

## Seniors Lose High Contact Sports

By:  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

Many seniors who play sports have experienced the loss of playing it due to COVID 19.

Julio Perez, an 18-year-old senior at Buena Park High School put forth, “Instead of having my seasonal sport I got hired at a Chick-fil-a to start saving money for a car,”

Eighteen-year-old senior, Kenny Peters, attending Buena Park High School, gave light to the situation by saying, “Well hopefully some way we have a season. I’ve worked hard this quarantine and offseason and I want to see what I can contribute. But if we end up not having one of course it’ll hurt because this definitely is not the way I wanted to end my senior year.”

Kenny discussed his thoughts on having practice now, “At least it’s something I’ll be able to put in work at and watch everyone get better and they’ll get me better and you never know a miracle can happen and we might get a season. And every time we practice we are always competitive looking to improve for maybe the next season in high school or a college.”

Julio shared, “I’ve been severely depressed because I’m not going to be able to prove all I’ve learned from my greatest losses and wins. I won’t be able to earn another accolade (recognition) for wrestling under our school’s name.”

Eighteen-year-old Sajjad Ali, a fellow Buena Park High School senior, stated, “Working out on my own time and staying in shape for the season.”

David Atoe 17, at Buena Park High School, shared how he deals with the freetime he collected, “My plans are to keep

# Valentine's Gone By



PHOTO BY : T.Valdes

*Such a fine and love-filled holiday deserves more than a day; it has earned an entire month.*

By: Anndrea Herrea  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

Valentine’s day, the time when we love, and spend time with, each other. Even without a lover, something special with a friend can turn out exciting. Think of Valentine’s day to cheer up this depressing year. No one should spend Valentine’s day alone this time around.

Love, the action partaken by many; except some people might have their own definition of the emotion. Veronica Garcia, a junior Coyote shares how she defines love. She says, “When you know ‘it’ as when you’d do anything and everything for that person, when they just light up the room as they walk in. You will know when it’s love because it is such a strong feeling.”

Shiyan Ford, a student at Buena Park High School shared, “Love is to be around that special someone; it could be a friend or a family member.” Usually when people consider love, they think about having a significant other, never family. Shiyan bringing family into her answer proves amazing, it offers a great reminder that family remains more important than boyfriend and girlfriend.

Esmeralda Medel Cruz, a 18-year-old senior Coyote says, “Love is the big affection you have for someone, but also for yourself. The love you feel for yourself should be as important as the love you have for those around you.” Loving yourself

holds more importance than loving other people. You focus on yourself. Showing you love yourself boosts your own confidence and makes you feel happier.

Clarissa Avalos, another student at Buena Park High School, shares her powerful answer, that love can “mean a lot of things, but primarily a sense of gratitude or appreciation for someone.” Having gratitude holds much importance. One should give thanks for the people who stay around. The little things someone does for another can make a big impact.

Love can make a difference, especially nowadays. Some, however, do not know the true extent of its impact. Ariel Robinson, a student at Buena Park High School, said, “Love doesn’t matter or mean anything to people anymore these days.” Even in these times giving or receiving any love remains an elusive event. For this reason, Ariel says love means “willing to do anything and everything to see people happy, letting them know they matter and mean something, that people willing to sacrifice for love do exist.” A lot of people in this time need at least one person on whom to rely. Alone? Okay, but one person can make a big difference in another person’s life.

Plans for Valentine’s day this year proved hard to realize. Some people either just don’t celebrate, while others treat the day as extra special. Coyote student Darlin Jimenez Mendez says she has not made any plans, mentioning, “It’s going to be just as a regular day.”

Some people, such as Ariel, do have

plans this year. She said she has a Valentine and will “plan on going to eat and hang-out with him.” Even during these times, two love birds have their day planned out.

This pandemic obviously gets in the way. Clarissa wants to digitally celebrate this year. She plans on sending her friends “a BUNCH of memes.” As goofy as it sounds, her method of reaching out to her friends will add to the positive nature of the day. Jokes remain one of the best ways to brighten someone’s day. Who knows, maybe somebody has a bad day going, and her funny pictures could provide some cheer.

Turning off the lights and putting on a movie adds up to a nice idea. Esmeralda says she will “just have a movie night” with her sisters.” Many students will spend time with family around these times. Maybe they could turn their living room into a movie theater, cook some popcorn and bring out blankets. Maybe people should not stay awake all night, but staying up late and having a good night sounds great.

Parents also deserve some love. Mothers do understand that their children are indeed growing up, so it gets hard to spend time with them. Shiyan will give her mom something this year. She says she plans on buying her mom a “teddy bear made out of flowers that last for a long time.” Flowers may sound basic, but they remain a big thing on Valentine’s day. Roses own this holiday, acting almost as a symbol for it. Giving someone even just one could just change their day.

Veronica will go back to something sim-

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# Coyote Review

## Review of Last Semester

By: Jessica Pineda  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

The lives of many people changed when 2020 took a turn for the worse. This change would affect Buena Park High School staff and students.

Ms. Suzan Guba, a physical education teacher at Buena Park High School, shared her experience throughout 2020. “The biggest change was going from a participation class to an online class,” she remembers. “Students now had to do daily nline assignments, instead of just going to class and participating.”

**“Just because I’m down doesn’t mean I’m out,”**

Seventeen-year-old Coyote Justin Loague briefly described the past twelve months, saying, “It was a year of worldwide unexpected events.” The Buena Park High School senior revealed his goals as, “Staying humble and keeping my head up through the toughest days.” He admitted, “There were times where I hit rock bottom.” How did he survive the challenges? “I told myself just because I’m down doesn’t mean I’m out,” said the senior Coyote.

Mrs. Lina Arslanian shared the perspective of an Instructional Aid at Buena Park High School having to deal with changes brought on by the pandemic. “The biggest

change I felt was the lack of motivation and drive in some of the students I work with,” she said.

Daniel Madrigal, a senior Link Crew leader talked about the past year for him. “I would describe 2020 as a year of adversity for everyone,” he said. “The adversity served as an opportunity to grow stronger and persevere in whatever our life consisted of.”

Ms. Guba discussed the work of a physical education teacher in 2020. “My biggest struggles,” she said, “were to make sure that all students did their assignments and turned them in. It took many hours to set up the assignments and then grade them before entering them into the grade book,” She stated.

Mrs. Arslanian admitted, “The biggest struggle I felt was keeping the students engaged and paying attention.”

Some claimed victory, or at least progress, in their personal lives. Daniel asserted, “I’m most proud of my overall growth as an individual because I wasn’t always the person I am today.”

Meanwhile, given a choice between online education and in-room instruction, the physical education instructor explained her teaching preference. “I most definitely prefer teaching physically,” she said. “The face-to-face contact I so totally miss.”

Justin revealed what he would have done differently this past year, saying, “I would have to use the knowledge I know into the past.”

Mrs. Arslanian shared a preference similar to that of Ms. Guba. “I prefer being with the students hands-on,” said the instructional aide. “I definitely feel they are far more interactive and less distracted.”

Daniel acknowledged, “I would do some things a little differently but, all I can do now is learn from the past and apply those lessons to my day-to-day life, to avoid the same mistakes.”



Students practiced the new normal even in familiar environments.

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Ms. Guba explained her evolution during the two school years, saying, “I keep changing my approach to teaching as we continue to move forward. The biggest changes were to be sure that all assignments could be completed during class time so that students did not leave my classes with homework.”

Justin discussed his response to the formidable times. “Last semester I had a goal of maintaining a B average and I’m happy to announce I obtained a 3.5 GPA. I could’ve gotten the 3.6, but I’m still happy,”

Mrs. Arslanian explained the effects her positive outlook has had on the students. “I think just starting off the Google Meet conference each period with a ‘Hello; how are you guys?’ and doing a little check-in with the students has helped them open up a bit. I feel like most of them can’t wait to come back to school. However we definitely have a few students who did adjust and are doing really well, virtually.”

Daniel summed up success. “I figured I would challenge myself to pass with all A’s last semester, and with the right mindset, I accomplished that goal.”

Ms. Guba put forth one major difference between online teaching and in-person learning, saying, “I did not notice a big change, except that the students needed more positive assurances that we would get through this pandemic at some point.”

Justin explained, “I’m grateful for the opportunity of participating in my sport, which is cross country. A lot of senior sports throughout the whole country have been canceled due to the ongoing pandemic. I’m thankful

everyday that I get to do what I love, which is running an average of five or more miles each day.”

Mrs. Arslanian noticed a difference in the learning and participation of students. “Most definitely, they are much more distracted and have far less participation,” she said.

### Grateful and Thankful

Daniel optimistically stated, “I’m most grateful and thankful to be here right now. I have to make the most out of the 24 hours given. Having that in mind makes me cherish every moment and everything that makes up those moments.”

Ms. Guba talked about how she thought schools could best react to the pandemic, saying, “I truly believe that you have to let science tell you when it is safe to return to in-person learning. I get the report with the number of cases in Orange County and it is so sad to see thousands of new cases daily. The cities of Buena Park, Fullerton, and La Habra continued to average way over the governor’s number [to allow a return], which was scary.”

Justin listed the following as his goals for 2021. “First, I want to walk out of Buena Park High School with flying colors. Second, I want to train as hard as I can for the cross country season that is now upon us. Finally, I want to continue running cross country for the school that grants me the opportunity to do so,” he said.

Mrs. Arslanian put forth her thoughts about how to go forward. “I think the bottom line is [do] what is going to keep everyone safe & healthy,” she shared. “However long that might take...Safety first!”

Daniel stated, “My top three priorities for 2021 are; My overall health, preparation for college, and getting myself in a

# Coyote Perspective

## Review of Last Semester (cont.)

By:  
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mental state of mind to strive for and prosper in whatever I decide to do after high school.”

Ms. Guba advised Coyote students and the Buena Park High School community on the current situation, pleading, “Please stay safe with you and your families. We will get through this, and with the vaccination roll out in Orange County going full force, it is starting to feel a lot better to see an end to this.” She added, “You need to understand that the health guidelines still need to be followed until we have a herd immunity in our areas.”

Justin described how he had achieved his previous goals. “I achieved my goals by having a good work ethic on myself not depending on anyone to tell me to put in the work and have a strong self-discipline,” he said.

Mrs. Arslanian predicted students’ abilities to overcome the challenges posed by academic

challenges that the pandemic exacerbated. She said of the students, “They can do this! It might be a challenge and you might have some days [that feel] harder than others but, in the end, just do your work to the best of your ability--and you will succeed.”

Daniel explained, “I achieved my goals by spending my time wisely. No need to leave something for tomorrow when I can do it today. What also helped me is the love and support from my family, friends, staff members, and classmates here at Buena Park High School.”

Ms. Guba stated her hopes for 2021, “I truly hope that everyone gets to go back to in-person learning once it is safe, based on the science, and that people can return to work safely and families do not fear this virus any longer.”

Justin discussed what he learned in 2020, “The pandemic taught how much we take our everyday lives for granted. Covid-19 was something we never saw coming. Yet, today we still hold our heads up high regardless of the

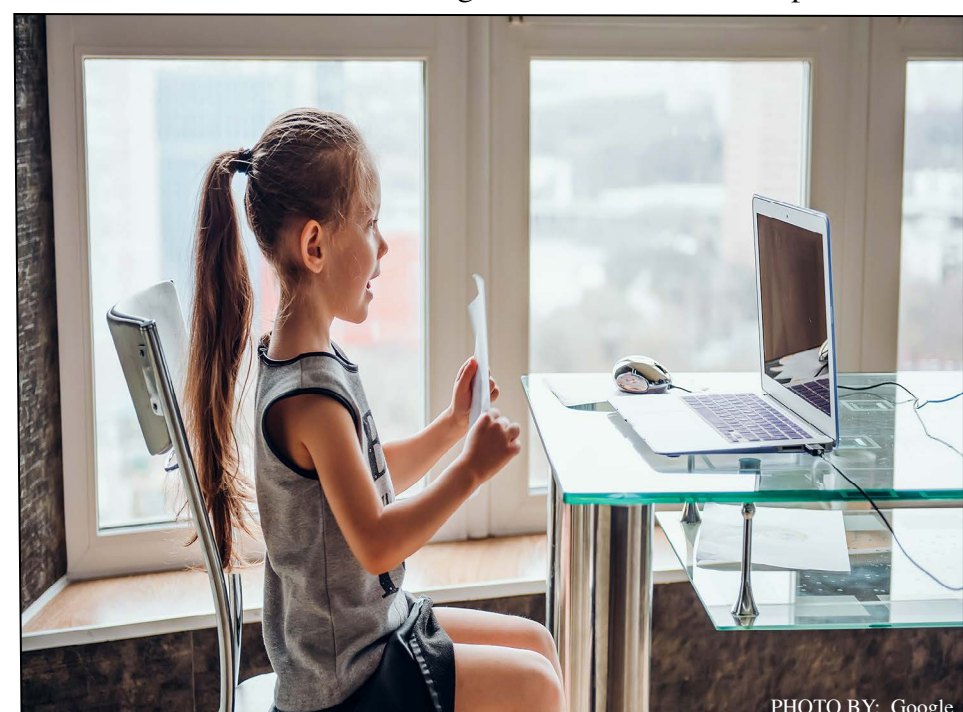
situation that comes our way, whether that’s distance learning or testing positive for Covid. As people have said many times before, “We are all in this together.”

Mrs. Arslanian exclaimed, “I can’t wait ‘til we are all back to school safely. I miss traveling with my hubby, seeing friends, and being able to hug loved ones,” she said.

Daniel asserted, “I love learning

about something new, especially when it comes to science! Despite the fact that it might prove difficult at times, the subject has just piqued my interest ever since the start of my high school journey.”

As the Buena Park High School community can see, the year 2020 brought forth many different experiences for everyone. Many express hope for 2021 to go a lot smoother than its predecessor.



School kids from elementary to high school face the same challenges.

