College Board to revamp SAT
Changes to come 2016, aimed for low-income students

By Theresa Huynh

Gone from the 2016 SAT will be the obscure vocabulary words, required essays and penalties for wrong answers.

Last Wednesday, College Board President David Coleman announced that the SAT will be undergoing major changes in 2016 to “move beyond delivering assessments to delivering opportunity.”

According to College Board officials, the revised SAT will be back, representative of the skills that high school students will need for college success.

“I think our country needs is not more tests, but more opportunities,” acknowledges Mr. Coleman.

The College Board will be expanding its outreach to low-income students; each income-eligible student who takes the SAT will be able to receive four fee waivers to apply to college.

“I think that the SAT changes are good because it provides a more straightforward approach; rather than having the need for us to cram with thousands of vocab words,” comments junior Ryan Lu. “It’s also great seeing the essay portion, exit much focused and useful, more clear and open than ever before,” asserts Mr. Coleman.

The full WASC report will not be released until a few months from now, after the visitation. "Six-year-two" refers to the WASC grade envisioned by the WASC team. It is more practical terms, the WASC team inspected received its bad days the bond wasn’t fully funded and so the district had another bond that was passed by the voters.

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According to the organization’s website, the purpose of WASC is to ensure that schools “provide high quality learning opportunities” while demonstrating “continual self-improvement.” In more practical terms, the organization makes sure that the diplomas that WASC and other high schools in western US hand out are valid.

For example, does the high school want to graduate students who know the material? The WASC team inspected PHHS volume 48 issue 5.

PHHS to fund building renovations

By Winston Lee

On Thurs., Feb. 13, the ESUHSD (East Side Union High School District) Board of Trustees approved the 2013-2014 capital funding of the construction projects at PHHS proposed by the School Site Council. One of these projects includes the renovation of the K-Building into new science classrooms and labs, which was already proposed back in 2009 but put on hold due to insufficient funding. Other planned projects include renovating the G-Building and a new building to house performing arts.

According to Principal Traci Williams, the renovation of the science building was expected to reach completion around the same time as the construction of the basketball gym and the girls’ softball field, but because the geographical slope on which the K-Building is located was not taken into account prior to project planning in 2009, leveling the landscape and rearranging the plumbing and gas lines required $3 million more than what the school district approved.

“They didn’t take those costs into consideration, and it became a bigger project than what the budget was for,” explains Ms. Williams. “So it got put on hold. And instead of saying ‘Well, we’re just not going to do a science building,’ we asked ourselves what’s another way we can still get six new classrooms on this campus for science and still stay within budget?” Members of the School Site Council, which consist of recruited parents from Back-to-School night, ASB students and PHHS faculty members, voted on the construction of the basketball gym as part of a list of projects they felt was important for the school.

“The gym and the girls’ softball field happened to be done first, and so we’re still waiting for the science building,” Ms. Williams explains. “Since then, the economy has its bad days the bond wasn’t fully funded and so the district had another bond that was passed by the voters.” According to Ms. Williams, with this new bond, the City Council, the PHHS Site Site Council had the opportunity to look back at what was discussed back in 2009 to see if those still were the school priorities.

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WASC team inspect PHHS

By Margaret Chon

This week from Sun- day to Wednesday, the WASC (Western Assoicot of Schools and Colleges) visiting committee came to PHHS to complete an evaluation of the school’s educational standards. Wednesday afternoon, the WASC team gave a preliminary report that was generally positive and praised the staff for the way they maintained Piedmont Hills High School. “This is their second home, absolutely,” says WASC visiting committee chair Jacquie McEnyov.

WASC did mention several “areas of improvement” for PHHS, which includes teaching and grading methods. ESLRs are known better by the acronym PIRs (Problem Solver, Independent Thinker, Responsible Individual, Academic Achiever, Technologically and Effective Communicator). “I heard nothing but positive things,” says Superintendent Chris Funk when he addressed PHHS teachers and staff after the meeting. “The areas of growth are things you’ve already identified. With the way WASC works, I’d be very surprised if you do not get a minimum of a six-year-two, but more likely a six-year-one, which is my prediction.”

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Superintendent may lower graduation credits to 180

By Margaret Chen

During January and February, Superintendent Chris Funk chatted with students and staff at the ESUHSD (East Side Union High School District) staff, which was aligning ESUHSD graduation credits to the University of California’s A-G requirements, which would reduce required graduation credits to 180 instead of the 220 the district requires now plus two years of physical education.

“I took the first year and half of my superintendent to get to know the district and to develop our new strategic plan,” explains Mr. Funk. “The Board approved the strategic plan in December and we are moving forward to begin implementation of the plan.”

The implementation would require the approval of the school board, which would happen in March at the earliest. If approved, the changes will most likely apply to the Class of 2018.

“I think this proposal levels the playing for all students,” expresses Mr. Funk. “All students will be on the A-G track and then based on their performance, a student could move to an alternative diploma. It increases the rigor for all students because of the requirement of the third year of math (Algebra II) and the third year of science and the second year of a foreign language.”

Titled “A Driver for Change,” the initiative aims to “ensure that every student graduates prepared for college and career and empowered to thrive in a global society,” according to the white paper given to teachers during the presentation.

Along with changing graduation credits, Mr. Funk also wishes to install a minimum of four seminar classes focusing on topics such as SAT preparation, financial literacy and Chicano Studies, to require a minimum of forty community service hours; and possibly to require a senior exhibition project for each student. Ideally, schools would also offer night classes and other support classes to help students with their high school careers.

“The seminar classes are designed to develop a more well-rounded student and to provide opportunities to peak interest in subjects, which would provide support like SAT Prep classes and to allow for internships,” he asserts. “It provides opportunities for schools so that not all students take six periods all four years or 8 a.m.-2:30 every day.”

On the white paper, Mr. Funk cites many reasons, including a “significant achievement gap” between the academic performance of African-Americans and Latinos and that of Asians and Caucasians, for setting forth “A Driver for Change.” He notes that ESUHSD also has lower graduation rates than Santa Clara County or California as a whole. Despite his arguments, however, some teachers say that these changes are too much too soon.

“I think that many people believe that lowering the credit requirement so much is not the best option,” explains social science teacher Frank Cava. “We should be expanding support to meet student needs so they can achieve the current requirements, not lowering the bar so we can push the students that need the help the most, out the door. Many people I have spoken to agree that the implementation of these proposals should be taken with greater care and consideration that they should not be rushed to fruition just for the sake of rapid change.”

Others agree with some of the plans the superintendent presented but believe that the information given now is not enough for them to give full judgment.

