouble, and also help the narcos not get caught selling drugs. The series also depicts of when Escobar involved in politics and ran as part of the Colombian Liberal Party. Escobar was elected to be an alternative in the House of Representatives and he bribed the people for their votes by donating money to the poor. Moreover, Escobar sold and smuggled a lot of drugs into the U.S. and claimed he owned a taxis business.

In my perspective, I think Narcos is a very interesting series because it shows you what Escobar went through. It interested me so much because, it shows you step by step on how he made his drugs, sold them, and what he did with his profit. I also found Narcos very entertaining because for every episode, something new will happen. Narcos will keep you on the edge after every episode, which will make you want to watch the next episode. It also interested me because I'm able to learn more of the Colombia's biggest drug dealer; learning what he went through to get where he was and also to see how he lived his lifestyle. Narcos is more for a mature audience, because what happens in this TV series is not appropriate for children or teens. However, if you are over 18 or if your parents give you permission, start watching Narcos on Netflix.

Movie Review:
Get Out



BY: MARVIN NAVARRO
Staff Writer

Get Out, released on February 24, 2017, follows the story of a young black photographer Chris Washington, played by Daniel Kaluuya. He travels with his girlfriend Rose, played by Allison Williams, to meet her peculiar white family. As they arrive, it is obvious that all is not as it appears. Get Out, grabs the viewer's attention with its thriller, horror, and light humor theme.

As soon as the movie began, I was immediately hooked and on board. Why? The movie portrays realistic love and chemistry between Chris and Rose that made me bond with the characters. The relationship between Chris and Rose is extremely believable and provides protagonists that is easy to root for. Jordan Peele did an amazing job in his directorial debut, which was a surprise for me when I found out he directed this movie. As a well known comedian from shows like Key & Peele, I didn't expect such a great movie coming out from him. Every scene is framed perfectly and there are some downright artistic moments in the film, an example of this is when the movie projects the idea of the “Sunken Place”. The movie was unlike anything I have ever seen with the perfect mix of thriller and comedy to take away the seriousness of the issue, difference between both races. I am not talking about how the history of slavery, but some other unique ideas that you must watch to understand since there is no way to explain it without criticizing one unique race.

The racism starts off in subtle yet believable ways. The white family members awkwardly adjust their speech patterns to talk more “black”, which they pronounce in an eerie way. There is a scene where Rose's father exclaims that he would have voted for Obama a third term and talks about how he admires Jesse Owens in The Nazi Olympics. There is also a message of cultural appropriation that is smartly woven into the film. There is a line about “black being in fashion” and the entire third act drives the message home.

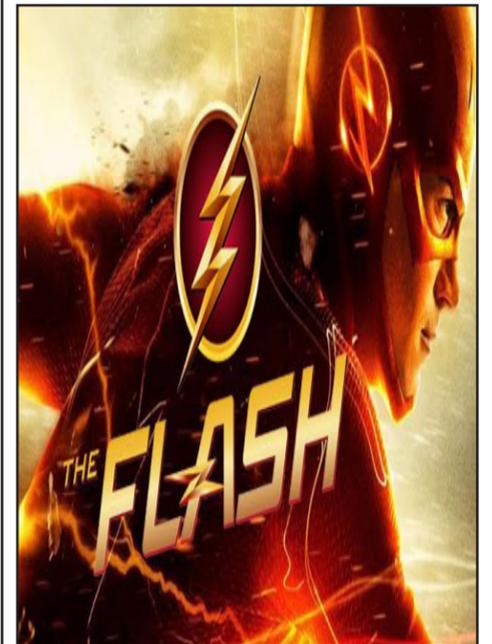
Throughout the movie, I wasn't sure if I was supposed to be scared or if this was

