

COYOTE DROPPINGS

OFFICIAL SCHOOL NEWSPAPER OF CHANDLER EARLY
COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Chandler Early
College High School
NEWSPAPER



Chandler
Early
College

CEC AND CGCC

CEC students balance high school,
CGCC college classes, and life

COMPLETE STORY ON P. 7



VOLUME 2
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TEEN DRUG USE

The country—and Arizona—still
wrestles with far too many
teenagers using illegal drugs

FINISH READING ON P. 2

HITTING THE MAIN STAGE

One of CEC's own finds solace in
Improvisational Acting

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DRUG USE IN TEENS AT ALL TIME HIGH

ARIZONA NO EXCEPTION

By Chandi Brack

The use of drugs affects many peoples' lives. Using drugs as a teen can both slow down and negatively affect the development of the adolescent brain. Illicit drug use in teens, when the brain isn't fully developed, can cause mental health issues such as depression, personality disorders, and even bring about suicidal thoughts.

Senior Lavender Hubbard has had people in her life who have struggled with drug addiction.

"When you become a teenager, there are a lot of new changes that you must adapt to," she said. "Throwing drugs in the mix is detrimental to adolescence as it messes with our brain when it's not even done developing, and increases your chance of developing an addiction."

Teens who abuse drugs are more prone to addiction. The average teen brain goes through a series of adaptations throughout adolescence. Drug use, however, hinders this development. These drugs cause the brain to develop more slowly, and, as a result, can trigger mental health disorders. A study conducted in 2011 found that 90 percent of Americans that have substance abuse problems started when they were under the age of 18.

"In teenagers, drugs can often be a love-hate relationship," said senior Connor Keith. "Fentanyl, for example, is like the 'abusive relationship' of drugs."

Though many teens try doing drugs once and don't experience symptoms of addiction, many others become immediately hooked. Nevertheless, there are a number of teens who are predisposed to becoming addicted. No matter what, if you do drugs as a teenager, when your brain isn't fully developed, you have a much greater chance of becoming an addict.

In Arizona alone, opioid- involved death has risen 76 percent since 2013. From the time period of 2013-2017, teen deaths caused by heroin increased by 231 people in just five years. And this number continues to rise.

When teens use illicit drugs, they are putting their lives at risk, as well as affecting negatively the lives of others. They cause strife within their families

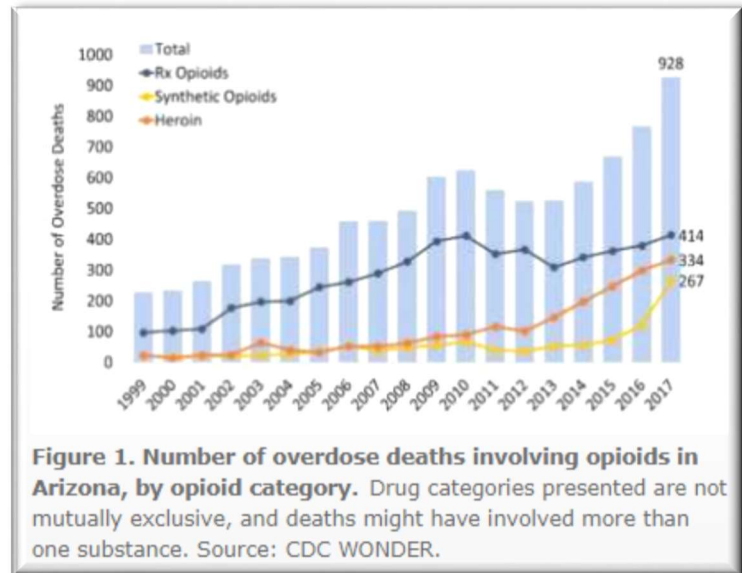
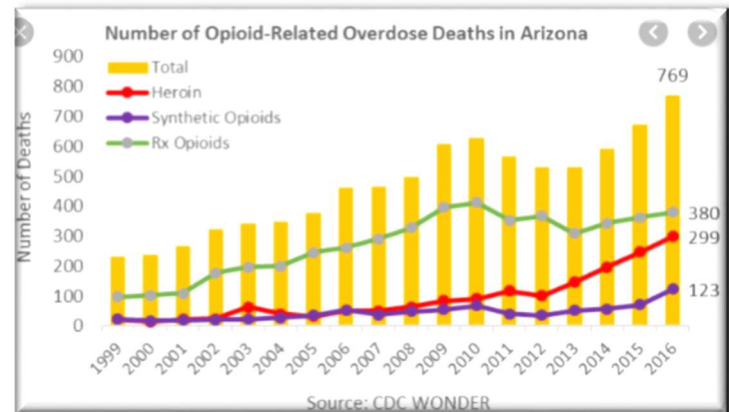


Figure 1. Number of overdose deaths involving opioids in Arizona, by opioid category. Drug categories presented are not mutually exclusive, and deaths might have involved more than one substance. Source: CDC WONDER.

