

# Peacock Press

February 2012

Volume 1, Issue 2

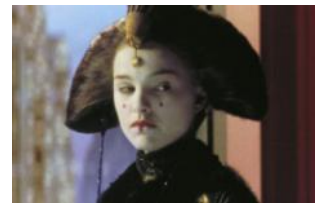
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## Stars Wars 3D is Out of this World

What could be better than watching “Star Wars” on a Saturday afternoon? Watching “Star Wars” in 3D! “Star Wars Episode I: the Phantom Menace” is the first episode of the Star Wars saga. The saga is set “a long time ago in a galaxy far away.”

The movie follows two Jedi's – Qui-Gon Jinn and his apprentice Obi-Wan Kenobi. The Jedi's were dispatched by the Galactic Republic to protect Queen Amidala, who is from the planet Naboo. The Queen must try to negotiate a peace treaty between the evil Trade Federation and the Republic. The Trade Federation has other ideas



however. The Federation has allied themselves with the Sith and have amassed a large army of droids to take over Naboo. The Jedi's and the Queen narrowly escape being captured by the Federation and go to a planet called Tatooine where they find a boy named Anakin Skywalker whom Qui-Gon suspects to be the “Chosen One.”

The movie focuses on the Republic's battle with the seem-

ingly invincible Federation. The Jedi must also try to defeat Darth Maul who is an extremely skilled Sith. Much of the movie is also devoted to introducing the key characters in the Star Wars saga.

The movie was originally made several years ago and now has been re-released in 3D. Overall the movie has tons of action and the 3D effects really enhance the action. One of the most memorable scenes in the movie is the light-saber duel between Darth Maul and the two Jedi's.

This movie is fun and exciting for the whole family.

By Alex C.  
Entertainment Editor  
Vista Grande

## The Force is Back – In 3D

What makes “The Phantom Menace,” the first movie in the Star Wars series, so awesome? Lucasfilm turned it from 2D into 3D!

In an interview with Matt Zogarcic of Lucasfilm, he provided some facts about “The Phantom Menace” in 3D. Lucasfilm didn't make the whole movie over again, they simply went on computers and did amazing things to make the movie 3D.

George Lucas thought that when he first created Star Wars,

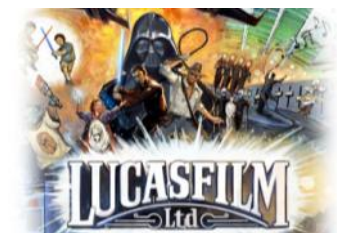
the kids that watched the original movies are now grown up and they probably have their own kids. He decided that those kids would want to see new Star Wars movies. So, not only did he decide to make “The Phantom Menace” into 3D but the other five Star Wars movies as well!

Also, George Lucas is always adding parts to his movies to make them better. It took a year to turn “The Phantom Menace” from 2D to 3D. Matt

Zogarcic said, “It took a lot of people, time, and computers.”

When Lucasfilm makes all the movies 3D, it will be exciting to watch all of them.

By Anna M.  
Reporter, Cornerstone





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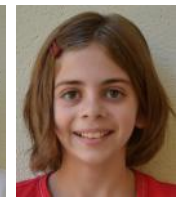
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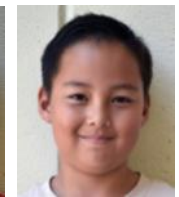
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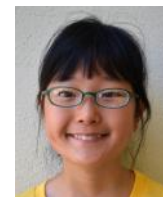
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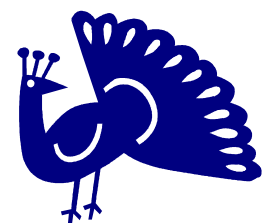
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## A Trip to Remember

It was January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 12:30 in the afternoon on Sunday. PV Peacock Press reporters were waiting patiently to board two buses at Peninsula High School.

Once we were settled into our seats, our one hour journey



to Fox Studios began. As the bus entered the studio, we felt so, so, so... VIP. In the parking lot, you could see the different parking spots for the many stars and you could even see the star wagons, aka dressing rooms. We were at the place where movies are made.

The reporters were relieved to get off the bus. We were anxious to get inside. As we entered the theatre lobby, there were so many people. At first, we couldn't see them... but they were there; Storm Troopers, a Jedi, Yoda, and R2D2 waiting to greet us. It was so different seeing them off the screen. The only person missing was George Lucas, himself.

Before entering the theatre, we were given cool Darth Maul glasses to see the movie in 3D.

After the movie, we got together and conducted interviews with reporters from different schools. It was a lot of fun to meet and talk to someone about the "Star Wars" movie we had just viewed. There were a lot of favorite parts and comments about how different it was to see a 3D version.

After we finished our Q and A we all went back outside for a snack before we loaded the buses for our return journey home. This was definitely a trip to remember.

*By Hana M.  
Co-Editor-in-Chief*



## Students Experience the Phantom Menace in 3D

On January 22, 2012, the Peacock Press students traveled to Fox Studios to see a special premiere of "Star Wars: The Phantom Menace in 3D." We were invited to this pre-release screening of the movie with other student newspaper groups in the PressFriends program. In all, there were approximately 250 elementary, middle and high school students attending from eight Press-Friends programs.

