

Pirate Tribune

MVHS Celebrates Halloween in Style

By Steven Valdez

Halloween, arguably the best holiday on the planet, is coming yet again to Monte Vista. This year, instead of conducting mass murder, and eating brains, as is customary, the school board has decided we must conduct ourselves in a slightly more civilized manner. Thus, Key Club has decided to sell candy grams instead of severed fingers, which have been big sellers in the past. Student Council has also chosen not to host "The Haunted Hotel" at the Monte Villa this year due to the pending murder investigation from last year's "purge". Without the madness of organizing a haunted house looming over the student body, band is gearing up for the Veterans Day Parade in Alamosa. Meanwhile, SHOCK members will collect cans of non-perishables for the local food bank through their Trick-or-Canning program. Even with all of these happenings, I have no idea how anyone expects any fun to occur; I mean, there isn't even going to be a one-eyed one-horned flying purple people eater. I suppose we will just have to make do with what is offered.

Monte Vista Senior High School
Issue 2, October 29, 2015

Inside this issue:

Community News	2
Halloween Spread	4
Sports	6
Op-Eds	12
Halloween Movie Reviews	14
Advice Column	16
Horoscopes	17

Trends in Crime in Alamosa County Include Driving Infractions, Drugs and Theft

By Christopher Villagomez

From September 25th through October 7th, the *Valley Courier* reported 38 different citations in Alamosa County, 22 of which were driving infractions. Although most of the driving infractions were minor, some involved other crimes, as well. For example, on October 1st, a 52-year-old male was cited on charges of driving with an expired license, careless driving resulting in bodily injury, operating an uninsured motor vehicle, failure to remain at the site after an accident involving injury, driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless endangerment, obstructing government operations, and driving without a seatbelt. The other 14 of the 38 incidents involved assault, drug paraphernalia, and theft. On September 29th, for example, a 34-year-old female was cited on charges of possession of schedule 1 and 2 narcotics, distribution of schedule 1 and 2 narcotics, possession of a weapon from a previous offender, and theft at 220 Main St. The final two incidents of interest involved a 19-year-old male facing charges on criminal possession and unauthorized use of a financial device at 1601 Main St., 3333 Clark St., and 725 State Ave., respectively, and a 45-year-old female who is being charged with criminal impersonation at 1111 State Ave.



City Council Working with Law Enforcement to find Solutions

By Lizzy Doyle

The agenda for the Monte Vista City Council Meeting on October 1st was very short, but covered a lot of ground. After the call to order there was the pledge, roll call, and the approval of consent agenda. One of the main topics was that the Vali 3 Theatre has made great progress due to donations from various people and organizations. Their income hasn't changed from last month to this month, though.

Next, the citizens' law enforcement discussed how the CLEI is searching for ways to meet their needs. The police force is fully

staffed, but all the money they are spending on trainees could go to officers of 3-4 years of service. Thus, the police department wants to increase taxes by .33% to obtain some of the newest equipment in the field. They have also been having trouble with some of the Amish families in the community; some Amish have been doing what they want and not abiding by laws because they say their religious beliefs allow them to do so.

After that discussion, the council moved on to the 2016 budget. They want to replace water

lines, sewer lines, roads, and the like, and are hoping for can-do attitudes for these projects. The council also wants to replace cop cars by taking money out of the savings the council has accumulated over the years.

There was also talk about a safety course for skateboarders, which would give out helmets, elbow pads, and knee pads. A few bikes have been stolen, as well, so the police force will be giving those individuals new bikes. Stay tuned for more information about this event.

CHSAA Fall Leadership Conference an Opportunity for Student Council Members to Interact

By Lizzy Doyle

October 16-17th, Robert Duran, Ryan Marquez, Lizzy Doyle, Ivory Stephenson, Brandy Hoffstaeter, Jacky Acosta, Karina Rivera, and Andrew Maez went to the CHSAA Fall Leadership Conference at Discovery Canyon High School in Colorado Springs. This year's conference was meant to motivate and inspire the students who attended it, and give them helpful ideas to better their schools. The students also traveled to the Air Force Academy. Student Council Sponsor Sharon Stanford expected the students who attended the conference to be energized, and to take in ideas from other schools to bring back to Monte Vista High School.

For example, attendees had the opportunity to hear motivation-

al speaker Houston Kraft talk about the different types of love and how they connect with leadership skills. He described love as a complicated emotion. In Latin, there are four words to describe love: *Eros*, *Philia*, *Storge*, and *Agape*. *Agape* is where you choose to love someone for who they are, and Kraft says it's most important to have that kind of love if you are a leader.

After Houston Kraft, attendees ventured to the Air Force Academy and learned that handling hardships and learning from them makes you a better leader. At the Academy it is important to be a leader, and listen to those who view you as a leader. For example, freshmen look up to seniors. The student council attendees also got

to see the famous Chapel, and the wall with all the class crests on it. The Student Council members also reflected on the Academy motto: "We will not lie, steal, or cheat, nor tolerate among us anyone who does."

After the tour of the Academy, attendees danced the night away at Discovery Canyon. Sophomore Ivory Stephenson commented:

"It was magnificent: They even had things to do if you didn't want to dance. There was gambling, movies, karaoke, even a room with coloring books." Monte Vista students made many new friends and had great experiences they won't forget; sophomore Andrew Maez said, "overall it was a big hit."





Former Dairy Queen Employees Express Discrimination Concerns

By Kathy Duran

Some of the former employees of the Monte Vista Dairy Queen feel they have been treated unfairly and discriminated against. After getting fired or quitting, the former employees in question have had the cops called on them on several occasions when they were on the premises of the restaurant. It is understandable that management would call the cops for a legitimate reason, or if they had a restraining order against these employees, but that is not the case.

One of the former employees, who asked to remain anonymous, explained: "I worked for Dairy Queen for eight months. The first four months went alright, and then they made me shift leader. After that they wanted me to become manager, but in the process, they started calling me into work instead of other workers, even if I was in school, and they weren't considerate about it. After I quit working there they made it seem like I stole money from them. If I ever went in there with anything I didn't buy from them, they made me throw it away, as opposed to everyone else. They also tried kicking me out because of some other people who were commenting about bad management on social media."

This former employee continued, saying that when

management has enough staff they don't pay over time; additionally, they talk negatively about the workers and try to find ways to fire them if they don't like them, personally: "They make your life hell. They made me find ways to kick people out, or fire people, just to become a manager. Managers aren't supposed to keep tabs and eyes on their workers like that, but they do anyway. That's the job of the owner, but the manager has screens in her house to watch the employees."

