

THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School *Fremont, California* November 22, 2019

Northern Wildfires are getting worse and PG&E may be the cause



Photo from Google Images California Fires are frightening many residents.

Yuliya Eruslanova Reporter

The northern wildfires were out of control in October, and have been scaring Bay Area residents. Many people believe that PG&E has something to do with the cause of this devastation.

PG&E has been shutting off the power in multiple locations around the Bay Area. Some teachers and students

had been affected by the fires and blackouts.

Mrs. Carey, a 7th and 8th science teacher, explains it as “bad for the environment and the health of people.” Mrs. Carey believes that the reasons for the wildfires are a combo of global warming and the power systems. Her power has been shut down twice in the past month. She thinks the blackouts are working and that PG&E’s equipment should be updated.

Ms. Weber, an 8th grade math teacher and academic support teacher, sees the fires as “out of control, scary, and not fun to see.” Ms. Weber is safe from the fires, but the smoke bothers her lungs a lot.

Mr. Antantis, an 8th grade English and 7th and 8th AVID teacher, is strongly positive PG&E is the problem and the cause of the

northern fires. He believes it isn’t “properly maintained.”

One of his 7th grade AVID students, Sanah Ali Khan, has a different opinion. According to Sanah, “something electrical, maybe a tower, broke or malfunctioned.” Sanah has only had her power shut down twice for what she thinks was mandatory due to safety reasons.

PG&E is now trying everything they can do to prevent the fires from spreading. The president and CEO of PG&E reported, “If we did go into a mode where we wanted to prevent everything from happening, then we’d have to shut the whole system down and that’s just not acceptable.” According to cbsnews.com, PG&E will have another power shutdown soon that will affect 3.8 million people in 29 counties.

Macy’s Make-A-Wish changed many children’s lives with just one wish

Malia Clum Reporter

Since 2008, Macy’s and Make-A-Wish have teamed up to bring holiday cheer with this letter writing campaign.

Every year the Make-A-Wish foundation grants the wishes of a child diagnosed with a critical illness. People who have critical illnesses are often unable to maintain stable housing due to lack of unsteady income or paying medical bills.

Selene Espinal, a 7th grader stated, “Every year I donate to charities and I try to help feed as many people as possible.”

The organization seeks to bring every child’s wish to life because a wish is an important part of

a child’s treatment journey. Research shows children who have wishes granted can build the emotional strength they need to fight their illness.

Tiajeanae Armstrong, a 7th grader stated, “Our world should change more by giving more to charities and trying to cure as many sicknesses as possible.”

Each year at least 1/3 of people donate to charities and donations every year, we should change that amount by at least 100 million people more.

Students can help as well. Every year English students write letters to Macy’s Make A Wish. For every letter



Photo from Google Images A teen’s wish comes true thanks to Make-A-Wish Foundation

they receive, Macy’s will donate \$1 to Make-A-Wish, up to \$1 million, to create life-changing wishes to critically ill children across the country.

The United States brings down the ISIS leader

Alexander Lupoiu Reporter

On October 26, it was announced that the founder and leader of the radical Islamic terrorist group, ISIS (the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), and the number one terrorist in the world, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was taken down in a successful operation by the US military.

According to whitehouse.gov, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had been a high priority target for the US for many years. He was a mass murderer, targeting non-Muslims, like Yazidis and Christians in Libya and Egypt, and he killed many soldiers and civilians around the world, including American citizens.

To bring Abu Bakr al-

Photo from
Google Images

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, a terrorist, was taken down by the U.S. Army.



Baghdadi to justice, a special team had been training for years. Principal Weems, a veteran himself, thinks that the preparation is essential for this type of operation.

He said, "We are just making sure that we don't lose life.

The more trained you are, the more prepared you will be with an operation like this, and less people will die."

As soon as the intelligence professionals located the number one terrorist, an itinerary was strictly designed. The US officials had to get a special approval from countries like Turkey, Iraq, Russia, and Syria, so that our military could fly to the compound where Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was hiding and back to our bases.