After the film, we interviewed kids from other schools. I surveyed the students about their opinion on the movie and whether they thought the 3D special effects added to the

experience. The students' reactions were all positive. Even kids who were not familiar with the Star Wars saga in the past thought that the movie was incredible and they wanted to see



more films in the series. Everyone believed that the action scenes were improved by the effect artists and looked more realistic than before the 3D was added.

Janley, from the Boys & Girls Club of Wilmington, said, "I liked the special effects, and my favorite character was the Queen Amidala"

Bradley, from 7th Street Elementary School, said, "The movie was cool because of the special effects," and his favorite character is Yoda.

We all enjoyed the movie!

*By Alec B.  
News Editor, Silver Spur*



## Star Wars is Back with 3D



“Star Wars Phantom Menace in 3D” is now showing in a theater near you. 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox does an outstanding job of recreating this film in 3D. In this story the Galactic Republic are being threatened. Jedi, Qui-Gon and his apprentice Obi-Won-Kenobi have to negotiate with Nute Gunray, Trade Federation Viceroy.

Darth Sidious however orders his army to kill the Jedi and take over the planet Naboo. He plans to do so with his large army of droids. The two Jedi escape and they stow away on a ship landing in Naboo. Once they are in Naboo, Qui-Gon saves Jar-Jar Binks, a Gungan outcast.

The Jedi saves Jar-Jar, and Jar-Jar owes him what the Gungans call a “life debt.” Qui-Gon persuades Jar-Jar to take him to the secret underwater Gungan city called Otoh Gunga. In Otoh

Gunga they try to persuade the Gungans to help the people of Naboo.

Queen Amidala is captured by the Federation army. The Jedi save her and bring her on her personal starship. Their ship gets damaged, and they are forced to land on the nearby desert planet, Tatooine. On Tatooine they plan to get their starship repaired. Jar-Jar, Qui-Gon, Droid R2D2, and Obi-Won journey to a junk shop to purchase a hyper drive generator. The queen allows Padme, the so-called handmaid, to follow them.

In the junk shop they meet a slave boy named Anakin Skywalker. Qui-Gon senses a powerful presence of the Force with this boy. Anakin is very interesting. He is a pilot and an engineer. Anakin started making a droid that he called C-3PO. He never finished because Qui-Gon thought he might be the “chosen one.”

Qui-Gon makes a bet with Anakin's owner that if he manages to win the pod race they get to take Anakin. He also tried for Anakin's mother, Shmi but Watto, Anakin's owner didn't allow it.

After that it is just a series of amazing twists and turns. With all the nail biting excitement, “Star Wars the Phantom Menace in 3D” will keep you on the edge of your seat until the very end.

Featuring Natalie Portman, Liam Neeson, and Ewan McGregor, “Star Wars the Phantom Menace” is a part of one of the most highly rated series of all time. The producers of this movie bring to life in 3D.

Now what are you waiting for? Go see “Star Wars the Phantom Menace in 3D” right now!

*By Rachel E.  
Community Editor  
Silver Spur*

## Star Wars 3D Review

I would give a “A+” for the Star Wars movie. The 3D effects in the Star Wars movie is awesome. It was really cool to see all the action happening in 3D.

I especially liked the light saber fighting scenes. You feel as if they are fighting right in front of you.

There are some very good scenes that are just made for 3D. The scene where Anakin is flying the spaceship and he is at-

tacked by the enemy is just mind blowing. You feel as if the lasers are coming right towards you.

The scene with the planets looked so realistic that you feel as if you can just reach out your hand and grab the planets.

The racing scenes were stupendous because you feel as if you are right there in the passenger seat.

That is why I think this movie was great. This Star Wars



3D movie is the best movie that enhances the illusion of deep into the mind.

*By Neil A.  
Entertainment Editor  
Montemalaga*



## Creating 3D Magic with Star Wars

The Peacock Press interviewed Dorne Huebler, who worked on “Star Wars Phantom Menace 3D” to find out how the original movie was made into 3D.

**Peacock Press:** How long did it take to make Star Wars Phantom Menace into a 3D movie?

**Huebler:** It started in 2010, ended in 2011- a little over one year

**Peacock Press:** How many people worked on making it a 3D movie?

**Huebler:** Too many to count...

**Peacock Press:** What were your favorite 3D effects in the movie?

**Huebler:** I love seeing the Pod Race in 3D! It was also really fun to see Watto come to life in 3D too. I felt that was the way he was always meant to be seen!

**Peacock Press:** What type of technology did you use to make the movie into 3D?

**Huebler:** When you see a movie in 3D, you are actually seeing two images at once for each frame of the film - one for each eye. They are slightly offset from each other, but when seen together at the same time, it creates the 3D effect.

It was a lot of work, but using computer rendering and painting software (and lots of talent), digital artists did this for every shot in the entire movie.

**Peacock Press:** What kind of changes did you make to the force field to make it 3D?

**Huebler:** The force fields are

examples of the hardest things to pull off in 3D because they are semi-transparent. You need to be able to see through them but know that they are at the right depth in the scene. Other than that, we tried not to change the look or design from the original movie.



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**Peacock Press:** What was the hardest scene to make 3D?

**Huebler:** Like the force fields, anything that was partly transparent posed huge challenges. Examples would be the windshield in front of Anakin in the Pod Race, any hologram shot, or the blur of Watto's wings. Another challenge was making sure every little wisp of hair was at the right depth so it didn't look like the hair was floating way behind the person it should be attached to.

