

Peacock Press

April 2013

Volume 2, Issue 2

Inside this issue:

Vista Grande Reflections	3
Gaga Pits at Dapplegray	3
A Play within a Play	4
Fantastical Curtains	4
Behind the Curtains	5
Team Kids	6
Lights! Camera! Action!	6
Outdoor Science School	7
Soleado Fun Run	7
SB Wildlife Rehab	8
PV Art Center	9
Little League	9
Young at H"ART"	10
Raptors at Terranea	10
Wizard of Oz	11
Batter Up	11
Girl Scouts & SPCLA	12
Chivas USA Crew	12
Clippers	13
Musician Tommy King	14
Turkey Day	14
Lizards	15
Brookesia Micra	15
Book Review: Smile	16
Book: Harry Potter	16
iPhone5	17
Movie Review: Boom	17
Minecraft	18
Info Worm	19
Mitzi Cress	20
Nick Stephany	20
Pen PressFriends Club	20
PV PressFriends Club	20

Are You Sure You Didn't Do It?

On the evening of March 16th, Peacock Press reporters not only had the chance to watch Palos Verdes Peninsula High

School's spring production of *Curtains*, but to also take a backstage tour and interview the cast members after the show.

The musical *Curtains*, is about a cast who is performing a show called Robin Hood (western style). At the finale when everyone is taking bows, their leading lady Jessica Cranshaw mysteriously faints. After the show, she is rushed to the hospital and then declared dead. Everyone in the cast, including the director is now being held as a murder suspect. Lieutenant Frank Cioffi has just been hired to solve the mystery of Jessica Cranshaw's absurd death, and to find her murderer.



Peacock Press reporters with the cast of *Curtains*

Continued on page 19

Curtain Call

The musical *Curtains* was full of exciting twists and turns that kept people on their toes. On opening night, before the curtains fell, the leading lady mysteriously died on-stage. Then it was up to Lieutenant Frank Cioffi (sounds like choffee, rhymes with toffee), detective, to find out who murdered her. Much to the actors', actresses', and stage crew's dislike, they are put under theater arrest and are not

allowed to leave the building. Meanwhile, there is more off-stage drama as the actors regain their interest in show business, and Cioffi flirts with a lovely actress, and patching up the ruined show.

Everyone seems to be doing great, but Cioffi has trouble narrowing down his list of suspects. Everyone seems to be as innocent as

Continued on page 19



Peacock Press reporters with Tyler Barnett, after a backstage tour.



Abigail M.
Entertainment Rptr
Cornerstone



Aleksander M.
Reporter at Large
Palos Verdes



Alexandra Y.
Features Editor
Vista Grande



Alice M.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande



Andrea L.
Reporter at Large
Montemalaga



Anna M.
Reporter at Large
Palos Verdes



Asumi S.
News Editor
Vista Grande



Carolina C.
Chief Editor
Lunada Bay



Caroline T.
News Reporter
Dapplegray



Diana K.
Chief Editor
Vista Grande



Drew S.
News Reporter
Silver Spur



Francesca M.
Sports Reporter
Mira Catalina



Hannah S.
Sports Editor
Soleado



Hattie S.
Chief Reporter
Rancho Vista



Isabelle W.
Chief Editor
Montemalaga



Jeannie-Rose M.
News Reporter
Lunada Bay



Jenna P.
Careers Editor
Montemalaga



Jessica H.
Chief Reporter
Soldeado



Josie B.
Features Editor
Lunada Bay



Judith P.
Entertainment Ed.
Cornerstone



Julianna P.
Entertainment Rptr
Mira Catalina



Justin A.
Science Editor
Vista Grande



Kai M.
Chief Reporter
Cornerstone



Kapil D.
Science Reporter
Cornerstone



Kaylin L.
Chief Reporter
Mira Catalina



Kristen M.
Entertainment Rptr
Point Vicente



Lauren C.
Entertainment Rptr
Point Vicente



Maddie Y.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande



Melina D.
Chief Reporter
Silver Spur



Michaela L.
Features Editor
Montemalaga



Mikayla K.
News Editor
Silver Spur



Minji J.
Chief Editor
Point Vicente



Nicole S.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande



Olivia S.
Careers Editor
Lunada Bay



Rachel M.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande



Raza K.
News Editor
Montemalaga



Rhiannon P.
Entertainment Ed.
Lunada Bay



Ricardo P.
Features Editor
Dapplegray



Ronjini C.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande



Rosalie B.
Entertainment Ed.
Montemalaga



Ryan P.
Sports Editor
Point Vicente



Sarah B.
Careers Editor
Soleado



Sydney L.
Reporter at Large
Montemalaga



Syris T.
Reporter at Large
Montemalaga



Terrie J.
News Reporter
Soleado



Thy D.
Entertainment Ed.
Soleado



Troy S.
Sports Editor
Cornerstone



Reflections Winners at Vista Grande

Many students throughout the state participate every year to compete in the Reflections Art competition. The Reflections Arts Recognition Program is a contest where students from Kindergarten to 12th grade from participating schools can enter to compete in the six categories of Visual Arts, Photography, Literature, Dance Choreography, Musical Composition, and Film Production.

Students competing in Reflections create works of art based on the theme chosen annually.

The first Reflections Contest was in 1969 and that year's theme was "Children and Youth Mirror Their World." Since then over 10 million children have taken part in this PTA program.

This year, the theme was "The Magic of the Moment".

Next year, the theme will be "Believe, Dream, Inspire."

The Winners are . . .

The students' Reflections' submissions are judged by the local PTAs, and the winning entries move forward to the council, then the district, the state PTA, and finally to the National PTA for judging.

The first place winners at Vista Grande Elementary School in the Primary Division were Miyu O. for Literature, Vivian C. for Visual Arts, Hannah Ollmann P. for Photography, and second grader Deya A. for Dance Choreography, Film Production, and Music Composition.

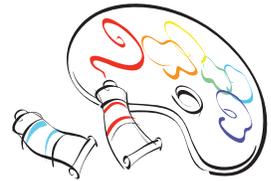
The first place winners at Vista Grande in the Intermediate Division were Kelsie B. for Literature, John C. for Visual Arts, and Isabella S. for Photography.