# Valentine’s Gone By (cont.)

By: Anndrea Herrera  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

ple, like spending a day with a boyfriend. She could maybe find more about his childhood, or exotic food he likes. One can always find something new. A day could hardly ever get boring around loved ones.

**“Gifts don’t need to cost a lot or have monetary value at all.”**

Gifts: not mandatory, but getting a gift on Valentine’s day can prove very exciting. Even if not sent by a lover, getting one makes for a moment of happiness. Gifts don’t need to cost a lot or have monetary value at all. Esmeralda says she hopes she can “get another letter” from her little sister. Esmeralda gets a letter from her sister every year, and she keeps them so she can “see her progress as she grows older.” Younger siblings give heartwarming gifts because the receiver can tell the

sender put love into it. Seeing siblings grow up remains one of the most amazing events of life, as one can see how much changes.

Clarissa hopes to get some jokes for Valentine’s Day. Just like she gives jokes around, she would like some in return. Seeing people smile and laugh becomes an amazing gift. It fills people up inside; it makes them feel warm knowing that their friends really do enjoy the company.

Sometimes people prefer to get nothing. Darlin agrees. She said she can maintain happiness if she knows that her family “is healthy.” She revealed, “That’s what matters the most.” People care about their family. Show that you love family members that you love them becomes difficult if a person feels like the “odd-ball” in it. Showing that you care really matters.

Knowing what you get may ruin the surprise, but at the same time one can feel all fuzzy knowing it will arrive. Ariel knows she will receive “a bear, rose and candy.” Original gifts, such as a rose, nearly always work wonders. Getting a teddy bear that can become a cuddle mate makes for a nice day.

Receiving something from anyone delights a person, but getting something from family proves even more delightful. Even though Shyian gets a gift “from someone other than a family member or friends,” she would like just a simple rose. Those flowers dominate the day, and they do because roses represent something so romantic. The beautiful color and amazing smell add up to a nice flower in general. Getting one would mean a lot to Shyian.

Veronica says, “I’m not really hoping to receive anything this

year.” Honestly, spending time with people you love could end up the best gift of all. New memories could get made. Anything could happen. The day really focuses on love in all its forms. Love from special people means a lot.

Everyone should have a special time and maybe with a special someone. In these times of social distancing, a little human contact, even in spirit through a note or small gift, can turn an ordinary day into Valentine’s day more than once a year.



Sugar, sugar: Sweets for the sweet on that very special day of mid-February.



**BPHS Staff Members of the Year 2020/21**  
**Shant Arslanian and Robert Shetland**  
*Check out PAC’K News to see the announcement*



# Coyote Travels 1

## Destination Spotlight: Hawaii

By: Isela Santillanes  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

“Good morning Coyotes! This is your captain speaking. During Flight 8833, we will make stops on every island of Hawaii. So, sit back and enjoy the view of the water surrounding the volcanic islands that created the land of the state of Hawaii. We will now begin our descent into what the natives call the ‘Aloha State’.”

Hawaii, a group of volcanic islands located in the central Pacific Ocean, over the years became a place where people can travel to and tour as they enjoy a relaxing vacation. The state lies 2,397 miles east of San Francisco, California, and 5,293 miles west, from Manila, in the Philippines. Each island has a story of its own even though they collectively developed into one American state.

### Kamapua’a

“This is your captain again. Folks, as we approach the first island on the list, look out the window and enjoy the beautiful blue waters and the greenery all around.” One island has the honor of holding the actual name of Hawai’i. Nicknamed ‘Orchid Isle,’ it remains the biggest and youngest island in the Hawaiian islands and it holds many special and unique memories to natives. The island has two major volcano goddesses, Pele and the demi-god Kamapua’a. Many natives have heard the rumor of how the demi-god volcano, Kamapua’a, can control the weather on the big island, as it is also known; the west side of the island staying very dry and the east side consistently wet. The story maintains that a battle broke out between the two protagonists. As a result, the island got divided into two sides. Pele has dominated on the western side and Kamapua’a holds influence upon the eastern side. As the young island continues to grow every day, it still manages to hold the title for having the ‘longest continuously erupting volcano in the world.’ The current eruptive activity of the volcano, named Kilauea Caldera, reaches back to some time during 1989.

“It was truly mind-blowing for me to get to experience this place.”

Ms. Destinie Rodriguez, a Buena Park High School Education Case Carrier and a Program of Acceler-

ated Education (P.A.C.E.) Teacher, visited the islands of Hawaii twice. “The experience of just seeing and being at the islands was incredible,” she reports. “As someone who had never gone on vacation before this trip, it was truly mind-blowing for me to get to experience this place.”

During the first incredible experience for her, Ms. Rodriguez went with her aunt to the island state. The aunt works for a radio station, and got sent to Hawaii for three to four days with plans for her to broadcast from there. Although, the first time she went they were on that aunt’s ‘business trip’, Ms. Rodriguez still got to enjoy the water. She remembers that her aunt and she went swimming most of the time, ate lots of good food, and even went on a few different hikes. However, that would not mark the last time Ms. Rodriguez would land in this enchanted state. “The second time I went to Hawaii, I was able to go with my boyfriend,” said Ms. Rodriguez. We went on some awesome hikes, jumped in a cold lake with a waterfall, and went snorkeling. I was able to see underwater with my goggles; there were so many fish and turtles underneath us. It was an unforgettable experience.”

Ms. Rodriguez also mentioned some features that the island offers. “The water is so much warmer there than here in California,” she said, “so it made being in there such an enjoyable thing. Here in California, it’s almost always too cold to get in and enjoy, but there you could go in at 6:00 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. and still be comfortable.”

### Kaho’olawe

Reaching the next island, tourists get to enjoy the historical and cultural vibes it has to offer. Kaho’olawe, another island member of the Hawaiian archipelago (group of islands), has stood there, rising above the Pacific Ocean, since 400 A.D. According to kahoolawe.hawaii.gov, many historical and archaeological sites have named Kaho’olawe as a navigational center for journeying the site of an adze quarry, an agricultural center, and a site for cultural and religious ceremonies. The island, traditionally, came to be a respected wahi pana (sacred place) and a pu’uhonua (place of refuge).

### Maui

As we approach the next island, savor the historical facts and the new adventures that emerge from it. Maui, many years ago, had ancestors of Hawaiians following stars and birds in order for them to discover this island. Much like the rest of Hawaii, Maui experienced many conquests and wars because



*Yes, roads exist on the islands, wrapping their way around majestic cliffs.*

of various kings trying to take other kings’ lands. After the kings’ conquests, the water surrounding the islands of Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Kaho’olawe made for natural boundaries of the kingdoms. Before the year 1795, the three major kingdoms in Maui (as traditionally spelled) made the island very powerful. These included Hana, Waikulu, and Lahaina. The people there went through several rulers and then made attempts to create the best life in their kingdom, but all turned out unsuccessful.

Many, many years later, though, Maui was finally able to get tourists to visit the island. In 1946, Maui opened its first resort away from Hana and hosted a San Francisco minor league baseball team. Those actions helped spread the fame of ‘Heavenly Hana,’ now a popular bed and breakfast in Maui. Back then, the place held its arms open for 109,000 visitors during its very first year.

“Just being there was like taking in a fresh breath of air.”

As far as the Buena Park High School connection, look to 2013, when its Choir Director today, Mrs. Jill DeWeese, bought a timeshare (a property with a divided form of ownership which each person can use the property at a certain time). She and her husband enjoy their place in Maui; they can use it every other year. Mrs. DeWeese described how she felt in the environment after stepping foot on the islands. “The laid back atmosphere is definitely something I enjoy while visiting,” she revealed. “The islands are full of natural beauty themselves, but just being there was like taking in a fresh breath of air.”

Mrs. DeWeese went on to explain some of the activities she

enjoyed and that she soon came to favor while she visited Maui. “Beach time and sightseeing is a big part of visiting the islands,” she confirmed. “I think my favorite activity has been snorkeling at our condo in Ka’anapali Beach (Lahaina, Maui). The amount of beautiful fish and even large turtles is amazing to see. We can walk right out of our condo and enter the water, which is incredible.”

Mrs. Jillian Bentley, an English teacher at Buena Park High School, has also had her fair share of experiences in Maui. “The time we spent there, we had a very relaxing and adventurous experience,” she revealed. “It was a babymoon before I had my first kid, Everett. I was seven months pregnant and we mostly just took time to relax and enjoy the island,” she recalled. “We hiked along a river and ended at the top of a waterfall. It was very peaceful.” She explained a memory she had when visiting the island, “My husband jumped from the top of the waterfall and swung from a tree branch and that is a fun memory.”

Continuing to pay tribute to the islands’ natural offerings, Mrs. Bentley said, “The water is incredibly warm. There are beaches you can pull up to that are very secluded and tranquil.” Mrs. Bentley related one of her favorite memories that she’s come to cherish after visiting Maui and admitted to her least favorite, as well. “My favorite memory was watching live music and getting ice cream at downtown Lanai, in Maui, on the last night of our trip,” she said, “My least favorite memory involved not being able to sleep because I was pregnant with what became my almost 9-pound baby boy!”

Another staffer, “The Band Guy” at Buena Park High School, Mr. Robert Shetland shared his experience “back in 1995 with a marching band” with which he was working with at the time. “The boosters paid for half, so that made it economi-

# Coyote Travels 2

## Destination Spotlight: Hawaii

By: Isela Santillanes  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

cal for my wife and me,” he said. Mr. Shetland also recalled the second time he traveled there. “The other time was when my brother-in-law got married on Maui. That second trip we had to pay for ourselves. Oh, man; it was a lot of money, but it was worth it!”

### Lana’i

Approaching the next island, delightfully luxuriate in some authentic flavor as we examine some life experiences that make Hawaii

unique. A volcano formed Lana’i, another island that makes up the state of Hawaii. Lana’i still juts out of the sea; the volcano no longer exists. Lanaihale, stands as the sixth-largest of the Hawaiian islands. The largest privately owned island in the Hawaiian chain, it covers an area of 140 square miles. Small fishing villages have dotted Lana’i. However, in 1854, a group of Mormon elders, a religious group that embraced concepts of Christianity as well as revelations made by their founder, tried to form a colony. The attempt did not succeed. The island, used mainly for cattle grazing until 1922, got purchased by the Dole Corporation and that company used it as a pineapple plantation. The island soon developed into one of the largest pineapple plantations in the United States. In 1961 Castle & Cooke, Inc., after merging with Dole, took over the management of Lana’i and, with 98 percent ownership of the island, established luxury resorts, golf courses, and residences. Soon after, in 2012, Castle & Cooke sold its hold-

ings on Lana’i to Larry Ellison, co-founder of Oracle Corporation.

Mrs. DeWeese, during her trip with her family in 2019, visited this small island. She shared her experience. “During our last trip to Maui back in 2019, we took a day trip to the smallest island of Lana’i,” she recalled. “On that island they have a sanctuary for feral (wild) cats. They have upwards of 600 cats that you can visit and enjoy.” She also mentioned that, on previous trips before, she had visited Lana’i as well. Not many tourists have gone to Lana’i, with its status as a private island.

### Moloka’i

“This is your captain again. On the arrival of the next island, sip a bit of water and enjoy the relaxed vibes there.” The island of Moloka’i pushed through the surface of the Pacific Ocean over one and a half million years ago through the force of two volcanoes: Kamakou in the east, and Maunaloa in the west. Sometime later, a third and much smaller ‘caldera’ named Kauhako, popped up to form the Makanalua peninsula on the north side. So, three major volcanoes make up Moloka’i, the fifth-largest island in the Hawaiian archipelago. According to experts on this subject, Hawaiians first came to live on Molokai about 650 A.D. Those first settlers most likely originated from the Marquesas, with later migrations of new settlers from Tahiti and other areas in the South Pacific. They used double-hulled canoes to travel to Molokai. A sweet legend passes through the natives of the island. According to visitmolokai.com, “Legend tells of the Kalaipahoa, or poisonwood gods, entering trees on Maunaloa. The grove reportedly became so poisonous that birds fell dead as

they flew over it. Legend also tells us that Laka, goddess of the hula, gave birth to that dance at a very sacred place in Ka’ana on Molokai island. People on Molokai recognize this every May with a celebration of the birth of hula called Ka Hula Piko. When Laka died, her remains were secretly hidden somewhere beneath the hill Pu’u Nana.” The website says that “the hula was finally established, the work of Laka was complete, and the dance flourished throughout Hawaii.”

Staffers continued to share their experiences about these different islands that they have visited. Mrs. Bentley recalled the time she visited Moloka’i and recounted the activities she and her husband enjoyed. “During the babymoon, besides all the relaxing, my husband and I went hiking, snorkeling at Molokai, kayaking, and laid by the pool,” she said. “Snorkeling at Molokai was kind of magical because all of it was mostly water and hills. To be fair, not once during this trip did we ever get homesick, because we enjoyed our time together. My husband was my ‘home’ and we were always together.”

### O’ahu

“We are now approaching one of the most historical and popular islands of all, so please take a deep breath and enjoy this emotional rollercoaster.” O’ahu, a very famous island, remains separated from the islands of Kaua’i and Moloka’i by the Kauai and Kaiwi channels. The island itself had a volcanic origin and now sports two parallel mountain groups, the Koolau and Waianae ranges, which connect via a central plateau. Besides getting recognized for its two mountain groups, the island holds the city that represents



*Surf, sand, swaying trees, and a solitary chair set against a nearly clear blue sky epitomize the true Hawaiian experience.*

the capital of Hawaii, Honolulu, itself home to the main campus of the University of Hawaii. In addition to Honolulu, Oahu boasts many important cities including Kailua, Kaneohe, and Wahiawa. Oahu’s other notable sites involve Hanauma Bay, a part of Koko Head Regional Park, a popular snorkeling spot. Diamond Head, an extinct volcano looms as arguably the most distinctive landmark. A military installation, tourism, and pineapples exist as significant economic attractions and products the island needs.

“It sent chills down my spine.”

