Residents in California are getting charged for using too much water. The fines can be as much as $1000 for a single water abuse. See Santa Barbara NewsPress “water” A8

Collision rule leaves open exceptions

Rather than ban home plate collisions outright, Major League Baseball and its players adopted a rule limiting them this season. For more information, see the Santa Barbara News Press 2/25/14 pg C1

Hackers in Newport Beach. At Newport-Mesa School District there have been children’s parents hacking into computers changing their students grades. Now parents of students a being questions about their students grades.

A mummy was discovered in Cairo, Mexico by Spanish archeologists. To read more look at Santa Barbara NewsPress, Section B Nation & World Friday February, 14 2014.

We just recently had our California Spelling Bee. There was two students from Santa Barbara County that competed. There was also students from Vandenberg Middle School that competed. The Spelling bee was a huge success.

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Zona Seca’s Lompoc office has closed due to financial hardship. They have been helping cases of addiction, truancy, and gang violence for 13 years. For more information, see the Santa Maria Sun week of February 20-27 issue on page 6.

The Lompoc Soccer Team (the Braves) lost to the Santa Ynez team (the Pirates) on 2/18/14. It was their first loss in 15 games. They lost 1-0 after the Pirates scored in the eighteenth minute.

Some examples of the activities that take place in these clubs being

VMS Global: sell hot chocolate for donation to other not as fruitful in means of food to help them feed their young

Bible Believers club: every once in a while a reading from the bible though also some games other times

Chess Club: playing chess first off of course though also teaching it to beginners

Foreign Language Club; talking about other foreign places, you also get a cool t-shirt too btw, and other foreign related stuff

Some Clubs or “student volunteer activities” are Art Club, Bible Believer Club, Chess Club, Foreign Language Club, VMS Global which happens at these times shown by this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLUB</th>
<th>ADVISOR(S)</th>
<th>MEETS</th>
<th>ROOM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art Club</td>
<td>Mrs. Baldwin</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>B-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bible Believers Club</td>
<td>Mrs. Roth</td>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>G-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chess Club</td>
<td>Mr. Hohimer</td>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>A-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Language Club</td>
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<td>Every other Friday</td>
<td>T-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>VMS Global</td>
<td>Mrs Zender</td>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>G-2</td>
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</tbody>
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Pre-order your yearbook now!

$30 until April 20
$33 April 21 – June 12

Yearbooks are sold during lunch every Friday in T-3
Strange Facts By: Guadalupe Lopez

More than 36 million heart shaped boxes of chocolate are sold for Valentine’s Day each year.
Your Odds of finding a four leaf clover are about 1 in 10,000!
You’re born with 300 bones but by the time you’re an adult you only have 206.
The Shamrock is not the symbol of Ireland.
St. Patrick’s Day is considered the luckiest day of the year to get married on!
The Shamrock is not the symbol of Ireland.
You’re born with 300 bones but by the time you’re an adult you only have 206.

When you sneeze, all of your bodily functions stop, even your heart.

Principals message
By: Abigail Lynch

Isn’t our principal amazing? She great isn’t she? She feels honored to be here at VMS, this is her sixth year here. She has a lot of memories. She has two favorites. The first one is the pie in the face. That was a great memory. It was fun too. The second one was the first secondary school API. Aren’t we awesome? She loves this campus/school. Students inspire her and she hopes for a great future. She is inspired to motivate people and staff to a common goal. What a kind principal! She loves this school. If she were to change something at this school she would change the condition. She would like to make an attractive campus. Her message to all students is “education will allow students to access their dreams”. Her motto is “work hard at work worth doing”. Mrs. Froeming is the greatest.

“You don’t ask what the meaning of life is. You define it” -Unknown

U.S. News By Kyrianan Ruiz

TROUBLE IN WASHINGTON. According to the WSJ NBC News Poll, Obama has a 43% approval rating, one of the lowest in America history. Twice as many Americans think that the country is plummeting under Obama’s leadership than those who don’t. The tides have changed, most Americans believe the Republicans should control Congress, so the Democrats are in for quite an unfortunate year. This is shocking news to the political community due to the Republican Party’s notorious reputation. The reason that the Republicans’ have such a terrible standing is because most people believe that Republicans are inflexible and the cause for the housing market crash.