All of the first place winners from Vista Grande were sent to compete at the council level and were recognized on February 6, 2013 at a ceremony at Ridgecrest Intermediate School.

At the council level, Isabella S. placed third for Photography and Vivian C. placed second for Visual Arts. Deya A. was awarded first place in Film Production and second place for Dance Choreography. Her entry in Film Production moved on to the 33rd District Level.

Congratulations to all the Vista Grande winners and thank you to all the contestants in this year's Reflections Art competition!

*Alexandra Y.
Features Editor
Vista Grande*



Gaga Pits at Dapplegray

When the 4th grade visited Lazy W camp this past fall, the Gaga Pit was one of the most popular activities there. The Gaga Pit is an octagon structure used to play dodge ball. To play, each player stands against the wooden structure, taking turns to throw the ball and eliminate the other players in order to win.

Since returning from the Lazy W trip, there has been talk amongst the 4th graders of raising funds to build Gaga Pits on the playground.

In a meeting with the student council and Dapplegray's principal, Mr. London, they decided that three pits would best suit our school. One for kindergarten and 1st grade, another for 2nd and 3rd, and one more for 4th and 5th grade. The cost of each pit amounts to approximately 500 dollars for brackets, lumber, and assembly.

As a first step in the process, the fourth graders wrote a letter to Crenshaw Lumber, asking for a donation of the lumber required to

build the pit; and they generously replied yes.

As a second step, the school hosted a breakfast fundraiser to help pay for any remaining costs. Dapplegray Elementary School started construction on the first pit, and the others will follow this spring. All the students at Dapplegray cannot wait for the new Gaga Pits to be completed!

*Caroline T.
News Reporter
Dapplegray*





A Play within a Play

The word “curtains” has a double meaning. You can say “curtains” to get the giant pieces of cloth that hide the stage of a theatre to open or close. Or you can say “curtains” to refer to death/murder. Peninsula High School ran a musical named *Curtains* that used both at once.

Curtains was a play within a play. An actress dies on stage in the first scene right before the curtains close. A detective comes to investigate the cast and crew and in the midst of the investigation, it is also “curtains” for some of these suspects. Who is killing them? The plot is clever and keeps you guessing. *Curtains* is also really funny and full of music, singing and dancing.

The *Peacock Press* had the opportunity to meet the cast and crew backstage before the opening curtain and also do interviews after the final curtain.

Although the play was fascinating, the cast and crew were even more fascinating. Learning about their dedication, talent and thoughts about acting first hand really made the play come to life.

The group of actors was awesome! They answered all kinds of questions from the reporters and just started talking in a group about what acting was about for them. They love it and are so happy to be following their dreams.

Going to see live high school theater is different from going to the movies.



Actress Hanna Hilden

There are no 3D glasses, but it is in 3D. You can clap and cheer for real people who can hear you. These actors also live in your neighborhood and maybe even went to your elementary school.

So watch the great high school performances from the opening curtain to the closing curtain –they are great!

Anna M.

Reporter at Large
Palos Verdes

The Fantastical World of *Curtains*

Have you ever hoped to be like your favorite actor or actress? Do you ever get a feeling to want to act onstage? Welcome to the fantastical world of *Curtains*!

There has been a show called *Curtains* at the PV Peninsula High School. The story was about the murder of the actress, and it happened during her performance. It was very interesting because they played the “show” in the show. During the “show”, more people get killed mysteriously. The investigator tried to find the

murderer and in the end, he found out that the murderer was the least expected one.

Being a high school student actor or actress is hard. They have to rehearse 50 hours a week for 2 ½ months. On top of everything, they

are students, so of course, they have lots of homework and test preparations!

One actor had the most marvelous talent anyone would ever know as a high

Continued on next page



Ian Axberg, Hanna Hilden,
Kellen Goff, Hannah Olson



Actor Kellen Goff meeting the Peacock Press

Behind the Curtain of Curtains

The *Peacock Press* reporters were with a cool group of people at 10:00 p.m. on March 16. They performed in a musical called *Curtains* at Peninsula High School.

The *Peacock Press* was lucky to be able to interview these actors after the show. During the interview, the *Peacock Press* asked the stars what other activities they do outside of the musical. Kellen Goff (who played Christopher Belling) said he is a black belt in karate, Ian Axberg (Lieutenant Frank Cioffi) talked about wrestling, Hanna Hilden (Georgia Hendricks) played soccer, and Amanda Yost (stage manager) plays water polo. Tyler Barnett (Ensemble), Katie Murray (Nicky Harris), Hannah Olsen (Carmen Bernstein), Kelsey Roche (Bambi Bernet) talked about their interests in costume design, dancing and singing.

The actors answered another question about how

they memorized all their lines. Basically, they said: practice, practice, practice so you feel like you're the character.

The *Peacock Press* got a chance to go backstage before the play and saw that many of the actors looked nervous.

After the play, the *Peacock Press* asked, "Were you nervous before the play?" Many said they were not but some admitted they were.

The actors also said you can make mistakes and it's okay. You can just play off of the mistake.

A discussion started about acting in general and what they like most about it. As a character, the actors agreed that you can do things you can't normally do, or say things you can't say in real life.

Kellen Goff talked about how it is fun to get to act "stupid" in plays. Everyone agreed that the more silly you feel, the better you are doing.

Fantastical Curtains

Continued from previous page

school student: Kellen Goff. He can change his voice from a British accent to a SpongeBob's laugh in one second. He played the director of the "show". He will be commencing his full-time voice-acting career as well as continuing his studies in acting and voice.

Hannah Olson played the mother of a dancer, and the

audience got drawn into her realistic performance. No wonder Hannah has been performing onstage ever since 6th grade and has been in 10 other musicals!

When you unite with people through friendship, amazing things could happen. That is exactly what happened in *Curtains*. Each actor and actress was ama-

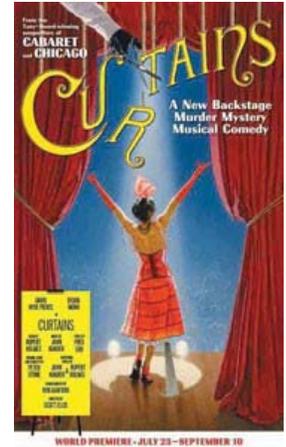


Katie Murray, Kelsey Roche, Hanna Hilden, Ian Axberg

Curtains had a funny and interesting plot as a musical, full of action and dead (fake) bodies. I liked the play because all the actors worked hard and were really serious about what they do. It was a long night for them, but it was worth it. Learning about an actor's point of view and how they think of their own talents was so interesting. They love entertaining the crowd.