In the middle of celebrating life on Oahu, one cannot escape the military installation symbolizes one of this country’s most somber moments in time. On the morning of December 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu. The surprise attack destroyed nearly 20 vessels, killed more than 2,000 American soldiers and, for all intents and purposes, brought the United States into World War II. Mr. Shetland recalled many things about the Pearl Harbor edifice (USS Arizona Memorial) that helps people remember the people who died during the infamous attack. “We walked into a box type of building, but as you kept walking, the names of people who passed away were along the back wall,” he recalled. “You were able to see the water from the side of the building and were able to see the boat that got submerged as well. It sent chills down my spine.”

After World War II, Hawaii remained an important geographical, social and political aspect of the country. Not too surprisingly, on August 21, 1959, Hawaii became the 50th of what people around the world call the United ‘States’ of America.

Mr. Shetland shared some lighter experiences on the island of Oahu. “I LOVED the weather and the warm ocean temperatures,” he said. “We got to go to a luau (a traditional Hawaiian party or feast that is usually accompanied by entertainment), and also do some crazy beautiful hiking and driving around the beautiful islands.” He reflected on his time there, saying, “Besides the Pearl Harbor Memorial, the environment is so chill. Everyone is so relaxed and just having a good time.” The veteran band director recalled a funny memory. “On one of our bus tours the tour guide kept saying ‘We’ll be there in five



# Coyote Travels 3

## Destination Spotlight: Hawaii

By: Isela Santillanes  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*



*Hang Ten: Surfing remains a signature activity among the sometimes care-free residents of the Hawaiian islands.*

nic islands. Twice he built up his army in hopes of conquering the last islands of Kauai and Niihau. He did not succeed in his aim.

Dating back to the year of 500 A.D., the first settlers of Kauai, quite possibly Marquesans and other Polynesians, sailed about 3,000 miles to Hawaii. Without any guidance, the settlers followed the stars and the trade winds towards the island. A testament to their navigational skill, those travelers found the Hawaiian Islands in the middle of the great Pacific. The first settlers brought with them important plants and foods, many of which still exist today in Hawaiian culture and diet. A plant, called taro but named Kalo in Hawaiian, became a staple of the Hawaiian diet due to the richness of starch. The plant, significant in the Hawaiian culture. This plant accents many foods, most notably, poi, which seems a popular food at luaus.

Buena Park High School's very own Mrs. Melody Volen, a Business Finance and Algebra 2 teacher, shared her memories of her trip to 'the Garden Isle.' She said, "The week I traveled over there was filled with amazing adventures."

Mrs. Volen said, "I wanted to see Kauai because I had heard how amazingly beautiful it is and I was able to stay there eight awesome, adventure-filled days." She recalled some activities new to her. "My favorite memory was definitely snorkeling," she said. "I had never snorkeled before,

so I was a little apprehensive at first." She continued her adventures on land. "I also took a hike on the Napali coast," she recalls taking a catamaran tour of Napali coast and exploring Waimea Canyon (the grand canyon of Hawaii). "I also took a tour by kayak and then went hiking to a secret waterfall," she revealed, "and I went on a mountain tubing tour through tunnels. I also ate some great food! Of course," she said, I relaxed on the beautiful beaches." She did not go alone on all these adventures. "My entire family was with me," she said, "and we were in awe of the giant sea turtles. Swimming next to them silently was an experience I never thought possible!! I swam with a sea turtle for about 15 minutes side by side."

### Ni'ihau

"On the arrival to the last island on our list, please delight in these documented facts about how the island of Ni'ihau attracted human attention." The place, known as the 'Forbidden Island' because of its 'invite-only' status, has tantalized travelers from across the globe due to its extreme exclusivity. In 1864, Elizabeth Sinclair-Robinson, a plantation owner in New Zealand, purchased the island from king Kamehameha V and, indeed, the whole kingdom of Hawaii for \$10,000. In exchange, she promised to preserve the 'kahiki,' or the native Hawaiian culture. As the natives continued to live in their main village of Pu'uwai, they contin-

ued to practice 'hula,' that same dance used as entertainment for special occasions and a way for them to keep and transfer their culture to the next generations. They also spoke a dialectical variation of Hawai'ian. The native Hawai'ians did not consider land as property. This allowed the islanders to live freely, without having the responsibility of leasing or renting the land. Wild sheep, boars, and cattle roamed the island neighboring the inhabitants of the island.

## "These islands stand out uniquely among other American states."

Because of all the rich history and culture in Hawaii, it brings no surprise that these islands stand out uniquely among other American states. Now one of the fifty states, the islands nevertheless stick out as collectively a strongly independent land.

"Hello; this is your captain speaking once again. We have landed in Hawaii and hope that you enjoyed the recounting of these stories and facts during your time aboard flight 8833. We also hope you will enjoy your time on the Volcanic Islands and that you come to appreciate all it has to offer. Aloha!"

# Coyote Discipline 1

## Sunburst Program Saves Lives

By: Angela Hennessey  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

Was there ever a point in your life where you felt unmotivated, as if you had nothing going on for yourself, or found yourself in a deep hole due to life choices you can not erase? Where do you think you would take the time to reflect back on your life, and think about all your regrets, and wish you could simply get a second chance? Many people at one point or another in their lives have had similar thoughts. Including myself. Here, I present to you my Sunburst story, a tale about how I fortunately, through the program, got a chance to turn my life around. For a decent amount of time, due to personal issues that developed in my life, and all that time not seeking the proper coping mechanisms, I became unambitious, unable to put energy and focus into anything. Every day became a struggle and each one felt the same. I became uninterested in just about everything, including activities that would normally bring me joy. Due to my mental state at the time, my grades began to suffer. My lowest grade point average hit a

personal bottom as a 0.76. Remaining hopeful throughout everything proved difficult since I grew used to the unhealthy lifestyle I lived. I became remorseful, and very much focused on the past. Fortunately, I somehow came to the conclusion that I'd had enough; I simply didn't want to live that way anymore. And then, as if I had raised my personal antenna, Sunburst Youth Academy came to my attention.

I can best describe Sunburst as a five month National Guard Youth Challenge program. The purpose of the program involves giving teenagers between the ages 16-18 a second chance at life. Sunburst allows cadets to regain those missing credits needed to graduate, and also offers an additional 65 credits if the cadet completes the entire five months of the program. According to <https://sunburstyouthacademy.com/> the organization works "to intervene in, and reclaim, the lives of 16-18 year old high school drop-outs, producing program graduates with the values, life skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as productive citizens."

At first, I wasn't so sure about the program. Actually, it sounded

too good to be true. I didn't want to immediately give up on the idea, so I attended an orientation for Class 26 in February of last year. The sergeants in charge of cadet enrollment spoke to us about the program. He told our group what the program would do, and what it would require of us. Graduates from previous classes shared with us their personal motives in having wanted to attend Sunburst, and how much it has impacted them. What they expressed to us shocked me. The change that

Sunburst has implemented in these cadets became extremely noticeable simply by the way they spoke and how they presented themselves. Shortly after, the case managers called us by alphabetical order into the office rooms and I got sent to see a Sergeant Tilt. He asked me a few questions, such as why I wanted to attend Sunburst, what aspects I want to work on, and whether or not I felt motivated to participate in the program. I shared some quite personal experiences, as well as



PHOTO BY: A. Hennessey

*Angela Hennessey went through the program and left it as a confident young woman.*

# In-Person vs. Online Learning

By: Esmeralda Medel  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

While Covid-19 continues to affect decisions about schooling across the world, the nation and local communities, Buena Park High School teachers and students have had to learn to adjust to the differences between online courses and in-person classes. Every teacher has come up with various ways to teach their students through some internet use rather than proceeding with in-person classroom instruction only. Though a few obstacles occur within certain curricula, teachers have considered what works best for their students and have found ways to deliver ideas, challenges and daily assignments.

Mrs. Jessica Fernandes said, "I have tried to break down our curriculum into smaller chunks, making a task a day, mostly completable during the class period [if students are on task]. I have tried to be even more intentional on what 'skill' I truly want students to accomplish each day." The Buena Park High School agriculture teacher added, "I utilize GoGuardian daily to help students stay on track. Now that we are in the second semester, I have

tried to step up my game by sending weekly progress reports home and reaching out even more to students who appear to be struggling."

Mrs. Fernandes also explained, "All classes are a struggle right now; it's not necessarily the content that is hard. What is hard is that all the responsibility is on the students. They have to decide to get out of bed, they have to decide to focus each period, they have to decide to complete their assignments--all the while facing distractions and other responsibilities in the home that they didn't have to deal with when they were in a classroom setting." She decided, "The biggest difference is the lack of student interaction. Even when we get students together in small groups they are not as talkative as they once were. Additionally, it is very hard to make those student/teacher connections and get to know your students."

Coyote physical education teacher Ms. Suzan Guba commented, "The connection with students has drastically changed. Since the majority of the students do not show their faces, it is hard to make that great connection like when we are all in person. Safety is most important for everyone, and I make this work with my students by talking to

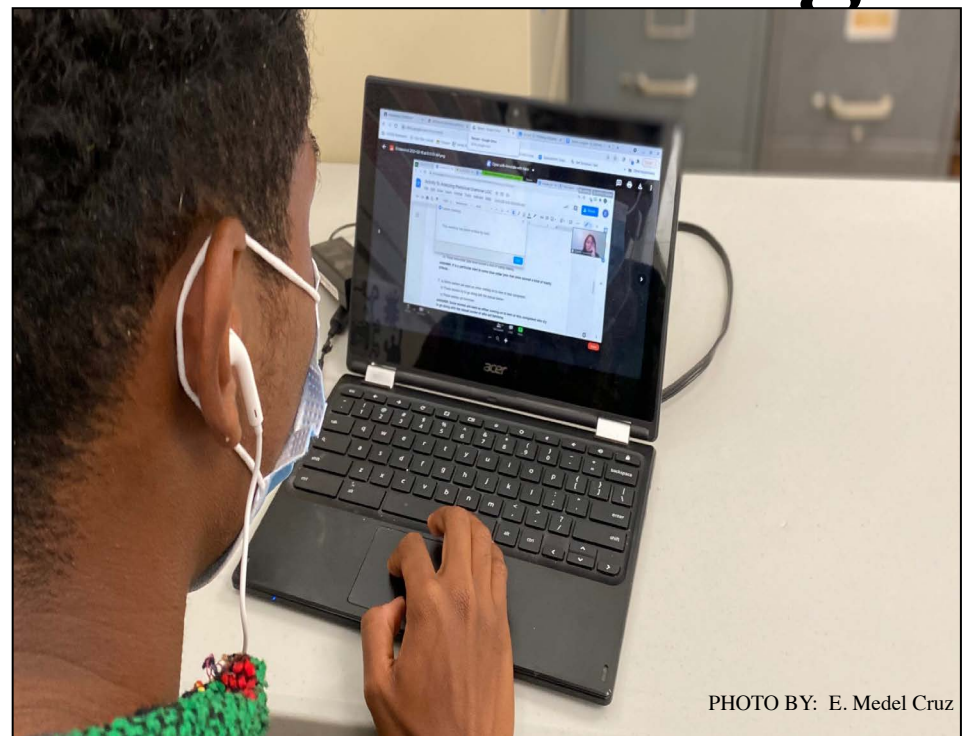


PHOTO BY: E. Medel Cruz

*A student recently donned a mask, earphones, and a Chromebook to study.*

them or calling them at home." The Buena Park High School teacher said, "If we were in person, there would be a daily activity in physical education classes. Since we are online, there is also written work to be done along with workouts and yoga days. As far as attendance goes, I have had good [participation] in my classes; around 90% have shown up regularly. I know that is below the in-person average, but it still would be an A if we graded attendance."

Ms. Guba admitted, "This cur-

rent situation is challenging for everyone. I just truly am positive every day and remind the students that we will get through this and be in a better place. I know some of our students have had family members pass away, and that is so very sad. I also have some tough days, but focusing on the bigger picture of life has many challenges--and this is just one of them."

Seventeen-year-old Senior Pedro Torres shared, "Something good is that we can rest more during on-



# Coyote Discipline 2

## Sunburst Program Saves Lives (cont.)

By: Angela Hennessey  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

my goals for the future. I managed to somehow hold myself together fairly well, something he noticed. Sergeant Tilt responded to me by saying, “Wow, just.. wow. You are extremely strong and hold yourself together well, based on what you told me. Not even me, at my age, am I close to being as mature as you. At first, you seemed a bit nervous, but seeing how passionate you are about your goals, and in wanting to change, there’s no doubt in my mind that you’ll make it into Sunburst.” When Sergeant Tilt told me that, it was as if my mindset did a one hundred eighty degree turn, and was the determining push in my decision to join the program.

