January 24th, 2018

CSUSB
Shots Fired!

On Jan. 10 at 5:20 p.m., only five weeks after the two-year anniversary of the 2015 San Bernardino shooting, University Police received reports of gunshots heard near the Visual Arts Building and Parking Structure West.

Members of the CSUSB community received 12 emails and text messages in total during the incident. The first messages directed members of the community to shelter in place while officials investigated the incident. At 6:05 p.m., a message notified students and staff that classes for the evening would be canceled.

Several messages reminded students to remain in shelter place while officials investigated the incident. At 6:05 p.m., a message notified students and staff that classes for the evening would be canceled.

Some students and staff on campus during the shelter-in-place period were searched and evacuated to another building through Twitter and communication with other students and cell phone.

“I was in Jack Brown Hall when the incident began. They cleared our building, but moved us to the library instead of releasing us,” said Gabriella Arana, third-year CSUSB student, and Coyote Chronicle layout editor.

She added that she did not get to leave campus until well after 11 p.m. She had received notice that the second floor of University Hall had been searched and cleared long before the “all clear”.

Officials believe that this is another tactic President Trump is using in order to enhance mass deportation in the United States. This has become the largest deportation tactic ever used towards a single employer since President Trump’s presidency began.

After this incident, people were left wondering if the search was legal.

Angel Vazquez, from the California State University San Bernardino Legal Clinic, said it is illegal for them to perform these random raids “unless it’s for work related reasons.”

Vazquez explained that “immigration officers are not allowed to enter any type of workplace unless allowed in by management. If management allows ICE to ask you questions, then ICE agents may proceed to ask you about your legal status but only if allowed by your employer first.”

Q: Can you legally stop the order of deportation?
A: “You can legally attempt to stop an order of deportation. There’s a lot of ways actually. There’s this thing called the 212 pardon and an I-601 waiver,” Vazquez stated.

Q: What would you recommend to families that get caught?
Shots fired on campus

Students and faculty are gathered up as law enforcement begin to clear room by room.

...Continued from Pg 1

Officials confirmed that there were no injuries during the time of this event. The suspect has still not been identified due to lack of witnesses and evidence.

Bailey Kasin, a second year cyber security student at CSUSB, was not on campus at the time, but was receiving messages from peers and roommates during the incident. Cones lined the entrances and blocked anyone from entering the campus, even students that live in Arrowhead and Serrano Village. University Village residents were able to enter their apartments during the shelter-in-place. While he was not on campus when the incident began, he tried to get back to his dorm around 11 p.m., but was unable to enter campus parking lots until around 12:30 a.m. after they were reopened.

“I feel pretty safe on campus, even with the bad things that happen every now and then,” said Kasin. “I still feel safer here with our police department on duty than I do elsewhere during a dangerous situation. Our campus is more prepared than most other institutions in the area, like an apartment complex or residential community.”

Multiple construction projects around campus continue to inconvenience students and faculty.

By Lauren Jennings
Editor in Chief

Multiple construction projects at CSUSB have caused chaos for students and faculty members.
Projects include new student housing and dining, the addition of the Center for Global Innovation, deck replacement at the Pfau Library and maintenance for multiple water, sewer, gas and electrical lines throughout campus.

Although the building projects are meant to eventually create a better environment for the future, they have caused conflict with people’s schedules to arriving on time to their destination.

The three biggest works in progress are the housing and dining facilities, the new innovation building and the deck replacement.

In September of 2016, CSUSB broke ground on the project. This project is set to be finished by fall of 2019.

In December of 2017, CSUSB approved the creation of a new and futuristic design of student housing and a dining facility. This project will not be done until the summer of 2018, and at the latest, fall of 2018.

The project features four story housing for incoming freshman and room for 700 to eat in the new dining hall.

Parking lot E was permanently closed to accommodate the building of the new dorms. However, a new parking lot, N, was added behind the College of Education to give back some of the parking.

The Coyote Chronicle is published every Tuesday for distribution on Wednesday during the academic session by the Communication department. The opinions expressed in the Chronicle are those of the student writers and editors and do not reflect the views of the university, its faculty, or any other person or institution unless expressly noted. The appearance of any advertisement in the Chronicle does not represent an endorsement of the products or services advertised. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit or reject all materials submitted to the paper.
Opinions

January 24, 2018

Thoughts on Gun Control

With recent events on campus and locally, the controversy of gun control is a hot topic among students. There are many opinions being vocalized in the CSUSB community. The question at the forefront of our minds is whether there should be government or state control on firearms in California. Jason Samp and Kaelie Illman have conflicting opinions about the subject and submitted their opinions.

Keyword is legally

By Jason Samp
Multimedia Editor

The recent increase in mass shootings in the U.S. has millions of people worried about personal safety and looking for the cause of this terrible problem. Perhaps the easiest and most common place to lay the blame is on poor gun control legislation. However, there are multiple things to consider when analyzing violent crimes like mass murders. Keeping violent weapons, like firearms, out of the hands of potential murderers is very important. However, it is unconstitutional to deprive law abiding citizens their right to defend themselves, their families and their communities.

States have individual laws when it comes to gun control. Some are very strict, others are maybe too lenient and each has their own relating statistics with crime.

California has some of the strictest gun laws in the nation and is continuously attempting to add to their arsenal of gun-related legislation. Law makers have put together new demands that greatly limits hand gun purchases, completely bans assault rifles and limits magazine size along with many other restrictions.

However, California is still experiencing a recent rise in gun-related crime since 2014 with San Bernardino becoming one of the more dangerous cities in the nation. Therefore, it is difficult to say that gun control is really preventing violent crimes.

The claim that someone who wants to commit a crime with a deadly weapon will find a way to obtain one whether it is through legal or illegal means is true. The church shooting that recently occurred in Texas leaves a case example for both pro-gun control and anti-gun control ideas.

Simply put, the shooter was legally able to obtain his firearm when he clearly should not have been able to do so. He even denied this on previous attempts. However, the neighboring citizen who potentially prevented more deaths confronted the shooter with his legally obtained AR-15, which many legislators are wanting to ban completely.

In this case, having stricter gun laws would most likely have prevented the shooter from obtaining his weapon legally.

Implement strict regulations

By Kaelie Sigrid Illman
Contributing Writer

Guns are a disease that has quickly taken over our nation. The call for stricter gun control laws has been increasing over the past several years throughout the U.S. The argument that guns are either weapons of death or a natural right for American citizens to bear arms under the Second Amendment has been tossed around and then forgotten. The discussions seem to falter in the aftermath of each shooting to allow time for mourning, but if we made decisions these tragedies would cease to happen.

In 2017 alone, 307 mass shootings (defined as the killing of three or more people) have occurred in the U.S. in less than 310 days. Almost 14,000 have been killed and over 28,000 have been injured by guns. The causatives of the gun statistics are increasing, yet people are turning a blind eye even as these atrocities continue to occur.