**Peacock Press:** What part of the movie was fun to make 3D?

**Huebler:** I really enjoyed seeing the whole battle sequence come to life in 3D! You had a little bit of everything in those shots - cutting between Darth Maul fighting with Obi Wan and Qui Gon, ship to ship space battles, and Gungans fighting the droids on the ground.

**Peacock Press:** What was your least favorite part of making the movie into 3D?

**Huebler:** Once we got started, we knew that finishing the 3D process was going to be a lot of work - and we wanted to make sure it would look great. Sometimes it took a lot of patience when you just wanted to be done so you could sit back and enjoy watching the final 3D film in the theater.

**Peacock Press:** Was everything in the original movie made 3D?

**Huebler:** The whole movie was made into 3D but this is the first time people will be seeing seeing Yoda on the big screen.

**Peacock Press:** How long have you been making 3D movies?

**Huebler:** I've only gotten involved in 3D movies in just the last few years. With 2200 shots, this project is definitely the biggest one I've worked on!

**Peacock Press:** Who started 3D?

**Huebler:** There were filmmakers experimenting with 3D as far back as 1915! During the 1950's, quite a few films came out in 3D too, but it wasn't until recently when digital projectors became more advanced that you could see 3D look so realistic.

**Peacock Press:** Where was the movie made into 3D?

**Huebler:** ILM worked with a company called Prime Focus to do the 3D conversion process. Prime Focus is based in Hollywood, but they have offices all over the world. ❖

*Peacock Press reporters*





Helena is a student at Godolphin and Latymer School in London

*From Our London Correspondent*

## Film Favorites in England

So: the adverts are up, the tension is high, the nominations have been announced- we're all ready for the Oscars! The eyes of every film critic in the world are turned towards America! Right?

Not exactly. The Oscars- or the Academy Awards - are not the only film awards featuring in the media right now. I don't know how widely they are known about in America, but we have our own awards too—the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, or the BAFTA's.

### Television

They don't just award films, as you can guess from the name- TV features highly as well. You've probably heard of *Doctor Who*, the program that exists purely to traumatize small children (I am a huge fan, not

sure what that says about me).

*Sherlock*, the Conan Doyle remake set in 21st century London, may be slightly less well known (still brilliant, though. Again, massive fan). Both should get something at the BAFTA's if there is any justice in the world.

### Movies

British cinema gets a look in at the Oscars, as well. *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, the spy novel film adaptation born and bred in Britain, has 11 nominations, including Best Actor. *War Horse*- if you have functioning tear ducts, this will make you cry- is a British film, also there. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2*- it's in Art Direction, Visual Effects and Makeup & Hair, not exactly the limelight, but still there- is as British as they come

### International Relations

But this is a two-way street and American productions are there in amongst British trends. *Glee* is very popular, in my school at least. *90210*, *The West Wing*, *Gossip Girl*- all there and popular. *Dancing with the Stars*, the American version of *Strictly Come Dancing*, airs in Britain. The *Descendants* is in the BAFTA nominations shortlist. Et cetera, et cetera.

So, we may be thousands of miles away geographically, but turn on your TVs, and we will probably be there. And (aside from proving that we don't all speak like Cheryl Cole/Dick van Dyke) we will definitely entertain you.

Helena C.  
London Correspondent

## And the Winners are . . .

The BAFTA Film Awards were held after we received Helena's article. The award winners are:

- Best Film**—"The Artist"
- Outstanding British Film**—"Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy"
- Best Director**—Michel Hazanavicius for "The Artist"
- Leading Actor**—Jean Dujardin in "The Artist"
- Leading Actress**—Meryl Streep in "The Iron Lady"
- Supporting Actor**—Christopher Plummer in "Beginners"
- Supporting Actress**—Octavia Spencer in "The Help"
- Special Visual Effects**—"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2"



## Kids Corner: An After School Hang Out

**D**o you ever wonder where some kids go after school? Kids Corner is where kids hang out and have fun. There are art crafts, games of all sorts, and sports. There are many sports—for example, football, kickball, soccer, handball, and so much more.

You can go to the playground and play about until... well, homework time! This may be upsetting to most people out there, but it is a great time to get all your homework done before the parents come and pick their children up.

### Kids Corner Stars

You know what an important part of Kids Corner is missing.

Let's see...the staff! A few Kids Corner staff was interviewed on how they became Kids Corner staffs and what their favorite activities are.

Have you heard of Priscilla, Mark, Lisa, Natalie, and Gayle? They are members of the Kids Corner staff at Vista Grande. Mainly, it is Gayle. She is the "boss" and the role model for all of Kids Corner. She also teaches kids about art. She sets this all up!

For the favorite activity interview, Mark says that his favorite is football, because he has been playing all his life. Priscilla says that her favorite part is helping kids learn new things because it brightens up

her day. Then, Natalie says her favorite is working with those cute little kindergarteners that have such great imaginations. Finally, Lisa says that she likes talking silly with kids around her.

Then, for how the staff can become an actual staff member. All the staff said that you must have a desire to work with children. Then, you have to be over 18. You must take a test and have an interview. If you are qualified, you are hired as a Kids Corner staff.

Kids Corner is a place where you can have fun!

*By Diane K.  
Chief Editor  
Vista Grande*



## Palos Verdes Peninsula Holiday Parade of Lights

**T**he Palos Verdes parade took place this year on December 3, 2011. Many groups participated in this year's parade, including: girl scouts, marching bands, boy scouts, cheerleaders, dogs and even Santa Claus.

