

Olympian

THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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KATY SILER

Jonathan Kha, Gary Mitchell, and Garrett Ailshie strike a pose at the welcome back assembly.

State takes action against vaping

By Jeanette Wallis
COPY EDITOR

Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order on Sept. 16 calling on the Department of Public Health to remove counterfeit tobacco and cannabis products from stores. It also allocates \$20 million to launch awareness campaigns to inform users and nonusers alike of the dangers of vaping.

"We must take immediate action to meet the urgency behind this public health crisis and youth epidemic," said Newsom.

The executive order also requires stores to post warning signs, in an effort to reduce the number of underage users using tobacco products. A government survey shows 11 percent of California high school teens use vaping products, which have been proven to cause many harmful health issues. That figure grew 27 percent between 2016 and 2018.

President Donald Trump has also spoken about the vaping problem and said his administration will ban flavored vapes.

"While I like the Vaping alternative to Cigarettes, we need to make sure this alternative is

SAFE for ALL! Let's get counterfeits off the market, and keep young children from Vaping!" Trump tweeted on Sept. 13.

"People vape in the bathrooms during school, but people also vape after school and in their own time with their friends. It's a problem that's bigger than CVHS and its students," sophomore Kaitlyn Wong said.

A California bill, written by Assemblyman Adam Gray, D-Merced, would have restricted the sale of flavored e-cigarettes to underage buyers by requiring stores to use age-verification technology to check the age of buyers. For now, Gray has decided to delay action on the bill until 2020, hoping to possibly add a tax to the bill.

The bill also would have increased penalties against those selling tobacco products to underage users, rather than against the actual users. It initially included punishments against underage users, such as having their driver's license revoked or suspended, or mandatory community service and tobacco education. However, according to Adam Capper, a press spokesman for Gray, these penalties were removed

early on, due to opposition from groups such as the California Medical Association and the American Lung Association.

"Discouraging use and providing education is a great method to prevent use of vaping products," said health teacher Sue Anderson. "Boundaries such as legal age requirements and limiting access can assist with deterring use, thus allowing for the maturation of the prefrontal cortex, which is in a highly vulnerable state during adolescence."

The past few years, the number of high school and middle school students who vape using e-cigarettes has drastically increased, causing health issues among them. "Vaping, nicotine in particular, is extremely addictive, so even just experimenting with someone else's vape device can seriously impact students' physical and behavioral health," said Marian Meadows from the Wellness Center. "We need to get more information out to students about the dangers of vaping."

The Wellness Center wants to remind all students, "If you or a friend are struggling with any kind of addiction, we can help."

College Board makes new changes to AP

By Elena Lottich
ONLINE EDITOR

For students taking AP classes, the first two weeks of May are packed with study groups, last minute reviews, and slight anticipation with quite some dread of the exams to come. With this year's new changes to the AP exam system by the College Board, students will have to make a commitment to their taking their exams and, more importantly, paying for them by Nov. 1 in comparison to last year's deadline of Feb. 27.

As the biggest change coming to this year's AP system, the College Board backs up its motive by an experimental survey conducted in 2017, registering 40,000 students with an early fall deadline and seeing how their scores compared to other students with a later winter deadline. The results had a clear difference with a total seven percent increase in scores of three and above in particularly underrepresented students taking AP exams. Given these results, found on the College Board website, the new registration date that is four months earlier is aimed to dedicate students all year long to striving for better scores on exams.

"I honestly think that changing the deadline wouldn't change anything. It might even discourage students from signing up early because they haven't learned the entire course and wouldn't feel confident enough in their knowledge to take the exam," said senior Anita Wong.

"You start the commitment earlier, you bring more commitment to the class which makes sense," said AP U.S. History teacher Jeff Goldstein. "But I think the decision

of taking the test should be delayed to a time where students feel more comfortable. I'm not comfortable with the idea and what they're doing."

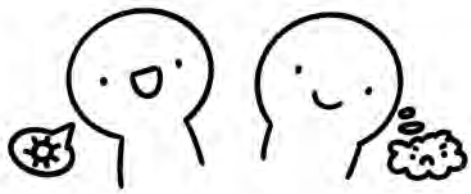
As CVHS now requires a payment of \$110 by Nov. 1, students will have to decide early on whether they are invested in taking AP exams after being in classes for about three months. An issue that arises is students changing their minds. If students wish to cancel their registration after the deadline, they will lose \$40 on cancellation fees.

"It pushes everyone to make a decision much earlier. Although a tough decision to make and locking in students 100 percent into the class, I hope it has the effect of the research but no one can say too much yet," said Assistant Principal Kevin Baker.

Despite these seemingly negative changes, the College Board has made some positive reinforcements, such as adding student unit guides that have yet to be released, which include practice exams, study tools, and features similar to other programs like Shmoop. New additions also include AP Class Sections where teachers track students and provide feedback as exam day approaches.

