



Wildcat Tribune

VOLUME I ISSUE IX

www.thewildcattribune.com

FEBRUARY 28 2014

DVHSTribune @WildcatTribune

DVHS To Host Free City-Sponsored Event

By Michael Tobin
Web Editor

On Friday, March 21, the City of San Ramon Teen Council, in collaboration with the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse (NCAPDA), will present the free community education event "Behind the Orange Curtain". It will take place at the Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Following a viewing of the award-winning documentary, which addresses the reality and impacts of prescription drug abuse in suburban America, will be a panel discussion lead by several prominent speakers.

Behind the Orange Curtain exposes the shocking problem of teenage prescription drug abuse in one of our country's richest counties, Orange County. When many think of Orange County, they think of gated communities and opulent mansions on beautiful golden beaches where privileged kids are born with silver spoons in their mouths. Originating from the cold war phrase "behind the Iron Curtain," the term "behind the Orange Curtain" is used by people from Southern California to portray the "OC" as a place where its residents know nothing of what is going on in the rest of the world, only focusing on themselves and their local affairs. The film's intent is to expose the staggering numbers of OC teens dying from overdosing on illegally acquired prescription drugs. It also seeks to explain why this is happening by examining how peer pressure, a drug pushing pharmaceutical industry and the "dirty doctor system" play a role in this epidemic.

According to the film's informational website (behindtheorangecurtain.net): The film "is a wakeup call for parents. This is a very real epidemic that crosses all boundaries. It does not discriminate. It does not matter if you live on Park Avenue or a park bench. Using prescription drugs for anything other than

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In The Dark: The Story Behind Dougherty's Blackout Revealed

By Pooja Kini
Staff Writer

Monday, February 9, 2014: a day that will remain embedded in Wildcat history forever—but one that began as any other.

Students from every corner of the Dougherty Valley rose from bed, preparing themselves to take on another day of school. (Sophomore Aparna Manocha, for example, awoke by performing her own rendition of Beyonce's "Drunk In Love". Her reason? "Singing the 'surfboard' line makes me feel fierce," she says.)

Arriving at the black, wrought iron gates, they took deep breaths and proceeded through. It was just like any other day—students were conversing in the quad, finishing last minute homework, toiling away at DBQ's in A Period AP Euro. DECA participants could be heard from miles away, rocking matching sweat-shirts and narrating their weekend experiences in Anaheim.

It soon came to attention that a large group had formed at the entrance of the 3000 building. It seemed to be locked—deserted and pitch black inside. As the bell rang, questions arose in a flurry of whispers. What was going on? What do we do? Some waited anxiously while others, capitalizing on the opportunity, found a free pillar and took a snooze. The familiar crackling of the morning announcements sounded, hushing the crowd. "Attention students, school is cancelled."

Almost immediately, as if a switch were pressed, all erupted into cheers. For once, we could feel like the East Coast (minus

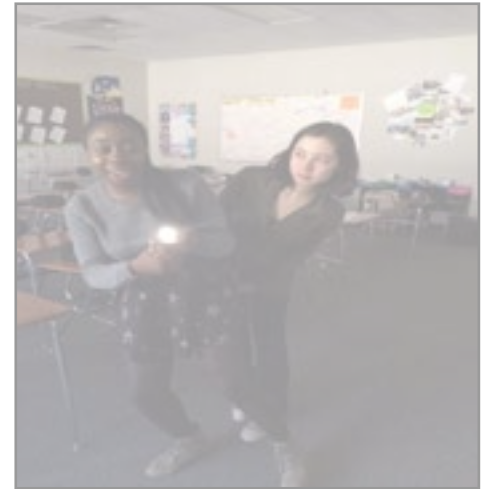


PHOTO COURTESY OF IRENE CHANG

Left in the dark, your normally fearless *Tribune* editors were anxious and afraid. Thank goodness for technology to light the way!

the snow). Friends embraced, some simultaneously weeping. A mob gravitated towards the exit rapidly. The mutual desire to "turn up" coursed through all (by "turn up" I mean do homework, of course), and it was by all means a fantastic day!

....The End?

No. Think again! There are questions still unanswered and more to this story—that of the real superheroes (well, superheroes to some)—which will be revealed to the public only now.

I was lucky enough to have a chat with our very own Principal Hillman about what went down in the 24 hours after the announcement:

PK: What caused the power outage?

