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# MOUNTAIN VIEW PRESS

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Happy spring/start of summer, Mountain View! Thanks for tuning in for our April-May issue. We hope you enjoy these fun articles put together by our amazing staff. Please email our new senior editors with any questions:

Brenna - [29bforti@cvsdstudents.org](mailto:29bforti@cvsdstudents.org)

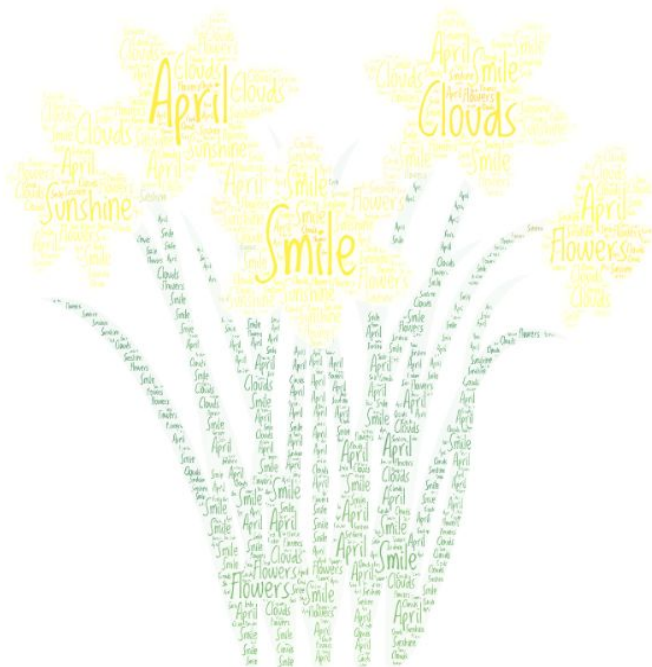
Mae - [29mhayes@cvsdstudents.org](mailto:29mhayes@cvsdstudents.org)

Nichole - [28nbutterfield@cvsdstudents.org](mailto:28nbutterfield@cvsdstudents.org)

Have a fantastic summer!  
Happy reading! ;)

-The editorial staff

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# The History of Rubber Bands

By Brenna Forti

Rubber bands come in all shapes and sizes with many different kinds of them. There are classic tan rubber bands, large rubber bands, tiny rubber bands, colorful rubber bands, and even shaped rubber bands! Though you might use these different types of rubber bands many times you might not think about how they came to be.

The story of the rubber band goes back to 1845 when Stephen Perry made the rubber band that we have and use today, though there was much lead up to this point. It started when the early Europeans traveled to the Americas for the first time, they saw rubber which was made by the residents there, and were very intrigued. The Europeans took some rubber home but it took them years to make usable rubber themselves.

Years later Thomas Hancock made the first rubber band—though this one was not as stretchy as the ones we have today—by cutting up a rubber bottle from the Americas. A few years later Stephen Perry made the final version of the rubber band by modifying the previous one.

Then comes the colored rubber bands, shaped rubber bands, and so on. When you think about it, many people wouldn't have straight teeth without rubber bands! The rubber bands on braces are used to guide teeth into the right position.

While rubber bands can be used for medical purposes they can also be used to make your 6th-grade science project work like a well-oiled machine, or they can make a loom bracelet for your new summer camp friend. Next time you look at a rubber band just think about how much that band of rubber has come to be what it is today.

# Summer activities

By: Shreesti Bhattarai

Summer is just around the corner and there are so many great things to do. With the warm air and the cool breeze, the possibilities are endless! Summer is the perfect time to have fun and go on exciting adventures. There are so many interesting activities to do during this season, whether you prefer outdoor activities or indoor ones. In this article, you'll learn some activities that could bring you joy!

To start off, the beach is an amazing place to be on a hot day. Swimming can be a fun way to exercise. Nothing can beat cooling off on a hot summer day! Even if you just want to soak up that warmth that the sun gives you or build a sand castle, the beach could be the perfect place for you to be, no matter how old you are, or who you're with!