It was a very cold evening. The parade started by Ruby's Restaurant and ended by Starbucks at the Peninsula Center.

It seemed as though the parade ran very smoothly. There were outside lights set up so everyone could see. Most people

watching the parade were sitting in chairs and covered with blankets or jackets.

The parade was not only fun to march in, but fun to watch. Good times were had by all.

*By Megan T.  
Reporter, Mira Catalina*



## Tumbling at Cornerstone

**F**or some students, Physical Education class is the highlight of their week. This is really true for Kindergarten students at Cornerstone Elementary School where they have a special PE program. The Kindergarten students are learning to tumble from their principal, Mrs. Jody Pastell.

Mrs. Pastell got the idea to teach tumbling, because she was on a gymnastics team when she was a student. She has been teaching tumbling to students for more than thirty years.

The Kindergarten class practices tumbling every Friday. They are learning to do forward rolls, cartwheels, handstands,

and more! The students will then put on a tumbling show for their parents and relatives in mid-March.

The Kindergarten students are lucky to learn tumbling from their principal.

*By Sarah L.  
Reporter  
Cornerstone*





## Harry Potter's Popularity at Point Vicente

All aboard the Hogwarts Express! Let's go on a magical journey to the wizarding world of Hogwarts. Meet the characters of the Harry Potter, Harry, Ron, Hermione, Dumbledore, Hagrid, and Voldemort.

The *Peacock Press* surveyed a few 4th and 5th graders at Point Vicente to see which characters were most favored.

### Harry Wins

In first place came our hero, Harry Potter, with a total of 10 votes.

The spellmaster Hermione, came next with 5 votes.

Our half-giant friend, Hagrid, came along with one vote. Harry's freckled companion,



Ron, and the long-bearded headmaster, Dumbledore, unfortunately had a draw of 0 votes. It's okay Ron and Dumledore, we still care for you.

Oh darn we have to disappear now. Poof!

*By Loren Kim  
Chief Editor  
Pointe Vincente*

## Mixed Bags and Sees Candy Fundraiser



The wonderful Mixed Bags and See's Candies fundraiser is a program where Silver Spur Elementary fifth graders every year sell Mixed bags and See's Candies to save up money for their fifth grade fun day. Fifth grade fun day is when all the fifth graders at different schools play all different sorts of fun activities and games with

friends and teachers at the end of the year to celebrate the upcoming year to leave elementary school and take off to middle school.

"Mixed bags and See's candies was a great way to raise money" Sara Atashi, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader, stated happily.

Mixed bags are bags that have different beautiful colors,

shapes, and pretty designs, and see's candies are tasty and mouth watering chocolates with different kinds of nuts, chocolates, and creamy cream inside them. Yummy! ☺! All the fifth grade students at Silver Spur all agree that they cant wait until its their turn for fifth grade fun day.

*By Melody C.  
Focus Editor, Silver Spur*

## Hurry Down to Curry Town



CoCo Ichibanya is one of my favorite restaurants. They specialize in Japanese curry.

One great thing about CoCo Ichibanya is that you can customize your meal. The menu gives you an ordering guide. First, choose your curry sauce out of 10 levels of spiciness. Each level gets a little spicier. The fifth level is paralyzing!

Next, you select your meat and/or vegetables. After that, you choose how much rice you

would like. Finally, you pick your toppings. This completes your order.

My favorite dish is thin-sliced beef curry with regular spiciness. It is the perfect blend of curry, rice, and beef. The flavor is good and the portion is large.

My mom likes the chicken outlet curry, my dad likes the keema curry (mixed vegetables and chicken), and my sister likes the children's curry with French fries, fried chicken, and sausage.

Prices range from \$3.99 to \$8.99. You can eat at the restaurant or get your food to go. It is fun to eat at the restaurant, because there is a button to push to call your server. CoCo Ichibanya is a great family-friendly restaurant with something for everyone!

CoCo Ichibanya is located in Torrance at the Palm Plaza, 2455 Sepulveda Boulevard, Unit C. Their phone number is: (310)294-5315.

*By Jason L.  
Reporter, Mira Catalina*



## Pits? Pits of Doom!?

In the middle of downtown Los Angeles, there is a place where Ice Age animals were trapped, and killed in pits of tar. This is the La Brea Tar Pits.

The La Brea Tar Pits are a place where the whole family can have a blast! It has a museum and a park.

Hancock Park is not just an ordinary park, because there are statues of animals that roamed here. Another cool element here is that there are bubbling pools

of real TAR! Tar is sticky, bubbly, and smells like asphalt. Scientists excavate tar pits to find fossils of long extinct animals. But you won't find dinosaurs; they were extinct 65 million years before the tar pits existed!

Tar Pit 91 is open to view and has been actively excavated since 1915. Scientists have found many animals including giant ground sloths, Columbian mammoths, and saber tooth cats just to name a few. Pit 91 is the

last pit remaining, out of the original 96 which have all been excavated.

The Page Museum contains the most complete fossils found at the tar pits. There is a wall with 404 dire wolf skulls mounted and a 10-foot tall ground sloth. It is a must see place in Los Angeles, no matter how old you are!

*By Maxwell Y.  
Features Editor  
Rancho Vista*



## Spider Mania

The Spider Pavilion at the Los Angeles Natural History Museum is the only one in North America. The Spider Pavilion holds spiders from all around the world. You could look at them up close, or for safety measures, a nice distance away.

