# The Lariat

### **Chino High School**

### **Cowboy Corral Shows Off Extracurricular Possibilities**

By Rylie Alarcon and Mirage Ballesteros

This year's Cowboy Corral was on Wednesday, February 21st. This welcomed current and future Chino High students to come and learn about what CHS has to offer.

This year's Cowboy Corral was a major upgrade from last year's Cowboy Roundup, including more classes, clubs, and even sports.

In the gym, there were many tables that displayed our schools' sports and clubs. These sports included Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Cheer, Water Polo, Volleyball, Golf, Swimming, and Tennis. The clubs that were there were Leo's club, Drama, Robotics, ROX, Green Club, AP Club, and much more.

The MPR featured elective tables including Yearbook, Dance, Theater, Renaissance, Journalism, AVID, Culinary, Choir, Digital Video/Digital Imagining, and more. For the AP classes, there was AP U.S Government, AP World History, AP Economics, AP English 11/12.

To keep the night going, the Corral had three food vendors, which offered tacos, quesadillas, chicken tenders, snow cones, churros, eloté and drinks.

To get incoming and current students an up-close look at our performing arts. There was performances from band, choir, theater, folklorico, and cheer, which gave students an opportunity to see what they could join.

When asked "Why should incoming freshmen join folk-lorico?" Sophia Vazquez, 9th

grader and folklorico member, said, "People should join it because it encourages students to get involved with the Hispanic culture."

Members from clubs and sports were walking around giving current and future students flyers to show what their elective, club, or sport is about, encouraging kids to join. They also had many QR codes around the rooms and on the tables so students could easily access an interest form to join what they would like.



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### **Chino Valley's New Policy**

By: Lizette Ruelas

Mid last year Chino Valley Unified School District filed to implement a new policy, but this was quickly refuted by Attorney General of California, Rob Bonta who is actively suing the district over what he claims is a violation of student's rights.

Chino Valley Unified School District attempted to issue a new district policy in which staff and administration must notify parents if their child has identified as transgender, wants to change their name, or has requested to be referred to with pronouns outside of the ones based on their sex.

The proposal for the new reads as follows: policy "Principal /designee, certificated staff, any school counselors, shall notify the parent(s)/ guardian(s), in writing, within three days from the date any District employee, administrator, or certificated staff, becomes aware that a student is: (a) Requesting to be identified or treated, as a gender other than the student's biological sex or gender listed on the student's birth certificate or any other official records. This includes any re-

quest by the student to use a name that differs from their legal name (other than a commonly recognized diminutive of the child's legal name) or to use pronouns that do not align with the student's biological sex or gender listed on the student's birth certificate or other official records. (b) Accessing sexsegregated school programs and activities, including athletic teams and competitions, or using bathroom or changing facilities that do not align with the student's biological sex or gender listed on the birth certificate or other official records. (c) Requesting to change any information contained in the student's official or unofficial records.

After putting the lawsuit on hold, which blocked the new policy from being effective, a San Bernardino County Superior Court judge ruled in of California favor over CVUSD, for now. Chino parents and the districts legal representatives said thev would not back down from "fighting for their constitutional and most fundamental

# Storm Leaks and Water Stains at Chino High

By Anette Vega and Deja Hernandez

A reoccurring issue at Chino High has been leaks and water stains affecting classrooms in buildings A, B, and D.

The ongoing issue can affect the concentration of the students; for example, Liza Mitchell had water intrusion specialists working during class time to repair the leaks which took away the attention of some of the students from the instructor.

Not to mention having a leaking roof can lead to mold and mildew if left unattended for too long. Mold can grow in places with lots of moisture such as ceiling tiles. It can reproduce without moisture and will continue to grow if not fully taken care of.

According to Mrs. McFarland, "Several tiles in the ceiling were replaced within the last month. The water stains had been there since last school year, so they finally replaced them." Yet she had the same issue arising again this year with stains above her fire extinguisher and flag.

The *Lariat* spoke with Assistant Principal Daniel Galindo, and he told the Lariat that he

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sent out a survey to ask teachers and staff if they were having any problems with leaks and water stains in their rooms. He received 43 responses but said, "an accurate number of water stains would be about 80". He also said that because of the rain, people are not able to come in and fix these issues but that they should be getting them solved soon.



Flood causes leaks in room A214 after only 2 years since opening the new campus.