If you are someone who enjoys being out in nature and watching how different species can work together so beautifully, you would probably enjoy going on hikes or camping. The great outdoors is an awesome way to cut off the internet for some time.

Obviously, there are also a lot of things you can do indoors if you're not much of an outdoor person. You could simply just read a book, which can help you learn and have fun while you're captured in the pages! You can also catch up with friends, have slumber parties, or have a simple hangout! There's not much that can be as fun as being silly with your friends, watching tv together, and even playing video games! And if you're feeling creative, why not try to paint, make crafts, or draw? During the summer, you'll see lots of people, animals, and plants, which just means more inspiration! Either way, staying indoors can be just as fun as being outdoors!

In the end, there's no shortage of summer activities to enjoy. Whether you prefer to spend your time outdoors or indoors, there's something for everyone. So, why not make the most of this beautiful season and try something new? Who knows, you might just discover a new hobby or passion that you never knew you had!

# Jazz Appreciation Month

By: Alyssa Wenger

Did you know that April is jazz appreciation month? Maybe you did, maybe you didn't. But what does that really mean? It means that you should listen to some good jazz music! The Mountain View jazz band had a performance along with the Eagle View and High School jazz bands on April 18th as part of jazz month.

The history of jazz music is unclear, and there are many differences in the stories that are told. Some say that jazz was created by African Americans in the form of blues, and named after a band called "Razz." Others say that it was created in America by white men using the influence of African blues, and being named after performer "Jazbo." There are more stories, but I won't go into detail. However what we do know about jazz is that the style uses a combination of different genres to influence it. There is African folk influence, as well as European classical music, and gospel soul music. There are many types of jazz, so you won't always be listening to elevator music, which is actually called smooth jazz. Jazz music typically contains trumpets, saxophones, trombones, bass guitars, pianos, drumsets, and sometimes clarinets. The Mountain View jazz band is made up of trumpets, saxophones, trombones, tenor saxophones, one baritone saxophone, a clarinet, a flute, a drumkit, a piano, a string bass, and an electric keyboard bass (I'm not sure what the purpose is of having both). Long story short, there are a lot of instruments that have to work together in jazz music, and one of the ways they do that is improvisation. Improvisation is when an instrumentalist or vocalist makes something up on the spot. When that happens, the rest of the group has to adapt and make it work. There is a lot of work that goes into jazz music, so you should be glad we have a whole month to appreciate it!

# Is middle school better than elementary?

Interviews with former 6th graders

By Neela Bender

## Storm team

### Harrison Myers

What do you like most about middle school?

“The pasta/cafeteria food.”

What do you like more about elementary school?

“Gym class.”

If you could go back to elementary school, would you?

“Yes.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“No.”

### Izzy Fry

What do you like most about middle school?

“There are multiple lunch choices.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“Staying in one classroom.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“No.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“Yeah, middle school is better.”

## Hurricanes

### Pukar Subba

What do you like most about middle school?

“The free periods.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“Recess.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“No.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“Yes.”

### Audrey Misiti

What do you like most about middle school?

“I can get ice cream every day.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“Recess.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“No.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“Yes.”

# Is middle school better than elementary?

Interviews with former 6th graders

By Neela Bender

## **Cyclones**

### **Zach Hampton**

What do you like most about middle school?

“We have more freedom.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“We had recess.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“Yes.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“Yes.”

### **Esther Gilbert**

What do you like most about middle school?

“More freedom, and we get to go between class and class ourselves.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“Having one teacher.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“No.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“Yes.”

## **Thunder**

### **Sloane Forti**

What do you like most about middle school?

“We have more freedom.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“One class with the same people.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“No.”

Do you like middle school more than elementary school?

“Yes.”

### **Parker Fedor**

What do you like most about middle school?

“I like the freedom we have.”

What do you like most about elementary school?

“Same class all day, and it was easier.”

If you could go back to elementary school would you?

“No.”

Do you like middle school more?

“Yes.”

# Survivor, Part 3

## By: Brenna Forti and Mae Hayes

After a few weeks of physical therapy, I can finally run for as long as I want without my legs trying to kill me. I've been spending a lot of time in the hospital getting daily check-ups. They said that would stop soon though.