"The place is so cool!" said a dad from Wisconsin, "I learned a lot of things, and my favorite spider is the orange spider."

His son said he liked the tarantulas. Really? I've always thought they were flesh-eating,

bone grinding monsters on eight legs, but after my visit I learned I was wrong. The family was four of 600 visitors who explore the Pavilion each day.

The museum brings in spiders from all around the world and has been doing this for six years. This year it was open from September 25 to November 6. The times were from 10 am to 5 pm. They had special night visits for the brave and the bold. I visited both tours, and I liked the nighttime flashlight tour best.

My favorite spider was the Golden Silk spider, also known as the *Nephila clavipes*. Its web is gold and is used for bullet-proof vests. It is one of the largest orb-weavers in the United States. They shipped it from Louisiana. It was the most interesting spider in my experience. The Spider Pavilion is a fun place with cool facts waiting in a web.

*By Ricardo P.  
Reporter, Dapplegray*



## Clipper Nation Rise

Leading the Western Pacific Region, in front of the Lakers, are the Los Angeles Clippers.

The Clippers nickname is Lob City, because they lead the league in alley-oops.

Their starting 5 players are: Chris Paul, Chauncy Billups,

Blake Griffen, DeAndre Jordan, and Caron Butler.

The star players of the Clippers are Blake Griffen and Chris Paul. Blake Griffen scores an average of 21 points a game and 11 rebounds. Chris Paul averages 17 points a game, 8-9 assists, and 3 steals.

They probably won't win the NBA championship because most of the players are new to the Clippers, but next year they will probably dominate more than ever.

*By Luke S.  
Reporter, Mira Catalina*



Chris Paul and Blake Griffin



## Are Plastic Bags Sacking the Environment?

This weekend I saw something on You Tube that horrified me. No, it wasn't cats playing the piano, or the Harry Potter Puppet Pals singing about Severus Snape, but it was the video about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. What is this, you ask? It is a monstrosity the size of Texas made up of endless plastic. It is so large that it can be seen from space!

In the central North Pacific Gyre, pieces of plastic outweigh surface zooplankton by a factor of 6 to 1, and ninety percent of Laysan albatross chick carcasses and regurgitated stomach contents contain plastics. Fish and seabirds mistake plastic for food.

Plastic debris releases chemical additives and plasti-

cizers into the ocean. Plastic also adsorbs hydrophobic pollutants like PCBs and pesticides like DDT which the animals then consume. Gross, huh? And one of the main reasons for this catastrophe is the plastic bags you and I use every day. They are not biodegradable, and take 1000 years to decompose!

The biggest problem with plastic bags is that they do not readily break down in the environment; with estimates for the time it takes them to decompose is 1000 years. One of the disquieting facts stemming from this is that plastic bags can become serial killers. Once an animal that had ingested a plastic bag dies, it decays at a much faster rate than the bag. Once the animal has decomposed, the bag is

released back into the environment more or less intact, ready to be eaten by another misguided organism. The incredibly slow rate of decay of plastic bags also means that each bag we use compounds the problem, because the bags simply accumulate. So, one plastic bag could kill animals over, and over again for 1000 years.

That's 12 generations! Imagine, that plastic bag you threw away killed many animals. So, next time you go to the grocery store, when they ask you if you want paper or plastic, hold your head up high and say "Paper, since I don't use plastic anymore."

*By Lauren K.*

*Co-Editor-In-Chief*



## Why Vegetarian?

A vegetarian is a person who doesn't consume meat. There are many beneficial facts about being a vegetarian. Vegetarians live a long, healthy life. Not to mention, a nutritious, vegetarian diet can assist to keep weight down while strong bones are building inside the body.

Eating health-giving foods on a daily basis helps prevent diseases such as heart disease. In addition, many doctors would say that if too much cholesterol or meat is stocked up within the body, the veins that carry blood from the heart to the body cells, known as arteries, would clog

up, having a higher chance of heart attack. Being a vegetarian could reward you for life.

A clean, fresh environment helps the world. But many things keep our earth unhealthy. The air is being polluted because of the meat industry. As stated by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), chemicals and animal waste come from factory farms are accountable for 173,000 miles of polluted rivers and streams. Also, more than 260,000,000 acres of United State's forests had been cleared to produce meat-centered diet, while about

300,000,000 pounds of meat are imported yearly from Central and South America to United States.

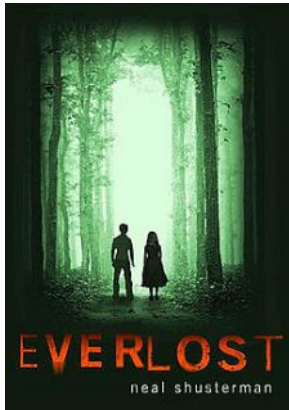
Finally, more than 1,000 species of animals are becoming extinct due to the cutting down of rainforests and tropical rainforests. Bad things happen when the environment is not cautiously cared for.

The body stays fit and healthy when the owner looks out for it. The environment stays clean and depolluted when the people of the earth care for it.

*By Derrick K.*

*Reporter, Dapplegray*





## Everlost

“Everlost” is a fantasy book by Neal Shusterman. It is the first book in a series called the “Skinjacker Trilogy.”

Everlost is about two kids named Nick and Allie who die in a car crash. Instead of reaching the light at the end of the tunnel, they land in a sort of limbo between life and death called Everlost.

