

THE MAMMOTH TRIBUNE

"MADE BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS"



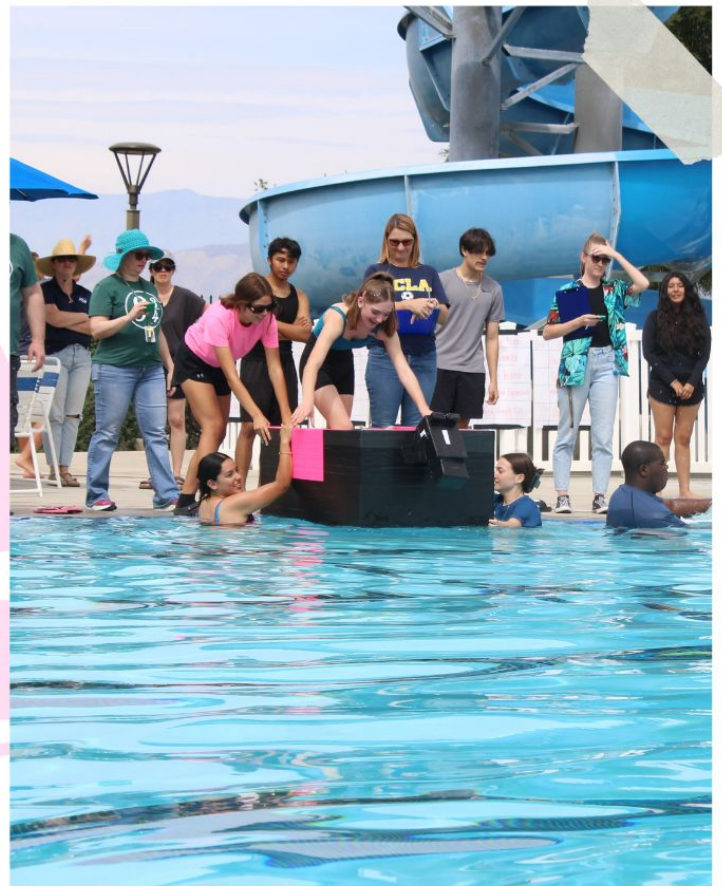
VOLUME 7 ISSUE 2

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THE TRIBUNE STAFF



FRONT ROW: Isabella Maldonado, Kayla Simpson, Allison Herrera Gastelum, Aliana Alejo

BACK ROW: Lucas Land, Anastacia Ybarra, Samira Seelhofer, Jayla Moss, Lily Hawkinson, Gabriela Ordaz, Lina Watkins, Isaac Shumaker, Vivianna Ugarte

EDITORS' NOTE

Hello Mammoths!

The staff has worked hard to deliver for you this issue of *The Mammoth Tribune*, and I am happy to say that all that work has paid off. This month has been incredibly busy for many of us, and we hope that we can give you a bit of respite among the whirlwind of school work. From the Boat Regatta, the celebration of Hispanic Heritage, and The Rolling Stones first album in 18 years, we hope that you thoroughly enjoy reading this issue.

- Gabriela Ordaz, Entertainment News Editor

"Made By Students For Students."

Around Campus

By Lily Hawkinson

From BYOB, Boat Regatta, the first spirit week, and our first dance of the year, the first triad went by swiftly and was full of engaging student events.

On Sept. 8, the highly anticipated Bring Your Own Banana Day brought joy to all students and teachers. Students were encouraged to wear yellow and bring their own banana for a banana split served at lunch by ASB members while banana-themed music blasted through the lunch area. Even without bringing a banana, students were able to bond with one another and get excited for the upcoming school year.

Club Rush allowed students to join a variety of student-run clubs during lunch on Friday, Sept. 15.

Students filled the main hall sitting at tables decorated with stickers, candy, and other goodies promoting their clubs to the student body. This year we saw some new clubs, Line Dancing Club, Interact Club, and Table Top Club.

On Sept. 20, WCA brought attention to the annual Suicide Prevention Spirit Day, where students were encouraged to dress in teal and purple to show support for one another and to spread awareness of the rising suicide numbers, especially among teens.



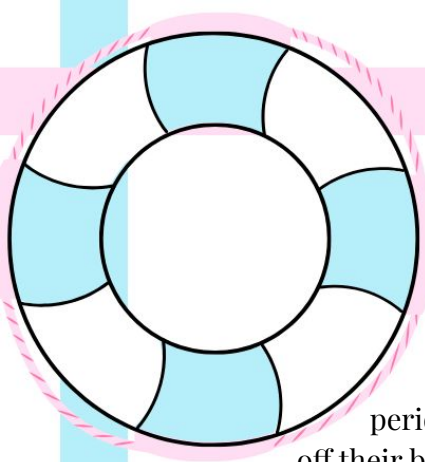


From Sept. 25 to Sept. 29, Students celebrated the back-to-school Racin' Through the Night Dance, cars-themed spirit week. On Monday, students were able to dress as either a Mini Van or Truck. They could dress as a soccer mom for minivans, or as a BBQ dad for trucks. Tuesday, the theme of Tesla vs. Jeep allowed students to dress in futuristic clothing or nature clothing and participate in the "Car Wash" lunch activity. Teams had to participate in a sponge relay and pass the sponge over and under themselves with the goal of filling their buckets the fastest. On Wednesday, the car theme was Sports Car vs. Limo, where students either dressed sporty in jerseys or in fancy clothing, such as blazers, suits, and button-ups. The Car Mechanic Spirit Day on Thursday encouraged students to dress in any colored, collared shirt, jumpsuit, or overalls. The final day of the spirit week occurred on Friday, Sept. 29. The day's activities fueled students' excitement for that night's dance. Students participated in "The World Grand Prix," where both students and teachers wore class colors. The lunch activity, "Running on a Flat (Tire)" had students participate in a sack race against 3-5 other people, and whoever won was rewarded with candy.



In celebration of WCA Theatre's first play of the year, "Marvin's Room," ASB planned a Florida Spirit day for the opening night on Oct. 4, where students could dress as a retired person or in tourist clothing.





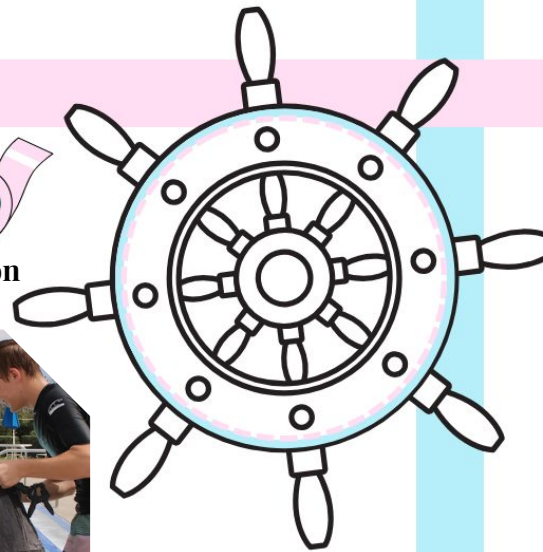
SWIMMING THROUGH

On Sept. 22, WCA's 11th annual Boat Regatta came in with the tide, bringing in 42 teams battling head-to-head. Every team was given six rolls of duct tape and two box cutters. All other allowed materials had to be supplied by students. The building period lasted three hours, followed by the parade of boats, where each team could show off their boats to the judges. Once everyone arrived at the pool, teams were split up into nine heats consisting of four or five teams. Each of the heat winners then faced off in two more rounds before the final race.