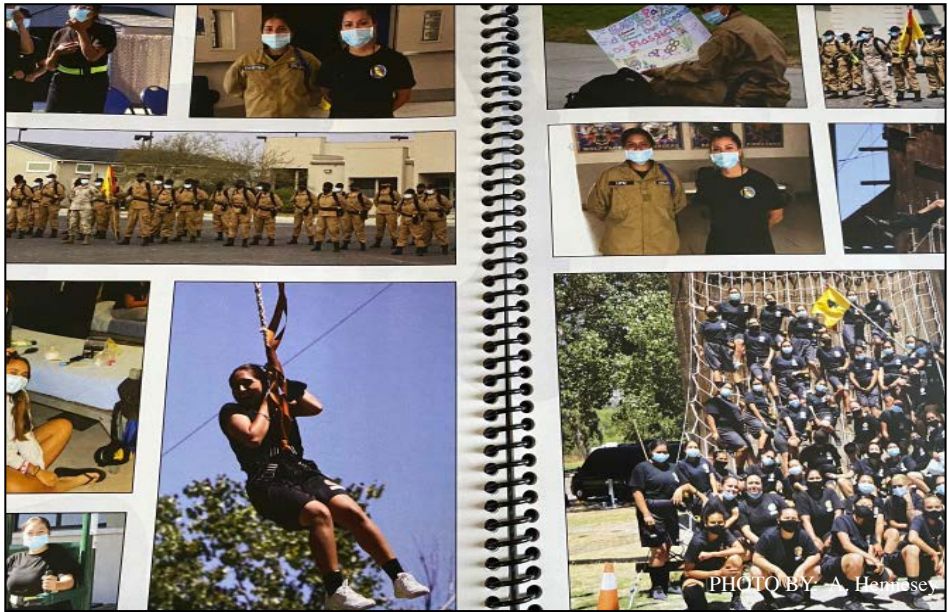
### Intake Day

After a few months, I did everything I could in order to get accepted into Sunburst. I attended all three role calls, wrote a letter to my “past” self, and stayed ahead in collecting and sending out all the paperwork that the program required. On May 13th, I received an email from the program stating that Sunburst had accepted me into the Class of 26. July 13th dawned on “Intake Day,” when we bring our belongings and get officially enrolled into Sunburst. New enrollees got sent to different stations to fill out paperwork, to bring in medication, to enroll into the school, and to take our bags into the “bay,” the place where we would sleep. When we finished, we went to the “Goodbye” station. That night, Sergeant Vera, one of our male “cadre,” the sergeants in charge of us, had that time’s shift. He gave us a motivational talk during which I remember him describing the first night as hardest, other

than the night before graduation. He asserted that all sorts of emotions would kick in at that time. Looking back, I believe the first night proved the most difficult of the whole five months. I couldn’t sleep, I missed my family, and shivered thinking about what would come at me the next few months.

Around 4:00 in the morning, all the sergeants from our platoon (Firehawks) came into our bay, turned on the lights, and gave us the command to get out of our bunks. We had a minute to get our hair up, put our masks as well as our socks and shoes on, and then run out the door. When we went out, we all had to run to the basketball courts. When we arrived, we found the three other male platoons standing there (Wolfpack, Bruins, and Chargers). Sergeant Major as well as all the cadre from every platoon stood with us. They announced that we all would do “Shark Attack.”

Okay, every class that has attended Sunburst Academy has gone through the traditional Shark Attack. Welcome to the first morning of the Sunburst journey. Right after the authorities announced Shark Attack, they commanded us to drop to the floor in a plank position. All of the platoons stayed in formation and the cadets got commanded to do every same thing at once. Sergeants walked around commanding us to swap to different exercises. We performed pushups, jumping jacks, planks, mountain climbers, and other physical activities. We constantly switched from one position to another. I remember finding myself out of breath easily, not used to intense workouts yet, all with a mask on my nose and mouth. The first two weeks I can describe as...hard. Emotionally and physically the cadets hit endurance walls because many had never done anything like Sunburst



More than discipline and drills fill candidates' days in the Sunburst program.

before this. I found it really hard to leave my friends and family behind, so I naturally became homesick for a bit. For those two weeks, we studied our blue books, or exercised. Nothing much else came our way. Right off the bat, the authorities taught us to stay quick on our feet, and to pay attention to detail. We’d get caped a lot the first two weeks.

### “I became extremely proud of myself.”

Red phase marked a time when I had not yet become fully sure of myself, but despite the outcome, I believed that I would try my best anyway. We went on a field trip in which we met an obstacle challenge course. It seemed not too bad at first, and I saw myself as up for a challenge. I kept telling myself I could do it, and that I would finish the course. When it came to be my turn to go, it finally came to me that I would do the work attached to a harness seventy feet off the ground, and that once I started, I would have to finish it. I had to walk across wooden beams, go across a rope bridge that would not stop shaking, and other not so peaceful situations. I suffered intense anxiety, and my outlook turned to insisting to myself that I couldn’t do it. Even though I kept doubting myself, I pushed myself to do it, anyway. I reached the end of the course, and coured down seventy feet on a zipline. All my anxiety went away, and I became extremely proud of myself.

In red phase, the role as squad leader got ranked. A squad leader takes charge of the squad (10-13 females) by giving out commands, making sure everyone meets the time hacks, and performs satisfactorily in other activities. I managed to become a squad leader. When I got selected as squad leader, I did

decently the first day. Historically, I would act quite shy around groups of people, and would talk with a very low voice. After a few days passed, I eventually got the hang of it. Working as a squad leader really helped me by allowing me to take pride in what I do; it helped me to become more confident within myself, and made me into to a leader. White phase, consisting of weeks seven through twelve, felt more flexible. We became cadet led, and got our first Platoon Guide, a person who does the job of the sergeants and who leads the whole platoon.

We also gained more privileges, such as participation in sports, writing letters to different platoons, and joining run club. People who do well as squad leaders can earn the rank a second time. In white phase, I got chosen again. I believe the second time around proved easier than the first since I had the jist that time of what I had to do. I broke out of my old habits of quiet shyness to become more expressive and outgoing. Performing as a squad leader really impacted me for the better. Because of the help of fellow cadre, letters from family, and the cadets I talked to, I gained a much more positive mindset towards everything. I went above expectations and began to try new things. I joined the run club, brought my grades up to straight A’s, even got interviewed for Spectrum News, became guide-on, and maintained a grade point average of 4.0 for both semesters.

Everything that I wanted to improve in my life got done, thanks to Sunburst. The program has helped me through so much. I made many close friends, became closer to others, and got to know the staff. Sunburst provided an experience I am truly thankful to have received. It really turned my life into a force for the greater good, and it helped me become the person who proudly speaks to you today.

# Coyote Discipline 3

## In-Person vs. Online Learning

By: Esmeralda Medel  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

line school but, then again, you have more distractions around.”

Pedro reflected, “For me, it can get difficult to learn and stay engaged in the lessons that my teachers teach. I feel like students might struggle in classes that are [usually] more hands-on.”

### Not Learning

Sophomore, Ivan Rodriguez Rocha mentioned, “A difference between distance learning and in-person classes is that, during distance learning, we get distracted easily, while in person we would have to pay attention. These changes make me feel like I’m not learning anything, and that I’m going to fail all of my classes.” The 15-year-old Buena Park High School Student suggested, “Some students might struggle in Math because, for math, you need to be face to face so you can get help and also you can see the exact steps.”

Ivan added, “It is difficult for me to understand classes online because half of the time I’m not paying attention, due to distraction, so I don’t understand what we are talking about. I feel less

connected to my classes.”

Not everyone agrees. Samuel Pavon-Padilla, a 17-year-old senior, argued, “The only difference I see between online and in-person class is that everything is now virtual. For example, most of our homework is Google documents rather than paper handouts. Online classes have been easier because I’m able to focus better when I’m by myself.”

Samuel added, “The pros of online classes are that I have the freedom to do anything I want during the school day.” He concluded by saying, “There’s no difference between online and in-person classes, they both feel the same. These changes make me feel great but sometimes lonely.”

### “It doesn’t feel the same”

Seventeen-year-old Elias Sanchez, a senior at Buena Park High School, countered, saying, “It’s different online than in person, online your just at home, not really in a learning environment and it doesn’t feel the same as if you were to be at school in person. To me, being at school physically is better just on

the [idea] that school is for learning and being physically there helps more of learning.”

Elias claimed, “It’s more difficult to take the lessons online than in person because half the time the calls have issues or the wi-fi has issues. In-person, you can be more focused and there are no technical issues except if your Chromebook isn’t working in class, but you’re still in class and can still get that learning experience than if you were home.” He admitted that the long duration of online distance instruction worries him. “It makes me feel like things might not go back the way they were. Well, at least not right away. I am bummed out that we just stay at home all the time and it gets boring. It just ruins the high school experience, especially since we are still adapting to whatever is going on.”

Freshman Coyote Merari Rebollar explained, “Online classes make me tired faster as I stare at a computer; meanwhile in-person classes allow me to move around more and learn more efficiently.” The 14-year-old Buena Park High School student continued, “It’s difficult for me to understand the lessons, but they are still understandable. It’s obviously

easier in person to understand [concepts and instructions] in class, since you have the teacher teaching the class while interacting with all the students.”

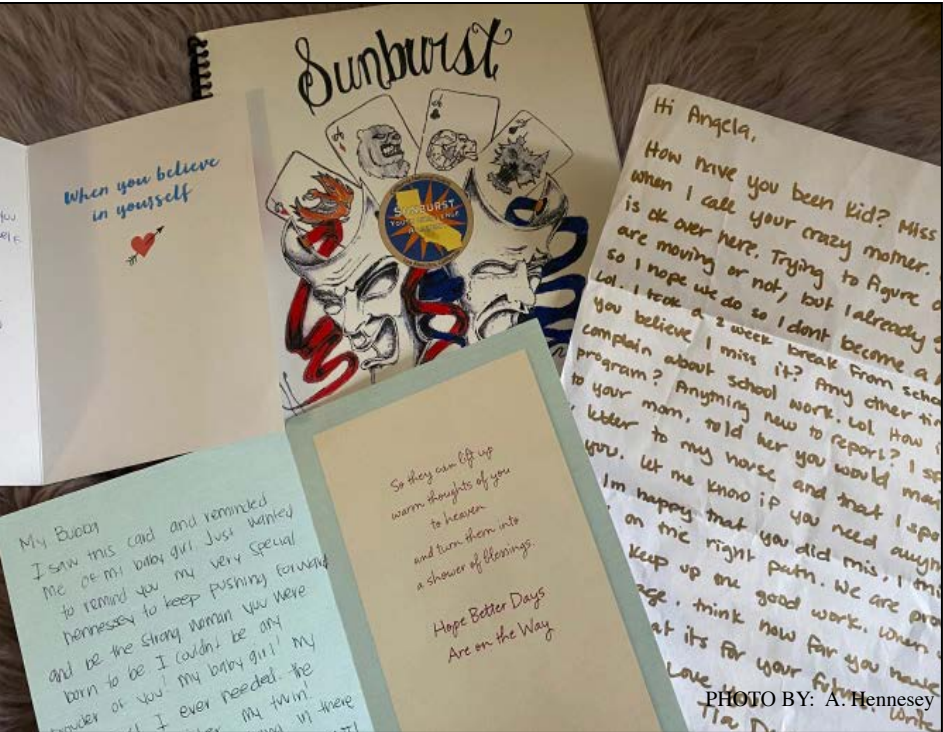
Merari explained, “These changes make me feel less engaged, though I will forever feel grateful to continue learning every day. Having a chance to learn online is something I will always keep in mind no matter the circumstances.”

Mrs. Fernades explained, “I know this is hard....just try, try to get up each day, try to get into your Zoom meetings on time, try going to any student support [opportunity] once in a while, try and reach out to me with one chat message or email or verbally. I am here for you, and I know you can do it!”

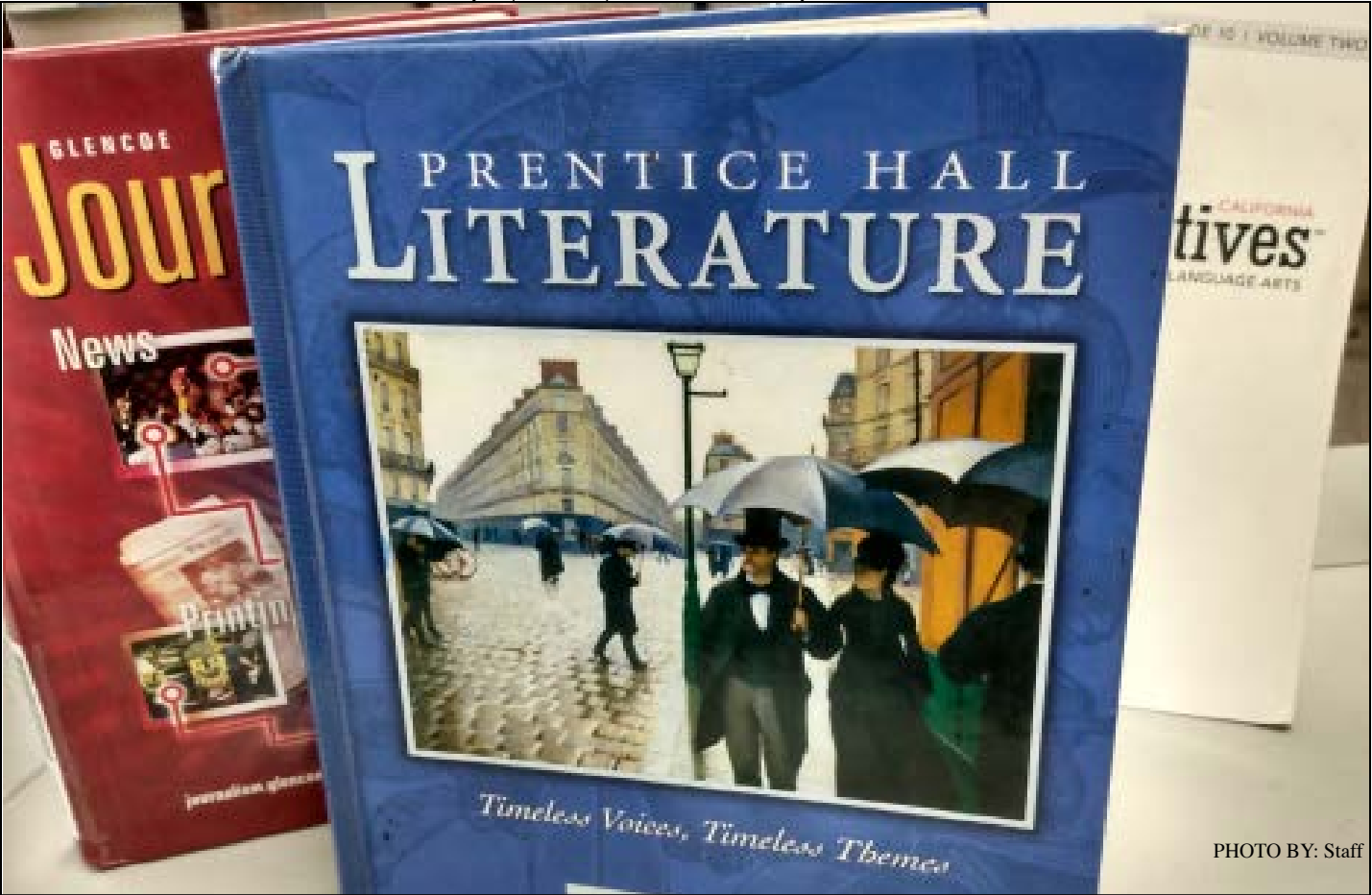
### “We will get through this and move on to better days.”