Nick and Allie meet a kid in the forest they wake up in. He doesn't remember his name or his family. Once you're in Everlost, you begin to forget your living world life. Nick and Allie decide to call the boy Leif. He explains that they are what the living call ghosts. In the book they are called Afterlights which are kind of like ghosts.

Nick and Allie leave the forest but Leif stays. After an

incident with someone named Johnnie-O, Leif comes back and travels with them.

The kids had heard stories from Leif about an evil monster named the McGill. They travel with shoes made of wood so they don't sink. In Everlost, if you stand in one place for too long, you sink into the center of the earth.

As they travel, they meet Mary Hightower who lives in the Twin Towers because they no longer exist in the living world. Mary is like a mother to all lost souls in Everlost.

Nick falls in love with Mary and Leif becomes obsessed with an old Pac Man machine.

Allie, however, does not like Mary and sets off with Nick and Leif to an old pickle factory to discover the rumored hunter. Things take an unexpected turn

at the hunter's old factory and Nick and Leif find themselves in big trouble but Allie escapes.

Through even more adventures they all end up on the McGill's ship. From that point forward there are even more exciting and crazy twists and turns. The book has a shocking ending where questions will be answered and new questions will form.

To figure everything out for yourself, read “Everlost” by Neal Shusterman. It is a great story for boys and girls alike. Everlost has excitement, adventure, comedy, and a little drama all wrapped up in one amazing book.

*By Rachel E.  
Community Editor  
Silver Spur*

## Chew on This!

“Chew on This” is a book about the fast food places you love, such as KFC and McDonald's.

The authors of this book are Eric Schlosser and Charles Wilson who are also known for the book, Fast Food Nation.

Big things you never, ever, knew, such as the ingredients in McDonald's "McFlurries" and the origin of the American hamburger.

Be warned however, after reading this book, you may never want to step one foot into a fast food restaurant ever again.

Read and discover when the first McDonald's was founded, and that one burger that comes from several different cattle!

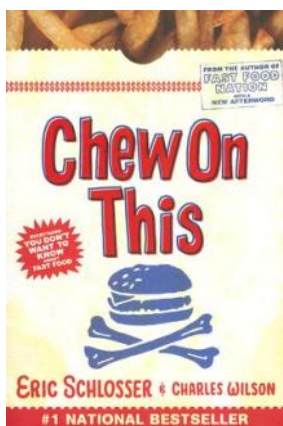
Find out bad things that may happen to you if you continue eating fast foods. You may rethink and choose a chicken sandwich instead.

Put that Chicken McNugget down and think about the chicken that got mistreated for you! Find out about the "baby bottle syndrome", when Eskimo babies' top teeth rot into tiny black stubs all because of that sugary soda.

This book should be read for information about what you eat. But there are some good fast food restaurants such as In-n-Out, and Burgerville, which cut fresh-cut fries and fresh hamburger meat is used. But the general idea of this book is, you are what you eat! It's your choice.

Read to learn what you may enjoy eating at Carl's Jr., for example, may hurt you instead.

*By Jamie D.  
Chief Editor  
Montemalaga*



## The Hatchet

The book "Hatchet" by Gary Paulsen is about a boy named Brian.

One day he went to visit his father on a small plane named Cessna 406. Unfortunately, the pilot got a heart attack during the flight. Brian didn't know what to do so he just let the plane crash into the lake.

After he got out, he swam to shore and found himself in the forest. Brian was very courageous because he survived in the Canadian wilderness all alone.

After Brian survived the crash, he felt asleep. As he was awaking, Brian was so thirsty so he walked on a log to drink water at the lake. At the same time,

he felt hungry, too. He followed the wild birds that led him to a berry bush. Then, he saw a bear eating the berries and knew they were safe for him to eat.

Next, Brian needed shelter. Before he left for the trip, his mother gave him a hatchet as a gift. He kept it on his belt. He built shelter with the tree branches he could cut down with the hatchet. Then he stacked them up to make a shelter. He also made a spear and bow and arrow out of tree branches. He used these tools to catch fish to feed his hunger.

Suddenly an unexpected tornado passed through and caused the sunken plane to stick

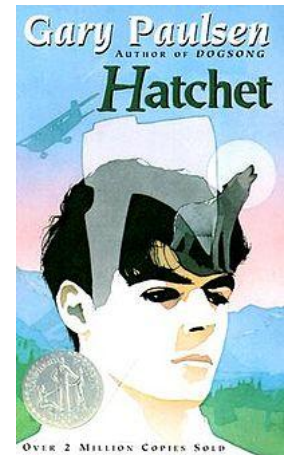
up from the lake water. Seeing the plane in the lake, Brian finally decided to build a raft to get to the plane. When he got there he retrieved a survival pack with a sleeping bag, pots and pans, a lighter, an emergency transmitter, a cap, and a rifle. When he turned on the transmitter, a pilot from another plane heard it and came to rescue him. Brian was alone in the Canadian wilderness for 54 days.

Brian was able to survive this ordeal because he was not only smart but also very brave.

I think this is a great survival story people should read.

*By Chris J.*

*Reporter, Cornerstone*



## A World of Chocolate

In Roald Dahl's book, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," Willy Wonka is finally opening his chocolate factory! He put five golden tickets in his chocolate bars, and the five lucky finders will get to visit his factory.

The first four lucky winners of the golden tickets are: Augustus Gloop, Veruca Salt, Violet Beauregarde and Mike Teavee.

There was only one ticket left.