Graph from Nation Institute on Drug



Graph from Arizona Opioid Summary

because drug users tend to not care about their behaviors and how these behaviors affect others. These family members often will try and get these teens help, but frequently these teens do not want the help.

"No one should be using drugs," senior Jarrod Watkins said, "It literally rewires your brain over time with enough use, and, depending on the substance, it can cost you your life."

In 2015, over 770 teenagers ages 15 to 19 died of drug overdoses. In 2016, approximately 180,000 teens' ages 12 to 17 had to get treatment for drug and alcohol problems.

"Drugs are a waste of money, a waste of time, and a waste of your health," said senior Cristian Valdez. "I have friends who ask me to do this stuff all the time and I simply tell them 'no'."

BILL AND TED!

MAKE THEIR WAY BACK TO THE BIG SCREEN



Photo courtesy theverge.com

**ICONIC DUO
REVISE THEIR
ROLES AFTER
ALMOST THREE
DECADES**

By Jaden Ruston

Ah, one of the most iconic duos of the 80s, Bill and Ted. Portrayed by Alex Winter and Keanu Reeves, these two screen icons are making a comeback in summer of 2020. The two made their first appearance in the outrageously creative 1989 film, *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*, followed a couple years later by 1991's *Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey*.

In the first installment, slacker best friends Bill and Ted are on the verge of failing their high school history class when they encounter a time machine. The two get the bright idea of using the time machine to travel through to different historical events and periods in order to kidnap famous historical figures to use in their end-of-course presentations. If they ace the presentation, they will pass the history class. The sequel takes place in the future, where the pair, now leaders of a band called Wyld Stallyns, are killed by a pair of robot duplicates of them sent by a villain of the future. Bill and Ted try to escape the afterlife by beating the grim reaper in a series of games. The new film, *Bill and Ted Face the Music*, details their journey of saving the world through one of their songs.

As ridiculous as it may sound, the first two installments became cult classics despite their seemingly outlandish plots.

Basha High school graduate Aislinn White can't wait to see the new film.

"The first one is a personal favorite of mine," she said.

CEC sophomore Riley Gann watched the originals thanks to some advice from her father.

"I loved the movie *Napoleon Dynamite*, and he told me these were a lot like that movie," she said.

She had no idea they were making a sequel.

"I didn't know, but now that I do, I am definitely going to see it," she said.

The movie has already generated a lot of hype in movie fans and fans of the originals. At the same time, it has also a lot of negative attention, so it will be interesting to see the overall reaction to the movie when it finally comes out.

13 REASONS WHY

CONTROVERSY SURROUNDS NETFLIX'S TEEN DRAMA



Photo courtesy Variety

By Emi Paduret

It was about two-and-a-half years ago that *13 Reasons Why* premiered on Netflix, and the controversy has not since diminished. Show creators say the show's existence serves as a backdrop in which to talk about mental health. Recent polls, however, show that most people with mental health issues do not enjoy the show's portrayals.

The first season featured Hannah Baker (played by Catherine Langford) as the main protagonist. The point of the first season is for Hannah to announce to the world the thirteen reasons why she killed herself and to call out the people who pushed her to commit suicide.

13 Reasons Why seems to glorify the suffering endured by those with mental health issues. Most people who suffer from a mental health disorder refuse to seek treatment because they feel alone and they don't want the unnecessary attention. Plus, there is the fear that others will think they are faking their illnesses.

"It feels like the show got such a large audience because of its shock value," said senior Lavender Hubbard. "It really seems as if they are trying to make mental health issues trendy."

This has resulted in some unwanted consequences. Since the show air date, there has been an increase in the number of suicides in teens in the age range from 10-17. Whether it is cause or correlation, the show has definitely had an impact on society.

Season 3 hit Netflix last month, and the show's writers plan on keeping the show going, even with all the backlash it has received.