# California's Storms Triggered State-Wide Floods

By Harlie Escamilla

A storm made its way to California on Sunday, February 4th. Storm systems are organized systems of clouds and thunderstorms that follow tropical or subtropical waters. Scientists believe what caused the storm system to come into California was an atmospheric river.

With the amount of rain that fell February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, people across California received flash flood warnings. The storms started to die down by Tuesday.

During the days of heavy storms, many people within LA had to evacuate to avoid all dangers such as: mudslides, flash floods, landslides, falling trees, and debris flow. Many roads were closed due to areas that would heavily flood during the storms.

Many places in LA surpassed 5 inches of rain with many areas receiving about 7 to 11 inches of rain. With all the amount of rain, California was placed under a flood watch. This is the most rain California has ever received compared to the past years.

The storms caused major problems. Many trees had fallen, and lots of people's power was cut to their homes. The fallen trees also resulted in about three deaths. Many areas and even homes were damaged by debris flows and mudslides.

# Heads Up Class of 2024!

By Kirra Finneran

With these last few months of the school year coming fast, seniors are trying to make their final memories and accomplishments. What better way to do this than going to all the activities that are planned for these upper classmen.

Prom is coming up and on March 1<sup>st</sup>, the theme and destination will be revealed. Ticket sales for prom will start on March 18<sup>th</sup> to April 3<sup>rd</sup>, with the dance being on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

May Senior Finals happen on the 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> and grad walk on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The Breakfast yearbook signing party, and Dessert Night all on the 14<sup>th</sup>. To continue with

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the May Mayhem seniors also have Mandatory Graduation Rehearsals and Scholarship night on the 15<sup>th.</sup> Graduation rehearsals with pictures on the 16<sup>th.</sup>

Most importantly, the final graduation list comes out on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Seniors get to relax the very next day with their six flags trip on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Seniors walk the stage for graduation on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

<u>Don't</u> worry though! You can still spend time and make those last few memories with your fellow seniors at the Grad Bash on the 23<sup>rd.</sup>

# Festival of the Arts at Magnolia Junior High

By Valerie Jimenez

Magnolia Jr. High School invited students to come attend the Chino Valley Unified School District's "2024 Festival of the Arts."

This year's festival was held on from Tuesday, February 27'th from 6:00pm-8:00pm, and Wednesday, February 28'th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Students, families, and friends were all welcome to join for free.

The festival displayed different pieces of art made by students in CVUSD, with different

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# Taylor Swift Surprises Fans with a New Album

By Addison Ortiz and Jezzarai Bugarin

Global superstar Taylor Swift announced her 11th album on February 4th, at the 66th Grammy Awards where she won Album of the Year for her latest album Midnights. The album is called "The Tortured Poets Department", which Swift said is to be released on April 19th, 2024.

When announcing her new album, Swift confirmed that she had kept the album a secret for two years, and was working on the album, while she was on the US leg tour "The Eras Tour."

The tagline for this album is "All's fair in Love and Poetry." The cover art of the album leaves fans curious as to what the album may sound like.

9th grade Swiftie, Audrey Todd said, "I'm super excited for the new album. I feel like it's going to be a mix of her albums "Lover" and "Folklore" like it's going to be romantic but a bit sad."

Taylor posted on Instagram the 17-song track list. The album has two songs that feature artists like "Fortnight" featuring Post Malone and "Florida!!!" featuring Florence + The Machine. The song names leave fans excited as they believe that the album may have some con-



Taylor Swift arriving at the 2011 Bill-board Music Awards in Las Vegas, NV (Courtesy of Vecteezy.com)

nection to her 7th album, "Lover." The 5th song on the track list "So long, London" may have some connection to the 5th song "London Boy" on the track list of "Lover."

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The Lariat is the source for news, entertainment, and sports for Chino High School.

For back issues of this year's publications, comments, or corrections, please contact peter ottman@chino.k12.ca.us.

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art teachers from the district attending. Students submitted their art to be shown with an artist's statement.

Mr. Cahill, who attended the festival, expressed "What a wonderful opportunity to see all of Chino's schools' students' artistic abilities in one place." The festival was a great chance to see how creative and talented students can be.

## BACK2BACK: Boys Wrestling Wins CIF Duals Again

By Evan Gray

Boys Wrestling made history on Wednesday January 31st, 2024, when they became the second team in Chino High School history to win 2 consecutive CIF titles. Chino High went head-to-head with Santa Fe for the Division 4 Wrestling Duels Finals and came out with the win, 32 to 27.

