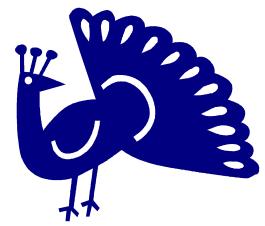


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# Peacock Press



**June 2012**

**Volume 1, Issue 3**

## Diary of a Wimpy Kid Dog Days is Delightful

**O**n May 8, 2012, Peacock Press reporters traveled to Fox Studios to see a special premiere of the movie, *Diary of A Wimpy Kid: Dog Days*. We were invited to this pre-release screening of the movie with other student newspaper groups in the PressFriends program.



After the movie showing, we had the incredible opportunity to meet and interview two stars of the film, Zachary Gordon (who plays Greg Heffley) and Peyton List (who plays Holly Hills).

The movie, to be released on August 3rd, is based on the third

and fourth books from *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series by Jeff Kinney. It includes several hilarious scenes from the books, including my personal favorite when Greg is watching

his little brother Manny, who runs away into a locker room full of hairy men showering. It goes from bad to worse when Greg finds Manny washing his hands in a urinal!

Another side-splitting scene takes place Greg goes out for ice cream with his best friend Rowley. Greg is surprised when Rowley's family gets one triple scoop ice cream cone and everyone takes a big slurp. Greg finds a way to weasel out of sharing it by claiming that he is lactose intolerant.

To find out what other trouble Greg gets himself into, make  
*Continued on page 22*

## Have a Laugh with Dog Dogs

**D**iary of a Wimpy Kid – *Dog Days* is the third movie in the series of Diary of the Wimpy Kid movies. It is just as funny as the previous two films. It will make you laugh until your lungs hurt. It is a hilarious and exciting movie about Greg Heffley's diary.

Zachary Gordon, who plays Grey Heffley, has also acted in 9 other different movies so far. Even though he is only thirteen years-old, he is very famous. I like the movie he is in and the

way he acts. If I ever get to be as famous as he is, I hope I'll be the same way. Peyton List

plays Holly Hills and also stars in "Jessie" on Disney TV. Gordon's

*Continued on page 22*





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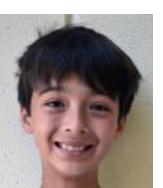
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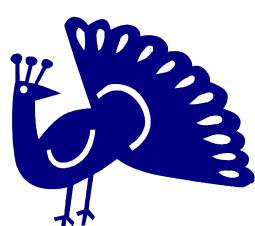
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## Canine Companions are Best Friends

**P**VPUSD School Board Member Erin LaMonte came to visit the Peacock Press and brought the dog she is raising for Canine Companions for Independence (cci.org). The Peacock Press wanted to find out more about the Canine Companions program.

**Peacock Press:** What kind of work do the dogs do when they are ready?

**Mrs. LaMonte:** The trained dogs can work with either an adult or child with disabilities to help gain more independence. Other areas include hearing assistance or working in a facility such as an occupational therapy center. Our wounded warriors also receive these dogs.

**Peacock Press:** How long do you get to keep the dogs?

**Mrs. LaMonte:** We receive the pups at eight weeks old and the dogs are returned for final training when they are between 16

and 19 months old. All the dogs don't all get to help people because they may not be a fit.

**Peacock Press:** How many dogs have you had that made it through the final test?

**Mrs. LaMonte:** Only about one in four dogs complete all the exams and are matched to a final owner. If they do not get matched, the puppy raising family is allowed to keep the dog or find a family for the dog.

**Peacock Press:** Do you get attached to the dogs?

**Mrs. LaMonte:** We get attached to every puppy of course.

**Peacock Press:** Do your children /whole family help with the training, or is it mainly one person who is the trainer?

**Mrs. LaMonte:** This is a family project. We all go to training classes and work with the pups on a daily basis.



**Peacock Press:** What is the best part of the program?

**Mrs. LaMonte:** Seeing the new owners receive their highly trained dogs. These dogs change lives and the people receiving a dog are so grateful for the work we have done to raise the puppies.

*By Anna M., Reporter,  
Cornerstone, and Guest  
Reporter, Elise Liberati*

## Capitol Comes to Campus

**C**apitol Comes to Campus was the Palos Verdes Peninsula Council of PTAs' very first community campaign to promote civic responsibility. This event was held on May 18 at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School and on May 19 at Palos Verdes High School. Prominent people including the California State Controller John Chiang came to this event to speak about "the health of our democracy" and ways to improve it.

The program was held mainly on Saturday and included a panel discussion, breakout sessions, and of particular interest to students: a mural painting centered on the theme of voting.

An important part of the program was an online survey which asked questions focusing on attitudes and actions towards the community. There were four versions of the survey: one for fourth and fifth grade students,

another for intermediate school students, a third for high school students, and one more for adults. Hopefully, taking the survey made the respondents more aware of their attitudes towards community and government and in turn work harder to improve them and make our community and state stronger.

*By Naoya Okamoto  
Chief Editor  
Rancho Vista*





## **Peacock Press Movie Survey**

### **Which Movie is the Favorite of PVPUSD Kids?**

The Peacock Press asked PVPUSD students about their favorite movie. *Hunger Games* and *Soul Surfer* were front runners with the older kids.

*Hugo*, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2*, and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid Rodrick Rules* made strong showings. Younger kids liked the *Muppets*

and animated movies like the *Princess and the Frog*, *Tin Tin*, and *Despicable Me*.

What is your favorite movie?

	Dapplegray	Mira Cat	Montemalaga	Pt Vicente	Silver Spur	Vista Grande
1st place	Hunger Games	Harry Potter	Soul Surfer, Diary of a Wimpy Kid 2	Soul Surfer	Hugo	Hunger Games
2nd place	Footlosse	Muppets	Princess and the Frog	Dolphin Tale; Despicable Me	Journey 2	Tin Tin; Real Steel

### **Mira Catalina votes for Harry Potter**

The most anticipated movie of the year was also the most popular movie at Mira Catalina. Adapted from J.K. Rowling's best selling books and the last movie from the series.... the number one movie was... *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2*.

A survey was asked at Mira Catalina, the question being: "What was your favorite movie that you saw in the movie theaters in 2011?"

*Harry Potter* won with the most votes; five.

Following *Harry Potter* was... *The Muppets*. Did you know the movie's hit song, "Man or a Muppet," won the Oscar award for the best song of the year? Well, now you know.

After that we have a ten-way tie for third place, each movie having two votes. Those movies are: *Dolphin Tale*, *The Adventures of Tin Tin*, *Battle Los Angeles*, *Puss in Boots*, *The*

*Smurfs*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules*, *Hop*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *Rise of the Planet of the Apes*, and *Jack and Jill*.

Since there are so many different age groups and movies, there were thirty-three different movie titles out of fifty kids surveyed. What was your favorite this year?

*By Leah P.  
Chief Editor  
Mira Catalina*

### **Montemalaga's Favorite Movies**

Montemalaga Elementary was asked, "What is your favorite movie in the past year?"

