Democratic Women of Kern gather

By Jo’Nell Gore
Reporter

The Democratic Women of Kern club (DWK) held a luncheon themed “Women in Politics” on Sept. 8. The event brought people together to shine a light on the women running for office in Kern County and the need to have women speaking for their communities.

The keynote speaker, labor leader Dolores Huerta, spoke about her struggles and accomplishments fighting for equal rights for women, immigrants, and farm workers.

“If women are not at the table then [people] are going to make the wrong decision,” said Huerta. “We know women, we have a different intuition, we think differently than men do. We bring a lot of different things to the table. Women do. We bring a lot more.”

Women like to be in control of their lives, but one election at a time, that is all changing. Huerta believes that women “think differently.” To the women that attend the luncheon, the difference in thinking is exactly what’s helping them reach the top, especially when they gather together at events like the DWK luncheon and share their desire to succeed.

“Women like to be in and of itself can be powerful, you get all the same thoughts, beliefs, and values systems as they do. So that’s where it’s powerful, you get all those women in a room together things can get done.”

Speakers emphasized that being a woman in and of itself can be what makes running for office hard or seem out of reach. According to many in the room, the thought of having women making decisions for everyone or rising in power can be the sole reason someone chooses to vote against them.

“Definitely, it’s very hard to be a candidate in general but as a woman you do face challenges that men don’t,” said Tatiana Matta, a candidate running for US representative of the 23rd congressional district of California.

“Especially, criticism about the way you look, what you wear, about your hair, the way you’re poised, the way you talk or your tone as a woman and I don’t think men get that a lot... So yes, there have been moments when I say it’s about being a woman. Sometimes I have to come back to myself and say historically in Kern county there hasn’t been a woman having shot in running against Kevin McCarthy.”

Tatiana Matta, a candidate for US representative of the 23rd congressional district of California, attending the latest Democratic Women of Kern Luncheon.

Calif. Republican official holds training

By Todd Banker
Reporter

California state Representative Travis Allen, 44, talked fellow Republicans to “Take Back California” at The Mark restaurant in Downtown Bakersfield on Sunday, Sept. 9.

Travis Allen, R-Calif., is a member of the California State Assembly from Huntington Beach. Allen was elected to California’s 72nd State Assembly district in 2012. As he arrived, Allen was introduced to the crowd by local republicans. Allen walked in and began shaking hands and greeting well-wishers.

He then took the mic and began discussing his plans for California in the upcoming November election.

“I have done everything I can do for the last six years to fight for all of us,” said Allen.

“I started the Take Back California Tour for one simple reason because this Take Back California PAC has the right idea. The idea is very simple, that our lives, they’re not going to change as long as the California Democratic Party runs California,” said Allen.

“Poor decisions all of the problems..." That being a woman, he believes California was severely damaged in areas such as water, forest management, and immigration.

Allen emphasized his desire to elect a conservative City Council, Board of Supervisors and County Board of Education.

His last motion was for the audience to chant “Take back California!” while he waved and left the room.

“We have to bring balance back to the state, it’s as simple as that. We need balance, we need common sense in Sacramento,” concluded Allen.
Katalina Quintanilla / The Rip

News

Thursday, September 20, 2018

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The Renegade Rip www.therip.com

4th annual Stomp Out Suicide walk raises awareness of suicide in Kern

Save a Life Today (SALT) hosted their 4th Annual Stomp Out Suicide for suicide awareness on Sept. 8. SALT is a non-profit organization in Kern County that provides support for families or individuals that lost a loved one by suicide. Their focus is on educating the community about suicide awareness.

Representatives attended and provided information for families such as Veteran's Affairs, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, and The Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity.

Ellen Eggert, founder and president of SALT, started the ceremony with a moment of silence followed by the song “Something You Get Through” by Willie Nelson. Eggert strives to be supporting hands to people that need condolences or resources.

“We don’t get over it but we get through it,” said Eggert. She encouraged families to speak up and spread the awareness of suicide as a tool to cope and help others going through the same situation.

Jeff Platt, a KBAK Eyewitness reporter, was the master of ceremony. He shared his personal experience of loss and how he coped with the grieving process. Platt went on to explain how he can sympathize with suicide victims’ families and the confusion they experience.

“A lot of us felt completely alone, we didn’t know what we had done or could’ve done.” Platt continued. “Not a lot of people talk about it, that stigma is still there.”

Platt was overwhelmed by how the community came together to show support and show the families that they want to help. Many organizations around the community raised money for SALT and showed their enthusiasm at the event. The grocery chain, Foods Co, was there as part of Culture Counsel. They had team members from three different locations to walk for the cause.

Mayor Karen Goh presented Eggert with an official proclamation that makes Sept. 8, 2018, A Stomp Out Suicide Walk Day. The proclamation recognized the effort of local citizens to offer hope and reassurance and provide a safe harbor for those that have lingering thoughts of suicide.

“The tragedy [is what] brings us together, but [so does] the joy also of having others that can stand by us,” said Mayor Goh.

By Saad Kazi / The Rip

Several golfers showed up on the fair-weathered morning of Sept. 8 to participate in Magdalene Hope’s Tee Off for Hope golf tournament at the Kern River Golf Course.

The fundraiser sold tickets at $100 per person or $400 per team. Nearly 40 teams, which included families and friends of all ages, were able to drive club cars, receive lunch and beverages, and practice their golf swings in the organization’s first-ever charity golf game.

Since Magdalene Hope’s founding in March 2009, the Bakersfield-based nonprofit for sex trafficking awareness has become the primary transport for the National Human Trafficking Hotline in Washington D.C. Along with at this past Super Bowl, it has sponsored outreach events in Las Vegas, California’s central coast, and even Tijuana, Mexico.

In addition to small programs, the nationally-recognized organization also co-produced “The Trafficked Life,” directed by Michael Fagans, a documentary about human trafficking in Kern County that was recently entered into the Sundance Film Festival.