“I feel like it’s a lot of theories and ideas out there, but nothing that makes or explains how it’s going to happen,” says social science teacher Maria Orban. “He wants seminar classes—four to six-week seminar classes—and students could change into another one, but how is that going to be done? We have three counselors this year; schools like to have two counselors per school. If you’re going to be changing classes every four to six weeks, to me it’s unrealistic. I want to see a financial plan to go with it.”

Anticipating Students wait in line to pay for AP tests at the school bank.

By Vivian Vu

A s AP (Advanced Placement) Test dates approach, Piedmont Hills is trying to recruit eligible test moderators to meet the College Board requirements.

“We are trying to be proactive and avoid any possibility of dissatisfactions,” explains Counselor Gary Berg. “A school in the mid-peninsula got out of the College Board because of too many of their tests were not counted.”

This year the shortage in test proctors has seemed to become of higher concern to counselors at PHHS due to the validity of PHHS students’ scores.

“We are asking for parent volunteers because we want to have enough proposed several changes doing the tests because in the past it’s been a little bit thin with the adults,” states Mr. Berg. “Almost there was no cheating going on, as far as we could tell, we want to conform with the regulations that the College Board has set.”

Last year, the only proctors that were present for all of the AP tests were the counselors and one outside hired person. That comes to a total of four adults for over 900 students who normally take AP tests.

“Instead of getting enough parent volunteers, we are going to have to find other adults on campus who might volunteer their time to do it,” states Mr. Berg. “The only restriction that parent proctors have is that their child can’t be that particular AP test.”

The school is trying to do its part on ensuring that PHHS student’s AP scores are not disqualified. Mr. Berg advises that students should prepare proper test-taking precautions too.

Eight SJ homicides open 2014 year

By Shannon Sanchez

In November 2013, Russian-friendly Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych announced that his government had abandoned an agreement to strengthen ties to the EU (European Union) and instead become closer allies with Russia.

This political move sparked protests in Kiev’s Independence Square which expanded until Thurs., Feb. 20, when dozens of the pro-European protesters were killed by the military and police. President Yanukovych then fled Kiev, signifying the temporary victory of the protesters who then installed pro-European temporary government to prepare for the upcoming elections.

After pro-Russian forces stormed Ukrainian government buildings, military bases, airports, and parliament two weeks ago, Ukrainian forces and pro-Russian soldiers have gotten into tense standoffs, with pro-Russian soldiers at one point firing off gunshots into the sky to warn Ukrainian soldiers to leave.

On March 6, after gunmen took over the parliament building in the Crimea regional capital, Simferopol, a pro-Russian leadership was installed. The regional parliament voted behind closed doors for Crimea to leave Ukraine and join Russia, setting a referendum for this Sunday to validate its decision.

Russia said it was protecting ethnic Russians in the region from swelling anti-Russian sentiments in Ukraine. The Ukraine military still holds five bases plus its naval headquarters in Crimea.

Under the claim that the temporary Ukrainian government was an illegitimate and an illegally seized power in a coup with U.S. backing, Russian President Vladimir Putin alleged that his country had a right to use military force to intervene in the other country’s affairs.

“The legitimate president is only Yanukovsky,” Putin said. “There are just three ways to dismiss the president from power: death, his personal request, and the third one, impeachment... this procedure was not followed.”

The Ukrainian government claims Russia has sent 16 thousand troops into Crimea. There have been no violent clashes so far in the region, and Russia has made no moves to send troops into any other part of Ukraine.

Concerns over Ukraine’s financial condition — whose treasury account is, by its own admission, almost empty — rose after Russian state gas company Gazprom said it would cancel a substantial discount on natural gas granted in December. President Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, noted Ukraine’s state gas company Naftogaz will owe $2 billion for gas, including February’s bill.

In addition to the $1 billion loan offered by the US, the EU said it would offer Ukraine $15 billion in aid to help it pay its debts and energy bills and keep the government functioning in the near-term.

Piedmont Hills searches for parent AP test moderators

By Vivian Vu

Russian troops enter Crimea after Ukraine ousts president

By Shannon Sanchez

Four homicides occurred in January: Juan Rios Sanchez, age 36, was shot near the Mexican Heritage Plaza on Thurs., Jan. 2; Anthony Thompson, age 46, was stabbed near the Temescal Carpet store on Sat., Jan. 11; Steve Hyman, age 34, was stabbed at Loma Verde Dr and Eden Ave on Wed., Jan. 14; and Richard Phan, age 22, was stabbed in the Piedmont Hills area on Sun., Jan. 26.

On www.mercysun.com for homicides information on homicides in the Bay Area.

Eight SJ homicides open 2014 year

By Shannon Sanchez

S an Jose has experienced eight homicides this year, all male victims, including four stab- bings, three shootings and one vehicular manslaughter.

No homicides have occurred so far this month.

Last month, four homicides swept the city: Jason Rosario and Ryan Voit, age 26, were stabbed near San Jose State University on Thurs., Feb. 6 and Feb., 12; Eric Valette, age 33, was hit by a car at Capi tool E Evelyn and Snell Ave on Sun., Feb. 16; and, James Zamudio, age 22, was shot on Pine Ridge Way on Thurs., Feb. 20.

The Antioch police department is looking at each other’s papers talking to each other’s papers looking at each other’s papers...
O n Fri., Jan. 31 Premiere Studios uploaded the pilot epi-
isode of their web series, Premieresque. Their new series is about to
off their 13-week countdown to The Premiere, their annual event where they
to display different videos that members in the club have been work-
ing on throughout the year.

The web series is based off of the TV show, The Office, and starts off with a whole club that is about to be shut down due to the fact that it is struggle-
ing to find the required amount of new members.

"If we have script finished, we set up a date or dates to film. After we have a date set, we film," says Vice President Luke Kim.

"The general rule when shoot-
ing is that things take twice as long as you think they will. We have to deal with actor distractions and people not knowing their lines as well as tech-
nical problems from our camera and microphone.

"After shooting, we send the au-
dio and video files to our film editor Andrew Ong who puts everything to-
gether for us. Justin Tran, Kady and I approve the edit or make sugges-
tions. Once it’s all done, we up-
load the video to YouTube for the school to see. And it concludes."

"In project of this size, the staff ranges from actors and writers to editors and camera people and even ensemble.

"There are 15 people acting as cast and crew overall, as well as several cameo appearances planned for future episodes.

"That’s so cool about our web series is that the crew is also incorporated in the web series sto-
rine as if they’re characters too," guesses President Kady Le.

"It’s even difficult balancing it with my school work, but it’s been a really enjoyable experience and it’s totally worth it," added Luke.

The web series is planned to go on for 13 episodes and will end on Fri., March 28 on the day of The Premiere.

"For the past few years in the club, our senior officers would al-
ways have a web series project so it’s kind of like a tradition for us," shares Kady.