The professionalism of the whole team made the operation a success: Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was brought down along with other terrorists, and highly sensitive material and information were taken from the compound. The raid was fast and highly secret, as very few knew about

it, for the safety of our soldiers. There were no casualties among our personnel. This operation took a lot of courage for the US officials to decide to carry it out because it could have gone either way.

About bringing Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi to justice, Mr. Cumpian, an 8th grade history teacher, who is also a veteran, said, "I don't feel that it changes anything[...] They already nominated a new leader, which is what any good organization would do." On the other hand, Mr. Weems thinks that "The more we dismantle the leadership of any terrorist group, they will get weaker."

The US commits to totally defeat ISIS and bring to justice all the terrorist leaders who represent a threat to the free world. Mr. Weems feels great about living in a country that is working towards the safety of our world, especially with him being a veteran.

With the annihilation of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, Mr. Weems thinks that, "The world is a safer place for people who are law abiding."

Boys show off their talent and determination at the October basketball tryouts

Shane Hong Reporter

Boys' basketball tryouts ran from October 28 to October 30. On Monday, the first cut for the 6th and 7th graders was made, and on Tuesday the first cut for the 8th graders was made. Then, on Wednesday, the people who made the cut came together to do their best to make the team.

On the first day, the boys did drills- like left and right layups- to see how their form looked and if they could make the shots. Another thing the players did, was cut (moved across the court) to the free throw line, and then shot the ball.

The tryouts were from 2:30 to 4 p.m. After the first cut, there were 17 8th graders left, yet only 10 were going to make the 8th grade team.

Jinsoo Moon, who made the 8th grade team, stated, "I thought I could make it because I have experience and good chemistry with the players."

Wednesday was the final cut for both teams. That day was dedicated to 5 on 5 scrimmage to see how the boys would do in an actual game.

Victor Nevarez, who is the only 6th grader on the team, explained, "My strategy to make the team was to practice my shots at home and do drills with my uncle." In doing so, he got a spot on the team.

In total, 10 kids made the team for 8th grade, and 13 kids for the 6th and 7th grade team. There are 12 7th graders and one 6th grader who made the team.



Photo by Kirsten Hoang
During practice on November 19, Adrian Velazquez shoots as the team goes for the rebound during baseline inbound plays.



Editorial: What are some of the causes of homelessness?

Abby Campos Reporter

Homelessness is a big problem in the Bay Area and in general. There are ways we have helped with this issue, but I think some people don't always let good things happen. For example, people do things like protest homeless shelters being built, or they make homeless people get off the streets. I believe this is because they don't want homeless people to be in their town.

There are many different reasons why people are homeless, not just because of drugs like how other people may think. I personally think that homelessness is caused by many different things, but drugs can be a main factor as well.

I think the main factor for homelessness is money loss. Money loss can

be caused by bankruptcy, spending your money on things you don't need, trying to live life on your own for example. I don't think all homeless people are dangerous but some people you must watch out for because you never know what can happen.

I feel sympathy for homeless people, and I do respect other people's opinions but sometimes people can be irrational about it. We don't know the situation the homeless people have been through so we shouldn't just assume just because it is stereotypical.

Sofia Campos an 8th grader said, "The biggest reason for homelessness is money. I think this because a lot of people don't receive the amount of money they need to fully support

themselves or others. It is as well difficult to get a job because if you wear a uniform it will be difficult to keep it clean.

It will take a long time for a good paycheck for a person to save up for a living space so that's why it is difficult to go from homeless to having a roof over head."

Mr. Bae stated, "If you are homeless, life would be a lot more stressful because you do not have a roof over your head and you can't take care of basic things we take for granted. You cannot shower, use the bathroom, cook, and sleep because it would be very difficult."

Juanita Garcia who used to work at *Fourth and Hope* homeless shelter commented, "The five major reasons for

homelessness is non affordable housing for low income individuals, mental health problems, drug abuse, and inadequate resources for people who have mental health issues, and people who are chronically homeless."

She explained, "There are a lot of people who are veterans and homeless because of mental health issues, bills, and they use their money on medication. People who are chronically homeless grew up living on the street because their parents did to and all they know is living on the streets. Most of the time if you put them in a house, they won't like it because they feel trapped."