To bring it closer to home, San Bernardino has suffered from a home terrorist attack in 2015, as well a recent school shooting at North Park Elementary last year. Growing up in this city, I was constantly surrounded by gun violence. Whether it was drive-bys at parties, neighbors being shot outside of my driveway for a gang initiation, or hostage situations at school, gun violence became a routine. We adjust and become desensitized to the terror around us.

California has some of the most restrictive laws regarding gun control such as a waiting period of ten days, firearm registration, and the fact that assault rifles are considered illegal. These laws are easily disregarded and worked around due to the easy access to guns in neighboring states such as Arizona which has little to no infringements on purchasing a weapon.

Our California Senator, Diane Feinstein, previously wrote the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013 was not passed due to the NRA’s lobbying used in Republican politics. After the shooting in Las Vegas, she is trying to bring it back into Congress with modifications. These modifications would ban the use of bump stocks which are devices attached to semi-automatic weapons that allow them to fire faster and are not illegal under federal law. Twelve of the rifles used by the Las Vegas shooter were modified using these attachments.

Banning guns would not take place in America for several years. However, it is something to start pushing for as hard as we can. As a country, we hold onto the patriotic ideology that if guns were taken away from our citizens, we would lose something from our history, but we would be building a better future.

What we should do is open the conversation about limiting access to the types of weapons that are sold and create a better system on who can purchase and carry weapons. For example, the United Kingdom allows certain measures for farmers or people that hunt for sport. The average citizen, however, has regulations placed on them after the massacre at Dunblane Primary School and the town of Hungerford.

Other high-income countries such as Japan, Germany, and Australia have also implemented strict regulations regarding the ownership of assault weapons.

This resulted in little to almost no gun crimes.

It’s time for American citizens to look at the effects that guns have on our society. No longer should we hide behind the Second Amendment and think of the past. We should be thinking of our future and what is best for our society.

We shouldn’t constantly be forced to worry about our friends and family waiting for the next tragedy to hit.
IECAAC annual MLK Prayer Breakfast

By Matthew Martinez  
Staff Writer

CSUSB opened the doors of the CSUSB Center for the Arts on Jan. 15 to welcome the Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches (IECAAC) and their 38th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Prayer Breakfast.

Campus workers gathered as early as Jan. 12 before the late Dr. King’s birthday in order to make sure everything needed for the event was set up and would operate smoothly.

Campus student workers set up over seven hundred chairs and over seventy tables in preparation for the large crowd that was to be expected come Jan. 15, which would have been MLK’s eighty-ninth birthday. Sodexo, the company catering the event, worked around the clock in order to supply the large crowd with an ample amount of breakfast offerings.

The Prayer Breakfast itself started a little over ten years after Dr. King’s death and featured keynote speaker Dr. Michael Andrew Owens, who began preaching at the age of 15 in his hometown of Chester, Pa. Owens was called on by the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in May of 2017 to be the 20th pastor in the church’s 106-year history.

This year’s theme for the breakfast was “Embracing and Evolving in Future Excellence!” which chairperson Beverly Jones Wright explained is a commentary on the past year.

“Last year was an incredibly odd year for many, which was filled with anxiety and the most unexpected oddities,” said Wright. “We made conscious adjustments to our shocking daily news headlines, tweets, and allegations! We pray our fill of revelations may put us on track to focus on respect for women in every industry, the richness of diversity, and individual sports personalities’ rights to legitimate protest.”

Event coordinator and CSUSB alumn Mike Arteaga added to the impact that the IECAAC’s annual prayer breakfast has on the Inland Empire community.

“The event always brings a large turnout of community members who are passionate and willing to do whatever it is they can to make a change within their community,” said Arteaga. “To be a part of such a thing really makes what I do worthwhile.”

The prayer breakfast featured over twenty participating churches across the Inland Empire and lasted about three hours.

IECAAC annual MLK Prayer Breakfast

By Evelyn Carmona  
Staff Writer

Civilians may seem to know or grasp an idea of an active duty military personnel’s life, but many do not know the depth of it.

It’s a different process from deciding on enlisting to the process of enlisting, then it’s time to leave home for Boot Camp. Determining a specific job as well as a duty station for the current time given also comes with the territory.

Being active duty in the military is unpredictable because there are a lot of circumstances that are encountered on a daily basis.

Michael Buchheit, 22, is an active duty Marine from Missouri, currently on his third year. Buchheit began in San Diego for Boot Camp, went to Twentynine Palms for his MOS, which is a nine-digit code for a particular job. He is currently stationed in New River, N.C.

Buchheit debated between the U.S. Air Force or U.S. Marines and ultimately chose the Devil dogs, most importantly because his father was a Marine.

“I chose the Marines because of all the branches we are those who stand above the rest for we hold ourselves to a higher standard,” stated Buchheit.

There are reasons many enlist, whether it is financial issues or education opportunities.

“I grew up idolizing the military and joining the men and women that I highly respected so it was an honor that I wanted to be a part of,” explained Buchheit.

Before enlisting, Buchheit didn’t visualize or prepare for the military life, rather he was more focused on preparing for boot camp prior to anything. He had no idea what he would be doing careerwise.

Anyone who is interested in enlisting must seek the recruiting center, then will endure questioning from the recruiter(s).

Next, a date is scheduled for Military Entrance Processing Center (MEPs). MEPs require individuals to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test to determine the eligibility of a job.

After you take a physical and once the ASVAB is passed, the individual can select a job they want to partake in for the next few years. The subject sweats in, then is scheduled and set for boot camp.

As for Buchheit, his MOS is 2841 Ground Radio Mainte-

nance. He says that life has been busy in the military.

“There is always work to be done to ensure your unit is mission-ready on top of making sure you are physically and mentally fit,” stated Buchheit.

Throughout the years of active duty for Buchheit he has learned America is changing.

“There are fewer and fewer people who are willing to work for what they want [in regards to pursuing their passion],” stated Buchheit.

One thing that he finds difficult is staying in communication with his loved ones.

“Being hundreds of miles from home can be quite tiring to stay up-to-date with everything at home,” said Buchheit. “When I first got out of boot camp, I would speak to my parents, sib-

lings, aunts, uncles and cousins typically about once a week.”

Buchheit stresses that it can be difficult being active duty for those considering enlisting.

“Make sure that this is what you want. If you are not dedicat-

ed to being part of the military, then you will only be more miserable while under contract,” stated Buchheit.
Q&A with BSU Advisor Evelyn Knox

By Daniel Banks  
Staff Writer

The Black Student Union (BSU) is an organization that helps connect the black students and faculty of CSUSB to promote feelings of acceptance and a sense of family. Evelyn Knox, who is the advisor for BSU, took the time to be interviewed about her involvement with the union and how students can benefit from being a part of the BSU.

Q: How did you become involved with BSU?
A: I became involved with the BSU around 2013. I worked in housing as a coordinator and one of my RA’s that I supervised in housing as a coordinator and the BSU around 2013. I worked with the BSU around 2013. I worked with the BSU around 2013. I worked with the BSU around 2013.