My first week back was spent sitting in a hospital bed trying to keep my eyes open—the pain medicine they gave had the side effect of making me fall asleep in the middle of conversations—as Jack tried to explain what happened while I was in the forest trying my best to get out.

“So let me get this straight, you were being paid by Leo to help him do his dirty work?” I asked.

Jack scratched the back of his head, “Yeah, that seems right.”

“But, why?”

“Money, I needed it, he had it. It seemed right to me when the deal was made.”

“I guess that's fair,” I looked around the plain white room, “Thanks for saving my life.”

Jack laughed, he did that a lot, sometimes he would laugh until he was red in the face, “I know, you said that like a thousand times when you kept on going in and out of consciousness.”

“Oh, well now I'm saying it when I'm fully sane.”

Going to school was terrible when I got back, but it was bearable. I had to walk around in a cast because all that running on my sprained foot didn't seem to make it want to heal. There were kids all around me, most of them I didn't know but Jack kept on introducing me to new people so everyone wasn't a stranger to me.

It seemed like some kids thought I was weird and I did have to endure some name-calling. Turns out my newly burnt arms weren't so beautiful to some people, but that didn't matter because I liked them, it showed that I survived a fire.

Even though school was horrible, at least I had a new best friend—Jack. After school I no longer went to the forest to escape the reaches of humanity, I instead went to the park with Jack to play some games with his school friends.

Oh, and Jack isn't working for Leo anymore he's instead making little animals out of twigs we found in the forest—ok so I went into the woods sometimes, but hey at least I'm with someone else and I'm getting over my fear. Sometimes on the weekends I go over to where Jack sells his animals and help sell them, even though he does most of the work since he's a natural salesperson.



# Survivor, Part 3 (Cont.)

As for me, I'm going to a therapist to talk about the fire and Bailey. I feel like a new person, I'm talking to people at school, and I'm finding ways to not think about Bailey all the time. I also found that meditation helps when the visions of Bailey get too much.

And of course, my parents are helping me through everything. My mom and dad went *crazy* when I got lost in the forest and thought it had to be the fire since they knew I went to the forest all the time. They set up fundraisers to help prevent wildfires after they were notified that I was found. And the start of the fire was traced down to a discarded lighter that the wrong branch

fell on, the only way they knew this started the fire was that there was a hunting stand with a camera near it capturing it *all*.

No one quite knows who dropped that lighter but there are some assumptions on the topic and I—lucky me—get told them all. Most of the people who got blamed I know nothing about.

Even though I keep getting asked what happened in the fire I'm not quite ready to tell anyone yet. The only people who I told anything about the fire were my parents—they wouldn't stop bugging me about it—and Jack who I felt the need to tell. I went over to Jack's house and was welcomed with no questions. I went immediately to Jack's room and started to tell him about the fire.

Once I was done telling Jack about the fire he straight up hugged me and he whispered in my ear, "I'm so sorry you had to go through that. I didn't think that teasing would go so far, I'm so so very sorry I know I did wrong."

"It's ok Jack, you didn't do anything wrong it was just a mistake that I was in the wrong place at the wrong time," I said as I let go of the hug. I closed my eyes, I didn't like that Jack kept on apologizing, it wasn't his fault.

Suddenly I was consumed by a vision of Bailey, who was just sitting there in front of me. Her voice was soft and apologetic when she whispered, "I'm sorry too, Sammie."

My mind refuses to believe that this moment wasn't real. It was because of her I went into the woods but that was when we were young. We would play and climb trees and even though I don't go into the forest to play anymore I do still enjoy my visits there. I do it to get the memories back, and secretly just to calm down.

As she faded away my eyes got blurry and I started to cry in front of Jack. If this was before the fire I would have cared but I'm done keeping up appearances. I can't believe these same visions of Bailey now used to hunt me, to keep me up at night afraid of the questions. *What if it's my fault she died? Should I have said something different? Should I have spent those last days differently?*



# Survivor, Part 3 (Cont.)

I wanted to see her, to *hug* her, but I still didn't know how to let Bailey back into my life. I still was hurting, but I still didn't know how to let Bailey back into my life. I still was hurting.

