

The Town Crier

Paul Revere Charter Middle School
and Magnet Center

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Less than 24 hours after Kobe Bryant's death, Patriots arrived at school wearing his jerseys and shirts, including, from left, Danielle Efron, Eli Hamid, Mark Lewis and Christopher Morris. Photo: Josh Sheridan

COVER STORY

Missing Mamba

Kobe Bryant's sudden death stirs sorrow and lots of memories.

By HUNTER HUGHES

This morning, 20,000 fans will crowd into the Staples Center in Los Angeles to attend a memorial for a sports legend.

News reports say that well over 100,000 fans tried to get tickets to this event, scheduled on the 24th to honor #24.

The death of Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna and seven others in a helicopter crash on Sunday, Jan. 26 caught many Patriots off guard. Seventh grader Zoya Kassam said, "I was playing basketball and at the end of the game, my friend told me Kobe died." She did not believe it at all, saying, "He never should have died, in any world." Although a Clippers fan who hates the Lakers, she still acknowledges the death of a basketball great.

(continued on page 2)



Ariah Weatherspoon recites the Stand for the Silent pledge. Page 4



FFA farm club members take the test that will lead to gold. Page 5



Arik Kraft takes a sky-ride on his winter cruise to Mexico. Pages 8-9



Soulja Niles speeds down the court in a varsity game. Page 27

Mourning the Loss of a Legend

(continued from page 1)

Seventh grader Mikal Sims used to watch Kobe's games at a young age, and even got to watch one at the Staples Center in person. He said, "It amazes me because he was capable of doing all these shift and unique moves on the court and was also a great and respectful husband, coach and father off the court." Mikal felt that when Kobe, his idol died, a part of him died too. His dad gave him great advice, reminding him he could be just as good if he put in the work and effort. He has been working ever since and has seen improvement in his skill when he goes to basketball practice. To end his tribute he said, "I hope my basketball skills are as great as the Black Mamba's. He is truly the G.O.A.T."

Another seventh grader, Max Bedolla, heard about the news after his soccer game, hoping it was fake. When he saw it on his phone he remembered how Kobe high-fived him at the tunnel after a game in the Staples Center when he was 3. He had the ability to do this because his dad had a season pass to see Lakers games. He especially felt sad when he found out Kobe's 13-year-old daughter also died, because she will never experience so many things

that she could have in the future.

Paul Kamenker, a seventh grader at Revere, held Kobe close to heart. When he was seven, he dressed up as Kobe Bryant for Halloween. He was always a big fan of Kobe and the Lakers.

Seventh grader Brett Federman was at his dad's house in Calabasas when Kobe's

helicopter crashed. He was playing basketball with his sister and suddenly, he said they heard "a roaring sound that came from the sky." At first he thought it was a military or Air Force plane, since it was a very foggy day and he couldn't see. He then heard a loud boom that got him worried, but his dad reassured him that it was probably construction work nearby. After they went inside, Bret got a text from his friend saying that Kobe Bryant had died in a helicopter crash near Calabasas. Bret thought that this wasn't a true. "I thought this was a prank, there is no way the famous Kobe Bryant has just died." But after looking at the news on his phone and asking people, he learned the sad truth. He then realized that the crash happened behind his backyard and thought, "I just don't want to believe this tragedy."

Eighth grader Andre Jones was at a U.S women's soccer vs. Ireland about a year ago. Andre met Kobe at the game and got to talk to him with his daughter for a moment before they went to their seats. After talking to him, Andre said "He was very nice, but then he had to go. We only shared a few words, but that was enough to be

Should the NBA put Kobe Bryant into its logo?

Yes 73% No 6% Don't Know 21%

Poll of 100 students on Feb 18, 2020 by Hunter Hughes.



A comparison of the current NBA logo with Jerry West and a possible alternative with Kobe Bryant. New Logo: Mark Lewis

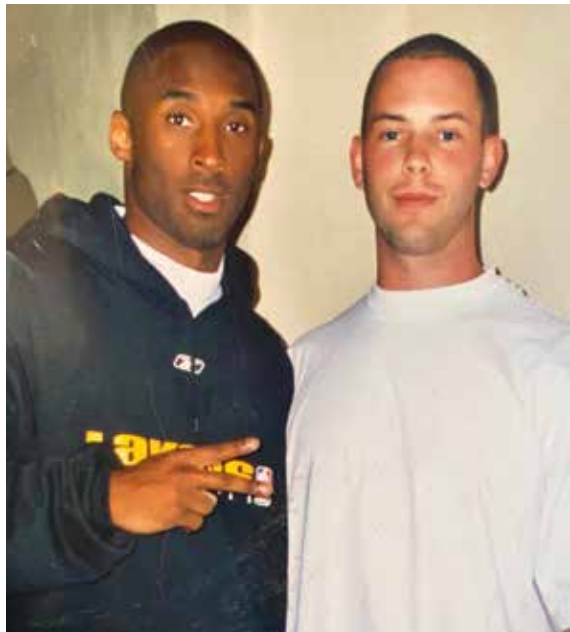
Parsa Imankhan

Mason Oku

Mikal Sims

Jack Kleinman

Photos:
Zoya
Kassam



Mr. Amos poses with Kobe in 2004. Young Paul Kamenker dresses as #24 for Halloween.

inspired and understand how great of a person he was.”

Alex Halpin, a seventh grader, was at a bowling alley when all the screens changed to a news message saying that Kobe Bryant and his 13-year old daughter died in a helicopter crash. He said, “I couldn’t believe such an amazing person died.” He said he’s hoping that Kobe’s legacy continues.

Mason Oku, another seventh grader, has regularly been to Kobe’s training center, Mamba Academy, for his sister’s basketball events. This is where they teach kids not just basketball but the “Mamba Mentality,” hence his shirt. According to Mason, “the Mamba Mentality means to always work hard on the court with a killer instinct and a positive attitude off it.”

In his twenties, Mr. Amos went to lots of Lakers games. After the Detroit Pistons won the 2004 championship, and Shaquille O’Neal left the team, he and his friend went to a Lakers practice at USD (University of San Diego). He caught Kobe on his way in, but was told to wait until after practice. Mr. Amos described this as “Kobe making me work for it (the picture).” After the practice, he finally got it.

As of Feb. 3, there has been a petition signed online by about 3.1 million people to make Kobe’s profile the official NBA logo. Most Patriots support this (*see poll on page 2*), but Mr. Amos thinks that Jerry West should stay on it because with his stats he deserved this. He said this is because Jerry West scouted and traded for Kobe, and had a father-son relationship with him for his whole playing time. His idea is that they should both be in the logo as Mr. Amos says, “Perhaps it would be a better idea to

have the logo be half Kobe and half Jerry West since they are already closely tied.”

Since Kobe is an international sensation, billions around the world have mourned his death. Soccer star Neymar Jr. held up Kobe’s jersey number 24 after he scored a penalty goal to honor his career. (*See page 15 and the back cover for more about Kobe’s life in words and pictures.*)

Kobe was born and raised in Philadelphia, so he naturally was a big fan of the Philadelphia Eagles football team. In a statement the teams said, “The Eagles are shocked and saddened to learn of the tragic passing of Kobe Bryant and his daughter, Gianna.” “He was a champion for the ages, a fearless competitor, and an outstanding ambassador for our city. Our hearts go out to all of today’s victims and their families.”

LeBron James, another Lakers superstar, saw Kobe as a great friend and mentor to him. Before the first game after Kobe’s death in Los Angeles, LeBron preformed a speech in memory of him. Before he gave this speech, he announced online, “I’m not ready but here I go. Man I’m sitting here trying to write something for this post but every time I try I begin to cry again just thinking about you, my niece Gigi (Giannna) and the friendship/bond/brotherhood we had! I literally just heard your voice Sunday morning before I left Philadelphia to head back to LA. Didn’t think for one bit in a million years that would be the last conversation we’d have.”

As said earlier, there are plenty of fans of Kobe Bryant at Revere. On Jan. 28, Ms. Evans led Revere students in a 24 seconds of silence in homeroom to honor Kobe, his 13-year-old daughter Gianna and the seven others that passed away. She came to

school the day after his death wearing his Lakers jersey.

Different classes on Revere are doing assignments on different articles and even poems about Kobe Bryant. Ms. Roman’s class analyzed Kobe’s retirement poem about his love for basketball. They identified figures of speech, poem structure, mood shifts and interpreting what he says in the poem. Mr. Slavin’s eighth grade English class read a news story about the nine deaths in Calabasas. An all across the Revere campus, many students and teachers have also been wearing Kobe Bryant jerseys.

Kobe Bryant had an outstanding 20-year career, all of them being with the Los Angeles Lakers. He was drafted third in the 1996 draft by the Charlotte Hornets but was soon traded to the Los Angeles Lakers. From his 81 point game on Jan. 22, 2006 to his 5 NBA championships he always stunned Laker fans on the court, inspiring them to exclaim “Kobe!” after shooting each three-point shot. Off the court, however, he was many other things. He was a loving father to his four daughters, and always took his 13 year old daughter, Gianna, to her basketball games.

He was also an Oscar winner, receiving the award in 2018 for his “Dear Basketball” short film based on the retirement poem he wrote.

On the foggy Sunday morning of Jan. 26, 2020, the world lost an amazing basketball player, a Laker legend, father and husband.



Ms. Evans

Photo:
Zoya
Kassam

Band Teacher Shares His Musical Magic

By KATHERINE FLEER

Dr. David Tautkus, Revere's longtime band teacher, spoke to sixth graders about his journey as a music teacher and being a lifelong learner.

He reported how at the age of 13, he would accompany his dad the sing in the Barbershop Chorus over the summer.

"It was something to do other than watch T.V and do yard work," he said. He later went to USC for his bachelors degree and then became a student teacher for a year.

At the age of 20, he officially joined the Barbershop Chorus and has been a member ever since. He has been an extra in multiple movies as well as performing up to 37 shows a year with his chorus.

Dr. Tautkus gave students advice on how to get into top colleges, like what grades to get and what extracurriculars student should do to impress colleges. He said he loves being a teacher because it gives him a chance to benefit his students' lives, "My teaching is about you, not me," he explained.



Dr. Tautkus talks about his long journey into teaching.
Photo: Ryan Yashar



Special assemblies give students a good chance to reflect on how they treat others.

By ARIK KRAFT

"I am somebody" was the message repeatedly said from the Stand for the Silent assembly. Those three words can easily make a huge difference to anyone.

Founded in 2010, Stand For the Silent, or SFTS, has traveled to schools worldwide and reached 1.5 million students. They soon became one of the most effective anti-bullying organizations. Stand for the Silent was created after Ty-Field Smalley committed suicide after getting suspended for retaliating against a bully. Created by high schoolers, it allows Ty's parents to share their story and help students and administrators to prevent bullying. On January 29, Stand For the Silent came to speak at Paul Revere with an emotional presentation on the danger and harm bullying causes. Their mission is to, "bring awareness to bullying and the real devastation it causes."

The assembly on January 29 was very emotional to almost everyone who went, including

the speaker. The presentation was a tear driven roller coaster that took almost everyone by surprise. The assembly was presented by Kirk Smalley, the father of Ty. He also talked about other children who committed suicide. He wants everyone to stand up to bullying by showing compassion to the victims of bullies. He has spoken all around the world to let everyone know they are somebody.

Kirk stressed how much change one person can make by doing simple things, like smiling or standing up for someone. At the end of the presentation, students pledged to stand up for the silent and it was announced that a SFTS club would be coming. In the auditorium at lunch, there was a SFTS club meeting where they organized what responsibilities the members would have.

Then a few days after the presentation, every student received a wristband and a pledge card which they were told to sign and put somewhere that they will see everyday.

Sixth grade Patriots speak to their fellow students about the tragic effects of bullying. Photo: Max May

Students worked on a "bully worksheet" in homeroom. For example, students filled out questions such as, "What are you going to do about preventing bullying and harassment in our school?"