The duels started off at the 165-pound weight class and worked their way up to the 285/ Heavyweight class and from there started back at the 106-pound weight class all the way to the 157-pound weight class. The duel started with 165-

pound Asencion "AJ" Perez of Chino and ended with 157-pound Aaron Jimenez of Chino.

Chino High had the honor of hosting the 2024 CIF Division 4 Duels Tournament.

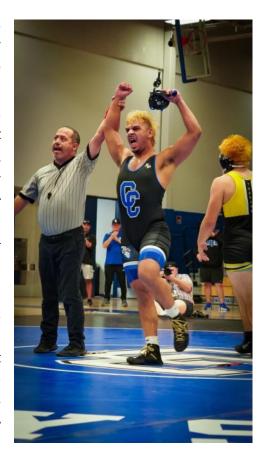
Wrestling CIF is different than most other sports where the entirety of CIF is held in 2 days. 16 teams entered the tournament on Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the bracket was split in half and the tournament would keep going until there was only 1 team left on each side of the bracket.

The number 1 seeded team, Chino, would manage to blow out their first 2 teams with ease winning by over 60 points total each duel. Chino did have a tougher semi-finals duel against the previous runner-up team, Western High school, who they defeated 42-31 to secure their spot in the finals. The previous year Western was defeated by Chino in a nail-biting 37-35 match up the previous year.

The Number 2 seeded team Santa Fe High School also dominated their side of the bracket proving to be too much to handle for other teams. Santa Fe kept commanding leads in their duels and won the first two duels by a landslide. Like the number one seed, they also had a tougher semifinal round that they were able to clinch to make

it to the finals.

The finals were held the following Wednesday at Chino High because Chino was the higher seeded team. Both teams had multiple people weigh in at specific weight classes to try and gain any kind of advantage possible in the matchups. Both teams lined up before they wrestled to shake hands with their opponents, some not even knowing which opponents hand they shook they would wrestle.



220 pound Nathan Garcia getting hand raised by official after defeating Santa Fe opponent in crucial match.

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### The Battle of Superbowl LVIII

By Jesse Navarro

On February 11th, the Kansas City Chiefs became the first team to win back-to-back Super Bowls since the New England Patriots in 2004. The Kansas City Chiefs went against the San Francisco 49ers in Superbowl LVIII. The Game ended with the score of 22-25.

This year's game started off with the Chiefs winning the coin toss and decided to kick off giving the 49ers had the ball first. No points were made till the 49ers Kicker Jake Moody kicked a 55 yard field goal giving the 49ers the lead. A 21-yard pass to Christian McCaffrey gave the 49ers a 10 point lead against the Chiefs. Harrison Butker kicked a 28-yard field goal scoring 3 points for the Chiefs to close the first half.

This year's Super Bowl half time show featured Usher, Alisha Keys Ludacris, Lil Jon, H.E.R, and Will-I-AM

During the 3rd quarter the Chiefs kicked a 57-yard field goal. And then a 16-yard touchdown pass by Patrick Mahomes, giving the Chiefs their 1st lead of the game.

In the 4th quarter 3 field goals were made 2 from the 49ers and one from the Chiefs

that would send the game in to overtime for the second time ever in Superbowl history.

Overtime started off with the 49ers kicking a field goal bringing the score to 22-19. Then with 3 seconds left on the clock the Chiefs scored a touchdown bringing the score to 25-22 ensuring the Chiefs victory and keeping the title of Superbowl winner.

Patrick Mahomes won his 3rd Superbowl and his 3rd Superbowl MVP making him the 2nd youngest to do this in Superbowl history.



Patrick Mahomes, Superbowl MVP holding the Vince Lombardi Trophy after his third Superbowl win. (Photo Courtesy of wtop.com)

## Senior's Final Homerun

By Austin Gonzalez and Melanie Plascencia

With the start of the baseball season, there have been many emotions and expectations for the boys. So far, the team has played against Sultana, and West Covina.

This season is important for all seniors since it is their last year. With it being their final high school season, they want to prove themselves and show what they can really do.

"I'm sad this is my last high school season because it is my last year playing with all the friends I grew up with," said Carson Sena (third baseman.)

"I'm looking forward to the game against Don Lugo the most because rivalry games are the most fun to play in," said Sena. The Cowboys take on the Conquistadors on 3/12, 4/2, and 4/4.