The awards for the Boat Regatta were announced two weeks later on *Mammoth Time*. First place went to **Froggie Fungi**, second place to **Spongeyboyz**, and third place went to **Boat 'n' Boujee**. Though these teams were the most successful in the pool, teams were also awarded for having the best crew, theme, and costumes, with another award, the infamous Titanic award, to whoever had the best sinking. Best Crew was awarded to the **Toucaneers**. Best Theme was **Shark Bait Ooh-ha-ha**. Best Costumes went to **WCA Round-Up**. The Titanic Award was given to **Kentucky Fried Children (KFC)** for their catastrophic initial takeoff.



BOAT REGATTA



By Lily Hawkinson



Best Crew Winner: Toucaneers



Titanic Award Winner: KFC



Best Theme Winner: Shark Bait Ooh-ha-ha



Best Costume Winner: WCA Round-Up



Third Place Winner: Boat 'n' Boujee



First Place Winner: Froggie Fungi



Second Place Winner: Spongeyboyz





Racin' Through the Night Dance

By Anastacia Ybarra

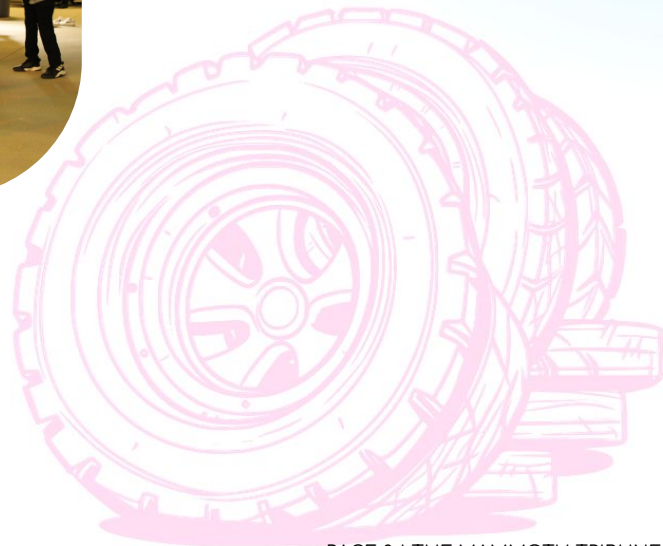
The back-to-school Racin' in the Night dance was held on Friday, Sept. 29, in conjunction with the Cars Spirit Week. Upon entering the piazza, you were encapsulated by blaring music and vibrant colors of the dance floor and DJ booth. The dance also featured an all-you-can-eat ice cream and grilled cheese truck, an inflatable obstacle course, a photobooth, and a slot car racing track. The dance floor was alive with so many people that people had to dance outside the floor's boundaries to join the festivities. The inflatable obstacle course had separate sides that allowed people to race against their friends or enemies, in an intense yet fun activity. The food provided by the food trucks was delicious and sweet. The slot car racing station allowed students to race against each other with a big screen displaying the time and place they achieved. The photo booth was a cute way to memorialize this moment with various props being available to dress up. Halfway through the dance, the Freshmen started a conga line which created a snake of students that surrounded the dance floor.



Sienna Montaya (2027) said the dance was, "So fun for my first school dance! The lights were bright and colorful, the music was amazing, and everyone was having a blast." **Kira Denicker (2027)** explained after the dance that, "It was really amazing! I loved the toy cars and the fact that people joined our conga line was so cool." **Isaiah Suso (2024)** reflected on the dance saying, "The dance was a really nice event." When asked how it feels that it'll be the last back-to-school dance he'll have for high school, he responded, "I haven't had much thought on the situation, but I feel like this dance starting off the year is going to grow the sentimental feelings I have towards my high school career."

During the dance, you can tell that everyone was enjoying themselves with their friends, with multiple dance battles being started on the floor. The Line Dancing Club showed off their moves for everyone dancing, teaching the dancers to show off their cowboy moves. The dance was an exhilarating way to start the year off for all the returning and new high school students.



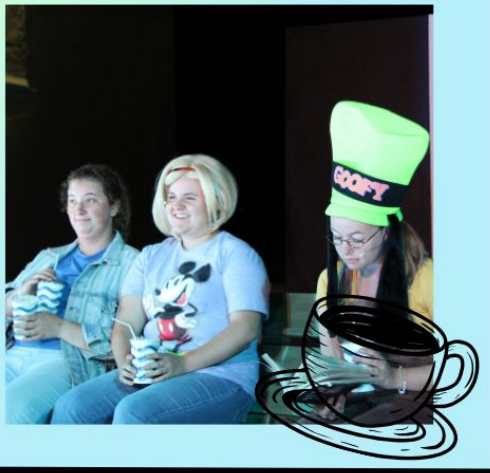




Marvin's Room

By **Lucas Land**

From Oct. 4 through Oct. 6, the WCA theater program performed *Marvin's Room*, a drama originally created in 1996 by Scott McPherson. The play features two sisters, Bessie and Lee, who have been estranged for over 20 years. Bessie had moved to Florida to care for her Aunt Ruth, a crippled, older woman, and Marvin, her father who suffers from the aftermath of a bad stroke while Lee moved to Ohio and had two children, Hana and Charlie. The play opens with Bessie receiving a Leukemia diagnosis from her eccentric doctor. After her diagnosis, Lee and her daughters go to Florida to see if they are a match to donate bone marrow in order to help cure Bessie's leukemia.



The stage resembled an empty room, but it transformed into several locations due to the lighting and quick set changes. It was fantastic to see, especially the Disneyland scene. The minimalist props such as the medical syringes, Lee's cigarettes, and Bessie's bald cap looked realistic. The theater tech team was able to find the perfect lighting for every scene, and the actors were skillful in bringing their characters to life on the stage. Bessie's nervous stuttering and fidgeting was especially well done. The humor didn't feel forced, and the audience was fully invested in the characters and the plot. Several audience members stated how much they had enjoyed the play, and I noticed a few of them even tearing up at a few scenes.

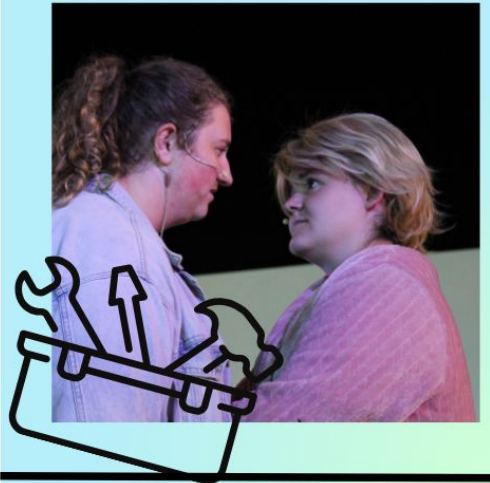
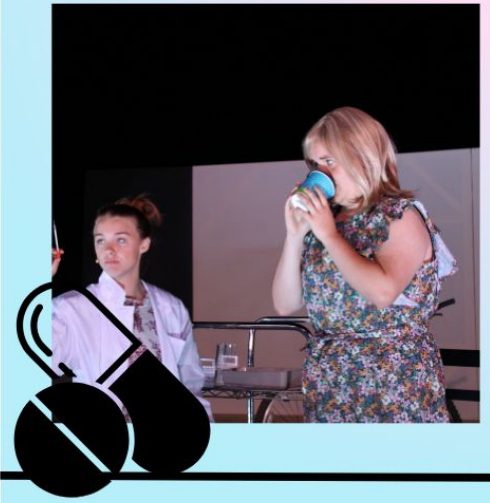


When asked about the difficulties during production, **Hannah Jindra (2024)**, who played Bessie, said “Two challenges stick out the most to me, one is that it was really hard to find variety in the emotion for each scene. And two was that the blood capsules for when Bessie faints were absolutely disgusting and it was so hard to not cough them fully out!” **Alyssa George (2024)**, who played Hannah, said “The props were *always* missing and we had so many essays and assignments due the night of the show, and it was so stressful.” **Jordan Israelson (2025)**, who played Aunt Ruth and the retirement home director, said that “It was really fun, but it was kind of stressful because I had to pick up Aunt Ruth a week before the show.” Jordan added that he didn’t have a lot of time to think about his lines. “The first time doing the show off-script was opening night.” Yet despite all the challenges, the cast and crew were able to make the show a major success.