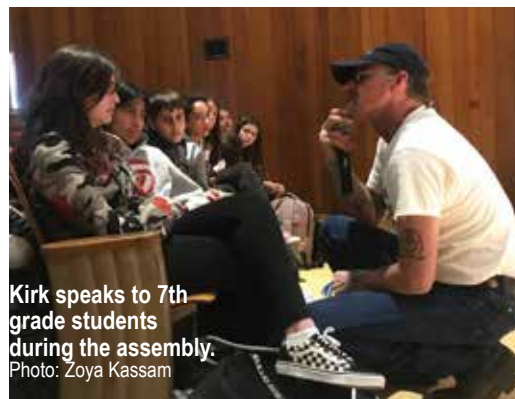
One student said, "I will stand up if I see someone being bullied." Another student wrote, "I want to remind kids of the presentation. I am deciding to make sure any younger kids know not to bully."

Another question students had to answer was, "Bullying happens mostly..." and to completed the sentence. One student thought, that bullying happened in the hallways, during P.E., during lunch and online. Another student believed it happens in the classroom and on the bus as well.

Ibraheim Ouedrago, a seventh grader, said, "During the assembly Kirk talked about how his son committed suicide. I was in such shock how his son was getting bullied for two years and when retaliated he got suspended. It made me feel very sad, knowing that many kids commits suicide."

Finally, sixth grader Edgar Amer said, "It was sad and emotional. It was depressing when his son died and I cried when they were making fun of him because his son died. It makes me want to stand for the silent."

These two shared a common idea: after, they wanted to help those that have been bullied and to stand for the silent. Everybody deserves a chance.



Kirk speaks to 7th grade students during the assembly.
Photo: Zoya Kassam

Australian Fires Felt from Afar

Even as far from Australia as Revere, the recent fires' destruction has hit very close to home.

By MAX SCHWARTZ

The fires in Australia have done a lot of damage and hurt a lot of people. "We've never seen the length, the scale, and intensity of fires that have been occurring," says the Wall Street Journal. "Since September, fires burned millions of acres across the country." In the past months fires in Australia have caused 23 deaths and the loss of over 2000 homes". As the fires have raged, more and more people have spread information about it, catapulting the fires into a highly publicized event.

As information has spread, many Patriots have been made aware of the fires. A handful have even been affected by it. One student, Hailey Sugarman, was in Australia over winter break, while the fires were raging. She was not able to see the fires while she was there, but she recalls roads being closed in her area. She was fortunately safe from the fires, but others were sadly not so lucky.

Some Patriots have family in Australia. One such Patriot is Jules Walsh. Her grandma lives in Australia and Jules was in Australia herself over winter break while the fires were raging. She reported seeing haze that gave the appearance of the sun being red, as well as terrible air quality. Because



Hailey Sugarman was in Australia before the fires.

of the air quality, she wasn't even able to go outside for parts of her trip.

Another Patriot who has family in Australia is Jasper Hoegh-Guldberg. His family is safe, but some of his family members are as close to the fires as Sydney. His family was affected by the fire in another more drastic way. Sadly his mother's friend lost an uncle to the fires. Despite the sadness, Jasper encourages people to donate, "Even a couple bucks could go a long way."

Fortunately, many people have had the

same idea as Jasper. The fires have affected many people. But there is light. Many, including students at Revere have done their part to donate, and spread awareness about the fire. Business Insider says that more than one hundred million dollars have been raised in an effort to help the fire departments. Both Jasper and Jules' families have donated.

Climate change is considered to be one of the major causes of fires such as these. According to NASA, rising temperatures and lack of moisture in the air due to climate change are some of the major causes of wildfires in Australia. The cause of combating climate change is something that many students are extremely passionate about. Some even going as far as attending and even organizing protests. One such student, Eva Engel, does just that. She along with her parents create protests and rallies to inform others about the current state of the climate. She also does smaller things to help the climate, like using less plastic and changing her diet.

Though the fires have caused a lot of damage, they are slowly dying down, thanks to the efforts of over a million people. Donations continue to flow in, and many people have been publicly showing support. Throughout the next few months the fire is expected to be fully contained, and more help is expected.

FFA Harvests Gold

Ms. Robertson's students win big with their farming knowledge.

By YONAH COHEN
and MAX SCHWARTZ

On a recent Thursday afternoon in January, most students were finishing up homework or studying for an upcoming test, but seven seventh and eighth graders in Ms. Robertson's class made the trek into the valley and participated in the Middle School Division of the Los Angeles City FFA (Future Farmers of America) Public Speaking Competition at Canoga Park High School. Ian Macey, Aaron Gomperts, Banyan Kline, Kylie Jones, Emerson Drake, Lily Dair and Clementine Causse entered a competition where students had to read and memorized five-paragraph piece and answer questions about it.

The event on Jan. 30 started off with opening ceremonies. Then the students recited the FFA pledge, after that all the students

got down to business. Students were brought into rooms one at a time by FFA officers to recite their piece about agriculture in the U.S. in front of two judges and the National Creed Contest Supervisor, who was a national advisor. They then had to answer questions that they didn't know beforehand to show each one of their understandings of the creed.

Lily Dair, Banyan Kline and Kylie Jones all said that memorizing the questions was the hardest part. First place winner Clementine Causse said that "being in front of judges and having them score you" was the hardest part. For Aaron Gomperts, speaking confidently and loudly was the hardest part.

One reason Lily Dair went to this competition was to improve her public speaking. Clementine and Banyan went to represent Paul Revere. Aaron and Ian went for the experience and to have a good time. Emerson Drake went to make up for not going in past



Leela Rao participates in the Future Farmers of America competition. Photo: Ms. Robertson

years. Kylie also said she went to improve public speaking and to go to the state conference.

After students wrapped up, closing ceremonies happened. Then, it was announced that Revere had won the competition. Led by Clementine Causse. Revere beat over 70 other students from other middle schools.

Celebrating Black History

The Black Student Union leads the way in bringing people together to observe a historic month.

By AMANDA WEXLER

Black History Month started in 1926 by a man named Carter G. Woodson. Some of the most influential people in black history month that are celebrated every year are Martin Luther King Jr, Rosa Parks, Jackie Robinson, Barack Obama and Harriet Tubman.

According to History.com, the theme for this year's Black History month is "African Americans and the Vote." This year is the 100th anniversary of the fifteenth amendment giving black men the right to vote, and the nineteenth amendment which granted women's suffrage. These two amendments revolutionized the USA by allowing around 13% of the population to vote, which greatly influenced who the president,

vice president, and many more would be.

Revere's own BSU club is celebrating this important month by hosting many fund raisers or sales of various different items. They kicked it off with having a popcorn sale from Jan. 27–Jan. 29 along with selling BSU hoodies and T-shirts. Almost every day of February, the BSU club continues hosting new activities to celebrate.

Feb. 3 was the start of Revere's African American poster contest. On Friday, the 7th, there was a morning announcement given by Revere Patriot Andjela Malisich about famous musician Tupac Shakur. He was a rapper that was born on Jun. 16, 1971 and was shot on Sept. 13, 1996. Throughout his life, he was an inspirational man because of his rough childhood. Other BSU events include Jeopardy, which was held in the auditorium. On the 12th, a frat from a college spoke with the BSU students about college frats. During that meeting,

the students saw the boys "hop and march."

The day after, there was a dance off with cool prizes like In-n-Out gifts cards and maybe even candy.

To end off this jam-packed week, Patriots learned about another historical black figure from seventh grader Eden Tesfaye in a morning announcement. She spoke about Mae Carol Jemison who is a former NASA astronaut who was born on Oct. 17, 1956. She was the first black woman to travel in space.

The BSU also scheduled a TV showing of either "Proud Family" or "Blackish" during lunch on Feb. 19.

Throughout the month, Revere's faculty members have been joining the BSU in marking Black History Month. The library currently has a display of books by and about great African American history makers. And in E-5, seventh graders wrote tribute poems about notable figures who have made a difference in the lives of others.

Meanwhile the yearbook students put together a display case outside E-3 called "Making History" featuring famous faces.

Ibraheim Ouedrago wears a T-shirt featuring his favorite rapper, the late Tupac Shakur. Photo: Jake



BARACK OBAMA

He came onto this Earth
Judged by color not worth.

For his rise to the top
He made folks awe and stop.
The first black president,
He led the government.
Affordable health care
Helped boost people's welfare.
"We The People" he led
Are now looking ahead.

—Ben McCollough



CHRIS GARDNER

The neighborhood he cares,
His love he always shares.
Helping those on the streets,
Covering their cold feet.
He achieved his big dream,
With the help of his team.
He proved the haters wrong,
Now his business is strong.
He is beyond compare,
And now a billionaire.

—Jean Haney



USAIN BOLT

The fastest man alive,
On running he survives.
For him sprinting's a game,
For power's in his name.
Jamaica he inspires,
An icon to admire.
His passion to compete
Will never meet defeat.
For days on end he'll train
So the best he'll remain.

—Taj Entis



OPRAH WINFREY

She started with a dream
And a goal so supreme.
At first she was troubled,
Then she became humbled.
As a young child her pain
Paid off through her great fame.
With all her donations
She shows dedication.
Her fans do admire
The way she inspires.

—Logan Mirzadeh



Corey Hudson reads about black basketballers. Photo: Julie Kasson



BSU members watch college students "hop and march" in front of the K building.
Photo: Amanda Wexler



During lunch the BSU sells popcorn by Town Hall. Photo: Ms. Evans



Taj Entis (left) and Mark Lewis set up a black history display. Photo: Duc Le



MICHELLE OBAMA

Barack is her true spouse
And lived in the White House
She is helping the poor,
Wishing she could do more.
The lady that does right,
Doing it full of might.
Head of her class and smart,
She has the biggest heart
She gives lots of advice,
Through it all she is nice.

—Arik Kraft



KATHERINE JOHNSON

Gender did interfere,
But she did persevere.
Facing segregation,
She has changed the nation.
With hard work in the years,
She was an engineer.
She helped NASA's success
And she became the best.
She is so admired
That she now inspires.

—Giada Musumeci



MISTY COPELAND

Although so few could see,
She was a prodigy.
Her talent is so pure,
Through all she did endure.
Her strength shown in her life
Helped her through all her strife.
From studio to stage,
Her dancing did amaze.
She wants to educate
The next who will create

—Leah Rose Nelson



LEBRON JAMES

The King's game inspires
While hoop fans admire.
Once he switched from Heat,
He's been quite hard to beat.
Now signed with the Lakers,
He's a record breaker.
When he plays and presses,
His rivals he stresses.
He founded "I Promise."
He's just about flawless.

—Zoya Kassam

WINTER WANDERINGS

Patriots traveled to places all around the globe throughout their three-week winter break.

By KRISH GUPTA-GARCIA

During the three weeks of winter break, some Patriots occupied their time by traveling locally or internationally. Whether it be traveling to Mammoth for some skiing or visiting Tahiti for some fun in the sun, Patriots visited places all around the world during their three weeks off.



Ms. Ernst, a teacher at Revere, visited June Mountain with her daughter.



Seventh grade Patriot Max Miller hiked in Joshua Tree National Park.



Over winter break, eighth grader Ryan Yashar went to Yosemite National Park. He went on a tour through the park and hiked.



Seventh grader Katie Roberts went to Saint George, Utah. While she was there, she hiked and drove UTVs in a mountain range.



Chaz Plager (right) snowmobiles with his brother in Park City, Utah. They also went skiing and saw hedgehogs and moose.



Patriot Amanda Wexler went to Mammoth for a week of skiing.



Revere teacher Ms. Yang visited Gyeong-beck Palace in Korea.



Duc Le went skiing and snow boarding in Mammoth, California.



Patriot Kate Raymond went to Hawaii, where she zip lined.



Arik Kraft took a cruise to Mexico where he enjoyed the beaches and went snorkeling in Cabo. On the cruise ship, Arik played mini golf.