The older kids, also known as the fifth graders, had preference for the movie *Soul Surfer* and *Rio*. The others were *Diary of the Wimpy Kid 2*, *Kung Fu Panda 2*, *Rango*, *Tangled*, and *Hugo*.

For the fourth grade, *The Diary of The Wimpy Kid 2* was the most popular, with *Hugo* coming in second place. The fourth graders also liked *Soul Surfer*, *Rio* and the Disney movie *Tangled*.

The third graders enjoyed the *Princess and the Frog* the most out of all, *Tangled*, *Kung*

*Fu Panda 2*, *Diary of the Wimpy Kid*, and finally the movie *Rio*.

Planning to see any of these movies for a second time? Maybe Montemalaga Elementary can help you choose the movie you should see again.

*By Jamie D.  
Chief Editor  
Montemalaga*

## Peacock Press Movie Survey

### Soul Surfer rides to the top at Pointe Vicente

**L**ights! Camera! Action! The Peacock Press surveyed 20 fourth and fifth graders at Point Vicente as to their favorite movie of 2011.

Peacock Press reporter, Minji Jeun, asked 10 fourth graders the survey question. In fourth grade, the top movie was the lifesaving film, *Dolphin Tale*, which was chosen by three fourth graders. The next favorite of fourth grade was the silly penguin movie, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, with two votes.

After that, each of the following films got one vote: the film loved by humans and gnomes, *Gnomeo and Juliet*; the favorite fight movie, *Kung Fu Panda 2*; the adventurous and exciting *Alice in Wonderland*, and the fabulous brain of *Megamind*, which is a terrific film with a twist in the story. The final favorite movie in fourth grade is *Twilight*.

The winner of the fifth grade movies is a story about a girl named Bethany Hamilton,

*Soul Surfer*, with four votes. The second place movie is the film with sneaky characters, *Despicable Me*, chosen by three fifth grade students. The next fifth grade choice was *Zoo Keeper*, and two other favorites were *Reel Steel* and *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2*. CUT!

By Loren K.  
Chief Editor  
Point Vincente



### Silver Spur Votes for Hugo

The editors and reporters of Silver Spur Elementary asked 64 students on their favorite movie. After asking as many people as they could, they were added up. The movie most voted for was "Hugo." The second

most loved was "Journey 2." In third came "The Lorax." Others were found too small to be added into the list such as "Big Time Movie," and "Rio." 33 people voted for "Hugo", 20 for "Journey 2", and 11 for "The

Lorax." This concludes that Hugo is Silver Spur students' favorite movie!

By Tommy Peters  
Chief Editor  
Montemalaga



### Hunger Games tops the chart at Vista Grande

Did you hear about *The Hunger Games*? Well when this movie survey was done at Vista Grande with the 57 kids that participated in the survey, *The Hunger Games* movie was the most popular movie.

Some of the old movies are still popular like *Avatar*, *Kung Fu Panda*, and a few more.

There is a 12-person difference between the most popular movie which is *The Hunger Games*, which received 16

votes, and the second place movies, which are the *Adventures of Tin Tin* and *Real Steel*, which each received 4 votes. Phew! A twelve-vote difference between first and second place. The kids that were interviewed sure like *The Hunger Games*!

*Soul Surfer* received three votes, and *Avatar*, *The White Lion*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *Dolphin Tale*, *Harry Potter*, *Mars vs. Moms*, and *Kung-Fu Panda* each received two votes.

The movies with one vote each were *Holes*, *Ghost Protocol*, *Justin Bieber*, *Cowboys vs Aliens*, *Finding Nemo*, *Bedtime Stories*, *Over the Hedge*, *Happy Feet*, *Tangled*, *Night at the Museum*, *Up*, *Toy Story 3*, *Spy Kids All the Time in the World*, *Chipwrecked*, *The Muppets*, and *Zookeeper*. Kids like all different types of movies and genres.

By Diane K.  
Chief Editor  
Vista Grande



## **Peacock Press goes to High School**

*The Peacock Press has been attending workshops all year at Peninsula High School. We interviewed our Peninsula High and Palos Verdes High mentors to find out more about what life is like in high school.*



### **Engineering Bound**

**M**itch Trainotti is a sophomore at Palos Verdes High School and is studying to be a Bio-Chemical Engineer. You can start studying engineering in high school. Mitch took engineering as an elective in 9th grade.

When he's not in school, Mitch likes to play basketball, and his favorite NBA team is the Orlando Magic.

His favorite book is House of the Scorpion. His favorite movie is In Time.

I'm glad Mitch volunteers with PressFriends so I got a chance to meet him.

*By Neil A.  
Entertainment Editor  
Montemalaga*



### **A Website Writer's Point of View**

**T**he Peacock Press interviewed PressFriends mentor Megan Hokama about journalism. Megan is a sophomore at Peninsula High School and writes for the school's website.

An average amount of time recommended to write an article is approximately 1-2 hours.

When writing an article, you should use a dictionary or thesaurus, which will help you find new ways to describe an event or tell a story.

You might wonder how long an article should be. The length of news stories is about three paragraphs long, but when you

write a website article, the length is about one paragraph.

Now that I have had an interview about journalism I might consider taking Journalism when I'm in high school.

*By Kevin L.  
News Editor  
Soleado*

### **Journalism is Fun**

**B**eing a journalist takes a lot of writing and imagination. The Peacock Press interviewed Megan Hokama, a sophomore who writes for the Pen High website. She said that you need to have good ideas and grammar. For larger varieties of words, Megan recommended using a thesaurus every time you write.

Writing can be very fun. It lets you express yourself and build your imagination. If you want to learn what a word

means, looking in a dictionary is the right thing to do.

Journalists write about different topics from sports to history to movie reviews. Megan said that school is good to write about, because there are so many topics to choose from, such as a school election, a musical event, plays, or school activities. If you want to compliment the teachers on how well they teach, that's fine too.

Being a journalist can help you improve your writing skills.

One way is to have your work edited. A way of editing is getting different people to edit your work. You can get different editors with different writing techniques so your article benefits from different views. Once you get it edited and finished, it will look great.

Writing can be fun for everyone, even you!

*By Ricardo P.  
Reporter  
Dapplegray*



## Zero Periods, Dancing, and Chinese

**D**ragon Siu is a 10th grade student at Palos Verdes High School. She takes dance P.E., chemistry, Chinese, English, math, and yearbook. Her favorite class is Chinese because she likes learning new languages.

In high school, you have many choices for electives—cooking, digital animation, ceramics, photography, drawing and painting, etc.

Dragon has seven periods a day and takes a 7:00 a.m. zero periods. A zero periods is a class taken early before school. On a

regular day without zero periods, classes start at 8:20.

The best part of High School is meeting new friends and having a great time with them.

*By Melody C.  
Focus Editor  
Silver Spur*



## What's Choreo?

**T**aylor Wirtz is a sophomore at Peninsula High who is in advanced choreo, which is a dance team. There are 4 groups for choreo. First, there is intermediate choreo, which is the basic level and is the easiest. Second, there is advanced cho-

reo, which is the next level. Then, there is Girls Choreo, which is the most advanced group. These groups are for girls only.