High school plays are full of amazing people and are so exciting you can't fall asleep. Go see them.

*Aleksander M.
Reporter at Large
Palos Verdes*



Amanda Yost, Katie Murray

teur when they started, but after many hours of practice, the show came alive and could move the audience. The students did better than they could imagine, maybe even better than a professional actor and actress because of their friendships.

*Asumi S.
News Editor
Vista Grande*



Go Team Kids

Team Kids is a great way to get to know and help others. This year, Vista Grande Elementary School has a year long leadership team. They are the fourth and fifth graders who want to help people in need for an entire school year, not just a month.

The Team Kids challenge each week helps many homeless people, who unlike us, don't have warm clothes on cold days. Ms. Boyd, a teacher who helps with the

challenges says, "It's not Team Ms. Boyd, it's Team Kids!"

Kids on the leadership team spend part of their lunch recess time to make posters, organize announcements and discuss the challenge and it's goals.

Kids in some shelters now have balls to play with from the Ball Drive.

Also, families might have clothing, soap, and even laundry detergent because almost 500 kids de-

cidated that they would help them. Just by themselves, Vista Grande raised more than \$1000 during Change For Charity, another fundraiser.

Team Kids wasn't made for you to feel like you're in detention. It was made for you to help others and most of all, HAVE FUN!!!

Ronjini C.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande

Lights! Camera! Action!



Do you want to show off something that you are really good at? The March 2013 Variety Show is a great way to start!

A Peacock Press reporter asked Mrs. Marshall, the organizer of this year's program, about the show.

"I volunteered for this year's show because last year there was no show and I didn't want that to happen again," said Mrs. Marshall.

The Peacock Press interviewed a couple of students about being in the Variety Show and about watching it.

Ariana D., a fourth grader at Point Vicente Elementary, said, "I'm doing a solo act. My act is singing and tap dancing at the same time."

The Peacock Press then interviewed one student in the audience. Ella C., a first

grader at Point Vicente, said, "When I watch the Variety Show, I want to hear people singing rock 'n roll songs. I don't want to hear that much Rap."

But no matter what, we all want to see talent and everyone having a great time! Let's get this show started!!!

Lauren C.
Entertainment Reporter
Point Vicente



The Peacock Press thanks

Mr. Seth Cohen, Tyler Barnett, the actors and crew of Curtains, the PVPHS Drama Club, and the PVPHS Drama Boosters for giving our reporters such a great experience.

Outdoor Science School is Super Cool

Future fifth graders have something to look forward to, because Outdoor Science School (OSS) is super cool. OSS is a place where kids can take nature walks and learn about the plants and animals they live around.

This is an overnight field trip that lasts five days. Your principal has the choice of sending the fifth graders to Big Bear or to Malibu. This year, the fifth grade students of Point Vicente went to Blue Sky Meadow in Big Bear, and they had a blast!

We had special evenings like Dance Night, Skit Night, and the solo hikes. During Dance Night kids can let their stress out while dancing line dances that are taught by naturalists[counselors.

When it's time for Skit Night, cabins show off the skits that they wrote and practiced while competing for turns and learning songs.

There's no need to fear solo hikes, because you learn that the only thing you ever need to be afraid of is your imagination. Besides, the stars and the moon will always be above. They provide all the light you will ever need to be able to see in front of you.

Another thing to look forward to are the cabins. If your parent volunteers as a chaperone, you will be in his or her cabin. The cabins are warm and large. There are also bathrooms, sinks, and showers in each cabin, so you don't have to hike a mile to wash up.

The water in the cabins come straight from the mountain, so it is very clean. The same water runs through each faucet, so you can take a drink as you brush your teeth.

The only drawback in the cabins is that the beds creak! Each cabin holds 10 people.

If you think that the naturalists are going to let all the information you received that day slip in one ear and out the other, you are absolutely wrong. Each naturalist assigns homework for you to do when you get back to your cabin. Some take it easy on their students and only assign a page or two. But others assign ten pages each day. This may sound like a lot of work, but there isn't much else to do except talk to friends who won't listen to you because they are doing homework as well.

All in all, OSS is a great way for kids to become closer together in a way that is indescribable. They feel more like a family - laughing at mishaps, caring about what happens to each other, and helping each other out.

*Minji J.
Chief Editor
Point Vicente*



Just Fun!

Just Run! Do you know what that means? It's the Fun Run!

Soleado Elementary School has an event called the Fun Run every year. This ceremony is where you just run laps around the field. This event was started over 20 years ago.

At the event, you can buy spirit wear, buy snacks, and eat lunch with your parents. If you want to go home

early, you can sign out from the front office too. Also, this year, our PTA did fundraising for iPads. We have iPads in our school and we were planning to buy more. Luckily, we reached our goal to \$15,000! Not only that, but we also reached our second goal \$20,000.

Now, our principal Mr. Allen will kiss a real live pig. All the students are very excited.

This year for the Fun Run, you got to order tickets if you wanted to buy lunch from the school. If you didn't you could either buy from the cafeteria, or you could eat the lunch your parents brought.

The Fun Run is a very special event and you won't want to miss any of them!

*Terrie J.
News Reporter
Soleado*





A Wildlife Rehab to the Rescue in the South Bay

The Palos Verdes Peninsula has an abundance of wildlife, including many species of songbirds and birds of prey. On most any afternoon, a Palos Verdes resident can look to the sky and see a Red-Shouldered Hawk flying in circles and most evenings hear the “hoo-hoo-hoo” call of a Great Horned Owl.

What would you do if you found one of these magnificent birds injured from a fight with a “murder” (flock) of crows? What would you do if you found a small songbird hurt from its escape from a predator?

