

NEIL ARMSTRONG: A MEMOIR

By: Brianna Munoz
Editor

Neil Armstrong passed away on the 25th of August this year at the age of 82, leaving behind his legacy as the first man to walk on the moon. The millions of people Armstrong inspired are immeasurable, as his courageous mission impacted the world in way like nothing else had before. "Ever since I was little, I've loved space. Armstrong helped me believe in the dream of space travel" said Alex Vargas (11). Armstrong was selected from the very best of the elite for his incredible composure under pressure and overwhelming amount of courage made him an extremely desirable man for the project. As a global magnate of dreams, his actions also guided the world into its bright future of modern technology that we continue to expand every day.

Without the moon landing that Armstrong commanded, many of the everyday items that we take for granted would not be around. For example, cell phones and computers would be

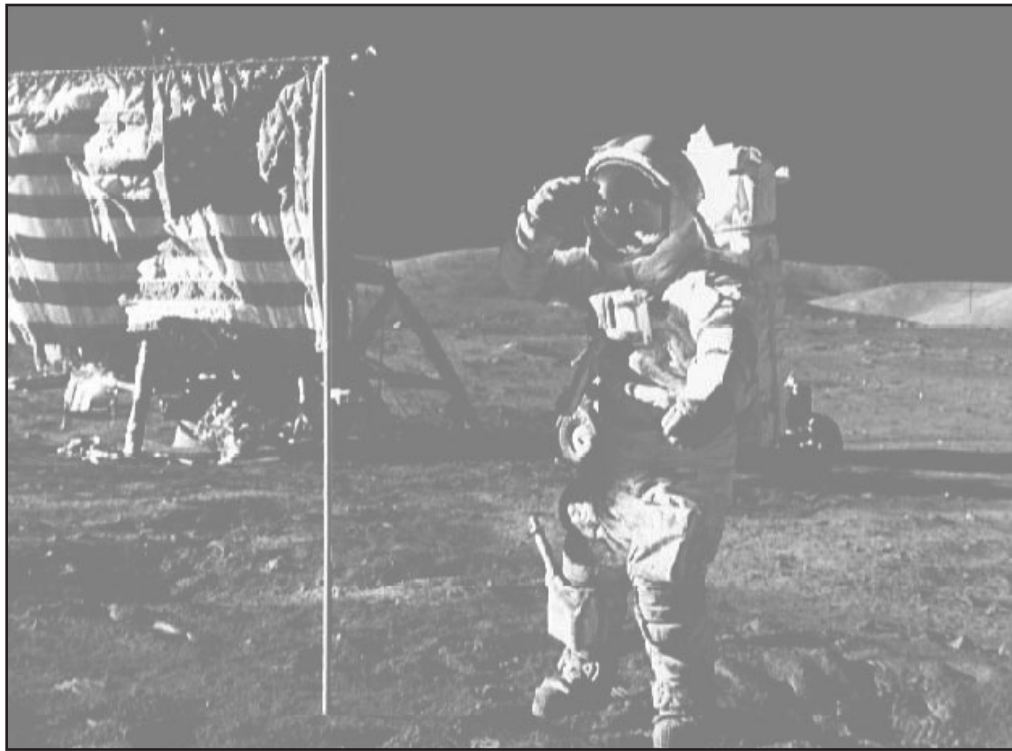
non-existent today or primitive at the most if the moon landing had not been achieved. "He was the leader in the single-most outstanding achievement in space exploration" said Mr. Shenton. The success of Apollo 11 allowed

We have microwaves, water filters, carbon monoxide detectors, and solar panels because of space exploration. "Without Armstrong and N.A.S.A., we wouldn't be anywhere near as technologically advanced as we are

x-rays and cat scanners. More efficient and protective helmets for sports like football and bicycling were also created due to the technology developed because of space exploration.

It's also important to note the historical value Armstrong contributed to the world. He was the first man to leave footprints on the moon, achieving a monumental goal that was not only a victory for the United States of America, but for mankind. The ambition behind space travel began in 1957 when the Soviet Union launched the first successful artificial satellite, Sputnik. This kick started the aggressive space race between the United States and the Soviet Union, as they hastily worked in hopes of being the first nation to put a man on the moon's surface. "Armstrong was significant because his actions allowed us to win the space race, which was a major goal of President John F. Kennedy" said Mr. Householter. The mission that Armstrong commanded allowed us to achieve things that we only thought of as impossible before.

Neil Armstrong will always be remembered as we continue to follow in his footsteps of reaching for the stars.