Finally, there is co-ed choreo, which is for both girls and boys. They do hip hop, flips, and cool tricks.

Dance is Taylor's favorite sport. She was inspired by her older friends when she started high school. Next year, she'll also be a Varsity Song Leader.

*By Diane K.  
Chief Editor  
Vista Grande*



## High School Volleyball

**W**ho loves to play volleyball? Who is an awesome Peacock Press mentor? Who is one of the best on her volleyball team? That would be the one and only... Anna Wood!

Anna first got inspired to play when her soccer coach mentioned that she was very tall, and that she should try out for volleyball.

Anna has played for two years on the school team, and most of her teammates have been playing for a lot longer. Her school team is in second place for the Bay League, and her club team is Division Six out of twenty. The name of her club

team's name is the "Beach Cities 16-1 team".

Usually there are about 12 to 14 players on each team: Three players pass the ball, two players are hitters, and one player sets up the ball. The other six rest then switch. Even though the team rotates positions, Anna's favorite position is middle blocker because she just loves to "block the ball!"

Anna really encourages everyone to try volleyball and says, "You won't regret it!"

*By Leah P.  
Chief Editor  
Mira Catalina*

**A**nna Wood is a sophomore at Peninsula High School. She plays volleyball. She likes this activity because it is fun, it gets you moving, and it's a competitive sport. However, she does not like volleyball when she has to run laps.

Anna has been playing volleyball at Peninsula High School for two years. Anna has practice three times a week and has tournaments every other weekend. Anna also does choreo, and she enjoys learning Spanish and environmental science.

*By Sarah Liu  
Reporter  
Cornerstone*





## **Peacock Press goes to High School**

### **Track, Solar Boat Team, and more**

**P**eacock Press interviewed Edwin Jacobson to find out more about student life at Palos Verdes Peninsula High School: Edwin is on the broadcast team for the school's broadcast program, is on Varsity Track, and is a member of the Solar Boat team as well as being Historian for PressFriends.

**Peacock Press:** Are the hurdles in track difficult to jump over?

**Edwin:** They were hard to hurdle at first, but it gets easier as you practice.

**Peacock Press:** What clubs can students get involved in at Peninsula?

**Edwin:** There are over 100 clubs, but some of the most popular ones are the Black Student Union, Key Club, the Jewish Student Union, and of course PressFriends.

**Peacock Press:** Is there GATE in high school?

**Edwin:** There is, but as honors classes or AP classes.

**Peacock Press:** What sports are there in high school?

**Edwin:** Football, soccer, track and field, swim, golf, volleyball, water polo, basketball, baseball, equestrian, tennis, and more.

*By Michael T.  
Reporter, Mira Catalina*

### **Volleyball and PVIT**

**F**riday the 13th, breaking glass, and the color black all have one thing in common... they are some of Jack's favorite things.

Jack Solaro is a sophomore at Palos Verdes High. He turned out to be a very interesting person to interview. This 5 foot 10 teen is some pretty dark stuff.

For example, his favorite color is black. What? You need to know more than that, how about this: The best movie he's ever seen is Friday the 13th, creepy huh? Don't forget that his favorite sound effect is the breaking of glass.

Jack is also into some great activities, like volleyball and

PVIT (Palos Verdes High's technology program). His favorite subject is Art, which shows what kind of creative person he is. Meeting Jack was definitely an experience!

*By Alec B.  
News Editor  
Silver Spur*

### **PressFriends Club at Peninsula High**

**T**he Peacock Press interviewed Anna Wood, who is co-President of the Press Friends club at Peninsula High.

Anna started doing PressFriends because her friend Taylor inspired her to do so, and she has been a member of PressFriends for three years. She and Luke Southwell started the PressFriends club at Peninsula High two years ago.

Anna's favorite PressFriends event was when she went to the Alvin and the Chipmunks press junket. .

Anna is in 10th grade at Peninsula High School. During her free time, she likes to play volleyball.

I liked interviewing Anna because she has an interesting life and I want to be a mentor too someday.

After interviewing Anna, I learned that for an interesting interview, I must have good questions, good topics and my personal favorite rule: have a fantastic time writing and doing Press Friends.

*By Rachel M.  
Reporter  
Vista Grande*



## More High School Happenings

The Peacock Press found out that there are a lot more interesting things that you can sign up for in high school. Whatever your interests are, you'll find others who share the same interests. Peacock Press editors and reporters talked to a lot of PressFriends mentors about other activities that didn't make it into the paper. PressFriends high school mentors at the Peacock Press workshop in April came from Peninsula High, Palos Verdes High, and the California Academy of Math and Science (CAMS).



Drama Club



PVPHS Pressfriends Club



PV High PVIT



LaCrosse

Key Club



Newspaper



Model United Nations



Yearbook



Tennis



CAMS Robotics



Peacock Press





## PressFriends Annual Conference At Knott's

PressFriends held its Third Annual Conference at Knott's Berry Farm on May 27th. The conference was attended by seven PressFriends programs:

- Roosevelt Times
- Everything Twain
- LA's BEST Times
- 7th Street Sailor
- BGC Kids News
- Harbor Times
- Peacock Press

We had a great lunch buffet and then played games with all

the other kids there. 110 elementary school kids came to the conference!

Knott's Berry Farm surprised us with a visit from Snoopy, and all the kids got a Build-A-Bear donated by the Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation.

Afterwards, all the kids got certificates and a cool conference bag with the names of all 12 newspapers in the PressFriends program. We hope you attend next year!

### PressFriends Student Advisory Council

If you are in fifth grade and want to volunteer with PressFriends, they are starting a new PressFriends Student Advisory Council for middle schoolers. To join, you need to attend a training, volunteer, and apply. The next training is June 24th and posted at [www.tinyurl.com/pressfriends5](http://www.tinyurl.com/pressfriends5).

*Hana Meroth  
Co-Editor-in-Chief  
Peacock Press*



**S**ilver Spur School's 5th grade has started a classroom newspaper! Each issue is created by a group of five students, including a Reporter, an Editor, a Chief Editor, and two Interviewers. Our teacher, Mrs. Grapperhaus, oversees the paper.

After everyone on the team has written stories, they are sent off to the writers who put them

into sections such as the Sports, Entertainment, Comics, Business, or in Coming Events. We have six issues coming out and will be finished by the end of the year. We will be covering stories not only on the hot topics around school; but we will also be working to write stories about Mr. Howard's sports program.

We hope that everyone who reads the first issue will gladly send in ideas to help us write about things everyone would love to hear about in future editions.

We hope everyone enjoys the *Silver Spur School News*.

*By Tommy P.  
Chief Editor  
Silver Spur*



## Easter Egg Hunt

**H**appy Easter! At Point Vicente, Big Buddies and Little Buddies got together to find eggs filled with tasty candy. The Big Buddies hid the eggs in the Nature Garden for the Little Buddies to find.

Some of the eggs were in funky shapes like carrots, pigs,

dinosaurs, and hippos. Others had designs like dots, stripes, sparkles, and some were just plain. The sad part was that each student was allowed a limited number of eggs to make everything fair. Afterwards, some teachers let kids munch on candy during class.