The South Bay Wildlife Rehab, a nonprofit organization, rehabilitates “sick, injured and orphaned California native birds for return to the wild.” The SBWR rescue “birds of prey, songbirds and hummingbirds (and) take in about 500 of each, each year,” states Ann Lynch,

founder and executive director of the group and a Federal and State licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

The SBWR is also committed to providing educational programs to schools, bringing their feathered teachers, i.e., some of their rescued birds of prey who could not be released back into the wild, such as Eddie, a male Great Horned Owl who was hit by a car and suffered a damaged right wing and right eye, harming his eyesight and limiting his ability to fly.

The birds, and their caretakers, help children and adults to realize how important the animals are with whom we share our community and world.

SBWR’s Visionary

SBWR was started in by Ann Lynch, a Federal and State licensed rehabilitator with over 30 years of experience. Ann Lynch says of the

programs, “Hopefully, it will make people more attuned to the environment. I figure that a kid or an adult who sees a bird like this (gesturing to Eddie) up close is not as apt to go out and harm one.”

The organization can trace its beginning back to a Scrub Jay named ‘Bird.’ According to Ann Lynch, a science teacher at the time, “He lived in my classroom finally. The kids loved him. He used to steal things! We would put flower pots over things and he’d come down, stick his beak under the flower pot, tip it and grab whatever was under it.”

More information about The South Bay Wildlife Rehab can be found at <http://www.sbwr.org>. The SBWR runs with the help of their dedicated volunteers and by donations.

*Kai M.
Chief Reporter
Cornerstone*



Free CMA Kids News Summer Program

Have a great time this summer with PressFriends at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium! PressFriends is holding its annual free summer workshops at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, and students will write articles for *CMA Kids News*. Past workshops have included tidepool walks, salt marsh visits, and collecting and investigating plankton. PressFriends mentors who are also CMA docents will take reporters on aquarium tours. The dates will be announced in May at pressfriends.org.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Palos Verdes Art Center

The Palos Verdes Art Center is having a Grand Re-Opening. The Palos Verdes Art Center has been around for 80 years. It is being remodeled with a new larger building. There Grand Re-Opening celebrations are from March 23rd to May 5th, 2013.

Since the Art Center has been remodeled, there are new classes to take. There are art classes in glass making, drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and art history (this means learning about famous artists and different times in our history where art is popular), photography, and printmaking.

These new and old classes will be taught by college instructors and well-known artists. There are over 300 art classes to take.

If you're in elementary school, then you know what "Art At Your Fingertips" is and you love those fun projects. Art At Your Fingertips" is run by the PV Art Center. You can take classes during the school year and during the summer.

There are 20 exhibitions in 3 galleries each year, where you and your family can walk around and see different paintings and sculptures. The themes are more from Southern California.

The first exhibition was held in 1931. Today, about 20 annual exhibitions showcase a variety of artists, ranging from well-known to the works of local students.

The PV Art Center is having its 80th anniversary! You can explore the Art Center; but you have to get tickets to go. The remodeling looks new and beautiful. The 3 galleries are the Main Gallery, the Walker Gallery, and the Norris & Jim and Nancy Welsh Gallery.

You should visit the PV Art Center and see what's new.

*Isabelle W.
Chief Editor
Montemalaga*



Batter Up

Play Ball! The Rolling Hills Little League is on the move! Kids from all over the hill came on January 12th to the Rolling Hills Little League field at Dapplegray Elementary School for try-outs.

The Little League skill levels go from T-ball, Rookie, Minors, Intermediate, to Majors. Coaches got

to see the skills of each player as kids played their best.

Saturday, March 2nd, was Opening Day for the League. It was celebrated with float decorating, a parade, opening ceremonies, and a carnival. The carnival had game booths, bounce houses, and prizes for entertainment. The Tommy Bur-

gers Food truck kept everyone full.

The teams are all set and the first games have begun. The teams practiced during pre-season and couldn't wait for the games to start. The Astros Intermediate team really wants to win this year!

The Rolling Hills Little League was created to provide youth in our community with an environment that promotes the enjoyment, appreciation, and understanding of the game of baseball, while teaching the virtues of teamwork, fair play, and sportsmanship. They have been providing a great baseball experience to kids in Palos Verdes since 1955.

*Ricardo P.
Features Editor
Dapplegray*



Project Young at H"ART"



A group of Cadette Girl Scouts in our neighborhood is doing a worthwhile project called Young at H"ART".

Sophia B., Felicia L., and Julia N. are working on their Girl Scouts Silver Award project. They identified an issue in our community: the seniors in senior homes sometimes feel lonely or neglected because their families do not or cannot visit them often. They decided to take action.

The group contacted the owner of Clear View Convalescent Home to ask if

they could make a piece of artwork for the seniors. They visited the home, talked to the seniors, and asked what they liked. Then, they put all the ideas together into a beautiful piece of artwork to cheer the seniors. They also taught a younger Girl Scout troop about their project and together, they made cards to give to the seniors.

On March 1st, the group organized an unveiling ceremony for the piece of artwork. It was a tree with different hidden objects. There were cats, wolves, dolphins,

butterflies, a fish's tail, and even a trumpet! All the things the seniors liked. They also led the younger troop in singing songs, playing the piano, and distributing cards to the seniors.

The visit brought happiness to the senior home. It also made the younger troop excited about doing more for the seniors. Thank you, Cadette Girl Scouts, for making our community a better place!

*Andrea L.
Reporter at Large
Montemalaga*

The Raptors at Terranea



If you didn't know, raptors are birds of prey. But, do you know why raptors are important at Terranea? Well, about 4 years ago before Terranea first opened, large populations of seagulls were living there, eating there, and yes -- pooping there, too!

To keep the seagulls from annoying visitors and also to keep the environment safe from health hazards resulting from bird poop, Terranea hired Aerial Solutions to help get rid of the seagulls naturally, without hurting them.

How do they do it? Bird control specialist, Randi Johnson, of Aerial Solutions, uses raptors, such as Harris Hawks, Peregrine and hybrid Saker Falcons, to scare the birds that are not supposed to be there away. Ms. Johnson,

who is also a General Falconer, flies the raptors around the property.

One of the raptors flown at Terranea is the Peregrine Falcon, which is the fastest bird on earth. It can fly up to 200 miles per hour!

These birds are very special and take only a short time to train, just 1-2 months, depending on how old they are.