51% of Americans believe that the Republicans are responsible for the government’s shortcomings while only 39% believe that it is President Obama himself. Despite these previous statistics, it seems as though the Republicans will take control of Congress this next coming election. And as the debt-ceiling debate nears, the republicans try to not make themselves the story of Washington this year, as to not reach another market rattling showdown.

iLivesmart
by Xander Jacob, Amateur Time Manager

This morning someone told me that they couldn’t study their vocabulary unit for this 3-week time period because they were spending most of their time on homework. That I can’t accept. Our class had such a scant trifling of homework that my downtime was scary. Being a procrastinator myself, I can say that something that is due in a week feels very easy to put off. I had my vocabulary homework finished only two days precedent to the due date. So, from time manager to student, I would like to provide help in time management.

First, I’ll write about tackling 1-day homework. If one plows through it in one chunk of time, leaving the rest for games, you’ll: 1) learn nothing and 2) lose morale, slowing your progress. Divide your time into English, math, science and history. Between those, take a break to review. Our second topic is big projects. One can easily write a draft, put it off, forget it all and just copy the draft onto the final. Sounds familiar? No. As I said before, chunk your time. One day, research. Next day, write the outline and all subsequent days are for drafting. When it gets down to one thing, it’s enticing to put that measly task off until the end. But that is most likely your final draft. So, write every single step down. Then check each off as you progress. It’s rewarding, satisfactory and helps you finish the project.

Next is actual time management. In a planner divide your time into English, math, science and history. Between those, take a break to review. Our second topic is big projects. One can easily write a draft, put it off, forget it all and just copy the draft onto the final. Sounds familiar? No. As I said before, chunk your time. One day, research. Next day, write the outline and all subsequent days are for drafting. When it gets down to one thing, it’s enticing to put that measly task off until the end. But that is most likely your final draft. So, write every single step down. Then check each off as you progress. It’s rewarding, satisfactory and helps you finish the project.

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In a planner divide your time into English, math, science and history. Between those, take a break to review.

Our third topic is big projects. One can easily write a draft, put it off, forget it all and just copy the draft onto the final. Sounds familiar? No. As I said before, chunk your time. One day, research. Next day, write the outline and all subsequent days are for drafting.

Then, add in the smaller ones. If you let stuff happen, then it’s going to happen in the worst possible order. Have a project to work on? Work on it. Absolutely nothing else to do? Clean.

Three for a really big project. If you’re a procrastinator like me, you can always start at the end of the week with all three, but I prefer to tackle one topic at a time. Tackle one every Monday and Wednesday, and then chunk your time Tuesday and Thursday. If you let stuff happen, then it’s going to happen in the worst possible order. Have a project to work on? Work on it. Absolutely nothing else to do? Clean.

For a really big project. If you’re a procrastinator like me, you can always start at the end of the week with all three, but I prefer to tackle one topic at a time. Tackle one every Monday and Wednesday, and then chunk your time Tuesday and Thursday.

Time management utility

Horoscopes
By, Meegan Bullock

Pisces (2/20-3/20): An issue with a friend or group could cause some angst, so try to resolve this before it comes to a head. You may find your voice and feel like sharing thoughts, plans, and ideas in these next coming days.

Aries (3/21-4/20): Some fascinating new information could come your way soon via books, magazines, TV, or the Internet. Your own insights and revelations could prove invaluable in increasing your understanding of what you read.

Books!
By, Michael Hayes

The Ruins of Gorlan is the first book in the Ranger’s Apprentice series written by John Flanagan. The series follows the story of an orphan named Will. In the mysterious middle-

world of Araluen, there are shad-

ow-y men called Rangers who only serve

the king. Until now, Will has always

wanted to be a knight. But when Gray-

beard Halt the Ranger asks Will to be his

apprentice, how can Will refuse? Follow

Will through his many adventures in the

Ranger’s Apprentice series!