Karina Rivera, who worked at Dairy Queen for a short time, had a similarly negative experience: "The night I quit, when I first went in, [my manager] yelled at me, telling me 'I don't do things right.' I was upset because I had just started and they didn't train me on how to do anything. It was busy and she was all mad before I even came in. I didn't know what to do, but then, [to make matters worse], my sister walked in with [a former employee's] child's dad ([The former employee] used to work there, and her [family member] was working that night.) They threatened to kick my sister out, who was with my 4-year-old niece and 9-year-old sister. They then told them they were banned from Dairy Queen and they called the cops on them. [My manager] started cursing at them, and then continued to say that my sister was the one cursing at her. My sister asked her to bring the cameras to show the cops what really happened, but [my manager] told them they don't have cameras, but they do have cameras there. Every time we go on the premises now management calls the cops. The cops even told us when we were leaving Dairy Queen that 'We do get a lot of calls from her. This isn't the first time we've had to come down here.' I feel I have been treated unfairly. Even as an employee, I was being watched every day on the cameras and yelled at for things I didn't even do."

One of the reporters tried to speak to management to get Dairy Queen's side of the story. The first time the reporter asked for an interview, they were told that management would get to them in a minute. After waiting for a while, management did not come for the interview. The second time upon entering the establishment, the same thing happened; they were not very busy, yet management still did not come to tell their side.



The Monte Vista Dairy Queen is a fixture on Main Street, but some former employees, current students of Monte Vista Senior High School, have expressed concerns about their experiences there.

Source: nulook.net





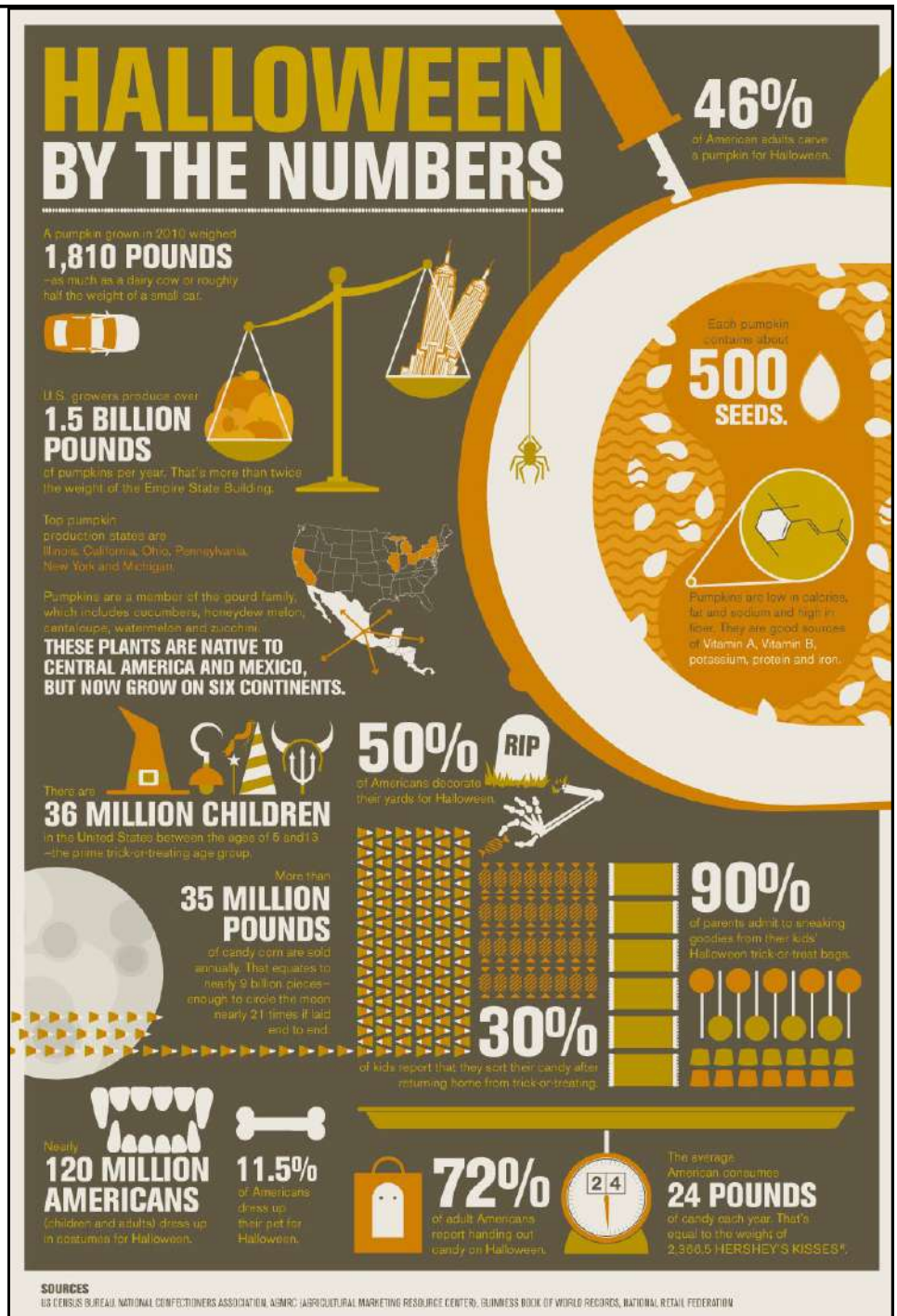
Staff Spotlight: Melissa Harlan

By Emma DeHerrera

Energetic, animated, compassionate, yet tough if needed, are just a few words that describe our librarian, Melissa Harlan. She was raised here in Monte Vista and is a 1987 graduate of MVHS. She began subbing here in 1998 and moved to the counseling office in 2000, and then to the library in 2014.

Harlan has been married for 28 years to Kent Harlan, who has been working at the Monte Vista Co-op for thirty years. They have three kids: Their oldest, Amber (Monte Vista '08) is currently a fourth year med student at the Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, Nebraska. She plans to become an orthopedic surgeon. Their middle child, Brittany (Monte Vista '11, Adams '14) is currently pursuing her master's in corporate tax law at Denver University. Their youngest child, Nicholas, is a senior at Adams State University, and will be attending grad school next year. He plans to double major in creative writing and theater in the hopes of becoming a professor.

In addition to spending time with her children, Harlan loves horseback riding, remodeling houses, and reading. She spends most of her summers boating at Navajo Lake. What keeps Mrs. Harlan here at the high school is the connection she makes with the kids, especially when they come back after they graduate to tell her about their lives and what an impact she's made on them. Her advice to students is: "Believe in your dreams, believe in yourself and you can do anything you set your mind to." **In the spirit of Halloween, if Mrs. Harlan could choose any costume, she would be Lady Gaga in a meat costume. Her best memory from Halloween is her parents dressing up as a bunch of grapes for a Halloween party.**



Source: history.com



Modern Halloween Traditions Stem from Ancient Beliefs and Practices

By *Pirate Tribune* Staff

Halloween is one of the oldest and most popular holidays, second to Christmas, of course. However, many people celebrate Halloween without knowing about its origins and associated myths. The history behind Halloween makes the holiday especially spooky. Most people view Halloween as a time for fun, when everyone puts on costumes, trick-or-treats, and attends theme parties. Others view it as a time of superstition, ghosts, goblins and evil spirits that should be avoided at all costs.