Parker Wharton (2024), the play’s stage manager, said his favorite part of producing the show “was seeing all the actors get better and better at remembering their lines to the point where they just ran the show, completely off script.” **Siva Ordaz (2026)**, the play’s assistant stage manager, said their favorite part was “when Lee was hand-feeding Hannah the M&M’s.”

Overall, the play was a fantastic experience, the sibling dynamic was extremely relatable, and the production was wonderful, with no hiccups or issues. You could see the amount of effort that was put into the stage and the acting. The few major costume changes were executed perfectly and fast, and the storyline was intriguing throughout the entire play.

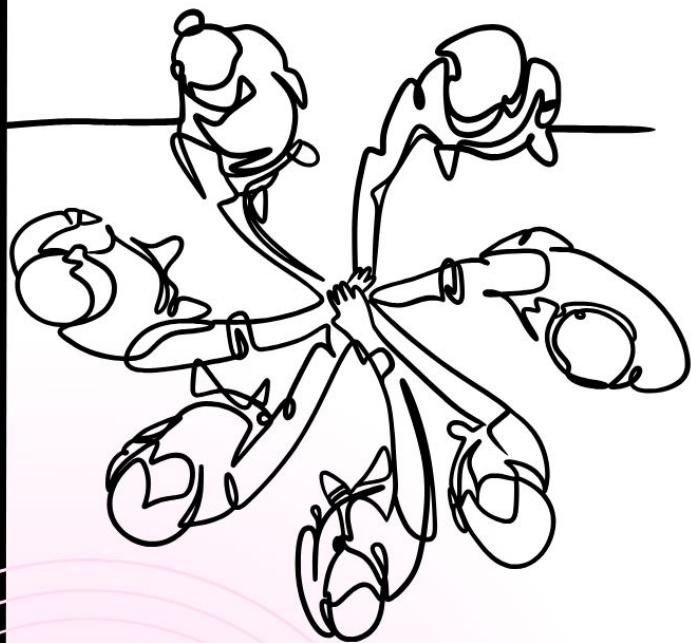
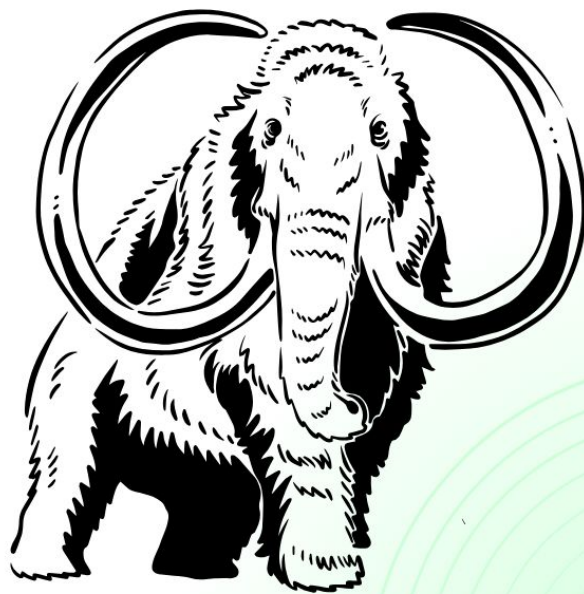


WCA Students are COLLABORATIVE!

It's important to be collaborative because working together allows you to achieve much greater things than if you were working on your own. Many career fields also rely on you to be collaborative, such as science. **Sabrina Joy Pareja (2025)**

Collaboration is extremely important especially in a classroom setting. Whether it be in a group assignment or trying to help others or even getting help from others, collaboration is a key aspect of life. Collaboration even goes past school life as teamwork is important in jobs and other settings. **Pablo Jimenez (2025)**

Being collaborative helps with efficiency in completing assignments and projects. Being collaborative also improves your communication skills that are needed in the professional world. **Kaitlynn Teasley (2025)**



Being collaborative opens up the opportunity for new ideas to be shared, and to foster them into something greater than yourself. **Kailey Pickering (2024)**

We can be better together. **David Sagastume (2027)**

For Data Science me and Parker Wharton worked together to make a fun game to collect data on. We played each other's games and gave feedback to improve the experience. **Trent Gifford (2024)**

We collaborate and share new ideas preparing for DTASC. **Abigail Brady (2025)**

In Yearbook, we are divided into teams to work on spreads. My team specifically is very collaborative and we always work very well together to make the best possible spreads. **Bethany Prado (2025)**

One experience I've had being collaborative outside of the classroom was with Rock Band. Because I am a co-president, I have to share my position with JJ, and running the club this way is much more efficient since we can divide up the work and assign each other jobs to do. **Sabrina Joy Pareja (2025)**

A big collaborative experience was the AP Lang final. The whole thing is a group project and your final, so collaboration was extremely important as our grade essentially counted on it. **Pablo Jimenez (2025)**

In Yearbook my team and I work together and discuss how to make a spread layout and divide up the work and collaborate to finish our deadlines on time. **Kaitlynn Teasley (2025)**

My group was really collaborative on Boat Regatta. There was a little bit of confusion and disagreement, but when we got together we worked very well and made a super good boat! **Jordan Israelson (2025)**

Group projects, like the one I did in Biotech, are a great way to be collaborative with your peers. **Morgan Munnell (2025)**



An experience I have with collaboration in the classroom is when doing a group project! I am doing an English project right now with a friend. We are using each other's ideas that we have never thought of or adding on some things. Everyone has their own style of everything so me and my friend combined our project/ research styles together to make a better one! My friend is really good at researching things with great vocabulary and I am able to be creative and make examples, or think about feelings and ways to make the presentation pop out more. **Christine Seo (2027)**

In Link Crew, communication is an immense part of the work we put in. We have to collaborate to make projects successful and put out great, fun work! **Kailey Pickering (2024)**

In afterschool Theater Tech it is super helpful to be together! **Samantha Hoggan (2025)**

I have been collaborative in ASB, I have tried to share ideas for Mammoth Time segments and have also listened and collaborated with others in Mammoth Time. **Jaimee Tayag (2025)**



Student Spotlight: A Young and Successful Entrepreneur

By Jayla Moss

A junior at Western Center Academy, **Xander Warner (2025)**, has been at this school since 7th grade. He has had a successful career here thus far and has established himself in our schools' community. In order to further expand his knowledge and also to earn a bit of money, he decided to start a business in window washing.



Xander Warner created his business, Warner's Window Washing, during October of his sophomore year because he needed money for the Japan trip organized by the Bradys. Ultimately, he was inspired by a man he saw on *YouTube* who was making money washing windows. Since then, Xander has built a large clientele, and he averages about two clients a week. He also offers screen cleaning, hard water removal, and inside window washing. Xander makes the customer his top priority despite some difficult situations that can occur, but according to Xander, "You want to make the customer happy, but sometimes you have to stick up for yourself in business," Despite this, he does not believe the customer is always right.