By Christopher Pham

Culture comes alive at PHHS

L ast Friday night, Piedmont Hills hosted its annual In-
ternational Night, in which various clubs prepared different per-
formances to represent their club and culture. The performances returned in today’s two-part rally.

"This event highlights the dif-
f erent cultures that we have around our school and how di-
verse of a school we are," states ASB President Priscilla Pham.

"Indian club’s dance was very colorful and lively. The traditional clothing and sticks (dandiya) that they carried really made the perfor-
mance feel authentic," replies Su-
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Indian Club tried to bring some-
thing different this year by showcas-
ing three types of Indian dances: two traditional-Raas and Bhangra-and one contemporary.

"The hardest part about this per-
formance is keeping the energy level consistent for four and a half minutes. It’s very hard to dance in sync with

By Huy Nguyen

Robots Club competes at Central Valley

P HH’s Robotics Club created a robot to compete in the Aerial
Assist, a three-day competition that began last Friday and ended on Sunday.

Aerial Assist participants played with three robots competing for three
ties," states Indian Club President Runi Tanna.

"For the past few years in the club, our senior officers would al-
ways have a web series project so it’s kind of like a tradition for us," shares Kady.

By Kendrew Kwong

NHS and Drama Dept. solve murder at wedding dinner

O n Fri., Feb. 28 from 6:30pm to
9pm, audience members solved a mystery during NHS’s (National Honor Society) and the Drama Dept.’s annual Murder
Mystery Night.

NHS collaborated with the Drama Dept. for the fourth time and held the event to help raise funds for its annual community service theme, which is education.

According to the Reading and Writing Project, Literacy Lifeboats, the project NHS is donating money towards, seeks to support teachers and children in schools that has been hard hit by Hurricane Katrina.

NHS contributions will help provide books and school supplies for teachers and students.

"Each semester, Advanced Drama has a project for all of us to do. First semester is our holiday showcase and second semester is our collaboration with NHS," explains NHS Treasurer Lana Dann.

"It’s a great way for us to grow as performers, directors and technical theater students while giving back to charity," she continues.

In this play, audience members attended a "wedding" and tried to solve the mystery of the murder of a wedding guest.

"Advanced Drama read the script on the play and decided that with its good storyline, interesting characters and reasonable length, it was a good option to choose," reveals Drama Dept. Head Anna Woods.

The play differed from last year’s show, which didn’t have a murder mystery.

"Last year we had ‘Dinner and a Show’ and the year before that we had another murder mystery. We try to have a murder mystery play every other year in order to have some variety to the show," explains Mr. Woods.

NHS members believe that the event was rather successful.

"I think the event was a big success. Many of us were able to raise $1,200 for Lifeboats for Literacy. I was really impressed by how the people from the Drama Dept. performed and how they really got into their roles as actors," comments senior Melissa Tien.

"On our side, I think NHS members were able to make everything go really smoothly." However, some people were surprised by the play’s rather abrupt ending.

"I think a lot of people thought that the play was really concluding at the end, since the killer turned out to be a stranger that we never saw during the entire play," notes Melissa.

"I think it would have been better if we the murderer was somebody that we already knew about."*

By Andyrew Kweong

WHAT HAPPENED? Wedding guests panic over a dead body in
“I’m Getting Murdered in the Morning.”

By May Nguyen

Premiere Studios films The Office-esque web series

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014
FEATURES 3

LigHTS, camera, action! Premiere Studios officers Project Manager Justin Tran and President Kady Le shoot a scene with Vice President Luke Kim for the fourth installment of their web series, Premiere!

BONJOUR French Club proudly displays their poster at their macaron vendor.

BonJour

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BonJour
PHHS students perform in CMEA music festival

By Christopher Pham

Flora and Fauna: PHHS students participate in the SJSU (San Jose State University) in the annual CMEA (California Music Educators Association) Solo Ensemble Festival on Sat., March 1.

The CMEA Festival is an annual event that gathers high school musicians in California to be adjudicated by professional judges. The PHHS Music Dept. participates in two sections, with individual musicians in March and the orchestra, band and choir in April.

“For the CMEA Festival, the performers generally choose a classical piece. (Senior) Christopher Tran and I chose a duet for violin and viola during winter break, and we’ve been practicing until now,” explains violinist Cindy M. Nguyen.

According to the CMEA website, adjudicators judge based on sound quality, technique, musicianship and aesthetics. Scores range from “command,” which is the highest, to “needs improvement,” which is the lowest.

“I think we are all aiming to get a ‘command’ grade, but we’ll have to see how it goes,” comments cellist Michelle Li.

Music director Myles Ellis also plays a role in the CMEA Solo Ensemble Festival.

“I submit the names and register all of the students. I also assist with finding appropriate music and help with practicing. However, I am more than happy to help students do all of their own practicing as well, if that’s what they want to do,” explains Mr. Ellis.

“We see it as yes that the solo ensemble festival experience is really about the individual, and I’m happy to serve in simply an advisory capacity,” he continues.

“Overall, I think the event was really fun and exciting and I’m looking forward for the other events that I’ll be performing in later on. I think PHHS did a pretty good job this year,” reveals Cindy.

Several students in past CMEA solo ensemble events were able to achieve a “command” performance rating. •

Spring musical adds more showings

By Theresa Huynh

This spring, the PHHS Performing Arts Dept. will be bringing a Disney classic, Beauty and the Beast, to PHHS for not just one weekend, but two. The musical will have a total of six showings, Wed., April 2 to Sat., April 12 in the L-Building.

“We always like to offer the musical two weekends. We don’t want a chance to do it because of scheduling, vacations and testing, but this year we were able to schedule it for two weekends,” explains drama teacher Anna Woods.

“We think it’s such a popular show that we’re going to want to have another weekend of shows,” she adds.

All-State Honor groups welcome four PHHS students

By Samuel Nguyen

Three students from the PHHS Music Dept., percussionists Christopher Chen, Iris Wu and Belinda Tang, were accepted into the California All-State Honor Band, and one student, vocalist Rachel Khuu, was accepted into the California All-State Jazz Choir on Sun., Jan. 12.

“Add ‘exotic,’” expresses Rachel. “My friend messaged me and told me that they put the list up a couple days early, and I didn’t reply to because I was too excited.”

The All-State Honor groups are prestigious orchestras, bands and choirs that gather young aspiring musicians from around California.

“I feel like it’s really a good experience just to go to honor band, work with different people and different conductors. You learn so much just by working with different people and hearing different people as they play,” comments Iris.

“Oh, it’s amazing, if you have the opportunity to tryout or go to the festival because you’re surrounded by so many amazing musicians; it’s kind of life changing,” expresses Rachel.

The auditioning process includes preparing solos or songs, as well as common musical testing devices such as scales and sight reading, in which musicians must play or sing a piece or song they have never seen before.