Mental health disorders are a fact of life here in America, with 1 in 7 people suffering from at least one. General anxiety disorder ranks first, with substance abuse coming in second place.

"I feel like young and impressionable teens should not watch this show," said Hubbard. "It is totally inappropriate and serves to do nothing more than capitalize on those with mental health disorders."

If you or someone you know suffers from a mental health disorder, it is important to seek the guidance of a mental health professional. As it stands, nearly two-thirds of all people with mental health issues have never seen one.

MANDARIN CHEF SERVES UP DELICIOUS CUISINE

CUSTOMERS SAY SOME OF BEST IN EAST VALLEY



Photo Courtesy Google



Photo Courtesy Mandarin Chef

By Serenity Spencer

It is estimated that there are over 41,000 Chinese restaurants in the U.S. Here in the East Valley, we have one of the best. Mandarin Chef family-run and has been serving delicious cuisine for over 10 years.

There are tons of options for every person, no matter your tastes. If you don't find something you like, just let the staff know, and the kitchen will happily make it for you! The most popular items are the Lo Mein, orange and honey chicken, Mongolian beef, Kung Pao chicken and the crab puffs.

Although these dishes tend to be the most popular, every dish is worth sampling, and there are even additional eclectic delights you may have never heard of. Customers across the valley regularly compliment staff on the quality and taste of the food, and many have even vouched that this is the best Chinese you can get in the Valley.

The original owners of the restaurant built it from the ground up and operated it for about 10 years. Earlier this year, it was sold to the current owners. If the quality of food, service and cleanliness are any indicator, they are committed to making the restaurant the best it can be. The owners can all be seen working tirelessly 6 days a week from open to close – and they do it with smiles on their faces.

Mandarin Chef provides a wonderful working environment for its employees. There are five staff members, including myself, and we have all expressed our love for the environment the owners and managers provide.

I, and many others, recommend this restaurant for the quality of the food, and hospitality of the people who open its doors to guests each day.

IMPROVING AT IMPROV GETS YOU A SPOT ON THE MAIN STAGE

CEC STUDENT DISCOVERS HER PASSION



Photo Courtesy Lavender Hubbard

By Summer Szydlowski

Have you ever thought about going on stage with an eager audience watching your every move and hanging on to your every word? CEC senior Lavender Hubbard does this very thing every week. She is fully prepared by having nothing prepared at all.

Hubbard performs improvisational acting for fun.

Improvisation, or improv, creates an element of spontaneous and unpredictable experiences that range from ecstatic laughter to anger to sadness. During improv, you have to be fully prepared to take ideas from the audience.

Hubbard's mom is the one who introduced her to improv when she was only 13 years old.

"I had lost the spark I had when I was younger due to my life changing in a way that I was not pleased with at the time," she said.

Her mom surprised her by taking her to an improv audition.

"She kept it a secret until I got there, which I'm very thankful for because I probably would have been a lot more nervous if I knew where I going," she said.

Hubbard has loved improv ever since that night.

"I absolutely love being on stage," she said. "I love the adrenaline I get, the feeling of the energy from the audience. It puts me in such a good mood."

Improvisational acting is different from mainstream acting because, often, the actors have no written lines.

"I am better at improv than role acting because I love the thrill of doing scene work on the spot," she said. "I also love seeing a suggestion from an audience member turn into a series of scenes. It's such an awesome concept to me."

Hubbard spends hours every week practicing at ImprovMANIA in downtown Chandler.

ImprovMANIA offers multiple improv levels and classes that you can take in order to learn and or sharpen your improv skills. Hubbard started at improvMANIA over summer break. When she first started, Hubbard was part of the Monday improv troupe, which is a level down from Main Stage. Sensing an opportunity, she jumped in feet first.

"They have shows every Thursday and I made sure I was part of each of these shows," she said.

Her diligence paid off. The Main Stage only has auditions twice a year. Luckily, Hubbard joined in time to take part in the September 4th audition and got a call back the next week.

"I have to point out that this was Beyoncé's birthday, so I knew I was going to have good luck!" she exclaimed.

Hubbard's first performance on the Main Stage was only a couple of weeks ago. She and her improv cohorts will be hitting the stage every Friday and some Saturdays at 7pm. There is also an open mic Thursday through Saturday.

"If you ever feel like exercising your funny bone," she said, "ImprovMANIA would be the place to do it!"