"It's revolutionary as far as updates on how the AP courses are being taught and the new all access resources available now," Baker commented.

Even though the year has just begun, the College Board wants you to stay focused and keep on track, driving a more motivated and resource based organization. Through earlier deadlines and greater outreach, AP students will be making year-long commitments alongside various sources of study material.



Action must be taken to stop vaping

Editorial:

The vaping epidemic among teenagers is a growing problem. In 2017, the percent of high school seniors vaping grew from 20.6 percent to 25.7 percent. Among sophomores, it grew from 19.3 percent to 24.7 percent. For CVHS, vaping has been a huge problem in bathrooms and parking lots. This is clearly caused by the US currently having the largest market for vape products in the world.

To combat this problem, California Governor Gavin Newsom has ordered the Department of Health Services to educate the public on the risks of vaping. He has also proposed a new policy to enforce stricter age regulation on the sale of vape products, as well as adding a warning to every product sold.

In addition to Newsom's proposal, President Donald Trump has declared that he will ban the sale of all flavored e-cigarette products, although he has not actually



done so yet.

We support the proposed vaping solutions. The proposed ban would prevent

future generations from developing a nicotine addiction.

Newsom's plan to spread awareness of the harmful

effects of vaping has the potential to take away appeal to young people. We also hope that Trump follows through

with his announced action.

This epidemic is comparable to the smoking epidemic in the 1960s. To bring down the number of cigarette smokers in the 1960s, the US spread awareness about the health issues that can be caused by smoking. We think it is a good idea to have campaigns to make vaping socially unacceptable.

Another idea that was brought up was to invest more money on rehabilitation and education over punishment. The states should provide more information to parents and kids about the potential effects of use of vapes and juuls.

Our last idea is to put a tax on the vapor products to make it more expensive. If something is more expensive, people are less incentivized to buy that product. Taxing products have worked in the past. When California put more taxes on cigarettes, their sale decreased. That could work to discourage vaping too.

Democratic debates feel more like demolition derbies

By Michael Tam
STAFF WRITER

Many watched the Democratic debates in June and July expecting some kind of insightful discussion about the big issues. What they got instead was a mess of candidates interrupting each other, getting cut off by moderators, or blatantly pandering to get more attention.

Between easy jabs at President Trump, several of the candidates tried cracking one-liners to get attention, such as Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's comment about how she would

"Clorox the White House," and Rep. Eric Swalwell's comment toward Vice President Joe Biden about "passing the torch" to the next generation.

The debates were disappointing, but it wasn't entirely the candidates' fault. The formatting of the debates needs to change before a meaningful debate can actually be held.

There have been an unprecedented number of candidates running for president in 2020, with more than two dozen Democrats running at one point. The Democratic National Committee (DNC), which organizes the debates, struggled

to give the most candidates a platform to share their views while taking up as little time as possible. The final format was a two or three hour debate where ten candidates per night would have 60 seconds to answer questions from moderators, 30 seconds to respond to others' answers, and 15 seconds to clarify their answers, if necessary. The debates tried to cover as many issues as possible, but the crowded stage meant that most candidates had only one minute to explain their stances on a given issue.

This is not what a debate should look like. A debate

should be a forum for people with different opinions to defend their positions, develop their arguments, and in this case, convince an audience. All of these things take time to do effectively. Instead, the debaters were expected to boil down their policies and stances to one or two minute pitches.

The candidates are some of the most qualified people to hold the highest office in the country; they have spent countless hours drafting extensive policies to address the big issues Americans are facing. The audience wanted to learn about those policies, compare them

to others, and figure out who they wanted to support, but it's impossible to do that until they are given an actual debate.

Changing the debate format is the best way to improve them. The upcoming debate on Sept. 12, unlike the previous ones, will only be one night. However, there will still be ten candidates on the debate stage, which inevitably leads to more interruptions and little policy discussion. The DNC could instead split the debate into two nights with five candidates each, giving them more time to explore their opinions and ideas.

PHOTOpinions

What would help to cut down on vaping?



“ Ban the selling and production of Juuls and e-cigarettes. ”

Christina Fiedler
freshman



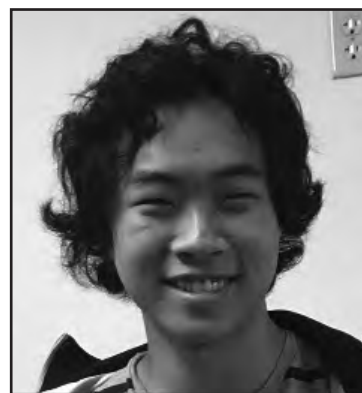
“ More strict rules in place. ”

Jag Mishra
sophomore



“ I think smarter children and better awareness would help cut down on vaping. ”

Jacqueline Thibault
junior



“ Maybe getting police dogs to sniff out the drugs. ”

Winson Yang
senior



“ Having strong, clear expectations and consequences will help make a difference. ”

Jo Sutton
teacher

It's okay to fail your drivers test

By Talaya Francois
OPINION EDITOR

"Unfortunately, you didn't pass." My driving instructor broke my heart with these words.

