

# KCYC NEWS FOR KIDS

Kids Campus Youth Center

Volume 2, Issue 8

April 21, 2011



Happy  
Easter

## Eddie “Tommy” Torrez makes a difference at KCYC and the city of El Monte

### NAOMIE AGUILAR CHIEF EDITOR

We all know Tommy. But did you know that his first name is Eddie? Did you know that Tommy also works for the city of El Monte?

Tommy is a hard worker, who works in many of the classes here at Kids Campus! Many students appreciate how Tommy works at KCYC and how he helps clean up the graffiti in the community we live in.

Tommy has been working at Kids Campus for three

years. He always has a smile on his face, whether he’s helping somebody with homework or playing with them in the gym. He is a very respectful person towards both staff and students.

Tommy has his own club, the Media Art Crew, where he teaches students how to use Mac computers, and they also get to use flip cameras! They have begun shooting a new video. The club is also making a special video dedicated to Kids Campus. He teaches club members computer skills, and many of the students learned how to use the

Mac computers thanks to Tommy!

Kevin Tran, a member of his club, said, “I am very happy Tommy made a club because it is really fun, we get to

learn new skills, and Tommy is really cool!”

He works very hard, so when you see Tommy make sure you thank him for working really hard to keep our city clean!



## KCYC’s students visit colleges during Spring Break sleepover

### ANGEL DIAZ REPORTER

On Monday, April 4 and Tuesday, April 5, 2011, 19 Kids Campus Youth Center probation students went to visit colleges to take tours of them. The trip lasted two days and one night. On the first day, we only visited one college. On Tuesday, we visited three colleges.

The first college that we visited was UC San Diego; it was quite big and it was very delightful to see. Right when we got there, we met with our tour guides. Once the tour began, we started walking around the campus, viewing the library, which was six stories high! We also saw a huge section where the

students gather and sell or promote new clubs or items. One fact that was quite interesting and fascinating was that UC San Diego has over fifty majors. If you are a sports person, you will be happy to know that the college has an Olympic size pool, and it has a huge gym. A few famous athletes have gone to the college just to practice or work out. They have huge festivals at times, and the cost is free for any enrolled student.

After our tour was over, we went to get lunch; and let me just point out that there was a huge variety of food choices to pick from. Some of the options we had were Panda Express, Subway, Burger King, and Yogurt World. After we were all

done eating, we went to the souvenir shop, which was two stories high. Once everybody was done and ready to go, we drove back to Kids Campus. When we arrived, we had the choice of either staying in the Learning Arena or going to play in the gym. A few hours passed, and they called us for dinner. After dinner, we watched a movie and then fell asleep.

The next morning, we ate breakfast, and we were off to go visit Azusa Pacific University. When we got there, we took a tour of the whole campus. The university was once a religious school, so one of your classes has to be “religious,” such as bible lessons. It is also a private school that goes on rescue missions for

as long as four months.

Then we went to Citrus College, where they have a huge science program. When we were done with the tour, we went to eat lunch, and then we went to Cal Poly Pomona, where they are known for their engineering and architecture careers. They had horses on campus and they have a place where the atmosphere is similar to a rainforest. We were able to walk through some classrooms and saw some students at work. We left after going to the gift shop.

When we got to Kids Campus, we had a little raffle and a survey; then we were all able to leave and go home. Overall, this trip was very interesting and knowledge packed.

*Battle L.A.: an action-packed alien, war movie*

**OSCAR NAVARRO  
REPORTER**

Ever watched *Battle LA*? Ever think about joining the army or fighting aliens? Well, your dreams have come true. *Battle LA*, an exciting, thrilling, mind-blowing story that will give the audience a non-stop look, will change your thoughts on all war movies.

This movie came out in March 2011, and it cost 100 million dollars. A great amount of money to spend on a great movie. Among the stars in the film are: Michelle Rodriguez, Bridget Moynaham, Aaron

Eckhart, Jowy King, Lucas Till and, Jim Parrack. They were all awesome actors.

The movie starts off with a typical day. Meteors start hitting Earth and people are panicking like crazy! The army gets on its way ASAP. The news is live and alerts all citizens who

live around the area to recruit to an army base, where it's the safest spot anybody can go to. Aliens are invading all over the cities and, it's like a nonstop meteor shower. The intense horror that goes through the movie makes you fear every day; gives you the shivers about wondering if this

can be true.

There are many situations the actors go through, and the obstacles they have to go through to reach each destination are really intense. This movie makes people wonder a lot. Why? Because during the movie, I started wondering if the humans were going to be able to defeat these aliens or not. Would they be overthrown by the aliens? Well, the only way to know is by watching the movie.