The team started off the season with a loss against Sultana High School but came back with a 9-1 win against West Covina the next day. The next opponents for the Cowboys are Elsinore, Chino Hills and Riverside Prep. The cowboys expect to take the win against these 3 schools.

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#### **Softball Swings into their Season**

By Alyssa Candelaria and Nadia Orozco

The Chino High Softball Team started their 2024 season against Etiwanda where the cowgirls lost 0-8. Their next game was against Kaiser High where the cowgirls won but lost their game against Cajon high.

Senior captain Mayah Larenas told *The Lariat,* "My senior year is going well. I am enjoying it so far."

The cowgirls' next games are against Los Osos, Poly, Ayala, and Glendora.

The team is up for another league champion title after coming first in the Mt Baldy league with a record of 11-4.

Larenas said, "I do see the team going to CIF with our strong defense."

The team has been working to have the best season possible to claim their title.

Larenas states, "There needs to be more communication within the team and further development in our batting skills."



Mayah Larenas after hitting her first home run of her senior season against Fontana's Kaiser High School.

# Boys Tennis Aces Competition

By Evan Gray

Boys Tennis finished tryouts February 13<sup>th</sup> and are heading into their spring 2024 season. Chino is entering as the returning League Champions after beating out Montclair High School the previous year for the title.

The team is led by head coach and athletic director Michael Hinkle and assistant coaches Hannah Castaneda, Joshua Pratt, and Hieu Ho. The team kept most of its starting lineup from last year, losing only four seniors the previous year.

This is the first year the boys' team can play matches on the refurbished courts. The courts started construction all the way back into the 2021-2022 school year and have undergone many changes including color of the courts, stands, and overall number of courts.

Singles #1 Cecil Howell said, "As a long-time tennis player, I think that the courts allow for more space for players to learn the game. Many times, physical congestion leads to mental congestion and less learning, so I hope our team can use the extra space to continue to improve our understanding of the game."

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#### Is Valentine's Day Worthy of its Merit as a Holiday?

By Shawn Nelms

As February came and went, so do the many holidays confined within it. Having it passed, Valentine's Day made its yearly appearance to the delight of the many who partake in its festivities. On the other side of that perspective, however, were the

many who remain single feeling left out and alone during the day. As presented in both instances, whether in a relationship or not, Valentine's Day creates an expectation that many feel they must fulfill.



Another reason that contrib-

many who found the holiday just another normal day. With such contrast present during this time, it raises the question, is Valentine's Day a holiday worthy of its merit as a holiday? Upon careful thought, I do not believe that the holiday should be held in such high regard.

The first reason that comes to mind when discussing this topic is the pressure it creates for many people. For those in a relationship, the holiday can often pressure people into spending money on their significant other, as if not, it may convey a lack of appreciation or love. Even for those who are single, pressure is primarily focused on the desire to not be alone on the holiday, which often leads to

utes to this idea is how corporate the holiday has become. Granted all corporations make it a point to during the holidays, Valentine's Day seems much more apparent in this practice. This more corporate feeling contributes to making the holiday feel less genuine and making it more of a day that celebrates the excessive buying of unessential goods.

One last reason is that the holiday itself has become a day that celebrates grand gestures rather than genuine affection. Often, the core meaning of the holiday is smothered beneath by the need to "prove" one's love for another person. This need to "prove" one's love is a large contributor to why Valentine's Day is criticized. The day has a certain competitive feel that can make many lose sight of why they are celebrating the holiday to begin with.

Valentine's Day is a holiday that is and will continue to be celebrated by many across the



world. Along with its celebration will also be its many praises and criticisms. From my point of view, I do not think Valentine's Day deserves its merit as a holiday.



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#### The Relevance of the Goth/ Punk Genre.

By Presley Penman & Mia Cardin

Starting in the mid 1970s, music began to flip a new leaf, bringing forth a new group of people to the scene. Rock and Roll soon would turn to a whole new light, therefore birthing Goth, and Punk.

Goth and Punk differ in many different terms. Whether it be based on fashion, lifestyle, political values, etc., both genres share a similar crowd of people. Something to also note, many songs you hear today, whether it be on the radio or any other streaming platforms, share sample pieces from goth/punk songs.