Most of Magdalene Hope’s events take place in Bakersfield. Its services—relocations, housing, college counseling—are provided to sex workers and human trafficking victims all over Kern County. Those calling into the National Human Trafficking Hotline are transferred to Magdalene Hope to discuss the different options to get freed from sex trafficking.

Golf fundraiser aims to prevent human trafficking in Kern County and beyond

Richard Bumatay (left) and Josh Ratliff (right) laughing and having a “great morning” during the first ever golf tournament fundraiser.

Magdalene Hope’s first charity golf tournament is to benefit the fight against human trafficking and endangerment of sex workers.

Haley Duval / The Rip
High school students learn about new opportunities at College Night

By Cassidy Eisen
Reporter

With college application season on the rise, eager high school students flooded Rabobank Arena for the 19th Annual Kern County College Night on Aug. 6.

Over 100 colleges and universities brought representatives to promote their institutions and speak with prospective applicants. Local Kern County institutions, including Taft College, California State University, Bakersfield, and Bakersfield College were dominant on the event floor.

Their booths included photo opportunities with their mascots and cheerleaders, plenty of free merchandise, and balloon banners that covered the event space.

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“UCLA is my dream school, so the representative was able to answer a lot of questions I had,” said Christopher Vivanco, junior at Centennial High School.

Regional and national institutions were also present, including the well-known California Universities such as the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Santa Barbara (UCSB), and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Other in-state and out-of-state universities had booths, including University of Hawaii at Manoa and Arizona State University.

Tonight is an opportunity to help students get more information on schools they are interested in applying for,” said Christopher Vivanco, junior at Centennial High School.

“We have advisors here from almost every department, so students are able to get more details of that specific area that they are interested in,” Ward said.

A handful of informational presentations and workshops were available throughout the event to inform attendees on frequently asked questions and topics, including how to apply for financial aid, finding the right college for one’s major, how to prepare for the SAT and ACT, as well as tips on writing a personal statement.

By Taylor Jensen
Reporter

High school students walk through the BC college night booths.

Bakersfield High School senior, Jet Martinez, poses with the BC mascot.

Bakersfield College Distinguished Speaker shares inspiring stories of personal struggles

By Cassidy Eisen
Reporter

Jim St. Germain, author of “A Stone of Hope: A Memoir,” went from facing poverty and prison bars, to facing inspired audiences all over to speak about his life-altering experiences. He shared his story at the Levan Center on Sept. 13.

“I’m honored to be here for several reasons and one is that I’m not supposed to be here today. I understand my blessings,” Germain said.

He provided a summary of his parents. His mother left the family when he was four years old and his father dealt with alcohol and drug addiction.

Germain’s father was also abusive towards Germain and his mother. Despite these issues, Germain always dreamed of living in a house like the one in the movie “Home Alone.”

“I remember seeing Kevin’s home and all the beauties of America. I used to tell myself that I can’t wait to get there. All my worries are going to go out the window,” Germain said.

A few years later, he was granted a visa to leave Haiti and live with his grandparents in Crown Heights, New York.

Unfortunately, the house was not what he dreamed of. It was in a tough neighborhood that was dark, graffiti-riddled, and unruly.

“I grew up in the streets and saw it as a way of surviving,” Germain said. While surviving in Crown Heights, Germain was led down a dark path.

He was arrested a dozen times by the age of 16 and witnessed friends being murdered. After being in a juvenile justice system for a long period of time, he realized that he needed to turn his life around.

He eventually accepted help and began to read books for the first time in his life.

“Dreams of My Father” was a book written by Barack Obama that changed his life. Barack Obama appointed Germain to the Coordinator Council on Juvenile and Justice Delinquency Prevention.


“I learned about his life experiences and he spoke from the heart,” Irene Randolph, an attendee, said after being asked what she learned from his speech.

Bakersfield College Student Government Association member, Emmanuel Limaco, asked Germain what advice he would give to a struggling student.

“It’s important to recognize how fortunate we are despite struggles. A lot of people around the world don’t have a classroom to go to,” Germain said.

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Bakersfield College holds an annual “Transfer Day” event

By Katalina Quintanilla
Reporter

Bakersfield College held its yearly Transfer Day in the Renegade Crossroads on Sept. 10.

There were 50 colleges and universities providing information to potential transfer students. Not only were representatives from various California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) campuses present, but out-of-state universities and fashion and design colleges attended as well.

The sun was glaring all afternoon but that did not stop BC students to show their enthusiasm. The Renegade Crossroads was crowded with students walking and talking to college recruiters. Excited faces were seen leaving booths with handfuls of pamphlets and college merchandize.

Scannay Singleton, the regional recruiter for the University of Las Vegas, shared some insight being a university out of state.

“We are a WUC, Western Undergraduate Exchange Scholarship, it’s solely a merit scholarship so it knocks down tuition a little over $1 a pancake, and one free for athletics wearing a jersey or to any Student with a Kern Valley Care sticker.

“We served six people to start,” said former BCSGA President Dezi Von Manos who was serving the pancakes to students. “We have free pancakes for football students.”

Students lined up for the table of merchandize in the hopes of some free goods in support of BC. The table not only offered prizes, but they also provided information about upcoming events, as well as what BCSGA had to offer in regards to student services.

Student Activities Manager, Beth Hilde, commented about the wheel saying that the wheel will be out constantly at events so students should look forward to it more.

As the day went on the cheerleaders drew attention with a quick cheer in the center of the quad. Zairum Grimes a student who got some pancakes and spun the wheel said the pep rally went well. “I came out because I saw the event,” said Grimes. “I had two pancakes and the drum solo was fun.”

BC hosts the first pep rally of the semester

By Ruben Lira
Reporter

Bakersfield College held its first pep rally for the Fall Semester at the crossroads. The pep rally opened the season for athletics.

The cheerleaders were out showing spirit and the drumline also performed for the crowd. As music was blared from the table’s lines were formed and students gathered to see the event.