CEC STUDENTS TAKE GIANT LEAP FORWARD

A LOOK INTO COLLEGE LIFE AT CGCC

By: J Lore Chargualaf

CEC students returned to school this year with renewed ambition and a bright future ahead of them. The start of a new school year meant new beginnings which includes taking on a college life while balancing high school and possibly a job. The unique relationship between CEC and CGCC enables CEC students to not have to travel very far for their college classes. Thus, the path to success is much easier.

CEC Junior Alison Carr began taking CGCC classes as soon as she arrived at CEC. She chose to take a psychology class, as her future major will be psychology. She finds that taking both classes, though time-consuming, opens up her horizons, as she gets to experience college life while in high school.

"I have found that a good instructor is necessary in college in order to truly enjoy the class," she said.

Carr notes that her professor not only makes class enjoyable, but also plays a part in ensuring Carr fully experiences college life, while also keeping her academics in check.

There are over 2,000 classes available on the CGCC campus. CEC students can choose from several of these classes. From electives such as weight training, yoga, and ceramics, to core classes such as English and college algebra, CGCC seeks to cater to the diverse interests of its students. The atmosphere at CEC mirrors this culture by molding its students into college students even before they graduate. Having concurrent enrollment at both schools means finishing high school at an accelerated rate while at the same time accumulating knowledge from any other classes you might be interested in.



Photo by Abigail Cooper

Since classes on the college campus are generally small, they aren't as overwhelming as what you may expect in a formal college setting. In this sense, classes at CEC and CGCC are very much alike.

Emeline Cooper, a CEC Senior who tackles college algebra on the CGCC campus, believes the CGCC classes are both efficient and fun.

"They can be challenging," she said, "but as long as you stay on top of your work, it's pretty easy."

Her experience at CEC and CGCC has helped Cooper change her way of thinking when it comes to college. She is now a firm believer that anyone considering college should realize that not only is college not scary, but that, as long as you stay on task and strive to succeed, CEC has already set you up to come out on top.

ARTIST SHOWCASE

By Nadean Accra

Here at CEC, we have many talented artists. Freshman Shareeka Fuller specializes in graphic art, hand drawn art, and oil paintings.

SHAREEKA FULLER

Fuller is a multi-talented artist and works with a lot of different colors and tools.

She has been drawing since she was a young girl, and feels fortunate that she has found a creative outlet she truly enjoys.

"I always liked drawing ever since I was a baby," she said. "I really enjoyed it and kept at it. I usually lose interest in a lot of things kind of quickly, but drawing---and music, of course – I never grow tired of."

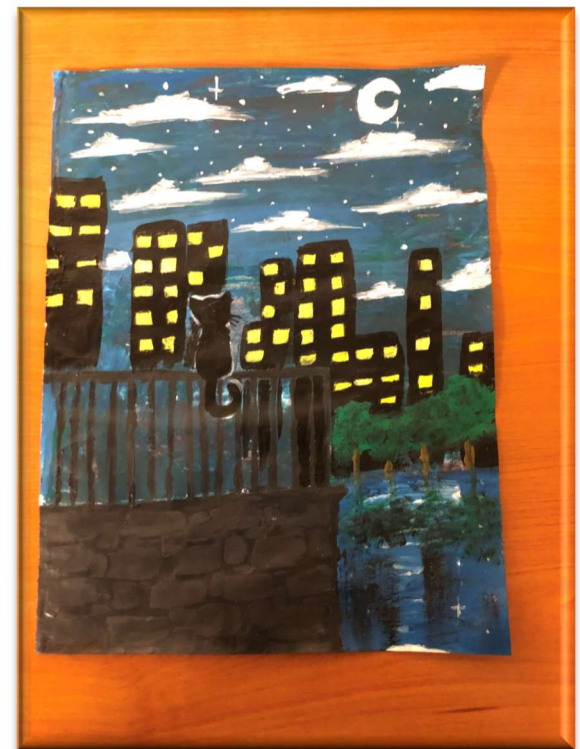
Fuller's artwork isn't really inspired by any one thing. Instead, she just draws whatever comes to her mind.

"I don't have a vision to prove or the need to push my art, I just do it," she said. "There may be something in my subconscious being projected onto my drawings."

"I like drawing eyes a lot, so that may be some correlation to my subconscious. There is also a chance that I may just like drawing eyes and stuff," she said.