Siouxsie Sioux preforming in New York City in 1980. Photo courtesy of Wikipedia.com

The two cannot be mistaken. Goth shares a darker sound, primarily using bass chords and dark arrangements. Some popular musicians to name under the Goth genre are The Cure, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Joy Division, Depeche Mode, and The Sisters of Mercy. Goths are more recognizable with their dramatic, ghostly makeup or teased hair, along with strong fashion sense, which includes pieces like leather corsets, buckled belts, large boots, and so forth.

On the other hand, Punk tends to have rather fast paced songs with heavy drums and guitar. Some musicians to name under the Punk genre are Dead Kennedys, The Clash, Ramones, Misfits, Rancid, NOFX, and De-Their subculture scendants. tends to have a varied sense of style. Punks are recognized by their spiked hair and piercings, along with their leather patched jackets, anti-government symbolism, and boots. However, for both genres, fashion and appearance are subject to change depending on the person and their taste or views.

Not everything generally must be included with fashion and such when being into the Goth or Punk genre. Many say it balances between political views and others argue its strictly music based. With Goths being not as politically based and more focused on self-expression and authenticity. Punks are more focused on the belief of individual freedom, anti-authoritarianism, and anti-corporatism.

Yet, the question stands; "Why should these genres be relevant today?" Shyanne Felix, a senior here at Chino High says that "It's important to understand the value the genre brings considering many artists gather inspiration from past goth/punk artists."

Luke Vazquez, another senior states, "Many people seem to associate both genres with religion and such, but many would be surprised to see that the genre really doesn't have much relation to religion or anything. Who knows? They might enjoy the music if they pushed away most of the stereotypes."

Overall, you should not feel obligated to stick to one subculture. While the Hip-Hop and R&B genres are currently at their peak in this generation, you cannot happen to forget the other aspects of music that helped build new musicians today. All music correlates to one another, no matter the genre. Do not be scared to dive into new interests, most will not bite.

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#### The 66th Annual GRAMMYS

#### By Melenie Morelos

On February 4th, 2024, the 66th annual Grammy's highlighted the incredible talent and diversity of the music industry talk show host Trevor Noah held this years Grammy's

Peso Pluma won the best Musica Mexicana Album of 2024, which is his first Grammy award. The 24-year-old grammy winner put Mexican music on the map with his albums.

Karol G also won her first ever grammy for her 2023 Manana Sera Bonito. She said, "This is my first time at the GRAMMY'S, and this is my first time holding my own GRAMMY'S" the exciting words from the Colombian songwriter.

Another amazing artist that won her first two Grammy was Miley Cyrus for her song "Flowers". She won the most prestigious GRAMMY of her career. She performed her award winning song "Flowers" and the crowd loved it, singing along. This was a broad experience for the audience and herself, making it a night to remember.

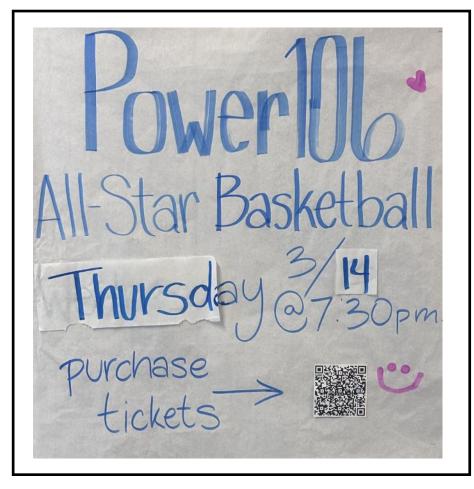
Billie Eilish was up for six Grammy's this year and she went home with two. Five of those awards were for the song "What Was I Made For" which was nominated for best music video. Best Pop Solo Performance, and for Song of the Year. This song was played in the movie "Barbie."

Taylor Swift, a huge icon, made history with her fourth album of the year win for her album Midnights; she also won Pop Vocal Album Award. She is the first women and the fourth musician to win album of the year three times with her eighth studio album. She was also honored as a global icon.

First-year Chino High student, Valerie Morelos said, "I'm happy that Peso Pluma won a Grammy and putting the Mexican music out so many people can enjoy listening to it."

The selection of the Grammys awarded are based on artists from October 1st of 2022 to September 15th of 2023, and are chosen by the members of The Recording academy.

The Grammy's is the best award show by showing massive stars, classy performances, historic wins, and the amazing moments people get to experience of winning an award like a Grammy.



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# Superbowl LVIII Halftime Show Upsets Anime Community

By Natalia Castillo Cortes

As the most anticipated football game of the year, the Super Bowl LVIII reached its midpoint, many spectators awaited eagerly to catch the halftime show starring Usher.