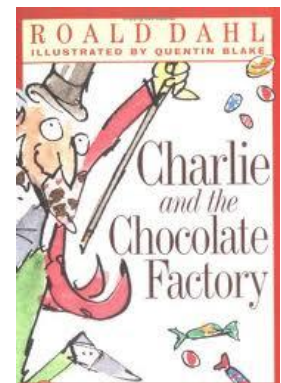
A little boy named Charlie Bucket lives with four grandparents and his two parents. They are very poor. On his way to school, Charlie finds one dollar. He goes into a candy store and buys one candy bar hoping to win a golden ticket. He doesn't find the ticket but buys one more candy bar and finds a golden ticket!

Charlie then gets the chance to go to the chocolate factory tour. During the tour, people fly down trash chutes, blow up like blueberries and travel through space. And the characters learn lessons.

I definitely recommend this book because there are many interesting candy inventions.

*By Rachel M.*

*Reporter, Vista Grande*



## Flush

In Flush by Carl Hiaasen, Dusty Muleman, rich owner of the Coral Queen, a gambling boat in a fishing village in Florida is dumping waste from the toilets into the sea to save money.

That's why Noah Underwood's father, Paine Underwood,

sinks the boat as an act of protest, which lands him in jail. The ship reopens after a week, while Underwood gets out of jail. Together with their dad, Noah and his sister Abbey set out to nail Dusty Muleman.

During this fast-paced adventure they encounter a mean

henchman, a slang-speaking woman, her lazy boyfriend, and a polluted sea.

A heart-warming story, this book will delight readers with creativity and charming characters.

*By Melina D.*

*Reporter, Silver Spur*





## iPad 3: The 21st Century Tablet

Here is the scoop on the new iPad 3. Right now there is a debate about whether the iPad 3 will come out in March 2012 or in future months. According to Techweb the iPad 3 is guaranteed to come out in March. However, iPad3news.net says it will come out until the second quarter of 2012.

Before Steve Jobs died, he of a vision that Apple could transform the text book industry by paying strong writers to create texts that could optimize the

power of an iPad. Immediately Apple thought that the iPad3 would have a quadcore, high definition display, and a text book feeling.

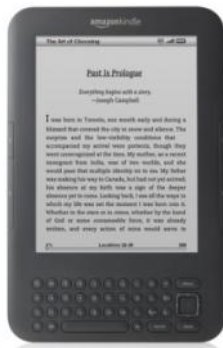
According to iPad3news.net, there will be two different iPad3 models and it may or may not have an A6 processor.

Some people are wondering if the death of Steve Jobs will affect the new iPad 3. Nobody really knows what it will do to the release. The latest speculation going around is whether the

new iPad will have curved glass like some newer cellphones. Most people and the news say "Yes!" There are also rumors that Apple has bought glass polishing equipment to clean the curved glass.

Still there are questions to be asked: will the new iPad have a new design, new features, and curved glass? Guess we will have to wait to find out!

*By Michael T.  
Reporter, Mira Catalina*



## The Amazin' Amazon Kindle

Turn on the Amazon Kindle and be amazed. After setting up your Kindle and linking it to your Amazon.com account, you will be presented with the Home menu. From here, you can access your content (books, personal docs, and games).

Press the context menu button and you will be presented with a menu that changes based on your current Kindle activity. From this menu, you can choose "Shop in Kindle Store" to buy and download any of your favorite titles. You can download about 1,400 books. Most books take only 60 seconds to download.

Books are available at a significantly lower price than the bound version. For example, the *Heroes of Olympus* e-book is sold for \$9.49 versus \$19.99 for the hardbound. It's very easy

to organize books with collections. Just create a collection, name it, and place books in it. To start reading, just select a title.

Customize your reading with the book preference settings. You can adjust the font and its size.

If you have several devices, use Whispersync to sync page numbers across all devices, like a smartphone or your PC.

### Web Browser

Amazon provides an application called Web Browser which, as the name implies, allows you to browse the web.

### Kindles for Everyone

There are different Kindle models, with a lower-priced version that anyone should be able to afford.

### How to unsubscribe

To unsubscribe to the advertisers, pay a one-time fee of \$30 and you won't see the offers again.

### Good scores

I would give Kindle a rating of nine out of ten. The ads aren't that annoying and they only appear on the Home screen and when it is in sleep mode.

### Pricing

The price value of Kindle is great at only \$79 for a basic Wi-Fi e-reader. The Kindle Touch is \$99 and the Kindle Fire is \$199.

If you want to buy your first e-reader, I highly recommend the Kindle.

*By Naoya O.  
Chief Editor  
Rancho Vista*

## Peanuts Relived

**P**eanuts: relived. No, no, no. Not the nut. The beloved comical cartoon characters.

Most everyone has heard of Charlie Brown and his friends, also known as “The Peanuts.” But do people *really* know The Peanuts, and the history behind all of the funny quotes and pictures?

Charles M. Schulz created the Peanuts. The first Peanuts comic strip appeared in seven newspapers on October 2, 1950. “The Peanuts” Gang included Charlie Brown, Snoopy (the

dog), Shermy, Sally, Woodstock (the bird), Peppermint Patty, Violet, Pig-Pen, and many more friends. Several original peanuts became supporting characters, and other characters who were created later played major roles in the peanuts comic strip.

In all, the comics, shaped by all of the wonderful characters, became extremely popular. They were something new in the newspaper comic strip, and over time became loved by adults and children alike.