ARMSTRONG TAKES THE FIRST STEPS ON THE MOON
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us to continue space travel and develop new technology that wasn't only helpful in space, but on Earth as well.

today" said Ms. Leonard. Medical tools improved dramatically as well, as physicians gained instruments like

R-LOVE HELPS THE ELDERLY

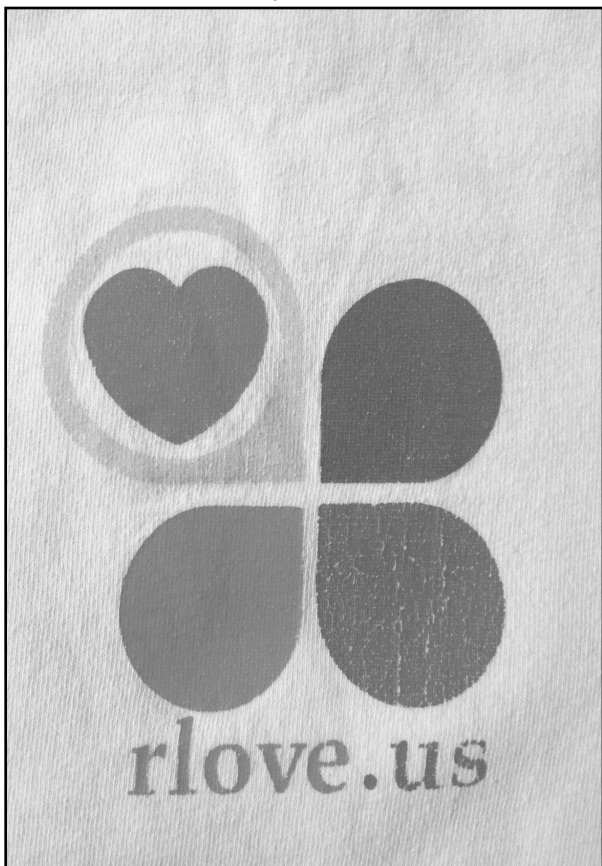
By: Hiba Raza
Reporter

R-LOVE, the Rising Leader's Organization of Volunteers for the Elderly, is an organization that helps the elderly live the remaining years of their lives. This organization has been started by one of Valencia's previous students. Mayher Uppal's (11) older sister, Prayerna Uppal, who graduated in 2011, started this organization three years ago while in her junior year. Although Mayher U. was only in 8th grade, she assisted her sister in building this project so it can be on its way to great success. The main goal of this organization is to visit nursing homes and give company to the people there. Prayerna U. had the idea to start R-LOVE when she found out that her grandmother worked as a nurse at a local hospice. She started seeing that the treatment of the elders was less than polite. They were not being treated properly in many ways, including emotionally. Seeing this injustice, her dad decided to begin a hospice of his own. "In Indian culture, we keep elders in our family but that is not the same here. When the elderly see teenagers who volunteer their time to give them company, they get extremely happy. They treat us like

we are their family," Mayher U. states when asked what the main drive to continue R-LOVE was. The reason why R-LOVE did not exist on campus is that the training process takes a couple of months. Most hospices have programs for volunteers to learn how to behave and act in a hospice. It is a very grieving process because although not all of the elderly are close to being at the end of their lives, most of them are and the training teaches the volunteers how to talk to the elderly and be able to handle the emotion that comes with death.

When asked what she loves most about R-LOVE, Mayher U. states, "It's nice to see how much of a difference we make in their lives. If it wasn't for the people who volunteer there, they would have to live the rest of their life without much happiness." Although R-LOVE is not an official club on campus due to the rigorous training process, it meets at Mayher U.'s dad's hospice every few months. If you would like to join, contact Mayher U. Even though, she will be graduating next year, she would like everyone to know that this organization will not end because it is very important to her family.

All in all, it is great to see that students from Valencia have such great ambitions and passions for the greater world. Mayher U. states, "This organization needs more people; people who are willing to challenge themselves and dedicate their time to people who need them the most."



R-LOVE LOGO ON VALENCIA CLUB SHIRT
PHOTO COUTESY OF: HIBA RAZA

BUDGET CUTS AFFECT SENIORS

By: Katie Vaughn
Reporter

On the November 2012 ballots, Proposition 30 intends to increase sales tax and personal income tax to therefore create more money for the schools and universities of California. Unfortunately if the proposition does not pass, it affects the class of 2013. Spending cuts would be made to public schools, community colleges, the University of California (UC) system, and the California State University (CSU) system. In total, the public schools and community colleges would have to reduce spending by \$5.3 billion, and the CSU's and UC's by \$250 million. In the spring of 2013, some colleges will not be accepting any new students; they will only be accepting transfers and graduates. This cutback is without the affect of the proposition. We will not know what will happen to the California schools if this measure does not pass until after the November election. Valencia Academy Counselor, Mr. Mark Stanley, states that "public universities are getting expensive and there are some families and students that will have to drop-out of the system because of cost." He advises the seniors of 2013 to have a broad variety of options for college and look at the university's tuition to decide what schools to apply to. He also stated, "Students should educate themselves and their parents on financial aid." Stanley is hopeful that the budget cut will make students more diligent and not lose hope in school. The best campuses to apply to if the measure doesn't pass, in the opinion of Stanley, are California State University Fullerton, California Polytechnic State University Pomona, and University of California Irvine because the commute would be easier for students. For the seniors of 2013, complicating circumstances will make it difficult to locate a college or university where the enrollment is small and the tuition is low.