Xander markets his business and accumulates clients by knocking on doors from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., which he believes to be very effective. He feels like it makes him seem more reputable. Xander states, "People want to support that in kids. That's where I have found a lot of my successes because they see that I'm a kid and trying to grow my business at such a young age, which is abnormal for a lot of kids to do." He has little to no competition since only 1 in 20 of the doors he knocks on already have someone who washes their windows.





Xander creates his own schedule, so he makes plans accordingly and manages his time well in order to stay on top of school work and his other hobbies like playing soccer. He does not waste time on his phone and finishes his homework early. Aside from his business, Xander is also very active at school and his community. He is an officer of the Christian Club, he is the president of the Debate Club, and he volunteers at his church. During his volunteer hours, he teaches children's bible lessons and has accumulated over 250 hours of community service. Xander feels that by being involved in his community, he has gotten to know his peers and developed new skills. For example, he's developed public speaking skills from being in the Debate Club, and starting his business has taught him discipline.



Even though he has paid off his trip, Xander wishes to continue his business as he believes it will be a good source of income as he gets older. Right now, he is in the process of creating a social media marketing agency, where he will run ads for different businesses on a variety of social media platforms. In the future, Xander wants to go to MIT and become an engineer. He is interested in aerospace engineering but feels that mechanical engineering will better suit him. Xander's ultimate dream is to build multi-million dollar houses from the ground up. He says if could achieve that, he would keep it as his profession for the rest of his life. Xander has already taken multiple steps toward his ideal career, and his current business is just the beginning of his success.





WARNER'S

WINDOW

WASHING

WINDOW WASHING IN MENIFEE, HEMET,

TEMECULA, LAKE ELSINORE, MURRIETA

LINE DANCING CLUB

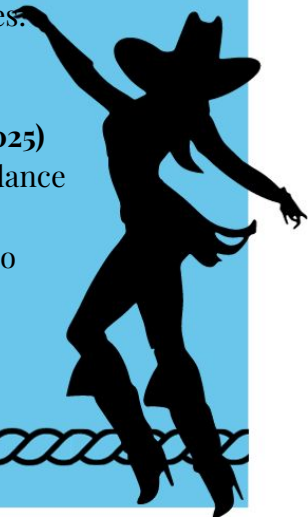
By Kayla Simpson

What is a better way to spend time with friends while learning how to line dance than going to the Line Dancing Club? This new club was introduced to WCA during Club Rush, catching the interest of many students. So far, 23 students have joined the club, with many others tagging along.



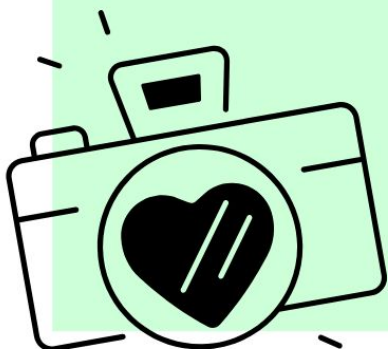
Line Dancing Club is run by Mrs. Shefchik and Mrs. Chadwick, and the officers **Damian Morales (2026)**, **Hammedeah Dittmar (2026)**, and **Kennedy Banks (2026)**. These officers help out the students who are trying to learn the dances, and are stationed around the area that people are practicing for students to follow their lead. This club happens Wednesdays at lunch, yet you are able to show up any time from when it starts to when lunch ends. The people in the club meet in Mrs. Shefchik's room 38, while the dancing takes place on the blacktop just outside. Members spread out, giving each other enough space to move around without hitting each other, while the club leaders stay on the outside so the students can watch their movements. The line dances being taught are very easy to follow, making it an enjoyable experience for everyone. Club leaders also post videos of the dances being taught on Google Classroom.

Not only is this a fun and entertaining club to enjoy with friends, but the club also teaches you how to dance to many songs as well! This is a great opportunity to get some practice on dancing, and show off to all your friends. Many of the students who joined the club truly enjoy the activities and dances. "It's fun! It's a great way to be free, be fun, and be weird around everyone else," says **Emma Wright (2026)**. **Kendra Johansen (2025)** says, "It's a cool club and I learned how to dance in a line." Join Line Dancing Club if you're looking for a fun and enjoyable activity to do while spending time with friends!



LAPSE

By Jayla Moss



The newest app on the Apple app-store, Lapse, has quickly climbed its way up the charts and is ranked number one on the free apps chart. Lapse is marketed as a photo journal that takes a creative approach on the traditional photo taking process. It combines the new with the old as it is essentially a digitalized disposable camera.



Image Credit: ZDNet



Image Credit: Medium



Image Credit: AppTopia

Lapse was first released in 2021 and has since then been upgraded for its June 2023 re-release. To create an account, you have to be invited by a friend who also has the app. Once you complete the registration process, you can start taking “snaps,” or photos, as well as set up your profile. When you take a snap, you cannot see the photo right away because you have to wait for the photo to “develop” just like you would with a disposable camera. This process varies in time which is all in good fun and in the spirit of the app. The photos you take on Lapse will have a grainy filter similar to photos taken on a disposable camera.

On your profile, you are allowed 36 selects which are photos you choose from your camera roll to display on your account in a sequence similar to that of a quick-paced slideshow. The photos you upload to your profile will also have the grainy filter with the addition of a song of your choice that will play over the slideshow. The friends you add on Lapse can view your profile as well as the snaps you post and any updates you make to your account.

The app also provides messaging where you can text and send polaroid-looking pictures back and forth to your friends. When you take these photos you do not have to wait for them to develop like you would with a snap in order to make messaging more convenient.

Overall, Lapse is a great app that I think will become quite popular similar to apps like Instagram, TikTok, or BeReal.



A Trip to the Underworld:

Unreal Unearth By Gabriela Ordaz



Andrew John Hozier-Byrne, otherwise known as Hoizer, is an Irish singer-songwriter known for his blues, soul, and folk inspirations. Hoizer debuted in 2013 with his *Take Me to Church-EP* that contained “Like Real People Do,” “Angel of Small Death and the Codeine Scene,” “Cherry Wine,” and of course “Take Me to Church,” which remains his most famous song to this day. “Take Me to Church” was nominated for a Grammy Award in 2015.

On Aug. 18, 2023, Hoizer would release *Unreal Unearth*, the third studio album he has released. *Unreal Unearth* is a 16-track album that was incredibly well received by fans and critics alike. According to Official Charts, Hoizer’s two other albums, the self-titled *Hoizer* and *Wasteland, Baby!*, peaked the album charts at #3 and #6 respectively, but *Unreal Unearth* reached the number one spot and stayed there for a week.

Because he was quarantined during the height of the pandemic, Hoizer read the *Inferno*, and in an interview with Apple Music, he said, “I didn’t study classics and I’m not an academic, but for me, all those myths are happening around us all the time.” *Inferno* is part of *The Divine Comedy*, which is a famous epic written in the 14th century by Dante Alighieri and consists of three parts: *Inferno*, *Purgatorio*, and *Paradiso*. Dante, who is also the main character, hopes to travel to Heaven but to do so, he must make his way through Hell and Purgatory. The *Inferno* chronicles his journey through the nine layers of Hell as he is guided by the Roman poet Virgil. *Unreal Unearth* takes many inspirations from the *Inferno*, from the album cover to the lyrics, there are traces of it everywhere in the album.