Pierce Bernstein traveled to the island of Mo'orea, Tahiti where he took to the beach surfing, scuba diving, and chilling by the water.



Ben Matinfar went to Mount Baldy, Claremont with his family. While he was there, he went tubing, snowman building, and made s'mores.



Christopher Quintero traveled to Guanajuato, Mexico where he saw his relatives and toured the ancient Cañada de la Virgen pyramids.



Hunter Hughes traveled to the AT&T Stadium in Dallas, Texas.



Nico Troedsson visited Guadeloupe and played with lemurs.



“Vafa Vosough (8th) received a superstar from because he made some excellent comments during a class discussion.”

—Mr. Anderson



“Jack Hesse (8th) is a very hard worker and during a fitness day, my coach’s assistant recommended him to earn a superstar.”

—Ms. Walker



“Izzy Kocher (7th) earned her superstar for her consistently excellent work in algebra. She also demonstrates what it means to be a model citizen at Revere and has an honest, kind heart. Congratulations, Izzy. You rock!”

—Ms. Stewart



“Andrew Corzine (7th) has been working hard in P.E. In particular, his times are consistently strong.”

—Ms. Chen

Revere Superstars

By YONAH COHEN
and DUC LE

Teachers honor select students with “Superstar” cards. Here are the stories of eight Patriots who have demonstrated outstanding character, citizenship and character.



“Sophia Winston (7th) was the champion at a spelling game in our class. Sparkle!”

—Ms. Daley



“Tyler Manley (7th) always has enthusiasm for math. She participates in discussions and group work with a positive attitude.”

—Ms. Palcan



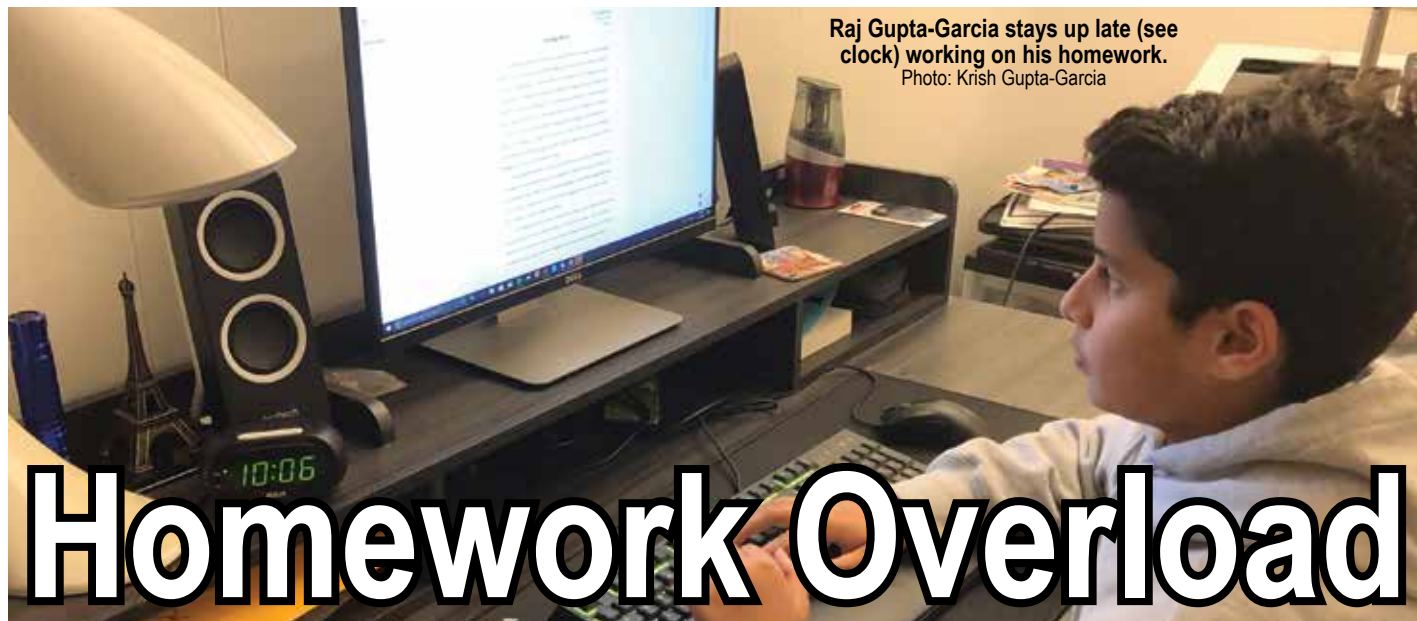
“Baran Nasiri (6th) is a strong student who works hard in math and science. She is very kind and courteous and she cares about people, animals, and our Earth. I hope everyone at Revere has a chance to meet Baran.”

—Ms. Takashima



“Hudson Ramberg (6th) gave outstanding effort in his fitness drills. He ran every drill for every class.”

—Ms. Perez



Raj Gupta-Garcia stays up late (see clock) working on his homework.

Photo: Krish Gupta-Garcia

Homework Overload

Students at Revere feel stressed out about what they call an “excessive amount of homework.”

By **SPENCER RODMAN**

Eighth grader, Raj Gupta-Garcia arrives home at 8:00 after three hours of fencing practice. He heads to his room and throws his backpack down next to his desk. Raj sits down and starts on over two hours of homework.

Raj is among many who believe that their large amount of homework interferes in their life outside of school.

When is enough enough? That is one of the many questions Revere teachers have been asking themselves about the loads of

turns it in on Friday. This style of homework gives students the opportunities to learn time-management skills and only really adds up to 20 minutes per night.

Asher says, “I am going to start baseball soon but I don’t think it will interfere with 20 minutes a night.”

Although many students disagree with homework all together, Asher states, “I think

every class should give homework, except in P.E. where the community service assignment is fine, but nothing else in P.E.”

Although Asher may not feel the stress of homework, many other students do. According to the same Stanford study, 56 percent of students that participated in the study, who are experiencing a large amount of homework load have reported being overly stressed by the work.

The study also shows health risks of too much homework. Many of the students in the study said that they have experienced headaches, exhaustion, sleep deprivation,



Duc Le looks through his day planner to find his recent assignments. Photo: Spencer Rodman

homework they assign, but students are still dissatisfied with the amount of homework.

A study published by Stanford University found that in a group of 4,317 students in 10 well performing schools have an average of 3.1 hours of homework per night. The report says that this amount of homework can degrade family and social life.

Asher Cohen, a sixth grader, says that he mostly just gets homework on Mondays, and

How much homework do you get per night?

6th Grade:

None to half an hour	16 %
Half an hour to one hour	55 %
One hour to two hours	22 %
Over two hours	7 %

7th Grade:

None to half an hour	13 %
Half an hour to one hour	29 %
One hour to two hours	42 %
Over two hours	16 %

8th Grade:

None to half an hour	16 %
Half an hour to one hour	36 %
One hour to two hours	33 %
Over two hours	15 %

Poll of 100 students from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade conducted by Yonah Cohen on Feb. 4, 2020.



Ms. Zelsdorf hands out homework assignments to her science students. Photo: Duc Le

weight loss and stomach problems.

Another downside of an excessive homework load is as the study states, “In places where students attend high-performing schools, too much homework can reduce their time to foster skills in the area of personal responsibility.” This means that students with too much homework don’t have the time for their home life or other things in their life, like sports.



Billy Goat and Cow say hi. Photo: Ms. Robertson

The Farm's Fresh Four-Legged Friends

By CAMIL AL HASHIM

Revere's two new goats are rescues surrendered to the East Valley shelter, scheduled to be put down. "I got a text that they needed a home, as their owner could no longer care for them, and no one had come to look at them," said agriculture teacher Ms. Robertson. "We suspect they were 'bottle fed' pets, as they both love people and getting a scratch on the head. That, and some sweet grain!"

She added, "We've named them Billy Goat and Cow and enjoy them every day. They are wonderful ambassadors for our program!"

She said the picture on the left "was just luck. I was putting up the sign, and goats are such NOSY creatures, so of course they tried to help. They are very, very personable and outgoing, which is so nice."

Oink! That's Daisy, Paul Revere's new six-month-old, black and white, mini potbelly pig that lives with Ms. Robertson and

comes with her to the farm each day. She has a habit of waking up at exactly 8:30 every morning. "We can hear her yelling when she wakes up," reports Riley Lenz, a seventh grader in the animal science homeroom and first period. "Daisy and the goats love to play together. The goats are gentle with her and calm down around her because they know she's just a baby."



Daisy leads the parade. Photo: Josh Henderson

Middle School Math Masters

7 Patriots prove they are good with numbers by earning high marks on a national math test.

By CAMIL AL HASHIM

Two years ago, when Olivia Zaidel was a student at the Mirman School in Los Angeles, she took a nationwide mathematics test called the AMC 8. At her private school, which is known for its math curriculum, she said she "was always one of the Math Movers, who would do more advanced math classes." Unfortunately, she felt that she didn't do so well on the test back then, but this year was different.

"I was more determined to get a better score this time," she said. The eighth grader's hard work paid off when she came in first place of all Revere participants with a score of 18.

Seventh grader Max May also earned a

Mr. Showrai helps his math student show off her certificate.

Photo:
Jake
Evans



high score. He said, "The AMC 8 took lots of preparation and studying. I studied every day for a month before the big test."

It was a 25 question test in which the questions gradually got harder, and had to be

finished in 40 minutes. This was by far the toughest test I've ever took."

"The AMC 8 test, in my opinion was very difficult. Even though it was multiple choice, the questions were unlike any ordinary math test" said Jonathan Fuhrman, another seventh grade student who took the AMC. He said that he also took the AMC when he was in sixth grade and decided to take it again. He also said every week in elementary school, he took similar tests.

AMC stands for the American Mathematics Competitions and according to its website, "The AMC 8 is a 25-question, 40-minute, multiple choice examination in middle school mathematics designed to promote the development of problem-solving skills. It includes the topics counting, probability, estimation, proportional reasoning, elementary geometry including the Pythagorean Theorem, spatial visualization, everyday applications, and reading and interpreting graphs and tables."



Olivia Zaidel
1st Place
Score: 18



Zachary Chang
2nd Place (tie)
Score: 16



Matiss Platadis
2nd Place (tie)
Score: 16



Fanuel Hailu
2nd Place (tie)
Score: 16



Jonny Fuhrman
Top 7th Grader (tie)
Score: 14



Max May
Top 7th Grader (tie)
Score: 14



Matthew Hanasab
Top 6th Grader
Score: 9

"Okay Boomer" Is Not Okay

"Okay Boomer" is a phrase used basically the same way as "You don't know anything, old man!" or "It doesn't matter what you say- you're just an old fart!" However, it's more than just a joke- it uses labels to reflect the relationship between older adults (AKA baby boomers) and teens (AKA Gen Zs) in this generation. In 2019, a now lost Twitter user suggested that teens say "Okay, Boomer" any time that older people told them that their generation sucked. The phrase caught on, and teens started using it EVERYWHERE, even being used on t-shirts and lapel buttons. The craze has kind of died down, but Patriots can still be heard saying it during lunch or nutrition.

So, what does this say about today's relationship between teens and adults? Well, to find that out we'll have to go back. Way back.

To post WW2. Because of the war, and the fact that the US won, the country's economy was booming. With the money that they were bringing home, parents thought that they could afford larger families. As such, "there was a 20% increase in birth rate from 1945 to 1966," says Wikipedia. This was the timeframe when the baby boomers were born. If you go to Revere, there's a good chance your

parents or even grandparents are baby boomers. So, why do some say that they ruined the economy? Well, because baby boomers need lots of healthcare, and American healthcare prices have soared trying to take care of all these older people. Plus, with their wealth from wartime, boomers bought many large houses for their large families, and drove up the cost of living in certain areas so high that the younger generation (AKA millennials) can't afford houses. The real estate market crash of 2008 didn't help either. NBC News says, "One in three millennials under the age of 35 own houses, which is a 10% decrease from previous generations." All of this has caused a huge rift to open between generations.