Fuller's father was the first person to influence her to start drawing and is the reason why she started drawing at such a young age.

"He's the reason I started so young in the first place," she said. "It's something I could relate to him because he's been deaf since he was 14. He used to paint, and he liked messing with stuff and fixing it back up."



WE GOT SPIRIT, YES WE DO!

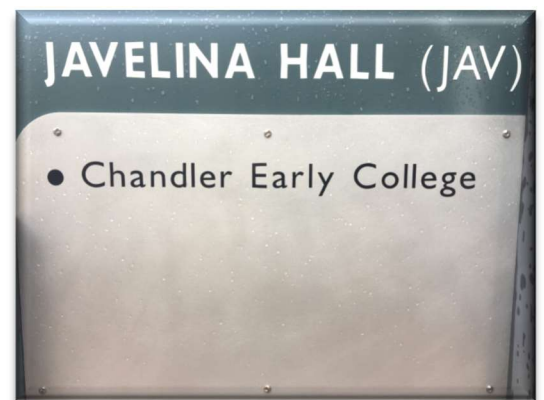


COYOTE  DROPPINGS
OFFICIAL SCHOOL NEWSPAPER OF CHANDLER EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

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LLAMAS AND ALPACAS: WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE?

By: Shareeka Fuller

As far as pack animals are concerned, llamas and alpacas are both adorable and beneficial. For thousands of years, humans have used llamas and alpacas as herd animals, and as domesticated pets.

Llamas have slender banana-shaped ears, while alpacas have shorter ears pointed upward. Llamas also have longer faces, while the face of an alpaca appears smushed. Llamas are also larger in size than alpacas, weighing up to 400 pounds and growing to be about 6 feet tall. Alpacas typically only reach about 150 pounds and stand only about 3 feet tall. Both spit when angry.

The most common breed of alpaca, the Huacaya alpaca, grows fur that is very fluffy and can be found in the Andes Mountains of Peru. They prefer to spend their time in elevations higher than 4,000 meters above sea level. The other alpaca breed, Suri, is less common, making up only 10 percent of the alpaca population. Both types of alpaca consume grass as if they were lawnmowers.

Llamas can be found all over South America and, believe it or not, are originated from the plains of North America, but migrated South millions of years ago. Llamas are fiercely protective and are often used to protect other herd animals, such as sheep and even alpaca.

Baby llamas and alpacas are called "cria", which in Spanish means "baby." Alpacas also hum and, when they are trying to be friendly, they produce this clucking and clicking sound.

Both llamas and alpacas can run up to 35 miles an hour. Their fur is not only soft, but it is also not itchy like wool.

Though not as popular here in the U.S. as parts of South America, there are more and more llama and alpaca farms popping up across the country. Who knows, maybe someday these two cousins will become as American as apple pie?



Stock Photos



MOVIE



REVIEWS

🐾 = Yuck. 🐾🐾 = Meh. 🐾🐾🐾 = It's OK. 🐾🐾🐾🐾 = Pretty darn good! 🐾🐾🐾🐾🐾 = It's a Classic



Photo Courtesy Warner Bros

By Joseph Hensley

In a nutshell, *It Chapter Two* is a mediocre horror movie. If it works at all, it is as a comedy – or rather, a comedic drama about adults trying to come to terms with their lingering childhood traumas.

Pennywise the clown is back again, this time trying to lure to their deaths the now-grown members of the Losers Club: Eddie, Bill, Beverly, Richie, Ben, Stanley, and Mike. The gang is called back to Derry, New Hampshire by Mike in order to close the bloody chapter that began 27 years earlier. *It Chapter Two* is made worse movie for heaping on explanation. Here, more is lesser. *Chapter Two* explores the Pennywise mythology by connecting it to Native American folklore. It reaches back into each character's past during a sagging middle section that finds each roughly rendered Loser individually finding a childhood relic that they'll later throw in a bucket to help kill the clown. The clown is trying to divide the Losers all the entire movie in order to turn them against them and make them weaker. That's how he conquers, he tries to conquer them and destroy them.

It Chapter Two is nearly three hours long, which may be too much for viewers who are not die-hard. Nevertheless, there are a number of laugh-out-loud moments, as well as quite a few jump scares that will please the casual movie watcher.

It Chapter Two stars James McAvoy, Isaiah Mustafa, Jessica Chastain, Bill Hader, Jay Ryan, and Andy Bean. 🐾🐾🐾