I wasn't surprised. I knew I dangerously messed up when I approached that insane, confusing six-way intersection. Yes, I saw the sign that said, "No right turn on red." Yes, I attempted a right turn on a red light, despite the sign.

The soul-crushing anxiety and pressure from the exam made me feel sick down to my bones. I couldn't focus for the life of me, or for the life of that poor pedestrian I almost hit when I violated the sign.

The little, elegant Ford Fusion glided effortlessly down the streets. Despite the divine car, I still failed. I was demoralized and disappointed in myself. The drive home with my parents from the Oakland

Claremont DMV was the worst drive in my life.

During my next test, I didn't get to drive the nice Ford Fusion. A few weeks after the test, I got in a car accident in the Castro Village parking lot. So, the car was with the mechanic. In my defense, I had the right of way. It was a minor accident, so no one got hurt.

But for the retest, I had no choice but to take the gigantic, cumbersome, nine-seater travel van to the DMV. My friend helped me name the van Big Bertha.

I was much more calm (thanks to the anxiety medication I had just started taking), but at the same time, I was unbelievably stressed out. It's like that feeling you get when you have to present next in class, but 20 times worse.

I had to wait three hours at the DMV to take the exam. Three hours is plenty of time

to contemplate the following topics: life, going home, every worse case scenario, death. It's also enough time to leave to pee, about ten million times.

The expression on the driver instructor's face was priceless when she first came up to the van. Her first words to me were, "Wow, this is a huge van!" You don't say!

God knows how I passed, because I sure don't. It makes no sense why I failed in the smooth, electric car, but passed in bumbling, gas-guzzling Big Bertha with a total of ten errors.

If I could give advice to anyone who is about to take the driving test, it would be this: do what you need to do to calm down. Anxiety is a barrier stopping you from doing what you didn't even know you were capable of. Also, try not to hit any pedestrians along the way.

US is at fault for mass migration



By Kimia Emadi
A&E EDITOR

My relatives moved to America when they were my age, only 17, alone and separated from their families. It was not, as many may believe, in order to follow the American Dream or take advantage of welfare programs, but to escape a war initiated and funded by the land of the free and the home of the brave, the great United States of America.

Had they stayed in Iran, they would have been drafted for a fight under a corrupt government. Operation Ajax, a CIA program that overthrew Iran's first and only democratically elected leader, had destroyed their home, so they fled.

When they arrived on student visas, they were harassed and assaulted. They worked through college despite some being unable to enter certain parts of their campus for fear of attacks. Their property was vandalized with that ever-present phrase "go back to where you came from," and a series of racial slurs too cruel to print. These incidents happened not in a rural southern town, but in Hayward.

A common and dangerous misconception surrounding asylum is that we offer it as

charity, simply because of a moral responsibility to help those in need. This is not now, nor has it ever been, the truth. The reality is that we, as a nation, are not free from blame when it comes to the modern displacement of Latin Americans or other refugee groups.

The US was directly involved the destabilization of Guatemala, El Salvador, and several other Central American countries. We organized military coups, manipulated their economies to be beneficial to us through trade agreements like CAFTA-DR, and created power vacuums that resulted in modern cartels and oppressive powers.

The result of these actions has forced countless families and individuals to flee their homes in search of safe living conditions and basic human rights. In short, the United States is responsible for the wave of asylum seekers that we now turn away.

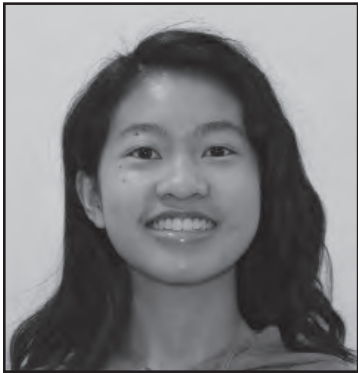
As of 2016, an estimated 1.3 million undocumented immigrants were from Guatemala and El Salvador alone. The history of our involvement with Latin America, mostly surrounding the Cold War, is directly tied to the migrant crisis of today.

Maybe, your doctor, lawyer, bus driver, friend, or employee is legal. Maybe, they never once needed welfare and are the perfect upstanding patriotic American. This is irrelevant, for there is no such thing as a "good immigrant," because individual opportunity and privilege is always the deciding factor between the simple label of "documented or not."

Take action to save the Amazon



TIFFANY HO



By Tiffany Ho
NEWS EDITOR

The Earth's lungs are on fire and have been since early August. When I first heard about this on the news, I was extremely shocked. I remember learning about the Amazon Rainforest in elementary school and watching videos that showcased the incredible diversity of species in the Amazon. I was told that there was constant rainfall due to its tropical weather. How is it possible for a fire to spread as quickly as it now has in a tropical environment?

Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro took office in January, and since then there have been about 75,000 fires in Brazil. It is no secret that Bolsonaro supports the deforestation of the

Amazon. Deforestation in July 2019 increased by 278 percent compared to July 2018.

"The dry season creates favorable conditions for the use and spread of fire, but starting a fire is the work of humans, either deliberately or by accident," said researcher Alberto Setzer.

Fires are usually set in forests to clear land for building farms or homes for humans. Fire spanning through the two million square miles of the Amazon was most likely man-made.

August to mid-November are the driest months in the Amazon, making it difficult to contain any fires set during these times.

This is a global issue that will affect everyone on this planet. The Amazon Rainforest is called the Earth's lungs because it produces about 20 percent of the oxygen in the world. This fire is causing large quantities of carbon monoxide to be emitted into the air, which is toxic for humans to breathe.

The Amazon Rainforest is home to over 10 million different species. These fires are killing them and their homes. Humans have already caused plenty of damage to the natural

environment around us. We can't afford to lose what we can save. It's time that people start taking responsibility for their actions and help improve the planet.

News about the fire has caught the attention of many people from around the world who have begun raising awareness about this issue. It's been incredible seeing them come together with a common purpose in mind.

At the 45th G7 meeting on Aug. 24 to 26, world leaders met to discuss several issues, including the Amazon Rainforest fire. They decided to give a \$20 million aid package to Brazil and its neighboring to help combat the fires. But every year these countries spend over \$100 billion on fossil fuels, despite all of their climate pledges.

The most important thing people need to realize is that it is never too late to take action. Small things such as cleaning up after ourselves and educating others about our environment can make a big difference in the long run. From the beginning of time, our planet has done so much for us, and it's time we do the same.

THE CASTRO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Olympian

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Students yearn to return to Europe

Teachers lead two-week summer tour

By Derek Neyer
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A group of CVHS students taking German or Spanish went on a trip to Germany, Austria, Italy, and Spain this summer with German teacher Barbara Andersen and Spanish teacher Candice Tigerman. The 47 students traveled to Hamburg, Rome, and Barcelona, among other places over two weeks in June and July.

Students resoundingly enjoyed the trip, which was not school-sponsored but set up independently by Andersen and Tigerman for the benefit of the students, as well as their enjoyment.

Andersen, who has run similar trips in the past, led the organization of the first trip since she gave birth to her daughter. Though her trips have historically been focused on Germany and German-speaking coun-



DEREK NEYER

CVHS students relax in front of a grand church in Florence, Italy.

tries, the addition of Tigerman and some of her Spanish students allowed for the trip to extend to Florence, Rome, and Barcelona.

One student who had not previously visited Europe appreciated the variety that the trip offered. "Getting to see historical monuments and the tons of art in every country was incredibly interesting, as were

the small cultural differences," said senior Maria Arechiga.

Nolan Thompson, who had visited some of the cities before on his own, said his favorite parts of the trip were "exploring Munich and then playing soccer next to a huge cornfield at sunset."

Altogether the students went to Hamburg, Andersen's hometown, Rothenburg (a small

medieval city home to old buildings and a quaint charm), Munich, Salzburg, Florence, Rome, and Barcelona, and the things they did there are too numerous to name.

Not just fun and games, though, the trip allowed students to practice those language skills they had cultivated over the years. "Barcelona was a really cool city with all the tasty

foods and quality ham, and especially the Gaudi architecture and whatnot," senior and Spanish student Dylan Brown said. "Using Spanish felt weird but I enjoyed it; I felt like those four years of Spanish weren't for nothing."

German student and senior Din Didić agreed, saying "the trip helped my German improve and speaking to locals was a great experience."

“It was the best two weeks of my life.”

Din Didić
Senior

All the students made a point of commenting that they truly enjoyed the vacation, and many said they would do it again. Didić mirrored the feelings of a majority of the group when he said thusly: "it was the best two weeks of my life." And there is no better way to put a feeling than that.

CVUSD changes the schedule Finals will be before winter break

By Tiffany Ho
NEWS EDITOR

This school year, many changes were made to the school calendar. School started about a week earlier than usual to accommodate these changes.

Many students were upset because their summer break was shortened, but the 2020 summer break is going to be as long as it usually is. A few changes that CVHS is going to have are finals before winter break, no more separate senior finals, and a half-day

on the last day of school.

Students used to complain about having to study for their finals during winter break, so finals have been moved to occur before winter break. When some students were asked about their opinion on this they agreed that they liked the change.

"Having finals before winter break is good because you can travel," said junior Amy McGowan.

Finals after winter break meant that many students felt burdened with having to study and do homework during their vacation. Students felt as though the burden was going to be lifted this school year.

Seniors are no longer going to have their own set of finals.

In the spring, seniors used to have finals earlier than the other grades, so that they could prepare for graduation on the last day of school. Now, that is going to change and all grades will take their finals on May 26 to May 28.