Q: What opportunities does BSU offer those who join?
A: We have meetings every week on Thursday and it’s been that way since I started being an advisor. They can expect to come to the meetings and feel a sense of family. We’ve been meeting in the black residential hall in Badger housing and it’s like a living room where we have a lot of good discussion about current events and programs that we have coming up. They can expect to come to the meetings to be informed and engage with other people.

Q: When was black graduation (grad) started?
A: Next year will be our 25th year of black grad. Between December and January, we start to figure out what we want for the program. When it first started, black grad was held in a smaller location on campus and now we’ve expanded with our program and we’re in the arena. We usually do it during the same day as Latino grad and we have students that participate in both. It’s a cultural celebration and it’s a really good time for students because there is an unlimited amount of tickets for students to give to their families. Some students do black grad as their main celebration because they feel a better sense of connection.

Q: What are the social media websites that the BSU has and what are the names of them for the students that want to follow and be engaged?
A: We have Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat.

Advisor Evelyn Knox provided some insight to the BSU media websites that the BSU has and what are the names of them for the students that want to follow and be engaged.

Instagram is CSUSB_BSU, Twitter is BSU_CSUSB, Snapchat is the same as Instagram and Facebook is CSUSB Black Student Union.

Open Mic Night coming this March

By Ricardo Orozco  
Staff Writer

Mass Productions club will hold an open mic event again this quarter on March 12 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The event will be in the Upper Commons and is free. It is open to anyone who has a passion for art, poetry, music and people.

Mass Productions is a music club on campus that provides a media platform for all creators and musicians to display their work, share ideas, collaborate, teach, learn and promote all things music.

The club was founded in fall of 2016 by Richie Orozco to start a movement in the music realm with the idea to make connections, network with others and gain a more hands-on experience into what the music industry is like.

From singing to poetry, people performed at the open mic event expressing themselves.

This opens up other opportunities for artists trying to get their work out to the public.

One of the event planners is Oscar Mephors, a Business Administration major, who also acts as the open mic host. He makes the artists who perform feel welcome and makes sure he provides a great vibe for the people who attend.

Luis Vargas, a Music major, contributes as a manager of the event to make sure that everything runs smoothly with no hiccups.

“I had to keep in contact with each performer and tell them when they were up next,” said Vargas.

He was also in charge of the lighting. The performers gave him their instrumentals or audios, and he prepared it so there was no awkward silence in between performances.

A senior student on campus, and a member of Mass Productions, Erick Valencia said, “We had a great outcome last quarter. I’m surprised a lot of people came out to the event. We had over 60 people.”

Valencia made sure that all the technical aspects of the event were all working and ready to go. He also provided visuals using software called Resolume, which added a whole new element to the open mic.

The Mass Productions club anticipates the upcoming open mic to be an upscaled version of the previous one.

The open mic last quarter was held in the Bay in the San Manuel Student Union.

The capacity in that room is at least 35 people. But they exceeded that limit, with people comfortably sitting on the floor snacking away as they watched the performers.

Since the open mic will be held in the Commons, it will leave more room for people who want to come by and join the event and those who want to perform. There will also be food nearby, with the cafeteria conveniently close.

There will be sign-up sheets the day of and participants are recommended to be an hour early if they want to perform. The open mic accepts all different types of performances, but spots will be limited.

Over 20 performers showcased their work.

Mass Productions member Zen Reynor performing.
Light Pollution in San Bernardino

By Dusty Alexander
Contributing Writer

San Bernardino residents are no doubt aware of the orange glow that hangs over the city and blocks out their view of the sky many nights out of the year. This murky haze is light pollution. Light pollution is human-caused light that shines on and obscures our view of the stars at night,” said Laura Woodney, a professor of physics who also works at the Murillo Family Observatory at CSUSB. “It limits the kind of science we can do and what we can see and learn about the universe.”

As our cities grow and become more industrialized, the use of artificial light has increased, ranging from excess lighting used for businesses, sporting events and personal use at home.

Woodney teaches astronomy and explained that in each class there is at least one or two people who have never seen the Milky Way. This is not surprising, as the recently released “World Atlas of Artificial Brightness” states that 80 percent of people in the world have to deal with light pollution blocking the view of the Milky Way. This is especially prominent in the United States.

“I think it is a sad problem that we have lost track of the natural beauty of our world: we lose a piece of who we are when we don’t get to see the stars at night,” said Woodney. However, light pollution does not only rob people of their view of the stars; it is harmful to our health.

“Light pollution’s awful for the humans and the animals,” said Natalie Pierce, a 59-year-old retired nurse. “It messes up our circadian rhythms, which then hurts our sleep schedules and can lead to all kinds of health problems.”

Pierce explained that human bodies produce melatonin when they sleep properly, but too much light hinders how the hormone is released, which can hurt the immune system. Even if people are not aware excessive light can affect humans, strong blue light is especially stimulating to the brain and makes it harder to fall asleep.

Humans are also not the only ones affected, with many animals like birds whose sense of time and sleep are controlled by the amount of light. “I hear the birds chirping all night because they don’t know what time it is anymore,” said Pierce.

Perhaps even worse than light pollution causing health effects is that most of the light is being wasted. Woodney explained how most of the light, with the light of businesses being one of the biggest culprits, has no reason to be going up into the sky. It should be going downwards where it is needed.

“I think about why you are putting up a security light. You don’t want someone getting into your house or your yard, so you can have a security light that’s not shining up into the sky,” said Woodney.

On the plus side, there are ways to limit light pollution. Using lower wattage bulbs with shielded lamps both saves energy and keeps excess light from being sent into the sky.

Using shielded street and city lights would go a long way in helping the problem.

San Bernardino, while suffering both air pollution and light pollution, is in a convenient area for star gazing, between the deserts and the mountains nearby. “I grew up in San Bernardino and never got to see the stars until I went away on a church retreat,” said Chris Gerald, a 26-year-old student.

Gerald explained that seeing the Milky Way for the first time was an “amazing” experience, and it is a sight people can see with a little bit of driving. “I lay down in the grass and looking up at the stars to see the bright lights against the black sky was calming and peaceful,” said Gerald.

San Bernardino residents looking for a chance to see the stars can also visit the monthly open houses at the Murillo Family Observatory.

“When you can really see the night sky, just the stunning, gorgeous beauty of it gives you an appreciation for how amazing our earth is and a wonderful place it is. That’s something people are missing out on,” said Woodney.

People feel connected when they look into the night sky, but light pollution hinders that. Light pollution’s awful for the humans and the animals,” said Natalie Pierce, a 59-year-old retired nurse. “It messes up our circadian rhythms, which then hurts our sleep schedules and can lead to all kinds of health problems.”