By Ruben Lira
Reporter

Bakersfield College

Student Government Association had two tables for the event that lasted from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. One table served pancakes while the other had a wheel for BC merchandize ranging from little trinkets to larger items such as hand sanitizers, pens, sunglasses, and more. The pancakes were sold for $1 a pancake, and one free for athletics wearing a jersey or to any Student with a Kern Valley Care sticker.

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Renegade Events

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Michelle Guerrero’s “Mr. Baby” exhibit is on display at the Bakersfield College library

By Rosa Salazar

The directors of the Wylie and May Louise Jones Gallery located inside the Grace Van Dyke Library at Bakersfield College have decided to feature the artwork of Michelle Guerrero, “MrBaby”, until Oct. 11.

The art exhibit, “MrBaby,” by Michelle Guerrero was selected by the directors of the Wylie and May Louise Jones gallery inside the Grace Van Dyke Library at Bakersfield College.

The opening reception for “Alegres Sueños” was on Sept. 6 from 1-7 p.m. The gallery was directed by Ronnie West, Kristopher Stallworth, and Jeffrey Houston, who are all part of BC’s Art Department.

Ronnie West, co-director of the gallery, said he wanted to feature artists outside of Kern County.

“We try to bring someone in this one in time of year when we have artists in that are not in Kern County [so] to expose students to art from outside of the area,” said West. West also emphasized the importance of featuring female artists.

“We felt like it was important to, in this particular instance, show a woman … It doesn’t always happen as prominently as it should,” said West. Kristopher Stallworth, BC’s Art Department chair, said there were multiple exhibitions per year.

“We have anywhere from four to six depending on the year,” he said. Artist Michelle Guerrero, from San Diego, gave advice to people who want to become full time artists.

“Just put yourself out there, don’t let rejection stop you,” said Guerrero. “It’s only part of what you are going to like your art so grow thick skin and just keep doing it. Do it for you, for nobody else but you.”

Guerrero, who has been a full-time artist for over a year, said she gets her inspiration from her Chicana heritage, culture, and other Chicano artists. Guerrero also said she has struggled to be where she is. “I’ve always had struggles till this day. It’s not an easy thing to decide to do. You’re always trying to find a job, so it’s never [an] official thing. It’s definitely scary but I just knew that this is what I want to be doing. I want to be satisfied that I did, at least, give it my all.”

The exhibition showcased Guerrero’s paintings, papiatas, and a wall mural.

BC student, Erin Dowden, commented on Guerrero’s artwork. “I think it’s pretty neat. She uses a lot of vibrant colors, it really catches your eye. It’s very different from my own style.” Dowden said about Guerrero.

Another BC student, Abel Perez, said Guerrero’s art was colorful. Perez also expressed his ambivalence regarding a few paintings, including a blue mural.

“I don’t know if I like it or I don’t,” he said. “It says something, it says you know I’m afraid, I’m sad, I’m helpless but it’s disturbing; there’s a person’s head on it.”

Perez also said he liked a Hot Cheetos painting the artist created. “I really like the Hot Cheetos one [because of the detail] that she put and I don’t know what this character is, or if this is like her complete creation but it’s awesome.”

First Gadfly of the semester tackles the topic of education in society today

By Isy Barrientos

First Gadfly of the semester is Education: Its Past, Present, and Future.

The event started as usual with Professor Reggie Williams announcing upcoming events. Chairs almost ran out as students assembled, but as the conversation grew the number of people waned.

The event officially began when Williams read a list of statistics that are linked to education such as voting, divorce, and finances.

The attendees rarely touched on the topic as they mainly shifted between the topics of divorce and incarceration.

Albert He, a student currently studying computer science, said the more educated a couple, the more likely they are able to think rational-ly and able to add to a family pool. Williams earlier said a higher degree means that a person will earn throughout their career. He joked, “She’s pretty, but she’s also poor, I’m going to get her.”

The other side of the coin is having money can lead toward divorce. Williams joked that white couples have no money their style is “broke.” Not having any money means that people will go for what is cheaper.

Gabriela Florence said that people treated the “crack epidemic,” as a crime, while they treat the opioid epidemic as an illness. Williams remarked that it was a great point, and added that if people treated it less of a crime and more of an illness then they could be fewer people in prisons and more in rehab.

Gabriella Mendez said, “I really like your [Williams] class, it changed my perspec-tive.” She has worked in the field and went to school at the same time. Alex Razo seemingly shocked the crowd when he said education teaches one how to kill themselves faster. Razo said, “Whatever you know, kill it…open your mind to new perspectives.” One’s old views must die so that one can get a new perspective.

Pete LeGrant, a philosophy professor at Bakersfield College for the past three years, said because he was not lecturing he can talk about his political views. He said he is against the mass privatization of education. He spoke of “a more perfect union,” and the “general welfare,” that is mentioned in the Preamble of the United States Constitution. In order to achieve a “more perfect union,” the populace needs a proper education granted to them by “general welfare.”

Williams said education is a “cultural luxury that we do not all have access to equally.”

The conversation ended by Williams thanking everyone that showed up.
Local Delano organizations connect with farmworkers and their families

By Hector Martinez
Features Editor

The Central Valley Farmworker Foundation hosted the second annual Día de la Familia event at Delano’s Cecil Park on Sept. 9 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event celebrated farmworkers and their families doing something good for the community.

The event was also to celebrate a Sunday with their families with free music, entertainment, and food and games for kids.

The Central Valley Farmworker Foundation hosted an event that had many farmworkers and their families enjoying the food the music and all sorts of entertainment at the event.

Bakersfield individuals practice free yoga at the Samsara Wellness Center

By Laura Lanfray
Reporter

The Samsara Wellness Center brings free yoga classes to the Bakersfield Community. Owners of the Samsara Wellness Center, Katherine and Stephen Winters, teamed up with their staff and the Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (KBHRS) in early September, to share their knowledge across Bakersfield, hosting free yoga sessions for those who could use an uplifting and peaceful exercise.