Boomers that complain about younger people typically stereotype the current generation as one of two things. One: phone-crazed zombies who turn to the accursed device instead of talking to dear old mom and pop. Or two:

"snowflakes" who melt under the slightest bit of pressure or criticism.

Younger people aren't innocent either. They typically portray boomers as crotchety old men who just "can't get with the times" and sometimes even as racists. Besides, the same people who are so concerned about climate change can't keep the quad clean.

Boomers weren't the only ones who started the fire, though. Millennials are partly responsible for this rift, and they have no intention of trying to close it. So then, what is to be done about this situation?

Well, I have an idea. We should accept one simple fact; all generations are flawed, from the boomers all the way to the current Gen Z. Every generation has done bad things. What we should focus on instead is that all generations are each responsible for great things in their respective times. Boomers were the generation that did their best to create a good upbringing for their children, and millennials (and now Gen Z's) have made great leaps in technology, science, and medicine. So, next time someone complains about "those disrespectful young people" or "those stupid boomers," remind them that each generation has its flaws, and its strengths.

—Chaz Plager

Neither boomers nor the Gen Zs are the "worst" generation. Both have problems.



Art by Aiden Petoyan

The *Town Crier* asked Patriots what they thought of the "Okay Boomer" joke. Here are just a few of their answers:

"The whole joke was funny for about 5 minutes, but then it got really annoying and stinky."

—Jesse Quezada, 8th Grade

"At first "Okay Boomer" was funny to watch, but then it got repetitive when people kept saying it just to make videos go viral."

—Lily Williamson, 7th Grade

"Personally, I say it as a joke to my friends, but it is also fairly disrespectful to say it to actual elders. I also think that all jokes or memes like this get a little annoying to hear over and over."

—Hunter Hughes, 7th Grade

"I think that it's funny when you say it to adults, but kids say it to each other, mostly, which isn't as funny."

—Jonah Nadley, 6th Grade

"I don't really know. It wasn't funny, but I like to say it to my friends sometimes just as a joke."

—Rebecca Harai, 6th Grade

"I think the meme is a funny joke. Gen Z is really good at weaponizing or playing off insults, and honestly, I think boomers are overreacting. They generalize us, as well as minorities, and constantly tell us we're wrong and stupid and downplay our issues. And the moment we retaliate by making one joke, they lose their minds like toddlers. They're threatened by us fighting back. I think they wish we wouldn't take the beating just like their kids did."

—Katt Esther, 8th Grade

"I think that the 'OK Boomer' phrase is funny. My grandma is a boomer, and if I said that to her, she would get the joke."

—Bodhi Sahakian, 8th Grade

"I think that the 'OK Boomer' meme is unfunny and mean. You have to respect your elders. Old people supply food to our grocery stores, and they also have the best recipes for food."

—Connor Petoyan, 6th Grade

"'OK Boomer' is a funny, but offensive, term. To Gen Zs, the meme is funny, but to baby boomers it's seen as offensive. So, to all the boomers reading this: 'Okay Boomer!'"

—Maya Bella, 7th Grade



TOWN CRIER POLL

Should the Houston Astros forfeit the 2017 World Series title?

Yes
80%



No
4%

Not Sure 16%

Poll of 6th, 7th and 8th graders on Feb. 19, 2020.

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TALKING HEADS

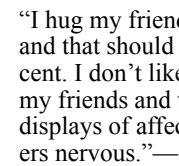
Should public displays of affection be allowed at school?

As the responses below demonstrate, students often have different ideas about which displays of affection are or are not appropriate.



"Showing affection can be a good thing but it shouldn't be done at school because it can make others uncomfortable. It might also be distracting to the other students who see it going on. School is a place of learning and probably not the best place to show your love for each other."

— Ntsuh Mulugeta, 6th Grade



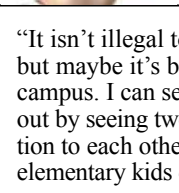
"I hug my friends, and that includes my guy friends, and that should be allowed because it is 100% innocent. I don't like them like that. I've always hugged my friends and that should not be considered public displays of affection because it makes some teachers nervous."

— Lucy Lopez, 7th Grade



"I believe that PDAs should be allowed in school because this is the age that kids are figuring out who they are, who they like and who they want to be with. I think it is totally okay as long as it doesn't disrupt class time or anything important."

— Liam Saven, 8th Grade



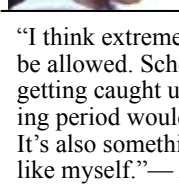
"It isn't illegal to show affection in the real world, but maybe it's best for students our age to do it off campus. I can see why adults would be weirded out by seeing two middle schoolers showing affection to each other. I'd be weirded out if I saw two elementary kids doing it."

— Kaden Cleary, 8th Grade



"I think public displays of affection shouldn't be shown because you might make people uncomfortable and it can be embarrassing. Showing affection in school can also be bad because you might get bullied and being bullied is not good."

— Han Huynh, 7th Grade



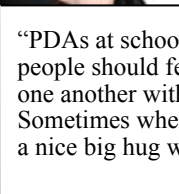
"I think extreme displays of affection should not be allowed. School is a place you go to learn so getting caught up in extreme PDAs during passing period would not be the 'correct' thing to do. It's also something that would gross out people like myself."

— Naomi Toubian, 8th Grade



"In my opinion, displays of affection like hugging or holding hands is fine, but anything more than that is just too much for school, especially for kids our age."

— Kylie Lupescu, 7th Grade



"PDAs at school should be allowed because people should feel free to show affection for one another without getting in trouble for it. Sometimes when you're having a tough day, a nice big hug will bring your spirits up."

— Saxon Wald, 8th Grade



GUEST TRIBUTE

Mamba and Me

By ELI HAMID

Last October I was asked to write a research report about a significant living person who has overcome obstacles and impacted others. My first thought was Kobe Bryant.

Ever since I can remember, he has been my hero. When I was four years old and in preschool, we had to outline our body and color ourselves. I chose to color my body in Kobe's Lakers jersey. I now have that very same painting hanging in my room, on the side of my bed.

I have worn Kobe's jersey every single Halloween that I can remember. I wouldn't want to dress up as anybody else. I wouldn't want to write about anybody else either. So I did my research report on Kobe.

As I was doing research I found all the ups and downs of his personal life and career and realized how much work he had put in to become the legend we now know him by. He always got back up and never let his fans down. He was so great that even after his basketball career, he didn't stop winning awards. He went on to write a short film about how he fell in love with the game of basketball. He later won the Oscar for best animated short film. That's something no NBA player has ever done.

As I wrote in my report, "His impact to the game is unfathomable and although there are a lot of Kobe fans across the globe, his impact on each person is different." I learned about how much he did for the poor, his fans, and especially his family. His Kobe and Vanessa Bryant Family Foundation was strictly dedicated to improving the lives of youth and families in need. And his Mamba Sports Foundation, which is now the Mamba and Mambacita Sports Foundation, helps create a positive impact through sports.

After he tore his Achilles, he had an event where he came out and talked to his fans. I begged my uncle Jonathan to take me, but I had a game before so I wouldn't be able to go. But to my surprise, my uncle picked up my brother, sister and me from my game and zoomed us all to the mall. Though I didn't get to meet him, it was the closest I had ever physically been to him and I got to take a picture with his life size puppet!

Last month, our class had to write a poem paying tribute to the subject of our research report. It was Saturday night, the twenty fifth of January, and I was almost done with my poem. Here I was writing my poem the same day LeBron James was beating Kobe's all-time points record. But the thing that amazed me the most was that Kobe sent his last tweet that night saluting LeBron. #24 was proud and happy for #23, passing on his legacy, not knowing what was about to happen.

The very next morning, I was resting on the couch watching Netflix, when my brother Ethan came rushing down the stairs yelling, "Eli! Eli! I think Kobe died." I was so confused. My initial reaction was that it was fake, that someone was playing a sick joke on the whole world. We turned on the news and it was everywhere. At this point I knew it was real. We started to get calls from my friends and family, asking if we were okay.

My brother and I started to reminisce on all the great times he gave us and what he meant to our whole family. Since I was a baby, my dad and uncles would take me to the Staples Center to see the Lakers. I admired how Kobe played the game and mimicked him when I got home. One time when I was about eight years old, my uncle Isaac took me a Lakers game I'll never forget. This was the year Kobe was retiring. So we went to admire his game one last time. That game the cameraman put us on the jumbotron in front of everyone. Twice! Our reactions were priceless. Then, I started to think about Kobe's last tweet, how he was humble and how I could carry this on. Even though we're from different

cultures and generations, we're connected. Because of him I now play basketball myself on Revere's team. He has inspired me to try my best on everything I do.

Before my brother and I went to sleep that sad Sunday evening, we hung up our jersey from Kobe's high school. My brother got it when he went to a basketball camp coached by Kobe and even had Kobe autograph it.

The next morning, dressed in one of my favorite Kobe shirts, I went back to my English teacher and showed him my poem. "First of all, you have to change everything from present tense to past tense," he said, "especially the ending."

Before, I had it as: *But now he's on to more, With his grand Oscar roar.* Now, after changing it to adjust to the tragedy, it reads: *Though he now is no more, He'll always be adored.*

The seventh grader shares his tribute.

Photo: Hunter Hughes





**Mr. Koretz
hands Jeremy
his PSAT score.**
Photo: Spencer
Rodman



**Faculty
members enjoy a
bagel and coffee
breakfast curtesy of
the 2020 Auction
Committee.**
Photo:
PRIDE

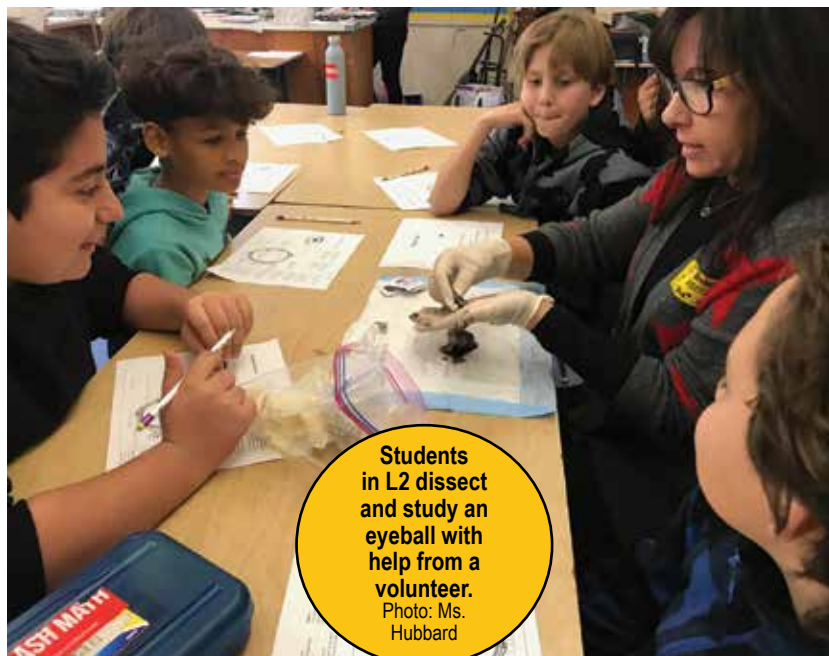
*Campus
News and Notes*
**AROUND
REVERE**
By Aidan Petoyan