The song that most overtly reflects the *Inferno* also happens to be my favorite song on the album. “Francesca” is directly named after Francesca da Rimini, the first person besides Virgil to speak to Dante and someone whose story actually happened. “Francesca” does not make it clear whether it is Francesca’s lover Paolo or Francesca herself who is singing, but the song takes place as Francesca and Paolo sit in the second layer of hell. “If I could hold you for a minute,” Hoizer sings, “I’d go through it again.” Hadely Medlock, a writer for The Rice Thresher, describes the album as a “masterful concept album with well thought out lyrics and mythical references,” and I couldn’t agree more. *Unreal Unearth* is an album I would suggest anyone listen to.

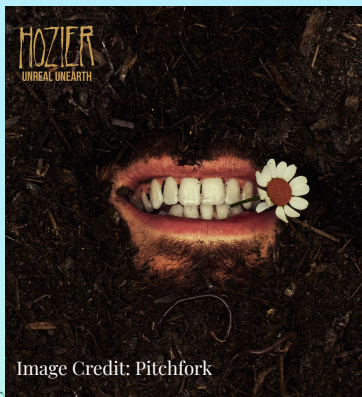


Image Credit: Pitchfork



Image Credit: The Guardian

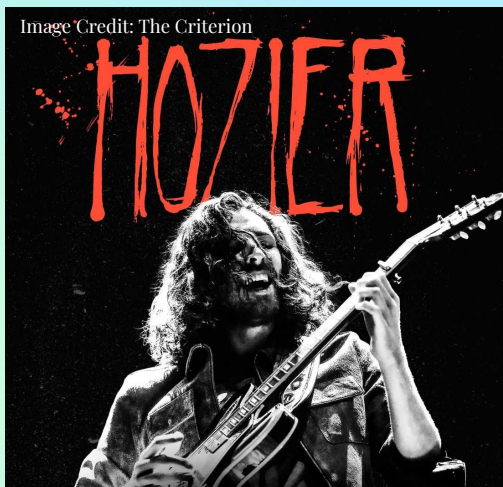


Image Credit: The Criterion



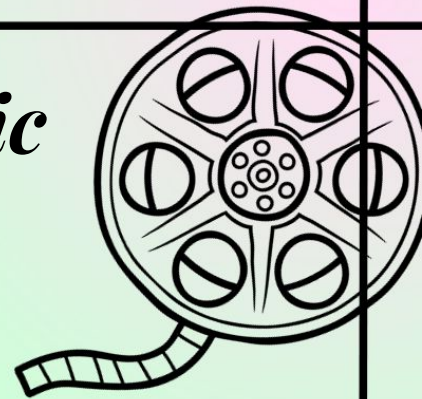
Image Credit: 98KUPD





Movie Review: *Fantastic Mr. Fox*

By Isaac Shumaker



Fantastic Mr. Fox (2009) is a stop-motion animated comedy directed by Wes Anderson. The main character, Mr. Fox, is voiced by George Clooney and features an awe-inspiring cast, with the voices of actors Bill Murray, Meryl Streep, Owen Wilson, Willem Dafoe, and others. The movie does an excellent job at portraying its message—warning the audience of the dangers and ugliness of greed.

Mr. Fox started off his life as a chicken thief, but decided to change his lifestyle and settle down to care for his soon-to-be family. He lives the life of an average person, working a normal job and living life one day at a time. But the day job life isn't for him, so Mr. Fox decides he needs to get back into the chicken stealing business for one last heist.



The movie *Fantastic Mr. Fox* is based on the book of the same name, which was published in 1970. The movie is nearly identical to the book in terms of plot, but introduces its own unique style. The movie develops a strong autumn vibe, shot with warm yellows and reds. But the scenes centered around the human antagonists are dull and industrial: the colors contrast to symbolize the contrast between the cruel human world and the simplistic, calm state of the natural world. Another stylistic choice was the film being stop-motion. Anderson chose a very unconventional animation style which gives the characters life, making them seem real. In most frames, the marks from an animator's hand positioning the puppet are left in, making it seem less like a movie and more like a kid's project. This effect possesses a unique charm that makes Anderson's masterpiece all the more enjoyable.

Fantastic Mr. Fox stands out as an animated film for its complex take on emotion. The film delves deep into the struggles, relationships, and feelings of each of the main characters. It tackles issues within the family, like the relationship between Mr. Fox and his son Ash. Despite looking cute and innocent, the movie is a very serious take on what it means to be a person and appeals to a large audience. This can be attributed to the unique style and skill of the director Anderson. He is known for his colors and how he uses them to help tell his stories.

A classic to this day, *Fantastic Mr. Fox* remains one of my favorite movies of all time. The complex characters and exciting story come together perfectly to be one of Wes Anderson's best films. The thought provoking dialogue and colorful spectacle work together perfectly to keep the audience hooked. The film remains a classic and holds a special place in thousands of hearts.

Back at it – The Rolling Stones’ First Album in 18 Years

By Isaac Shumaker

On Oct. 3, 2023, the Rolling Stones will release their album *Hackney Diamonds*. This will be their first release of completely original content since their 2005 album, *A Bigger Bang*. *Hackney Diamonds* will feature famous musicians like Elton John, Paul McCartney, Lady Gaga, and Stevie Wonder. The band has had a long history of success. The Rolling Stones released their first studio album in 1964 and have maintained their popularity ever since, becoming a household name.

During the early 60’s the Rolling Stones and similar bands like the Beatles were a part of the “British Invasion,” a time period where British rock and roll bands were the face of the movement and helped shape the genre into what it is today. Many bands at the time were influenced by rock and roll bands in the United States, but the Rolling Stones stood out in their goal to individualize and reach an “outsider” demographic. Their music was heavily influenced by U.S. southern music, like the blues.



The Rolling Stones’ initial lineup consisted of the lead singer Mick Jagger, Brian Jones who played several instruments, guitarist Keith Richards, drummer Charlie Watts, and bassist Bill Wyman. Jagger and Richards were responsible for writing most of the music, and Jones was the de-facto “leader” of the band. In 1969, Jones left the band on account of being replaced by Mick Taylor. Shortly after his replacement, Jones died. The Stones’ lineup has changed quite often over time. The most recent of the changes is losing Charlie Watts in 2021 due to his death. The current members are Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, and Ronnie Wood, who took over as rhythm guitarist. The band was accompanied by countless touring musicians to aid in performing their tracks live for audiences.

The Stones’ have amassed an impressive collection of awards over their career. The band has received five separate Grammys and nine Grammy nominations. They have received four separate nominations and one MTV award, and eight other nominations and awards from festivals across the world. Their logo, the red tongue and lips, remains a staple in pop culture. As the Stones inch closer to the release of *Hackney Diamonds*, their legacy continues to develop as “the best rock and roll band of all time.”



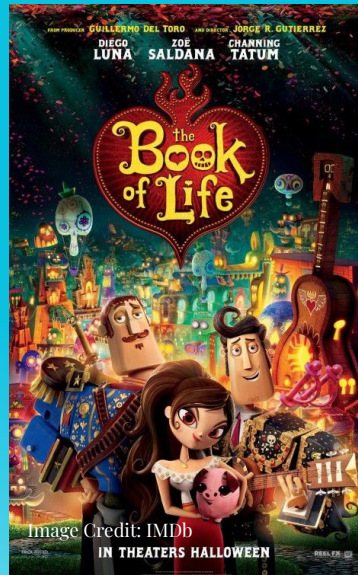
Movies to Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

By Isabella Maldonado

Hispanic Heritage Month is a celebration in the United States that lasts from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. It recognizes the contribution, history, culture, and achievements of Hispanic Americans and their ancestors from Mexico, Spain, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The timing of the celebration, Sept. 15, shares the same day as the independence day of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. To honor this month, here are some wonderful movies to watch that reveal Hispanic culture and traditions.