Ms. Guba had a good word for the students of Buena Park High School. “My message to the struggling students would be; we are all here to help you succeed, but you need to do your work, turn it in and, and be the best that you can be. Work hard and know that we will get through this and move on to better days.”

Buena Park High School’s teachers and students have set examples of accomplishment through the scare of the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges of the transition to virtual learning. Though Covid-19 continues to affect the daily operation of schools, the teachers and students continue to adjust to the differences between online and in-person classes with the help they can feel all around them. With every obstacle revealed for what it is, a solution approaches and should visit Coyote Country soon.



Students at Sunburst wrote reflections, appreciations, and ‘thank you’ notes.



Remember these? Electronic sources have already begun to replace traditional textbooks at Buena Park High School.



# Coyote Enjoyment

## Remembering Those Holiday Gifts

By: Phiyen Tran  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

December: Annually, the month everyone looks forward to for meeting with their families, having people over to their homes, for enjoying a holiday meal, or for opening the wonderful presents under the holiday tree. Even though 2020 got everyone in various moods, some less positive than others, there seems nothing quite like a nicely wrapped Christmas present to get a person back into good spirits.

Emily Byun, a freshman at Buena Park High School, received “about five” gifts last holiday: These consisted of a few books, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, and a felt board. However, she states that Christmas does not revolve totally around receiving gifts. For her, an important aspect involves spending time with loved ones during the holiday season. She said, “The thing I like most about Christmas is the family gatherings and the time I spend with my family; it’s really valuable.”

Symone Taylor, a Coyote freshman, shared how she spent more time with her sister during this Christmas season. “I didn’t spend

it with my oldest sister,” she said, “because she was stationed in Japan, but now she’s home and, [when she arrived], I got to spend it then.”

Jessica Labrador, Buena Park High School Associated Student Body President, expressed similar thoughts about the importance of spending Christmas with loved ones. “I love being able to spend time with my loved ones during Christmas,” she said. “I couldn’t ask for anything more.”

Coyotes also emphasized the importance of giving. To Mrs. Alise Salcido, a Buena Park High School Spanish teacher, giving rates just as, if not more, important as receiving gifts. “The favorite gift I gave this year was to my mom,” Mrs. Salcido reports. “My mom loves pictures, so I got a photo shoot for her with all of my siblings. She loved it.”

Crystal Perez, a Buena Park High School student, added, “I definitely love everything I got, and I appreciate everything my family was able to give me. It’s nice to receive gifts but I’d much rather give gifts to see the joy in the smiles of my family.”

Mr. Jordan Galindo, English I and theatre teacher at Buena Park High School, received various gifts from family members, including gift cards, clothes, video games, and



*Holiday treats and presents proved abundant during the winter recess.*

shoes. However, his favorite part of Christmas also involves giving gifts to his loved ones. “I like giving gifts more than receiving them,” he said. He did concede to one area he needs to improve, admitting, “I wish I were better at gift wrapping, but it’s nice to see a person’s reaction upon opening a gift you’ve been wanting to give to them for a while.” Mr. Galindo asserted, “The warm feeling you get after doing something nice for someone, or giving someone a present is a win-win situation for both sides, since both people are

happy about what they got/gave. This,” he said, “is one of the many joys of Christmas, along with the music, celebrations with your close ones, and the nostalgic feelings that kick-in with that time of year.”

Despite the strangeness and unfamiliarity of 2020 with Covid-19, Christmas proved to be a great time of giving and spending time with loved ones.

About two months have gone by, so only ten months remain until another, maybe closer to normal, holiday season arrives!

# Gamers: Shadow of the Colossus

By: Zach Penn  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

A young man rides a horse to the end of the world and asks a god to bring back the dead. This god sends him on a quest to battle 16 giants in return for the granting of this wish.

The game “Shadow of the Colossus” does not include an innovative storyline, per se, but the game takes this simple story and transforms it into a compelling adventure.

Shadow of the Colossus, released to the public on October

18th, 2005, took the gaming industry by storm. It became a prominent example in favor of the ongoing debate of whether or not games should get consideration as forms of art.

The simple story of Shadow of the Colossus leads to one of its biggest strengths, in other words, the focus of the game. There exist no magical villages to explore and no special wizards to whom the gamer can talk. The sole mission of the game remains simple: Using the character named Wander and his horse Argo, slay the 16 beasts.

Shadow of the Colossus can be

split into two parts: Finding the colossi and fighting the colossi. While looking for the colossi, the player must ride Agro across the seemingly endless land and hold the sword up to the light to assist in navigating the terrain. The Sword will bleed beams of light that converge in the direction of wherever the next giant happens to reside. After reaching the various Colossus, the player must find a way to scale the beasts and find their weak spots to then attack them with a sword. In this regard, Shadow of the Colossus plays much more like a puzzle challenge than an action game.

Donny Cannady, a “Shadow of the Colossus” player, said of his preferences, “I like the third colossus, primarily because of how intimidating it is. Every time that massive sword hits the ground, it sends shivers down my spine.”

Although the game has limited tasks, it excels in other aspects. As the player goes through the games, a player might start to question the morality of the objective--trading the lives of 16 living beings for the life of one dead girl. But this question needs to rise up; the unsettling atmosphere plays a large part in illustrating the greatness of Shadow of the Colossus. Donny shared his

thoughts about that. “The atmosphere is one of the defining features of the game,” he said. “The isolation you feel in the world adds to the epic battles and bitter conclusions of those fights.”

In other video games, after a battle comes to a close, the player normally feels elation and happiness. In Shadow of the Colossus, this does not happen. After a fight ends the triumphant music jarringly stops, replaced by somber and sorrowful music that speaks to the sadness of the situation.

Shadow of the Colossus has had both a re-master for the PlayStation 3 and a remake for the PlayStation 4. The re-master brought the graphics up to high definition and ironed out multiple bugs. In contrast, the remake version rebuilt the game from the ground up, giving it new controls and stunning graphics. Donny reflected on the remake, commenting that “the visuals definitely add to the experience. The way the game renders distance adds to the sense of scale immensely.”

Shadow of the Colossus stands as a shining example of visual storytelling and video games as a whole. One cannot understate the experience that millions have had while playing it.



*Graphics and visuals head the list of attractions in this gaming experience.*

# Coyote Lifestyle

## That Was Some Winter Break!

By: Aaron Robbins  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic taking over the normalcy of our lives, many Buena Park High School teachers and students spent their Christmas break with their loved ones.. They each described the differences they had from what they experienced previously due to COVID 19. Giselle Mendoza said. “I celebrated Christmas with my parents and my sister. We stayed home, had a family dinner, watched movies, and opened presents at 12:00.”

Luz Perez said. “I celebrated christmas with my family. During the afternoon we left to my aunt’s house and stayed for a while then left back home. At midnight is when we open our presents like we do every year.” Mr. Johnathan Blea said. “I spent the holiday with my wife and family.”

Giselle then explained. “I celebrated New Years’ with my parents and sisters, at home, had a family dinner and watched the countdown.” Luz then explained. “I celebrated New years with my family as well but instead of going to my aunt’s house we decided to cook at our house instead.” Mr. Blea then explained. “I spent the day with my wife. We ate some food and stayed inside most of the day.”

Giselle then stated. “The only

thing that was different this year when celebrating Christmas and New Years’ was we didn’t have any other family members come and join us.” Luz then stated. “What was different this year was I wasn’t able to spend it with my cousins like we had in the past years.” Mr. Blea then stated. “We didn’t have a huge party with lots of friends, which is what we usually do.”

Mr. Blea explained. “We tried to follow the outdoor and mask guidelines put forth by the government.” Giselle then went on to say. “Some other things that I did over the winter break were that I went to San Diego with my family as a little “road trip.” Luz then went on to say. “During my winter break I didn’t do much with everything going on. But I did watch netflix and started to paint.”

**“We like how open it is and how easy it is to remain distant from people.”**

Mr. Blea then went on to say. “I got back into fun reading after a very busy semester. My wife and I also made a few trips to the beach. We like how open it is and how easy it is to remain



*Families still found ways to laugh and celebrate during tough Covid-19 times.*

distant from people.” Giselle then expressed. “Something that I was looking forward to doing over the weekend was resting and taking from homework and having less screen time.”

Luz then expressed. “What I was looking forward to doing during winter break was visit my family.” Mr. Blea then expressed. “If this means what I think it means, I was looking forward to going snowboarding, but we decided not to go due to the hospital capacity and lack of distance protocols.”

**Something Different**

Giselle then spoke explaining. “Something that was a different break compared to previ-

ous years was definitely the fact most entertainment places were closed, so you really couldn’t do much.” Luz then spoke explaining. “Besides not being able to see my cousins we weren’t outside in the backyard counting down. This time we were inside which doesn’t really happen.”

**Unable To Do**

Mr. Blea then spoke explaining “A few years ago I had appendicitis on Christmas Eve and had to get surgery. I was lucky not having to spend this holiday in the hospital.” Giselle then expressed honestly. “Something that I didn’t get to do during the break that I wanted to do was go to a theme park because usually my sisters and I would go every year during our break.” Luz then expressed honestly. “Something that I didn’t get to do during the winter break would be able to walk and get out with my sisters.” Mr. Blea then expressed honestly. “Read, sleep and eat good food.”

Giselle then said. “Some plans that I made for myself for 2021 were to work hard, get good grades, spend more time with family and friends, and start reading more.” Luz then said. “The plans I made for the year 2021 would be to get good grades and stay healthy.” Mr. Blea then said. “I really just want to read more, learn more, and serve my students well. I know the distance is difficult, but I hope you get better as a teacher and give my students as much support as possible this year.”



*Winter break did not provide relief from the safety precautions people had to practice during Covid-19 pandemic times.*



# Coyote Culture

## Black History Month / BSU

By: Johanna Penalzo & Isela Santillanes  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

Black History Month, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in United States history, became nationally recognized in 1976. Even though their contributions became recognized that year, many were still having trouble assuring their civil rights and improving how they got treated societally and legally. People lived in segregation in reality, not just hypothetically when people got divided along racial lines in many areas of American society.

Not only does Black History Month affirm people of color all around the world, it also holds a special place for students and staff members at Buena Park High School.

**BSU**  
Assistant Principal of Student Services and co-advisor of the Black Student Union (BSU), Ms. Crystal Crawford, talked about what the club has in store for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year. “Some inspiration we had to start this club was that I wanted to educate students on the positive attributions of African Americans,” she said, “establish and maintain academic, cultural and social lines of communication with students, keep them informed about the injustice that is currently occurring in our nation, and empower them to positively navigate in this world and be successful.” She also mentioned the club’s future activities. “In the future, we would like to have debates, spoken-word events, and field trips and aim to invite influential people to come speak at the school.”

Ms. Crawford went on to elaborate on some of the things that the club would focus on when developing meeting plans. “Growth mindset, brotherhood/sisterhood, service to others and the notion of what is a successful person is in our heads during brainstorming.”

Black History Month also honors those who have fought hard in order to recognize and ensure civil rights for people of color. Some civil rights activists include Harriet Tubman, who escaped slavery and to become a leading abolitionist. She led hundreds of enslaved people to freedom along the route that became known as the Underground Railroad. Martin Luther King Jr. played a pivotal role in ending the legal segregation of African American citizens in the United States, as well as influencing the creation of

the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Additionally, Sojourner Truth, an abolitionist and women’s rights activist, best known for her speech on racial inequalities, “Ain’t I a Woman?” delivered at the Ohio Women’s Rights Convention in 1851, influenced the evolution of equal treatment in this country. Rosa Parks, a civil rights activist, became widely known when she refused to surrender her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Her act sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott. All these persons became widely known as passionate civil rights activists. However, countless others, who played a major role in gaining recognition of the civil rights of people of color in America, belong on this list.

Students and staffers at Buena Park High School gave their input about how they feel about Black History Month. Eighteen-year-old Kimberly Castellon described what Black History Month means to her. “Black History Month, to me, is the time to honor black people. It’s important to learn about black history because it’s best to have this knowledge in our mind, especially with the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. I celebrate Black History Month by honoring many African-Americans and learning more about them and some of the things they did in order to contribute to the civil rights movement and the BLM movement.”

**“Anyone can become whom they dream to be, no matter the color.”**

Comparing the past to the present, the senior coyote said, “I think something that is similar is how black people are treated now and yet by other people still staring down at them. What’s different is how we have a movement to support them and create a good change to slowly stop racism.” Kimberly shared her thoughts on the recent events. “Having Madame Vice President Kamala Harris, I think will affect the future for race relations by showing that anyone can become whom they dream to be, no matter the color and, honestly, seeing her get sworn in by a female Hispanic judge, Sonia Sotomayor, was historical.”

Mr. Ron Carich, English 2 teacher, journalism instructor and BSU co-advisor at Buena Park High School, shared his perspec-



A symbol of the Black community and a map of the continent of Africa.

tive on Black History Month, saying, “Black History Month, to me as a non-African-American, helps remind me of our country’s almost-unique station in the world where a nation includes not just one race, culture, ethnicity, belief system or political position. While it specifically focuses upon the Black experience, the holiday honors our diversity and our attempt at recognizing the value of that reality.” Mr. Carich went on to explain, “That is the goal, I believe, of any event, situation or action that recognizes the unique contribution of a segment of the population. With knowledge comes understanding, and we need more of that sensitivity in our country.”