Jack's voice shook me out of my thoughts, "Are you ok?" He asked with surprising softness.

I took in a shaky breath, "I'm fine its just-Bailey...I can't get her out of my head. I want to let her in but, personally? I'm not ready just yet," I said the last part extra quietly, afraid to admit it out loud.

"You know Sammy, I think your pretty strong, resourceful, and well... extraordinary," Jack said looking at me like I was the Star of Africa. I smiled a Jack, he could make me feel better anytime.

"I want to visit her grave, today," I whispered surprising even myself as I spoke the words out loud. Jack didn't look alarmed or anything he look almost...understanding, "You don't have to go if you don't want to," I added quickly.

He laughs, "Of course, I'll be going with you, that's what best friends are for."

"Best friends," I whispered, the word never seemed real to me. I almost couldn't believe someone was *my* best friend.

The graveyard was gray and held all of the gravestones of all the people that lived in our town plus some others. I pulled up the hood of my sweatshirt feeling the need to hide or run away.

I looked over at Jack who smiled kindly. I couldn't run, not anymore. Going to her grave has been long overdue. My strides picked up speed as I spotted the area where Bailey was buried. Right next to the statue of our town's founder, Ethote Biluthe.

When we reached her grave I kneeled and placed some flowers I found in the forest on the headstone. I looked at the grave, it was old and weathered but I could still read with it said. 2003–2015, the dates were set in stone yet it still felt unreal, like this was some sick joke being played out over years and years.

As I felt my eyes well up I read the epitaph, which she wrote a few days before her death when the doctors told her that her treatment ran out and...

It read, "Life is like a flower, it grows to be beautiful and then slowly dies, but the flower's seed drop to the ground and grows new flowers to live and thrive."

I think from now on I'm going to grow and be beautiful, no matter what

*The End*

# Unusual Phobias

By: Mae Hayes and Brenna Forti

Almost everyone knows about claustrophobia—the fear of confined spaces—and acrophobia—the fear of heights—but do you know about Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia? How about Plutophobia? Phobias are a vast and interesting topic so before you dive into the rabbit hole of phobias, learn about some here.

Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia(hi·puh·paa·tuh·muhn·strow·suh·skwipt·a·lee·ow·fow·bee·uh) is the fear of big words, but whoever created the name either did not care about how long that word was (ironic, right?) or was trying to make a joke about it. Some think that maybe the name was so long to help the people with this fear, and it is possible to get over Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia with exposure to long words. However, it does seem a little excessive. Alast Aimee Nezhukumatathil, who created the name, was said to have made the name so long for “literary effect.”

One cause of this phobia is being laughed at for mispronouncing words, though a person’s environment can also give them this phobia. If you get/have Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia, don’t fear! You can always try to get rid of it by doing exposure therapy, or maybe you just want to replace long words with shorter, more manageable words.

Plutophobia is the fear of money, which can extremely impact people with this phobia. They are scared of wealthy people or even just becoming wealthy themselves. People with this fear might quit their job to stop themselves from becoming wealthy. When you break up this word you get Pluto and -phobia. Of course, phobia means fear, but Pluto doesn’t mean the planet. Pluto is the Roman God of Wealth, which corresponds to the meaning of this phobia.

Plutophobia can be triggered when a person starts to fear the loss of money. One thing leads to another. People with this fear do not want to be wealthy because they might be the victim of a robbery. Also, they are afraid of becoming wealthy because they fear the responsibilities and pressure that come with it.

There are hundreds of phobias out there for us to explore, including plutophobia and hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia! Which one will you look into?

# KING HENRY VIII SUMMARY

By: Libby Dietz

Although he never was supposed to be the King of England, King Henry VIII (8) was an extensive and powerful man. The mighty king was 6'2" (1.88 m) and the average man was 5'5" (1.65 m), although women and children continue to stand smaller. He was known for his stormy love life and his six wives: Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, and Katherine Parr. Now you may be thinking, is it normal to marry this many women?