When they first started flying over Terranea, the falcons and hawks had been flying seven days a week for two months. Ms. Johnson shared that they now fly the raptors 3 to 5 days a week, because they have a much better control over the seagulls.

"The only seagulls we see today are the young ones that don't know about the



raptors here", says Ms. Johnson. "All seagulls have an instant fear of raptors once they are born."

So the next time you go to Terranea, look up in the sky! You might even see a raptor! And you will know why raptors, and people like Ms. Johnson who train them, are important.

*Drew S.
News Reporter
Silver Spur*

An All-New Family Fantasia Performance, The Wizard of Oz!

Family Fantasia, a drama company, gathers students from all kinds of schools to perform new acts each season. This fantastic group of actors and actresses perform at a theatre in Redondo Beach. For spring, they are producing *Wizard of Oz!*

As Cassidy A., an actress from Family Fantasia, notes, "Acting is really fun as soon as you grow to like it."

For the past few years, Family Fantasia has performed these shows: *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*,



and *Once Upon a Mattress!*

While the actors and actresses act, they also sing and dance to songs such as "Under the Sea", "A Whole New World", and "Poor Unfortunate Souls".

These actors and actresses have very interesting parts, chosen mostly by Mr. and Mrs. Brown, the Directors of this program.

Sophia S. a actress new to this program, has been chosen for the part of the Tin Man; Cassidy A. and Emily I. together are the Scarecrows.

The parents have costumes ready for the actors and actresses, which are delicately made and define what the actor's or actress's part is. These vivid costumes have every piece of fabric and thread in place.

Cassidy A. and Emily I. always say "I'm the Scare and she's the Crow!" when someone asks what they are for this upcoming spring performance, *The Wizard of Oz*.

When you're watching, sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

Judith P.
Entertainment Editor
Cornerstone



Affordable Fun at the Promenade

Did you know that you don't have to spend a lot of money to have a good time on the Peninsula?

Movie Tuesdays

At the Promenade mall, Regal Promenade 13 offers a "movie day" on Tuesdays. You can see a movie anytime of day for only \$5.

Discount tickets at Ruby's

Why not make it a day or night and try one of the great restaurants located in the mall.

With any meal at Ruby's, you can also purchase a movie ticket at a discounted rate to use any day of the week.

There is an additional fee to see 3D movies on "movie day" and with the discounted ticket at Ruby's.

Summer specials

Keep in mind with the summer months approaching, that Regal has a special deal. On Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. during the sum-

mer, Regal has \$1 PG and G rated movies.

Ice skating

Another fun and affordable thing to do in the mall is ice-skating. Located next to Ruby's is the Ice Chalet. There, kids 10 and under can ice skate until your feet hurt for only \$5. This also includes the skate rental. Adults are only \$8, with skate rental NOT included.

This is also a fun way to get some exercise and cool off during the hot summer days. So why not enjoy yourself at the Promenade on the Peninsula mall.

Rosalie B.
Entertainment Editor
Montemalaga



Girl Scout Silver Award for SPCALA



Do you know what the SPCALA is? It is the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Los Angeles.

One Silver Award group from Palos Verdes Troop 11705 did their Silver Award on helping the animals at SPCALA. Their names are Alyssa, Katy, Katherine, and Christine.

A Silver Award is the highest award that you can earn as a middle school aged Girl Scout, also known as a Cadette.

The Project

At SPCALA there are shelter dogs and cats that need homes. They need toys and a family to live with. That's why the girls working on their Silver Award helped

to make the SPCALA animals happy.

The group of girls from Troop 11705 went to places like preschools, Kids Corner, and the Boys and Girls Club in San Pedro to teach about animals.

Animal Issues

One thing these girls talked about was animal abuse. Animal abuse is hurting or not taking proper care of an animal.

Another thing that they explained was dog and cat care. Dogs and cats need food, water, company, a shelter, and toys.

Service dogs are another thing this group talked about. Dogs are very smart and can make people very happy by being their service dog.

Also, the Girl Scouts helped the kids make toys such as the water bottle in the sock toy. The toys were for the animals at the SPCALA.

Another important thing these Girl Scouts talked about was to adopt from a shelter because they were probably rescued and are in need of a home. So if you ever want a pet, adopt from a shelter.

The girls not only wanted to help the animals, but they also taught the kids about how to take care of animals. Now many kids know how to take care of animals, and the cats and dogs at SPCALA are well cared for.

*Maddie Y.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande*

Part of the Crew



Chivas USA vs. Columbus Crew game opener March 2. The game was off to a slow start, but started to pick up steam in the second half.

Before we get to the game, a little history between these two teams will help set the stage. Crew has not defeated Chivas USA at the Home Depot Center since their first meeting ever on September 3, 2005. Chivas USA had won five consecutive home meetings against Crew until a scoreless draw April 9, 2011.

Chivas have a new look with some famous faces being traded away and a new

head coach Jose Luis Sanchez Sola "El Chelis".

A Crew Evening

This evening of March 2, I was a Crew guest. My best friend Cooper Baum (Ohio) invited me, along with my parents and our "King of the Hill" teammate Rhys Hendershot.

We sat four rows from the field with a great view. The game was scoreless going into the second half with both teams playing strong defense. At times it was a very physical game of slide tackling and pushing. The Columbus Crew came out with something to prove this

night. Goals were scored by Fredrico Higuain, Josh Williams, and Dominic Oduro. Yes folks, three straight goals. I was able to see all of them right from our small but loud section of bright yellow and black. Final score 3-0 Crew.

My two MVP's were Eddie Gaven (midfielder) and Andy Gruenebaum (goalkeeper).

I learned a lot from watching these two players play. I am a part of the CREW!

*Syris T.
Reporter at Large
Montemalaga*

On the Court with the Clippers

The Los Angeles Clippers have typically had a rough start in the past but, this year, they are coming back strong! They've been to the playoffs seven times since 1970 and are about to make that number eight. This may be the year that they win their first championship title.

Training Clippers

The *Peacock Press* met up with the Los Angeles Clippers' athletic trainer, Jasen Powell. Jasen has had many experiences in playing basketball through his college, Cal Poly Pomona. He holds a bachelor's degree in Kinesiology and Health Promotion.