In past years, many artists have tokened the Super Bowls

that, "It seemed like if she hadn't practiced since her last performance."

Though the biggest criticism of all had users across the internet upset with Usher the most. In late September of 2023 when Usher had announced he would

## "Fans were enraged with Usher,"

stage by storm. Stars such as Michael Jackson, Destiney's Child, and the Weekend provided football fans, also general audiences with show-stopping performances. They're regarded as some of the best shows the Super Bowl has seen. Usher was no different, being a pioneers of the club music scene in the early 2000's, so fans were ecstatic to see his live performance.

However, many fans took to social media to complain about the show that was given. Alongside Usher, familiar artists shared the spotlight including Alicia Keys, H.E.R, and Ludacris.

Fans were quick to point out the underwhelming performance that Alicia Keys gave regarding her singing. At the start of her, "If I Ain't Got You" set, she had an off keynote causing a noticeable voice crack. An X user stated headline the Super Bowl LVIII, it caught the attention of anime fans. Early January of this year, Usher teased fans with a video posted on his TikTok. He dressed up as Gojo and responded with the caption, "RIP Gojo, were standing next to you..." Doing Gojo's famous stance along with an edit of the character to his song, Standing Next to You, where he briefly mentions Gojo.

Fans took to their social media taking it as a sign of the character's inclusion in the Super Bowl. When the Halftime show ended fans were enraged with Usher, stating that they were misled. Although there being no official documentation where Usher promised fans, he would perform it. Fans took it a sign of disrespect towards them.

#### What Films are Students Excited For?

By Landen Doyle

2024 looks to be an intriguing year for the art of film, with multiple films being some of the most looked forward to films for years. The Lariat took to the CHS campus and asked the students what movies they're excited for this year.

The choices that were up for picks were; Joker: Folie A Deux, Deadpool 3, Mean Girls, Bob Marley: One Love, Kung Fu Panda 4, Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire, and Sonic 3

A survey of 27 students found; 9 said Deadpool 3, 7 said Joker: Folie A Deux, 5 Said Kung Fu Panda 4, 5 people said Sonic 3, and 3 said Bob Marley: One Love. "The first Joker movie was amazing, and I've been waiting years for the second movie," said Junior Mason McGowan.

Junior Daniel Scmidt had this to say about the list of anticipated films in 2024. "This year was pretty good for movies, better than it is normally. This year has many originals and tasteful sequels that look good"

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## **The History of Groundhog Day**

#### By Samantha Sandoval

Groundhog Day is an annual event celebrated on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This celebration dates back 137 years ago and is looked forward to by people who want to know when they should prepare for an early or late spring.

Groundhog Day originated in 1887, and has been observed since. Most people would think of this day as another holiday that comes around every year, but what they don't realize is that this is a highly focused event to determine when spring will come each year.

One question that arises eve-



Photo courtesy of jull111 on www.pixabay.com

ry year is how accurate the groundhog is. This year, the accuracy rate was at 39%. This

rate determines if there will be an early spring or a continuous winter for another 6 weeks (about 1 and a half months).

Our current groundhog is named Punxsutawney Phil. On Groundhog Day, when Phil emerges from his burrow and he sees his shadow, he will go back into his den and winter will continue for another 6 weeks. If Phil does not see his shadow, spring will arrive early.

This year on Groundhog Day, Phil predicted that there will be an early spring. We may not know it now, but we will see if it is true when the time comes.

### **The Questioning of Conspiracy Theories**

#### By Alyssa Candelaria

Conspiracy theories have been a part of American history. These theories started before the American Revolution and have shaped the way Americans look at things.

Some of the most famous theories include faking the moon landing, the CIA taking part in John F Kennedy's death, and Princess Diana's death not being an accident.

Theories really make people wonder what is true and what is not and what the government wants us to know.

The death of Princess Diana was said to be a cover up by the British royal family. Claims like the paparazzi intentionally caused the crash, Dianas bodyguard being killed, and her medical care being sabotaged. These make people wonder if this was really an accident or was planned.

Another theory is the moon landing was not real, and the landing was filmed on a sound-stage. This theory was debunked because in 1969 since NASA did not have the technology to fake it.

People do not know what is true or false, and just believe what social media want them to believe.

There are many modern-day theories, but the most popular one is that the Coronavirus pandemic was intentional and was a way for the population to decrease.