The Book of Life tells the story of Manolo Sanchez, a young man who is torn between the expectations of his family and following his heart. He embarks on an adventure that spans three fantastic worlds where he must face his greatest fears. The movie was released on Oct. 17 2014, just two days after Hispanic Heritage Month ended. The animation, voice casting, soundtrack and respect for Mexico's culture are what make this movie an outstanding masterpiece to this day.

Another good movie that is related to this month is *Nacho Libre*. It stars Jack Black as Ignacio, or also referred to as Nacho, a cook in the Mexican monastery where he grew up. He secretly moonlights as a luchador to earn money for the orphanage. The film was released on June 16, 2006. It's a simple comedy. You'll laugh at every joke and enjoy every minute of it.



Another animated Hispanic movie is *Coco*. It tells the story of Miguel Rivera, a young aspiring musician who is confronted with his family's ban on music. He is then accidentally transported to the Land of the Dead, to where he would meet his great-great-grandfather. The film was released on Nov. 22, 2017. The concept for *Coco* is inspired by the Mexican holiday Dia de los Muertos, also known as the Day of the Dead. The film received praise for its animation, voice acting, music, visuals, emotional story and portrayal of Mexican culture.

And for the last movie recommendation, we have *Puss in Boots*, which is a spin-off of the *Shrek* film series. The film follows the origin story of Puss in Boots during his adventure years before the events of *Shrek 2*. On his adventure, he is accompanied by Humpty Dumpty and Kitty Softpaws as the trio sets off to find a goose that lays golden eggs. *Puss and Boots* is an accurate view of Spanish culture and was released on Oct. 28, 2011. Its sequel, *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish*, was released on Dec. 21, 2022.

Tamales

By Allison Herrera Gastelum

Tamales trace all the way back to approximately 5000 to 8000 B.C.E. The Aztecs made tamales for the gods, and warriors packed tamales to eat when they went out to battle. Today Hispanic households typically make tamales for special occasions such as Christmas, quinceaneras, and large family gatherings. Even though making tamales requires numerous steps, they are not as difficult to make as it seems, and they are well worth the effort. The following recipe was from my grandmother, Rosalina, who was very excited to share this recipe with others and hopes people will enjoy it.

1. Preparing the Meat Filling

Ingredients:

- 8 lbs of boneless pork top loin or boneless chicken
- ½ tablespoon of ground black pepper
- ¼ tablespoon of oregano
- 12 oz can of pickled jalapenos
- 2 tablespoons of chicken bouillon
- 2 garlic cloves chopped
- 1/2 onion chopped
- 10 oz can of green olives
- 3 tomatoes chopped
- 1 fresh jalapeno sliced into thin strips
- 6 Pasilla peppers
- 6 California peppers
- 6 Guajillo peppers

Step 1: Boil meat until tender with salt as needed. Add oregano, ½ of the onion, 1 chopped garlic clove, and chicken bouillon. Save the meat broth. Once meat is ready, shred it.

Step 2: In a medium-sized pan, saute the other ½ of the onion, 1 chopped garlic clove, 3 tomatoes, 1 fresh jalapeno, and 3 pickled jalapeno, a small can of olives, black pepper, and 1 tablespoon of chicken bouillon.

Step 3: Boil all the remaining peppers in water. After the peppers are boiled, put them in the blender with 2 cups of the meat broth from the boiled meat set aside.



2. Preparing the Masa

Ingredients:

- 8 pounds pre-made Masa
- 1 cup of pork lard
- Salt as much as desired
- 1 cup of the boiled, blended peppers
- 3 cups meat broth

Step 1: Mix all ingredients together and set aside.



3. Preparing and Cooking the Tamales

Ingredients:

- 3 potatoes diced in sticks
- 4 long carrots diced in sticks
- 1 can of diced jalapeno sticks
- 1 can of green olives
- 16 oz tamale corn leaves
- Prepared Meat Filling
- Prepared Masa

Step 1: Soak tamale leaves in hot water for 10 to 15 minutes until the leaves soften. After the leaves are soft, wash them really well in water.

Step 2: Grab one tamale leaf and spread a thin spoonful of masa over the leaf.

Step 3: Once the masa is spread add 1 potato stick, 1 slice of carrot, 1 slice of jalapeno, 1 olive, and 1 to 2 tablespoons of meat (depending on how much meat is desired). Fold filled tamale leaves into packets and twist the ends

Step 4: Thread a tamale leaf in thin strips and use two tamale strips to tie each tamale like a candy.

Step 5: Put prepared tamales in a large pot and steam in water for 1-2 hours. (If it's less than six pounds steam for 45 minutes. If more than six pounds, steam for 2 hours.)



Fall Crafts and Decorations

By Kayla Simpson

With the fall season comes fall decorating. But wait, what if you have very little decorations with which to decorate? Don't worry, here are two simple, yet fun, craft and decoration ideas for you and your friends and family to enjoy. They are creative, easy, and require little time. Enjoy!

Leaf Lantern

This is a cute and simple lantern that you can make to put around your house as a small decoration. All you need is a mason jar of your choosing, Mod Podge, a paint brush or sponge brush, fairy lights or small battery candle, and fabric leaves, not real ones!



To start, peel off the plastic spines from the leaves if they have them. Then, clean the outside of the mason jar with water to get rid of any dirt and oils. Afterwards, apply a thick layer of Mod Podge to the jar, and place your leaves wherever you would like. Once the leaves are on and able to stay in place, apply another thick layer of Mod Podge over the top to keep them firm in place. Finally, place your battery candle or fairy lights in the mason jar, and your leaf lantern is ready!



Balloon and Yarn Pumpkins

Another fun and easy craft project is balloon and yarn pumpkins. These simple, yet festive crafts are sure to spruce up your fall decorations. The only items you will need are balloons, 21 pieces of 36 inch stands of orange yarn, white tacky glue, scissors, a small/medium sized bowl, and green pipe cleaners.

First, you're going to want to blow up the balloon to your desired size, tying it off at the end. Then, pour glue into the bowl, getting it ready for use. One at a time, tie a yarn strand to the tied end of the balloon. Then, dip the yarn in the glue before wrapping around the balloon. Do this with all of the yarn, making sure to leave a small hole in the bottom so that the balloon can come out. Once done, let the glue dry, pop the balloon, and pull it out. Add your pipe cleaner stem, finishing off the yarn pumpkin.

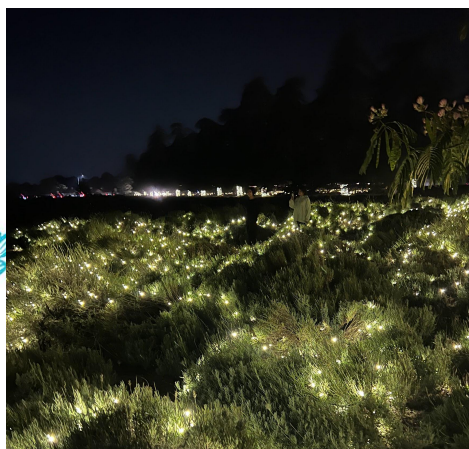


Lavender Nights

By Jayla Moss

Lavender Nights, hosted by 123 Farms, is an event that spans between Aug. 24 to Oct. 29. It is open from 5-10 p.m. every day of the week except Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Tickets range in price, but for students the price is \$6.00 excluding tax. The festival offers a variety of activities such as shopping in the many adorable stores run by locals, enjoying a variety of lavender flavored foods from local vendors, and listening to live music. In addition, there are many opportunities to take advantage of the scenery for photos. Sweet treats include lavender ice cream, lavender churros, and lavender funnel cake. If lavender flavored food doesn't interest you, there is also a stand that sells delicious sourdough pizza that is cooked outdoors in a pizza oven. The shops sell numerous knick-knacks and keepsakes such as pins, stickers, stuffed animals, tote bags, and even dried lavender bouquets. If you are looking for something new to do and something that is inexpensive as well, I highly recommend visiting 123 Farm's Lavender Nights.