Graduation for the seniors is going to be on May 29, which is a half-day for all students. Some students were upset with this additional day after finals, but others didn't mind it as much.

"It's nice to see your friends, since you might not see them the day before," said senior Isabel Munoz.

The half-day after finals is due to requirements that the district has on the number of days that students have to be in school.

"People believe incorrectly that more school is better school. I'm not convinced that more school is better school," said English teacher Clare LePell.

"I think that students need other kinds of experiences besides academic classes. This push to start school earlier is all part of that longer school year. I'm not convinced that it's healthy for my students. I just see my students really stressed."

Class of 2023 hits scene, "feels good"

By Kayla Craft-Williams
BUSINESS MANAGER

"I'm not tripping, it's just another four years of school," freshman Kayleigh Warren states.

The new freshmen class has just started a four year journey at CVHS. Coming in as the underdogs of the school, the class of 2023 make a captivating statement.

While asked about their first couple of weeks in high school, freshmen expressed similar but different perspectives.

Although many freshmen are worried a little bit about if they'll make friends, or if they'll fit into a certain crowd or not, these freshmen seem to have no

worries and are living their best life at the start of their freshmen year.

"Feels good to be a freshman," Yanni Tsigaris said.

It's easier for freshmen to cope with being in high school if they have one or more friends, so that they can feel comfortable with and thrive with in high school.

The freshmen give off an attitude that they're ready to take on their high school careers without any worry. They're friendlier and more eager to start a new year, at a new school.

"I thought it was exciting but I was just worried about the work, but now it's fine," says Raven Placido.



KAYLA CRAFT-WILLIAMS

Freshmen Maya Wong, Jennifer Nguyen, and Raven Placido are ready for high school.

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CVHS welcomes new staff members



Nicole Andrews
social studies teacher

“I am looking forward to a wonderful time at CVHS and am extremely honored to be here.”



Alexander Azarmi
special ed teacher

“The students I work with every day at CVHS keep me inspired and invigorated to hopefully make a difference in their lives and keep me satisfied with my career choice.”



Kevin Baker
assistant principal

“CVHS was actually my destination of choice when I began looking for a new job two years ago. Now that I'm here, I see why so many people love CVHS.”



Britney Brown
social studies teacher

“I am stoked to be a new member of the CVHS community and am looking forward to meeting all of you!”



Connor Buestad
special ed teacher

“I'm thrilled to be at CVHS! It has been great to work with so many students that are energetic, creative and fun. Go Trojans!”



Alex Cardoso
mathematics teacher

I look forward to a year of building up motivation and success throughout the school community.”



Felipe Fajardo
foreign language teacher

“When I teach students, they learn about the subject and I learn about students.”



Elizabeth Jones
English teacher

“I love how supported I feel here at CVHS! It's a wonderful place to continue developing my teaching practices and classroom management skills.”



Brigitte Luna
assistant principal

“Community building is one of the most rewarding parts of my job as an assistant principal at CVHS. If we build together with a sense of belonging, we can do great things!”



Rebecca Moore
science teacher

“I am fortunate to be at CVHS for my first year being a teacher. We are going to have a great time learning in Honors Chemistry and Biology!”



Raul Rodriguez
counselor

“I'm excited to be at CVHS this year and support all students work towards and achieve their goals!”



Joy Sun
foreign language teacher

“I am so excited to start teaching at CVHS. Since Mandarin is a new program, I want to work hard, create a great experience for the students, and grow with this program.”



Gretchen Venkatesh
special ed teacher

“I recently moved from Santa Fe, New Mexico and am excited and honored to teach at Castro Valley High School. Go Trojans!”



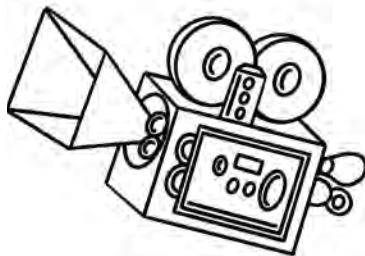
Chase Weise
mathematics teacher

“I am looking forward to working with the new generation that is coming into power.”



Nikolay Zherenbnenkov
special ed teacher

“I'm thrilled to be at CVHS! The students have a great thirst for learning and are very resilient.”



Dora explores live action

By Milagros Aquino
BUSINESS MANAGER



“Dora and the Lost City of Gold” is a spin on the old children’s show that came out in the early 2000s. In this movie Dora lives in the jungle with her cousin Diego until his family moves to the city, but then we flash forward ten years and she is still the same weirdo and Diego has grown into the typical trying-to-blend-in movie teenager.

Suddenly Dora has found herself on the way to the city for the first time where she must go on the adventure of high school and trying to get through it while sticking to her true self. Later she and a group of people end up going back to

the jungle to find her parents and Parapata in Peru also know as the lost city of gold.

Overall the movie is something you don’t want to take too seriously. The beginning with the as kids has terrible acting really but after they grow up it gets slightly better. There’s a lot of traditional Dora references that make the movie a comedy. If you thought the show “Dora” was funny then this movie is for you.