“They give you the sight-reading, and you get 15 seconds to look over the music,” explains Iris.

“Instead of looking over the music, I kind of thought ‘Oh, my gosh, 15 seconds, that’s such a short amount of time! What do I do?’”

For musicians like Iris, this was another simple step being a third year returnee in All-State Honor Band.

But for those like Rachel, this was the first step towards finding out what she could do.

“I’ve been a member of the Treblemakers since I was a freshman, and I always loved jazz. Being in vocal jazz just made me love jazz so much more, and I wanted to see what I can do,” shares Rachel.

Music director Myles Ellis leads all four students in different ensembles including Wind Ensemble and Treblemakers.

“I was really pleased about it, most schools don’t even manage to get two in and we were able to get four,” expresses Mr. Ellis.

“I also like to see more next year and more than just percussion next year too, so I think it’s a very good starting point. I want us to actually continue on to getting more and more people as we go through the years together.” •
Online class scheduling returns for second year

By Faith Escalera

F or the second year in a row, PHHS stu-
dents picked their classes online via In-
finite Campus.

To instruct students on how to navigate the software, Guidance Counselor Jill Shoopman uploaded detailed instructions that included screen shots onto Schoolloop.

“I think so far it’s a success,” says Ms. Shoopman. “This year the students are having trouble for the most part didn’t read the instructions carefully because so far for those who run smoothly, which is a good thing.”

The counselors look at every student’s schedule requests along with their graduation inferences or that they can see based on what has been done so far, what is left for graduation or college requirements.

They go through every student one by one and make sure that students have signed up for the right classes. If necessary, the counselors contact students on an individual basis if cor-

rections have to be made.

“Last year we had in the high nineties percent were done and of my alphabet, most of the students did it right,” says Ms. Shoopman. “There’s always going to be those strange things that students don’t quite figure out, but overall I think it was a success.”

The counselors decided to do scheduling online because a lot of time is saved and it also serves as preparation for college.

“We usually spend several weeks when we hide out in here entering all the schedules and the bad thing is that kind of takes us away from time working with students so if you enter it yourself and you do a good job at it, that can actually free us up to work with students,” says Ms. Shoopman.

“I don’t know if it freed us up quite as much as we would’ve liked because of some of the errors that were there, plus how much time we spent at the beginning helping students en-
ter them online. So it maybe didn’t give us as much time as we had hoped, but I think in the end it does save us some time, and any time that is saved that allows us to work with students,” continues Ms. Shoopman.

“(I) also allows students to see what the process might be like for college; I think it’s a win-win.”

Operation Prom Dress opens for low-income SJ students

By Minh-Hieu Vu

W ith the sponsorship of Vice Mayor
Madison Nguyen, Operation Prom

Dress starts this year once again for low-
income young women on Sat., March 9
at the Seven Trees Community Center in San Jose, Calif.

More than two thousand dresses—and some tuxedo rentals and free daily cleaning ser-

vices for used dresses—are donated by local department stores and members of the com-

munity.

Participating students come from multiple
ESUSD (East Side Union High School Dis-
itict) schools, including Piedmont Hills, Mt.
Pleasant, Evergreen Valley, Oak Grove, James Lick, Independence and Yerba Buena.

Ms. Nguyen notes that the cost of buying a dress for prom, for many students, is a financial reach and that fact inspired the operation.

Dresses bought at popular retailers, such as Nordstrom or Macy’s, can be sold for over $300. Don’t forget about the costs for a trip to that hair salon across the street, make-up from cosmetic artists and shoes.

“I feel that the prom dresses should be much less expensive so that more people can get one. So everyone can feel pretty,” states sophomore Iris Wu.

“No more than $200 on a prom dress for me,” shares senior Marias Manshumina.

Senior Ball tickets start at $120 per person and $230 for a couple and are bumped up in both April and May.

“Senior Ball is pretty pricey. The Hayes Mansion is beautiful, but I feel that we could have gone somewhere else just as great for less money,” says Fairy.

“It’s pretty depressing that many prom dresses cost more than the price to actually go to prom,” shares senior Kady Lee.

Girl Scouts raises cookie prices to fund activities

By Ly-Pham

J ust this year, the Girl Scouts of Northern California Council has decided to raise the price per box of cookies from four to five dollars.

“Five dollars will help girls and troops raise money for Girl Scout activities, and will make a huge difference for our ability to reach more girls and volunteers,” says Product Sale Director Jill Roos.

Chapter officials say the cost for insurance, rent, salaries, benefits and the per box price the baker charges all have increased since the most recent increase five years ago in 2009.

Even then, the price change was only by 50 cents.

“Selling is more difficult because that much inspired the operation. A dress for prom, for many students, is a financial reach and that fact inspired the operation. Dresses bought at popular retailers, such as Nordstrom or Macy’s, can be sold for over $300. Don’t forget about the costs for a trip to that hair salon across the street, make-up from cosmetic artists and shoes.

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five dollars aside from Hawaii’s.

“For every box sold, about a dollar goes to the cost of the cookies themselves, another dollar goes to individual troops and about three dollars go toward council services.

“Being part of a Girl Scout isn’t mandato-

ry; you volunteer to do it and it’s not cheap. We have to get money somewhere else other than from our parents, and this is really our only op-

portunity to raise funds that will defray the costs for our trips, events, projects and activities,” explains Alexandra.

Girl Scouts of Northern California pro-

vides services and infrastructure that support high quality, safe experiences including 12 camp properties for almost 50 thousand girls and 31 thousand volunteers in 39 counties.

“Selling isn’t only about the cookies or the money,” states Alexandra. “It’s a learning experience that teaches girls how to manage mon-
ey, be organized, set goals, interact with people, make decisions and so many other skills that they don’t get from going to school.”

The following are corrections for the February 2014 issue of The Legend.

AP Lit open to upcoming juniors

The name for the only AP English course that juniors currently are taking is “English Language and Composition,” not “English Language and Literature.”

Piedmont Hills Boys Basketball aims to beat Leigh

The score for the game against Oak Grove was 55-41, with victory for Piedmont Hills. PHHS’s league record would have been 10-1, and Leigh’s 11-0.
America battles sexual assault

By Shannon Seneff

America is taking action against rape and sexual violence as college administrations address mounting issues.

Rape victim is defined as a sexual act which results in pregnancy or sexual violation, and sexual victim is anyone who reports rape or other sexual activity.

Several sexual issues are comprised of anonymous sexual assault, incidents for sexual favor, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual tone that tends to create a hostile or offensive environment.

A shocking one in five college women experience their first sexual contact without their consent. In college, 41% of which report being raped at age 18 or younger, 44% have not told anyone about the rape and only 12% report it. Many of these populations are affected by rape.

President Barack Obama announced Wed. Jan. 22 a new federal policy helps to prevent sexual violence and help federal agencies fund schools that aren’t addressing the problem comprehensively.