Ghosts, spirits and witches are certainly Halloween motifs, but it's important to consider historical and cultural conceptions of those figures. According to *wikipedia.org*, witchcraft is strictly the practice of, and belief in, magical skills and abilities that are normally practiced in groups, or by an individual with a secret knowledge needed to preform witchcraft. Throughout history, it has been believed that Christianity was in a battle against the Devil and his secret army of "witches". Satan was seen as a freeing figure for some witches, a belief that continues for modern practitioners of witchcraft.

In literature and history, alike, witches and demons have often been linked. "The word 'demon' comes from the Ancient Greek word *daimon*, which denotes a spirit or divine power. Demons have been thought to enter the body of a human and cause a disease while overwhelming or 'seizing' the victim" (Wikipedia). Thus, a question that's always been posed is whether a demon is mythical or magical. Curiously, demons were sometimes viewed as good or kind natural spirits in Classical Greek mythology. However, other belief systems, namely the early Christians, believed they could cause nothing but trouble: "The traditional cure for demonic possession is to expel the evil spirit from the victim's body. In ancient times this was known as driving out or casting out the demon in the victim." People in modern times call it exorcism, and use the term "exorcist" for anyone who can successfully do it.

Witches and demons have played a huge role in the conception of Halloween and its religious counterparts, All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. Halloween is generally celebrated yearly on October 31st, the eve of All Saints' Day. It's believed, however, that Halloween also has its roots in an ancient Irish festival created for Samhain, the day when the Celts believed the undead walked among humans who subsequently found themselves having to ward off evil spirits. For the Celts, Samhain also marked the end of the long days and the drawing into winter. Orange and black, the colors of Halloween, are the colors of death in Celtic legend.

At the festival of Samhain, people would light bonfires and dance around them wearing masks to ward off ghosts. The first dances were to honor the dead that rose from the otherworld. They would wear the masks with black costumes to keep the souls who came back to haunt the living and destroy crops away. Some would dress in all white and cover only their faces in black. Because the festival of Samhain bordered the harvest season, Halloween is celebrated between fall and winter, falling on October 31st, the day before the Celts celebrated their New Year over 2,000 years ago. They believed that during Hallow's Eve the boundaries between the world of the dead and the living were broken.

As shown by the rituals associated with Samhain, Halloween is actually based on ancient beliefs and practices. Primarily, it originated in Ireland, the United Kingdom, and northern France. Of course it wasn't the same as modern Halloween, but one can see a number of similarities in the images and colors associated with our modern traditions.

Though you probably don't go around wondering where our modern trick-or-treating came from, this fun fact might surprise you: Though the origination of the phrase can't be pinpointed, it is believed that the comic strip *Peanuts* created the phrase in 1951. From then on, it has been commonly used by children on Halloween night in the hopes of receiving "treats" from neighbors. Some historians believe the tradition also originated in the practice of leaving candy for the gods to ensure a plentiful harvest. Regardless, trick-or-treating is just another Halloween tradition with a complex historical origin.





Sports News

Monte Vista Pirates Smash Center in First League Game at Home

By Tyler Vigil

On October 2nd, 2015, the Monte Vista Pirates took on the Center Vikings in their very first league game at home. Prior to the game, Monte Vista was ranked first and Center second, which made for a lot of interest and speculation prior to the game. Monte Vista's varsity football players weren't nervous, though: Senior J.J. Duran exclaimed, "League play, baby! Not worried about it—I'm excited to play!"

The Monte Vista Pirates had a good opening drive all the way to the 50 yard line. From there, the Pirates had to punt the ball to the Center Vikings, but the Pirates had an excellent defense, forcing the Vikings to punt on a fourth down which turned into a scoring drive when senior Michael Valdez drove the ball down the field and scored his first touchdown of the night. Throughout the first quarter, the Pirates continued to have excellent defense and offense. Then, in the second period, Valdez had another touchdown. After the first half the Pirates came out fired up and played well on

defense, helping senior Presley Garcia to score his first touchdown of the night. In the third quarter, junior Keshawn Duran ran a touchdown, making the score 29-0. In the fourth the Pirates finished out strong when they gave the ball to senior Jose Lopez for the final touchdown of the game, making the score 36-0.

Overall, Valdez had 153 yards rushing and two touchdowns, while Lopez also had an amazing game with 16 tackles and one touchdown with 30 yards rushing behind it. Garcia also had a great night with 15 carries for 60 yards and one touchdown. Overall, Garcia had 8 total tackles for the night. With the help of these stand-out seniors, the Pirates beat the Center Vikings 36-0, making the Pirates 1-0 for league play and 4-1 overall.

After the game, J.J. Duran said he felt confident, but humble. Similarly, senior Allan Ochoa said he felt "satisfied by the way we played," while Jose Lopez said he felt confident and was excited by the Pirates' victory.

Lady Pirates Fight Hard Against the Mean Moose

By Jessica Castillo Gallegos and Dezirae Sandoval

The Monte Vista Lady Pirates, coached by Colleen Vanderpool, gave their all as they faced the Alamosa Mean Moose on October 16th. Monte's C-Team, JV and Varsity all faced the Moose in matches that day, with the Varsity team losing to Alamosa, 3-0 (25-16, 25-13, and 25-14, respectively). With that win, the Alamosa Mean Moose's record stood at 17-2.

Facing such tough opponents, Monte's C-Team, primarily composed of freshmen, still gave a hard fight against the Moose. Junior Varsity also had a great game, despite their loss.

Similarly, the Varsity Lady Pirates gave it their all, though they succumbed to Alamosa in three consecutive matches. True to form, though, the Monte Vista fans stood by the Lady Pirates, encouraging them to stay strong. Monte Vista's next opponent would be Bayfield, with a 7-8 record (3-1 in league play). The Lady Pirates would be going into that match with a 5-11 record (0-5 in league play).

"Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give...it's about how many you can take, and still keep moving forward."
Sylvester Stallone

Quotes compiled by Lizzy Doyle



Monte Vista Pirates Triumph Over the Dolores Bears in their Last Regular Season Home Game

By Austin Brown

On Friday, October 23, 2015, the Monte Vista Pirates took on the Dolores Bears. This was the last home game for the Pirates, and they played very well. The game was very exciting and full of highlights.

