

AS SCARY AS IT GETS: HALLOWEEN

By Angelica Mora
Reporter

Halloween is approaching quickly and costumes are going fast. The costume ideas that were once considered normal and viewer friendly are now being morphed into different ideas. It seems like every year the same costumes are popping up, either the array of bugs or the couple's costume. This year people are going for another approach. Originality is the key. Most people want an original costume, unique to them. An individualistic approach is being taken by our generation. Years have past and many costumes that have become repetitive have been made just to fit society's expectations but as we look back these costumes were the most sold or have become the most popular costumes for teens and adults is the sexy costumes. Costume retailers have found a way to make even the tamest characters look risqué, which gives it an individual look to suit each person and their expectations. You think there is no way to make a ladybug sexy? Think again. In addition, witches are scary and ugly-- certainly not sexy, right? Don't be too sure! While these ultra-sexy costumes are presumably marketed to adults, in many cases they are also sold in teen and even pre-teen sizes. Many costume retailers report that sales of sexy costumes to young girls are on the rise. Halloween is a time to get scared out of your mind the best way to do

that is a haunted house or a Halloween party. This Halloween many theme parks have scary mazes for people who think they can handle even the scariest monster attack. To kick off the season Half Moon Bay's Pumpkin Festival includes a biggest pumpkin contest as well as a lot of other fall-themed activities for kids and adults of all ages. These activities provide a wholesome time for family and friends. Another place to visit is Disneyland which gets all dressed up and the Haunted Mansion begins to run as the "The Nightmare Before Christmas," which will last until the end of the year. One of the best places to take children or people of all ages for Halloween would be Disneyland. Disneyland provides family fun as well as a few thrills for all ages with appropriate music, thrills, mazes, decorations, and shows that leave any person in awe. It is amazing and a very captivating place to be during Halloween.

For a truly scary time, Universal Studios says their "Halloween Horror Nights" is the scariest theme park to be in all October. Not to be outdone, Knott's Berry Farm becomes Knott's Scary Farm featuring 13 mazes and three scare zones. Some of the attractions include Cornstalkers. Cornstalkers appeared to provide a serious "creep-out" factor for many people. It is a true thriller that is a definite appeal to the audience seeking time-worthy and everlasting thrills for an excellent Hal-

loween. It is a must-see for those seeking a thrill factor this Halloween. There is something to be said about going through unusually tight walkways of corn with very light audio/musical soundtrack and primarily just the sounds of crows. The carefully positioned scarecrow monsters mixed with the fake scarecrow props within the cornstalks was definitely unsettling for many of those who entered. The Doll Factory is an intense, disturbing and most importantly a very scary maze. This maze had a ton of eye candy that aided in setting the mood of what guests were entering. Some of the specific scenes, the bottom line is that all of it was creeped-out. Beginning with the assembly line marked up dolls through the gates into the area where humans were being made into furniture. How about walking up to the brightly colored and life size dollhouse? Life size doll packages and even a freezer area! The Grudge 2 Maze Tribute, 13 Axe Murder Manor, The Asylum, Curse of the Spider, Malice In Wonderland, Carnival of Carnivorous Clowns 3D, R.I.P Haunted Shack, Baits Motel, Dominion of the Dead, and many more. Less than scary the West Hollywood Halloween Costume Carnival is sometimes billed as the "Worlds Largest Halloween Street Party." Something is in the air and all theme park promise to make 2009 the scariest Halloween in ages. You be the judge, jury, and executioner!

NEW PHONE SYSTEM

By Shekhina Rivera
Reporter

In an attempt to modernize and simplify the networking between schools and teachers alike, the Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) has changed the entire phone system, making calls more convenient for the teachers and staff. In previous years, making calls were a hassle and it was difficult to contact other teachers and staff from, say, El Dorado or Esperanza. All of that has been changed now. Instead of dialing a full phone number, there is a five digit number designated to each staff member in PYLUSD, making phone calls a lot simpler.

Another addition to modernize the system is the new visual voice mail. With visual voice mail, voice mails do not only go to the phone, but also to the computer screen where staff can actually access the voice mail through their computer system. Although Valencia is the last school in the district to attain this new phone system, teachers and staff say it has been worth the wait.