Jasen had been serving as an assistant athletic trainer for the San Francisco 49ers for 4 years. He was then hired as the assistant athletic trainer for the Los Angeles Clippers in 1994.

In 1997, he created the Jasen Powell Health Promotion Scholarship and since then, has been a part of various other health organizations.

Jasen has dealt with many injuries including his own. Suffering from the same injury as Chauncey



Jasen Powell

Billups, Jasen suffered from a torn Achilles.

The *Peacock Press* reporters had a little talk with him to hear what he thinks is going to happen during this year's playoff season.

Peacock Press: What makes this team so different from the previous Clippers teams?

Jason Powell: The players have good chemistry and most of them know the history of winning from their previous teams.

Peacock Press: Do you feel like they have a shot at win-

ning the championships for the first time?

Jason Powell: Well, I feel like it's a legitimate shot. First time players have also won before so I think they may have a chance.

Peacock Press: Is there one specific person that really stands out when they practice and play?

Jason Powell: Blake Griffin is pretty intense and Ryan Hollins is serious. Also, Chauncey has really raised the level of competitiveness.

Peacock Press: Have you created a special bond with any of the players?

Jason Powell: Yes, That's something that's happened over time. Just being able to connect with them on and off the court.

Peacock Press: Do you have any advice for future NBA stars?

Jason Powell: Work hard consistently at being a better player, be humble, and always play as a team.

Ryan P.
Sports Editor
Pointe Vicente



Basketball Trivia

- Who won the 2009 NBA Finals?
a. Cleveland Cavaliers b. Los Angeles Lakers c. Orlando Magic d. Boston Celtics
- Who was the first person to score 100 points in a regulation NBA game?
a. Michael Jordan b. LeBron James c. Wilt Chamberlain d. Kobe Bryant
- Who was the NBA Most Valuable Player in 2008-09?
a. Kobe Bryant b. Dwight Howard c. Kevin Garnett d. LeBron James

Answers: 1. c 2. b 3. d



The Life of a Musician: Tommy King



You may think that a musician's life is all fame and fortune, but it is not.

Tommy King, a professional musician, is 27 years old and has been playing music since he first took a piano lesson at age four. He finally started enjoying music in the 7th grade when he joined a jazz band.

Tommy said, "When I was young, my idol was the Cookie Monster. Since then, Tommy has admired the work of Brian Wilson who "redefined pop music in such a unique and individual way."

Tommy has made a couple CDs and has been on the red carpet several times. He has worked on the hit Fox TV show "The X Factor" for the past two seasons as the music director and piano player for the past two seasons.

He stated, "my favorite part of being a musician is seeing the world and encouraging people with music."

"My least favorite part of the job," he said, "is the lack of job security."

"As I got older, music intrigued me more."

Tommy said he never gets nervous when he goes on stage now. However, Tommy stated, "when I was really young, I got so nervous at my classical piano recital that I could not remember the song I was supposed to play. I just sat at the piano pulling a blank look for a few minutes."

Through the good times and bad times, Tommy will continue his musical journey.

*Jenna P.
Careers Editor
Montemalaga*

The Turkey Day



Every year in the U.S., people celebrate Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday of November. There are tons of traditions celebrated on Thanksgiving! People celebrate their own traditions and some still follow the original Thanksgiving traditions.

One of the greatest things to do on Thanksgiving is to see family and relatives that live far away.

With their relatives, families usually have a huge feast with popular foods like turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, corn bread, and cranberry sauce.

After the feast, the host of the party gets pie for his/her guests. Some of the popular pie flavors are pumpkin, sweet potato, and apple.

History of Thanksgiving

The original Thanksgiving lasted three days and was in the year of 1621. It was celebrated in Plymouth, also known as Massachusetts today. The feast they ate included fish, berries, clams, venison, and plums. It was very different compared to our Thanksgiving traditions today.

Thanksgiving celebrations

Today, many people use Thanksgiving to help the poor. For example, they may volunteer at a homeless shelter and help serve food to homeless people.

Another thing people do is donate or participate in a canned food drive to feed the poor. It is so nice of people to give and help others!

A lot of families watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Many marching bands, musicians, and celebrities usually come to surprise everyone at the parade. In 2012, some celebrities such as Cody Simpson, Carly Rae Jepsen, and the USA Women's Olympic Gymnastics Team thrilled the audience!

Many families in different cultures have their own traditions that make Thanksgiving fun and unique to them! Seeing the parade, helping the poor, and having a feast with your family and relatives are all part of what makes Thanksgiving such a special holiday!

*Jessica H.
Chief Reporter
Soleado*

Lizards, The Sly and the Sneaky

Lizards come in many different shapes and sizes. They may have four, two, or no legs.

Lizards can live almost anywhere in the world. They can lay eggs or give birth.

There are about 5,000 types of lizards. Iguanas, geckos, chameleons, skinks, monitors, and more. The lizard most commonly found on the Palos Verdes Peninsula is called the Western Fence Lizard. It is gray and has a shimmering blue belly and neck.

Lizard defenses

Lizards have ways to defend themselves. Some lizards camouflage while others, such as Shingleback

Skinks, look like they have two heads!

Lizard characteristics

Lizards have scales, or special skin. The skin is made out of keratin.

Geckos and other lizards born to climb trees have particular feet to help them cling onto branches. Geckos have toe pads with really small hairs on them. Molecules on each hair stick like magnets to branches the gecko is on.

Chameleons have two fingers that hold tight to branches. Deserts are good places to find lizards because there is a lot of sun and lizards need sun to survive or else they are too cold and slow to hunt. Some lizards

have flaps of skin and webbed feet that they use to "glide" across trees.

Baby lizards don't have parents to take care of them, so they have to rely on themselves to keep them safe. Lizards can lose their tail to wriggle away.

More about lizards

The Komodo Dragon is the largest lizard in the world. It lives in Indonesia. The smallest, a Dwarf Gecko that lives in the Caribbean, is so small it fits on your thumbnail.

Lizards are unpredictable, amazing, and interesting!

Melina D.

Chief Reporter

Silver Spur



Big News About A Little Guy

Grab your magnifying glass because there's a new little guy in town. He may be small but he has made a huge splash in the scientific world.

This new chameleon's discovery was announced February 14, 2012 and was discovered in the northern jungle of Madagascar. This chameleon's name is *Brookesia Micra*.