At the end of the day it is still a kids movie and one they could enjoy a lot. In general, the movie was okay mostly because of the nostalgia and the comedy which was why it was a decently enjoyable movie.

It did stick to the typical

“Stay true to yourself no matter what...”

Dora character even when she wouldn’t fit into the environment or society. And although it had its many, many flaws there was a lesson shown to all the kids to stay to your true self no matter what people say, which is why it was an okay movie.

“Sextuplets” humor irks audiences

By Rachel Schoenfeld
PHOTO EDITOR



Netflix’s new original movie “Sextuplets” starring comedian Marlon Wayan follows father-to-be Alan on his search to find his family. He doesn’t expect to be a part of a sextuplet, all of them played by Marlon Wayan. So Alan and his newly discovered brother, Russell, go on a road trip to track down the rest of his siblings. This seems like it could be an amazing movie, but for those new to Marlon Wayan’s comedy it may leave a sour taste in your mouth.

One of the main problems many people have with this film is the heavy use of stereotypes to create humor. One of these stereotypes involves Russell, who is played by Wayan, wearing a fat suit. Russell is extremely immature, rude, and lacks personal hygiene and social skills. He ends up being the center of a lot of jokes, which usually surround

the fact that he sees himself as beautiful while others think he is disgusting.

Other stereotypes this movie relies on include disabled people being greedy, foster kids being violent, and much more. This has led to viewers to say the humor promotes fatphobia, misogynoir, and ableism.

However, there are people who do enjoy the movie. Some fans of the movie say the people who don’t like it just don’t understand the culture behind the movie or Wayan’s humor in general.

There are also fans of Wayan, however, that disliked this movie and were just left wondering: What happened?

Personally, I think it is up to the viewers to decide for themselves. I for one thought the editing is a good reason to watch it. Since most of the characters are played by Wayan the editing team had to work hard to make everything look smooth and it did work well. However, it may not be a good enough reason to watch this movie for some people.

CV native directs animated film

By Nikita Thomas

STAFF WRITER

“This small town has a big heart and I thought it was appropriate to have it premiere here. Because of my upbringing here, I felt it really helped me go for my dreams and achieve them,” said Keika Lee, the writer, director, and producer of the short film, “Odd Dog” which premiered on Sept. 8 at the Castro Valley Center for the Arts.

Inspired by the strong bond that her son and pet cat shared, Lee and her crew created this heartwarming film over the course of two years.

“Their relationship is really unique and I just had to make a story about them,” said Lee.

“Odd Dog” is about a cat who thinks he’s a dog and how he befriends a boy. The film shows the development of their beautiful friendship.

After the showing of the film, Lee introduced her panel of crew members and talked about the whole process of creating the film. Her crew includes concept artist Nichole Wong Forti, character designer Miles Dulay, animators Katherine Waddel and Chris Lam, character designer Genevieve

Tsai, storyboard artist Steph Dere, and of course, Keika Lee, the writer and producer. All the crew members have full-time jobs, so it took them longer to create the film.

“As a producer, I would set deadlines and say when things would have to get done and also how much money we could spend in order to get shots and characters and storyboards done on a timely manner,” said Lee.

Lee also talked about how she was inspired by the Disney movies “Cinderella” and “Aladdin.”

“It wasn’t until I saw my very first Disney animated film - Cinderella - that really spoke to me that that was what I wanted to do with my life. I watched Cinderella so much that I broke the VHS tape. Cinderella had the message of, ‘a dream is a wish your heart makes’ and I truly believe in that and also it was just beautifully done. The animations still live up to standards till this day. Aladdin ended up being my all time favorite animated film. I broke that VHS tape too. I loved the story of the street rat becoming a great leader and having all the riches he wanted because he had a big heart,” said Lee.



T4 won the Olympian taste test.

RACHEL SCHOENFELD

Battle of the Bobas

By Eyzid Hadi

PHOTO EDITOR

In Castro Valley, there are currently four boba shops in operation, serving a variety of tapioca pearl and non-pearl drinks. With this many places serving drinks to Castro Valley residents, one important question arises: which boba shop has the best drinks?

In order to determine who sells the best boba drinks in Castro Valley, I decided that a blind taste test was in order. To conduct this experiment, I had to first select an unbiased and non CVHS volunteer who happens to enjoy boba drinks.

After finding the perfect student, I needed to select the drink for the experiment. With my decision made, I went to all four boba locations in town (Sweet Spot, T4, ITea,

and Quickly) and purchased a common and popular drink: Thai Iced Tea with tapioca pearls, along with standard sugar and ice levels. At the tasting location, the drinks were put into a brown paper bag and sealed so that only the straws were visible. With paper and pen next to each hidden drink, the taste tester was asked to come in and the tasting commenced.