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“I think about why you are putting up a security light. You don’t want someone getting into the back-to-school blues

By Shauna Christie
Staff Writer

Welcome back, Coyotes! Are you dreading the idea of coming back to school after taking a month-long break? Are you feeling tired after staying up too late, eating too much food, and spending a lot of time with friends? Here’s a quick guide to help you get back in the swing of things this winter quarter.

Set goals for yourself

Get out a piece of paper and a pen and write out three goals that you have for yourself that can be obtained by the end of this quarter. Whether it be making a new friend or getting straight A’s, writing out your goals acts as a great source of motivation.

List things you can look forward to

Do you have anything fun planned over the next 10 weeks? Are you planning on going on a trip after this quarter is over? Write down things that you can look forward to in the near future and that will help you replace any anxiety you may have with excitement about the time to come.

Connect with a teacher you like or respect

Talking to someone who is involved on campus may help you get your mind back in school mode. Maybe ask this teacher to meet you for lunch to talk about what you did over break or about your upcoming classes.

Adjust your sleep schedule

You may have gotten into the habit of staying up late or sleeping in during break. This might make it difficult to get used to your school routine. It is said that most young adults need anywhere from eight and a half to nine and a half hours of sleep in order to feel well rested. Make sure you go to sleep early enough so that you will wake up fully rested.

Pre-pack your backpack and choose your clothes

Ensuring that your backpack is ready to go and already having your clothes picked out the night before results in a more prepared and less stressful morning.

Eat a healthy breakfast

Eating a protein-packed, high fiber breakfast before you head off to your classes will give you the perfect amount of energy you need in order to stay focused and motivated throughout the day. Foods like eggs, whole grain toast and cereals, yogurt and cottage cheese are the perfect foods to fuel your body before a busy day.

Talk with your parents

Communicating with your parents about what you are doing and how you are doing can be beneficial to your mental health in preparing for the quarter. Your parents might be able to give you great advice about your back-to-school blues and give you ideas to cheer you up.

Take your time getting back into the rhythm of things

Getting back into the rhythm of things is not an overnight process. It may take a couple weeks for you to feel like you are back in the game, so don’t beat yourself up over it. Give yourself the time you need to adjust and be your biggest source of confidence.
By Crystal Harrell
Copy Editor

The CSUSB Palm Desert campus welcomed its new associate dean, Michael Salvador, at the beginning of this fall quarter. Salvador was previously the chair of the communication studies department at the San Bernardino campus, but relocated to the Coachella Valley and continues to show his Coyote pride at Palm Desert’s only four-year university.

The Coyote Chronicle caught up with Salvador to discuss his new position, his transition to the desert, and what he sees for the future of the satellite campus.

Q: What kind of duties does being the associate dean of the Palm Desert campus entail?
A: Well, I’m involved in a lot of the student recruitment and retention activities, particularly focusing on the freshmen and sophomores. For most of the time, the Palm Desert campus had juniors and seniors exclusively and it’s only been in the last four years that we’ve admitted freshmen.

My position oversees all freshman and sophomore activities.

Q: And in your opinion, how important is it to integrate these freshmen as part of the only four-year university in the Coachella Valley?
A: It really provides an opportunity that has been missing in the Valley for the people who don’t have the option to go elsewhere to school or for those who choose to stay because of the particular programs we offer here. It’s really a community-changing opportunity, and the thing that distinguishes this campus is the level of support it gets from the community.

There’s a lot of enthusiasm for the campus and a desire to see the campus grow. It’s exciting and I do think that the Palm Desert campus provides the Coachella Valley with an opportunity to have a public four-year university.

Q: You have also been a professor and chair of the CSUSB communication studies department. What was the transition like moving to a different position and campus?
A: I will say that I loved being chair of communication studies. It is a fantastic department. The faculty and students in communication studies are really top-notch.

I’ve taught all over the West and at many different universities, so I can say that it’s really an outstanding department. The change coming here was very abrupt. One day I was department chair, the next I was associate dean, so it was a big transition.

I sold my house in San Bernardino and I bought a house in Palm Desert.

It’s been not only life-changing in terms of the work situation but in the living situation too. But I’m really enjoying the Palm Desert campus; the staff here is amazing and everybody has been very, very helpful.

I’m really learning a lot and I’m glad to be involved in all the initiatives going on right now.

Continued online @ Coyotechronicle.net
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Robertson family gives a ray of hope

By Lauren Jennings

Cancer is scary and difficult for everyone it affects, but being unprepared can make it even more traumatizing.

Because of this, professional baseball player Daniel Robertson and his family started the Daniel Robertson Family Foundation (DRFF).

The DRFF was established in 2016 after Robertson’s father, Don, was diagnosed with and passed from cancer.

Don was prepared, having saved for the possibility of being unable to work, but the Robertsons knew that not everyone could say the same.

The DRFF raises money to help families who were not able to plan ahead.

Some of the most common ways people affected by cancer continue to support the cause are by donating funds to specific hospitals or to research for a specific form of cancer.

Robertson and his family instead decided to directly help others who are affected by cancer and the crippling costs of it and general living expenses.

“We were really fortunate that when my dad was sick we didn’t have to make any life-changing moves. We were still stable financially, but a lot of people aren’t in that situation,” said Robertson. “When the bread winner gets ill, and they can’t work and make money to support their families, that’s where this money we raise goes. We give to those families.”

To fundraise, the Robertson’s sell merchandise, support online donations and hold mini fan fests, similar to those of Major League Baseball teams.

“My first year with the [Tampa Bay] Rays, I went to their fan fest and it was kind of the same idea; they had a bunch of games set up on the field, tickets for autograph stations, people coming in to interact with the players, so we kind of got the idea from them, and then just incorporated our own little twist,” said Robertson.

On Jan. 13, the Robertson’s hosted their second mini fan fest as a fundraiser for their foundation.

“I didn’t know how much work it actually was to get a foundation put together,” said Robertson with a laugh. “We thought we might be able to sneak a fan fest in that first year, but it just took a little longer than expected to get the foundation rolling.”

The mini fan fest featured professional baseball players from multiple organizations, including the Rays, Seattle Mariners, Oakland A’s and the Milwaukee Brewers. Fans could get a special card autographed by the players, as well as ask them questions and take pictures with them.

In addition to the fundraising, the foundation also benefits local businesses by having them come to the event and show what they have to offer.

“My guys that cut my hair are here, so it’s cool,” said Robertson. “We’ve got a lot of different people throwing in their ideas.”

Admission was 10 dollars per person, which went to the foundation and participants could also donate to put their names in raffles for prizes. A silent auction went on throughout the day as well.

Prizes for the raffle and auction included autographed bats, baseballs, hats and helmets. Prizes were donated from the Rays, local organizations and equipment donations from players who attended the event.

For those who were not able to attend, Robertson suggests making donations and donating time.

“For me and all of us ballplayers, it’s part of our job to give back to the community,” concluded Robertson.