All in all, the whole school had fun with their Buddies and the whole point was to spend some time with your Buddies.

*By Minji J./Loren K.  
Chief Editor/Reporter  
Point Vincente*



## Yellow Ribbon Week

**Y**ellow Ribbon Week at Vista Grande was held during the week of January 17-20, 2012. The goal was to have a safe and kind school and to build friendships along the way.

On Tuesday that week, teachers gave a yellow happy face eraser to encourage us to smile more.

On Wednesday of Yellow Ribbon Week, it was twin day. Students chose a new or old friend and wore the same clothes, shoes, necklaces, and more.

On Thursday, students received a yellow bookmark if they picked up trash around our campus.

On the last day of Yellow Ribbon Week (Friday), we all wore yellow to recognize that it had been a week of learning and fun. The school was full with yellow!

*By Rachel M.  
Reporter  
Vista Grande*



**PEACOCK PRESS 2012-2013**  
**APPLICATIONS WILL BE POSTED IN AUGUST AT**  
**PVPHSPRESSFRIENDS.WEEBLY.COM**



## The Fun Run

**E**very year, Vista Grande Elementary School has a fundraiser where all the kids run laps around our school's soccer field. This exciting event is called the Fun Run.

The reason it is a fundraiser is because all of the money goes to our school. You pay more money if you do more laps. If you pay over \$100 then you get a pizza party with the principal and an extra recess.

Students got a shirt that says what year it is and it says "The Fun Run" in big, bold letters on the back. Each grade gets a different color shirt but the fifth graders get to make their own tie-dye shirt for the Fun Run.

Whenever you run one full lap, a parent volunteer would mark off a box on the piece of paper that is pinned to the back of your shirt.

The best part of the Fun Run is at the end when you get a special treat. Last year we got mini Jamba Juices and the year before, we got popsicles.

Vista Grande is always excited for the Fun Run and everyone hopes that it will be a day to remember.

*By Emma S.  
News Editor  
Vista Grande*

## NEGU at Dapplegray



**T**he news is out! Dapplegray Elementary School is having a creative new fundraiser. The fundraiser is for a foundation called the NEGU Foundation.

NEGU stands for Never Ever Give Up and was started by a 12 year old, named Jessie Joy Rees girl who recently passed away from cancer. During her illness, she started this foundation to help children suffering from cancer. She would sell bracelets to raise money for her

foundation and fill up jars, which she called Joy Jars, with a variety of toys such as play-dough and stuffed animals and take the jars to children suffering in hospitals.

Five courageous girls from Dapplegray decided that the foundation was such a worthwhile cause that they decided to support the foundation at their school by selling the bracelets and they had three lemonade stands to raise money for the NEGU Foundation.

One of the girls got in contact with Jessie's dad and he said that the Dapplegray girls could visit the factory to help stuff the Joy Jars.

These girls raised over \$500 dollars by selling bracelets at school and selling lemonade.

Everyone in the school is very proud of these girls and so is everyone else that heard of what they started.

*By Morgan M.  
Co-Editor-in-Chief  
Peacock Press*

## Wilderness Adventures



At Vista Grande something wild is coming...! On May 29<sup>th</sup> the 5th graders at Vista Grande are going to Big Bear, CA, not for snowboarding, not for vacation, but for Outdoor Science School. The Vista Grande students are going to learn all about the outdoors. Grade 5 students are very excited about the trip.

The leader of the 5th grade OSS trip is Mrs. Tredennick. She is Vista Grande's 5th grade science teacher. Mrs. Tredennick has lots of experience and has been doing this for a long time. She was also an Eagle Scout in her childhood.

OSS is all about learning about climates, living organ-

isms, and the wilderness. The Vista Grande students will be away for four days.

OSS will be a blast into the wild!

*By Dhruv A.  
Science Editor  
Vista Grande*

*This article was submitted prior to the trip in May but after publication.*

## Silver Spur goes Outdoors

The 5th grade of Silver Spur recently went to Outdoor Science School (OSS) in Malibu. They had lots of fun when they danced at Dance Night. They were challenged when they climbed up Ice Cream Mountain. Best of all, they made new friends.

According to my recent survey, many people favored the Night Hike, Dance Night, and spending time in their cabin.

The Night Hike was a hike that took place at night (hence, the name) at the tide pools. On the hike, sand crabs, hermit crabs, limpets, small fish, octopi, and starfish were seen.

Dance Night was a night when two of the naturalists taught us their favorite dances, including the Car Wash dance, Disco, and the Cupid Shuffle.

People liked spending time at their cabins because their wonderful cabin leaders pre-

pared some activities, including bracelet making.

"At night, I dream about going to OSS again," stated Christine K..

This proved that OSS was a wonderful experience and many hope to go again.



*By Mei J.  
Science Editor  
Silver Spur*

## Outdoor Classroom

Outdoor Science School (OSS) is coming up for Vista Grande in May. It is a good way for students to study and have fun in the great outdoors.

Here is how it works. We study about nature, then we apply what we learned in our environment. It is also chance for us to grow as an individual.

I bet we are going to see all sorts of cool things like deer and maybe even wolves. It will be an exciting week.

There are some challenges though. For many of us, it will be the first time students have been away from their parents for a whole week. Parents who go to OSS as a volunteer, will not be assigned to their kid's group.

Over all, I think that Outdoor Science School will encourage students to study harder and in turn make them smarter. OSS will be an outdoor classroom at its finest. Can't wait!

*By Alex C.  
Entertainment Editor  
Vista Grande*

*This article was submitted prior to the trip in May but after publication.*



## School in a Different Setting

Outdoor Science School (OSS, for short) is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Any sixth grader will tell you that it was one of their favorite fifth grade experiences. At OSS, which is located in Big Bear, one may experience rain, snow, sleet or hail, but mostly lots of fun.

Outdoor Science School is a place where your science and

social skills improve while you are having fun. The trip is two weeks before the end of school. The whole trip takes one week, but time flies!

Fifth graders send letters to their first grade buddies from Outdoor Science School too. They discover amazing things while at OSS, and share everything with their first grade buddies, from cabin-mates to car-

casses. These letters are very influential to the first graders. Without them, there would not be the excitement there is now, because that encouragement sticks with them for years.

*By Rachel M.  
Feature Editor  
Vista Grande*





## International Day

**A**nnyeonghaseyo! Koni-chiwa! Ni hao! Bonjour! Hola! Hello! Welcome to the Annual International Day at Point Vicente.

Come and enjoy other countries' scrumptious foods at the booths. View the assembly of traditional games, dances, plays, etc.

Students who perform in the assembly claim that it is very

exciting to perform in front of the whole school, their teachers, and their fellow students and to show them about their heritage.

Many students wear their traditional clothing to celebrate this amusing and interesting day.

The students at our school color their own passports and get to receive stamps at each booth. You can even travel with

friends. You will get excited by just looking at the place.

Now, you get ready to learn how to say 'good-bye' at International Day. Annyeoung-heeghaseyo! Sayonara! Zaijian! Au revoir! Adios! Good-bye!