To begin the first quarter, senior Presley Garcia scored the first touchdown with 8:21 remaining in the first. A few plays later senior Michael Valdez had an awesome run, gaining 8 yards with 5:40 left.

Then Monte Vista's quarterback Keshuan Duran (junior) ran the ball on a quarterback keep and scored the touchdown. That brought the score to 13-0. Late in the first quarter Valdez also got an interception. Then Keshuan Duran had a great run right before the end of the first quarter, which resulted in a Pirate touchdown. Parker Randolph (freshman) scored the field goal kick. Then DeAndre Sanchez (junior) had a great run at the end of the first, with the Pirates finishing off the quarter 20-0.

Starting off the second quarter junior Jose Flores, had a great punt return, assisted by his fellow Pirates' great blocks. Presley Garcia then got a first down run in the second with 9:44 remaining. Then Valdez scored the first touchdown in the second, making the

game 26-0. Randolph then kicked the field goal and scored, making the game 27-0 with 8:46 left. Senior Daniel Aguilera also recovered a fumble in the second quarter with 8:34 remaining. Michael Valdez had a first down run in the second with 3:30 to play. Keshuan Duran then threw to Presley Garcia for the reception run touchdown. 33-0 was the score before Parker Randolph kicked his extra point field goal. K.T. Ceballos (junior) also got a great tackle in before the end of the second. Then Sanchez ran the ball for the touchdown before the end of the first half. Randolph kicked another great field goal, bring the game to 41-0 at the end of the first half.

In the third quarter senior Jacob Naranjo had a 22 yard run with 6:10 remaining. Then senior Jose Lopez scored a touchdown, making the score 47-0. Then Randolph kicked another field goal before Tyler Vigil (freshman) had an awesome run in the fourth. Late fourth quarter Vicente Jaramillo (junior) also had a great tackle which got the crowd pumped!

The Dolores Bears put up a good fight against the Pirates but weren't able to overcome them. At the end of the game, the final score was 48-0.

Halloween Jokes

Compiled by Matt Martinez

What is a mummy's favorite type of music?

A. A wrap!

Why did the game warden arrest the ghost?

A. He didn't have a haunting license!

Why didn't the skeleton dance at the party?

A. He had no body to dance with.

What are ghosts' favorite kind of streets?

A. Dead ends.

What kind of makeup do ghosts wear?

A. Mas-scare-a!

What instrument do skeletons play?

A. The trombone!

(halloween.com)

New Names for Common Words, courtesy of pinterest.com

Compiled by Kathy Duran and Jose Valdovinos





Monte Vista Alumnus Joseph Chacon Headed for Stardom

By Tyina Pacheco

One of Monte Vista's own students, from the graduating class of 2015, Joseph Chacon, has made his dream of pursuing a career in performing arts a reality. On October 14, 2015, Chacon was on his way to living the high life in Hollywood, where he is not attending the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. He enthusiastically explained, "I am very excited to be going to such a great school. Only 31% of the people who audition for this school get in." When asked about his high school experience, Chacon explained, "High school was okay. The people I surrounded myself with made the years more enjoyable." Blessed with a performing arts talent that began blooming at MVHS, Joseph was in band, participated in drama, and cultivated his "killer Beyonce voice." Joseph was always interested in the world of performing arts, but like many others, there were times when he did doubt himself: "There were times when I

thought I wouldn't be good enough. I thought it was unrealistic but I always pushed myself to do better," says Chacon. Performing arts always seemed to help him

"I am very excited to be going to such a great school. Only 31% of the people who audition for this school get in."

—Joseph Chacon

stay on top of things. Even in his times of confidence, he was always embarrassed to admit his dream, however: "I was always too embarrassed to admit that I wanted to go into the field of acting." At the audition, Chacon even questioned his chances of getting in. "At the audition I thought I did bad and that I wouldn't get in." For his audition, Joseph performed a three minute song, "Anything will do" from *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He also performed a three minute



Monte Vista alum Joseph Chacon poses on the AMDA "red carpet" outside the campus tower.
Source: Joseph Chacon

monologue from *Death of a Salesman*. When asked what advice he would give to high school students doubting themselves and their dreams, he said, "Work hard and chase your dreams. Chase them because you'll never reach your dreams if you don't run after them."

Knowledge Bowl Teams Compete at Adams State University

By Jessica Castillo Gallegos and Tyler Vigil

The high school's Knowledge Bowl team is a competitive activity, though most students have never seen its members in action since most meets are held at Adams State University. At a meet, competitors answer different types of questions in a trivia-style event. Knowledge Bowl can be a very big deal beyond the regularly scheduled meets, as well; competi-

tors attend regionals and can even make it to state competition where teams from all over Colorado compete for a state title. Much like sports, Monte Vista's Knowledge Bowl team has a varsity team and a junior varsity team, with about twelve members in all, two sponsors (Cynthia Baird and Loree Harvey) and a team captain (Colby Self). According to Robert Duran,

as of late (though the teams are constantly shifting), the varsity team has included Trysten Ogden, Kendra Stonefield, Robert Duran, Ryan Marquez, Justin Carr, and Colby Self. On Thursday, October 15th, Monte Vista's varsity and JV teams traveled to ASU where they placed fourth in the large school division out of more than ten teams.



Marching Band Gears Up for Competition Season

By Tyina Pacheco and Christopher Villagomez

The Monte Vista Band has been working hard throughout marching season anticipating a performance at the Legends Festival in Parker, Colorado, as well as regional and state competition. On October 10th, the band traveled to Parker to perform that morning. The show, which is also the set for competition, is called *Shades of Red* and includes three different pieces of music: “Crimson”, “Wine”, and “Scarlet”. This was the band's first performance at the Legends Festival, which was very exciting, because they finally got to show everyone their hard work. The performance also gave the band an opportunity to practice for regional competition.

In addition to practicing for the competition season, the band had to raise money for travel expenses related to competition, so, on October 13th, the Monte Vista Band Boosters hosted a delicious chili supper fundraiser. The price for the dinner was \$6. Attendees could either buy a ticket from a band student prior to the event or at the door. The dinner consisted of a baked potato, a bowl of chili, a slice of cake and a cool beverage. During the dinner there was also a silent baked goods auction. At 7 pm, after the dinner, the bands performed their shows. The Monte Vista Middle School band opened with “Party Rock Anthem” by LMFAO and “Give Me Everything (Tonight)” by Pitbull. Then the Adams State University band performed. Last, but certainly not least, the Monte Vista High School marching band performed their show entitled *Shades of Red*, which they performed at the Legends Festival and would perform at regional and state competition.