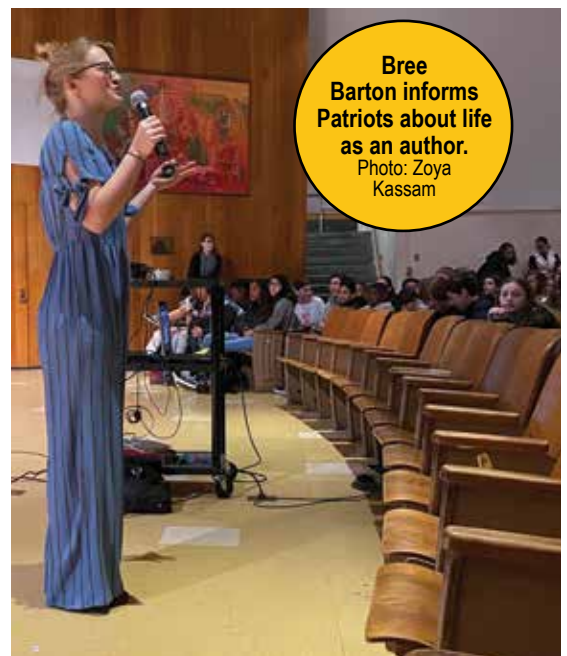
**Mr. Honda
demonstrates a
chemical change for
his science class.**
Photo: Amanda
Wexler



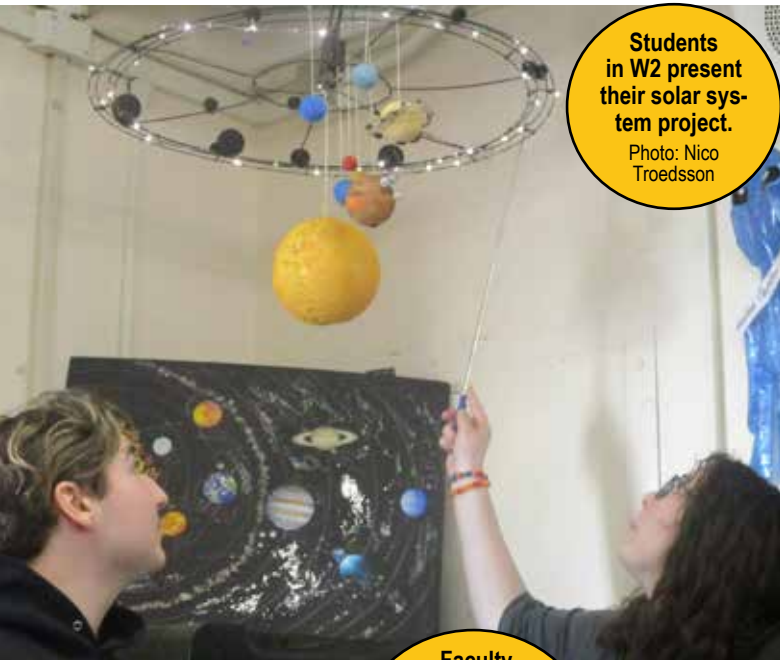
**Chaz
counts all 30 of
his Valentine's
Day grams.**
Photo: Andre
Jones



**Students
in L2 dissect
and study an
eyeball with
help from a
volunteer.**
Photo: Ms.
Hubbard



**Bree
Barton informs
Patriots about life
as an author.**
Photo: Zoya
Kassam



Students in W2 present their solar system project.

Photo: Nico Troedsson



Alexi (left) and Max record Revere's biodiversity.

Photo: Nico Troedsson



Faculty members have breakfast in the teachers' lounge on Valentine's Day.

Photo: Mr. Wechsler



Jacob Berry presents his food study project in S2.

Photo: Duc Le



A student's mom and grandmother discuss escaping the Khmer Rouge in X16.

Photo: Ms. Kruger



Sixth graders laugh as they watch the Revere Report.

Photo: Zoya Kassam

Entertainment

Lights! Camera! Revere!

Three familiar Patriot faces are in some shows, movies and videos you may know.

By CASEY SCADUTO

Seventh grader **Mikal Sims** is one of several Patriots who find themselves in the showbiz spotlight. He explained that he is inspired to pursue his acting career by the “very good actors and actresses my dad works with. Plus, it looks like a lot of fun.”

Mikal has been acting for about six months which he said means he lands fewer roles, but eventually he will be more involved. He has been in a Facebook commercial, a Ubtech commercial, which is a company that builds robots, and an Apple iPad commercial. To effectively balance his school work and acting, Mikal has a set teacher who helps him with homework and assignments when he misses school days. Mikal aspires to be the main character in action movies and comedy movies in the future.

Damian Henderson has acted in several *Raven's Home* episodes, *Bunk'd*, the 223's music video by YNW Melly, and a



Damian on season 3, episode 5 of “*Raven's Home*” called “*Dress To Express*” with Sky Katz.

Toyota commercial. The seventh grader said, “I always wanted to see myself on the big screen and make others laugh.” Damian has acted for roughly two years and feels “like it made me a funnier person.” Damian handles his missed schoolwork similar to Mikal, by doing three hours of work to make up for what he would have done during a normal school day. For the future Damian would like to star in horror movies, and funny television shows. One of Damian's most memorable experiences as an actor was on the set of “*Raven's Home*” when he met Issac Ryan Brown, a star of numerous Disney Channel shows including “*Raven's Home*.” Damian said that Issac was actually very funny and humorous, “cracking jokes and free-styling.”

Seventh grade history teacher **Mr. Vial** has also been in several movies and short films, most recently two films called “*Lost Detroit*” and “*Michael*” both of which he had the lead role. Mr. Vial has also acted in stage plays and had the lead role. He has performed comedic sketches for audiences at Second City Hollywood and Improv Olympic. Mr. Vial had an athletic upbringing where he played multiple sports and learned about the importance of working well with a team, now he uses this skill when working with his cast. According to Mr. Vial, “An actor is, essentially, an emotional athlete. Acting is about living truthfully under an imaginary circumstance.” Mr. Vial says his future seems to consist of school and focusing on his students. “Feeling a sense of purpose in this regard affords the ability to take or decline an audition or role.” Mr. Vial hopes that when the right role is presented to him he will show it the same amount of passion and determination as his teaching. When Mr. Vial was at UCLA studying and majoring in political science, he decided to audition for two different roles in two different theatre productions. Mr. Vial was not familiar with anyone in the theatre department, which was very daunting. “After three callbacks, I got the part! I remember walking up to the theatre department at night after my classes and checking the board for the results. Upon seeing my name, I raised my fist in the air.” “The experience taught me to never quit, to always put your best foot forward and to enjoy each moment.”



Mr. Vial stars in “*Lost Detroit*” as Frank.



Mikal on set filming for an upcoming project.

Makena (left) and Kalena hold up boxes of Frozen 2 themed gummies.



A Leap 'Into the Unknown'

Patriots discuss their positive and negative opinions about Disney's latest hit, *Frozen 2*.

By JULIE KASSIN

At 8 p.m. on Nov. 22, Mia Moenter and her friends got ready to see the movie that they had been waiting for since 2013: *Frozen 2*. In the years past, Mia saw *Frozen the Musical* and re-watched the original movie numerous times. In addition to Mia, countless Patriots have sung their way through the six years.

In the long wait time, Disney managed to build a lot of excitement and had everyone counting down the days until the release. The animation in the film has become extremely more advanced, making all the characters having significantly more detail in their appearances.

The story follows Elsa, Anna, Olaf, Kristoff and Sven as they go on a quest to find the truth behind Elsa's powers. Many new characters such as Lieutenant Mattias, Queen Iduna and King Agnarr were introduced to the plot. With so many catchy songs and jokes, the first film would be hard to beat, but many students thought the sequel was actually better or at least a close contender.

Makena Nishi, a seventh grade Patriot, stated, "*Frozen 2* was way better because the songs were more upbeat."

Ella Nielson, another seventh grader,

also liked *Frozen 2* more than the original. "I think that the new one lived up to the high expectations set by the first. *Frozen 2* has a more unexpected and thrilling plot."

Although it was extremely popular, not everybody loved *Frozen 2*. Amanda Wexler, a seventh grade Patriot, said, "I preferred the first movie over the sequel because the older songs were more catchy. The second was an unnecessary add-on to the magnificent plot of the first."

Thinking there was an abundance of singing was a common trend throughout students. The most commonly remembered song was "Into the Unknown."

Sixth grader Samuel Chae said, "It was the most known song in *Frozen 2* and the only song I remember besides 'Lost in the Woods.'"

Kalena Perry, another sixth grader, commented, "If I had to choose one song, it'd probably be 'Some Things Never Change.' Many people thought that *Frozen 2* was aimed more at kids who were six or seven when *Frozen* came out. The first movie was definitely more fun and innocent, while *Frozen 2* was slightly more intense and had more action."

Even though the sequel had a different plot from the original, it still contained the same lovable songs and characters throughout. *Frozen 2* was successful in being appealing to kids of all ages, presenting an interesting plot, and being a fantastic addition to the *Frozen* universe.

Chaz Plager

'Cats' Is a Catastrophe



When you hear the words, "This movie has Taylor Swift in a cat suit," you immediately think to yourself, "Oh man, this movie will be purrfect." Not Cats, though.

Released on Christmas Day, *Cats* is a movie that has sent ripples through the world even through the new year, and not in a good way. *Cats* is an adaptation of the hit Broadway musical directed by Andrew Lloyd Webber and T. S. Eliott that was actually good. The plot of *Cats* is pretty straightforward. Once every new year, God decides a dead cat to reincarnate. The movie follows 12 cats trying their best to be the lucky one. In the musical, cat suits were used. Unfortunately, in the movie, they decided to go for this human face/cat face CGI mishmash. There's no way to sugarcoat it. It looks like a Lovecraftian horror film. H.P. Lovecraft was an author of stories about the occult and monsters, who also liked cats. (The animal, not the musical.) The faces just mash together and look almost soupy. The most unsettling part of it is probably the different shape of humans' faces compared to cats. Human faces are much longer and thinner than cats', and it ends up looking like you used the skin of a cat to make a mask.

The production quality is also really hairy. You can even see the ping-pong balls and skintight leotard of the CGI outfit during certain scenes. The only reason why you can't during others is, "Due to budget cuts during the movie, actors had to be naked during certain scenes," says BuzzFeed. Even though cats are supposed to have nine lives, this movie was dead on arrival.

However, besides the animation, *Cats* is just a pretty boring film. It's not even "so bad it's good," it's just cringeworthy and awful. The songs are also incredibly meowdiocre. Overall, I would say that I wasted money on watching this horrible movie, and I didn't even pay money for it. *Cats* is the worst thing to happen to cats since what H.P. Lovecraft named his.



Oscar-Nominated Films

By ARIAV HAYEMPOUR

Each year many movies are released, some good enough to win Oscar nominations. Patriots were asked to choose their favorite.