The no-cost community yoga classes began in early September and will run through June 2019. The KBHRS funded the ten-month program in order to reach out and provide a sense of community to those who would otherwise think twice about joining a yoga class be it for financial, mental health, or other reasons.

In addition to the KBHRS, Samsara is working alongside the city libraries and a few affiliated health centers who have agreed to host the sessions. The Samsara website and social media sites list when and which facility will host a particular session. On Sept. 12, Linda Guerra taught the Gentle Flow class at the Baker Street Library. The hour-long session did not interrupt the regular library hours and even garnered some attention from curious onlookers.

Before each session, the participants are asked to fill out a survey to get a sense of their current emotional state. The idea is that by the end of the ten months, the participants will be able to look back on themselves and see their progress from beginning to end.

Geoff Taylor, a staff member at Samsara shared his excitement over this new program, explaining how one of the goals Katherine Winters has in mind is to create mindfulness in people that would help lead to less violent or otherwise negative behavior. It is a program to bring about positive change in people who might be struggling financially, with identity, drugs, or with mental health.

“Bakersfield needs that kind of change,” Taylor added.

Taylor went on to express the fun it has been so far to reach out and meet such a diverse community, hoping more and more people will decide to take advantage of such a special opportunity.

“Just come join us!”

LAURA LANFRAY / THE RIP

Participants enjoyed a relaxing yoga session on Wednesday night.

STAFF

Reporters/photographers: Todd Banker, Franco Castelo, Charlotte Eisen, Ja’Nell Gore, Taylor Jensen, Cameron Johnson, Saad Kazi, Laura Lanfray, Ruben Lira Jr., Bryana Lozoya, Malachi Parker, Katalina Quintanilla, Rosa Salazar

Adviser.................................................Erick Auerbach

Write The Rip

Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer’s identity must be verified. The Rip reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

If an organization submits a letter as a group, it must be signed by only one person, either the leader of the organization or the letter writer. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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The Renegade Rip

Editor-in-Chief..............................Paige Atkinson
Web Editor...................................Miranda Defoor
Photo Editor...............................Issy Barrientos
Feature Editor.............................Hector Martinez

First place for newspaper in 2011, third place in 2013, 2014, 2015 as CSPA General Excellence

Eight place nationally in 2017 for website publication

The Renegade Rip is produced by Bakersfield College journalism classes and is circulated on Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters. The newspaper is published under the auspices of the Kern Community College District Board of Trustees, but sole responsibility for its content rests with student editors. The Rip is a member of the California Newspaper Publishers Association, Associated Collegiate Press, and California Colleges Media Association.

Eighth place in 2017 for Show contest by Associated Collegiate Press

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Adviser.................................................Erick Auerbach

Write The Rip

Letters should not exceed 300 words, must be accompanied by a signature and the letter writer’s identity must be verified. The Rip reserves the right to edit letters, however, writers will be given the opportunity to revise lengthy or unacceptable submissions.

If an organization submits a letter as a group, it must be signed by only one person, either the leader of the organization or the letter writer. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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The Renegade Rip

EDITORIAL BOARD

The Rip is a member of the California Newspaper Publishers Association, Associated Collegiate Press, and California Colleges Media Association.

Eighth place in 2017 for Show contest by Associated Collegiate Press

Ninth place for newspaper in 2011, third place in 2013, 2014, 2015 as CSPA General Excellence

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By Laura Lanfray
Reporter

The Samsara Wellness Center, Katherine and Stephen Winters, teamed up with their staff and the Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (KBHRS) in early September, to share their knowledge across Bakersfield, hosting free yoga sessions for those who could use an uplifting and peaceful exercise.

The no-cost community yoga classes began in early September and will run through June 2019. The KBHRS funded the ten-month program in order to reach out and provide a sense of community to those who would otherwise think twice about joining a yoga class because they are doing something good for the community.

In addition to the KBHRS, Samsara is working alongside the city libraries and a few affiliated health centers who have agreed to host the sessions. The Samsara website and social media sites list when and which facility will host a particular session. On Sept. 12, Linda Guerra taught the Gentle Flow class at the Baker Street Library. The hour-long session did not interrupt the regular library hours and even garnered some attention from curious onlookers.

Before each session, the participants are asked to fill out a survey to get a sense of their current emotional state. The idea is that by the end of the ten months, the participants will be able to look back on themselves and see their progress from beginning to end.

Geoff Taylor, a staff member at Samsara shared his excitement over this new program, explaining how one of the goals Katherine Winters has in mind is to create mindfulness in people that would help lead to less violent or otherwise negative behavior. It is a program to bring about positive change in people who might be struggling financially, with identity, drugs, or with mental health.

“Bakersfield needs that kind of change,” Taylor added.

Taylor went on to express the fun it has been so far to reach out and meet such a diverse community, hoping more and more people will decide to take advantage of such a special opportunity.

“Just come join us!”

LAURA LANFRAY / THE RIP

Participants enjoyed a relaxing yoga session on Wednesday night.

STAFF

Reporters/photographers: Todd Banker, Franco Castelo, Charlotte Eisen, Ja’Nell Gore, Taylor Jensen, Cameron Johnson, Saad Kazi, Laura Lanfray, Ruben Lira Jr., Bryana Lozoya, Malachi Parker, Katalina Quintanilla, Rosa Salazar

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Downtown’s Inner Bodyworks Yoga Studio features first ever CAT Yoga

By Cassidy Eisen
Reporter

Inner Bodyworks Yoga Studio collaborated with MEOW Co. to bring an evening of CAT Yoga to downtown Bakersfield on Friday, Sept. 7.

Nearly 40 yoga students spent an hour performing an array of yoga poses of all levels, accompanied by eight cats pawing around. Though a few were laced-up therapy cats, most cats were up for adoption through MEOW Co.