‘It’s not even to say that you’re raped, nor say whether she’s in, a dormitory, in the back seat of a car, in your room, drunk or sober—no one has a right to go beyond the need to know. ‘But if she’s not consent, it is! says” President Joseph Biden. ‘The measure of masculinity is willingness to speak up and speak out and begin to take responsibility and do something about it.‘

In the last ten years, the National Crime Victim Survey has reported over 35% of sexual offenses report the incident, compared with only 5% in the 1990s. According to RAINN (Rape Abuse and Incest National Network), one in six adults will be raped, forced into prostitution, or threatened with such acts.

‘Thursday is when the victim develops an emotional bond with her or her abuser as a survival tactic of abuse and intrusion. Body memories are those of the memory of abuse all of the physiology of sexual problems that may arise such as unusual methods like medical examinations.

‘Abuse of language is all a part of coping with their pain and anger. She doesn’t know her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. She knows her triggers and is in denial. 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As a senior with roughly two months of high school left to go, I’ve reflected a lot on how I have changed over the years. After rehashing multiple choice test strategies, filling out worksheets and memorizing lists of vocabulary words for years, I wonder whether any of the work I’ve done will really amount to anything useful for me beyond earning good grades and college credits.

Critical thinking, time management, responsibility, technology usage and communication skills are learned. These skills are indeed important, but what concerns me the most is the gap between planning problems in high school and taking on problems in the real world. I can solve problems in high school, but that means nothing if I can’t solve problems outside of school.

The Calif. Dept. of Education standards envision that all high school students “will attain the highest level of academic knowledge, applied learning and performance skills to ensure fulfilling personal lives and careers and contribute to civic and economic progress.” Extraordinarily ideal intentions, but the ultimate structure of learning in high school lacks this personal fulfillment. Rather than focusing on students’ personal goals and how to adapt the curriculum to help students achieve their goals, the class structure, work load and course rigor drive all drive students down the college route.

The college route is an honorable effort to build an educated society, but as students approach adulthood, they must not forget the financial and political responsibilities, such as managing debt and being informed of state and federal policies that come with the privilege of being an independent adult. Still, as constantly working students, few of us have the opportunity to learn these responsibilities. According to USA Today, nearly 90 million Americans did not vote in 2012. More than two in three young adults, or about 100 million people, said they do not even have enough “rainy day” savings for an emergency in the 2013 Survey of Consumer Financial Literacy. Even with a highly-educated society, avoiding these financial and political issues will not be taught, identified or addressed in our high school curriculum.

So I implore the state officials at the Calif. Dept. of Education to better incorporate teaching these responsibilities alongside issuing the standards and recommendations to aid students in pursuing a higher education. Being a genius in mathematics and biology doesn’t matter if one cannot learn basic financial, social and political responsibilities in our rapidly growing society.

By Winston Lee

Are students prepared for the real world?

By Teresa Hoyun

The promotion of high school school lunch

That has become more common throughout the nation, especially after First Lady Michelle Obama initiated her Let’s Move campaign in 2010 with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.

Although school lunches may not necessarily consist of junk food, they are still loaded with high amounts of calories. There are still flaws in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, but then again, it’s only the first step towards healthful school lunches.

In 2012, the USDA (US Dept. of Agriculture) raised school meal standards, implying more whole grains, fruits and vegetables, less sodium and fat and healthier portion sizes.

This meant that school lunch portion sizes became smaller and alternatives were made to replace foods high in calories and fat.

However, this also meant that schools had to spend more money for more nutritious food choices, leaving less money for other resources for students. A healthy school lunch is extremely important, but may be worth it in the long run when children will not have as many health problems as they grow up. In fact, students who participate in the school lunch program because they simply could not afford to continue losing funds when they drop out of school.

Many of these lunches have even gone straight to the sales because students themselves with less energy throughout the school day because they opt out on lunch or are still hungry. These students may even change the change and eat the modified lunches, it is even worse if they spend money to continue encouraging to do so.

Would students eventually accept the changes and begin eating the food instead of throwing it away? Looking at kids who have become accustomed to eating unhealthy junk food as opposed to nutritious lunches, the obvious answer is no. This issue, as with many other problems with kids’ daily lives today, goes back to habits formed during childhood.

The nutrition level of school lunches at high schools isn’t very different from that of elementary schools. With traditional school lunches, most—if not all—elementary students will obviously choose the tastier, unhealthier options.

Furthermore, healthy school lunch alternatives still aren’t the healthiest. For example, students have become more common, since they are filled with leafy greens full of nutrients, but the problem lies with the extra sugars that come along with them. Most people add ranch to their salads for more flavor, but that adds more calories. The healthy factor from a salad is gone once it is mixed with so-called unhealthy toppings.

I understand that the schools just want to have the best for their students. They don’t want students starv- ing to do so. However, schools could take students’ suggestions and comments as an effort to improve lunches. For example, students should be able to have an input in what goes into their lunches. Of course, these suggestions should not overpower their food choices, but instead point out ways to make their meals healthier and more enjoyable.

Therefore, the switch to healthier school lunches will definitely not show immediate changes. Middle and high school students may not be so accepting, but the key is to start young. Forcing students to eat healthy won’t be as effective as allowing them to choose healthy foods on their own.

According to William J. McCarthy, a professor of public health and psychology at UCLA, children who have initially rejected a food are more willing to accept it after they have been exposed to it at least eight to ten times.

If students are exposed to healthy options at school early on, they will be more likely to choose those same foods when they are older. In addition, students are focusing mainly on the meals itself, but food services, such as lunch lines, still need to be improved as well. We only have thirty minutes for lunch, and no one wants to spend half of that time waiting in lines.

As teenagers, it’s easy to get caught up in school, work and extracurricular activities. But as students approach adulthood, they must not forget the financial and social responsibilities.

The healthy factor from a salad is gone once it is mixed with so-called unhealthy toppings.

By Joelyn Ng

Bringing back the holiday cheer in high school

By Faith Escalera

High school students tend to get so caught up in school, work and extracurricular activities that they overlook holidays that were once important to them.

When the flowers start to bloom, birds start to sing, trees shine just enough and the weather isn’t so cold anymore, we start to think about the two underrated holidays that occur in spring are Mother’s and Father’s Day. As teenagers, it’s easy to get caught up in school, work and extracurricular activities. But as students approach adulthood, they must not forget the financial and social responsibilities.

Putting the ‘human’ back into ‘humanities’

By Winston Lee

The Calif. Dept. of Education standards envision that all high school students “will at-
Ask Polly

Q

What kind of mistakes does a teenager with a permit make on the behind-the-wheel driving test?

