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CALIFORNIA

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# THE WARRIOR CHRONICLE

Walters Middle School\*Fremont, CA\*March 11, 2023

## Celia Cruz: first Afro-Latina woman to be on American currency

Bethsabe Hernandez Montiel Reporter

The U.S. Mint released information stating that Celia Cruz is to be on the U.S quarter as soon as of 2024, along with many other important women. Celia Cruz is the first Afro-Latina woman to be featured on U.S. currency. This new release adds more representation to society and helps express gratitude towards inspirational women.

Celia Cruz was born October 21, 1925 in Havana, Cuba and passed away on July 16, 2003 in Fort Lee, New Jersey. Early on, Celia had a passion for music. Her breakthrough began in 1950 when she began her career as a lead singer for a band called Sonora Matancera. After joining, her fame began. She began starring in television shows and was constantly played on radio stations according to theblackprintau.com. Celia was well known for expanding salsa music and her strong yet happy attitude.

7th grader Rinah Edrozo explained, "I think she makes good tunes and I believe her music spreads some positivity."

Her music had meaning that brought happiness to others and herself. Her authenticity led to her getting many nicknames such as "La Reina de Salsa" and "La Guarachera de Cuba."

Throughout her career, Celia obtained over 100 awards. 7th grader Denian Cabanas commented, "She's very popular so it makes sense for her to have gotten all those awards. I've heard a bit of her music and I think it's worthy of the awards."



Photo from Google Images

Celia Cruz will receive the honor of being the first Afro-Latina woman to have her face on American currency. She will be on the quarter.

However, Celia also faced many challenges along the road of success. Leader of Cuba who ruled from 1959 until 2008, Fidel Castro, would try to manipulate situations to make Celia pay homage to others while performing, but she refused to. Celia made up her mind, deciding that she would perform music freely. Because of this, Celia was exiled from Cuba and never returned again. Along with her, they also prohibited her music in Cuba.

8th grader Luca Randhawa stated, "I think she did the right thing by leaving behind Cuba. It helped her expand her music and showed bravery."

Throughout her career, she was also criticized unfairly for being Afro-Latina. She expressed her feelings in her album from 1966, *Son Con Guaguancó*. In this album, she expresses the hypocrisy of barriers caused by sexism and racism, informed npr.org.

All of her achievements and the hardships she faced to get there have made her a more than eloquent person to be placed on the quarter. This new collection of quarters with inspiring women on them can inspire

multiple people throughout the world and helps recognize the efforts of Celia Cruz, La Reina de Salsa.

### March Event Calendar

- Women's History Month!*
- March 14 and 15: Girls' Basketball Home Games**
- March 16: Shamrock Find**
- March 17: No school**
- March 20: Persian New Year**
- March 31: Spring Social after school**
- March 31: Cezar Chavez Day**

### March 8 is...



Photo from Google Images

# Mr. Cruz creates brand new student Jazz Band this school year

Ellen Wang Reporter

Mr. Cruz, music teacher, has started the first jazz band on campus. The band is an after school club in room 1. It meets every Monday. Mr Cruz said that this year the jazz band has many participants. He also commented, "I think the jazz band represents a different style of music where children can show their creativity in a different way."

The jazz band has many talented students including 7th grader Luke Shauer. Luke can play instruments like the violin, bass clarinet, and clarinet. Luke said, "I think that the jazz band represents our school and students and it represents the different forms of music and instruments."

7th grader Ruby Willson mentioned, "I think that people who know how to play instruments like violin, piano, drums should join the jazz band because they will get better at it and enjoy the club because it is fun."

Ruby also stated, "I play instruments like piano and guitar and I



Photo by  
Soundharya  
Kumaresan

Students who  
play instruments  
get information  
about the new  
jazz band during  
lunch on  
February 15.

like learning new instruments, and I think other students would enjoy the jazz band after school."

This new jazz band will be a great addition to Walters for both the students and the parents. Parents will be proud of their children for being able to play cool instruments and perform.

8th grader Isha Vashistha explained, "My parents love it when I play flute for them and they said I should join the jazz band because I'm good at playing that instrument..."

Isha added, "I personally think that if you like playing instruments you should join..."

The jazz band welcomes any students who want to learn and show off their musical talents at school. If you play any instruments, you can always try the jazz band for a change and improve your skills. The jazz band's next meeting will be next Monday, so join the jazz band now or think about giving jazz a chance.

# The office introduces Black History Month door decorating contest

Kiara Cadelina Moral Yearbook Reporter

For the first time, a door decorating competition was held to commemorate Black History Month. In this community, Black History is very important. The door decorating competition gives it the attention that it needs and deserves at school.