Before the class, Daniel Mariano, Director of Operations of MEOW Co., explained how the nonprofit organization rescues cats from “high-kill risk” shelters to give them a second chance at life and to find a forever home.

“Most agencies rescue 70-80 cats a year, and our rescue numbers are 1000 plus, and our adoption numbers are about 936, so that margin is pretty high,” according to Mariano.

“We definitely house. We are taking over California one cat at a time.”

Throughout the session, the cats were seen interacting with the attendees, running through their legs and purring at their feet; it turned into a cuddle party.

“Though some guests were regulars at Innerbody Works, this was ‘many attendees’ first time at the studio.”

Newcomer Rylee Sadler expressed her excitement over adopting a kitten. “It’s my first time doing yoga here, and I’m totally coming back, [the instructor] was really nice,” said Sadler.

“My husband and I didn’t expect to adopt but now we are bringing home Nemo, and we are so happy about it.” Tara Delis, instructor and owner of Innerbody Works Yoga Studio, integrated both beginning and intermediate level poses, including the chatuanga dandhasana, shavasana, trikonasana, balasana, and virbhadrasana to name a few.

“We like bringing in different animals because it’s community-oriented, not to mention how fun it is to have little kittens running around,” said Delis.

“Most people in class today have never been here or have never done yoga, so it’s cool that it brought a crowd of people with different interests.”

After class, guests were able to try the complimentary cocktails, or “MEOWmos,” as well as some hors d’oeuvres. They were also encouraged to mingle with other guests and play with the cats in need of a family.

Village Fest is a hit with local residents

By Hector Martinez
Features Editor

The Bakersfield annual Village Fest took place at the Kern County Museum on Sept. 8, and anyone over 21 years of age had the opportunity to taste from many different beers and wine brewers. The event was a fundraiser for Kern County Children’s Advocates Resource Endowment (CARE).

Even though the event started at 6 p.m., there were some people arrived earlier because they wanted to be the first to enter. By the time the event was supposed to start there was a line that had over 60 people.

Chris Martinez arrived at the Village Fest early with his friends. “I got here like around 5 p.m. and some people were already in line,” Martinez said.

He also said that he was enjoying the event. Until this latest revitalization of the Village Fest, Martinez had not been to the event for nearly 15 years.

“A lot has changed since I last came here. It used to be smaller than how it is today, and they didn’t serve any wine either,” said Martinez.

In order for this event to happen, board members at the Kern County Museum needed volunteers to provide attendees beer, any food, water or any other type of assistance. Sergio Araujo is a volunteer for the museum, and he has been volunteering for it for nearly 12 years already.

“I came in an hour early so they could tell me where I was supposed to be for the day, and I was able to try some of the beers before everyone,” said Araujo.

He explained that he had to stay until 10 p.m. to help other volunteers whenever they needed to go to the restroom or when they went on break he was going to cover for them.

Liz Armstrong was the volunteer supervisor for all the volunteer members. She has been volunteering for the event for over 20 years and has been a supervisor for about five years already.

“We have to come in like at 5:15 p.m. to make sure everything is clean, to make sure products are ice down and cold. We also need to give breaks to workers so they can enjoy the event as well,” said Armstrong.

She also said that she felt really good that the museum was also doing this event to help a local organization such as CARE.

The Village Fest had a lot of entertainment for everyone to enjoy, and of course, it had beer, wine, water and soda for all those who wanted some of those for free, and everyone that attended helped with the fundraiser for CARE in this year’s end of summer party.

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“Black Is Beautiful” is the new Artwalk show

By Charr Davenport
Reporter

The Bakersfield Art Association hosted the “Black Is Beautiful” art exhibition during Bakersfield’s annual First Friday Artwalk on Sept. 7. The exhibition featured artist Victoria Porter, wife of Grammy award-winning jazz musician Gregory Porter, as the main artist.

Victoria Porter was born in Russia, where she started her art career. She attended a four-year school, in which she completed and received a degree in only two years. After her family was unable to afford her to stay at art school, she gave painting up for fifteen years and instead turned to literature.

“It wasn’t until she moved to Brooklyn that she started painting once more, only this time she used people of color as her inspiration.”

“I was the seventh white person in the community,” she explained. “I fell in love with the togetherness. With how they treated each other.”

She continued to talk about how beautiful everyone in Brooklyn was and how well they treated her before mentioning her original inspiration.

“I started off painting children. In Russia, we don’t have black people. When I first saw the children, I fell in love with their hair and skin. It was all so beautiful.”

Porter then addressed the main thesis of her exhibit. “I love the Black Is Beautiful movement of the 60s. I think it truly captured how amazing and smart black people are.”

She continued to speak about how the movement was before explaining her options on black people in the media today. “I don’t like hip-hop."

“The exhibit is really beautiful,” said Jennifer Sekoz, a bongo player from Sacramento. “I love the uniqueness and how the art incorporates jazz to make its own picture.”

Porter’s Black Is Beautiful collection was featured at the Bakersfield Art Association’s Art Center throughout September.

Job fair provides info about 10 available career positions

By Issy Barrientos
Photo Editor

The Sheriff Office Headquarters hosted a job fair on Sept. 8, to provide information on 10 Kern County Departments that have on positions available.

Before the job fair officially started people were already at the booths. The departments that were there included the Prohibition Department, Sheriff’s Office, Public Works, Veteran’s Service Department, SWAT and the Kern County Fire Department.

Administrative Coordinator Carmen Gonzalez has been working at the Sheriff’s Department since 2006. Gonzalez said there are 1300 positions within the Sheriff’s Office. Those positions include volunteers and civilian roles.

One volunteer position includes lost and rescue. When someone goes missing in the mountains or near the river it is mostly volunteers that go and help.

Civilian positions include, but are not limited to, computer forensics and public administration. Gonzalez said computer forensics is a “hybrid” program as it requires skills in investigation and computer skills.

Ariel Dyer has worked for the Kern County Library system for two years. She applied on a whim. She said Beale Library holds events.