Dear Anonybadger,

Each person has his or her own troubles with taking the driving test. The main aspect the proctors look for is safety! Be prepared to compensate for another driver’s mistake (drive defensively). You can make up to 15 errors as long as they are not critical driving errors. Critical driving errors result in automatic failure, and they include driving 10 mph or more over or under the speed limit, not checking your blind spot and running a red light. Check out www.dmv.ca.gov for more tips and the safe driver checklist!

Q

How much stress is the average senior under (over the school year)?

Dear Anykitty,

Senior year is however stressful you want it to be. If you chose to take 4 AP classes when you can only handle 2-3, then your senior year will be stressful. I suggest you should know your limit and choose your schedule accordingly. Do not over work yourself and remember that your schedule will also include college applications, clubs, and any other after school activities that you might do.

Q

Why did they wait until now to decide that they are only going to require 180 credits to graduate? Hashbag angers.

Dear Anonybadger,

The plan to lower graduation credits to 180 originates from Superintendent Chris Funk, who entered this position about a year and a half ago. According to him, the reason he suggested the changes now is that he has been planning the proposal and going to each school in the district to understand the learning environment since.

It is important, however, to note that the change is intended to make school more challenging because it requires a third year of math, a third year of science and a second year of foreign language. The plan will most likely be implemented first for the students of the Class of 2019, who are currently seventh-graders.

The full story is on page two, titled “Superintendent may lower graduation credits to 180.”

ARG! COMICS

Want to submit your own comic or ask a question? Send your idea to phlegend@gmail.com or ask.fm/phlegend.

Sunday’s
Necessary Reminder

Monday’s
Depressing Fact

Tuesday’s
Pondorous Time

Wednesday’s
Wordy Advice

Thursday’s
Magical Herb

Friday’s
Feel-Good Joke

Saturday’s
Sunny Prospect

1
“Beeswing” - Richard Thompson

2
“A warm smile is the universal language of kindness.” —William Arthur Ward

3
Yerba santa - beauty, healing, psychic powers, protection

4
How do snails fight? They slug it out!

5
Good news is more likely to be shared through social media than bad news.

6
Start studying for AP exams!

7
Your body stops chemically reacting to romantic love after one year.

8
“Vincent” - Don McLean

9
“Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies.” —Aristotle

10
Chestnut - love

11
What did one snowman say to the other snowman? It smells like carrots in here!

12
An island in the Bahamas lets tourists and locals swim with wild pigs and feed them. The pigs jump into the water to cool down and even climb aboard boats to hang out.

13
The week before break is not break. Don’t start slacking off.

14
Researchers accidentally killed the world’s oldest animal in 2006.

15
“Terrible Things” - Mayday Parade

16
“I wake up some mornings and sit and have my coffee and look out at my beautiful garden, and I go, ‘Remember how good this is. Because you can lose it.’” —Bob Marley

17
Cinnamon - spirituality, success, healing, psychic powers, lust, protection, love

18
What do you call an opener that doesn’t work? A can’t opener!

19
At this exact moment, there are tens of thousands of babies laughing around the world.

20
Use your free time wisely over the vacation.

21
Only about 2% of adults who collapse on the street and receive CPR survive.

22
“Desperado” - Eagles

23
“Open your eyes, look within. Are you satisfied with the life you’re living?” —Bob Marley

24
Ginger - love, money, success, power

25
Does anyone need an ark? I Noah guy.

26
Whales have lifelong friends that they visit regularly.

27
Don’t let yourself be doomed next week!

28
The brain usually begins to physically deteriorate around age 30, with marked acceleration around age 50.

29
“Tears” - Rush

30
“The sound of a kiss is not so loud as that of a cannon, but its echo lasts a great deal longer.” —Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

—William Arthur Ward

—Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

—Sr.

—Jim Carrey

—Aristotle

—Bob Marley

—Bob Marley

= No school

Easter Sunday

Spring Break begins

Earth Day

Arbor Day

Fridays
A chain of numbers in pi directly equals a place, with A = 1, B = 2, C = 3 and so on, there having every letter converted to its respective number. For example, if the many curious number trails are technically able, that is highly unlikely as there have been trillions of digits found with no repetition. Since pi has not been proven to repeat, many curious number trails are technically able to be found in pi's infinite repeating numbers. For example, if the Harry Potter series had every letter converted to its respective place, with A = 1, B = 2, C = 3, and so on, there would be a chain of numbers in pi directly equal to Harry Potter's entire converted series without space, exact to every digit. This could also be repeated with the space key replaced with the number zero, and a different series should still be within pi's digits. The same goes with any other combination of numbers, including 999999, which actually happens within the first one thousand digits of pi. Pi is an incredible number, and it is known at its base as the ratio between a circumference and diameter. Yet there are nonbelievers in the world. They praise the tau, which is literally equal to 2π, or about 6.28. Their idea is that changing formulas to 2τ, which is used in the circumference of a circle (C = 2πr, or 2π multiplied by the length of the radius) and the unit circle (where trigonometric values repeat in cycles of 2π), would make math easier. Shun the nonbelievers. Shaun.

Continued on Page 10

WASC

Celebrating π Day

By Kevin Sum, Guest writer

sort into focus groups that address a certain topic based off the questions WASC provided. During this school year, many of the staff collaboration days were held to prepare for the visit, including the collaboration day that took place this Wednesday.

"During our March 6 Staff Collaboration we participated in some "Mock WASC Focus Group meetings so that the staff can be prepared for the kinds of questions that the Visiting Committee will be asking," notes Mr. Cava.

"It is a lot like preparing for a big family party," Mr. Cava describes. "There are lots and lots of little details to be taken care of."

The accreditation process goes in six-year cycles. During WASC visits, the visiting team plays a key role in deciding what level of inspection a school would need in the next cycle. A bad grade would mean that the school is put on probation or that the school's accreditation status is withheld, neither of which is a serious threat, explains Pham. "The goal is to only be visited every six years, but they don't really do it that way anymore, so the last time we had a full visit like this was 2008," says Ms. Williams. "We had a midterm visit in 2011. After they left in 2008, they left us some recommendations. They came back three years later to see if we made some improvement, and we did. So this year, we're hoping that we get a good review, but we do know that more than likely there will be a mid-term revisit, but it helps the school to stay on track."

WASC team members had positive experiences after meeting with the students and staff.

"The students are incredibly friendly and really, really helpful," says Ms. McEnany. "Everyone has been really generous with their time, or what they have to say, so it's been a very pleasant experience."

The WASC visiting members noted that "they would like to have students on their visiting committee next year. Interested students can go to http://www.acswasc.org/vc_volunteering.htm for more information."

Wrestlers pull second place in BVAL

By Shannon Sanchez

Wrestling finished the season with an overall league score of 6-1, landing second place in BVAL’s (Blossom Valley Athletics League) West Valley Division.