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Robertson signs autographs at the mini fan fest for the DRFF.
Community Features

Page 9

Coyote Chronicle

January 24, 2018

Parking for Your Lowered Cars

By Emmanuel Tanopo
Staff Writer

Scrape no more, car enthusiasts! Here is a guide and mental map of where you can park your lowered car without the anxiety of bottoming out.

For many of us in California, we use cars as our main mode of transportation. People get attached to their cars, some even giving them names.

There are also people who love their cars so much, that they put extra money into them, equipping them with lowered suspension, better exhaust and body kits.

In a service to those people who own lowered cars, a test car provided by Zestino Online has been used to test out the best and worst points of where to park your car.

The test car is a 91 Nissan Skyline drift car. It is set up for track use and was totally not recommended, but it also has a body kit!

I had to angle every dip and speed bump that I have seen. It is to lessen the risk of scraping because instead of the wheels moving over a bump two wheels at a time, each single wheel passing over gives it a more even approach.

The way each driveway will be rated is going to be judged on a scale of easy, medium, and hard. Easy means as it sounds: easy entry along with a slight necessity of angling your car.

Medium means that it is doable, but might take some time. And hard means that it will take a lot of time and effort to get your car across that driveway and is totally not recommended, but you can certainly try based on the knowledge of your personal car clearance.

For the most part, this cam- 

pus is lowered car friendly. Although some of the roads have dips and speed bumps, the majority are speed bump free.

Parking lots G and H fall under the medium difficulty category. The entry has a small dip, but the difficulty comes from the long speed bumps. Although it is doable, there are better places to find parking if this lot has high density traffic coming through.

One of the most difficult lots to enter would be the main entrance. Although it is dipless, drivers are greeted with two long speed bumps down the middle, and then encounter even higher speed bumps.

Due to the high traffic nature of this entry, I do not recommend these lots to find parking.

Another hard difficulty entry is parking lot L.

The east entrance for this structure is fine, but the west entrance gave me some trouble.

This is because a small dip into an uneven ledge can cause extreme scraping. So much so, that the car actually got stuck like a beached whale.

So in short, if you do not want to damage your front bumper, avoid the west entrance to parking lot L.

Go to Spring Training on a budget

By Lauren Jennings
Editor in Chief

Baseball fans and college students have at least one thing in common: the excitement of going on vacation for spring break.

College students often go to beaches in Mexico, Florida, and other exotic places to enjoy their week off at the end of March. These places are warm, sunny, and known for being extra fun.

Baseball fans, on the other hand, usually go to Arizona or Florida too, although for different reasons.

Fans of west coast and some central teams, such as the Los Angeles Dodgers and Cleveland Indians, go to Arizona. Fans of the other central teams and those on the east coast, like the Philadelphia Phillies and the Houston Astros, head down to Florida.

Those in Southern California generally go to Arizona.

As college students, there is always the matter of money being an issue when planning any spring break trip. Because of that, it is important to look at ways to save some money when going on a trip to Arizona for Spring Training.

The good news is, tickets are always going to be a lot cheaper than at the regular season baseball stadiums.

Seats on the field level at a Spring Training game are generally in the 30-40 dollar range. Those same seats, especially near the dugouts would usually go for 100-200 dollars depending on who is playing in a regular season game.

Another smart idea is to skip flying and drive your own car. Flying is usually expensive on its own, but it is also necessary to have a rental car. For anyone under 25, rental cars are even more expensive. The drive is long, usually five hours, but car trips can be fun with the right music and snacks.

Hotels are another important expense that comes with any trip. Unless there is a relative or friend out there willing to open their home, a hotel or rental of some kind are really the only options. To save money on the hotel, check out websites like Hotels.com and Kayak.com to compare rates. When booking early, there are usually some pretty good deals available.

Stadium food can tend to be a bit pricy as well, so eating before or after a game at a restaurant like Cracker Barrel is a good option. Of course, it can be hard to resist a cold beverage and a hot dog while taking in a game.

One last money hog is souvenirs: t-shirts, hats, sweatshirts and more. Instead of going for the pricey items like the sweatshirts and t-shirts that do not always include the year, opt for a magnet or foam finger instead.

The magnets usually have the years on them, are a lot cheaper than a shirt and will easily fit into a suitcase stuffed with other memorabilia like signed baseball cards and those foam fingers.

A spring training trip on a budget is not impossible, it just needs to be well planned out in advance.
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Alfredo Cruz in the Inland Empire

By Anthony Perez
Contributing Writer

Many students and staff gathered on the fifth floor of the Pfau Library to hear the words of Alfredo Cruz, the first Mexican-American to be hired at National Public Radio (NPR) and talked about his experiences in getting to that position.

Cruz, who is originally from the Inland Empire, worked at Inland Empire NPR affiliate KVCR for four years and brought many opportunities to young broadcasters.

“I started off by just getting my foot in the door with an internship, from there I worked as hard as I could so that I could get a job,” Cruz said. He comes from a humble Latino background and he attempts to help out other young Latinos as they come up.

“The Inland Empire has the third largest concentration of Latinos in the country,” said Cruz. He cites a “duty” to help kids from a “similar background” to him, whom he refers to as “beans and rice kids.”

Cruz talked to students for about 45 minutes before allowing anyone to ask any questions. The questions ranged from his childhood to what drove him to become a broadcaster.

One of the highlights of the presentation was Cruz showing his story that he created about tortillas, which aired on NPR’s “Latin Files.”

The story started off with a narrator talking about the Latin food and talking about its use in a Mexican household. The story was created in 1987. Cruz talked about making stories that were timeless, as you could enjoy the story in its release year or even 30 years later no matter what is going on in the world.

Alfredo Cruz has a long-running resume besides NPR. He was an executive producer for “Enfoque Nacional”, a Latin news show that ran during the ‘70s and ‘80s, and was also a producer for United Nations Radio.

He even dipped his toes into the world of television as he managed “First Nations Experience,” a TV channel dedicated to Native Americans.

Latinos who don’t speak Spanish

By Adam Vilas
Contributing Writer

If you are a Latino who does not speak Spanish, then you know the awkward feeling of having to explain to someone why it is you do not speak the language of your ancestors.

That feeling is one that many Latinos in the U.S. have to constantly deal with, especially in a state as diverse as California.

Many Latinos who do not speak Spanish feel as though they are being judged whenever they reveal that they are monolingual.

“When I talk to other Latinos who speak Spanish and they find out I don’t speak it, I feel like somewhat of a failure to my culture,” said Richard Olvera, a monolingual senior. “It’s like I have to make them understand that it wasn’t my choice to not learn Spanish; it was just that my parents chose to speak English at my house.”

Those Latinos who do speak Spanish believe that language is not only an important part of one’s culture, but that it can also be a huge advantage for anyone to know more than one language.

“Growing up in my house, Spanish is all we spoke,” said Gen Gonzalez, a bilingual senior. “My parents made sure that my siblings and I were fluent in Spanish because they didn’t want us to lose touch with our sense of culture. I feel like if you are a Latino and don’t know Spanish, then it would be smart to at least make an attempt to learn even just a little bit, because it is important and can create a lot of different opportunities.”