The next day, October 14th, the band traveled to Colorado Springs in the hopes of qualifying for the state marching competition. The performance at regionals was critical to the success of the rest of this year’s marching season since it decided whether or not the band would be moving on to state. Ultimately, Monte Vista took first out of the 1A bands that also performed that day. Overall, they took 5th with a score of 48.45 out of a possible 100 (Cedar Ridge, who took first, scored 55.6). Since then, the Monte Vista High School marching band has been making lots of positive changes to improve the show and to make it more exciting for the audience. The band’s last adventure would be traveling to Colorado State University-Pueblo on the 26th. There, they placed fifth out of six teams, despite giving a great performance.



Monte Vista marching band members enjoy their trip to the Legends Festival in Parker.

Source: Brittany Heredia

Mesa Science 95 Strong

By Andres Fuentes and Matthew Martinez

Nearly 95 students have expressed an interest in Mesa Science this year, with 80 attending the last meeting. These students are in charge of recycling around the school, emphasizing the importance of recycling, and preparing science demos for the third grade students at Bill Metz’s family fun night in February. Mesa Science members also judge all science fair competitions and maintain the “Cool Science Facts” board in the academic hallway. The club also does a fundraiser every year so members and sponsors can go on an awesome field trip in the spring.

2015-2016 Officers:

President: **Presley Garcia**

Program Directors:

Cortnie Hunter

Jacob Naranjo

Recycling Chair: **J.J. Duran**



Mesa Science Recycling Chair J.J. Duran saves our planet one plastic bottle at a time.

Photo by Matthew Martinez



Drama Club Brings Out the Best in Student Participants

By Kathy Duran and Colton Shawcroft

Drama Club is a place where you can let your creative and wild side out while expressing yourself in a positive and healthy way. Drama is a great place for the loud and friendly, while also helping those who are otherwise “diffident” to come out of there shell and boost their confidence and social skills. Do you like acting, dancing, or singing? Then Drama is the place for you!

This year, the club will put on two plays, one in the fall, and one in the spring. This fall’s play

is the *The Hero Squad vs. the Supervillain’s Apprentice*, which will debut Thursday, November 19th. Our director is none other than the fabulous DJ, Courtney Espinoza. The cast and crew include Kathy Duran, Colton Shawcroft, Ceasar Duran, Joel Solano, Fernando Renteria, Jose Valdovinos, Jennifer Delgado, Robert Duran, Ivory Stephenson, Kendra Stonefield, Sofia Lozoya, and Violet Swope. Acting not for you? You can also be a part of our tech crew! To join



Drama will be putting on this exciting play November 19th.
Source: hostage.com

Drama all you must do is contact the director or cast member, and then show up at Central Auditorium

for practice.

Also, ask your teacher if you

can gain extra credit by helping or going out to see the play, and bring as many people as you can to come support MVHS Drama!

RUSH (Rising Up to Serve Him) Unites Christian Students

By Steven Valdez

RUSH (Rising Up to Serve Him) is an organization that allows Christians to serve God in school and encourages other students to know Jesus, according to Ryan Marquez (junior at MVHS), founder of the organization. “RUSH means almost everything to me. Jesus Christ means everything to me because (of) how he has changed my life,” said Marquez in an interview with the *Pirate Tribune*. No official proposal has yet been made to the Monte Vista Student Council to enact this organization as an official club; however, according to Noel Heredia (junior), “We plan to propose this club sometime within the next weeks. I’m not entirely sure, but really soon!” When asked

how he thought Student Council would react, Heredia had this to say: “I am expecting a good reaction because I have already heard talks of some (potential) members saying it is a great idea.” However not every student has the same optimistic view of RUSH becoming a school-sanctioned organization. One anonymous Monte Vista High School student said, “I do not support this club because I am a strong believer in the separation of religion and state; I feel I would be robbed of my right as a public school student to have a religion-free school.” It is this student’s belief that if a non-Christian religion wanted to start a club in Monte Vista it would be shot down, creating unequal opportunities for

every student to practice his or her religion as he or she sees fit. This student clarified her opinion by adding: “I wouldn’t try and stop the club from happening because my voice will be drowned out by groups of Christians in support of this club.”

In order for a club to be officially sanctioned, a group of “founders” must attend a regularly scheduled meeting and propose the club to Student Council. If there is a two-thirds majority vote in favor of the club, it then has approval to act like any other school-sanctioned organization when it comes to school events, fund raising, and advertising within the school.

“The best way to predict your future is to create it.”—Abraham Lincoln



Fall in Love with the Characters in *Red Queen*

By Lizzy Doyle



Source: HarperCollins

So far, out of my school year reading, I personally loved reading *Red Queen* the most. I was so invested and fell so deeply in love with all the characters and events that I would suggest it to all of my peers. In her novel, author Victoria Aveyard uses generous foreshadowing, which threw me off at first, making me not want to finish, but I didn't regret a thing once I came to the ending. The vivid description made me believe I could be Mare, the protagonist. Finishing the book left me heartbroken, though, because the sequel, *Glass Sword*, isn't coming out until 2016.

Without spoiling the ending, in *Red Queen*, everyone is split between being "red" blooded and normal, or being "silver" blooded and having superhuman abilities. Mare Barrow, however, has the opportunity of a lifetime after finding out she has a remarkable supernatural ability not like any other. Shortly thereafter, she sets out on the suspenseful and extremely dangerous quest to better her country and avenge her family by joining the threatening Scarlet Guard. With betrayal, imposters, death, and pain lurking around every corner, will Mare actually be able to overthrow the king and queen? Will she die trying? Will she be able to trust anyone? Find out in *Red Queen*.

Halloween Whopper Isn't Much Beyond the Black Bun

By Karina Rivera

Trick-or-treat, give me something good to eat! Happy holidays, indeed, according to all Burger Kings in the world, when they announced their Halloween (only) special burger. This Whopper, however, is just like a regular burger, except for the black bun. The burger has A-1 sauce, but, other than that, it doesn't really taste any different than the regular Whopper. If you dare to taste this burger be aware that there are some side effects. Bwah-ha-ha (evil Halloween laugh)! But, on the other hand, if you're not a adventurous eater I wouldn't recommend this burger.



Source: news9.com

"Spirits of The Dead" Edgar Allan Poe

Thy soul shall find itself alone
'Mid dark thoughts of the grey
tomb-stone;
Not one, of all the crowd, to pry
Into thine hour of secrecy.

Be silent in that solitude,
Which is not loneliness — for
then
The spirits of the dead, who stood
In life before thee, are again
In death around thee, and their
will
Shall overshadow thee; be still.

The night, though clear, shall
frown,
And the stars shall not look down
From their high thrones in the
Heaven
With light like hope to mortals
given,
But their red orbs, without beam,
To thy weariness shall seem
As a burning and a fever
Which would cling to thee for
ever.