123 Farm
10600 Highland Spring Avenue
Cherry Valley, CA 92223



Swiss Bliss

By Samira Seelhofer



Image Credit: Canva

Switzerland is a relatively small country located in central Europe just below Germany and to the right of France. It was first established as a union in 1291, became independent in 1815, and adopted a constitution in 1848.

From an economic standpoint Switzerland is one of the wealthiest countries, being home to around 800,000 millionaires with a total population of just under nine million people. Despite the obvious wealth, speaking from an economic stance, many of its citizens would say it is richer in natural beauty. Around 30 percent of Switzerland's surface area is covered in over 500 million trees, the majority of them spruce and fir.

These spectacular forests are preserved by the different cantons which are very similar to a state in the U.S. Many people would say the most beautiful part of Switzerland is its gorgeous Swiss Alps. Their highest point is over 15,000 feet and one of the most famous is the Matterhorn. These high peaks are covered in snow all year round, making it a perfect tourist destination. A very well known tourist destination would be the Klein Matterhorn which translates to "little Matterhorn." It is a perfect tourist spot mainly because it is open all year round. The Klein Matterhorn is reached by going into a series of cable cars over a span of 40-45 minutes. The stops along the way can be enjoyed at great restaurants with amazing views. At the top of the mountain fun activities are just waiting to be experienced. There is snow tubing for all ages and summer skiing for everyone missing the snow.



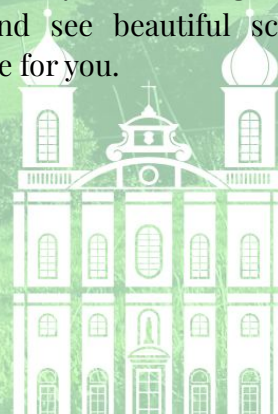
SWITZERLAND

Along with fun filled activities Switzerland also has some delicious cuisine. One of its all year round foods is Bircher muesli, which is similar to overnight oats in the U.S. with fresh fruits. Common foods eaten in the winter would be fondue and raclette. Fondue is eaten from a communal pot of melted swiss cheese, heated by a candle, and every person dips in bread with their own very long fork. Raclette is similar to fondue in the large amount of cheese, but it is a very different dish. Raclette has every person melt their own slice of cheese to later be scrapped on top of an assortment of different foods based on the individual. Another thing Switzerland is commonly known for is its beautifully crafted clocks and watches.



The crafting of clocks first really began in the second half of the 16th century, by the 17th century entire families were learning the craft of watch making, but still mainly only making pocket watches. In the 1800's pocket watches expanded to pendulum clocks and the clock industry continued to grow into what it is today, where Switzerland has become one of the top watch manufacturers (national geographic).

Overall, if you're looking for a vacation with opportunities to try new things, meet interesting people, and see beautiful scenery, Switzerland is the place for you.



BERN

LUCERNE

RUSSIA, UKRAINE, AND NORTH KOREA

By **Lina Watkins**

As most people know, Russia and Ukraine are currently at war. With Russia's desire for power and Ukraine's struggle for independence, the conflict between these two countries has been going on for over 100 years. Now North Korea is showing interest in getting involved.



Before the war was declared, Russia and Ukraine's relationship was strained. In 1917 when the Soviet Union was formed, both Ukraine and Russia were included. Not everyone in Ukraine wanted to join, however. This conflict led to only a part of Ukraine joining the Soviet Socialist Republic. Soon after, Russia saw this hunger for independence as a threat and took away their power. In 1991, Ukraine became independent again after the fall of the Soviet Union. Then in 2013, Ukraine declined a trade agreement with Europe because President Viktor Yanukovich wanted to stay loyal to Russia. This angered Ukrainians leading to protests and eventually kicking Yanukovich out of office. Ukraine then developed a new government favoring Europe. In 2014, another problem occurred when Russia claimed to be helping Ukrainians who wanted to be part of Russia. This led to the deaths of 14,000 people and the loss of Crimea, an area in Ukraine.

The current war began on Feb. 24, 2022. Since the start of the war, there are known to be around 500,000 casualties in total. In Ukraine, it is believed to have caused 70,000 deaths with around 100,000-120,000 wounded. In Russia, there are believed to be 120,000 deaths and around 170,000-180,000 injured. The war is taking place in Ukrainian territory causing awful damage to the country. There has been destruction of hospitals, homes, transportation, farmlands, water systems, mining facilities, chemical and steel plants, and vital seed banks. With all these losses, however, none are comparable to the destruction of the Nova Kakhovka Dam. The dam was destroyed several weeks ago and has caused a few complications since. Not only has the dam been destroyed, but the flood waters washed away vegetation on nearby land. It has also polluted drinking water by leaking 150 tons of oil fuel. Not only does this affect the Ukrainians directly, it also reduces the water needed to cool down nuclear reactors such as the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. Due to the dam's destruction, it is believed to cost more than 1.2 billion euros, equivalent to 1.3 billion U.S. dollars.





Image Credit: Washington Post

In September, North Korea and Russia were planning on meeting with each other. This meeting took place on the campus of Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok, Russia. Along with this, Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong Un attended the Eastern Economic Forum set for Sept. 10-13. Kim Jong-un plans to travel to Russia; however, they have many ways to ensure he arrives safely. President Kim Jong Un is said to have traveled to Russia in an armored train. This trip would be approximately two days coming from the capital Pyongyang to Vladivostok. Kim Jong-un was given a bulletproof vest and a set of drones. The vest given was very high tech being lighter than typical and having a lot of coverage. Along with the vest, there were five attack drones. One of which was a Geranium-25 aircraft-type reconnaissance drone.



Image Credit: Anadolu Ajansi

The meeting seemed to be inspired by the idea of helping both North Korea and Russia. Experts suspect that Kim Jong Un and Putin are in the process of making a deal. This deal would include North Korea providing Russia with weaponry for their war with Ukraine. In return, Russia would help North Korea develop more advanced technology. This technology would likely be used to help with their satellites and nuclear-powered submarines. Apart from this, there are no other known agreements made between the two countries.



Image Credit: BBC

SCREAMING WITH JOY

By Viviana Ugarte

Image Credit: Visit Anaheim

As Halloween begins to creep closer, many amusement parks have begun to transform themselves into Halloween wonderlands. Those who dare to test their capability to withstand the fear have been lining up since the start of September to experience the Knott's Berry Farm, Universal Studios, and Six Flags screaming horrors. For those who do not enjoy scary stuff but still wish to be in the Halloween Spirit, they can go to Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween Party at Disneyland, which is celebrating the 100 year anniversary since its grand opening.