Star Wars: Rise of Skywalker	26%
No Opinion	25%
Knives Out	21%
Little Women	11%
Ford v Ferrari	9%
Joker	8%

Based on a survey of 100 6th, 7th and 8th graders on February 4th, 2020



Episode IX is very well put together. It follows Rey on her journey to defeat a long time enemy of the Jedi. The acting in the movie is so dramatic, that her hardships and feelings are relatable. In many of the scenes, the surroundings were very detailed and were similar to past movies. For those who follow the series, this is a must watch as lots has led up to this movie. For non-fans, the series is easy to follow and is very iconic. —Hunter Hughes

I was excited when the new Star Wars was announced, I expected it to be fun to watch but I was given otherwise. The stories were similar to those from the past movies, I predicted what was coming most of the time, and there were too many new characters that caused the old characters to be shadowed. I didn't hate it, but the same story gets old quickly and the scenes had the same outcome as the older movies in the series. —Katherine Fleer



This movie is the very definition of a "murder mystery." It follows a dysfunctional family after the horrid, alleged suicide of grandfather Harlen Thrombey. Everyone believes the cause of death truly was suicide, but a detective thinks otherwise and causes an intriguing mystery to arise. Though it is a little long, *Knives Out* is not as obvious as other murder mystery movies causing the viewers to always be thinking Overall, the movie is an amazing film that is pleasing for all to watch. —Rustin Kharrazi

Brilliantly directed, hilarious jokes, and great acting, this movie's everything-in-one. Full of plot twists in nearly every scene, it is a humorous take on a classic "who did it" movie with a twist. Each scene has hidden details that reveal more and more about the mystery at hand. It is a perfect blend of two genres which makes *Knives Out* a memorable and worthwhile film for all to watch. —Lily Williamson



This is a brilliant film. The cast is packed with fantastic actors and actresses who bring the story alive. Although, it is slightly confusing with the constant switching between years, the exciting plot and different twists make up for it. The only complaint I have is that the movie is a little long and seems to endlessly drone on. That made some parts repetitive and boring to watch. I don't think anything can truly surpass the legendary book, but the movie is still good nonetheless. —Julie Kassir

The movie is so horrible at explaining each scene that I can't even make out the main plot. All I'm able to understand is that there are four sisters and while their father is fighting in a war, the one of the sisters, Beth, gets scarlet fever. During many points of the film I became confused about what year it was, who was alive, and who was married at the time. That makes the movie very confusing and difficult to enjoy altogether. —Amanda Wexler



This film offers the possibility of a good story, but I felt bored almost the entire time because of how bland most of the scenes are. Many of the scenes lack excitement and action causing the movie to be very slow. I don't have an interest in cars and I felt like I didn't need to watch the movie because of that. It also took too long to get into the big race and action of the movie. I know the events did happen in real life, but the movie didn't make them seem as exciting as it actually was. —Arik Kraft

This is a thrilling piece of work with a star-studded cast. The film is filled with stunning twists and extremely accurate portrayals. The movie really connects you with the characters, causing you to cheer for their success and feel sorrowful for their failures. Watching the big race makes you feel like you are really there. Even though the movie seems slightly predictable, during the races, the twists in the plot always keep you at the edge of your seat. —Spencer Rodman



Before I saw the movie, I didn't really expect much from it, but once it started I became amazed. Watching the scenes play out really gives the audience a feeling of how the Joker really feels inside. Even though you know Joker is the bad guy, you sometimes feel sorry for him and the terrible life he lives. Joaquin Phoenix was able to play his character with such accuracy that there was no question that Arthur Fleck was truly a demented person. —Ryan Yashar

This is an amazing movie that had good storytelling and an intriguing plot. The movie produces a spin on the previously mysterious origins of the iconic Joker character. It strongly conveys the theme of the forgotten, looked down upon people standing up for themselves and disturbing normal life by creating a movement of change. The movie does so in a way that keeps viewers glued to the screen for the entire runtime, making this movie VERY easy to recommend. —Max Schwartz

Lifestyle

Sixth grader Benjamin Elmaleh pays no attention to his work. Photo: The Elmaleh Family

Patriot Autra Hadim wastes time on her phone. Photo: The Hadim Family

Procrastinating Patriots

Patriots discuss the causes of procrastination and how to achieve better work habits in school.

By LILY WILLIAMSON

When seventh grade student Autra Hadim gets home from school, homework is the last thing on her mind. She gets a snack, preferably chips, and ends up spending the rest of the afternoon on her phone, wasting the valuable time that could've been spent on homework. But why does she, along with many other Patriots, prioritize things that are not considered important compared to schoolwork?

A common explanation for Patriots is "I procrastinated". Procrastination describes when one delays completing a task for the simple reason of not wanting to do it. Teens especially have to learn to deal with the voice of procrastination nipping away at their proactivity. Procrastination is a well known problem that will lower a student's will to finish projects and assignments in school, creating unhealthy habits that will affect life as an adult.

For many students at Revere, procrastinating is not at all an unusual part of their homework routine. Whether it's wasting time on video games or watching Tik Toks, it's pretty clear that phones are a big contributor to the problem of procrastination in teens. One Patriot, seventh grader Logan Christopher, states, "My phone is definitely

what distracts from doing my work at home. I use my phone while I do homework to listen to music or to FaceTime a friend for help, but I'll find myself getting distracted on social media." Similar responses were heard from other Patriots as well. Eighth grader James Van Wagenen says, "I have a

tendency to watch videos on my phone, and leave my homework until it's due." Sixth grade student Max Dorband commented, "The longer a project takes to finish, the more I'll procrastinate, so I end up doing it the day it's due." Another reason students procrastinate is because of a crowded schedule. Sixth grader Ben Elmaleh says, "I procrastinate all the time because I do a lot of sports and I am too

tired to start my homework after school."

The bigger problem is that new studies have shown that procrastinating as a kid can lead to a stressful adult lifestyle, setting them up for anxiety when receiving work projects. According to a New York Times article, "The problem is that a confirmed procrastination habit by the end of adolescence can lay the foundation for adult lifestyle." This information has sparked a new, urgent question: what are ways students can manage the amount they procrastinate? Revere teacher Ms. Daley says, "If a teacher assigns a project, students should break the project down

into manageable parts. They should make a habit of daily checking Schoology to ensure they are keeping up with assignments. Finally, having a proper study space where there are no distractions may help avoid procrastination." Seventh grader Elise Larsson agrees, "Putting away distracting materials like phones and books, and instead having your materials ready is a good way to stop procrastinating and start being productive."

With these steps, Patriots can put more attention to their schoolwork. It can be as easy as having your parent take away your phone or as cutting down your extracurricular activities to build time for homework. Learning to be more productive can help improve your grades and lead to a more successful and less stressful lifestyle as an adult.



Seventh grader Elise Larsson works on homework without her phone. Photo: Larsson Family

Do you procrastinate?

Yes	56%
No	24%
I'll tell you tomorrow	20%

Why do you procrastinate?

Internet	38%
Laziness	26%
Friends	11%
Other	25%

*Poll of 6th, 7th and 8th grade homerooms
by Yonah Cohen on Feb. 4, 2020.*

'Impossible' Taste Test

Patriots sample imitation meat products from various sources across Los Angeles.

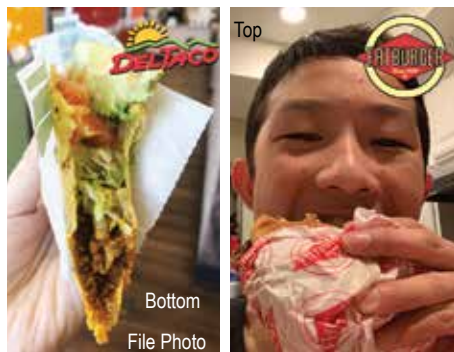
By **KATHERINE FLEER**

When Max Schwartz stopped by Del Taco for a quick bite he thought nothing of what he had just eaten, but months later, when he went back, he found that he had eaten fake meat. He says, "It tasted like just like real meat." Impossible Foods has had incredible success in fast food restaurants, now worth almost 5 billion dollars. Places like Burger King, White Castle, Red Robin, and Fatburger now serve Impossible meat while places like Subway, Carl's Jr., Del Taco, and T.G.I. Friday's serve Beyond meat, Impossible Food's biggest competitor.

One of Impossible Foods' biggest controversies was over their "secret ingredient," soy leghemoglobin or heme. Whether or not heme is safe or not is heavily debated. It has been approved by the FDA and generally considered safe, but some skeptics are still doubtful.

So is fake meat healthier than regular meat? The answer is no, the two are basically the same. While Beyond and Impossible Burger have four times more sodium than a regular burger, they have no cholesterol and fewer calories. But Impossible and Beyond Burgers are much better for the environment, averaging around 90% less water, land, and greenhouse emissions. None of the burgers are healthy, but the Impossible and Beyond Burgers are far better for the environment than a regular beef patty.

"The Impossible Burger tasted amazing, exactly like a real burger, but without the guilt of eating an animal." —*Thomas Lin*



"The Beyond Avocado Taco at Del Taco tasted like meat, but then I found it wasn't, which was surprising." —*Max Schwartz*



"I couldn't really recognize a difference between the Impossible burger at Garden Cafe and any other burger." —*Jonny Fuhrman*



"When I got to Umami Burgers, and got my Impossible Burger, I had low expectations. It looked just like a real burger and when I tasted it, I was so surprised because it tasted like real meat, it was delicious." —*Duc Le*



"The Carls Jr.'s Beyond Burger tasted like a normal burger but it had a weird aftertaste, ruining the whole experience." —*Jaden Lee*



"The Impossible pizza tastes better than a normal pizza. I don't get meat on my pizza, but I would get this again." —*Arik Kraft*



"I liked the Impossible burger I had at Garden Cafe. I will probably have a real burger instead in the future though." —*Eitan Dauble*



"It has a different texture than a real burger. It doesn't taste like a veggie burger, it tastes just like real meat." —*Naomi Toubian*

FOCUS ON WELLNESS

Part 3 of a 5-Part Series



A mock Shabbat was held in the seventh grade lunch area. Photo: Rustin Kharrazi



Ben Matinfar had his Bar Mitzvah in Israel. Photo: The Matinfar Family



Ms. Takashima meditates to practice spiritual wellness. Photo: Ms. Takashima

EXPLORING SPIRITUALITY

Students and teachers at Paul Revere share advice to others on how to build spiritual wellness.

By NICO TROEDSSON

"Okay, class! Time to go into mindfulness," says Ms. Takashima at the beginning of her fourth period class. Her students are pursuing wellness, a very important virtue people can benefit from in their lives.

Wellness specialists divide wellness into five areas: physical, intellectual, emotional, social and the topic of this article, spiritual wellness. Spiritual wellness is the practice of connecting with one's spiritual self, and finding purpose life. Spiritual wellness calms people down and makes them happier. Spiritual wellness can also do with religion, making it sometimes called religious wellness. Usual ways to practice spiritual wellness is yoga, meditation, practicing religion, and gardening, but everyone has their special way to practice.

Mr. Schepps believes that "spiritual wellness is not something people find, but a practice that people must engage in for their entire lives." Mr. Schepps practices spiritual wellness in many ways. He is kind to others, focuses on the present, practices Navy Seal "box breathing", yoga, and he connects with other people and nature. Mr. Schepps

How often do you go to religious services?

Regularly: 13%

Only on special occasions: 50%

Never: 37%

How often do you set aside time for yourself to meditate or reflect on life?

Regularly: 11%

Only on special occasions: 40%

Never: 49%

How religious do you consider yourself to be?

Very: 6%

Somewhat: 44%

Not at all: 50%

Poll of 100 students from all grades conducted by Yonah Cohen on Feb. 4, 2020

be a priority" in her life. Ms. Takashima says, "Some days it is easier to focus on spiritual wellness, and other days, it can be a challenging goal if there are some stressful events or if I encounter people who don't seem spiritually well." Ms. Takashima practices spiritual wellness by waking up to the time she goes to sleep, takes small moments to monitor her spiritual wellness, and centers her thoughts to feel peaceful. Ms. Takashima thinks that spiritual wellness will hugely benefit people by improving their well being, and even improving the well being of people around them, including family, friends and neighbors. "People gain more empathy and build better relationships," Ms. Takashima believes. "Spiritual wellness is good for the world, and I think it fills people with lasting peace and happiness."

Rustin Kharrazi, an eighth grader, believes that having a strong faith in his Jewish religion brings major benefits. Rustin says, "My friends and I decided to have a mock Shabbat in the seventh grade eating area." This event helped Rustin build his faith in his religion, and then his spiritual wellness.

Karl Gombos, a seventh grader, believes that his Roman Catholic faith is a great benefit to his lifestyle because it enforces better actions through promoting certain morals. "For example, I once believed that all unjust actions intentionally committed against me by others who seek revenge, and I used to retaliate towards others," Karl says. "Yet now, I have been advised by my religion that doing badly back is just as unrighteous. So I don't do it." So now, Karl Gombos enforces more restriction to prevent himself from performing bad actions. Karl goes to church each Sunday and prays at least once a day. He sees his religion as a very important aspect of his spiritual life.

advises to "start by reading Oprah's spiritual books." Mr. Schepps says practicing spiritual wellness can benefit people greatly by helping students create connections with others. "Spiritual wellness allows people to reduce anxiety, sleep well", and become more aware. It will increase one's ability for empathy, purpose, and peace in the soul.