Our new assistant principals discussed wanting to have some sort of celebration for Black History Month. Ms. Tibbs, an assistant principal, made the decision to begin the competition so that the students could work together and demonstrate unity through their work.

7th grader Aaditi Baswapuram Chaurdary mentioned, "I think our message brings unity between all races and that there is no segregation."

All homerooms were given the opportunity to decorate their doors with facts and images related to Black History. Students got the chance to volunteer and create visuals together in an effort to win a pizza party.

Photo by  
Mrs. De  
Mars

Mrs. De  
Mars'  
homeroom  
won and  
earned a  
pizza party  
for the class.



"I think the door decorations are something that everyone will see. It'll show that it's a welcoming place without discrimination," commented 6th grader Verna Einhaus.

"It shows representation for the Black community and it shows that we acknowledge their history and accomplishments," stated 8th grader Aaron Lucero.

Homeroom doors were judged by district office staff members Corey Brown (Director of Curriculum and Instruction), Dawn Nogueiro

(Instructional Coach), and Elie Wasser (Director of Assessment and Accountability). Doors were judged based on originality, creativity, and uniqueness.

Room 39, Mrs. De Mars' class, won first place. The runner up was room 46, Mrs. Chand's classroom and third place was room 35, Mr. Kuhlmann's room. The cafeteria's door was an honorable mention.

Room 39, Mrs. De Mars' classroom door, showed cutouts of hands that were a variety of colors, representing inclusivity. It also had many other decorations using Black History Month colors red, green, yellow, and black.

Black history is essential to American culture since it shaped our nation through many major events and prominent people. Through showcased displays in most homerooms, Walters demonstrated their inclusivity and diversity.

# U.S. military shoots down unidentified object found flying over Alaska

Eduardo Godoy Reporter

On February 10 an unidentified object was intercepted by the US military and shot down by a F-22 fighter jet over Alaska. After the details of its existence were released, a lot of confusion and mystery surrounded its origin. Many people have different views on what it was and if it was right to shoot it down.

Eelie Jacobo, a 8th grader stated that he thinks it's another military vehicle sent to get information about the U.S. in a spot that's not as well surveillanced as other areas. He said that he believes that it's a threat to the U.S. because if the object was trying to get information about us then it is likely it's not an ally of the U.S.

Elijah Smith, an 8th grade student, stated that he believes it was another Chinese spy balloon that was shot down. The reason he thinks it was another balloon is due to the fact a few were shot down before the object was shot down



Photo from Google Images

One theory about the origin of the balloon is that it is a Chinese spy balloon.

over Alaska. He said that he believes that the object doesn't pose much of a threat to the security of the United States. He mentioned that shooting the object down might've been a bad idea because it could've increased tensions with the country behind the object.

Henry Reiss, 8th grade, stated that he thinks the object was an advanced military spy plane from an enemy of the United States. He mentioned that it was suspicious that the object was shot down after a bunch of spy balloons were shot

down earlier in the month. He later replied that he believed shooting it down was a good idea because it could get us closer to finding the country threatening world peace.

While there are many theories surrounding the object, ranging from more of the unidentified objects to extraterrestrial origins, the object continues to be shrouded in mystery. Despite the objects being shot down the US military has ended the search for them.

## Girls' basketball season starts late causing problems

Catherine Cheng Yearbook Reporter

Sports, sports, sports. Sports are a part of many student's daily lives. These activities can keep people active and healthy. When people think about sports you think of different types of sports, basketball, football, and more. However this year's girls' basketball season has started late.

The season was originally going to start on January 26, 2023 but it ended up starting on February 14. This made many student athletes curious towards whether the season would even occur. Principal Graham stated in an email on January 24 that she had found a coach but basketball games would be scrimmages with no official referees. This may have been because there was not a lot of time.

Norah Silveira, 7th grader on the B team, stated, "I felt disappointed because I was waiting for a long time and I couldn't play competitively, so I was a bit rusty." Because of this delay, players were getting upset towards this long wait.

According to other schools, the delay of finding a coach and starting the season, also affected the delay of games starting for other schools as well. This led to disorder and confusion among the FUSD middle school athletic community.



Photo by Catherine Cheng

The B team gathers around their coach for advice on plays.

During a team meet up before the first game against Centerville, Coach Michelle Cu told the team that they had a disadvantage towards the other teams since they had only a few days to prepare for the game. She also went over how to run the plays and more. The delay made the team fall behind but they did their best to prepare.

Girls' basketball is an important part of many female athletes' lives. It can keep them not only healthy, but also very joyful.