Image Credit: No Guilt Disney



Image Credit: KTLA

This tradition of transforming amusement parks originally occurred 50 years ago in 1973 when Knott's Berry Farm opened their doors for Scary Farm for three days. Now it has turned into a huge tourist attraction in many theme parks that lasts for the entire month of October and even longer in some parks. Both Universal Studios and Six Flags began the Halloween themed parks soon after. Universal Studios began doing Halloween Horror Nights in 1981, and Six flags followed only five years later doing Fright Fest in 1986. Even Disneyland followed in their footsteps, even though it is the oldest theme park out of the four. Disneyland introduced Mickey's Not-So-Scary Halloween party in 1995 for children and people who are not fear fanatics.



Image Credit: Orange County Register/



Image Credit: Travel Zoo



Image Credit: No Guilt Disney

Since Knotts Scary Farm will be celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, they announced they would be introducing three new mazes to the park, but have also decided to bring back seven fan-favorite mazes from the past such as Grimoir, Bloodline 1842, and Wax Works. This year there will be 10 mazes, five scare zones, and four shows from Sept. 21 to Oct. 31. Gates open at 7 p.m. and close at 1 a.m. or 2 a.m. depending on the date. For Halloween Horror Nights, guests are allowed to enter at 7 p.m., but if you purchase early-entry tickets, you can enter the park as early as 5:30 p.m. and gates close at 1 a.m. or 2 a.m. depending on the day as well. Halloween Horror Nights includes eight mazes, three scare zones, and two shows as well as spooky themed foods and drinks. If you are a Harry Potter fan you will be excited to learn that many death eaters will be roaming around Hogsmead this year since Universal Studios will be keeping many of their popular attractions open. Fright Fest at night includes the already fearsome rides at the park along with scarers, scare zones, live entertainment, and if you pay extra for the haunted tickets, several haunted houses.

All of the parks have endless fun and will be sure to give you a good time; however, some might be a better option than others. When considering the cost and the travel distance, it might be best to attend Knott's Scary Farm since their tickets start at only \$60 and from Hemet the drive is an hour and a half, compared to Halloween Horror Nights, which has a starting price of \$77 with a two-hour drive, and Fright Fest starting at \$65 and a drive of two and a half hours.

A survey of WCA students showed that a majority of students felt that Knott's Berry Farm has the best food, the best rides and the best mazes. If you are really looking to have a good fright, however, Halloween Horror Nights might be the place for you. Halloween Horror Nights was voted by WCA students as a more frightening theme park than Knott's Scary Farm. According to new.hollywoodgothic.com, Halloween Horror Nights in comparison to Knott's Scary Farm, has the better scarers on the floor due to their superior costumes, makeup, and sets. They also agreed, though, that Knott's Scary Farm is far better in their mazes and other entertainments. No matter the theme park you wish to visit during this spooky season, we wish you a very Happy Halloween here at *The Mammoth Tribune*.



Image Credit: Daily Mail



Celebrating 100 Years of Disney Magic



By Aliana Alejo

Image Credit: The Hollywood Reporter

Walt Disney once said “I only hope that we don't lose sight of one thing that it was all started by a mouse.” The Walt Disney Company with its iconic castles, beloved characters, and enchanting stories, has been etching itself into the hearts of generations for an entire century. Since its humble beginnings in 1923, Disney has evolved from a small animation studio into a global entertainment empire, leaving an indelible mark on the world of cinema, television, theme parks, and entertainment.



This story commences in 1923 when Walt Disney and his brother Roy co-founded the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio in Hollywood. Their first major success came with the creation of Mickey Mouse in 1928, who made his debut in the iconic short film “Steamboat Willie.” This charming, animated mouse quickly captured the hearts of audiences and laid the foundation for Disney’s future success. In 1937, Disney made cinematic history with the release of “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.” According to J.B Kaufman’s, who wrote the book *The Fairest One of All*, “This film marked the birth of feature-length animation, and it not only won the hearts of audiences,” but also paved the way for classics like “Cinderella” in 1950, “Dumbo” in 1941, and “Pinocchio” in 1940. These timeless classics have symbolized the unique storytelling artistry.

The 1950s and 1960s were pivotal decades for Disney, marked by the opening of Disneyland in 1955, being the first ever theme park of its kind. The park brought together artists, engineers, and storytellers to create immersive attractions and experiences. *Designingdisney.com* stated that “Walt Disney offered its services with the groundbreaking ‘it’s a small world’ ride at the 1964-65 New York World’s Fair.” This innovative venture laid the foundation for Disney’s later expansion into theme parks worldwide, including Walt Disney World in Florida, Tokyo Disneyland, and Disneyland Paris.



Disney 100
100 YEARS OF WONDER



The 1980's and 1990's witnessed Disney's renaissance in animated films with masterpieces like "The Little Mermaid," "The Lion King," and "Beauty and the Beast." These films achieved critical acclaim and set a new standard for animated storytelling. Disney's influence extended to Broadway, where many of these films were adapted into successful musicals.

Entering into the 21st century Disney has expanded while acquiring major entertainment companies. Its acquisition of Pixar Animation Studios in 2006 brought many beloved characters such as Woody and Buzz Lightyear into the Disney family. Ensuing into this major success they also acquired Marvel Entertainment in 2009, and in 2012 Lucasfilm, added more iconic superheroes and the beloved "Star Wars" franchise to Disney's treasure trove of world characters and films.



Image Credit: Undercover Tourist

In 2019, Disney took the historic stride of launching Disney+, their streaming platform. With Disney+ serving as a digital vault for Disney's extensive content, the magic of Disney was now accessible to millions of viewers worldwide. As it continues to enter its second century, Disney is still pushing boundaries to create better storytelling and entertainment. With the success of films like "Frozen," "Moana," and "Zootopia," the Disney animations are remaining as vibrant as ever.



Image Credit: The Nerdy

As Disney enters its second century, one can only wonder what their imaginations will explore. With new advancements in technology, Disney's adaptability and expansion is now bigger and stronger than ever, and its 100-year history is evidence of their enduring power of storytelling, creativity, and imagination. From Mickey Mouse to Marvel Superheros, Disney has brought joy to millions and will continue to inspire new generations for years to come.



Cars Word Search

By Lily Hawkinson

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

Ford
Chevy
Toyota
Porsche
Jeep

Volkswagen
Nissan
Tesla
Ferrari
Honda

Acura
Hyundai
Corvette
Cadillac
Mercedes

BMW
Jaguar
Audi
Lamborghini
Lincoln

McLaren
Bugatti
Buick
Dodge
Chrysler
Bentley

Nautical Anagram

By Lily Hawkinson

hraonc

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nceaoe

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niacpta

sail

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trboasrad

rtpo

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knap

Letter bank—Put all of the letters in the white boxes from above here. Unscramble these letters to answer the clue.

Clue: What do sea outlaws ride on?

Mini Crossword

By Lily Hawkinson

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

Across

1. Money in Mexico
6. Part of drum
7. Australian folklore entity
8. “Chief Law Enforcement Officers” or “Chief Local Elected Officials”
9. Like “would’ve, should’ve, couldn’t”

Down

1. Common AP class
2. _____ Holmes (2020 film)
3. What a woodcutter did yesterday
4. Astrological figure
5. Shakespearean term for see

Answers to Nautical Anagram and Mini Crossword on back cover



Western Center Academy

Nautical Anagram Answers

anchor ocean
stern captain
sail starboard
port plank

Clue Answer: pirate ship

Mini Crossword Answers

Across

1. Pesos
6. Snare
7. Yowie
8. Cleos
9. Hadnt

Down

1. Psych
2. Enola
3. Sawed
4. Orion
5. Seest