Seventh grader Matthew Tarica says he is a very calm and happy person due to his spiritual wellness. To stay happy and calm, Matthew draws, reads books, plays with his pet dog, socializes, goes outside, and "found music very effective" for improving his spiritual wellness.

Ms. Takashima has found spiritual wellness and says she makes sure that "it should



Pope Francis has a huge influence on Karl Gombos's religious and spiritual life. Photo: Natalie Alpert

Peanut Butter Sandwich

"I snack frequently throughout the day because I have a huge appetite. My mom packs my lunches and wraps everything in firm zip-lock bags or plastic wrap so nothing spills or leaks." —Jaxon Lee, 6th Grade

Plain Bagel and Cream Cheese

"After a project assigned by Ms. Asahina this year regarding nutrition and what we eat daily, I decided to pack my own lunches and have smaller and healthier portions." —Lily Williamson, 7th Grade

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Patriots showcase their school lunches that they eat every day at Paul Revere. By RUSTIN KHARRAZI

Cold Cuts and Chips

"I am too lazy to pack my own lunches in the morning so my mom does it. I have a smaller appetite and I usually have a mix of healthier snacks and junk food." —Nicholas Gordan, 6th Grade

Sunny-Side-Up Egg and Baguette Bread

"I am usually a picky eater, but I enjoy taking eggs to school because it's simple, easy to make, and my parents also suggest it because eggs contain a lot of protein." —Shirra Berukhim, 8th Grade

Plain Penne Pasta

"My mom makes and packs my lunch every morning for me and my siblings. I am a little bit of a picky eater so I enjoy plain pasta and snacks like crackers and biscuits." —Yassie Abai, 6th Grade

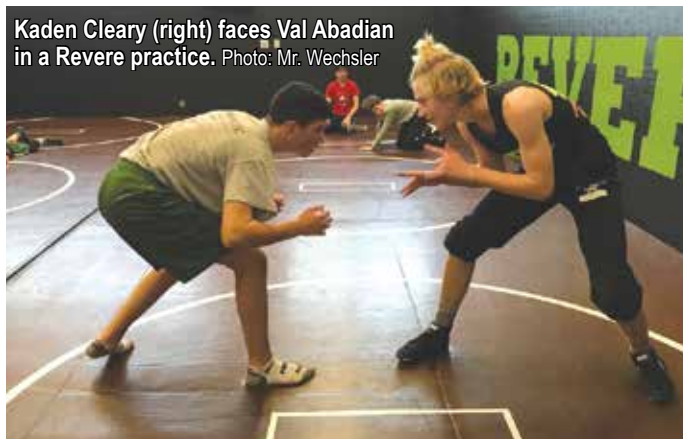
Yellow Curry with Jasmine Rice

"I usually take dinner from the night before for my school lunches. My mom likes to make a lot of ethnic foods from different cultures. I take my food in thermoses to keep it warm." —Ariav Hayempour, 8th Grade

James Van Wagenen pins an opposing wrestler. Photo: The Van Wagenen Family



Kaden Cleary (right) faces Val Abadian in a Revere practice. Photo: Mr. Wechsler



Revere Wrestlers Take Down the Competition

The Riders, led by James Van Wagenen, place first in the Delphic League once again.

By MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

"This year I had a wrestling match at Chaminade where almost everyone in the gym was rooting against me except for my supportive teammates. I went out and beat the kid in 15 seconds. After that, embarrassment filled the Chaminade gym and everyone rooting against me was silent." This was James Van Wagenen's favorite win this season. The new wrestling season has brought a few new wrestlers onto the team as well as

victories and losses. The team is full of hard workers as this sport is extremely rough and challenging. All the wrestlers on Revere's one team have put in the effort to win the most amount of matches they have.

Revere's wrestling team has been competing with zero losses in the Delphic League. This hardworking team is led by coach Adam Hunter and lead wrestlers, James Van Wagenen, who is undefeated, and Derek Anwar. Currently Revere's wrestling team is eight and zero with a recent tri-meet tournament win at Revere. In the last 8 years, Revere has placed first five times and in second the other three years.

Revere wrestlers James Van Wagenen and Derrick Anwar both had amazing seasons. These two elite wrestlers worked extremely hard to help their whole team win. As well as being undefeated, James Van Wagenen became the first Rider ever to become the three time league champion.

These wrestlers both explained why they are dominant in the sport they both have a passion for. James Van Wagenen said, "I was smaller than other kids in my grade and I felt that if I made a name for myself in wrestling people wouldn't just see me for my height. The reason why I'm so dominant is because I go to practices almost every week and practice against people that are bigger than me."

Derek Anwar stated, "I started wrestling because my dad did it in high school. I'm so dominant because I have a passion for the sport which leads me to going to six practices a week."

As well as these two, another wrestler works hard to be at the top. Kaden Cleary is an eighth grader who says he started because his brother's friend won first in state, which

inspired Kaden to start his young two year wrestling career. This year, Revere wrestlers showed how much success hard work and practice can bring, not just individually for also for the whole team.



James Van Wagenen faces off against a competitor from Chaminade. Photo: Ariav Hayempour



James Van Wagenen wins a match at the Chaminade gym. Photo: The Van Wagenen Family

Season Results

1st Place (in their weight class):

James Van Wagenen
Derek Anwar
Kaden Cleary
Val Abadian

2nd Place (in their weight class):

Billie Bentley
Michael Tobin
Will Coelen

3rd Place (in their weight class):

Ariav Hayempour
Ryan Natvig
Parker Field

Soccer Teams Reach League Championships

By MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

Revere's soccer teams worked very hard this season. In the Delphic league, the girls' soccer team went almost undefeated with an impressive record of five and one. These players all show how hard they work in their games. Goalie Alix Levy said, "I am a goalie so I normally do diving drills in my free time which I believe makes me better." Mechal Green says that she practices by going through cones to improve her agility with the ball, or she will juggle to help her ball handling.

The boys' varsity team also had a very good season. This team was led by top scorer Zach Chang and their goalies Fanuel Hailu and Caden Robertson. In the Riders' first league game, the Riders took a loss early to Harvard Westlake in a close game losing by only two points. Then, the boys got their game faces on and shut out Chaminade in a win with the final being five to zero. After that amazing game, the Riders shut out Village Christian as well in a massive blow-out. The game ended and the Riders had the game with six points while Village Christian had none.

In the Delphic league championship, the boys faced Harvard Westlake where they lost a very close game that ended in overtime. The boys ended up second place in the league.



Erica Hamilton kicks up the ball in a game against Harvard Westlake. Photo: The Walsh Family



Jesse Altamirano races against a Harvard Westlake opponent to get the ball: Photo: Mr. Wechsler

The girls' varsity team had six wins and no losses. This team's strong season was led by top players Cami Fishman, Kyra Morris, Erica Hamilton and Anna Bartle. The girls team's first game was against Marlborough where the Riders destroyed them four to zero. Harvard Westlake was Revere's next challenge, with the Riders winning by five goals, starting off their season two and zero.

After the pushoff, from the amazing start, the Rider's won yet another game against the Chaminade Orange. In Revere's last game before the championship, the Riders secured their undefeated season with a win against Village Christian. The girls championship went well for the girls team. They played Marlborough, where they were shut out completely in the first half.

However, the Riders did not lose hope and in the second half, the Riders scored two points which gave them the win and first place in the league.



Kyra Morris dribbles the ball across the soccer pitch. Photo: Walsh Family

Boys Varsity:

Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	HW
Paul Revere vs Chaminade	PR
Paul Revere vs Village Christian	PR
Finals: Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	HW

Girls Varsity:

Paul Revere vs Marlborough	PR
Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	PR
Paul Revere vs Chaminade	PR
Paul Revere vs Village Christian	PR
Finals: Paul Revere vs Marlborough	PR

Basketball Teams Drive Their Way to the Playoffs

By MICHAEL WILLIAMSON

The Riders' hard work has paid off for many players but most importantly, the boys' varsity team has made it to the playoffs with an almost flawless season. For these teams, a few seasons ended but some were extended. Despite the few ended seasons the Riders still work hard to improve skills in the sport they love. JV player, Elly Tierney said, "Outside of practices, I practice by scrimmaging against my brother and going to my club team practices. I improve my shooting skills by shooting jump shots or free throws numerous times." This is the mindset of most of these young athletes at Revere. The seasons have brought joy and grief to our young stars. The varsity boys have kept their season alive while the JV girls still have hopes to keep theirs alive as well. Unfortunately the boys JV and the girls' varsity didn't make the playoffs with a couple more losses than they would have hoped for.

The varsity boys basketball team has started a fresh season led by coach Darren Morrison and leading scorers Souljah Niles, Dillan Shaw, Nazsir Cammon and Aidan Petoyan. This team has won three of their four league games giving them a spot in the playoffs. The Riders won their first league game against Harvard Westlake in a straight forward game where the 8th grade team won 75-19. Then in their second league game, Revere's team won again, against Brentwood with a lead of 53-42. After that win, for the third game of the Riders' new season. Their win streak was ended by Harvard Westlake, who won by only twelve points. Finally, with a win against Campbell Hall in a close game, the Riders opened up a spot in the playoffs for themselves. This made the boys' varsity team the first Revere basketball team to make the playoffs this season.

The girls' varsity team has two wins and three losses in their new season. Paul Revere was beaten on their first game against Sierra Canyon. The game did not go well for the Riders and they lost 43-16. The Riders' second game resulted in another loss however the result of their third game went very well for them. In a game against Campbell Hall, Revere took a victory with the final being 51-33. For Revere's fourth game, the Varsity girls were robbed of a victory in overtime by Windward. The Riders only lost by two baskets or four points in the unfortunate loss. In the Varsity girls most recent game they secured their second win against Harvard Westlake by 31 points. This win put them in the playoffs where they played Sierra Canyon.

Girls Junior Varsity basketball have three wins and three losses where they have secured a spot in the playoffs. This team has won against Campbell Hall, Immaculate Heart, and Chaminade. Unfortunately the Riders lost to Village Christian in a heart-breaking game by only one point in overtime. They also lost to Heritage Christian and Oaks Christian. With their most recent game, the Riders came into the game knowing they were in a dire situation to keep their season alive. The JV team, under mountains of pressure, destroyed Chaminade by thirty points. This win did not secure the Riders a spot in the playoffs but it gave them a good chance. Zoya Kassam, one of the JV girls players, said after the win, "I think the win was great and I haven't heard of many JV teams for Revere going to the playoffs. We

had really good teamwork and I'm so glad we got the win when we needed it." Then two teams played in the last regular season game which boosted the JV girl's team into the playoffs.

Boys junior varsity didn't have the best season, going only one and three out of their Delphic league games. The Riders dominated Harvard Westlake in their first game with a score of 63 to 19. Unfortunately, the Riders' strong start did not show against Sierra Canyon where they lost by 25 points. With that loss the Riders lost again, against Brentwood. In Revere's final game, they lost against Harvard Westlake in a very close game, losing by only five points. On the bright side, Revere's JV boys team also had a practice game against Chaminade where they won by a dominant margin.



Andre Jones drives in for a layup.

Photos: Mr. Wechsler



Charlie Adams goes up to the basket for two.