### Attention Warriors!

Do you want to see your art in an upcoming issue of the school newspaper? We are now accepting submissions of art or comic strips to go into the newspaper!

Email your submission to newspaper editor Anika Phair, [anipha375@fusdk12.net](mailto:anipha375@fusdk12.net), or drop off your art to Ms. Yuen in Room 27, and make sure that you specify that your art is for the newspaper.

Your art can be digital, physical art, or a photo of physical art. We can't wait to see your creativity!

# Flag football become a high school female sport in California

Tony Miclaus Reporter

On the 3rd of February 2023, girls' flag football became an official sport in high schools throughout California. The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Federated Council approved the unanimous vote of the people (146-0). Official football teams like the Los Angeles Rams and San Francisco 49ers love the idea and have pledged to help schools with the setup cost.

Flag football is a great self-esteem booster for girls and it gives them a chance to bond and compete against others.

6th grader Robert Ravelo agreed with girl's inclusion in sports and stated, "I think it's cool girls get to do things other boys [traditionally] do. This



Photo from Google Images  
New sport law allows girls to play flag football in high schools.

movement could lead to more inclusion for girls in sports."

Another issue in girls' flag football and other sports is gender

discrimination and being not included in men's sports.

6th grader Tavisha Samarya has been unfairly treated. She explained, "Gender discrimination has always been a problem. I wasn't allowed to play basketball with some people during lunch because of my gender. I'm even on the basketball team."

Many girls would like to join a flag football team at Walters if offered.

7th grader Amina Sekai said, "I would love to join a [flag] football team because I could go with my friends and I could finally play flag football for a team."

High school flag football has helped include girls in more sports and helped inform more people about gender equality in sports.

## New benches get added to school garden

Naveah Mark Yearbook Reporter

The school garden is a very important place where students can plant seeds, small plants and more in a peaceful, content and natural environment. Recently there have been benches added to the garden that many of the students use. These benches were added by the teachers Ms. Briggs, a Core support teacher in room 12 and Garden club Co advisor with Ms. Anderson and the help of Aidan Madonna, a Kennedy High school student.

Mrs. Briggs mentioned that they have been looking to get seating since fall and heard that Aidan is working on an Eagle Scout project to get his next badge. Mrs. Briggs got in contact with Aidan and talked to him to see if they could help with his project and also get some seating in the garden. Aidan had to work hard to be able to get the benches there, like having a fundraiser to earn money.

"I like that they are good for eating lunch, but they are not comfortable," explained 7th grader Faith Nunez.

"I love the benches and wish we had more. We had picnic tables, but they did not last long so we needed new seating." added Mrs.



Photo by Ms. Briggs  
Eagle Scout Aidun Madonna puts in new benches in Walters' garden.

Anderson. These benches are very beneficial to our school and garden and we are very lucky to have new seating in the garden this year thanks to Mrs.

Briggs, Mrs. Anderson, and Aidan Madonna.

**Join the WEB team!**

*If you're a 7<sup>th</sup> grader join the WEB team and help out new 6<sup>th</sup> graders next year.*

*Fill out the Google form in your email or in the 7th grader counseling Google classroom to join.*

A poster for the WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) program. It features a teal background with white and black text. At the top, it says "7th Graders... Are you interested in helping to make Walters a welcoming place for students?". Below that, it says "APPLY NOW TO BE AN 8TH GRADE WEB LEADER 2023-2024 school year". A paragraph explains the program's goal to make the school a fun, safe, and welcoming place. A circular graphic contains the text "WEB Information Session Monday, February 27 During lunch in Room 51 Join us to learn what it means to be a WEB leader and about the application process!". At the bottom, it says "Applications due March 20, 2023" and provides a QR code and a link to the application form: "To apply, complete the google form: bit.ly/waltersweb23 Link also posted in the 7th Grade Google Classroom".

# GS Warriors team at a disadvantage due to Stephen Curry's injury

Nyla Ahmed Reporter

On February 4, 2023, Stephen Curry was injured in a collision while playing defense against the Dallas Mavericks. After evaluating and running tests on Curry the next day, it was announced that he had partial tears in 2 lower leg ligaments and a contusion in the same part, Curry believes that he cannot play the upcoming games and is hoping to immediately return following the end of All-Star break.

However, the expectation of him returning for the first game back was unsure. "It's all dictated around how this heals, this is different than the shoulder injury where it was pretty predictable where I would be able to get to a point where I could play and not re-injure it or put myself in jeopardy out there on the floor," Cbssports.com restated the words of Stephen Curry as he expects his absence to extend further and miss the first few games after the break.