The Piedmont Hills’ Wrestling team only lost to Prospect’s, which got first place in the division with an overall score of 7-0.

"It was a tough loss, but it brought us back together as a team. That’s why we won the matches after," states wrestler Tyler Norris.

"We won 19 out of 22 head-to-head matches, but when you don’t have a wrestler to fill a weight class, it gives the other team six matches after," states wrestler Tyler Norris.

"A main goal of mine is to do the best I can and just be the best at it," continues Buckley.

"The wrestlers keep a season of memories and favorites.

"My favorite memory is my first match of the season. I pinned the guy in 19 seconds, and it really boosted my confidence," recalls wrestler Jakob Buckley. "My favorite thing about wrestling is the team because they brought me in like family." The wrestlers keep a season of memories and favorites.

"My favorite thing about my coach is that he’s able to joke around with us and yet still be serious," adds wrestler Joseph Espinoza.

Boys Tennis serves strong start

By Casey Nares

The Piedmont Hills Boys Varsity Tennis team started the season strong with a win in their pre-season home game against Silver Creek High School last Tuesday, obtaining a score of 5-2.

"Today’s game was pretty easy," states singles player Andy Pham. "They had solid singles players but the team was able to pull through and win." The team is determined to make it to CCS (Central Coast Section-also). The Boys Varsity Tennis team then faced Live Oak last Thursday, winning with a score of 6-1. However, yesterday’s team was in a scrimmage game against Milpitas.

"Live Oak is new in our division so I’m guessing they just got out of B-league," explains Pham. "I don’t plan on them being a difficult opponent, but the team shouldn’t underestimate them."

They are determined to make it to the CCS.

"CCS is just the tournament that follows league matches," explains singles player Han Nguyen. "Schools play against each other in their respective leagues to try to get to CCS where they are pit against other schools from other leagues."

Boys Varsity prepared by having normal practices, but also choosing the candidates to play in the singles and doubles games.

"So there are four singles positions and three doubles positions on the varsity team," explains varsity player Steven Guo.

"We have 20 people on the team so there’s competition for the spots. Anyone who wants a spot in singles plays each other and the same for every doubles pair. Whoever comes out with the best record gets the highest spots."

The season begins! Andy Pham serves the ball at the home game against Silver Creek.
Girls Basketball enters CCS division; however an unexpected win by Evergreen beat the number one seed and that was to win. I was caught off guard because Evergreen’s victory against Westmont allowed Piedmont Hills to gain the advantage. Now, Piedmont Hills stands in first place of the BVAL with an overall score of 16-8.

Boys Basketball team celebrates their BVAL victory by posing with their trophy.

The Varsity Girls Basketball team has been playing ferociously since conditioning, competing with Westmont for first place in the BVAL. Blossom Valley Athletic League (BVAL) tournament in the Mt. Hamilton division; however an unexpected win by Evergreen resulted in the championships between Piedmont Hills and Evergreen.

“At first we thought Westmont was going to win. I was caught off guard because Evergreen beat the number one seed and that was Westmont. We were (all) kind of nervous, but we shook it off,” explains point-guard Jennielyn Nguyen.

Even after the initial surprise the girls adjusted quickly and played with their all. “Our first goal was to win league championships, so it felt really good accomplishing it,” comments small-forward Mary Santanos.

The girls have done well this season, and pushed even harder for the last games.

“We first played Independence and won, which allowed us to advance and face Silver Creek. After we won against Silver Creek we advanced to the championships against Evergreen, and we already beat them three times before,” says point-guard Melissa Yang.

The girls have been conditioning and practicing since the end of first semester. “It was great, because at the beginning of the year we made it one of our goals (to bring home the trophy). Each time there is a champion, (the winning team) gets to keep (the trophy) for the year and have their name carved on the plaque. We got to bring home the trophy (this year),” explains Yang.

It was a very close race between Piedmont Hills and Westmont at the beginning, but Evergreen’s victory against Westmont allowed Piedmont Hills to gain the advantage. Now, Piedmont Hills stands in first place of the BVAL with an overall score of 16-8.

Boys Soccer ends season

Varsity Boys Basketball team finished its season with a score of 8-4-2, placing fourth in its division after the team’s last game against James Lick, which Piedmont Hills lost with a score of 5-0, Fri., Feb. 21.

“We since were last last season, and we almost made CCS (Central Coast Sectionals), so I think we did pretty well,” says forward Tuan Tang.

In the game on Fri., Feb. 21, Pirates faced an uphill battle early in the game after the rivaling Comets scored within 30 minutes of the first. Met with tough defense, the Pirates nonetheless continued to work on both offense and defense, but several attacks from both teams yielded no additional goal, and a deadlock between teams continued for another hour.

A highlight of the game for Piedmont Hills occurred in the last ten minutes of the game, when what seemed to be another goal on James Lick’s side became a penalty shot instead. From around 15 feet away, PHHS goalie Jose Elizondo was then able to block the ball, inclining loud cheers and boos from the audience.

Despite this, Piedmont Hills was unable to score a goal, ending the game at 1-0.

“It was a very intense game, very close. We were really...trying to go up to B division, but we didn’t get the win,” says striker Raul Razo.

Girls Soccer heads to playoffs

By Minh-Hieu Vu

The Varsity Girls Soccer team played its last game on Thurs., Feb. 20 against Prospect High School in Saratoga, Calif. The team won on Tues., Feb. 18 at their home conference game against Mt. Pleasant High School by a score of 4-1. It was an uphill battle early in the game after the rivaling Comets scored within 30 minutes of the first half. Met with tough defense, the Pirates nonetheless continued to work on both offense and defense, but several attacks from both teams yielded no additional goal, and a deadlock between teams continued for another hour.

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“It was a very intense game, very close. We were really...trying to go up to B division, but we didn’t get the win,” says striker Raul Razo.

However, the team is mostly satisfied with the season’s results.

“I think we did very good. We played as a team. We could have done better, but mistakes happen,” says forward Tuan Tang.

Over the past months, the team has lost many players to injuries, including seniors Edgar Picos, who suffered a severe concussion, and Tuan Tang, who pulled his hamstrings while blocking an opposing player.

“I don’t want to blame it on injuries, but if there weren’t any, we would have gone a lot further,” says Tang.

Boys Soccer makes playoffs

By Vivian Pham

The Boys Basketball team ends their season after their loss to the number 7 seed Homestead Mustangs (17-9) in the CCS (Central Coast Section) Division 1 playoffs with a score of 48-57 on Sat., March 1.

“We had already thought that we were going to win but we ended up underestimating them. They played really well,” says wing Isaac Kip.

The Mustangs advance to the CCS semifinals against the winner of the late Division I quarterfinal between Palo Alto and Menlo-Atherton. This will be the Mustangs’ first time advancing past the quarterfinals as Division 1 players.