*By Minji J./Loren K.  
Chief Editor/Reporter  
Point Vincente*

## PV Art Center Brings Art to Life

**I**f you ever made a Mexican Tinwork Tile or a giant apple that filled a room, then you are a part of the Palos Verdes Art Center.

For 37 years, the Art Center has brought Art At Your Fingertips to your fingertips. Each year they train about 400 volunteer art docents to teach students about artists, art history, and the how-to-do-its.

Students use their imagination to color the world like the artists they have learned about. Over one million art projects have been created through Art At Your Fingertips.

The Palos Verdes Art Center's mission statement is to inspire individuals to celebrate, appreciate, and create art. The Center has been coloring Palos Verdes for 80 years.

On Friday, February 3, 2012 the Art Center celebrated its 80th birthday with a huge birthday bash. They had great food, art activities, live music, and a mime. Kids could go on an art scavenger hunt that took them through the gallery searching for items hidden in the art that was displayed.

The Palos Verdes Art Center introduces art in so many

ways that you can't even imagine, like a coloring book that never ends and you can never finish. They have free art exhibits, classes, volunteer training, art camps, and you can even have your birthday party there.

The Center is building a new facility. Until then, it is in the Promenade on the Peninsula. When you get a chance, visit it and put art on more than just your fingertips.

*By Ricardo P.  
Reporter  
Dapplegray*

## Team Kids



**T**eam Kids is an organization that comes to schools and encourages students to end hunger and poverty, also to encourage literacy and raise awareness about the environment. Over four weeks, there are goals set for each challenge and students

try to exceed these goals, by donating money, books, clothes and other supplies to people in need such as orphanages. Elementary, middle, and high schools can participate in the Team Kids program.

At a school, Team Kids sets

challenges related to hunger, poverty, literacy, and the environment. Vista Grande had the challenges to donate books to a school in need, write letters to the military troops, recycle, and

*Continued on page 23*

## A Festival with Something for Everyone

**O**n Saturday April 21st and Sunday April 22nd, the Los Angeles Times sponsored the 17th Annual Festival of Books at the University of Southern California campus.

There were small tents with exhibits from different bookstores or themes like comic books and children's stories. Tickets were available to attend small panel discussions with different authors. However, there were also eight main stages open to everyone featuring different writers.

Depending on your area of interest, there many different choices available: Cooking, Young Adult, Poetry, Music, and the Children's Stage.

The Children's Stage had many great authors like David

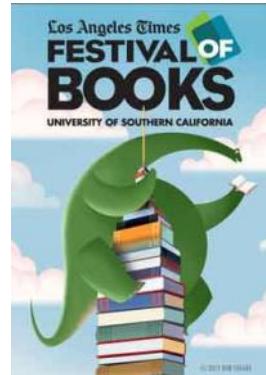
Shannon, who wrote *No, David*, *A Bad Case of Stripes*, and *Duck on a Bike*.

People crowded around to hear Jeff Kinney, the famous cartoonist behind the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series. Mr. Kinney gave an interesting speech about how he got his start. In college he created a character called "Igdoof" and started drawing his adventures. He wrote a letter to Lincoln Peirce, author of *Big Nate* comics, who encouraged him to keep at it. After fourteen years of rejections, Mr. Kinney's first book was finally published. He encouraged the audience to work hard and follow their dreams. Although he could not reveal the title

or color of the next *Wimpy Kid* book, he shared that it will take place on Valentines Day. After his talk, Mr. Kinney signed autographs for more than two hours.

Everyone who went to the Festival of Books discovered the excitement of reading!

By Alec B.  
News Editor  
Silver Spur



## Happy EARTH Day

**O**n Friday April 20th, the third grade class at Cornerstone went to the beach to celebrate Earth Day.

When they got there the students listened to a lifeguard talk about beach safety. Then the class split up into four groups that rotated to stations. The first group went to the tide pools, climbed rocks, saw crabs and found shark eggs. Some students almost twisted ankles, but this was a fun station for all the groups.

The second group learned about sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks.

The third group went to a station to learn about science at the beach and how the sun af-

fests your skin. No one knew that the sun could cause serious damage to your skin.

The fourth group went to a station where you can learn about mammals. After 30 minutes the groups rotated. When it was time to come back to the beach towels, a parent gave us yummy popsicles, which were great even though it was very foggy and cold. Everyone was sad that they couldn't go into the water, but there was time for playing on the beach, lunch, and a beach clean up too. The trash that was found was recorded.

Students settled down after a fun day and a few minutes later the teachers announced that it was time to go.

This Earth Day adventure was awesome and the beach cleanup was even better, but we still need to remember that we should clean up everywhere we go. A good lesson is if you help the earth, it will help you. If no one helps the earth, then it will be destroyed. So pick up trash, recycle, do not litter, use reusable bags, use solar panels, do clean ups every day and everywhere you go. By doing most of those things you can make a big difference in the world. Everyone should appreciate the earth, and how it helps us live the best lives that we can. CELEBRATE OUR EARTH NOW!!!

By Anna M.  
Reporter, Cornerstone





## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...and Adopt

**E**arth Day is the perfect time to adopt a pet! You would be surprised at how many adorable cats, dogs, and rabbits at our local animal shelters are waiting for good homes.

Last month, the Harbor Animal Services Center shelter received over four hundred animals. The furry friends come in all colors, breeds, sizes, and ages. They will warm your heart!

There are two ways to search for your new pet. First, you can

see the animals in person at the animal shelter, and the other way is to look online at [laanimalservices.com](http://laanimalservices.com). The website is a great place to start because you can do a search of all the shelters in Los Angeles for any type of pet. They will certainly have whatever type of pet you are looking for!

Dog adoptions are \$122, cat adoptions are \$76, and rabbit adoptions are \$56. These fees include a medical exam, vacci-

nations, microchip identification, and spay/neuter surgery.

The Harbor Animal Services Center is located at: 957 N. Gaffey in San Pedro. They are closed on Mondays and holidays. Their phone number is: 888-4LAPET1.

Take home a furry friend today!

*By Kaylin L.  
Reporter  
Mira Catalina*

## Help Conserve the Earth

**D**o you know what's one of my favorite days in April? Earth Day. Earth Day is a day when you all should clean up the earth by picking up trash. If we keep on littering then in the future we might live in the trash we littered. OH-NO!!

To stop that we must pick up the trash that we drop on our-

playground and if you see people throwing papers on the ground, instead of telling on them, you can tell them to pick it up or you can pick it up yourself.

Not only we can help the land but we can also help the animals. If animals see a plastic bag they might think it is a little

animal and eat it. So we all should be picking up our trash.

To help our Earth we can also go to the beach and pick up the plastic baggies that are about to wash over to the ocean.

Remember to pick up trash daily so we can help the Earth!!

*By Sydney C.  
Reporter, Vista Grande*

## Silver Spur Science Fair

**O**n March 22, 2012, the 2011-2012 5th grade class at Silver Spur presented their science fair project at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science Fair. With 97 different experiments, this science fair was definitely one of the most memorable. As the Google Science Fair website says, "Everyone has a question. What's yours?" we definitely had many, many, good questions.