As of right now, the Warriors have lost three games without Curry. Some may wonder if any other player on the team could fill in such a big spot when Curry sits out.

8th grader Jahcell Harris, stated "The Warriors are really bad right now,



Photo from Google Images  
Stephen Curry's injury affects  
the whole Warriors team.

Curry impacts the team because he's their main scorer and a leader in some way. His spot on the team can't be filled up."

7th grader Amina Sekai, added "No one can take Stephen Curry's place or replace him, but the players that can hold the team together in the meanwhile there is Klay Thompson because of his good shots, Jordan Poole because of his great handling, and Draymond Green because of his defense."

Unfortunately, even after healing from an injury, many basketball players don't ever play the way they used to. Fellow Warriors fans are concerned due to how much Curry gets hurt and wonder

if one day he won't play the same.

8th grader Jacob Myles Castro, opposes these ideas. He responded, "I don't think this injury will affect how he plays, the Warriors rely off of him because he's the best shooter, I believe he'll play the same. Right now the Warriors are bad, but they will improve when Curry gets back since he always recovers."

Curry has unique traits and plays making him an important aspect to the team. His influence and place on the team will continue to flourish and be respected by basketball players and fans around the world who await his recovery.

# Talent Show creates a safe place for students to express their skills with peers

Sabdjot Harry Reporter

Walters will once again host its annual Talent Show, organized by Ms. Alves and Ms. Gentry, where students can express their talents and abilities.

Nevaeh Anderson, an 8th grader, stated that she feels nervous trying out. She says she feels good knowing that there is a place where she can share her talents, but she also feels nervous going in front of a lot of people and presenting. However, she stated she really wants to get over the nerve of presenting in front of people she thinks of this as an amazing opportunity.

Juliocesar Casas, an 8th grader, stated he feels that everyone can benefit from the Talent Show even



Photo by Tammy Phair

Students line up of the final performance in last year's talent show.

if they don't already have the confidence, he stated that it's an amazing opportunity for everyone who is going to join. He also shares that he hopes he sees people he knows during the Talent Show.

Leilanie Trinidad, an 8th grader, explained that she feels the Talent Show will give students who are more on the

quiet and shy side a chance to be able to showcase their talent. She explains that it's better to always put your talents forward and never hide them.

Come support your peers and friends on April 26 at 7:00 in the mini gym.

# Staff Feature: Ms. Sadasivan teaches 8<sup>th</sup> grade math in room 13

Hayden Tesler      Reporter

Part of what makes Walters a great learning environment is its teachers and staff. Recently many new teachers have been hired.

Ms. Sadasivan is an excited new teacher. She teaches 8th grade math in room 13. Ms. Sadasivan started teaching at Walters in late October 2022. Before Ms. Sadasivan got there, her class was taught by many subs which made many students have trouble understanding the material being taught.

Ms. Sadasivan started teaching math because it is her favorite subject and she can connect with it. Besides math, Ms. Sadasivan enjoys hobbies including gardening, cooking, hiking, and traveling because they make her happy. She was also a substitute teacher on campus.

Ms. Sadasivan was not teaching at Walters at the beginning of the year, but once she started teaching, her students felt a difference.

Math can be a challenging subject for many students. 8th grader Mahelte Mesgana said, “When I have a good teacher, I do better.”

Ms. Sadasivan encourages students to understand math and to keep trying because students who understand are more engaged. Mahelte added, “I enjoy her class and she explains hard math.”

Ms. Sadasivan is a talented math teacher who encourages her students every day to stay connected to math in their everyday lives.



Photo by Simir Aulakh

Students with many subs have trouble learning. Luckily Ms. Sadasivan replaced the sub this year in room 13.

## Social media apps present both advantages and disadvantages

Tristan Lee      Reporter

Social media is a big part of people’s daily lives. In fact, it seems to be everywhere. Whether someone uses it to keep up with their friends or family, discover new things in the world, or even as a way to express themselves, most people have probably used social media one way or another. As of January 2023, 4.76 billion people (which is about 59.4% of the entire population) around the world use social media according to DataReportal.

However, most people who use social media have probably heard something around the lines of, “Social media is so bad for you!” or “Social media just spreads lies!”

This debate has been going on for as long as social media has existed in this world. On one side of the argument, people believe social media can sometimes be a bad place to be on.

Ayaansh Lakhwara, a 6th grader, said, “...someone [could] try to scam or catfish you.” He later stated, “It’s not entirely bad, you just have to interact with people you trust.”



Photo from Google Images  
Lee's Noodle House is located in Santa Rosa.