It is not certain why Valencia was last to add the system, assumptions are that they did it by alphabetical order, having El Dorado and Esperanza first. Regardless the reason, Valencia is now a step closer to becoming a modernized school. By creating the new phone system and visual voice mail, making a call has never been easier.



Knott's Amusement Park Entrance. Photo Courtesy of: www.anaheimoc.org

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NEWSPAPER

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NEW TEACHERS ON CAMPUS

By: Shekhina Rivira
Reporter

Being a new teacher is just as hard, if not worse, than being a new student at a school. Not only do they have to impress the other teachers, but they have to impress you, the students, as well. Let us try to welcome our new – and old – teachers with the kindness and respect that they all deserve, because being a teacher is one of the hardest jobs to do. The new teachers for the 2009-2010 school year are:

Mrs. Katie Rush, a graduate from Sonora High School and Cal State Fullerton, is teaching Language Arts 1 and 2. She previously taught at Sonora High School and also spent the past few summers tutoring for the SAT exam. “I decided to become a teacher because I love interacting with students on a daily basis. My days are always challenging and fun! I have a love of literature that lead me to teach at the high school level” explains Rush when asked about why

she wanted to become a teacher. Ms. Lauren Gamboa, an Art Fundamentals and Beginning Ceramics teacher, graduated from El Dorado High School and Cal State Fullerton with a B.A. in Art, majoring in Art History and Art Education. “I love it, so far the students here are the most respectful and pleasant kids I have ever met” says Gamboa of her students, “I wanted to work here because of the history the school has and because of the many different classes and level of classes and activities Valencia offers to its students.”

Ms. Gamboa also coaches the J.V. Tennis and Soccer teams. Now that Mr. Racobs has taken the job as the new Head Coach for El Dorado’s football team, he has been replaced by Mr. Matt Mahoney. Mr. Mahoney will not only assist the football staff, but will also coach the wrestling team alongside Mr. Rodriguez. Valencia’s new Band Director is Mr. Richard King. Like Mrs. Rush and Ms. Gamboa, Mr. King graduated from CSUF and previously directed the Lincoln High School

marching band, which marched in the Rose Parade in 1999. “I think Valencia is a wonderfully diverse learning environment” says Mrs. Terry Kerans, the new Receptionist in the Front Office. Before becoming the Receptionist at Valencia, she was a substitute teacher for the high schools in the Placentia Yorba Linda School District. She chose to become a substitute because it was flexible and the schedule worked well with her children’s after school activities. Another addition to Valencia’s Office Staff is Ms. Emily Ricketson, is a graduate from Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. She is working as a clerk in the Attendance Office. Ms. Ricketson is also pursuing a career in teaching Spanish. “I feel that Valencia is a great school and a wonderful place to work. Everyone that I have come in contact with has been extremely friendly and helpful” says Ricketson of her first impressions of Valencia. With the new teachers and staff here at Valencia, it is sure to be a great school year!

IN BRIEF



By: Sargun Singh
Editor

October 10th – Heritage Day Parade
• Come and support Valencia Color guard and marching band at the Heritage Day Parade and enjoy learning the heritage of Placentia

October 12th – Homecoming nominations
• Chose your Homecoming court in the Homecoming nominations during second period.

October 16th – Falls Sports Assembly
• Be at school on Friday October 16th to experience the fall sports assembly which introduces our fall sports teams

October 19th – Chalk art contest
• Come watch and support our Valencia students at the Chalk Art contest on October 19th. Witness the talented students of our school draw meaningful art.

October 19th to 23rd – Red ribbon Week
• Say no to drugs and be above the influence by participating in red ribbon week and its various Activities.

October 29th – Football vs. JFK high school
• Go Tigers! Show some tiger pride and cheer on our football tigers against JFK high school at Bradford Stadium.



AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE CAT IN A BOX BY: CHRISTINA CHAVEZ

EL TIGRE

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El Tigre is published by the newspaper staff at

Valencia High School
500 N. Bradford Ave.
Placentia, CA 92870

El Tigre welcomes letters and commentary on all matters and reserves the right to edit as needed.

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Letters and commentary may be emailed to rschiff@pylud.org.

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