The Hobbit By J.R.R.Tolkien

The Hobbit is a bestselling book written 82 years ago! It is the exciting prequel to The Lord of the Rings and has now been broken into three major motion pictures. With the 3rd and final move on the way, you might want to read the book. The story starts when a group of dwarves show up on the curious little hobbit, Bilbo Baggins’ doorstep. They have come with an adventure but need a 14th member in their company. Much to Bilbo’s dismay, he guiltily goes with the dwarves on a quest to kill a dragon. He meets many perils and sees many things, but wonders if it will pay off. Follow Bilbo as he goes through forests, over hills, down mountains and into the heart of a dragon cave!
D.I.Y: Clothing Glitter shoes

By: Cassandra Wilkins

Have you ever gotten white shoes (such as vans) but they always end up getting really dirty, then you don’t know what to do with them? Well, then this is a great way to upcycle your shoes, and keep them clean for longer!

Things you need:
-
Shoes, glitter, Mod Podge, masking tape, paint brush, and a paper plate.

Step 1: Tape the sole and bottom of shoes.

Step 2: Pour some Mod Podge on a paper plate (or news paper).

Step 3: Then mix some glitter in with the Mod Podge, and stir with a paint brush.

Step 4: Start spreading the mixture with a paint brush.

Step 5: Let them dry over night, then wear!

Life & Style: Fashion & Clothes

by: Marley Ray

Everyday you’re surrounded by hundreds of people with different tastes and styles of their own. Fashion is a big part of your personality; it sends a message about your perspective, kind of like a first impression. When you go out anywhere public it’s great to look your best. That doesn’t mean you have to go over the top and look like you’re about to walk into the Oscars but cute and simple. Maybe your just hanging out with some friends going to movies, browsing clothing stores or going to the mall all you have to do is look nice maybe a pair of cute daisy duke style shorts a blouse with a matching long cardigan with flip-flops and a messy bun hair-do. Something that’s comfortable to you.

Why don’t you look around? You will notice that many people will be wearing the same clothing brands or have a similar style. That’s what you call a trend. Fashion trending is very popular, during all seasons you’ll pick up new hair styles, new ways to wear something or even find out new clothing companies that you now favor.

Staff Profile: By Trinity Shamrock

Have you ever wanted to get to know your teacher a little more? Mr. Eppley is our lucky staff member we interviewed this week. Mr. Eppley has been teacher for four years. He loves to teach because he enjoys the energy of the ‘kiddos’. If this seventh grade history teacher was not a teacher, he would like to be a traveling artist. Outside of school, Mr. Eppley likes to hike, watch movies, read, and stay active by exercising. If he won 1M dollars, he would ensure his parents retirement, and pay off his house. Mr. Eppley is a very busy man, but when he has time he does as much volunteer as he can. He picks up trash on the highway, and on the beach. Mr. Eppley was happy when 2014 came along; his New Year’s resolution was to become more well-versed in the culinary arts, (meaning cooking). As you know, Mr. Eppley always dresses up as something crazy for Halloween, I asked him what he was going to be this year, but he said it was a secret. And last of all, he would like to say a few words:

“Knowledge is power.” ~ Sir Francis Bacon

“History doesn’t repeat itself, but it does rhyme.”

~ Mark Twain

Local News

By: Delaney Harding

“Hunter’s Hero”

In honor of Valentine’s month, here is a story to warm a local’s heart.

Five-year-old Hunter from Lompoc struggles with autism every day of his life. His family has recently added the newest edition Golden Retriever, Hero. Thanks to Good Dog! Autism Companions, half of the $20,000 cost for a service dog was covered. Hero is Hunter’s first service dog that continues to bless his life in more long, challenging walk around the neighborhood for the whole family to enjoy. A close bond between a dog and the owner can have a large impact and inspiration on many able four-legged friend that will hopefully assist Autism Program at Clarence Ruth Elementary School in the fall.

Source: lompocrecord.com
The bishop is usually underestimated, but can be powerful. This represents the students at Hogwarts.

The king is important, and if captured, the game is over. The king would be the headmaster, or teachers.

Oh, and happy Valentine’s Day! But by the time you get this, Valentine’s will be over, so… Happy St. Patrick’s day!