“We thought that we would come back eventually because we did in our previous games, but that just didn’t happen,” comments wing Kenneth Nguyen.

Power forward Walter Bateaust, who was announced as the Mount Hamilton MVP’s co-MVP with Leigh’s Jared Kerr.

The team’s first round of CCS Playoffs was against Santa Clara High School on Wed., Feb 26 at 6pm.

“Unfortunately, we found out about our first round of playoffs only a couple of days before the game. We only had a few practices,” says Kerr.

The team lost the away playoff game on Wed., Feb 26 with a score of 53-2.
UPCOMING DATES

March 6 - 31: UCs release admission decisions
March 14: International Faire day rally
March 17: St. Patrick’s Day
March 21: FANTASTICS/After party
March 27 – 28: SBAC testing for juniors
March 31: César Chavez Day

April 4: End of grading period
April 8 - 9: STAR Testing
April 19: Junior Prom
April 21 - 25: Spring Break
May 5 - 16: Advanced Placement exams
May 10: Senior Ball
May 11: Mother’s Day
May 26: Memorial Day
May 27 - 29: Finals week
May 29: Last day of school/ Senior graduation

Scan the QR code to check out The Legend online or visit phshethelegend.org!

Interact honors inspiring individuals

By Cindy Nguyen

O n Tues., Feb. 25, Interact officers delivered over 250 Inspirational Awards to individuals in the campus during 3rd and 4th period. Recipients ranged from students and teachers to custodians and staff members.

“Our inspiration for this award is to give recognition and appreciation to those who have impacted our lives at Piedmont Hills. With an increasingly busy schedule for all class grades, we looked for times when we could give them the simple act of reaffirming those who have helped us become the people we are today,” shares Co-President Ivy Pham.

Interact officers also sent awards to a variety of students and teachers and used this opportunity to thank them for the amazing influence they’ve had in each of their lives.

“We wanted to make it fine on purpose to encourage everyone to nominate people and recognize them for being an inspiration,” says Co-Secretary Victoria Loo.

“We felt like people didn’t really have an opportunity to show their appreciation so we wanted to give them a great way to say ‘thank you’ without charging people.” According to Victoria, officers spent one week discussing the idea and less than two weeks publicizing and holding a table during lunch to either hand out or collect forms. Over winter break, the co-secretaries and co-presidents placed each award in an envelope with signed certificates. Overall, it took three to four weeks starting from the idea, then executing, and finishing it.

“I don’t have too much of a say in it, but seeing how successful it turned out this year, I am definitely sure next year’s officers will continue it,” says Victoria.

“Hopefully it will become a new Interact tradition because seeing the smiles on people’s faces as they receive awards and the love and appreciation that was being shared was definitely worth it.”

Art Scene to collaborate with teensReach

By Joycelyn Ng

Art Scene is collaborating with teensReach, a youth council for the San Jose Public Library, to bring art workshops to the Berryessa Branch Library in the community. There will be a total of three workshops that will take place on Sat., March 22, Sat., March 29, and Thurs., April 3.

“We want to get kids more involved in art and make them realize that art isn’t just drawing or painting clay and sculpting it. It’s something that they can do in their everyday life,” says Art Scene Treasurer Mary Tran.

Art Scene and teensReach came up with unique projects for each of the workshops.

“We named the workshops ‘Creative Art’ as a whole. In the first workshop, we’re going to work on sculptures using reusable objects. In the second workshop, we’ll be painting and replicating covers of books on bricks. In our last project, we’ll be painting on ceramic tiles and then putting them together to make a quilt,” says teensReach Vice President Sharon Tsang.

The workshops allow attendees to learn more about what will take place and go in the direction they want.

“Those attending can learn social skills and techniques that they may want to apply in future projects. These are creativity-based projects and give people an opportunity to show their appreciation,” says teensReach Vice President Sharon.

“In the second workshop, there are more than ten clubs that took part in this activity. Students with previous absences were able to make up for Saturday School by attending the Pick-Me-Up. Students planted daffodils bulbs eight inches deep into the soil, which were distanced three to six inches apart from each other.

According to Inimate Ink CEO Sohan Desai, these plants are easy to grow and don’t require a lot of water.

Team HBV raises awareness at health fair

By Vinh Vu

Team HBV held its annual health fair at the Berryessa Community Center to raise awareness of Hepatitis B on Fri., March 21.

“Attending the fair people learned more information about Hepatitis B, a disease that mostly affects Asian people in this Asian community at PHHS,” explains vice president of Team HBV Melissa Trinh.

Last year’s annual health fair had two guest speakers who talked mostly about Hepatitis B and health in general. There were also blood screen testing and doctors who attended the event.

Team HBV members volunteer for community service, but the main purpose of the club is to present Hepatitis B.

“We learned more about the disease and got their blood and cholesterol tested to make sure they’re healthy,” says Sohan.

Team HBV raised awareness at health fair

By Konstro Hsu

With spring just around the corner, Daffodil bulbs are beginning to bloom around the school camp.

Back in November, Inimate Ink hosted a Pick-Me-Up event to beautify the school campus.

More than ten clubs took part in this activity. Students with previous absences were able to make up for Saturday School by attending the Pick-Me-Up.

Students planted daffodil bulbs eight inches deep into the soil, which were distanced three to six inches apart from each other.

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Japanese and Anime Club to host second annual café

By Kendra Hsu

F or March 21, Japanese Club and Anime Club will be holding a fundraising event after seventh period, outside of B-1 for student to purchase bakery goods.

The café will be set up similar to a tea house. Student waiters will dress semi-casual, take orders and bring customers food. Part of the club’s goal is to give the café more of a “bakery feel.”

Last year wasn’t as successful as we thought. There were more people than we expected and kitchen was disorganized. And there wasn’t enough supplies,” states Japanese Club Vice President Ellen Lai. “So this year we’ve made a lot of improvements.”

The main point of this fundraiser is to raise enough money to reduce the International Fair dance clothing cost for both clubs’ members. Members of the club are strongly encouraged to participate because according to Ellen, there weren’t enough waiters to accommodate for the overflowing amount of customers.

“We’re aiming to make a little more money than last year, so we can use it for both the International Fair Dance clothing and other club activities,” points out Anime Club Publicist Monica Luong. “And also, reward those who helped out. We try to give those people more money.”

Part of this year’s plan to make the event more successful is by organizing teams to do separate jobs.

“We separated the clubs into teams. Some decorate the setting, some handle the food and some clean up the place afterwards,” explains Monica.

“There was too much competition on Valentino’s Day, so we didn’t want to collide with other club’s fundraiser,” says Ellen.

Pick-Me-Up’s daffodils beautify PHHS campus

By Konstro Hsu

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