I recommend watching this movie because it shows how family can come close. What are you waiting for? Go catch the movie before it's out of theaters!



*Video games suitable for kids of all ages*

**DANIEL CATIVO  
REPORTER**

There are a variety of video games that are fun and suitable for kids of all ages.

One of them is Super Mario Brothers. It's a video game that a lot of people play. Super Mario is a character that is in a game. Back in the day, Super

Mario was old, but they made a different Mario that everybody started buying. Mario is cool because it has different kinds of games, which are all interesting. Super Mario also has different levels, and they are all exciting.

Have you ever heard of the game named Pacman? It is a very famous game that many people play. You play it on a big

machine, and you could pick other games, too. Pacman is a very easy game, and it very cool.

Rock Band is a music game makes lots of different series. You get to play with drums, guitar, and vocals. Rock Band can be purchased at any GameStop. Guitar Hero is cool because you could play with a real guitar, and you could also

listen to music.

DJ Hero is another cool music video game. To play DJ Hero, you play with a DJ music system; it's fun in so many ways. It's only a two player game that is very hard, but you will get better at it. DJ hero is extremely fun.

These are only some examples of some entertaining games. You be the judge of them.

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## The true meaning of Easter is not chocolate bunnies and egg-hunting

**ANGEL DIAZ  
REPORTER**

Chocolate bunnies, scavenger hunts, blooming bright flowers, bunnies, and going to church are only a few things that might pop into a person's mind when they think about Easter.

Easter is a very fun and religious holiday. The reason why I express this thought is because you go to church and then you go egg hunting. The majority of people celebrate

Easter, unlike the old days where only certain kinds of religions were allowed to celebrate it.

Many things have changed since Easter first began. For starters, they didn't use to have scavenger hunts. People would only go to church and maybe have a nice dinner with their family and then go to church again at night or in the afternoon.

But what is the true meaning of Easter, I sometimes wonder? Is it really just going to church or looking for eggs, or

does it have a deeper meaning, a more fulfilling title? It turns out that it does have a deeper meaning. The true purpose of Easter is to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which occurred three days after his crucifixion. Although that is the real meaning of Easter, over the years the majority of people have actually forgotten its significance.

There are many statements that prove that this is true. For example, when those

Easter commercials pop up on your television screen, they only show Easter eggs and bunnies or chocolates. Also, when you go to the store and you walk down the Easter aisle all you see is colored eggs and plastic eggs. As you can see, all these things are only empowering my opinion on how the majority of people are forgetting the true meaning.

The good thing is that there are still some people who still remember and commemorate the true meaning of Easter.

## Earth Day: a day to make our planet clean and healthy

**MIGUEL AGUILAR  
REPORTER**

Have you ever wondered why people celebrate Earth day? If you have, the answer is that it is the only holiday in which people try making the Earth a cleaner place to live in a better environment.

On Earth Day, which this year falls on April 22, 2011, most people try to help clean up the environment and plant more trees to have cleaner air. The founder of Earth Day was a man named Senator Gaylord Nelson.

For many years, it had been troubling him that the environment was a non-issue in the politics of his country. Senator Nelson tried to get President Kennedy to outlook this situation by going on a National Conservation Tour.

After that, the president started his five-day eleven state Maintenance Tour on September 1963. For a lot of reasons, the idea did not succeed in putting the issue onto the nationwide political agenda. However, the origin of that idea eventually became Earth Day.

Senator Nelson continued to speak about the issues about the environment. He spoke in twenty-five states to many audiences. They would clean up the parks and other public places. Sometimes they would go to private places to make them look nicer and cleaner than they were before. It would be easier to play in a cleaner environment because it would probably feel better and cleaner to let their kids play there.

There are many ways one can help make this planet a cleaner, healthier place. One of

the ways is by filling up buckets of water and using them to water plants. This will save a lot of water from running from the hose. Another way to save water is by turning off the water when you brush your teeth and then turn it back on when you are ready to rinse.

One of the main problems is that too many trees are being used, so we need to get more recycling bins and recycle the paper that doesn't get used.

These are some ways we can all help make this planet a better place to live in.

## Arbor Day: a day to plant trees and show appreciation for them

**J A I L E E N   L O Z A  
REPORTER**

Arbor Day was first encouraged by groups of people to plant different kinds of flowers and trees. The purpose was to show care for trees, nurture them, and to appreciate what the trees do and give to us.

This holiday actually started in 1872 in the state of

Nebraska, but then after it became a worldwide holiday. Making the holiday worldwide was credited to Birdsey Northrop. Other countries participate in Arbor Day, such as Japan, Germany, Egypt, Costa Rica, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, and Venezuela.