After the taster tasted all the drinks and jotted down notes, it was time to see which drink was the best. The taste tester noted that the ITea drink was “very flavorful, the pearls had a nice sweetness to them, and a drink he would have again.” On the other hand, the Quickly drink “seemed watered down and tasted a bit on the bitter side.” Followed by that drink, the taste tester noted that the Sweet Spot drink was “a bit

on the milky side, with tapioca pearls that were too chewy.” Last but not least, was the T4 drink, which the taste tester enjoyed the most because “it had the perfect balance of sweetness and flavor to the tea and the right amount and consistency of tapioca pearls.”

After I reviewed the comments, I asked my unbiased taste tester to take his final sips and asked him to rank the four boba places in order from “best” to “just ok”. After several minutes of sipping and careful thinking, T4 took first place honors. However, competition for drinks in Castro Valley will be fierce as another boba shop plans to open near the Habit burger restaurant. It will be worthwhile to repeat the experiment in a few months to see if T4 can keep its top spot. Until then, sweet sipping!



Trojans demolish Dougherty Valley Wildcats, 42-7

By Katrina Siler
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Trojans varsity football team obliterated the Dougherty Valley Wildcats 42-7 at Trojan Stadium on Sept. 13.

Running back Zach Sandoval was an asset to the win, scoring multiple touchdowns throughout the night. His touchdowns often required him to carry the ball for over 38 yards.

Things were not looking good for the Trojans when defensive and offensive tackle Marcus Evans was pulled out on injury in the first quarter. The Trojans still pulled through, ending the quarter leading by 21-0.

The Wildcats were unable to score throughout the entire first half of the game, spending most of their time on their defense. The first half ended with the Trojans leading, 35-0.

"I'm proud that we got the cheerful Trojan Den a win," said junior kicker Griffin Hastings. Hastings assisted in multiple plays. He scored numerous times though out the night



KATY SILER

Cameron Calvillo celebrates his touchdown against the Wildcat.

and helped his team's success.

The Wildcats scored their only touchdown of the night in the last quarter.

The Trojans ended the game with 204 rushing yards. The Trojans gave it their all and the hard work evidently paid off.

"We executed, we didn't make any mistakes, we played hard, the kids did their assignments, and the ball went our way. We talked about going out there and trying to be perfect, and that was pretty close to a perfect half," said head coach Denny Molzen.



KATY SILER

Jacob Gates (84) and Zach Sandoval (22) leap into the air for the ball.

Girls golfers "putt" together win streak

By Nikita Thomas
COPY EDITOR

With six matches finished, the CVHS girls golf team is on a winning streak with no games lost and all six games won! The most recent match against Berkeley was at the Redwood Canyon Golf Course on Sept. 10 and went really well. The match was very exciting to watch as CVHS won by 74 strokes. The Trojans scored 227 strokes and Berkeley scored 301 strokes.

A total of three groups played against Berkeley, with two girls in each group. In the first group, junior Tani Ng and senior Annika Huston scored a total of strokes. In the second group, junior Emily Wan and sophomore Lauren Lee scored a total of strokes. In the third group, junior Felicia Yee and freshman Karissa Chu scored a total of strokes. All the girls believe that they played fairly well.

Not only are they outstanding players, but everyone on the team shares a great bond with one another.

"My favorite part about playing golf is probably getting to go out on the course with the other players, because they're all super talented and it's really cool seeing how well they play. They're also just amazing people to be around," said freshman Natalie Huey, who has been playing golf



NIKITA THOMAS

Karissa Chu chips a shot over the slope.

ever since she was a little kid.

Ng, one of the best players, also enjoys golf very much.

"I like how the team is smaller than most sports teams, so we can get a lot closer to each other. We also plan a lot of fun things to do throughout the season and sometimes throughout the year too," says Ng.

Meanwhile, Lee talked about how she felt about her chipping and putting.

"I did a good job with my chipping and got it fairly close, but my putting was bad. I made careless putts. I can improve on putting because I 'cut across' the club a lot," said Lee.

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California spars with Trump in court

By Myla Ogle
SPORTS EDITOR

California has challenged the President Donald Trump in court on a multitude of immigration issues. California is fed up with Trump's immigration policies and as a result, filed multiple lawsuits against the administration.

California's Attorney General Xavier Becerra filed his 56th lawsuit against the Trump administration in August. Becerra's latest challenge to Trump targeted Trump's new "public charge" immigration policy. Becerra has filed more lawsuits against focusing on California concerns, like the state's strong standards for auto emissions, or the rights of pregnant women or transgender soldiers.

"What I intend to do is protect the laws that we have, that have helped us be so vibrant, and I will do anything to fight any attacks that would hurt California," said Becerra.