I think that homelessness needs to be talked more about, and I am glad I got the opportunity to share this story with you.

Teacher Feature: All about Mr. Nganga

Jasmine Maung Editor

Photo by
Jasmine
Maung

Mr. Nganga
enjoys
working
with each
and every
one of his
students.



Mr. Nganga is one of the new physical education teachers at Walters. He teaches all 6th graders for period 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6. He enjoys teaching all his students with a passion.

Mr. Nganga stated, "If I wasn't teaching P.E., I would be a personal trainer and coaching basketball, soccer, and football." Before teaching, he was a tow truck driver, sale retail worker, and a referee. He worked all three jobs at the same time. "I didn't choose teaching, teaching chose me," he said.

For him to become a teacher, he went through school and took many exams. He says that his favorite part about teaching P.E. is to see kids'

faces, seeing when they get new ideas, and when they start enjoying the activities that he teaches them.

(Notes compiled by Emrick Ramirez)

Calendar

November 20-22	Minimum Days
November 25-29	Thanksgiving Break
December 4	Winter Concert
December 20	Minimum Day

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Currently, living in Northern California means preparing for blackouts

Elijah Maquilan Reporter

Last month, there were PG&E power shutoffs in Northern California. Many people were warned and tried to prepare for it. There were many parts of the preparation that needed to be considered, such as food and lighting.

Lionardo Bernard, a 6th grader, texted his friends that his power might be shut off on the day the second wave came. His power didn't go off, but he was prepared for that possibility. He started off by filling up water bottles, and then moved on to filling buckets with water to shower. He then cooked a lot of food to put in containers. The situation wasn't that surprising to him though. "Eh, it was pretty easy," Lionardo said.

According to familyhandyman.com, there are many things people should either bring inside the home or do to their house. They should have solar lights and a



Photo from Google Images
Flashlights- with extra batteries- are a good thing to have during a blackout, along with extra packaged or canned foods.

medkit.

Solar lights are powered by the sun, so it would be a good light source for a home so people can see. Medkits are just in case people get injured. People should also release the garage door opener to open their garage manually, and keep the freezer closed to keep the cold temperature

inside.

"I was really freaked out, to be honest," stated Ms. Kramer, math and science teacher. She got a lot of calls and emails on the day that PG&E announced the power shutoff.

She checked for flashlights and made sure the batteries had power, found some candles, charged her phone, and made huge ice blocks to keep her fridge cold. She even talked a lot to her best friend's mom who was a disaster professional.

Another website called preparednessmama.com informs that people in blackouts should get information from someone who has been affected by many blackouts. It helps to get information from those kind of people because they have experience. All the other things that are needed in a blackout, according to this website, are cash, gas for your car, and extra water.

The community comes together during Make a Difference Day

Isabella Hembruch Assistant Editor

On Saturday, October 26, Ms. Briggs, PTSA members, and a dedicated team of volunteers beautified the school campus for Make a Difference Day, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

This committed group of people consisted of about 30- 40 PTSA members, students, several Kennedy highschoolers, and other members of our community.

The volunteers inventoried the disaster shed, clearing out all of the old supplies so that the school will be prepared for any emergency that may strike. They also added donated tanbark, which was collected by the PTSA, to the garden. In addition, they painted some benches around the school Ms. Briggs, a core support teacher, explained the day as one that "gave back to the community."

Everyone came together to improve the school, including some cricket team members, who play on the school's fields. They joined in at about 9 a.m. to help with the workload.

Ms. Ruiz, a paraeducator, stated that the purpose of cleaning the campus was to make it more "enticing and inviting for the community."

Make a Difference Day not only benefited the school, but it also brought members of our community together.



Photo from Imelda Ruiz
The Walters community takes a break from their hard work in cleaning up the school garden and campus.

Dear Santa,

All I want for Christmas is a 2020 Yearbook! It's 80 pages, hardback, full color with all my school memories! ...ask Ms. Yuen for details please...