Despite the advantages that being bilingual can bring, we still see a decrease in the amount of Latinos who do not speak Spanish during that time, rising from 31 million to 37 million. This is due mostly to the fact that there has been an increase in Latinos living in the U.S. However, the ratio of the amount of Latinos who can speak Spanish compared to the overall Latino population has decreased from 78 percent to 73 percent.

Though language can be crucial in helping a person to create a sense of identity, it is not the only means for them to stay connected to their culture. According to Enrique Murillo, a professor at CSUSB and Coordinator of the National Latino Education Network, there are other ways for one to stay connected to their culture including traditions and visiting your home country.

“For many Latinos, speaking Spanish is an identity marker,” said Murillo. “But it doesn’t mean that because a person doesn’t speak Spanish they are any less Latino. Being Latino is mostly about the experience, and part of that experience is deciding whether or not you choose to teach your kids Spanish.”
Playoffs are in reach for men's basketball

By Joshua Jacques
Staff Writer

With a chance to make the playoffs, the men’s basketball team looks to finish the year strong.

Currently in playoff position, the team stands at 8-10 overall with a 6-8 record in league play. They will most likely need to win the remainder of their games if they wish to compete in the postseason tournament.

At the midway point of the season, it seems as if the Coyotes are finding their rhythm.

“Both offensively and defensively, we are getting sharper,” said guard Amin Sawhini. Earlier in the year, there were signs of inexperience and hesitation in regards to team flow and players’ roles for the team.

“We know we have the talent; we just need to put everything together,” said Sawhini.

Over the past month, the offensive efficiency and defensive pressure has improved mightily. The team seems to be getting easier shots while making it difficult for the opposition to score.

For example, the team recently dropped 90 points on Humboldt State while shooting 51 percent from the field and limiting Humboldt State to only 39 percent shooting.

“Our defensive intensity and focus has improved over the last couple of games,” said head coach Jeff Oliver. “The guys know their roles and are executing our half court sets.”

While being known for its presence in the league tournament over the last 20 years under Oliver, the team has missed the playoffs the last two seasons. However, Oliver and his team control their own destiny if they want to return to the league tournament.

“We are getting sharper,” said Sawhini. “We are trying to focus on the little things to be successful. We want to be a team known for our chemistry and fight,” said Sawhini. “We acknowledge the importance of talent, but team chemistry is important when it comes down to fighting for a playoff spot.”

“With Oliver being in a playoff race before, he knows patience is also going to be key.

“It is our expectation to compete for a tournament championship every year,” said Oliver. “Our guys know what needs to be done and we will take it one game at a time.”

Patiently waiting for Spring Training

By Kyle Barry
Staff Writer

Baseball fans are excited to say goodbye to winter storms, and hello to spring sunshine, as Major League Baseball’s (MLB) spring training will officially begin play on Feb. 23.

Cold weather is a rarity in Southern California. But blizzards and snow every morning to get to your car or snow impeding your five block stroll to the office.

The daily grind of the eleventh month will come results, and this team is trying to focus on the little things to be successful.

With a rivals’ baseball diamond.

The smell of popcorn and hot dogs permeating the air.

The buzz of the crowd in anticipation of witnessing history.

The sound of a 97 mph fastball getting turned around off of a maple bat.

The nostalgia of singing the 7th inning stretch in unison (almost) with tens of thousands of fans alike.

Yes, it may be prime-time for football season, but with pitchers and catchers reporting in just 19 days, baseball news should heat up sooner rather than later.

Have no fear baseball fans, spring (training) is almost here.

Angels v Athletics at Phoenix Municipal Stadium during 2014 spring training.

Cold days to start the winter quarter has baseball fans wanting Spring.
Gaming Technology

Nintendo Switch Review

By Bailey Kasin
Web Consultant

The Switch, released in March 2017, is Nintendo’s latest offering to the gaming world. The device is a handheld tablet that can also be docked to display on a monitor or TV.

Nintendo has continued their tradition of creative controllers. This time, there are three main ways of using the “joy cons” attached to either side of the tablet, detached with one in each hand, or docked into a provided piece that allows them to be held like a more mainstream controller.

From a hardware perspective, the Switch is not as powerful as it’s competition this generation. It’s not even close, but this is for good reason.

Due to it also being a handheld, if it were built with hardware meant to run games in 4K, it would be massive and have poor battery life. The joy cons are like a downsized Wimote on steroids. They give haptic feedback, the likes of which nothing else competes with, making it so that a developer can simulate the feeling of marbles rolling down the inside of the controller. The remotes also have an impressive battery life and charge by being attached the main device, rather than needing batteries.

Games for the Nintendo Switch have also been an improvement over the selection for the Wii U, the Switch’s disappointing predecessor.

Agustin Castro, a former student, said “after the less than impressive selection of games released during the Wii U’s short-lived lifespan, it’s refreshing to see Nintendo doing something right.”

For example, “Mario Odyssey” was a massive hit and was at the top of many lists of the top games of 2017. Titles such as “Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild” and “Xenoblade Chronicles 2” have also been driving sales and making it so that many months after the initial launch, the Switch is selling out faster than it can be stocked.

The Nintendo eShop returns as the marketplace to purchase digital copies of games. Unfortunately, the Switch only has 32gb of storage, which games can fill quite easily. Thankfully, a micro SD card can be used to hold extra data.

Some final points of note for the Switch are its charging methods and battery life. Nintendo decided to use USB type C, rather than their previous proprietary chargers. This means that it can be charged with the same cable one would use for their new Android phone or MacBook Pro, if it is one of the 2017 models.

A portable battery pack that has USB-C output can also be used to extend the life during a flight or car ride.

Battery life does depend upon how intense of a game is being played. For example, “Xenoblade Chronicles 2” is incredibly demanding because of it’s massive world and how much it is constantly happening, and one can generally get around 3 hours of battery life while playing it.

On the other hand, a game like “Stardew Valley” is not nearly as demanding and the battery lasts closer to 6 hours. The Nintendo Switch is a wonderful device, with a fun lineup of games that can occupy the player for days.

It has been a step in the right direction and is doing a great job restoring hardcore gamers’ faith in Nintendo, while also letting them keep the more casual play-erbase the original Wii earned them.

Nintendo Switch Review

By Andrea Engelhorn
Managing Editor

The computer game Stardew Valley, first released in 2016, is now available on the Nintendo Switch as of Oct. 2017. The role-playing video-game is similar to Animal Crossings and Harvest Moon in content and graphics. As the player, you create the appearance of your character and choose a name.

The player is acquainted with the game during the beginning story line when the player’s character is given a letter from his or her passing grandfather that he has said to only open when tired of the repetitive and over complicated city life, when the character needs a lifestyle change.

In order to increase your friendship level with a character you give them gifts, but some gifts can lower the level if it is something the character does not like. You can also earn friendship points by completing tasks for the character when you receive them in your mail box.