Mr. Carich said, “I think for many students, looking at slavery happens as if it’s behind glass. I think the same about the Holocaust. How do you teach about either situation without psychologically scarring innocent students who attend social studies class? On the other hand, how do you get across the point that this was so unspeakably horrific. Slavery was an accepted way of life, a perversion of the greatest degree.”

Mr. Carich elaborated on society’s struggle to find racial equality, saying, “Some people once taught their children this inequality as if it was valid. Just learning to read was once considered an illegal act for the slave and for the teacher.

Then, years after the abolishment of slavery, the American government enacted Affirmative Action in an attempt to balance the scales, giving African Americans a chance to “catch up” in economics and academics and housing. Then, non-African Americans pushed back, saying they should not have to have their children relegated to the back of the line to negate the deeds of people

who acted so unfairly years before. Who is right? What is fair? Society can’t find a common answer.”

Looking towards the future, Kimberly shared something she wants to see taught in history classes. “I think we should definitely learn more about the experiences that many African Americans go through in the world we live in today, so others can share that knowledge and can make a change.”

Another student at Buena Park High School, Azalise Parks shared a concern about an apparent gap between the talk of education about the African American experience and the practice of learning and participating in the cultural contributions of that community. “As you might know,” she said, “our club really has no build at the moment, and it is a bit difficult to get students involved, especially since we are not on campus.” She said, “I can inform you a bit [about the BSU], and share a few reasons why I think people would want to join our club. For starters, this club is a foundation that I want to build in order to educate all people of all races about the African American background.” The Coyote also mentioned, “Hopefully when we are back on campus soon, I plan to do this through meetings, events, field trips, and just basic [teaching and] learning.”

Clubs and classes that teach things about real world issues and that can help with those issues exist so Coyote students and staffers can educate themselves on the topic.

Contact Azalise Parks (500017733@fjuhsd.org), Mr. Ron Carich (rcarich@fjuhsd.org), or Ms. Crawford (ccrawford@fjuhsd.org) in Office #16 to become a member of Black Student Union in February.

# Coyote Stories 1

## Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Schlager

By: Johanna Penalzo  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

Many teachers have always worked hard at Buena Park High School throughout the years. The 2020-2021 edition of schooling just seems a little different. Teachers and staff have to work so much more diligently and through changes in habit, socialization and technology. Most have worked from home, some alone inside their classrooms. One teacher in particular, Mrs. Melanie Schlager, has caught the attention of many students and asked themselves, “How does she get the job done, teaching without the use of the computers sitting in her classroom? She teaches a class about computer science!”

Students enrolled in Visual Communications learn to use programs such as Photoshop, Illustrator and certain aspects that the iMac computer offers on an advanced level. The class requires no prior experience. Students create logo designs, magazine ads, movie posters, original color illustrations and striking self-portrait of oneself. Want an unusual project? The stu-

dents even produce a hot sauce label. A year-long commitment, this course offers elective credits and even satisfies the needed fine arts requirement for graduation.

Visual Communications expresses itself as a unique class. This course leans towards looking similar to an art class as students work on sight-appeal projects. However, during this course, students develop projects using an iMac computer. This course uses industry standard softwares such as Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Keynote and In Design. Students of all grades, 12 (senior), 11 (junior), 10 (sophomore), 9 (freshman), can take this course.

Mrs. Melanie Schlager, one of the most prized staff members at Buena Park High School, has shared sixteen years of her life with students and staffers, staying loyal to the Coyote campus, the only school for which she’s taught. Mrs. Schlager says she has enjoyed every moment of the time inside Coyote Country. Buena Park High School staffers and students know Mrs. Schlager as a loving and strong person, as she mentions some of the obstacles she has overcome. “I feel incredibly fortunate to be at

a school like this,” she admitted. “Students are very kind and considerate on our campus. I have to say my most positive memories are all the wonderful close relationships I have formed with students who have gone on to be successful.”

Mrs. Schlager shared some facts about her children, now both fully adults. “I have two daughters,” she said, proudly. “One daughter, who’s name is Valerie, is 28 years old. My second daughter, Savanna, who is 21 years old, is one of the few female EMT’s (Emergency Medical Technicians) and Valerie is one of

the few female computer programmers for Boeing’s governmental division. Valerie earned her master’s degree at Embry Riddle in Daytona Beach, Florida and Savanna has one more semester to go at Cal state Fullerton as a business major.”

Mrs. Schlager talked about the other two loves of her life. “I have a wonderful husband who, fortunately enough, will be celebrating 25 years of marriage this year,” she said. “He is in construction management.” Mrs. Schlager then revealed her second love, saying, “I have a 15-pound miniature Pin-



Problem solving and accommodations remain part of computer assisted design.

# The ‘Funniest’ Things Happen

By: David Gonzalez  
*Paw Prints Staff Writer*

Let’s face it: the year “2020” deservedly got referred to by a lot of people as a “dumpster fire.” Many people wish 2020 never existed and they wanted very much to move forward with the new year. While so many bad things happened that year, 2020, the one we will squint back at, it seems 202 must have framed the realization of some positive, happy events. Everyone should take a break from the sobering situation of

the past year and focus on the funny things that happened during 2020. When it came to students and staff at Buena Park High School having anything funny happen to them in 2020, this place became a gold mine.

Fifteen-year-old Buena Park High School freshman Isaac Roque didn’t let the pandemic interfere with his birthday. He went to play miniature golf with some friends. While there “one of the balls went into a water pipe and it started spraying water.” The miniature golf staff had to turn off the water and ended up kicking out Isaac and his friends. They pro-

ceeded to go bowling where Isaac admitted, “I lost—because I can’t aim.” He didn’t let Covid-19 or these experiences ruin his birthday. He saw the humor in all of it. Isaac continued on with his birthday and played video games with his friends.

Salvador Rojas, a 14-year-old freshman at Buena Park High School, recalls this past Fourth of July. “My uncle decided to throw a firework and it ended up exploding. The garbage can nearby ended up catching on fire.” He went to get the hose and “was running outside with it like a firefighter.” Salvador was able to find the humor in the situation.

Buena Park High School math teacher Mrs. Melody Volen found cause to smile during one of her math lessons. Using her projector to teach “an amazing lesson” to her first period class, she eventually saw that she had muted herself the entire time. “My class was trying to tell me about this by using the chat option, but I had it hidden...lol.” So, a momentary lapse and a few moments of silence as the teacher gestures and writes doesn’t do much, right? Well, this turned out a bit differently. It took her a good fifteen minutes to realize why her students weren’t responding to anything. After that puzzlement, Mrs. Volen

could see in the chat that the students had busied themselves trying all sorts of ways to tell her about the mute button. They even began chatting among themselves, discussing why she remained unaware. However, instead of feeling frustrated or angry about the situation, Mrs. Volen admitted, “I did think it was funny, because my attitude is to always try to be positive, especially during this pandemic. We are all dealing with things we do not understand and are just trying to do our best!” In case you wonder, yes, she did reteach the lesson.

**Among Us**  
Ms. Alicia Archunde, a Buena Park High School Visual Arts 3-D Design teacher, shared the funniest thing that happened to her. She played Among Us with her best friends from high school. “I was the only one out of my friends who had ever played Among Us (because you guys keep me young!) and so, I convinced them to play.” She took the impostor role and convinced the group to eject her friend Marianne, but then her friend Nicole saw her come out of a vent, so she had to ‘kill’ her. “The funniest part was that, because we were also on Zoom, we could hear and talk to each other. So, as I was running to try and



PHOTO BY: Google



# Coyote Stories 2

## Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Schlager

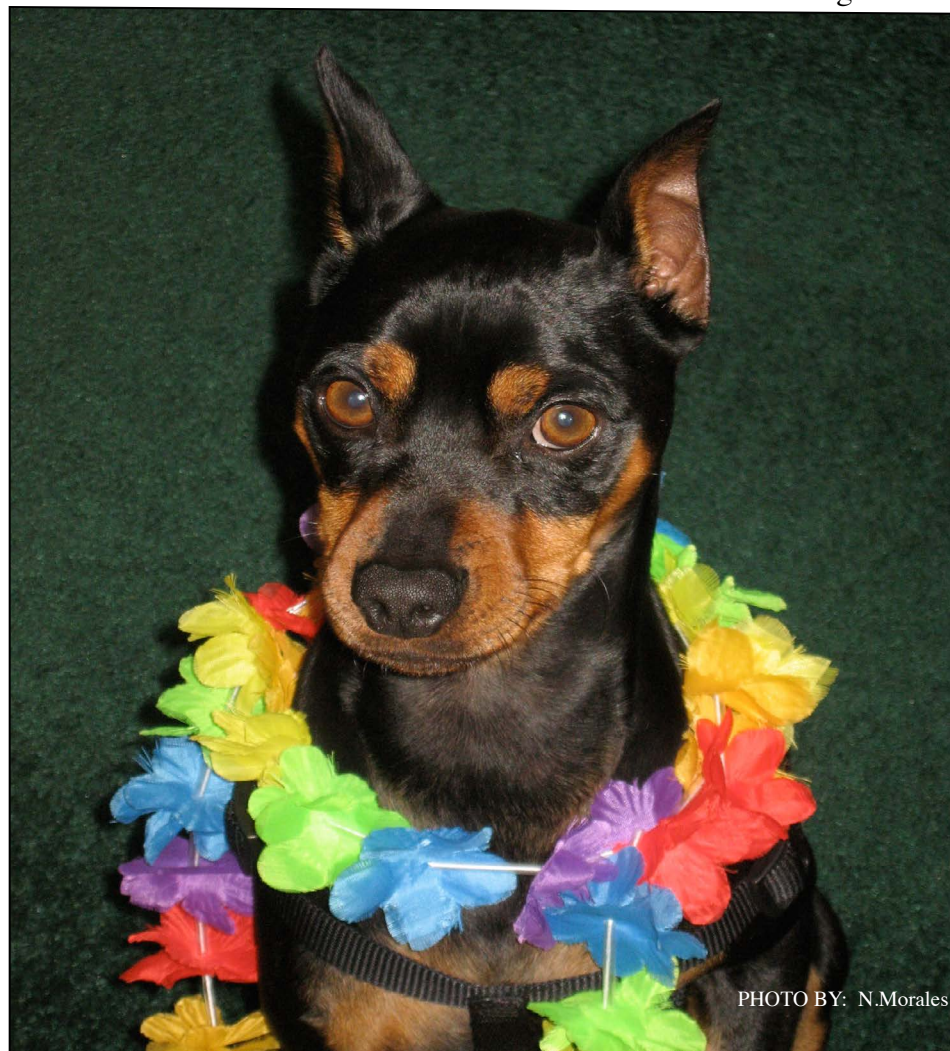
By: Johanna Penaloza  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

scher (dog) named Riley. He makes me smile a lot and is the best (and only) dog I have ever had. Someone lost him and, luckily, we found him. He's a regular in my Zoom classes, distracting my students by always rearranging his blanket."

### Hobbies

Mrs. Schlager expressed delight in some of her hobbies. "I am a true life long learner," she said, "so, in my spare time I work with a tutor to get better at coding, using JavaScript. I teach advanced placement computer science as well as graphic arts." She also mentioned some more things she loves to do, "I love watching YouTube videos to discover better ways to deliver instruction, now that I am teaching virtually."

The Coyote teacher explained how she feels about her job, saying, "Teaching is almost like running your own business," she reflected. "You have a goal, which is to educate your students and teach them life skills of how you do it. I loved teaching once I got the hang of it as a CTE (Career Technical Educator) teacher. One of the requirements is that we work in our field for at least five years before we can teach what we did, while working in our industries." She recalled some memories of her education,



Riley remains the star of the show in the Schlager household.

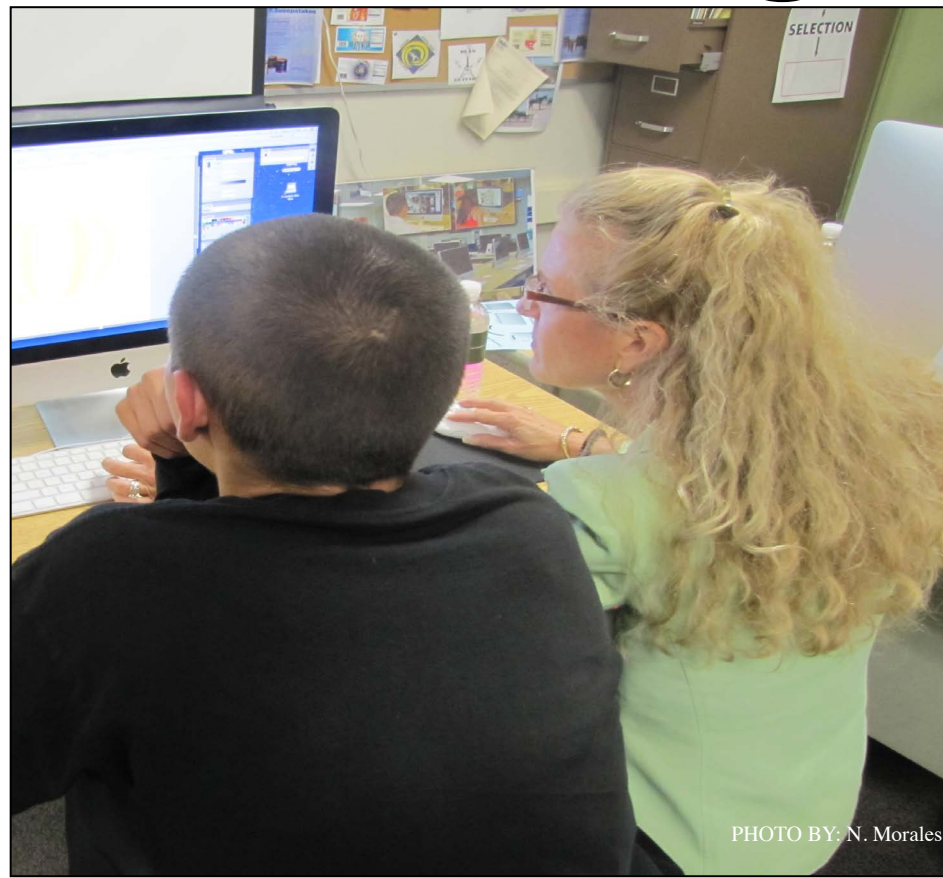
"My degree is in graphic arts, so I was able to work in advertising design" she revealed. "I attended college in Utica, New York."