Pawn: 8
Knight: 5
Rook: 6
Queen: 10
Bishop: 1

---Anthony Lopez’s fairytale land---

Anthony is suddenly woken up to the sound of Selena Gomez singing “love you like a love song”. He jumps out of bed to look at the calendar and sees that it is Valentine’s Day and he suddenly jumps towards Selena to give her a great big hug. After he freaks out about meeting Selena he looks around the room to find that there are 200,000,000 bars of Hershey’s chocolate in the shape of a heart and a four leaf clover; for good luck, he asks Selena Gomez “may I have that for favor?” After she says yes, then he walks up to the mirror to find that he has heart shaped glasses on and Paul Walker is standing right behind him and he freaks out again especially because Paul Walker is not alive anymore. Out of no where comes leprechauns and midgets which he thinks that they are really mean so when he sees them he grabs the closest thing which happens to be one of his favorite candies a giant Smarties roll to whack the midgets and leprechauns. Anthony hears a dragon roar and 13 gummy bears come to arrest him for attacking the rear creatures. He escapes from the bottle cap handcuffs. He turns around to find that the gummy bear police are throwing corn beef at him he is hungry so he just starts to eat it. Anthony heads towards the west where a police dragon is waiting.

Opinion By Ally Cap

Hey! It’s your favorite reporter, Ally! I’m asking you which chess piece is your favorite! If you look up, you’ll see what the vote is. The superior players love the pawns, because, in the end, they’re the most important piece on the board, & the best defense you got, they would be the Hufflepuff.

The skilled players adore the knight, because it moves differently, and can fork pieces the best. When used by very skilled players, the knight becomes more important than the queen, the Gryffindor piece.

The erudite players love the rook, because with this piece, they can castle (the castling move would be Hogwarts). These people would be Ravenclaw.

The power people revere the queen. For the queen is the most powerful piece, the Slytherin piece.

International Sports by Dylan Hogan

The NBA All-Star Break is February 16! The East will face the West in an epic battle. Kobe Bryant has decided not to play in it after being voted in. DeMar DeRozan, Paul Millsap, and John Wall got their first time entry in the Eastern All-Star team and the Western first timers are Stephen Curry and Damian Lillard. The Dunk Contest contestants, Three Point Shoot-Out Contestants, and Skills Challenge Contestants are yet to be announced. The L.A. Lakers are struggling right now. They are tied for 14th in the West, but the L.A. Clippers, Golden State Warriors, and the Miami Heat are another story. The Clippers are 4th in the West, the Warriors are 7th in the West, and the Heat are 2nd in the East. That is the main news in the NBA. The Superbowl was won by the Seattle Seahawks! The Seahawks smear Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos. The Superbowl M.V.P. was given to Malcolm Smith, a linebacker for the Seahawks. Pete Carroll won his first championship at the age of 62. Congratulations to the Seattle Seahawks for winning the 2014 Superbowl!
Valentine’s/St. Patrick’s Day Pretzels

You will need:
- Pretzels
- Heart sprinkles
- Clovers/green sprinkles
- Wilton chocolate melts

Instructions:
1) Melt chocolate in a glass bowl on HIGH power for one minute; stir and then put it in for another 30 seconds; repeat this last step until a gooey mixture forms
2) Get the pretzels and dip them in the chocolate, gently tap the pretzel against the bowl; set each pretzel one by one on the wax paper.

WARNING! Before you dip another pretzel make sure you put your sprinkles on so that they won’t dry before you can put sprinkles.

Games By: Sarah Krueger

Games are fun. They help you take your mind off of things! So if you want to play a game, go for it! You can play a new video game or (what I like to do) kick back and play an old, classic board game! One of my old time favorites is Life. It is very fun. More board games are: Life, Monopoly, Candy Land, Sorry, Yahtzee, and more! Some of the new board games are: Logo, Operation, Beat the Parents, and more! I like beat the Parents, because you can go against your parents and if you win, you can rub it in their faces! (Don’t go too crazy though.)

Gaming News! By Tanner Lorenz

There is a huge craze for the new indie game Starbound that came out this month for the PC. Starbound is a 2-D sandbox game where your character has left his planet to explore the depths of space. You can visit different planets, gather resources, and explore randomly generated structures and towns. There are monsters you can fight, but rather than just being standard “set” models, the creatures are created from different parts, making them unique. This game is similar to another sandbox game, Terraria, and was made by one of the developers of Terraria. Starbound is available on Steam for Mac, Windows and Linux.

The hit game Minecraft recently came out for the PS3. Minecraft also has versions for the PC, Xbox, tablet and Raspberry Pi, and there is talk about a DS and Wii version. Minecraft is a game where everything is made entirely of blocks and pixels. You must gather resources and fight off the creatures of the night. There are many different features that make gameplay exciting, and it is constantly being updated, so the fun never ends. Minecraft PS3 sold one million copies within a month of being released, and Minecraft itself has totaled over fifteen million sales over all devices.