Each character has a daily schedule that varies depending on the day of the week and time of day. Each villager has unique likes and dislikes, and will react to the gifts in their own manner. Not only do you farm the land, work in the mines, and gather in the woods, but you also build relationships and help battle the impersonal, monopolized JojaMart that is trying to change Pelican Town and put Pierre’s General Store out of business.

In addition to those, there is a subplot of rebuilding the town Community Center and solving a small scale mystery with the help of the town Wizard, M. Rasmussen.

You can expand your house, collect items, design your farm, and rebuild Pelican Town all in one game. There are festivals that happen in each season, and the game runs on a time system where each day cycle is 13.5 minutes in real time and 18 hours game time.

Farming expends the character’s energy and fighting small creatures at night can lower the health bar, but both restore after a night of sleep.

The character will pass out if awake past midnight and if he or she has gone to bed with less than half energy and health, then they will only be partially restored after a night’s rest. Food can be consumed to replenish energy during the day if you are farming or clearing land.

The game begins on Day 1 of Spring and moves through a season up to day 28 before the next season, for example after the 28th of spring it will be Day 1 of Summer. This seasonal cycle makes up the year and each season changes the weather, wildlife, and crops.

Years are tied to a few events, but there’s no limit on the number of years which can be played and character’s daily routines can change each season.

The art style makes it so that the game is easily mistaken for Harvest Moon by those looking over your shoulder, but the game is its own story completely.

Video Game Review Stardew Valley

Stardew Valley is now on the Nintendo Switch along with the original computer versions.

By Andrea Engelhorn
Managing Editor

The Nintendo Switch can be held as a single component or similar to a set of Wii remotes.

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It has been a step in the right direction and is doing a great job restoring hardcore gamers’ faith in Nintendo, while also letting them keep the more casual playerbase the original Wii earned them.
Coachella 2018

By Manuel Macias
Staff Writer

The lineup for the 2018 Coachella Music and Arts Festival has been released with Grammy winning artists The Weekend, Beyoncé and Eminem set to headline. Other artists confirmed for the two-weekend California festival vary from R&B singer SZA, electronic duo Dillon Francis and Mexican musical group Los Ángeles Azules. Ticket sales for the festival began June 2, 2017, with attendees being able to take advantage of the pre-sale option and pay for their tickets on a monthly basis. More passes for the festival were available to purchase on Jan. 5, 2018, three days after the lineup was announced.

Responses to the lineup were met with mixed reviews. Student Andrea Cervantes said, “It’s alright. I wish they added a rock band as a headliner.” Some attendees appreciated the presence of more up-and-coming artists such as Kali Uchis, Alina Baraz and Daniel Caesar, to name a few. Fontana native Stephanie Macias said, “I loved how they had more underground artists this year. I won’t be attending the festival, but this lineup is my ideal lineup and I wish I could attend. Daniel Caesar is one of my favorite artists at the moment.”

Some attendees said that the festival is shifting its ‘sound’ from previous lineups and becoming more ‘mainstream’ with the music that is popular today. Maria Guzman, a Rialto native, said: “This year’s lineup could’ve included other artists such as Lana Del Rey, The Killers, or Khalid. I don’t hate the lineup, but I’m not the biggest fan of it either.”

The festival, which is produced by Goldenvoice, will continue on and take place April 19, 2018, during two weekends in Indio, Calif. at the Empire Polo Club.

The festival has brought in approximately 99,000 guests in previous years, and this year will be no different, as passes have already sold out.

Winter quarter horoscopes

By Ash Casillas
Contributing Writer

Air sign, make some personal changes this quarter. You may be feeling like you’re stagnating in terms of personal progress. Doing things like changing your style, creating things, or even switching majors can bring you the peace you’ve been searching for.

Put in a little more passion this quarter, water sign. The middle of the academic year tends to be a low point for your mental productivity, refresh and revitalize by incorporating things you are interested into your school schedule.

Fiery Sagitarian, work on your patience this quarter. You are determined to get what you want and finish projects at your own speed, however you may be putting unnecessary stress on others.

Use your duality wisely, dear Air sign. You easily challenge yourself with a tough workload that you are able to manage through your solar strength. Remember to give yourself enough room to breathe every once in a while.

Cardinal Cancer, step out of your comfort zone this quarter. Socialize more in classes, discussions, and group assignments. New study partners or friends on campus are a great way to enrich your networks and grades.

It’s time for you to make those decisions, for your otherwise fixed being Leo. Many life changes and paths are opening themselves up to you. It is a safe time during the winter quarter to make changes try new opportunities.

Earthly and in tune Mercury sign, do not be afraid to ask for help. As a hard working university student, independence and self reliance is key for you, but you must realize that you are also human. Be sure to ask a professor or peers for help when you’re confused to help maximize your chance at success.

Independent Aquarius, try a new class this quarter. Your progress in your major is exciting and you have many plans for the remainder of your life in college. But, it is always beneficial to see a different perspective, or explore a new sub- ject. Who knows, it could bring new aspirations or an adjusted worldview to your life.

Your determination to pass classes and exams is unwavering, but can seem erratic and full of never ending work. Investing in meditation could make your life more balanced. Don’t be afraid to play a little.

Arts & Entertainment

This image is from the Coyote Chronicle, page 14, January 24, 2018.

Coachella 2018

Stagecoach is a festival similar to Coachella, both in Indio.

Racism in Fashion

By Estelle Aporongao
Staff Writer

The world of fashion is considered a vast cultural hub, rich with artistic otherworldly talents that encompass all mediums of creativity, business, and like every industry, productivity. Its influence reaches near and far, molding society’s views on what is considered in tune with cultural trends. Which is why it is important when the industry’s main fashion houses and proprietors maintain a positive and constructive view in terms of socio-political issues as these are the same topics that influence the everyday consumer’s choices.

In a fast-paced, technologically-oriented world, conspicuous consumerism relies heavily on social influence and catering to the trends. Consumers are not easily bought with the latest trends that household names like international high-fashion houses like Chanel or Dior, once easily pushed out through the runways. We are seeing a new generation of individuals more concerned with social media platforms that glorify the ideas of fast-fashion, innovative street-wear, easy brands, and even sustainable brands, and even pushing the boundaries of creativity, business, and like every industry, productivity.

This change in headlines caused some interested attendees to question whether they would attend the festival in April. Student Gabriela Pocius had previously bought her ticket in June, however after seeing the lineup second-guessed if she would attend.

“I bought my ticket and I was really excited because this would be my first time attending,” Pocius said. “I’m kind of disappointed with the lack of bands, especially not having a rock band as a headline. Coachella used to have more indie rock artists, and I don’t see a lot of those going this year. I might sell my ticket. I’m not sure yet.”