Now are thoughts thou shalt not
banish,
Now are visions ne'er to vanish;
From thy spirit shall they pass
No more, like dew-drop from the
grass.

The breeze, the breath of God, is
still,
And the mist upon the hill
Shadowy, shadowy, yet unbro-
ken,
Is a symbol and a token.
How it hangs upon the trees,
A mystery of mysteries!



Staff Editorial: The Benefits of Being Bilingual in America

By Christopher Villagomez

Today in the United States about 18 percent of the population is bilingual, which is a pretty insignificant number. A lot of people don't realize the many benefits and perks there are to being fluent in a second language. It not only enables you to communicate with a broader audience of people, but for that reason, it is also a big advantage in today's workforce. In today's economy being able to communicate is essential. In a tough job market it's important to make yourself less expandable and more valuable to your employer. Being fluent in a second language can be a huge step toward doing

so. As the country continues to become more diverse and is dealing with a larger number of people who don't speak English, knowing a second language can really have a positive impact on your career. Alright, yes, it can help you get a job, but it also is a lot more than that. Language is also a huge part of culture. Every language is distinct in its own way and is an expression of that culture. Language plays a key role in communicating, passing down beliefs and traditions, and helping preserve them, which is why speaking another language can help you experience

that culture in a more unique and intimate way by enabling you to talk to the people of that culture. Mrs. Molina, Spanish teacher, explained why she thought being bilingual is valuable: "It is important to be bilingual because we live in a global society and being bilingual will open more doors for you in the job market. You make yourself more marketable by being able to communicate with more people. It can also help you make more money." If you don't speak a second language then trying to learn one can be very beneficial to you now and in the future, as well.

Stereotypes of "white girls" an oft-ignored source of bullying

By Lizzy Doyle

Stereotypes are around us in every situation, every day. However, a lot of the stereotypes I hear are mostly directed towards white girls. In 2012 63% of the US population was white, and in 2014 77% was white. If the nation's Caucasian population is increasing, it might be reasonable to infer that there could be more white students at Monte Vista High School. Thus, I was interested in finding out how white students, especially females, are perceived: Interviewing some volunteers I got a basic sweep of what goes through a person's mind when the phrase "white girl" comes up. The top 15 phrases are as follows: "fake", "dumb", "basic", "they all love Starbucks", "annoying", "rude", "the ultimate sandwich maker", "the definition of yoga pants", "stuck up", "they all dress and act the same", "too skinny", "racist", "snotty", "they have the most annoying laughs", and "blond", as number one.

I then interviewed some white female students to hear what they had to say. A few actually said that the stereotypes are true; Junior Kaylee Mackey stated, "I'm not even going to deny it." Samantha Bogel stated, "Everyone has their own opinions, but in the end it comes down to mentality." Our very own Mrs. Condon told me, "I don't look at race, color, religion. Everyone is the same. God created us equal. He loves us all."

In my opinion, stereotype is just another word for judgment. Judging people on their appearances is wrong and an act of bullying. I myself am a white female and I embody none of the aforementioned stereotypes. I even happen to hate Starbucks, which, in fact, almost everyone drinks, not just white girls. I think people should try to stop judging, and start loving more on a daily basis.

Sources:

quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/00000.html

[google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#safe=strict&q=percentage+white+race](https://www.google.com/?gws_rd=ssl#safe=strict&q=percentage+white+race)





My Two Cents. Donald Trump on Immigration

By Dr. Enid Sepulveda Rodriguez

In a democracy, no one's sociopolitical views can be thought to *trump* the freedom of speech that makes democracy possible. This concept is of particular importance in America—a nation that strives for racial and ethnic fairness. If we Americans, the powerful and the often disenfranchised, wish to have our freedom of speech protected, then we must be willing to tolerate whatever insults or ridicule Donald Trump wishes to offer to his bigot, racist followers, because only a country that permits such insult can be said to be truly a democracy. That said, I want to exercise my right to voice my concerns that Trump's incendiary narrative has tapped into an animosity that has been, to one extent or another, hidden, simmering barely below the surface of everyday life in America since the days of legally imposed Civil Rights legislations and politically correct talk.

For too long, this country's bigots, racists, and sexists have, for the most part, been forced to be silent, containing their hate-filled verbal attacks against those *others* they consider to be polluting "their America." Today, Trump is giving voice to these previously voiceless, publicly saying what these people have, until now, been afraid to say aloud for fear of being called on for being culturally insensitive and politically incorrect. According to political analyst Sean Trende, Trump primarily speaks for a group of "white Americans who feel their voices do not count and whose needs are not being addressed by either major party. This voiceless group, an estimated 6 million, is predominantly white, low-income citizens from the nation's Northeast and Midwest areas." By speaking for these voiceless, he gives them sanction to be insensitive and politically incorrect in public; he is knowingly and willfully telling his followers that it is acceptable to be a bigot, a racist, and a sexist.

Many of us who are indignant, enraged by Trump's assaults on illegal immigrants, and his attacks on women and the LGBT community may be fooled into thinking that his followers do not have enough political power to elect him as president, but we would be wrong. Political commentators such as Ann Coulter and Rush Limbaugh, and others with conservative media organizations, have pointed to this group of white voters

who stayed home in 2012 and whose absence at the polls resulted in a loss for Romney and a win for Obama. Limbaugh speculates that Romney's loss was primarily due to the fact that these voters could not connect with Romney's message. Yet, they do seem to be connecting to Trump's message. An ABC News/Washington Poll post on Sept. 2 showed, "Donald Trump's personal popularity has grown more polarized along racial and ethnic lines -- and yet he *rose* 4 points among whites since its mid-July poll in the face of withering national media criticism of some



Donald Trump gestures and declares "You're fired!" at a rally in New Hampshire on June 17, 2015.

Source: Reuters

of his more controversial statements, and now does much better among white voters than Clinton." Donald Trump is no fool; he's been gambling that his racist rhetoric in the "Make America Great Again" political game will connect with the voiceless, bringing the millions of white voters, the voiceless, back into politics and the voting booth in 2016 for the GOP, checkmating the turnout of racial, ethnic, and younger white voters. Trump knows well the *cards* (worries about how illegals are suppressing their wages and taking their jobs)

of the disaffected white voters, and at this juncture, in this political game Trump appears to have the *dealer's advantage*.

In spite of it all, I continue to be committed to the American tradition of freedom of speech, press, and assembly, meaning that any point of view, no matter how radical, racist, sexist, or nonsensical, is permitted a public airing. While I disagree vehemently with most of what comes out of Donald Trump's mouth, I would do nothing to censor him.