A Science Fair is a school event where students design and test a science project by using the "scientific method." The

scientific method is the process of asking a question, then doing background research, constructing a hypothesis, an educated guess, testing your hypothesis (by doing an experiment), analyzing your data, and drawing a conclusion. Finally, you communicate your results by designing a eye-catching, tri-fold Science Fair board. What fun! However, this may sound fun and exciting (it actually is), it involves much work.

From Wesley P.'s Chicken vs. Hamster Intelligence exhibit

to Mehak D.'s Glow Stick exhibit to Sara A.'s Popcorn Popping exhibit, the Science Fair was a huge success. We all thank our dedicated science teacher, Ms. Jody Carlson, for her help and arranging this wonderful event.

Looking for your science fair ideas? Check out <http://sciencebuddies.org> for original ideas.

*By Mei J.  
Science Editor  
Silver Spur*

## ENVIRONMENT ◆ SCIENCE

### Farewell, Big Guy

**S**ay goodbye to Big Guy! Big Guy is a very heavy (more than 700 pounds), five year-old, blind sea lion. This sea lion is not known officially as Big Guy at the Marine Mammal Care Center at Fort MacArthur in San Pedro where he has lived since 2010, instead being known by a number assigned to him.

On a previous visit, a docent explained that since Big Guy is blind he wouldn't survive in the wild, and would live out his

days at the Center. Both sadly and happily, after two years of being at this animal care facility, on May 3 he will be leaving and going to his new permanent home at Utah's Hogle Zoo.

Big Guy can be expected to live for about 20 more years since the life expectancy of sea lions is 25 years. He will travel with a partially blind female companion who will also be placed at the zoo. His new home in the zoo will be an exhibit

called "Rocky Shores" which he will share with several other animals, including otters, bald eagles, and bears. All of them were selected and brought in from less fortunate situations.

"Rocky Shores" is made to mimic a northwest environment. Hogle Zoo is one of Utah's biggest attractions and has been open since 1931.

*By Naoya O.  
Chief Editor  
Rancho Vista*



The Marine Mammal Center

### Earth Day Fun

**R**educe, Reuse, and Recycle! that's right, on Earth Day, you need to think things over and reduce, reuse, and recycle. It's good to reduce the amount of plastic that you use by reusing paper bags, plastic bottles, or other reusable items, and toys, sculptures, materials in

science projects, and many other options. Use your imagination!

Now, it comes down to recycling. Why would you recycle? Well, you need to recycle so that people can turn something old into something new. That's like turning your empty

water bottle from school into a fresh, plastic bag that someone at Ralph's could really use.

Now that you know what to do on Earth Day, it's time to reduce, reuse, and recycle everyday!

*By Minji J.  
Reporter, Point Vicente*



### Environmental Apps: A Perfect Fit

**T**here are many fun and different environmental apps. Two great kids' ones are "Light It Right" and "Three Trees". They are both for kids ages 3-10.

#### Lights Out

Here is how they work: In "Lights Out", you have to touch different parts of the screen to make a room of the house light up. If you touch on a room, turn the lights off, and someone is in there, you lose fifteen points. Each level gets harder and

harder. For example, if you turn on a light and cat is in the room, you lose points because cats have night vision. As the game moves on, a granny, boy, girl, baby, and dad appear in different rooms of the house. You turn on the lights when people are in a room; to get even more points, you turn the lights off when nobody is there. The app teaches how to use lights wisely.

#### Three Trees

In "Three Trees", the player needs to balance out three trees

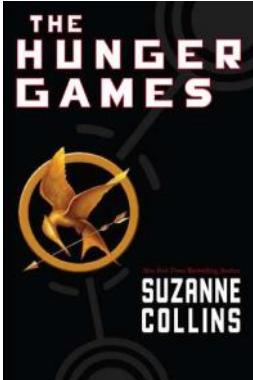
in different circumstances: wind, rain, and sun. The object of the game is to make the trees grow well in the ground. Playing is very easy; tap each element to the tree you want to use it on. But if you use too much of the element, your game will be over. Yahoo games featured "Three Trees" in their line of leading "Fresh iPhone Games".

After using these apps, the player will have a green thumb!

*By Michael T.  
Reporter  
Mira Catalina*



## The Hunger Games



**P**robably no one has seen such an amazing movie like this one. It's *The Hunger Games!* *The Hunger Games* is not only a book; it's a movie too.

According to the IMD13 website, *The Hunger Games* is rated 7.6 out of ten. Both the movie and book are very intense with blood and death, so check with your parents before reading

the book or watching the movie. If you do experience *The Hunger Games*, you might want to have a tissue by your side, because there are some scenes of sadness.

Some people would recommend watching this movie around the age of thirteen because of its intensity.

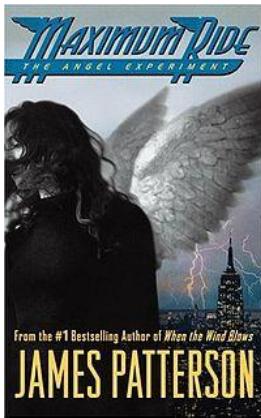
The author of the book is Suzanne Collins and the main

characters are Katniss and Peeta. Katniss is a very brave girl who volunteered to take her sister Prim's place in the Hunger Games, a brutal fight of 24 tributes, or kids. Peeta is the son of a baker and his dad was meant to marry Katniss's mom.

I would definitely recommend watching this movie.

*By Melody C.  
Focus Editor, Silver Spur*

## James Patterson's Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment



**T**hey're pretty normal kids. If you consider kids with wings *normal*. That's right, wings.

The *Maximum Ride* Series follows five kids that are human – avian hybrids. Human – avian hybrids means that these five children are 98% human and 2% bird. The names of these children are Max, Fang, Angel, Iggy, Nudge, and Gazzy.

Max is the leader of the group. She's the toughest and the strongest of the group also known as the Flock.

Fang is Max's partner in crime. They grew up together. They have known each other their whole lives. Fang is like Max's brother. Now there may be something going between Max and Fang.

Next up is Angel. She is six years old and she has lots of power. Angel can read minds, control minds, and lots of other things. As the books go on they mutate more and more and get more powers. Don't let Angel's sweet and innocent face fool

you. Some crazy things lurk inside her.

Iggy is like everyone else in the flock. Except for one thing. Iggy is blind. Although he is blind, he has amazing fighting skills and he is better than the rest.

After Iggy is Nudge. Unlike the everyone else Nudge has a hard time excepting her life. She still fights with amazing power for an eleven year old. Nudge loves fashion. Also in the hard time she is the one who wants to be educated. Even though on the outside she is girly, on the inside, she is a fighter.

Lastly there is Gazzy. He is eight. He and Iggy are best friends. Like Iggy, Gazzy loves explosives. Now that you know about the flock, let the madness begin.

Max, Fang, Angel, Iggy, Nudge, and Gazzy are all test – tube babies. They all grew up in a lab called the School. Since the beginning the flock grew up in dog crates in the School. They were experimented on by

scientists called Whitecoats. Then they escaped with the help of a Whitecoat named Jeb. He lived with them for three years then suddenly disappeared. That is where the whole story begins.