The surprising length of this little creature is 30 millimeters from the tail to the nose and it is believed to be the smallest vertebrate on earth.

This chameleon has huge eyes and a curly tail. The miniature chameleon lives on the forest floor by day and crawls into low branches to sleep at night, which is when the researchers spotted it.

Their life may already be in trouble because of habitat loss. The scientists who found the *Brookesia Micra*



say they probably exist in very few places.

These chameleons use the curled-down tip of their tail to provide added stability because their little legs are unstable.

X-rays of *Brookesia* tails have shown 20 vertebrae compared to the usual 50 of larger chameleons.

The scientific world is excited for this newest find in the animal kingdom.

Mikayla K.

News Editor

Silver Spur





Smile!

This book is called *Smile*. *Smile* is a true story by Raina Telgemeier. She lives in San Francisco and was running. She fell and lost her permanent two front teeth.

Raina is forced to get braces. Her friends are Emily, Kaylah, Karin, Kelli, Nicole, Jenny, and Melissa. Karin and Nicole are not being so friendly. They are making fun of her teeth injuries.

The book has lots of different characters: Raina and her friends, Dr. Dragoni, Dr. Golden, Amara, and Will. Later on in the story, Raina makes a new friend, Theresa.

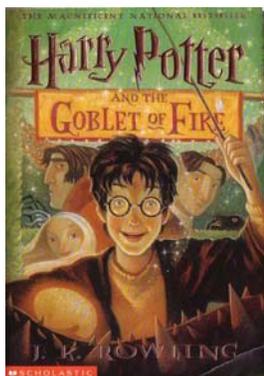
The book is spectacular and so is the dialogue. *Smile*, in general, is a great lesson to just be you. Even if it is a comic book, the words mean the same as a page in a chapter book.

In general, the book is interesting and action filled. The pictures are very detailed. The comics are awesome.

Many people will enjoy this book. Girls of all ages will like this book.

So read this book and Smile.

*Alice M.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande*



Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire is a Hit

Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire is a great book. It is the fourth book of an award winning series.

This book is about a boy named Harry who goes to a school called Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry to learn magic. This school is the best magic school in the world.

At the school, there are a lot of mysteries and odd things that Harry and his best

friends Ron and Hermione want to solve. They have to do a lot of rule breaking. Will it pay off?

Triwizard Tournament

Besides trying to keep up his magic skills and solving all the mysteries at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, Harry is also picked for a wizard tournament called The Triwizard Tournament. This tourna-

ment is highly dangerous and wizards have died before in it. Among all this confusion, Harry also needs to find a way to get past the Dark Lord.

How will Harry get through all these challenges? Read all about it in J.K.

Rowling's book, *Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire*.

*Nicole S.
Reporter at Large
Vista Grande*



Free PV Kids News Summer Camp

Have a great time this summer with PressFriends! PressFriends is holding a half-day, week-long, summer camp at the Peninsula Center library. Students will work on news articles, profiles, and book reviews for *PV Kids News*.

The dates and online sign-ups will be posted in May at pressfriends.org and pvld.org.

The Magnificent Creation of Technology

There is a new hit in technology and that hit is the new iPhone 5 and it's better than ever!

This device is the lightest and thinnest phone, so it can fit perfectly in your pocket, and the best part is that this phone is a part of Steve Job's multi-billion dollar company, Apple.

Any owner of the new iPhone 5 can provide all the best details about this phone. This new phone is designed for its excellent camera. Everyone can now take amazing photos with the camera brand panorama, which comes out beautifully clear.



iPhone 5

Another detail about the phone is that it has a bright flash so pictures sparkle in the night.

The iPhone 5 is actually the same length as an iPhone 4, so there is no need to adjust from one height to another.

This phone has an IOS6, so everyone can get top-speed

Internet and Facebook. The IOS6 is the speed of getting onto websites. People want the ios6, because nobody needs to wait too long if there is an emergency.

One also can get a broad range of games at the app store, such as Angry Birds, Temple Run, and Hay Day, varying from action to fantasy.

Now that all of the details about the iPhone's properties have been provided, anyone can try working this product at home.

*Rhiannon P.
Entertainment Editor
Lunada Bay*



Here Comes the Boom!

Combine a biology teacher and mixed martial arts, and that equals a BOOM of a movie!

The plot

Boom is a story about an apathetic biology teacher, Scott Voss, who has a friend, Marty, who teaches music. During a teacher's assembly, the principal announces that all extra-curricular teachers, including Marty, are going to be fired because of budget cuts. Mr. Voss stands up in front of everyone and announces that he can raise the money to save the programs.

Later that night, the biology teacher meets a man from the class he teaches for immigrants who invites him to his apartment. There they

watch a UFC fight and he realizes the fighters can earn a lot of money. This gives him the idea to raise the money through MMA fighting.

Fighting for a cause

His first fights were bloody and ended in defeat, but with inspiration from his students, he started to win matches.

Right before the big Las Vegas UFC fight, he discovers that the money he made so far was stolen and that means he has to win the fight to raise enough money.

During the fight, just when it seems he would lose, he faintly hears the students cheering for him in the background, and he knows he

can't let them down. Mr. Voss is inspired by his students to win, so in return, he inspires his students by being a better teacher.

Although this movie is a bit predictable, it has clean humor that's appropriate for kids and an ending that makes people of all ages feel good inside.

Fortunately, despite budget cuts, our schools still have many of our fantastic extra-curricular programs like art and music. These exciting programs as well as our motivational teachers, just like Mr. Voss, make PVPUSD an outstanding district!

*Abigail M.
Entertainment Reporter
Cornerstone*





Minecraft Magic

Minecraft is a popular game you can download in Apple's App Store, the Android Market, Kindle Fire, and even on your personal computer!

What is Minecraft?

There is a character named Steve, and the object of the game is to collect items and help Steve to survive.

You can turn items you find into other items like cobblestone into stone again or make a furnace. You can turn wood from trees into wooden planks for shelter.

There are animals that roam around your terrain that you can hunt for meat, wool or leather.

There are cows, sheep, pigs, chickens, and they recently made an update that added baby animals.