California is leading a nearly 20-state lawsuit challenging the Trump administration's abandonment of a prior rule governing how long immigrant children can be detained. This lawsuit challenges new rules set by the Department of Homeland Security that effectively undo the Flores settlement, an agreement established after a lawsuit involving several immigrant children, which limited the amount of time the govern-



ASHLEY TANG

ment was allowed to detain an immigrant child to 20 days or less. This settlement established minimum guidelines for safe and sanitary conditions in detention facilities, requiring the government to provide children with basic needs like food, water, and medical care. Trump's rule change, set to go into effect in about 60 days, would allow Immigration and Customs Enforcement to detain families indefinitely after transferring them from border custody.

Becerra also announced California was filing a lawsuit to stop Trump administration's "public charge" rule, a

policy that will likely make it much harder for immigrants to apply for a green card or a visa.

"Yet again, President Trump is disregarding basic human rights and using helpless immigrant children as political pawns to further his ideological agenda," said Governor Gavin Newsom.

California, home to more than a quarter of all young people covered by the DACA program, became the latest state to challenge Trump over his plan to shut it down. Known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the program allows young people who came to the U.S. illegally as children to

remain. Of the nearly 790,000 now covered, about 223,000 live in California. The lawsuit contends that the president's decision to end the program is illegal, violating a federal law requiring public notice and comment before taking significant actions.

California also stands against Trump's opposition to the 14th Amendment which states that all people born or naturalized in the United States, are citizens of the United States. Trump has threatened to end birthright citizenship though many California lawmakers and legal scholars dispute his authority to do so.

The Supreme Court upheld Trump's ban on travel from several predominantly Muslim countries, delivering to the president a political victory to control immigration of migrants at the Mexican border. But as Trump celebrated his travel ban victory, a federal judge in California ordered the government to stop separating children from their parents at the border and to reunite families already separated. The judge said that all families must be reunited within 30 days and that children under five years must be returned to the custody of their parents within two weeks.

Castro Valley Unified School District took action against Trump's immigration policies by protecting immigrant families in the school system.

"As the public and political attacks on immigrant families began to rise in the 2017-2018 school year and families were being separated for crossing the borders into the U.S., the Board of Education passed a resolution in the 17-18 school year affirming the family unit," said School Board President Dot Theodore.

"We firmly believe that the separation of families entering our country seeking asylum is unethical and wrong. The school district does not collect immigration information. There is nothing for district officials to report and nothing for the federal government to collect from our students and their families," said Theodore.

Construction continues CVHS will now manage the pool

By Katrina Siler
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CVHS students have been exposed to sawdust, wet concrete, and hard hats while construction workers beautify and add to the campus.

"I think [the construction] should take another four to five years. It's a facelift. And we're redoing the whole AC and heating condition system. The new computer room [in 500 hall] has been redone, there are new bathrooms in there, and we've repainted and remodeled," said Assistant Principal Chris Fortenberry.

This year, construction most notably takes place on the 100 hall, as well as various other locations. The construction is entirely funded by Measure G.

The addition of the school's F wing was caused entirely due to construction. Last school year, teachers from 500 hall moved to the newly added wing while their hall was being improved.

The allocation of teachers from both halls proved to be a challenge for both students

and teachers. The F wing is noticeably isolated in comparison to all other halls. Teachers had to leave classrooms they taught in for decades.

"I said no, I will not move! This classroom is hollowed ground. The minds I shaped in this classroom. The boys I turned to men; the girls... that turned themselves into women. My attachment to it profound, my love for it unrelenting, my desire to stay resolute. Oh I will get air conditioning? Ok. Send some boxes, I'll pack today," said teacher David Roth-Rossi.

"I understand that the school needs the construction, but the sounds that come with it can be very distracting during class," said senior Bella Stuewe.

Many students and faculty have trouble focusing in class due to the emphatic noises of the construction.

However, the evident improvements to 500 hall demonstrate the benefits of campus beautification.

"If you walk in there on a hot day, it feels so good in that hall now," said Fortenberry.

By Brittany Bin
FEATURE EDITOR

Castro Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) has taken over management of the CVHS pool, which will save the district money and implement some changes.

CVUSD and the Hayward Area Recreation Department (HARD) have been working together this past summer to renew some of their agreements on ownership, property lines, and use.

"In the past, we rented the pool from HARD for our student programs and now HARD will rent the pool for swimming classes in the summer from us. Now that we have full control of renting the facility, we are able to put our student programs first," said Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi.

The CVHS water polo teams and swim teams will be able to have a more flexible practice schedule and the pool will still be available for the community to use.

"We now have ownership



MYLA OGLE

Elma Šabanović plays water polo in the newly CVHS-managed pool.

of the swimming pool with the understanding that it will continue to remain a swimming pool for Castro Valley students as well as continuing programs to benefit the community," said Ahmadi.

The pool was built back in 1963 by HARD on the CVHS property for school and community use. In 2016, HARD spent \$1.5 million to upgrade the swimming pool.

However, the school district always owned the land and made a new agreement with HARD to take management of it. HARD will rent the pool for lessons in the summer.

Some other properties brought up in the discussion includes the Chabot softball field, Adobe Park and Adobe Buildings, and additional acres of land next to Creekside Middle School.