The flock's cozy home in Colorado has suddenly been invaded by Erasers. Erasers are half human , half wolf bad guys. They try to capture the flock for more experiments.

The head of the Erasers, Ari, is the biggest enemy of the flock. He captured Angel and now its the flock's job to get her back. When Max hurts her wing by a bullet. She meets Dr. Martinez and that might change her entire life.

With the Voice, the chip, Dr. Martinez, and other things will they ever get Angel back? To figure it out for yourself read *Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment*.

*By Rachel E.  
Community Editor  
Silver Spur*

## Dodger #30 — Maury Wills

**I**t was a night to remember, March 9, 2012, Dodger #30, Maury Wills, left Spring Training for a weekend to attend a fundraising event for Banning High School's baseball program in Wilmington. For those that don't know too much about Dodger History, Maury was the player that broke Ty Cobbs stolen base record with 104 stolen bases in 1962. He was

named the National League, Most Valuable Player and was also named the 1962 All Star Game, Most Valuable Player.

Mr. Maury Wills was born on October 2, 1932 and was raised in Washington D.C. From the age of 6 years, he knew he wanted to be a major league ball player. He is very kind and personal. When you talk to him, you feel as if he's been your

friend forever. He signed autographs and told stories that brought smiles to everyone in the room.

Thank you, Maury, for an amazing night, and congratulations on your 50th anniversary of your incredible 1962 season.

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



## Autism Awareness

**W**e are all different. Different ages, different genders, different beliefs, different races, different clothes, different hair colors, different eyes, and different personalities. The point is no two people are alike.

"Everyone needs a friend, even people that are different," says Silver Spur fifth grader Issy P. "I have a special needs friend and I like him a lot."

Sometimes when autism risk genes and environmental factors sway early brain development, the result may be autism. Autism is a complex brain development disorder. Every 1 in 110 American children get autism, so if you happen to know an autistic person, it's important to be kind to them.

Do not ignore an autistic child or act like you do not see them struggling. Being friends with an autistic child can teach us patience and understanding. It also teaches compassion. The friendship you will gain will be

a memorable one and you will treasure it for years to come.

### Do's and Don'ts

There are many do's and don'ts for a relationship with an autistic child.

"It's important to be friends with an autistic child because they might be nice and help you feel compassion," says Morgan D., a fifth grade student at Silver Spur.

Some do's are:

- Talk to your new friend and see how well she/he interacts with others.
- Ask an adult about what to say and how to act with your new friend.
- Speak with your parents and your autistic friend's parents on what to expect.
- Talk to the parents of your new special needs friend to help your relationship.

Some don'ts are:

- Don't do anything with your special needs friend

that makes you feel uncomfortable

- Don't be mean or rude to your autistic friend.
- Don't say anything about your special needs friend behind their back. If you wouldn't say it about anyone else don't say it about them.
- Lastly, don't force the relationship

If you follow these rules your relationship with a special needs child will be great. So just keep in mind these rules and be aware of autism. Remember, we are all different on the outside but the same on the inside.

For more information visit [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org).

*By Rachel E.  
Community Editor  
Silver Spur*





## Tour LA, the Green Way

**C**an you imagine seeing the sights of Los Angeles in 45 minutes? This thrilling ride is offered by Los Angeles Helicopters. On their Skyline Promenade tour, you will see many Los Angeles landmarks from the air while cars on the ground slowly creep by. This is the perfect eco-friendly way to tour Los Angeles!

The tour starts at the Long Beach Airport. From there, you will soar over to Redondo Beach and follow the coastline up to

the Santa Monica Pier. Bel Air, Beverly Hills, and Hollywood are up next and the pilot points out landmarks like the J. Paul Getty Museum, the old Spelling mansion, and Dodger Stadium. One of the tour highlights is flying up next to the Hollywood sign.

Next, you will fly south to see the skyscrapers in downtown L.A. up close and personal. Sports Fans will enjoy seeing Staples Center and the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.



From there, your tour is almost over and you head back to Long Beach.

If you would like to see the City of Angels from the sky, then visit Los Angeles Helicopters at 3501 Lakewood Boulevard in Long Beach. Their



## Healthy and Unhealthy Habits in Kids

**F**ast food chains are a serious problem. They are growing steadily in popularity. Why are they a problem? The cheap deals, the greasy hamburgers; the prices are low, and the 24-hour open sign is so tempting. It makes it easy for a fast dinner when speeding home from work. Frequently, toys come with kids meals in fast food restaurants. That makes kids want to go to these restaurants.

But even kids meals in regular restaurants are often just meat and buns with almost no vegetables. The burgers are filled with calories, fat, and sodium.

Based on a study published in the April 2008 issue of the Journal of School Health, kids do better on tests when eating healthy food. "This study demonstrates the independent importance of overall diet quality to academic performance," according to the researchers.

### What can you do to eat healthy?

What types of food should I eat? For example, you can think of a rainbow as a healthy food chart. The healthy food rainbow is a rainbow that consists of different colored fruits and

vegetables. Red is for tomatoes and strawberries, orange is for carrots and oranges, yellow is for bell peppers and bananas, green is for lettuce and green apples, blue is for blue corn and blueberries, and purple is for eggplants and plums.

As fast food chains get more popular, more people are going there. It could really be bad for a child's health if they ate too much of it. You should eat a rainbow of foods each day for a healthy body and healthy mind.

*By Melina D.  
Reporter  
Silver Spur*



## Have Fun at the Aquarium with CMA Kids News

PressFriends is holding its annual **FREE** summer marine science writing workshop at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium on July 28 and on Aug. 11. Info will be posted soon at [www.cabrilomarineaquarium.org](http://www.cabrilomarineaquarium.org)

## Cancun: A Vacation Spot for Everyone

**M**any people in California go to Hawaii for vacation, but for a real get-away, Cancun is a great option.

Since Cancun, Mexico is right near the equator line, the weather there is very hot. Why not swim in the pool or go to the beach? The beaches are incredible!

There is soft white sand and warm water. There are pretty shells in the water. The water is in 3 shades of blue! Ahh, paradise!

Separate from the beach, you can see the Mayan Ruins and swim in a cenote.

At the Mayan Ruins, you can see wonderful old pyramids and other structures that were built over a thousand years ago by the Mayan civilization. It is amazing to see these buildings that were built without modern technology. It is very hot at the Mayan Ruins so be prepared and bring a hat!

A cenote is an underground swimming hole. The water is

cold and inside it is very dark. There are actual tree roots hanging from above. It is so neat! You can't go wrong with these destinations.

Getting your first peek at Cancun is amazing. Wow, getting through the passport line was worth the wait!

*By Sarah L.  
Reporter  
Cornerstone*



## Money, Money, Money Everywhere

**T**he Gold Rush, starting in 1849, was a success to bring people to California. The first piece of gold was founded in Sutter's Mill, 1849 by James Marshall. He was constructing the mill for his boss, John Sutter, near Coloma. Soon people from the United States came for California, and they were known as the 49ers.