One of the Veteran’s Service Department’s representatives was Eric Heimans, who has been working for the department for two years.

Heimans said they help veterans get in contact with the Department of Veteran Affairs. They also offer some employment and help veterans enroll in health care, including mental health, and housing.

Jay Heisey, a SWAT officer for the past 15 years, was there greeting people. He said Bakersfield has no official team but has its members on a collateral assignment which means “everyone has a ‘real job.’” Heisey’s “real job” is being a sergeant at Lamont. The sergeant said they train every other week and they assist the smaller cities. As for operations, Heisey said they average about once a week because they do about 35-50 operations a year.

Kevin Austin was there representing the air support unit. Austin said he was in air support for 13 years but has was in patrols for longer. He flies helicopters, not planes because “planes are boring,” he joked.

At the job fair, there were three helicopters out of the five helicopters for presentation. One of the helicopters was out in San Diego getting modifications. The other helicopter was out helping fight a fire in Ridgecrest. Also in the warehouse was one plane out of three.

The one plane that was on display has a powerful camera. Austin said, “you can practically read a license plate on a car.” Austin explained the differences between two of the helicopters on display.

The N197E is better at patrolling because it can move faster, while the one that had tennis balls near the tail is better for search and rescue missions because it consumes less gas meaning it can stay in the air longer.

While Austin is not sure if the county has had a job fair like this one before, he knows that they are held all throughout the state.

Super Smashed

By Ruben Lara
Reporter

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate comes out this holiday season for Nintendo Switch. It is highly anticipated game for the end of the year as it will have every character ever.

Over 67 characters have been announced so far and over 300 stages for combatants to take to the fight. This is the greatest franchise of all-star characters since its very first game back on Nintendo 64 (N64) created back in 1999.

Super Smash Bros. or “Smash Bros.” as fans call it, is a game that has characters from different Nintendo games fighting in various stages based on various games from each character’s franchise. It’s a fun game whether you’re playing solo or with friends.

The latest of the series created for Wii U and Nintendo 3DS can allow up to 8 players in one match.

Players can pick characters such as Mario, Link, Kirby, Ness, Pikachu and more.

The main focus of the game is to pick a fighter of choice and knock the other character out of a selected stage. The fighters will fight and cause a damage percent to the other player. The higher the damage percent the easier it is for the fighter to be smashed out of the stage.

The player who K.O.’s the most is the winner of the game. Should players tie, the game leads to sudden death—meaning one hit can K.O. the other for a faster win.

There are several ways to play, whether it’s in solo mode or multiplayer.

Various items within the game can also help turn the tables to help a player or make it harder for another. The game includes items such as mushrooms (from the Mario series) that can make a character grow or shrink, food items to replenish the fighter’s damage taken percentage, pokeballs (from the Pokemon series) to summon Pokemon to help the fight, and more.

There are even a variety of modes for multiplayer such as timed mode, stock mode, timed stock, or even coins. Solo mode is also fun as the player can fight random fighters and reach the end boss “Master Hand.”

The harder the difficulty, the higher the chances the player will encounter the boss “Crazy Hand.”

Super Smash Bros. is already fun to play no matter what console it has been released for. With the new release coming in December there is a lot of excitement for new information that may be announced before the game’s release.
The Fright’s new album disappointment to fans

By Charr Davenport

Surfpunk poster boys The Fright’s released their third album on Aug. 24, and simultaneously killed the genre. “Hypochondriac” is an album that clearly more vulnerable and outrageously whiny than The Fright’s previous work. It decides to skip the surf riffs and good bass lines and instead opts for acoustic guitars and riffs copied straight from 90s and early 2000s alternative.

The lead singer, Mikey Carnevale, makes it very obvious that he went through a breakup recently. His lyrics are bland and not as great as it would seem, but created an idea of the album that was not very rude things about her. His lyrics are bland and obvious that he went through a breakup recently.

The Fright’s new album third album on Aug. 24, and simultaneously killed the genre. “Hypochondriac” is an album that breaks hearts, but created an idea of the album that was not very rude things about her. His lyrics are bland and obvious that he went through a breakup recently.

The two singles, “CRUTCH” and “Over It,” not only stand out completely from the rest of the album, but created an idea of the album that was not followed through, a classic case of bands tricking their fans into buying an album on pre-sale.

Tell Me Why I’m Okay is the first disappoint- ing track on the album. It’s also the first track in general. “We’re in New York and we don’t know how to deal with this.” He decided to skip the intro. The country riff, sounding like something Beck made in the 90s, is simple and bland, setting the tone for the rest of the song. CarnevaleMoore raps about his problems in a monotone voice, mention- ing eating off the floor and having depression. He constantly switches between first and second per- son, leaving the listener questioning if these are his problems or if he actually thinks that all the things in the song, many inappropriate, are just basic relat- able things that he can sell to his audience.

“CRUTCH” is easily the best song on the album. However, it’s a mediocre song on all accounts. The song captures the 2005 emo scene very well with lyrics like “this is my angst” and a screaming chorus that could easily fit in a Taking Back Sunday sound track mixed with more whining. There’s really nothing remarkable about this song, nor this album.

“Broken Brain” is the most boring song on the album. It’s not the worst by far, but it’s just a copy of poppier 90s’ Narrative songs, most notably “Living Thing” by Sunny Day Real Estate. None that has heard this song will be surprised if The Fright’s have a lawsuit on their hands within the next few years.

“Get Well” is the second best song on the album. It starts off asking if Sarah is dead yet and stating that CarnevaleMoore is over her. This song, just like “CRUTCH,” captures parts of the 2005 emo scene but adds 80s styled build up in the pre-chorus, showing off CarnevaleMoore’s unique vocals for the first time in the album. The chorus, which is a repeated “aren’t you over it,” is extremely catchy and fun, and will probably be seen capturing the hearts of single teenage girls everywhere.