Finally, for those of us who are increasingly concerned about Trump's message of intolerance and hate, and perplexed by the growing numbers of voters who agree with his message, we must continue to "keep the faith," trusting that in 2016, most Americans will "do the right thing," and cast their vote for sanity, and a leadership that abhors and works against bigotry and injustice.

Sources:

"Exit polls 2012: How the vote has shifted."/Exit polls table. *The Washington Post*. November 6, 2012.

Trende, Sean. "The Case of the Missing White Voters, Revisted." *RealClearPolitics*, June 21, 2013.





New *Evil Dead* a Gory, Over-the-top Must-See for Fans of the Original

By Jennifer Delgado

The original *Evil Dead*, a low-budget cult classic directed by Sam Raimi, is considered one of the greatest horror films of all time. The movie stars Bruce Campbell, Ellen Sandweiss, Betsy Baker, and Sarah York. *Evil Dead* launched both Sam Raimi's and Bruce Campbell's careers, both of whom went on to make further movies in the *Evil Dead* franchise.

A remake of the original film, directed by Fede Alvarez (a relative unknown chosen by Sam Raimi), was released in 2013. The movie stars Jane Levy, Shiloh Fernandez, Lou Taylor Pucci, Jessica Lucas, and Elizabeth Blackmore.

The remake builds on the plot of the original film, which focuses on a group of five friends who travel to a remote cabin deep in a forest. The cabin initially appears to be just a decrepit old shack left neglected in the woods. However, once the friends begin to explore inside, they discover, hidden in the cellar, a sinister book made from what looks like human skin. They also find a tape recorder, which contains a tape that reveals that the book is in fact a "Book of the Dead". The tape also contains evidence of the existence of ancient demons. The most dangerous part of the recording is an incantation that has the ability to summon demons from their slumber. The friends, who have no idea what the incantations mean, jokingly play the recording, and, consequently, awaken the demons.

Cheryl is the first to be affected by the demons. After hearing voices, Cheryl leaves the cabin where she is attacked and raped by a group of haunted trees. When she returns to the cabin, she insists that her brother Ash drive her back to town. On their way, they discover that the only bridge that leads to civilization has been destroyed. Once they return, Cheryl is consumed by the demon. Hideous and powerfully violent, Cheryl wreaks havoc on her friends until she is locked in the cellar. From that

moment on, one by one, each of the friends is either possessed or murdered by the demons. The only one who seems to evade possession is Ash Williams (played by Bruce Campbell), who is forced to combat his now demonic friends in a gory showdown in hopes of surviving the night.

The plots of the two films are very similar, but



The 1981 and 2013 versions are creepily similar.

Source: imdb.com

there are a few interesting differences. For example, the remake does follow a group of five friends who journey to a cabin in the woods. However, in this version, instead of travelling to this remote cabin for a few days of fun, the friends are here for a much darker reason: Mia, played by Jane Levy, is a young woman attempting, yet again, to quit her drug addiction cold turkey. In her attempt to become sober, Mia and her friends go to the remote cabin so that Mia

cannot escape, and will be forced to face her demons...quite literally.

Over the course of this endeavor, the friends again find a book hidden in the cellar. When Eric, played by Lou Taylor Pucci, decides to open the book out of curiosity, he becomes the one responsible for unwittingly awakening the demons. It is seemingly because of Mia's physical and mental vulnerability that she is the first person possessed. After she is consumed by the demon, she sets off a series of murders and possessions. When it seems like Mia's brother will be the only survivor (much like Ash Williams in the original) there is a sudden twist. It is this reversal that helps to give the movie a new vision and also brings to mind the idea that if you can't reproduce Bruce Campbell, why bother trying? Thus, *Evil Dead* (2013) is not quite a remake, and not quite a sequel.

The overall verdict is that the new *Evil Dead* is a great addition to the franchise. All the corny special effects in the original are completely modernized in the remake, and the gore is extensive and over-the-top. The new *Evil Dead* is a must see for fans of the original, as well as for fans of gory horror movies.





***Sinister 2* Proves Dealing with Homicidal Ghost Children isn't Child's Play**

By Jennifer Delgado

Sinister 2 revolves around two creepy children, both of whom are of the homicidal, talking ghost variety. The first *Sinister* involved children, as well, so the approach of the second comes as no surprise. Nevertheless, *Sinister 2* is one of the only above-average horror flicks to come from Blumhouse Productions. In the first film upon which it builds, Ethan Hawke plays a true crime novelist who stumbles upon a series of 8mm snuff films, which he then connects to an ancient Babylonian deity named Bughuul. It was heavy on jump scares, some overwhelming, but Hawke was fantastic and the subtle glimpses we got of Bughuul, an all-too-real boogeyman, were effective. Ultimately, we discover that the young children in the film killed

their parents, making *Sinister* an overall great, if predictable, horror flick. *Sinister 2* picks up a few years later with James Ransone's deputy attempting to curb the pattern of demonic possession he helped Hawke uncover in the first film. He eventually crosses paths with Courtney Collins (Shannyn Sossamon), a single mom living illegally in an abandoned farmhouse with her two sons. The deputy, knowing this house to be under Bughuul's influence, wants them out so he can burn it to the ground. Meanwhile, Courtney's son Dylan (Robert Daniel Sloan) is haunted by talking ghost children eager to show him the footage they made of their family's murders. If he watches it, the film strongly implies, he'll be ready to follow in

Top ten movies to watch on Halloween:

1. *The Exorcist* (1973)
2. *Halloween* (1978)
3. *Sinister* (2012)
4. *The Amityville Horror* (1979)
5. *Night Of The Living Dead* (1968)
6. *The Hills Have Eyes* (2006)
7. *Nightmare On Elm Street* (1984)
8. *Saw* (2004)
9. *The Shining* (1980)
10. *The Grudge* (2003)

their footsteps.

In my opinion, though, I think that the filmmakers should have left *Sinister* at the first movie. I feel like the ending to the first movie didn't need an extension and would have done just fine without a sequel, though it was really cool to see what happened after Hawke's discovery in the first film.

***Beauty Behind the Madness* Might Appeal to a Larger Fan Base**

By Christopher Villagomez

Beauty Behind the Madness, The Weeknd's second studio album, was released on August 28, 2015, by XO and Republic Records. It is his fifth album if you count his three previous mixtapes from 2011. Some of the more popular songs on the album are "The Hills", "Go Tell Your Friends", "Often", "Earned It", and "Can't Feel My Face". "The Hills" and "Can't Feel My Face" both reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100, but all of the songs mentioned are strong artistically. The Weeknd always delivers solid songs in terms

of his vocals and creativity. Though most of his songs include dark and suggestive themes, I think that's what people like about The Weeknd—his unique and dark style. For the most part, this album followed that style except for "Can't Feel My Face" and "Earned It". In these two songs The Weeknd tries more of a upbeat pop style instead of his usual dark and slow style. I think that these songs were really good even though they took me by surprise when I discovered they were by The Weeknd. I think it's re-



Abel Tesfaye, who records as The Weeknd, releases another piece of "sensual numbness."