There were different decisions or paths they took. In the first path, ships had to go around Cape Horn, taking up to about 8 months and they had to pay anywhere from \$100 to \$1000.

The second way to get to California was through the Isthmus of Panama. People choosing that way had to go, from ship, into the isthmus, leaving the boat. Once through the isthmus, you had to wait for a boat, taking maybe one day, or one year.

The third way was overland. Going overland was the cheapest and most essential way to travel. It allowed the carrying of household goods, which is not possible on a cargo or clipper ship. The only worry, though, is the Sierra Nevada. The trip is hard in the snow.

In a mining town, you have to stake a claim, a miner's special mining area. Later, in the 50's, foreigners from around the world started to come to California including the Chinese, Mexican, etc. Sadly, the government stated a Foreign Miner's Tax Law, which says that foreign miners have to pay a tax, or if they don't or can't, they have to leave.

The Gold Rush was a beneficial event for the United States, but not for the foreigners.

*By Derrick K.  
Reporter  
Dapplegray*



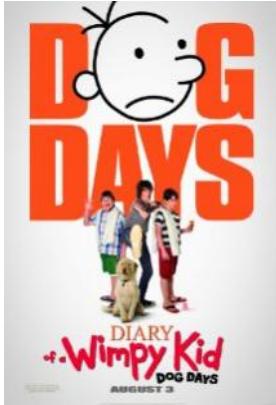
## Join Us this Summer for PV Kids News Free Workshop

PressFriends is holding a storywriting workshop with a local author for its annual summer PV Kids News program at the Peninsula Center Library. Details will be posted shortly at [www.pvld.org](http://www.pvld.org).



## Delightful Dog Days

*Continued from page 1*



sure to go see *Dog Days* when it comes out this summer.

The interview sessions with the actors were fascinating. Both kids were really nice and talked honestly about what it is like to be in a movie. Peyton List told a funny story about how the kids in the cast played a prank on the producers. They put a big tootsie roll in the pool on the movie set and told the

producers that someone had had an accident. The truth came out when Peyton picked it up and pretended to eat it!

We also learned an interesting fact about the movie from Zachary Gordon. His favorite scene was when Greg and Rowley ride a roller coaster called the "Cranium Shaker." The scene was not shot with a green screen, so they used a camera

strapped to the roller coaster car that filmed the actors actually screaming their heads off.

After the interviews, we had an extra surprise when Jeff Kinney (the author) came by to ask us what we liked about the film. The answer is easy . . .

**EVERYTHING!**  
*By Alec B.  
News Editor  
Silver Spur*

## Wimpy Kid Dog Days

*Continued from page 1*



character Greg Heffley has a crush on Holly Hills.

The Peacock Press had the chance to interview Zachary Gordon and Peyton List on May 8th at Fox Studios.

**Peacock Press:** What advice would you give to kids who want to get into acting?

**List:** School plays or community theater are good ways to start off.

When I was younger, I had a small part in a school play. I remember going to an audition and being so nervous. I had been practicing all week with my family, my mom and dad, and could finally sing in front of them. At the audition, I couldn't even sing *Twinkle Twinkle* once I got up there. I know it's hard to say don't get nervous but try to be confident.

**Gordon:** If you do want to become an actor or actress or work in the movie business, just stay positive. When you go out for an

audition, it's always hard. You don't know if it's going to happen. You have to know that you really want this, because you have to work pretty hard for it, but in the end, it's all worth it. You build relationships that are incredible. You really have to enjoy every single moment that you have. Being an actor or actress, you'll love it and you'll have a great time.

**Peacock Press:** What is something you could tell us about one of the actors on *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* that we probably don't know?

**Gordon:** On the second movie, Devon Bostick, who plays Rodrick, said he's going to have a box of Oreos sent to the set. I was like "Sure, can I have one later?" Then Devon shows up with a camera and says, "Zach, I want you to dance for this cookie." Instead of dancing, I took the cookie and ran outside the stage. I really want to milk

this moment so as the behind-the-scene camera was videoing, I waited until Devon came by and took this huge giant bite of the cookie. The cookie was filled with toothpaste, but at least it didn't taste as bad as I thought it would. We really have that brother relationship that we have formed that over the years and because we have a lot in common. We both have brothers so we can relate to each other. We like to pull pranks on each other, but my pranks never work.

**List:** Laine MacNeil, who plays Patty in the movie, and I are actually really good friends. We hung out a lot, swimming and going out to dinner. Even though she is mean in the movie, she is super sweet and is complete opposite of her character. I was wondering when she was going to show that mean side of her. But I never see it .

*By Chris J.  
Reporter, Cornerstone*

**DIARY OF A WIMPY KID DOG DAYS****PressFriends at Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

**P**ressFriends had a great time at Fox Studios seeing *Diary of a Wimpy Kid—Dog Days* before its release in theaters on August 3rd and interviewing Zachary Gordon and Peyton List. It was extra special when author Jeff Kinney stopped by to say hello.

PressFriends invited six programs to the pre-release screening. The elementary school newspapers that participated were the Peacock Press, Roosevelt Times, Everything Twain, LA's BEST Times, PV Kids News, and BGC Kids News.

A dozen PressFriends mentors from Peninsula High, Chadwick School, Ridgecrest Intermediate, and Palos Verdes Intermediate helped with the interviews. Many thanks to Fox for making this possible.

*Luke Southwell  
PressFriends*

**Team Kids**

*Continued from page 14*

donate money to a charity. For the literacy challenge, the goal was to collect 1,000 books; Vista Grande collected 5,400 books. Another challenge was to write letters to the military troops, and the goal was to write 515 letters; Vista Grande wrote over 600. For the recycling challenge, the

goal was to collect over \$300 in recycling; Vista Grande collected \$500 worth of recycled material. The last challenge was to donate money to a charity, where the goal was to raise \$400 and Vista Grande raised \$950.

Team Kids program at Vista Grande was coordinated by

student volunteers. The Team Kids program made a big impact so let's keep it up. Remember kids can make a difference, and that's exactly what Team Kids encourages!

*Dhruv A.  
Science Editor  
Vista Grande*



**Letter from PVPHS Principal, Mitzi Cress****Mitzi Cress**

**C**ongratulations to all those who have participated in the inaugural year of Peacock Press.

Special thanks to Luke Southwell and Anna Wood from the PVPHS Press Friends Club for their leadership in guiding this successful partnership.

Peninsula High School PressFriends is honored to have sponsored this outstanding

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

Peacock Press has grown beyond our wildest dreams and will continue to offer opportunities for young students to improve their writing,

reporting, editing and layout skills; while giving high school students an opportunity to develop mentoring skills.

Job well done!

*Mitzi Cress*



PVPHS PressFriends Club and the Peacock Press thank



**the PVPUSD District Council of PTA's and the  
Vista Grande PTA for helping with printing costs**

*and to Mrs. Meroth, Mrs. Meyerhoff, Mrs. LaMonte, Dr. Liberati, and  
Peacock Press parents for their support and end-of-year efforts*