“Pills” is close to surf punk up until the chorus, which is a Nirvana knockoff at its finest. Lyrically, this is the best song on the album. “I know it’s weird, I’m such a creep, I take a pill and fall asleep” and “call me crazy, call me self-prescribed.” I will carry these pills till the day I die” are just two lyrics out of a song that describes an apparent drug addiction. While most songs tend to glorify this kind of thing, “Pills” does a good job at saying it’s terrible, while still showing an addict’s mind and refusing to quit. It’s just a shame that the fake 90s grunge riffs ruin the song.

“Hypochondriac” is an album that breaks hearts, but created an idea of the album that was not very rude things about her. His lyrics are bland and obvious that he went through a breakup recently.

The Fright’s “Hypochondriac” album artwork.

Attitude Era

World Wrestling Entertainment: Attitude Era

By Taylor Jensen

The Attitude Era of the WWE was and is still known as the best era in the history of the industry. It was en- tertainment at its best. Each Monday night consisted of backstage and parking lot seg- ments, edgy promos, hardcore matches, and sexuality.

In 1996, “Stone Cold” Steve Austin gave his infamous “Aus- tin 3:16” promo. This slogan became what infamous in the WWE because it was on almost every sign in the crowd and shirts. The fans were fond of this slogan and it gave them a sense of attitude.

Fast forward one year, 1997, D Genera- tion X, a faction made up of Shawn Michaels, Triple H, and Chyna, utilized their humor and bullying tactics to “get over” with the audience. Their unique personalities drew in a different fan base. Some fans came to the show shirtless and showed off their inapp- ropriate signs. 1997 was the same year Steve Austin, The Rock, and Triple H became main eventers. Due to that fact, these three guys all had a hand in ushering in a new era: the Attitude Era.

Austin was the definition of attitude because he didn’t care what people thought of his actions, even the boss himself, Vince McMa- hon. Austin flipped birds, drank beer, and went against authority. In 1998 when he per- formed this finisher, the “Stunner,” on the boss, he stamped his place in history as the one who kick-started the Atti- tude Era himself.

WCW, World Cham- pionship Wrestling, was another wrestling company during that era that proved to be WWE’s competition

Taylor Jensen

Each Monday night.

There were many fans who had their own ratings war. WWE had the upper hand throughout 1997 and 1998, but in 1999, their rating streak came to an end when WWE beat them with a higher rating.

WCW’s product be- came a joke.

1999 was a turning point for wrestling as WWE began to take over because of their off-the-charts enter- tainment.

The year 2000 went on to become the best year in WWE. Each contracted superstar was an attraction. Not only did they get record number ratings each night, they sold out arenas, showed scenes themselves on talk shows, sold merchan- dise at multiple stores, and books written by the superstars became New York Times best- sellers.

Unfortunately, in 2001, Vince McMa- hon purchased WCW which meant the end of the ratings war and the absolute best en- tertainment out there. 2001 was the year of the invasion of WCW on WWE but in 2002, a new era arose, the Ruthless Aggression Era.
Renegade Struggle: How Charisma defied all odds

By Haley Duval

Reportor

“Once I was at church singing... my mind dropped and I went into a seizure. It was a life-risking [seizure]. It was the worse one you can possibly have...”

Like any other incoming BC student, Charisma Ramos Gasca, 18, is loving her first semester of college. But unlike most college students, Charisma has the struggle of dealing with multiple different health conditions that have affected her education and life. It wasn’t easy for Charisma to get where she is today.

Some of Charisma’s multiple conditions that have affected her education the most are migraines and epilepsy, a disorder that disturbs nerves in the brain, causing a seizure. Charisma showed signs of epilepsy when she was young but the seizures didn’t start happening until she was much older. One of her life rising seizures happened when she was around 14-years-old. She had an epileptic seizure while performing a song on stage at her church.

At one point her epileptic attacks and migraines got in the way of her schooling and she was close to dropping out of high school at the beginning of her sophomore year. School became difficult with her missing so much school due to pain and sickness. For a while, she even lost her hearing.

Charisma’s teachers and parents helped to figure out a plan to have her stay and finished school through homeschooling. She ended up graduating a semester early at South High School in Bakersfield. She was able to walk on stage at her class graduation. She says her migraines still get “pretty crazy” but she has learned to work through it.

Charisma doesn’t exactly remember how many times she has had a seizure. Her parents were told by doctors that she wouldn’t be able to walk, hear in one ear, or be able to speak. However, Charisma defied all odds and is able to do all those things.

Charisma is always there for her. She says her parents are the most supportive. Her biological mother wasn’t able to take care of Charisma due to her health issues and her grandparents took her in and became her parents.

They were there for her every hospitable visit, every surgery, and each waking moment. Charisma is thankful and wouldn’t be here today without all the people who supported her over the years.

She now attends BC, majoring in Child Development and enjoys working for her church’s children department.

There were many confusing points in the film like the demon in the church wanted. The film concludes with Ed and Lorraine Warren (Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga) and leads into The Conjuring.

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THE NUN: New film a disappointment

Continued from Page 9

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Continued from Page 9

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The film’s main scare points were the “jump” scares. Even then, the jump scares were presented in such a way that if the viewer was paying attention, it would be easy to anticipate them.

There were many confusing points in the film like the demon in the church wanted. The film concludes with Ed and Lorraine Warren (Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga) and leads into The Conjuring.

Fans of the series would enjoy the film if they are fans of the Conjuring universe. Don’t expect too much from the film if you wish for a good scare.

THE NUN: New film a disappointment

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Renegades win first game at home

By Franco Castelo

The Renegade football team had their first home game against El Camino College on Sept. 11.

For the first quarter, both teams played safe and displayed patience in their plays. El Camino's football team began to play aggressively towards the end of the first quarter and the Bakersfield Renegades continued to hesitantly. However, neither team moved the ball successfully until the next three quarters.