There is a rumor going around that there will soon be a Halo 5 for Xbox One. More specifically, Halo 2 Anniversary will be released this year, along with beta access to Halo 5. The actual Halo 5 game will be released sometime in 2015. The Halo series is set in the year 2552. Humans are spread across the galaxy thanks to a devastating plague known as the Flood. Soon, the humans find themselves under attack known by an alien group known as the Covenant. They must fight for survival and destroy both the Covenant and The Flood before their entire species is wiped out.
**Student Recognition-Cafeteria**
I would like to recognize Sara Nameh and Adell Terrell for always being available to help out in the cafeteria. Both of these young ladies show responsibility and positive work ethics. They continuously give up their free time whether at breakfast or lunch to serve their peers at VMS and they are always there to help with whatever needs to be done. With that said, I would like to thank them both. If you see them on campus by all means thank them as well.

If you would like to follow Sara and Adell’s example, please let your club know you are interested in helping in the cafeteria. Thank you!

Debby Culp
Child Nutrition 2
(your friendly lunch lady)

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**T.V: What’s Hot?** By: Hannah Stovesand

*Teen Wolf:* Teen Wolf is an American TV show developed by Jeff Davis for MTV. Its genre is horror, romance, action, supernatural, comedy-drama, and Teen drama. It has three seasons, and forty-eight episodes. It is about a high school outcast who gets bit by a werewolf while in the woods searching for a dead girl. The only one he trusts with this secret is his best friend.

*Switched at Birth:* Switched at Birth is an American Teen Drama about two teenagers who were switched in the hospital at birth. One of the teenage girls is deaf. They are both 17 years-old.

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**D.I.Y By: Ariana Gurrola**

Want to make something cute for Valentine’s Day? Make a Valentine’s Day glitter jar. It’s really easy. This is actually called a Calming Jar. The calming jar is used for when you’re having anxiety or any kind of situation like that the glitter in the jar will distract you and calm you down.

**Step 1.** Get an empty jar or bottle with a lid.
**Step 2.** Put some water to a rapid boil.
**Step 3.** Once the water is boiling carefully pour the hot water into the jar/bottle.
**Step 4.** Add about a tablespoon or more of glitter glue.
**Step 5.** Stir the glitter glue vigorously with a fork till water and glue are well mixed.
**Step 6.** Add red glitter and mix that as well (if you want you can add white or grey sparkles.)
**Step 7.** Mix everything together again and put the cap on really tight and secure.
**Step 8.** Let the jar sit for a while to cool down.
**Step 9.** Put some stickers on the jar (optional).

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**Dear Suzie**

Dear Suzie
I have a problem: I have a crush on this guy what do I do?
Sincerely, cat lover 22

Dear cat lovers 22, if you are not already friends with him, try to be friends with him. But if you do know him, try to drop hints on him that you like him.
Sincerely, Suzie

Dear Suzie
I need to know if you like superman or Batman.
Sincerely Wonder woman.

Dear Wonderwoman,
Like Batman better than Superman because I like his batmobile and his uniform and he better skills than superman.
Sincerely, Suzie

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**Entertainment**

What’s new
By Amanda Lynch

There is this new movie coming out. It will be a huge hit! It is the second movie of the first. It is called *Pitch Perfect 2*. Based on the first one the a cappella groups perform. Then they compete. The main groups are the troublemakers. Which are the guys. The girls group is called the Barden Bellas. In my opinion the Bellas are better. That is just because they are girls.

It is coming out in 2015. The main girl is named Beca. The actress who played her was Anne Kendrick. Fat Amy is another important character. She was played by Rebel Wilson. Aubrey was the leader. She was played by Anna camp. Chloe the red head was played by Brittany snow. Now to the guys Jesse was played by Skylar Astin. The leader Adam Devine. This movie is going to be the best. I can’t wait until it comes out.

---

**Dear Suzie**

Dear Suzie
I need to know if you like superman or Batman.
Sincerely Wonder woman.

Dear Wonderwoman,
Like Batman better than Superman because I like his batmobile and his uniform and he better skills than superman.
Sincerely, Suzie