Boys Varsity Season Results

Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	PR
Paul Revere vs Brentwood	PR
Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	HW
Paul Revere vs Campbell Hall	PR
Made Playoffs	
Paul Revere vs Heritage Christian	HC

Girls Varsity Season Results

Paul Revere vs Sierra Canyon	SC
Paul Revere vs Brentwood	BW
Paul Revere vs Campbell Hall	PR
Paul Revere vs Windward	WW
Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	PR
Made Playoffs	
Paul Revere vs Sierra Canyon	SC

Boys JV Season Results

Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	PR
Paul Revere vs Sierra Canyon	SC
Paul Revere vs Brentwood	BW
Paul Revere vs Harvard Westlake	HW

Girls JV Season Results

Paul Revere vs Campbell Hall	PR
Paul Revere vs Immaculate Heart	PR
Paul Revere vs Village Christian	VC
Paul Revere vs Heritage Christian	HC
Paul Revere vs Oaks Christian	OC
Paul Revere vs Chaminade	PR
Made Playoffs	
Paul Revere vs Oaks Christian	OC



Jacob Leatherman
punches a punching
bag at his dojo. Photo:
The Leatherman Family



Mikael runs along
the track with a
baton in hand.
Photo: King-Hagen Family

physical training that comes with running and winning. He also finds the competition exciting and enjoyable. Mikael believes that practicing track and field keeps him in good physical condition. He explains, "Track and field keeps me in good physical condition because of the practice and training. All the training I do to run faster and learn different techniques helps my body get fit so that I am ready to complete exercises and races." Mikael hopes to continue track and field in the future. He says, "I hope to go to a professional level where I can prove to myself and my family that I have the discipline to win."

Student Sports Stars

From karate to track, Patriots find sports outside of the school.

By **KATIE ROBERTS**

Revere is home to many student sport stars, who go above and beyond at the sports they play. They work hard for something they enjoy doing.

Jacob Leatherman practices Krav Maga, which is a type of military self-defense system used by the Israeli Defense Forces that includes a combination of techniques sourced from boxing, wrestling, Aikido, judo and karate. This seventh grader has been doing the sport for about a year and a half. He enjoys how there is always something new to learn and it helps him gain confidence every time he passes a belt test. Jacob says that he finds Krav Maga challenging because it is both physical and mental. It teaches him how to be ready for a dangerous situation and how to defend himself. Jacob believes Krav Maga keeps him in good physical condition. He explains, "Krav Maga keeps me in good physical condition because it works every muscle in my body, especially my arms and core," he continues. "It also makes my reflexes quicker so I don't get hurt while practicing." Jacob would like to continue practicing Krav Maga as he gets older because it is a sport that people of all ages can do and it teaches him valuable

techniques that could be useful in a possible future situation. Jacob would also like to be able to help others using his practice from Krav Maga.

Stella Honda is very passionate about softball. This eighth grader has been playing the sport for six years and finds it different than when she started. She explains, "When I started, I was younger and the game was easy and simple. But now the game is more complicated. Girls are meaner and the rules have changed. But, the game is still as fun as when I started." Stella finds the sport difficult because she can't be afraid to get hit by the ball and she has to know all the basics. "Training is also difficult," Stella adds, "you have to be okay with the fact that your body will hurt and feel sore." Stella thinks that playing softball keeps her in good physical condition because she has to be strong, fast, and healthy. Conditioning, lifting weights and running drills, are also practiced skills. Stella hopes to keep playing softball through high school and get a scholarship at UCLA.

Mikael King-Hagen has done track and field for four years. This eighth grader finds the sport fun because of all the competitions he gets to participate in. He thinks running is difficult because he constantly needs to improve and endure all of the



Stella Honda
guards first base.
Photo: The Honda
Family

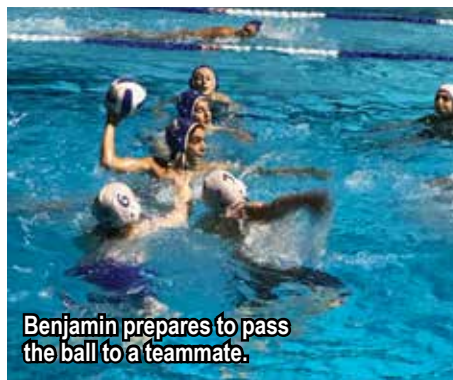


Benjamin practices throwing in the pool.

Photos: The Mokhtar Family

Benjamin Mokhtar, a seventh grader, plays water polo. Benjamin finds the challenge that comes with playing the sport extremely fun and satisfying. This patriot has been practicing the sport for two years. He enjoys the sport because there is always new and exciting techniques and strategies to learn. He finds the sport difficult because of the pressure to take the ball during a game. Benjamin explains, "I get very tired after practice and especially during tournaments." Benjamin says that water polo keeps him in good physical condition. He says, "The sport keeps me in good physical condition because I'm always exercising and working. I could be warming up, passing, playing the game, practicing shooting drills, etc." He likes playing in hole set position. This is where players catch the ball from teammates and then throw it into the goal. This position is very important

because most goals come from these plays. Benjamin also enjoys playing goalie because he has practice and experience with the position. Benjamin plans to continue playing the sport until the end of high school.



Benjamin prepares to pass the ball to a teammate.

Super Bowl Picks

On the day the official season started, faculty were asked to share their predictions for which teams will battle it out in Super Bowl LIII.

— *Sammy White*



Mr. Hernandez came closest, since he was the only one to pick the Chiefs to win it all.



Mr. Iannucci Mr. Foxson Mr. Amos Mr. Kirby Ms. Walker Mr. Fulling Mr. Hernandez

Early Season Predictions



Pre-Super Bowl Predictions



Yonah Cohen Sign Stealing Scandal



Baseball is a game of sign stealing. Teams have been stealing signs for over 150 years. While this is allowed, what the 2017 Houston Astros and 2018 Boston Red Sox did was not.

In 2017, the Astros had a TV just outside of the dugout. The TV was connected to a camera in center field, positioned on the opposing catcher. In real time, the Astros would decode the signs and bang a trash can if an off speed pitch was coming. If a fastball was coming, there would be no bang. This same practice was carried on through the season and in the postseason.

I believe the punishments were too light; the Astros were fined \$5 million, loss of draft picks, and suspensions to the manager and general manager. The punishment of a \$5 million fine is nothing for billionaire and Astros owner Jim Crane. After the suspensions came out, they were both fired. Not only should the players have been fined, but the title should be vacated and not be given to any team.

There should be no reason for the Astros to be able to call themselves champions. They cost the Dodgers bonus money and a chance to play in the Fall Classic. Jose Altuve should also lose his MVP from 2017. The Astros' had a game-changing advantage so their scandal shouldn't be taken lightly.

Though the Astros headline this scandal, the 2018 Boston Red Sox have been accused of their own cheating. This team would decode signs in the replay room near the dugout. Though not as serious as the Astros, it is most definitely cheating.

Also, Alex Cora, the bench coach and mastermind of the Astros scandal, was hired by Boston prior to 2018. I believe the Red Sox should get the same punishment as the Astros, and Alex Cora should be banned from the sport.

Baseball needs to come down hard on cheaters. No one wants a repeat of the steroid era. Baseball needs to take control before it destroys baseball. I think Commissioner Rob Manfred needs to be harsh and unforgiving; if he acts right, baseball will be the great game it was meant to be.

Fun Zone

THAT WAS THEN . . .



THIS IS NOW . . .



Caden Robertson (from left), John Iacono, Alexander Loos and Axel Mammen pose in sixth grade, and then eighth, in front of the X-building.

"BIG MOUTH" TRIVIA QUIZ

You may be a big fan of the Netflix series, but how well do you know it? Quiz: Jake Evans and Aidan Petoyan

1. What middle school do the teens attend?
2. Who is their P.E. teacher?
3. How many brothers does Jay have?
4. Who is the ghost in Nick's attic?
5. What is the name of Andrew's crush?
6. Where was their first date?
7. Jay's dog is named what?
8. Who is Andrew's hormone monster?
9. Who is Jesse's hormone monster?
10. What power did Andrew get in the final episode?

See below for the answers.



TASTE TEST: SOUR PATCH KIDS CANDY vs. CEREAL

The treat everyone likes, a sour mini gummy, was first introduced in 1985 by Mondelez International, a company that also owns Toblerone, Oreo, Milka and Trident. It was meant to be a cinema snack and is now an internationally popular candy. But what if it became a cereal? Would people like it? According to Zoya, the cereal "tasted like a Fruity Pebble, with a lot of extra sugar. Sour. I would rate it 3 out of 10." But Jake said, "I loved the cereal and have never tasted anything like it. The sweet and sour flavor with the nice crunch was perfect." Andre said it was "very good. The cereal tasted just like Fruit Loops, but a little more sour." However all three would agree with Andre when he said "the candy is just way better overall." —Camil Al-Hashim

ANSWERS: SPOT THE DIFFERENCES: 1. Kwazi is holding a Samoa instead of a Thin Mint. 2. Kwazi has a phone in his pocket. 3. Saxon is wearing a monocle. 4. Saxon's Adidas hoodie is now Nike. 5. Kaden is holding a Trefoil instead of a Thin Mint. 6. Kaden now has buck teeth. 7. Kaden is wearing a Girl Scout badge. 8. The paper in the back left is blue instead of purple. 9. There is a cookie on the table. 10. The Trefoil box says "Thin Mints". 11. The Do-si-dos box says "Trefoils". WORD SEARCH: TWENTYFOUR, EIGHT, EIGHTYONE, SIXTY, THIRTYTHREE, SIXSIX, LOWER MERION, GOAT, CHARLOTTE HORNETS, LA LAKERS, BLACK MAMBA, NIKE, BEAN, ACHILLES, FIVE RINGS, LEAGUE MVP, OLYMPIC GOLD, GRANITY, STIBEL, PHILADELPHIA, ITALY, STAPLES CENTER, SHOOTING GUARD, NBA.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES Can you find all 11 changes? Photoshopping: Taj Entis

Kwazi Estes (from left), Saxon Wald and Kaden Cleary have their eyes on Girl Scout cookies.

**WHAT'S YOUR #1 GIRL SCOUT COOKIE?** Based on a poll of 100 Patriots on 2/19/20.

**Thin
Mints**
58%

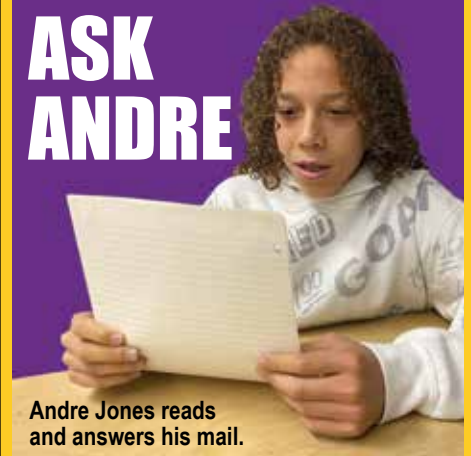


Samoas
23%



**Lemon-
Ups!**
4%

Other
15%

**ASK
ANDRE**

Andre Jones reads and answers his mail.

Hey Andre,
I spent Valentine's Day alone in my closet crying and drowning myself in chocolates. What can be done?

Sad and Lonely

Dear Sad and Lonely,

I think you should see each Valentine's Day as a time to hang out with your friends and just have fun and not to be sad. Make it a good day and of course enjoy eating those chocolates. — Andre

Dear Andre,

I am conflicted by love and torn in two directions. On one side I like someone who doesn't have the best physical features but has a great personality and is very kind. But I like a different girl who is beautiful but is very dramatic and has a nasty personality. What should I do? **Confused Cupid**

Dear Confused Cupid,

Would you rather be with someone who you would have a great time around, or someone who would be mean to you? You really just need to ask yourself if the beauty outweighs the personality. I would say that personality is by far more important. — Andre

Dear Andre,

My mom discovered my real Instagram account, and made me show her all of my DMs to this girl I've been hanging out with. I'm really embarrassed, especially since she told the girl's mom. I lost everybody's trust. How do I get out of this?

@Troubled_Texter

Dear @Troubled_Texter,

My best advice for you right now is just to be honest with your mom next time so you can avoid all of this. As for the girl, talk to her in person and establish a real connection. — Andre

Question for Andre? Write it down and bring it to E-5.

Can you find all of the Kobe-related words in the grid? Puzzle: Jake Evans, Collage: Aidan Petoyan and Jake Evans

[illegible]