Throughout the rest of the game, both teams played fiercely. The first touchdown was scored by El Camino's wide receiver, Kishawn Berry, with seven minutes into the second quarter; but Berry missed the extra point giving them only six points. That did not stop the Renegades from scoring three touchdowns that quarter taking the lead 20-6.

During the second quarter, the Renegades played well offensively and displayed resolve while under pressure. With the help of Nathan De Jager and Josh Medina, BC running back, Elisha Ortiz, scored two of the touchdowns. An impressive interception was made by Jeremiah Johnson who with assistance by De Jager, carried the ball across the field scoring a touchdown and an extra point.

The second half of the game became a show-case for both teams' defensive strategies. El Camino started the second half poorly, collecting multiple fouls. As for the Renegades, mistakes were made such as fumbles towards the end of the third and fourth quarter.

“For our first game, we played well but have a lot of practicing to do. We should not allow the mistakes that were made to happen in the future,” said Jake East.

El Camino took the offensive possession for the last two quarters scoring a field goal and touchdown for the final score 20-13.

The Renegades held their position until the end of the game and left with their first win. As for now, the Renegades are 1-1 in the season.

Men’s soccer team scores double victory

By Cameron Johnson and Saad Kazi

The Bakersfield College men's soccer team played host to the Renegades from scoring three touchdowns that quarter taking the lead 20-6.

Despite losing in all three sets, the Vaqueros were able to keep the games close with back and forth rallies. BC sophomores Sarah Armentanz and Bianca Lopodo came up with several crucial blocks to keep the momentum on the side of the Renegades.

The Renegades plan to build on their 4-0 start as they travel to Ventura College on Sept. 7 for the Pirate Classic Quad and to Santa Barbara City College on Sept. 8 for the SBCC Quad.

BC’s tournament on Sept. 1 is won by volleyball team

By Cameron Johnson and Saad Kazi

The Bakersfield College volleyball team got their first taste of home action on Sept. 11 when they hosted the Bakersfield Quad Tournament. Coming off two straight set wins the previous day against Cuesta and College of the Sequoias in Visalia, the Renegades looked to build on their dominance against Allan Hancock and Santa Barbara City College.

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The Renegades plan to build on their 4-0 start as they travel to Ventura College on Sept. 7 for the Pirate Classic Quad and to Santa Barbara City College on Sept. 8 for the SBCC Quad.

José Lara challenges the attack during the soccer game at Bakersfield College.

By Malachi Parker

The Renegade men's soccer team hosted East Los Angeles Community College on Sept. 11. With a back and forth game, and a few controversial calls, the Renegades came out with a 2-1 victory to even their record at 2-2.

In the first 15 minutes, the Renegades struck first courtesy of Edgar Gonzalez striking the ball into the back of the net. However, that was the only action in the first half and the Renegades entered halftime with a score of 1-0.

The second half of the game continued similarly with constant runs at the net but no goals achieved. In a sudden change of pace, East LA pushed back against the Renegade's lead with a goal off a free kick right outside the box.

The Renegades had an instant answer on their next offensive possession with a goal coming from the right foot of José Lara, abruptly ending East LA's momentum.

In the final minutes, goalkeeper Armando Alvaraz, made a crucial save to stop LA's last attack, sealing a victory for BC.
Satire: BC student has harrowing encounter

By Paige Atkinson
Editor-in-Chief

The young woman neared the stadium parking lot of BC, swearing under her breath. “What? Is this all right?” she thought. “I was so careful!”

Her car dipped into the entrance of an entrance into the parking lot. She grimaced as she heard her front bumper collide into the ragged pavement. Glancing at her dashboard clock, she sighed in relief. There was plenty of time left before her next class began. She’d have plenty of time to find a parking spot.

She weaved in and out of the lanes in search of her car, swearing under her breath. Looking for a glimpse of light pitting out of the vacant space between cars, she held her breath in anticipation. Alas, she had found a space beaming with joy, only to find a Mini Cooper was hidden between the cars.

“Why is it always a Mini Cooper?” she yelled.

The woman put her car in reverse, resolving to search the opposite end of the lot. Passing a construction crew, she glimpsed at the workers from her rearview mirror. Were the workers laughing at her? She squinted, unsure of what was happening. She cracked her windows and craned her neck to listen to the crew.

“Our plan is working brilliantly!” said the BC Administrator. “Each student is experiencing a crisis, just as planned.”

The woman gasped, only to realize her windows were still open. Her hands, dripping with sweat, struggled to grab her steering wheel. She turned as there was a tapping on her window.

“No one will ever believe you,” whispered the BC Administrator.

Op-Ed: Streetwear takes over

By Cameron Johnson
Reporter

The unknown world of streetwear has been slowly creeping into the public eye with Hip-Hop artists, celebrities, and athletes alike choosing to rock brands like Supreme, Bape, and Palace to name a few. These brands have served a specific niche of consumers for several years, but the proper exposure and just the right amount of hype has thrust their popularity to the center of the ever-changing fashion world. But with a complex dynamic of brands and styles, how does one properly describe exactly what streetwear is?

To me, streetwear is an ambitious take on an anti-traditionalist idea of what fashion has historically been. Streetwear started, of course, in the streets of big cities like New York and Tokyo respectively. It represented everyday people who didn’t necessarily line up with tradition—hustle and acceptable, profits and functionality for margin.

Streetwear has created a literal booms, and the demand for these items, drive the price of them up.

The only reasonable explanation for the price is common for a Supreme box logo shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie. The only reasonable explanation for the price of the shirt is pure hype; enough people are willing to pay these prices, so they do. To some people, it’s fun to be outraged by the prices of these items, but the truth is that it has become normal. It isn’t out of the ordinary for people who pay attention to streetwear to pay $300 to $500 for a Supreme box logo shirt at $1200. Yes, that number is insane. But that price is common for a Supreme box logo shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie. The only reasonable explanation for the price of the shirt is pure hype; enough people are willing to pay these prices, so they do.

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