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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

- Poll Results: Did Hogwarts or DC Comics win?
- *The Girl Scout Cookie Crumble*: Have you ever heard of the Aloha Chip?
- 5 quick steps to get your writing brain un-blocked and back on track
- More "HEY YOU'S"

and more!

WEEKEND WEATHER:

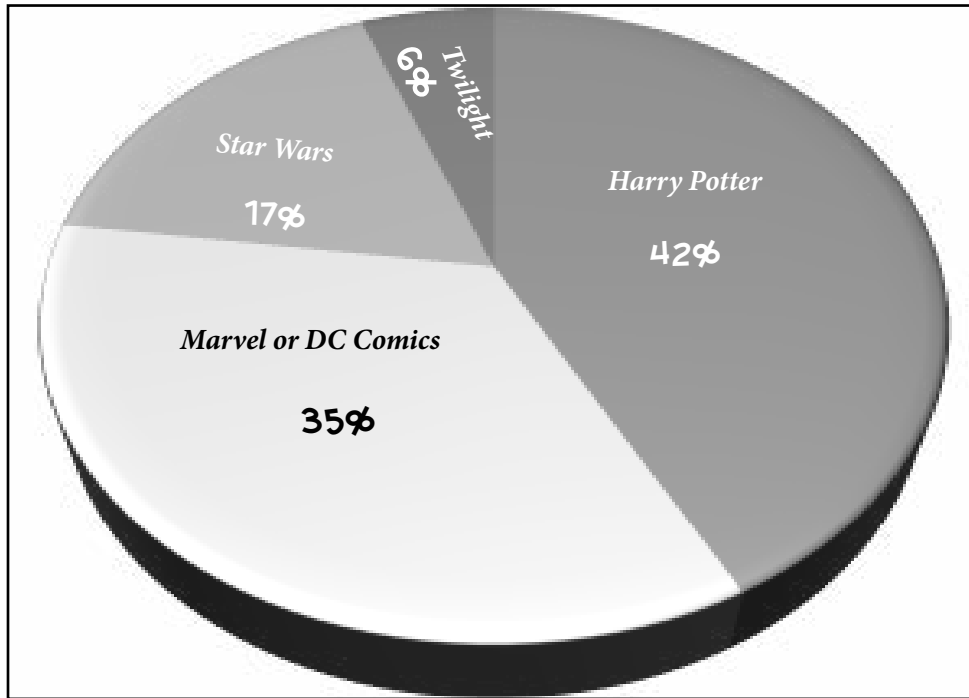


WEATHER COURTESY OF WEATHER.COM

WEEKEND AT DOUGHERTY:

- Crab Feed | FRI @ 6 P.M. | Shrine Center, Livermore
- Boys Baseball vs. NMHS | FRI @ 3:30 P.M. | Away
- Boys Lacrosse vs. CP | FRI @ 7 P.M. | Home
- Girls Lacrosse vs. CP | SAT @ 10 A.M. | Home

POLL: Which universe would you most like to live in?



NEXT POLL: *There are two types of people in the world—those who have experienced a completely mortifying moment at DVHS ... and liars.*

Think of this as catharsis: Share your embarrassing Dougherty story at tinyurl.com/dvheyyou for a chance to have your story (anonymously) published in the next Tribune issue.

Staff submissions welcome!

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							5	3
	3			8				9
			6	2		1		

Comments? Suggestions?
Letters to the Editor?

Send them our way at
dvhsheyyou@gmail.com

Blocking Your Writer's Block With These Foolproof Tips

By Eunice Chan
Staff Writer

The unicorn stared broodingly at me, its eyes seeming to say "Do you really think so?"

I looked away. "O-obviously. I..." My words suddenly came...

To a halt.

You stare at the keyboard, or the piece of paper with words sprawled across it, hand shaking with fear. Your mind races desperately, but after several seconds of nothing, you drop to the floor and wail, "Noo! I have been cursed with a terrible affliction! I have..." You fall down onto the ground, tears streaming freely down your face. With a horrible ache in your heart, you whisper, "writer's block."

Don't you just hate how writer's block can turn a future bestselling novel into a half-written manuscript that would only be spoken of in hushed whispers? Well, now armed with these 5 tips, you could turn that manuscript-which-must-not-be-spoken-of into a manuscript-that-could-be-spoken-of!

5. How Would Chuck Norris Write It?

Well, it doesn't have to be Chuck Norris. It could be anyone whose writing you admire, from Stephen King to an obscure fan-fiction writer. Choose a person and pretend the story was written by that person, and you ARE that person. Take up the strings, and manipulate your characters as that person. Bringing them to life, killing them off, showering them with tacos—whatever that person would have done. You don't necessarily have to keep this, but the new perspective could inspire you or excite you about the story again.