6th grader Nahiala Hernandez added that social media keeps you up to date. You can get to know about cool events near you or the next location of a musician’s tour through social media.

This leads to the other side of the argument, that social media can also be good at times. For some, social media can be a wondrous place to be, a place where they can be themselves and be genuinely happy.

For example, 7th grader Angel Gonzalez stated, “[On social media] you [retreat] from the real world and be with friends.” To people like him, social media is an escape from all the bad things happening around them and they can just relax and spend time with good friends.

In some ways, social media has also been able to help society through ways such as, raising awareness, fundraisers, and helping local businesses.

In one instance, a woman named Jennifer Le was able to help her father’s Vietnamese restaurant in Santa Rosa in February by uploading a video onto TikTok that went viral. Her father’s business, Lee’s Noodle House, was struggling due to the pandemic, but after the video, the restaurant was packed, saving it from closure.

All in all, even though social media is popular among the younger generation, some can argue that it is harmful to people. On the other hand, this does not mean that it doesn’t come with benefits.

# 7.8 magnitude earthquake suddenly strikes Syria and Turkey

Reymond Miguel Reporter

An earthquake with a 7.8 magnitude struck Syria and Turkey on February 6, 2023. The earthquake happened near the cities of Nurdagi and Gaziantep and many other cities were destroyed during the earthquake. There are many people and organizations including World Vision helping out people who have been affected by the earthquake.

The earthquake happened at 4:17 am and 100 or more aftershocks occurred. The White Helmets, Syrian Medical Society, Globalgiving, World Vision, and many other organizations are helping with the situation in both countries. Unfortunately, millions of people were left homeless after many buildings collapsed.

Sahil Khan, a 6th grader, commented, "I would feel upset because people were killed and many lost their



Photos from Google Images

The earthquake in Syria and Turkey left behind death and destruction.

families." He also said that he would donate money to the countries.

Ways to help both countries is to donate clothes, food, money, and other items to help the Syrians and the Turkish. To aid the communities, donate to Direct relief, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, Plan International Inc., or Syrian American Medical Society foundation.

Mihir Kulkarni, a 6th grader, mentioned that he would try to do his best to help the Syrian and the Turkish.

Tristan Posadas, an 8th grader, said that he would spread awareness to family and friends so that others can help the people affected by the earthquake.

Many people were affected by the earthquake and donating helps the numbers of people who lost their homes or belongings. Find a charity at <http://www.charitynavigator.org/>.

# Broadcast journalist gets paid unfairly because of her gender

Jeffrey Huang Reporter

Discrimination has been around for a long time. Whether it was because of skin color, gender, or religion, most can argue that it is unfair. In the present day, gender discrimination is not as common, but it has completely disappeared. Uneven pay is one example.

Former San Diego TV anchor (someone who tells the news through a television broadcast), Sandra Maas, has sued KUSI, the company who she used to work for, for unfair pay because of her age and gender.

6th grader Emma Stelle-Barlow said, "It's messed up and unfair. Women should get equal amounts of pay and the money difference should depend on the position."

Likewise, Diego Sarceno, a 7th grader, reported that this issue is very unfortunate.

Sandra mentioned that her employer paid her \$80,000 less per year than her co-worker, Denton. Both of them were working the same job for the same amount of time. The only difference was that her co-worker is male.

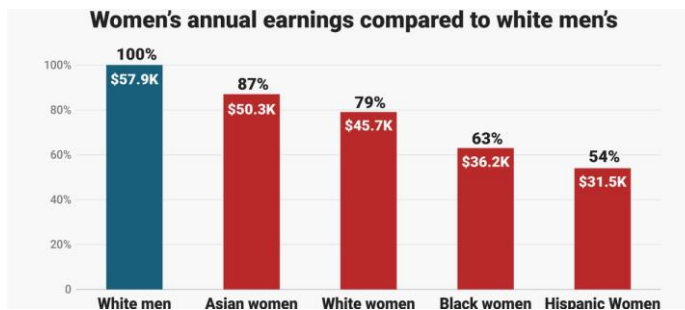


Photo from Google Images

Many corporations pay people unfairly based on race and gender.

"Even if I was the [male] co-worker I would side with Sandra because she shouldn't be getting paid less than me if we had the same role," stated 8th grader Gabe Anaya.

However, this type of discrimination does not happen specifically in this job. It is an issue all around the world. For example, throughout the years 2012-2020, on average, males in California have been getting paid \$13,000 more per year than women.

Overall, many people are enraged because of the unfairness in pay based on race and gender. It is agreed among many that it is a serious issue that needs to be immediately addressed.

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