How about her younger years? "I went to high school in upstate New York with 130 students in my graduating class," said Mrs. Schlager. She listed some of her favorite moments of the job, "The part I like most is helping students in surprising ways. I was just checking students' projects that were due, and happened to see a student online working on it--and not doing it correctly. So, I just started typing on his slide, telling him how to do it correctly. He was so surprised to see his teacher working simultaneously with him on the project, but was also really happy. I love those moments. We had a nice 'chat'."

### Personality

Senior Lilian Rios comes in and puts her input, "Mrs. Schlager is a kind and caring teacher." Lilian goes on to say, "Mrs. Schlager outside of the teacher identity is very funny and has a wonderfully bright positive identity to her." The Coyote student continues on, "her general style to me is a chic business woman, she is a very hard working teacher with style." Lilian finishes off, "something she does NOT do that makes her a good teacher is that she tries her best to not leave you behind on assignments, she wants you to understand it and do your best."

Mr. Kevin Jordan taught com-



Mrs. Schlager constantly assists students in her visual communications course.

putorial (use of computer) Entrepreneurship (business on someone's own) for a few years at Buena Park High School in the mid-2000s. Years later, Mr. Jordan can still express vivid and positive memories about Mrs. Schlager, "I remember Ms. Schlager from when we both started at North Orange County Regional Occupation Program (R.O.P.) at Buena Park High School," said Mr. Jordan. "I taught Office Occupations and in particular, Microsoft Office Suite. She taught Video Editing and, because of this, we typically shared students."

Mr. Jordan said of his former colleague, "For video editing, Mrs. Schlager is truly a professional. She oversaw the transition from PC computers to Apple computers...and on to laptops. Mrs. Schlager works as an integral part of Buena Park High School and reflects true professionalism."

Mr. Jordan confirmed what others believe, saying, "Many people can call Ms. Schlager a consummate professional and can consider her certainly worthy of having earned this spotlight. She has earned the label of a true Buena Park High School Coyote."

The former Room 65 teacher asserted, "Students have always loved and respected Ms. Schlager. I remember that she came to campus early each school day to allow students to come to her classroom for assistance."

Ms. Nancee French, who worked at a similar position to Mrs. Schlager teacher, though at a different school contributes to say, "Mrs. Schlager is a friendly

teacher, is highly enthusiastic about her classes, and is always seeking to improve her craft." Ms. French includes, "Mrs. Schlager is the hardest working teacher I've ever met. She cares only that her students succeed." Ms. Nancee French ends on, "Mrs. Schlager is caring, knowledgeable, and approachable."

## "She has earned the label of a true Buena Park High School Coyote."

Mrs. Melanie Schlager puts in tons of hard work for her students. Over this hard year, she has continued to manage the teaching her course without the iMac computers. Mrs. Schlager gives it her all for her students in order for them to still experience the enlightenment of mastering various lessons when realizing different projects. Over this different and challenging year, teachers and staff work have worked twice as hard to maintain high quality educational standards. Mrs. Schlager stands among the most dedicated staffers on the Coyote campus.

As Mr. Jordan affirmed, "Coyote Nation, you are extremely lucky to have such a dedicated professional and instructor!"

Former Buena Park High School teacher Mr. Sean Kitchen regarded Mrs. Schlager as a solid person and a quality fellow teacher. "She's a rock star!" he said, describing the Visual Communications teacher.

# Coyote Pleasures 1

## The 'Funniest' Things Happen (cont.)

By: David Gonzalez  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

'murder' Nicole, Marianne screams out 'Run, Nicole!!!! She's gonna get you!!!!' Then Nicole started screaming as her character dodged and swerved! We were laughing so hard!" Thinking about it still brings a smile to Ms. Archunde's face.

### Funny Video

Mr. Shant Arslanian, Buena Park High School site technician, made a funny video with his wife about being quarantined at home. He remembers, "We shot and edited a video depicting how staying at home has affected us." Those of you wondering how to check out Mr. Arslanian's video can see it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUVFXOCBSU>. People have watched it and it made them laugh. It shows how people might have felt relatively happy and confident on Day One of the pandemic and how they could have felt frustrated and short-tempered 30 days in.

Although it didn't happen with-

in the time boundaries of 2020, something funny occurred this week. A student in a Zoom meeting for Spanish class saw his cat suddenly react to something. It jumped and ran across the student's Chromebook. The owner of that cat pushed it cat because the boy could see the pet had opened all kinds of tabs and closed the zoom (or so the kid thought.) Then the dog thought the student and the cat had begun playing a game and the canine tried to join in. The student told his parent that the cat closed the Zoom meeting link in the middle of class and opened up restricted tabs. Meanwhile the parent told the student to treat the cat nicely and asked if her son had made sure the Zoom link had actually closed. Suddenly, the student heard the teacher calling his name. The teacher tried to tell him that he was not muted and that the whole class could hear everything. The student froze and tried to mute himself, but that cat somehow made the Zoom image disappear. He frantically pushed keys on the keyboard and the screen, all the while trying to figure out what the

cat had done. The student ended up having to shut the Chromebook and then log back in. At that moment, the student experienced embarrassment and later stressed out about it. Later, he saw the humor in it and laughed about it.

So, you see, even big time newspaper article writers have bad

Zoom days.

We have to find the humor during this pandemic. The news remains depressing and focuses on all the negative events and situations. It tells us about the terrifying numbers of Covid cases. It has to, but humor helps lessen the stress of this virus and quarantine.



PHOTO BY: Google

# Disneyland Denial Syndrome

By: Emily Jimenez  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

People have learned to call Disneyland 'the happiest place on Earth'. They pull into the parking garage on the Donald Duck level. As they go down the escalator, they see those lines leading to the trams. As soon as they pass the security gate, those people rush to the nearest tram eager to get into the park. All the little kids get to jumping up and down with excitement as the tram arrives. All the strollers get packed onto the tram and the people take their seats. As the groups drive to Downtown Disney, the people get that warm feeling in their hearts. Their cheeks start to hurt because they know that they have nearly arrived. They step off the tram and immediately get hit with the smell of the bakery that sits at the end of the walkway to the parks. Then their ears fill with beautiful, happy music from their favorite Disney movies. Now they feel anxious wondering if they can make it to their favorite ride before they run out of fast passes or before the line gets too long. They decide which gate to enter from to get into the park faster. You scan your ticket and as

soon as you walk past those tunnels, you leave the real world behind.

To the left, people see the firehouse where Walt Disney, himself, would stay during the construction of Disneyland. Goofy busies himself taking pictures with families next to the Firetruck. To the right, they can see Mickey and Minnie also taking pictures with families. Then they look down the middle, and their hearts skip a beat as they realize it: Main Street. In the distance, they see Aurora's Castle. That comforting feeling arises in them as they know their day will get filled with nothing but joy and happiness. Now they have to decide in which land they should start. As they battle with their inner thoughts, they decide to start at Adventure Land. The Tiki Room catches their eye and they make plans to get their famous Dole whipped ice cream after their day finishes. They choose the Jungle Cruise as their first ride just so they can get started without going at the day too hard or too fast; they know they have all day to get a thrilling experience. Then they head to Indiana Jones to get that thrill for which they've been anxiously waiting. New Orleans Square, home of the Haunted Mansion and bread bowls appears next.

Then they see Critter Country, and screams from Splash Mountain fill their ears as they head to Winnie the Pooh's Silly Adventures. Backtracking to Frontierland, they go on Big Thunder Mountain. That goat at the top of the hill taunts them, as he knows what will happen as soon as the people drop down that hill.

They skip ahead to Tomorrowland, Star Tours becomes their first option as it sits at the entrance of Tomorrowland. The people arrive at Space Mountain and get ready for their galactic adventure through space. The churro cart awaits as they

exit the ride; their senses take over. Their noses go on overload with the warm scent of cinnamon and sugar filling their nostrils. Then their mouths salivate over the idea of having that warm churro in custody. Then they go to the last land in the park, the one land where age doesn't matter. Their inner child begs for release because they can hear it. They can smell it. They can see it.

They have finally arrived in Fantasyland! They jump up and down, the excitement goes on overdrive. They can't believe it. They ask themselves, "Where to start?"



The world famous sight of a world famous castle excites the kid in all of us.



# Coyote Pleasure 2

## Disneyland Denial Syndrome (cont.)

By: Emily Jimenez  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

The options never end and all of them remind us of that childhood we'd forgotten many years ago. They see Snow White's Scary Adventures, Mr. Toad's Wild Ride, and Peter Pan's Flight. They look over to King Arthur's Carousel and see Belle on the infamous horse, which was, of course, Mrs. Disney's favorite. At the Mad Tea Party, Alice and the Mad Hatter ask ridiculous questions while getting silly with the little kids surrounding them. The popcorn stand catches one's eye as the kernels slowly start peeping out of the metal bowl they sit in while cooking. This buttery treat makes the people warm inside, feeling like they can live off of it. They can hear the kernels falling, waiting to be scooped up into a container for them to enjoy.

### “We lost this and we won't get it back for a long time.”

All these feelings and scents just take one away from the reality that there exist troubles and worries everywhere we go. In March of 2020, we lost this sense of security and happiness due to Covid-19. The once happiest place on Earth got taken away from us and has now turned into a vaccination site. Even if Disneyland does open again, it won't feel the same as before. Having the option of going 'single rider' and making new friends with strangers won't prove an option anymore. Even the queue for the rides won't look the same because people can only get so close to each other. We lost this and we won't get it back for a long time. People



Mrs. Rod-Kam and her two daughters enjoy the festivities at Disneyland recently.

will, from now on, always have that fear of catching Covid-19. The only path upon which we can get this back goes through our memories of the park in all its past glory.

When people first arrive at the park, what should they do first? Marion Suarez, a Coyote English teacher, revealed, “We get a FastPass for something with a long line and then get a snack or shop for candy or a souvenir.” Mrs. Suarez does not alone rush to get that fast pass. Coyote math teacher, Maroun Nehme, also admitted, “As soon as I enter Disneyland, I rush to get a FastPass for one of the more popular rides such as Star Tours...” Unlike Mrs. Suarez and Mr. Nehme, Mr. Robert Shetland rides the train all the way around.” The Buena Park High School Band director, Mr. Shetland further showed his excitement by adding, “I love that thing!” Some might ask, doesn't everyone head for the rides and FastPasses right away?

Nope. Mrs. Tammy Rod-Kam has fun with her family in a different way. This Buena Park High School English teacher says, “We head for the rides!” With the new rides that have appeared at Disneyland, the ones that have stood there since the beginning remain popular with most people. Mrs. Rod-Kam revealed, “We start with...Alice in Wonderland, It's a Small World...the classics!”

Throughout their days at the park, people must have a favorite ride or show. Mr. Shetland loves Pirates of the Caribbean. “I love the smells,” he reveals, “and the sounds, and the water!”

Buena Park High School's Choir teacher, Jill DeWeese, concurs. “I always enjoy Pirates of the Caribbean,” Mrs. DeWeese said, “and the Haunted Mansion.” Some people enjoy the adrenaline rush they get from fast rides more than others.



Part of the magic includes watching Mrs. DeWeese's son play in the famous band.

ers. Mr. Nehme said, “I love Space Mountain...” Mrs. Rod-Kam agrees with getting that adrenaline rush. She admits, “I LOVE Matterhorn...I'm an adrenaline junkie, I love the speed and anything with a loop!”

The shops and restaurants never cease to catch the attention of the park visitors. Mr. Shetland's finds his favorite restaurant near the entrance of Pirates of the Caribbean. Aptly named The Blue Bayou, this place has a certain fame for its bread bowls. Mrs. Suarez agrees that the bread bowls at Disneyland taste amazing. Mrs. Rod-Kam has more of a sweet tooth; she names as her favorite treat the beignets. Her her family also enjoys the churros and chimichangas.

Ryan DeWeese, a Disneyland band member, shared some of his experience as an employee and how the atmosphere felt long before Covid-19 invaded the Southern California area. First, Ryan provided a little background about his line of work. He said, “I first worked at Disneyland during the summer of 2013 as a member of the All-American College Band. I was hired on for the professional group, the Disneyland Band, in the spring of 2018, and have been a member ever since.” Although Ryan works there, he finds that “the magic has definitely not worn off” and that he can connect to the park and its audiences while performing if “able to take some time away from the parks between shifts.” Even though Ryan needs his breaks from all the magic, he still knows the right time to arrive at Disneyland. Ryan revealed, “If you're trying to decide when to visit Disneyland, you should figure out what kind of experience you want to have.”

Ryan got into the details by adding, “If you want to visit when there are the fewest number of guests at the park, then I recommend visiting either in late January/February (between the holiday season and spring

break) or late September/early October (after the summer season and before the Halloween theme).” In the end, it all depends on what you enjoy. Ryan also advised, “If you don't care about crowds, then I recommend visiting the park during either Halloween time or over the holidays. The atmosphere the park has during that time of the year is incredibly magical.”

Mrs. DeWeese admitted when she arrives at the park, if the Disneyland band is about to perform, she'll watch her son perform. If not, she goes towards one of the rides.

The most memorable trips to Disneyland can differ between many people. Mr. Shetland shared his. He said, “I used to take the schools I worked with in the past (and also the BPHS Band/Orchestra a few years ago) to these recording sessions backstage. That was really fun. I also used to take my two boys there on the weekends as passholders...Good times.”