I spat on the ground, and lowered my hat. "I'm absolutely certain," I replied in a gravely voice, narrowing my eyes. "Ya got ah problem wit that?"

4. Be One With the Character

If you were talking to a unicorn who just asked a really deep question, how would you react? Conclude you're hallucinating, and getting the medical attention you

need, I hope.

But seriously, add in more elements from the story, such as "unicorns are normal", "this character is an idiot" or "magic exists" until you get an in-character response. Become the character fully. Pretend you live in that world.

The unicorn lowered his head, eyes staring at the ground in shame. "No, I don't," he replied slowly. "I'm sorry for earlier. I was just...caught up in my thoughts. Chuck, I can't hide it any longer. I need to tell you something."

3. Suddenly: Plot Twist

A plot twist that comes out of nowhere, and is expected by no one, is the perfect way to continue to write. You'll need to write several pages trying to explain how the plot twist was definitely foreshadowed, and that you definitely planned for it to happen. Then, you'll need to actually WRITE the consequences of the twist, trying to fit it in to the story. Writer's block usually occurs when you don't have any short-time goals that you need to get the characters to strive for, and all you could write about are them sitting around, twiddling their thumbs, which is boring for the readers, writer and characters.

"I'm actually a pony," the unicorn whispered shakily, not looking at me.

"B-but you horn!" I stammered, unable to comprehend. "I...just.... How? Why?"

The unicorn reached up, and pulled off his horn. "I'm sorry. This is just a party hat, and I'm not magical at all."

2. Characters with Character

Characters are boring if they're just flat and 2-D. They should feel like they are real, live people, animals or inanimate objects with whom the reader can sympathize. Thus, character development arcs are always welcomed. Since you could make the arc any time, you might as well make it now. Maybe when the new side of your character you've never seen before comes to light, it will also light up a bright bulb over your head.

However, sometimes, characters can't go anywhere or do anything significant because they are hiding or something else. That's fine—just make them nostalgic



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNCYCLOPEDIA.WIKIA.COM

Chuck Norris doesn't wear a watch. He decides what time it is.

with tons of flashbacks.

I remember it all now. I was a young'un, too innocent and naïve for the cruel world. However, that all changed when the great sheep-knight attacked my beautiful homeland of Imperial Nebraska...

1. Enter: New Character

Sometimes, a writer's block blocks you not because you don't know what to write, but because the characters can't achieve what you want because they are either too stupid to come up with the plan, or they gave away the last McGuffin seven chapters ago, and the trolls at the bridge would accept nothing else, or whatever. The point is: getting them from point A to point D is too exhausting, and you wished that you had thought it out more thoroughly so they would have the thingamabob right now.

But what is this? A stranger stands gallantly right there, blocking the setting sun! Here with exactly what we need! How could we thank you, character I've never seen before?

"Yo yo yo. Sup homies?" a llama asked, floating by. "Heard the word magic and I just wanted to tell y'all how much I love magic, man. Like, my carpet is magic, and I'm magic and I breathe magic. I'm pretty much the most magic magical living creature you'll ever find. Magic. I just love it." And peace descended upon the land.

Armed with these 5 tips, I now deem you worthy to fight the ghostly writer's block. Go forth, hero. Save the world. With the pen that writes the sword, defeat the accursed block.

ORANGE CURTAIN

their intended use can have life-threatening consequences.

The documentary was conceived by producer Natalie Costa after her daughter lost a childhood friend at the age of 17, due to an Opana overdose.

Costa has been screening the film to schools, churches, hospitals and gatherings locally and across the country to bring awareness to this epidemic. The film has won several festival awards including

the Newport Beach Filmmaker's Award and "Best Documentary Feature" at the 2012 Metropolitan Film Festival in NYC.

The city encourages everyone interested in attending to

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register by visiting: www.SanRamonRecGuide.com—Act# 91229. However, registration will also be available at the door.

"HEY YOU!"

HEY YOU, NR choncho jump.

HEY YOU, I love you ashy:).

HEY YOU, VP, you are the funniest person I know! Thank you for making me smile everyday I talk to you. :)

HEY YOU, #GoZoe, I still believe in you.

HEY YOU, Lazar- hey girl, hey! Love you.

HEY YOU, CAE, you will BE MINE! -NU

HEY YOU, Happy Birthday Rushika!