Watch out! After ten minutes of day time, it becomes night for seven minutes. At night, monsters who are anxious to kill Steve roam your terrain. There are

creepers, zombies, skeletons, spiders, and in the computer version they add Zombie Pigman and Enderman.

Tips

Here are some tips for your first few days in Minecraft. When you spawn, start collecting dirt (at least 20 blocks) and wood. Collect as much wood from trees as possible. Also, destroy sheep (at least 3 blocks of wool needed).

When it starts becoming nighttime, build a pillar by making sure the plus in the middle of the screen is pointing down at the grass or whatever block you are standing on.

Jump by pushing the middle button on the control pad and tap at the same time. Keep doing this until you think you are high enough to be safe from the monsters. Then place blocks to make it look like a square where you are standing on your pillar.

Then, go to your inventory (the boxes where your stuff is) and tap 'craft'.

Craft wooden planks until you run out of wood. Build a crafting table somewhere in the square. Tap on it and craft a bed. Place it in the squares and tap on it. This means you can sleep through the night unless there are monsters nearby.

Try to build a house or a tree house in the next few days with all your wooden planks. That is a good way to survive in Minecraft PE (Minecraft Pocket Edition) survival mode.

You can download the Lite Version or Demo Version for free. You can get it on your computer for \$26.95, or \$6.99 in the App Stores. Go to www.Minecraft.com to get more information and to download the game. Time to go play Minecraft!

*Julianna P.
Entertainment Editor
Mira Catalina*



Legally Blonde: The Musical at PV High

Based on the hit movie comedy starring Reese Witherspoon, "Legally Blonde: The Musical" is the Broadway song-and-dance sensation that follows sweet and seemingly not-so-bright sorority girl Elle Woods on her journey to win back her high-school boyfriend, who is enrolled at Harvard Law School. Performances of "Legally Blonde" are April 12-13 and 18-20 at 7 p.m. and April 14 and 21 at 2 p.m. in the MPR at Palos Verdes High School.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students, and \$20 for premium tickets, which includes premier "jury box" seating, snack and beverage. Tickets can be purchased at www.pvhsdrama.com or at the door if seats are still available. For further information call (310) 378-8471, ext. 237.

The production is recommended for ages 13 and over.

Are You Sure You Didn't Do It?

Continued from page 1

One of the actresses who played a leading role in *Curtains* was Peninsula High School junior, Hannah Olsen. Hannah played Carmen Bernstein in this musical and this was her second performance at the high school. Hannah was in sixth grade and eleven years old when

she first started performing. She also starred in 10 other musicals including *Hello Dolly* and *The Sound Of Music*. For *Curtains*, she and the rest of the cast have only been practicing for about two and a half months.

The show was amazing. It was the perfect show to see

for people who like musicals and mysteries. The most intriguing part was trying to figure out who did it!

*Drew S.
News Reporter
Silver Spur*



Curtain Call

Continued from page 1

the one before them. And each and everyone of them was just as suspicious.

The *Peacock Press* received a chance to go and see this wonderful musical at the Peninsula High school. They were able to speak to some of the main characters of this

fabulous production. The high schoolers had practiced everyday for about two and a half months. The *Peacock Press* learned that every actor messes up and gets nervous, but if you do it long enough, you won't have stage fright anymore.

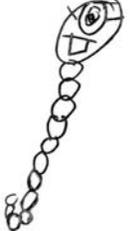
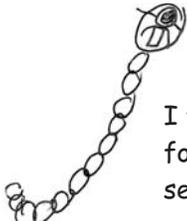
Peacock Press reporters had lots of fun watching *Curtains*, and lots of other people did too. It was all because of the magic of live theater!

*Minji J.
Chief Editor
Point Vicente*



Info Worm

By Aleksander M.

 <p>SEALED Marine Mammal Care Center Helps Ocean Mammals</p>	<p>This book says that there was a supply drive for a sea lion found on a local beach. The supply list says, "fish oil caps, karo syrup, sunflower oil, and Vitamin E."</p>	 <p>I am glad that worms aren't on that list!</p>
 <p>I feel sad for the sea lion.</p>	 <p>I know. I'll donate!</p>	 <p>See you next time!</p>





Mitzi Cress

Letter from PVPHS Principal, Mitzi Cress

Congratulations to all those who have participated in the inaugural year of Peacock Press.

Special thanks to Luke Southwell and PVPHS Press Friends Club for running this successful program.

Peninsula High School PressFriends is honored to

have sponsored this outstanding project that has brought elementary schools throughout the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District together for the purpose of creating newspapers written "by kids, for kids."

Peacock Press has grown beyond our wildest dreams

and will continue to offer opportunities for young students to improve their writing, reporting, editing and layout skills; while giving high school students an opportunity to develop mentoring skills.

Job well done!

Mitzi Cress



Nick Stephany

Letter from PVHS Principal, Nick Stephany

I would like to commend the students who have collaborated to make the Peacock Press a reality. They represent the great

potential of the students in our district. These students and their work epitomize the spirit of cooperation and learning that we strive

to instill in all of our schools.

Thank you for this great service to our community.

Nick Stephany

Letter from PVPHS PressFriends Club



Luke Southwell

Great job, Peacock Press. We had a great time with all of the reporters this year and would like to thank all their parents for their help and support.

We were glad to partner with the Palos Verdes High PressFriends Club this year and would like to thank their

club presidents, Dragon Siu and Mitchell Trainotti, their mentors, and their principal, Mr. Stephany.

We would also like to thank Mr. Cohen, Tyler Barnett and the PVPHS Drama Club for giving the Peacock Press reporters a backstage tour and a chance to inter-

view the actors of the play *Curtains*.

We hope to see some of you this summer at one of our free camps at the Peninsula Center Library or the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Keep checking pressfriends.org for sign up info.

Luke Southwell

Letter from PVHS PressFriends Club



Dragon Siu

John Lennon once said, "A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is a reality." Thank you Luke, for sharing your Peacock Press dream with us. Peacock Press was really an amazing experi-

ence! It's been great getting to know everyone involved with this wonderful program, from the writers to the parents to the mentors.

Meeting each reporter has been really fun, and I hope to see them all at other

PressFriends events. You all have bright futures, and hopefully, when you are old enough, you will join PressFriends and be a mentor too!

Dragon Siu