a tongue-in-cheek dark comedy. The final 45 minutes' ramps up into a full-on horror film and seems to fall apart. The humor began feeling a bit disjointed and took me out of the film; however, I realized this wasn't a bad thing. If people had seen this movie with a complete horror filled racial theme, the movie wouldn't have had such great feedback from sites like Rotten Tomatoes that rated this movie a 99%, qualified for being a “fresh tomato”. The reason that this was purposely done is because our society is full of racially “over-sensitive” people. What I mean by this is that people will often use anything recognized to publicly give their opinion on it, playing a victim card no matter what race they are. Deadline reported Jordan Peele commented on the topic saying, “We had this black president and we're living in this post-racial lie. This whole idea that we've passed it all. For me, and many black people out there, there's racism. I experience it on an everyday basis. This movie was meant to reveal that there's the monster of racism lurking underneath these seemingly innocent conversations and situations. It's been fascinating watching the last few years develop, because now the movie is coming out in a very different America from where it began. I think it's more important now, and far more interesting now. I respect Universal for having the f*cking balls leaning into this kind of sh*t.” The best friend character does a good job of explaining what is going on with his funny commentary. By the time the closing title screen appeared, which was still brilliantly displayed, I felt confused. There was so much going on in the last act that it left me wanting more.

Get Out is neither horrible nor a masterpiece. You might find it brilliant if you are not a Caucasian person honestly, since the whole movie is basically making the “white man” a villain. There are moments of brilliance throughout the film that left me excited to see what Jordan Peele can do next. I highly recommend checking out this movie for yourself. Get Out is an important social commentary that people should see. Just keep your expectations reasonable.

Series Review

The Flash



BY: SAMANTHA SOVALBARRO
Staff Writer

After being struck by lightning, Barry Allen awakes up from his coma to discover he's been given the power of super speed, becoming the Flash, fighting crime in Central City. The TV series based on the DC comics' famous superhero with super speed, The Flash. Since he has super speed, he can solve most problems that happen in Central City, but still is able to make it to his “normal” job as a forensic scientist.

The Flash is rated 8.1 out of 10 from about thousands of viewers, according to IMDb. The Flash is rated TV-PG (parental guidance) 13 because there are some sexual references, violence and gore, and occasional drinking. The Flash had about 4.8 million viewers every Tuesday night for each episode, according to article “Ratings: The Flash Hits the Ground Running, CW's Best Debut in five years; ABC Sitcoms Tumble, POI Slips” by Matt Webb Mitovich. The Flash is the most watched and highest series since The Vampire Diaries in 2009. This TV series was given an average grade 'A', according to Matt Webb Mitovich in article “Ratings: The Flash Hits the Ground Running, CW's Best Debut in five Years; ABC Sitcoms Tumble, POI Slips”. For the newest season of The Flash, the viewers averaged to about 2.950 million per episode according to Tvseriesfinal.com.

Aired on The CW and Netflix, The Flash had three seasons and 69 episodes in total. The first episode of season one was aired on October 7, 2014. Season two was aired on October 6, 2015 and season three was aired on October 4, 2016. In Netflix, there are only season one and two; however, if you watch The Flash on The CW, you will be caught up and currently watching season three. According to an article, “When Will ‘The Flash’ Season two Hit Netflix? These Episodes Need A Rewatch ASAP” written by Kelly Schrempf, season one and two were both shown on Netflix around October, so viewers will have to wait for around the same date for season three to be shown on Netflix. Each episode of The Flash, is about 41 minutes on Netflix, and on The CW.

I personally really enjoy watching The Flash and I usually don't like superhero shows. I just started to watch this series, and within two episodes I fell in love with this show. Since most of the viewers are teens and adults, it captivated me to watch this TV series. The main characters are: Grant Gustin who plays Barry Allen (The Flash), Danielle Panabaker who plays Killer Frost which helps out the Flash when he is hurt, Candice Patton plays Iris West Allen (Detective Joe West's daughter), Tom Cavanagh who plays Harrison Wells (the boss of S-T-A-R Labs), Carlos Valdes plays Cisco Ramon (a worker in S-T-A-R Labs), John Wesley plays Shipp Henry Allen (The Flash's father), and Jesse L. Martin plays Detective Joe West who works with Barry, and Iris West plays Allen's father.

Grant Gustin as The Flash has caught many viewers' hearts and attention. He does a great job as the well-known superhero The Flash. I personally think they picked an amazing cast for this TV series, from the main actors to the people who come out for one episode. The Flash is in love with Iris, since they have gotten older. However, Iris is in love with her father's partner. Moreover, I strongly recommend for you to start watching this age appropriate TV series, The Flash.