#### Halloween Party

Mr. Nehme said, “A few years ago, I won tickets for Mickey's Halloween Party from a radio station. We went on my birthday, which was during late September. It was memorable because this was our first time going to the Halloween Party. My kids loved it, and the lines were so short for the rides. We got into the park at about 3:00 p.m., and the guests who did not have access to the Halloween Party were asked to leave around 6:00 p.m. So, it was nice to see the park not super busy.” Many people would agree that having the ability to get through most of the park with short wait times seems like so much fun.

Mrs. Suarez's favorite reminiscence comes forth as a silly memory. She said, “As a small child, (I must have been 5 or 6) I waited forever to ride the Dumbo airplane ride. They stick any old kid in any seat. As the bigger, more capable kid, I nearly lost my mind when

# Coyote Tomorrows

## Disneyland Denial Syndrome (cont.)

By: Emily Jimenez  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

the crying toddler in front of me did nothing to make the plane move up or down. The whole ride was a dud, and I came back to my family steaming mad that the babies were even allowed on a ‘real plane ride’.”

Mrs. Rod-Kam has her share of silly stories as well. She shared, “One time, we were riding Big Thunder Mountain with my mom. We hit a drop, and she screamed. As she screamed, her hat flew off of her head and her molar fell out of her gums. She swallowed it. That was a tough ride for her...poor Mom!” People might rightly assume that the woman will no longer ride Big Thunder Mountain again.

Sharing an experience similar to that of Mr. Shetland, Mrs. DeWeese said, “As a high school teacher, I have brought numerous performing groups (attached to four schools) to perform at Disneyland over the years. Following one performance of my jazz choir from Fullerton Academy of the Arts at the old Carnation Plaza Stage (later renamed Garden Plaza Stage), I was back-

stage preparing to change and my black pants ripped. Luckily, that happened after the performance.” Assuming many people would freak out, Mrs. DeWeese got lucky with the timing of this occurrence.

Even Ryan has had his share of memories in the park as a visitor. He said, “Some of my favorite memories visiting Disneyland have come from when I would visit with my middle or high school bands growing up. Every year, for six years, my school marching band would take a day from school to visit and perform at Disneyland. Those memories, made from exploring the park with friends, will be with me forever.”

Most people can agree that these memories they have will never fade away, even through these tough times. Some might wonder what others feel about Disneyland remaining closed during this pandemic. Mr. Nehme admitted, “I feel the closure is very justified for safety concerns of the community. I understand, though, that its closure has affected many people, especially the employees.”

Mrs. Rod-Kam said, “We miss it so much. I grew up with Disney, as have my daughters, and it has

always been a part of their lives. We have made so many memories there, and there are so many family traditions wrapped around Disneyland. For us, going there was a nice little break from reality. We are bummed that they did away with the passholder program and we hope that there will be a way that we can still get there from time to time when they reopen.” Even though Disneyland has closed down for this indeterminate time,

Downtown Disney remains open. California Adventure has stayed open as well, but only for shopping and eating. One can still get that magic feeling, even if for only a fraction of how it used to feel. People still have to practice social distancing as well as continue the wearing of a mask, unless sitting at a restaurant to eat. Disneyland still has its magic in Coyote's memories and hearts.



Disneyland allows everyone to be a kid, and these two hope to return one day.

# Students' Year 2021 Predictions

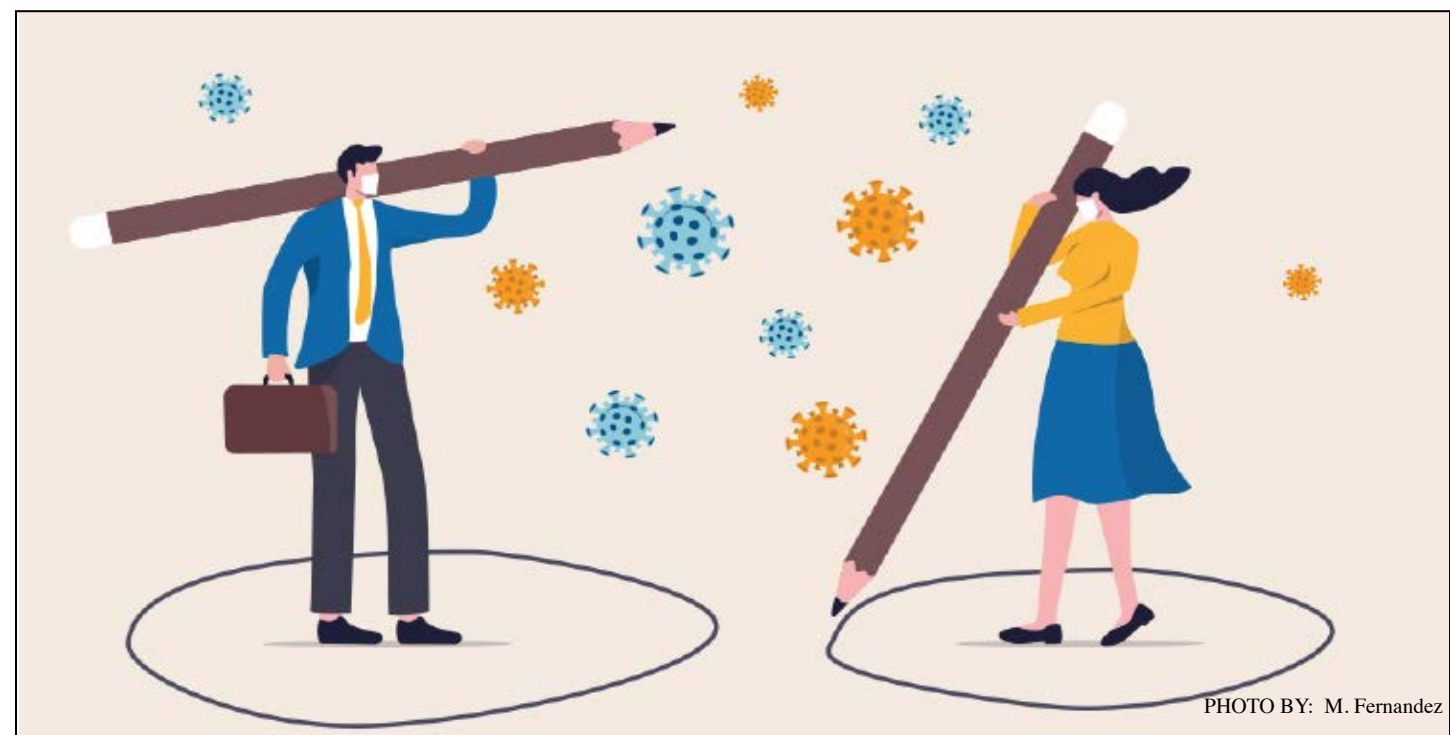
By: Kevin Rosales  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

Many can argue that 2020 should get relegated to status of “Forgettable Year” with all the things that occurred, although some of the memories will unfortunately last a long, long time. With the entrance of the new year, students and staff of Buena Park High School happily offered their own predictions of what might happen in 2021. Hey, at least we all can raise our hopes by looking forward.

When this new year started, various people began to seek out something they could look forward to in 2021.

Pedro Bahena, a 14-year-old freshman at Buena Park High School, looks forward to two seemingly opposite-pulling special events. His answer? “Spending more time with my family...and also getting my drivers permit.” Maybe he will have the best of both worlds: The security of family and the freedom of the open road.

Mr. Alvin Graham, the Athletic Director at Buena Park



Better to think freely of the possibilities the future holds than to trap one's self in predictable circles of life.

High states, “I am looking forward to getting back to normal with kids on campus.”

Ms. Marlisa Nordstrom, a new instructor at Buena Park High School, gives her take on what to look forward to in 2021. The agriculture teacher said, “I'm looking forward to a return of some normalcy. I really want to watch a live baseball game, enjoy a hotdog, and spend time with some friends.”

Christian Argedano, a 14-year-old freshman Coyote, looks forward to playing football. In his own words he stated, “I look forward to getting in football pads.”

With the start of the new year, events that might become memorable when time passes on will certainly develop. Of course, the advent of 2021 does not guarantee that people just might want to forget these late winter months, too. During 2021, some significant

events could come to pass: In July of 2021, the delayed Tokyo Olympics could finally get underway. During this very month of February could see NASA's Preservation Rover land on Mars. In December 2021, ten months from now, a total solar eclipse should occur. How many more events, ones presently unknown, will visit the human race during 2021?

Mr. Brian Johnson, an English Teacher who joined the Buena



# Coyote Hit & Miss

## Students’ Year 2021 Predictions

By: Kevin Rosales  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

Park High School staff this school year, says, “I’d like to have all my friends over for BBQ,” as one event to look forward to in 2021.

Myah Interian, a 15-year-old Coyote freshman, joined the conversation by stating, “An event I want to happen is for the coronavi-

rus (Covid-19) to no longer exist.”

Mr. Graham told of an event he would like to happen in 2021. He stated, “I would like to see all our Buena Park High School athletes on the field, court, and/or in the pool.”

When it comes to reviewing a year that has closed into history, many people will have opinions that it went through their lives well, while others

will hold the opposite response.

Ms. Nordstrom has a positive approach when it comes to predicting whether 2021 will turn out well or get onto the ‘lousy year’ list. With excitement, Ms. Nordstrom said, “2021 is going to be a great year! We get another trip around the sun and we should make the most of it!”

Myah Interian added more

to the topic by explaining that, “2021 will be both good and bad because, with everything going on in the world, I think it will be bad--but there are always good moments, as well.”

Mr. Johnson stated philosophically, or psychologically, “I think 2021 will be however we decide to see it,” the English teacher then added, “So, I’m going to choose to see it as good and try to have the best attitude possible.”

What expectations does Ms. Nordstrom have as Buena Park High School entered the new year? She said, “I hope to give our seniors the recognition they deserve and provide them with a graduation to be proud of.”

Mr. Johnson voiced a popular sentiment, saying, “I Hope 2021 will be better than 2020.”

Pedro Bahena gave quite a non-committal response as to whether 2021 will turn out well or finish as another challenging succession of troubled months. He said to the question, “No comment; we’re just going to have to wait and see.”

One really can’t go wrong with that position.



PHOTO BY: M. Fernandez

*Sometimes we remember the past, but 2021 represents a chance to look to a future of life and opportunity.*

## Losing High Contact Sports (cont.)

By: Nathaniel Penaloza & Jessica Pineda  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

practicing water polo, but I’ve also got a job now to make up for the time lost.”

Sajad Ali briefly commented, “I don’t think my season is done just yet I still have hope.”

Shelly Trujillo, a senior 18, at Buena Park High School stated

“Our coach has been thinking about going back to online workouts instead of practice, sadly.”

Shelly shared how she felt even with the loss of her season, “I feel pretty sad about losing my last season but it was fun practicing with each other while we could so ’m not too disappointed.”

Shelly also expressed, “I am happy with how it came out, it

was fun being good while it lasted.”

Many seniors who play sports have experienced the unfortunate situation Covid has brought. Their final year of high school is coming to an end along with their sports.



PHOTO BY:

*Venues such as this empty field symbolize the absence of many high-contact sports in Coyote Country.*

# Coyote Preview

## A Sneak Peek for Next Month

By: Emily Jimenez  
Paw Prints Staff Writer

Some time ago, a little girl was playing outside with her dolls. They enjoyed a nice tea party before dark clouds started to loom over the land. The little girl started to pick up her toys as her father began to clean up the tea party. After an hour passed, the rain started to pour down. It came down hard and fast as the little girl made it inside the house, her father close behind. They lived in a cozy farmhouse surrounded by long fields of grass. Trees lined up a distance away from the house. A little dirt road kept the girl and her father

in contact with a town not far from where they live, but far enough to where they can’t see any other buildings in sight.

“Father, when will the rain stop?” Brooke questioned her father.

The little girl’s father replied, “Soon my little one. There will be mud everywhere though, so be careful if you go outside again. Brooke, wear a coat so you don’t catch a cold.”

Several hours later, the rain did stop. The sun shined brightly through the once-heavy sky. Seeing this, the little girl quickly grabbed her boots, coat, and gloves and then ran outside. The rubber boots showed faded flowers on the toes of each boot. Brooke’s

coat matched her gloves, a soft, velvet pink peeking through the dirt stains that marked the sleeves. Brooke loved playing in nature’s backyard, whether it was cloudy or sunny, hot or cold; she always found time for fun outdoors.

“Father,” Brooke suddenly squealed. “Look! A rainbow!”

Brooke’s dad shielded his eyes as he looked towards the horizon. “Wow,” he remarked. “You know, the last time I saw a rainbow, I found a pot of gold at the end of it.”

“WHAT!” yelled Brooke, full of anticipation. “Well let’s go!” she announced. “What are we waiting for?”

“Well, don’t you first want to know my journey

to the end of the rainbow?” “Sure, father,” replied Brooke. “Then can we go look for it?”

“Yes Brooke, then we can go look for it.”

“Well? Get on with it,” said Brooke, nearly jumping out of her skin, “so we can go look!”

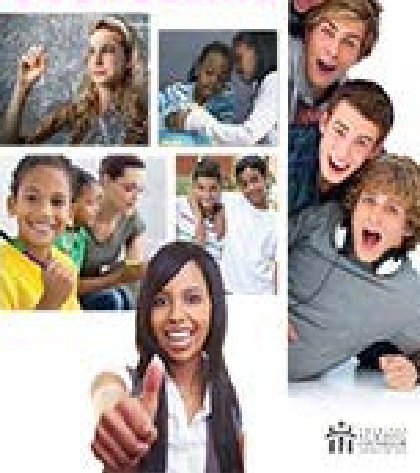
“Ok, ok,” said the father, smiling with amusement.

“It was a cool day,” he started. “It had just stopped raining as the sun began to peek through the gray clouds. Those were now dry of the tears they had just shed over us. Whe-”

(CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!)

National School Counseling Week

CELEBRATE  
SCHOOL  
COUNSELING



Mrs. Gallego,  
Mrs. Arciba,  
Mrs. Herreros  
Mrs. Mansour,  
a ‘hearty’  
February  
salute to you!