The Peanuts comic strips became so well-known that mov-

ies such as “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” and “A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving” were made using the funny little characters.

Eventually, collector’s books with Schulz’ comics in it were also published. There are also musical soundtracks for the Peanuts gang.

Charlie Brown and his friends are children who have made many people laugh from the 1950s to today. So, check out some Peanuts comics, and “relive” the memories.

*By Sarah Y.*

*Reporter, Silver Spur*

# PEANUTS



## Lego—nauts

**W**e all know NASA astronauts can go into space, but how about LEGO-nauts? This amazing story took place in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Two teenagers named Mathew H. and Asad M. got the idea to make a homemade mini rocket and launch it into the stratosphere, using a weather balloon!

Mathew and Asad had been working on their mini rocket for four months. This was the boys’ afterschool ‘science project’. You might think it costs a lot to build a mini rocket but actually it only cost them \$400. The rocket had three cameras attached to a Styrofoam box, which took pictures every 20 seconds, throughout the flight. As well, there was a video camera strapped to the nose-cone, to capture the rockets entire trip. Also attached to the rocket was a LEGO man holding a Canadian flag that the boys had

printed on their printer. Inside the Styrofoam box was a cell phone with a GPS application, to locate the rocket after it returned to earth.

Before the launch, Mathew and Asad went to a website that calculated the details of where a mini rocket would land, based on several factors. So the boys entered the coordinates of their launch site, the wind direction and speed, and the start time of the flight. The boys launched their rocket from a soccer field near their homes, using a weather balloon and helium they purchased online. When the rocket reached 80,000 feet in the air, the balloon burst and deployed their homemade parachute. Two hours after launch, the rocket landed near Rice Lake, almost 122 kilometers (76 miles) away from the launch site. The two 17 year-olds recovered the rocket (using the

GPS on the cell phone) and downloaded the video and over 1,500 pictures that were taken during the journey. The boys watched their video many times before posting it on the internet for everyone to see!

To see the video go to YouTube: [http://www.youtube.com/watchfeature=player\\_embedded&v=MQwLmGR6bPA](http://www.youtube.com/watchfeature=player_embedded&v=MQwLmGR6bPA).

As soon as people saw the video, the boys became famous. The manufacturer of the cameras that were used on the rocket, has decided to give the boys their latest and most advanced camera, to use for future experiments! LEGO has also recognized the boys because of the LEGO figurine attached to the rocket. Remember to check out the video on YouTube!

*By Dhruv A.*

*Science Editor*

*Vista Grande*





Luke Southwell



Anna Wood

## Letter from PVPHS PressFriends Club

All of us at PVPHS PressFriends would like to applaud the efforts of the Peacock Press staff for the great job they've done on their articles.

It took a lot of helping hands to get the project off the ground, starting with our principal, Mitzi Cress, who offered to host the program. We also appreciate the support of PVPUSD's Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Dr. Susan Liberati, who has given us a lot of support and advice.

One of the most important assets to our program is our faculty advisor, Katherine Crowley, who took time this summer to help us design a curriculum not only for the Peacock Press, but also for the non-profit organization PressFriends.

### What is PressFriends

Some parents have asked us about PressFriends. Most of the members of PVPHS PressFriends club are also volunteers with PressFriends, which is a nonprofit service group formed in 2008 by six PVPUSD students. PressFriends middle and high school mentors work with over 350 elementary school students on eleven newspapers (five Title I elementary schools, the Palos Verdes Library District, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, the Lawndale Library, the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Pedro and Wilmington, and the Peacock Press).

Since PressFriends works with lower income schools and community programs, PVPHS

PressFriends Club and Peninsula High School worked together to fill parents' requests for an elementary student newspaper program similar to PressFriends' other programs.

### Who are PressFriends?

PressFriends now has over 100 middle and high school volunteers from all PVPUSD middle and high schools, as well as Chadwick, Vistamar, Banning High School, San Pedro High School, and Mira Costa High School. Some of our sixth grade mentors used to be reporters in the PressFriends program, and we hope to see some Peacock Press editors transition to be mentors next year!

PVPHS PressFriends Club thanks the PressFriends mentors from Palos Verdes High, Ridgecrest Intermediate, Miraleste Intermediate and Palos Verdes Intermediate for helping with the Peacock Press workshops.

### Fox Rocks

We would like to thank Twentieth Century Fox for all the great opportunities they've given the Peacock Press.

The Peacock Press and 135th Street Elementary School attended a pre-release screening of "Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked" at Fox Studios in December, and then in January, the Peacock Press attended the pre-release screening of "Star Wars Phantom Menace 3D" with six other PressFriends programs.

PVPHS PressFriends Club would like to give a special thank you to Jennifer Lopez, who heads National Publicity for Fox for giving us all these opportunities.

### Cool News for Kids

Peacock Press editors and reporters have come up with a lot of amazing articles, and we are very impressed by how dedicated and committed they are to the newspaper.

Since the Peacock Press launched in September, we have seen the editors and reporters grow in confidence and feel that their articles reflect their inquisitiveness, creativity, and individuality. Their work, and their parents' support, has really made the paper what it is today.

Once again, on behalf of all the members of PVPHS PressFriends Club, congratulations to the Peacock Press on another phenomenal issue.

*Luke Southwell  
Co-President  
PVPHS PressFriends Club*

*Anna Wood  
Co-President  
PVPHS PressFriends Club*