HEY YOU, Happy Birthday AG.

HEY YOU, I like your scarf BH.

HEY YOU, Tyson, I am beyond excited and happy that you're back!!!!!!

HEY YOU, You still owe me LT.

HEY YOU, Byron- thanks for being the best Co-BFF4E!

HEY YOU, AC, where's my cake?? Seriously, it's not funny anymore.

HEY YOU, Bo is my new crush. So what if I love the IDEA of him?

HEY YOU, Decks, thanks for not tossing and turning. Love ya!

HEY YOU, My students— you rock my world! I wake up every day with a smile because I know I'll get to see you all.—Ms. McCombs

HEY YOU, You've met with a terrible fate, haven't you?

HEY YOU, I can't wait to watch TFIOS!

HEY YOU, and DIVERGENT!

HEY YOU, AH can you please buy me a Sherlock shirt?

HEY YOU, and I am really sorry I forgot your birthday.

HEY YOU, Tsuj- thanks for being the best LL!

HEY YOU, ME I love your lunch box.

HEY YOU, AIDA WAS AMAZING OMG I CAN'T EVEN! MJ AND JASMINE YOU GUYS WERE SO PHENOMENAL. IF YOU MISSED AIDA (I DON'T WHY YOU WOULD) YOU CAN STILL BUY THE DVD. GO TO VEGA NOW BECAUSE THIS WAS BY FAR THE BEST SHOW DV HAS EVER

Got something to say to someone? Too shy to say it to their face?

Send a "HEY YOU" to dvhsheyyou@gmail.com or submit via our website or Facebook. Staff & teachers welcome too!

For more "HEY YOU'S" check www.thewildcattribune.com.

MADE. #COMECLAIMYOURKINGDOM

HEY YOU, AIDA, AIDA, AIDA, AIDA, AIDAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

HEY YOU, Byron, can we pleeeeeeease hang out soon?

HEY YOU, What is the opposite of ln(x)?

HEY YOU, Newspaper staff, you bring me hope and brighten my days.

BLACKOUT from Page 1

DH: The power outage was very simply caused by water entering a sealed electrical cabinet. Just like you have a circuit breaker in your house. Whereas if you were to plug in a microwave and hair dryer in simultaneously it would trip the breaker—the same occurred here. However, in this case, the breaker carried much more power. When the water entered it, it fried the electrical components inside and shut the breaker down. This broke the connection from the PG&E line through the breaker that broke to all that relied on it.

PK: How did you go about fixing the problem?

DH: First, we had an electrical sub-contractor come out, along with another company who tested to see if the breaker had indeed failed. PG&E then cut the power, pulled the equipment out and tested it, recognizing that it was broken. From there we tried to find a replacement part.

It was a very expensive piece of equipment but we were able to find it in Los Angeles. They put it on a truck at 2 p.m. and drove it up here. It arrived at 11 p.m. Monday night and we had power at about 2 a.m. Tuesday morning.

PK: Does this mean we'll have additional instructional days for this year?

DH: At this point, it's not like it's a snow day that we'll have to make it up. I'll be double checking with the District Office, but as of now I doubt it. That may change.

PK: How do you think you'll go about preventing such occurrences in the future?

DH: Already the cabinets have been resealed with rubber and a chemical adhesive, along with a piece of sheet metal in between them. A roof shall be built over them as well. That way water can never get back in there again.

Girl Scout Cookie Crumble

It's that time of year again: Girl Scout Cookie season! Here are some delicious details about them!

- The most popular GSC cookies are: Thin mints (25%), Samoas (19%), Tagalongs (13%), Do-Si-Dos (11%) & Trefoils (9%)
- More than 175 million boxes of these cookies are sold each year.

Let's also note some of the discontinued flavors, like: **Daisy Go Rounds** (daisy-shaped cinnamon cookies), **Aloha Chips** (white chocolate chip and macadamia nut cookies), **Kookaburras** (chocolate-coated caramel wafers) and **Juliettes** (milk chocolate, caramel and pecan).

Let's not forget about the Girl Scouts themselves:

- 2.3 million Girl Scouts
- 880,000 adult volunteers
- \$700 million annual revenue
- If you need to find one, there is a "Girl Scout Cookie Finder" app to find local girl scouts.
- DVHS Senior Joy Odufu sold 230 boxes!

Editor's Note: In last issue's poll, we misidentified the Marvel and DC Comics' universes as the same. We hope Tony Stark finds it in his heart to forgive us.