Theories like this are not going away and will become part of our future for many years to come. March 6, 2024 Features 13

#### A Breakdown of Crime Scene Investigation Class

#### By Breena Delgado and Ryan Neider

Crime Scene Investigation is a ROP class here in Chino High School taught by Mr. Wachowski. If you are interested in Law enforcement, this class is for you.

Before you join this class, you are asked to sign a form telling you what will be discussed and taught in the class. Some of the expectations in the class are:

1. Adhere to and model the Baldy View ROP Expectations for Student Conduct. 2. Come to class on time and prepare to learn. (Pencils sharpened, pen,

CSI can guide you to your career path in law enforcement, it teaches you how to investigate a crime scene properly, what to expect, and how to analyze a situation. Mr. Wachowski has his own notes posted for this segment which are known as the "Seven S's"

Secure the scene, the first Officer to arrive at the scene of crime should secure the scene making sure everyone in the area is safe and then isolate the area to preserve the evidence.

"It teaches you how to investigate a crime scene properly, what to expect, and how to analyze"

paper, and notebooks), 3. Respect all property. (School property, personal property, and other's property). 4. Respect all ideas given in class and do not criticize anyone's ideas or thoughts, 5. Demonstrate respect to others by not interrupting another students' learning. 6. All electronic devices are to be set to silent and kept out of sight during class unless directed otherwise by the instructor. 7. Strive to do your personal best.

Separate the witnesses, separating the witnesses from the crime keeps them from collaborating their stories.

Scan the scene, scanning the scene gives an overall picture of the crime, where investigator will identify the primary scene, to the secondary scene.

See the scene, the photography unit will take pictures to identify the crime scene items, using evidence markers, rulers, and close-up pictures.

Sketching the scene, sketching the scene is a way that investigators could recreate the scene at an alternate location. The sketch includes objects in the room, location of evidence, the date, time, location, and case number.

Search for evidence, the search for evidence is conducted to identify evidence at the crime scene that may be overlooked, this step is usually chosen by the lead investigator

Secure and collect evidence, these techniques keep evidence from being tampered with or damaged, each evidence piece is logged and marked with an evidence label. This is required for the items to be admissible, or acceptable as evidence, in a court of law.

To get started with this class, Mr. Wachowski is a very laid-back teacher, he does not expect much from his students but to do their work and participates in discussions. Some things discussed in class are serial killers, we discuss a new serial killer every week, while going in depth about how they started their crimes and how they were eventually caught.

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Students are often quizzed on the topic but normally go over the question on the quiz beforehand. They are expected to write crime articles every week and share them aloud with the class on Wednesdays. Some of the killers discussed in class are Richard Ramirez, Ted Bundy, Jeffrey Dahmer, John Wayne Gacy, Ed Gein, and many more.

Many students are interested in this class, especially those who are interested in that line of work, as it walks us step by step in how law enforcement was able to catch these killers and clues to follow and what to look for in a crime scene.

This is an interesting class, it could be sad but informative to learn about different crimes.

Some students from Mr. Wachowski's class like Cherish Charles claim "My sympathy for other lives out there builds every day, because a lot of these victims did not deserve what happened to them", "it is also interesting to see how psychology ties into crime scene and the parts it plays".

This class could also be beneficial to those who are interested in this line of work. It gives them an earlier knowledge of how to handle crime scenes and what is possible. It brings more preparation for the line of work that's dedicated to crime scenes.



"Valentines Day Cartoon" Art by Ashley Ryan Nichols

#### The Exciting Leap Year

By Samantha Sandoval

An exciting day is occurring for the first time in 4 years that we won't be able to see for another 4 years. This year, we will be experiencing a Leap Year.

A Leap Year is when we have an extra day in February,

We all know that it takes Earth 365 days to orbit the sun, but we need to add an extra day in the year so that it doesn't mess up our calendars every few years.

If Earth were to never have a Leap Year, we would be experi-

# "The reason for a Leap Year is simply due to the Earth's Orbit."

meaning February 29th. This may be the most exciting day for people who have birthdays on Leap Day since they only celebrate their birthdays every 4 years.

There must be a reason for a Leap Year, so why is there one? The reason for a Leap Year is simply due to the Earth's Orbit. encing a summer in November in the next hundred years.

Many corporations celebrate this event for Leap Day birthdays, offering free benefits at certain places.

At Chino High, the student store is offering a buy one get one free snack for to celebrate the 2024 Leap Day.