Source: rollingstone.com

freshing, though, that he's experimenting with different types of songs. By doing this, he is also making a larger fan base for himself. Overall, I think that the album was very successful and was a big step for The Weeknd. Almost every song has a theme and a deeper meaning to it, even the more upbeat ones, which is what makes listening to it so much better. This album already has me impatiently waiting for his next.



Dear *Pirate Tribune*,

Answered by Tyina Pacheco

How does one adjust to a blended family?

Honestly, I'm not quite sure about how you would adjust to a blended family. I have had many ups and downs with both of my families and there are times when I think it won't get any better. You have to be determined to want your families to work together and try your very hardest to get along. Then again, it also depends on your attitude toward having a blended family. My best advice is to try. Try to be a family and treat each other the way you would if you weren't a blended family. It will never be quite as perfect as you want, but it will be better than you think when you try and be a family.

"Try to be a family and treat each other the way you would if you weren't a blended family."

How should one respond to the accusation that they don't act black when they clearly are?

There are many ways to respond to an accusation like this. Honestly though, how is one supposed to act like their race? There are ways in which someone may not "act their race" because of their family heritage. There are also religious practices that can affect how one acts. There is also the possibility that the person's parents are not of the same culture or race. For example, the person's mother could possibly be white or Hispanic, while the father could be black, potentially resulting in the person looking like one race more than the other, though both are part of their culture. The way you act is also based on your individual attitude and personality. Therefore, there is really no way for someone to "act their race."

Freshman Focus: Maryha Brown

By Steven Martinez

Maryha Brown is very unique compared to other 14-year-old girls! She attends school on a daily basis, plays volleyball on her spare time, and has a well-planned future ahead of her.

Maryha lives in a house of three, including herself, her mom, and her 17-year-old brother, Austin. She is the youngest in her family. She was born and raised in Alamosa. She hasn't been to many other places, but she has gone to Downey, California. She wants to go to Paris because she wants to see the Eiffel Tower.

In her spare time, she hangs out with her friends or plays volleyball. She's been playing volleyball since she was a toddler. She is very dedicated.

Maryha wants to attend college after high school. She doesn't care what college, though. Her goal is to become a marine biologist because she loves the ocean.

Though she is accomplished and has big dreams, she has had one pretty embarrassing moment that happened during her 8th grade year. At a basketball game, on her way back from concessions, she slipped and fell in front of the whole crowd as she was making her way up the bleachers to where she had been sitting.

Clearly, Maryha is a very unique girl! She has a bright future ahead of her (free of slip-ups) if she keeps trying to achieve the goals she's set for herself. I believe she will accomplish all of her future goals.

Need some help in math?

Join your math teachers after school every day
from 4:00 to 5:00 pm in the
downstairs academic wing
(by the vending machine)
for extra math assistance.

"In school you're taught a lesson and then given a test. In life you're given a test that teaches you a lesson."—Tom Bodett



Movie Scenario "Horror Scopes"

Compiled by Arianna Rangel

Aries: The first one to die because they're brave enough to check out what that noise was.

Taurus: The one who comes home to find everyone dead.

Gemini: The one who outsmarts the killer and sets the trap.

Cancer: The one who runs up the stairs rather than out the front door.

Leo: The one who tries to fight back and ends up dead.

Virgo: The one that sacrifices themselves.

Libra: The one who tells everyone to stay calm but freaks out themselves.

Scorpio: The one to figure out who the murderer is.

Sagittarius: The one secretly helping the killer.

Capricorn: The one who snapped and went on a killing spree.

Aquarius: The one who makes it to the end.

Pisces: The one who screams at everything.

Source: tumblr.com



Source: doctorgash.wordpress.com

Mini Caramel Apples Recipe

Yield: Makes 16-20

Total Time: 30 Minutes

Supplies:

3/4 cup light corn syrup

1 cup sugar

1/2 cup unsalted butter

About 1 1/4 cups heavy whipping cream, divided

1/2 cup chopped toasted pecans

1/2 cup mini chocolate chips

1/2 cup decorative mini orange candies

2 large red apples

About 20 slender but sturdy food-safe twigs, such as magnolia twigs, or craft sticks, and a candy thermometer

Preparation

1. Heat corn syrup, sugar, butter, and 3/4 cup plus 2 tbsp. cream in a 3-qt. saucepan over medium-high heat until mixture reaches 275° on a candy thermometer*, about 15 minutes, stirring often with the thermometer or a wooden spoon once it starts to brown. While caramel boils, prepare the remaining ingredients (you'll need to have everything ready before beginning step 3).

2. Grease a baking sheet and set aside. Put nuts, chocolate chips, and candies on individual plates and set aside. Using a 1-in. melon baller, cut apples into balls (you should get 8 to 10 from each apple). Push thickest end of a twig into each apple ball through skin side to center. Set on paper towels to absorb moisture.

3. Remove caramel from heat when at 275° and pour in remaining 1/4 cup cream, stirring until very smooth (it will come together after about 1 minute) and being careful of any splattering caramel.

4. Dip apple balls into caramel, making sure caramel comes over edges of skin and letting excess drip off. Dip bottom of each ball into either nuts, chocolate chips, or candies, then set on the baking sheet to cool.

*You'll need an accurate candy thermometer. Check it by immersing in boiling water; it should read 212°. If it's a few degrees too high or low, cook the caramel to a corresponding few degrees more or less. If it's way off, get a new thermometer.

Make ahead: Chill until ready to serve, up to 3 hours ahead. Serve at room temperature.

(myrecipes.com)



Photo by Thayer Allyson Gowdy



Pirate Tribune Student and Staff Shout Outs

*Shout out to Ms. Stanford for letting me buy Kit-Kats during class!

—Anahi Arroyo*

I apologize to Brittany and Anahi for not giving them each a piece of pizza :(—Allan Ochoa

Shout out to all the pears!—Austin Brown

Maclen, you're not my dad.—Brittany Heredia

AJ, it's Anfernee Romero, right? I can spike it on you any day! —Anahi Arroyo

Shout out to Chanco Valdez (Michael) and Ling Ling (Presley) —Allan Ochoa

Marcus, 'ow you? —Brittany Heredia

Happy birthday, Emma! Thanks for everything you do for others. —MVHS *Pirate Tribune* Staff



Drawing courtesy of Tyina Pacheco