Some attendees appreciated the presence of more up-and-coming artists such as Kali Uchis, Alina Baraz and Daniel Caesar, to name a few. Fontana native Stephanie Macias said, “I loved how they had more underground artists this year. I won’t be attending the festival, but this lineup is my ideal lineup and I wish I could attend. Daniel Caesar is one of my favorite artists at the moment.”

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Racism in Fashion

The world of fashion is considered a vast cultural hub, rich with artistic otherworldly talents that encompass all mediums of creativity, business, and like every industry, productivity. Its influence reaches near and far, molding society’s views on what it means to dress fashionably. This sparked a social outcry when the fashion house H&M released a graphic sweater with the words “Coolest Monkey in the Jungle” emblazoned on his chest. Liam Mango, was seen wearing a graphic sweater with the words “Coolest Monkey in the Jungle” emblazoned on his chest.

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Rich Parliament Chocolate

By Spence Reifel
Contributing Writer

Every origin of chocolate is different.
Have you ever wanted to taste a chocolate from the Dominican Republic, and then try another chocolate bar from Belize? At Parliament Chocolate, you can experience flavors from around the world with each and every bar.

Chef and owner Ryan Berk looked at the artisan chocolate business and saw a great opportunity to do fair trade, and showcase a delicious product like chocolate.

Products from Parliament Chocolate are like a fine wine, as they focus on the different flavors brought out by the original cocoa bean.

They are a small team of passionate individuals, motivated to bring something new and exciting to the chocolate world.

The truth is, the art of chocolate making is an artisanal process.

Parliament Chocolate’s respect for the amazing cocoa bean fuels their process by deciding to only use two ingredients: high quality cocoa and organic cane sugar.

“We at Parliament know how beautiful, flavorful, sweet and delicious great chocolate can be,” Berk said. “Yet, the process of making great chocolate has to start in one place, and that is with the farmers. We strive to treat our producers and small co-op farmers with the utmost respect and gratitude for the product they provide us.”

With this value, they also make sure these producers are using good environmental practices throughout the entire process.

To achieve this, they go directly to the farmers and like the cocoa they have brought to states, they start to take the fermented cocoa bean and create a chocolate bar.

At the start, the farmers are striving to provide the most up-to-date processes in growing, fermentation, and drying,” said Berk.

After creating a great relationship with the farmers and liking the cocoa they have brought to states, they start to take the fermented cocoa bean and create a chocolate bar.

“By creating these direct relationships, we can also be sure the farmers are striving to provide the most up-to-date processes in growing, fermentation, and drying,” said Berk.

“Once we start making chocolate from the time it is in the states and made into a chocolate bar, it takes five to seven days,” stated Berk.

Once they have a chocolate bar, Parliament Chocolate does sampling and you can taste completely different flavors from different locations and even seasonal products.

Two ingredients make this treat high quality: cocoa and organic cane sugar.

This house of handcrafted chocolate works directly with local farmers.
Forget-Me-Not

By Andrea Engelhorn
Managing Editor

Janine Cost (a pseudonym I created to respect the real person’s identity) was a woman of 100 years in the Rehab and Hospice Center (Health Center) at the retirement community that I work for.

When I began working in the Health Center (HC) in March 2017, Janine was only 99 years old and moving fast.

She immediately stole my heart.

She brought a light and happy feel to a place that looked (and smelled) like a hospital.

Some residents (patients) come in injured with the intent of rehabilitating back to health and moving back home, while ill residents a lot of the time are admitted on a hospice program, meaning they remain in the HC until they pass. Sometimes the hospice residents have a long time after they arrive, sometimes their illness is at a stage that gives them a shorter time with us.

I was never directly informed about Janine’s program, but it is safe to assume, since she was fairly seasoned and was there for many months without talk of discharge, that she was on hospice.

The dining staff (my position) in the HC isn’t always told details about residents for security and privacy reasons, so I don’t know everything about her status.

What I do know is that Janine was adorable and also heartbreaking.

In my time there she turned 100 and holidays passed, but I never once saw a family member come to visit her.

On her birthday, the CNAs and nurses went out and bought her a flower crown and gave her a new baby doll (she carried around a dirty baby doll).

I was heartbroken when we had to celebrate her birthday while her family hadn’t given her another thought.

Janine was unfortunate in the sense that she had severe Dementia.

She most always didn’t recognize a person even if she saw them every day, and she would mumble out phrases that didn’t quite make sense.

She would have days where she would scream things at passing people and claw at you from her wheelchair as you walked by. Other days she would sit quietly holding her baby doll, maybe even pretending to nurse it, and when you said her name in a high, friendly voice and waved she would wave back with a big smile.

Sometimes you could even blow her a kiss and she would happily do the same back.

On the good days, she was like a content toddler. On dark days, she was animalistic and vicious.

Sometimes when you would say her name and wave she would respond by throwing her hands up and yelling, “GO TO HELL!”

On dark days, I would just smile and remember her good days.

It’s not personal. It is just how she is sometimes. Besides, she doesn’t even recognize who she’s yelling at and she will be sweet again the next time you see her.

In a sincere and light way, we would enjoy watching her sit at our counter, finger-painting in her special mashed-potato-con- sistency foods. She would rub it in her hair, dunk her baby doll in it, rub it all over the counter, spoon it into her drink, and even flick it at those close by.

The one thing she always ate, no matter what kind of day it was, was dessert.

Every time I set a small bowl of ice cream in front of her or ground pie, she devoured it or ground pie, she devoured it.

Once, she ate, no matter what kind of day it was, was dessert.

Every time I set a small bowl of ice cream in front of her or ground pie, she devoured it.

Sometimes you could even feed her a small bowl of ice cream in front of her, and she would devour it and say “Thank you” in a low, raspy voice.

Even though some days she was clearly confused and upset, she overall was one of the happier residents. She enjoyed wheeling in and stealing our juice pitcher to hide in her bedroom, bathing her doll in mashed potatoes, hiding in the HC so that everyone had to go find her, and wheeling around the dining room to lick every clean utensil we had set out for dinner and unfolding all the napkins.

We never got mad. We more enjoyed the childlike purity of it all and marveled at her ability to do whatever she pleased.

I wish her family had only visited her more. It took a week after she left to the local hospital and a few days back with us on tube feeding before she passed.

Even if her family is as far as New York, they could have sat with her during her last days.

I know she wouldn’t remember them or even know they were there, but it’s the thought that counts.

If my grandmother turned 100, I would be there with a cake and presents even if she wasn’t cognitively there to enjoy it. If she was sent to the hospital and not looking so well, I would fly out to sit with her in her last moments, not so much for her but for me.

I don’t understand how some families can drop off their elderly and leave them until they pass. I couldn’t live with myself like that.

I will always see dolls and think of Janine.

I will remember her sitting at her spot at our counter and smile. She made the HC feel brighter and brought a smile to our faces in a place of sad realities.

So thank you, Janine, for being a grandparent to me and my coworkers, and thank you for teaching me the value of loved ones and the time you have with them.

Graphic courtesy of Gabriella Arana