It is definitely not. King Henry was a picky man and was never pleased. He had an older brother named Arthur Tudor who was married to Henry's first wife Catherine of Aragon, which was common. Arthur was married to Catherine first, but then he died of (possibly) sweating sickness between 5-6 months into his marriage with Catherine. When he died that made Henry the king and the king had the power to marry any person he wanted to. King Henry was a very interesting man with very interesting life.



# Buddha Jayanti

By: Shruthika Koneru

Have you ever heard of Buddha? Have you seen statues of Buddha? Maybe you've heard of something called Buddhist mentality? Well, if you haven't heard of him Buddha was an old sage and teacher from Nepal. Buddha wasn't just any teacher, he was a prince. Scratch that, he was a renowned prince. Buddha gave up the throne and his wealth and became a wandering teacher. Now, isn't that poetic? Buddha's name wasn't Buddha! His name was Siddhartha Gautama, and he was a wandering monk. He lived in South Asia during the 5th or 6th century BCE and was the one who founded Buddhism.

This year on Friday, May 26, Nepalis celebrate Buddha Jayanti, also known as Buddha Purnima, which is a celebration of Buddha's birthday. Buddha Jayanthi is celebrated on the first full moon in May. Devotees, people who hand themselves over to their god and put their lives in his control, celebrate Buddha Jayanti by going to a Buddhist monastery or vihara to attend the Buddhist sutra or service. During Buddha Jayanti elders and children alike celebrate by buying new clothes, eating sweets such as kheer, and praying to Buddha. Buddha Jayanti is celebrated across the globe, and even some people in America celebrate it.

# Buddha Jayanti

By: Shruthika Koneru

New Delhi is one of the most diverse cities in the world and is home to hundreds of different cultures and millions of people. New Delhi has a new park named Buddha Jayanti Park with a giant Buddha statue in the center. People do all the usual things there, jogging and picnics, but many people come to the park to pray on Buddha Jayanti. Thousands visit New Delhi's National Museum to worship the holy remains of Buddha, as well. Thousands upon thousands of people honor Buddha by giving offerings or even by praying.

Earlier, when I said Buddha Jayanti is celebrated across the globe? I didn't mean by a few hundred people. No, no, no...more like a few million. Buddha Jayanti is celebrated in places such as Vietnam and maybe even Canada. But definitely in the U.S. The United States has immigrants coming in from left and right, literally. America is very diverse, and this diversity is what makes it unique.

# If you were to Travel to all 50 states in the US, what would you seek out?

By: Jayna Patel

Have you ever thought about traveling to all 50 states in the US? Well, I am going to tell you how I would travel to all 50 states. One of the best parts of traveling all 50 states would be learning more about the states bordering us and the climates other people in our country experience. When traveling to all 50 states I would have the same itinerary for each state: hit the 3 biggest things the state is known for.

To count every state you go to you are required to spend at least 12 hours in a state, be outdoors at least part of the time, set foot on the actual ground, and go beyond the state's border.

Well, you may be asking yourself how will anyone get to every state without spending thousands of dollars on flights? Well, I am going to be taking a converted Sprinter van. I like the idea of getting to have a bathroom, kitchen, and bed on wheels with me at all times. This allows for private once-in-a-lifetime views and easy access to any place your heart desires (Though only in the US). It also saves you from all the hassle of booking a hotel and it is much cheaper, even with paying for all the gas.

On the top of my bucket list would be Wyoming. I want to start my journey here because it is home to 94% of Yellowstone National Park, and a little bit of it is in Montana and Idaho. I am interested in Yellowstone's active volcano, Caldera. After Wyoming, I would also like to visit Colorado. Colorado is home to some of the best ski resorts in the country.

If you want to know the takeaways from traveling to all 50 states in the US or for that matter traveling at all, it is that enjoying the experience is much more significant than things or anything materialistic. Traveling can also make you spontaneous, appreciate the little things, and that you never stop learning. And that is how I would like to travel to the 50 states in the US.