Julius Sterling Morton founded National Arbor Day. Julius was a Nebraskan journalist and politician originally from

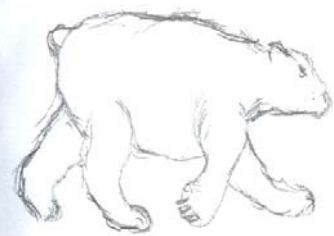
Michigan. Throughout his long and creative career, Julius worked to improve agricultural techniques in his state.

President Richard Nixon proclaimed the last Friday in April as National Arbor Day. This year National Arbor Day is on April 29, 2011. It originated in all fifty states of the United States, but it is also celebrated in other countries.

Arbor Day was created because people envisioned a world where trees and forests are rich, healthy, and highly valued by all people.

In honor of this day, the foundation is planting a new tree in a National Forest. Tree Planting non-profit organization programs include: Tree City USA Conservation Trees, Youth Education, and Arbor Day Farm.

## Panda and polar bears are two unique land animals



### SIMON CHEN REPORTER

There are two land animals that have a special way of living. They are the polar and panda bears.

The polar bear is the largest land animal, and they are

found in the Arctic, Alaska, Canada, Russia, Denmark, and Norway. Most of those countries or states have banned hunting. When polar bears are born, they can be the size of a rat and weigh around a pound. They can grow bigger than a person in a year if they are fed well. Boy bears can grow up to 10 feet tall and weigh over 1400 pounds. Polar bears can live up to 25 years. A polar bear's fur is actually not white, it's actually a hollow tube.

Panda bears can be found at the top of Yangtze Basin Mountain. Also, their population is going down because they are losing their land. Baby pandas are loved because they look like

puppies, and they feel fluffy. They babies like to play, but their skills to live aren't that great. Panda features are unique because they have a roundish body and are different from other bears. The arms and legs of the panda are black, the tail is short and white, and the body is mostly white. Pandas can live up to 15-25 years, but some pandas live up to 30 years old. If they live in the wild, they might not live long because they might be killed by animals. The pandas main enemies are humans because they are hunting them and are using their hides. Pandas feed on mostly bamboo, but the bamboo population is also going down.

These animals are special and unique in their own way. In order to keep them alive, we must take care of them and their habitats.

### Artwork by Jeff Gamez



## Student shows appreciation toward Washington D.C. trip

### MARK MATA REPORTER

On April 3 through April 8, I went to Washington D.C. to discover some very important places. The reason I went to D.C. is because I went to Saturday school at Mt. View High School every single Saturday for 12 weeks to learn about U.S. history. They thought my first report card was good enough to go. So, they signed me into World

Stride, with ninety other kids from all over the country.

I was supposed to wake up at 4:00 am, get to the bus at 4:15 am, and the plane was to take off at 5:00 am. The whole trip took eight hours. Our teacher took us to a bus driver, who took us all over D.C. First, he took us to Burger King to eat dinner and then to our Hotel to rest for the next day.

Our second day at Washington D.C. was a rainy day.

Our first stop was at James Town, where we explored one of the haunted places, how people dressed in the past, factories, and shops. Then we went to a chocolate factory, where they showed us how it is made. At the end of the day, we went back to the hotel. On the third and fourth days, we went to the monuments. Our first monument was Mt. Vermont. Then we visited the Arlington National Graveyard, which carries at least 400,000

people. Finally, we visited the Capital. On the fourth day, we were given a free day to just relax.

Then, on the fifth day, we went to news museum, that showed one of the greatest news and dangerous times.

Finally, we came back to Los Angeles. I thank World Strides for taking me, paying the food and the hotel, and for teaching me new things by seeing them with our own eyes.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO KIDS CAMPUS' TOP STUDENTS!

Congratulations to all students who participated in March's World Math Day event. Mathletics, which sponsors World Math Day, has rewarded Kids Campus with a free trial of the Mathletics program. This reward goes to the class who tried the hardest and had the most correct answers on World Math Day. The reward will go to Kids Campus's sixth grade class, which had the most students in the top ten for the following categories: Top 10 Correct Answered, Top 10 High Scores Answered, and Top 10 Improvers. The free trial will allow students to play the arithmetic game they played on World Math Day, which is one of the integral parts of Mathletics. It also includes curriculum activities according to their grade level and other major topics. The free trial will last all the way through August 31! Congratulations to the sixth graders!!

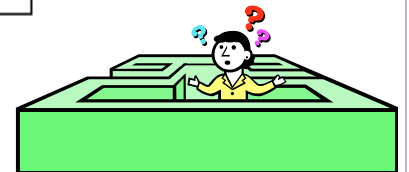
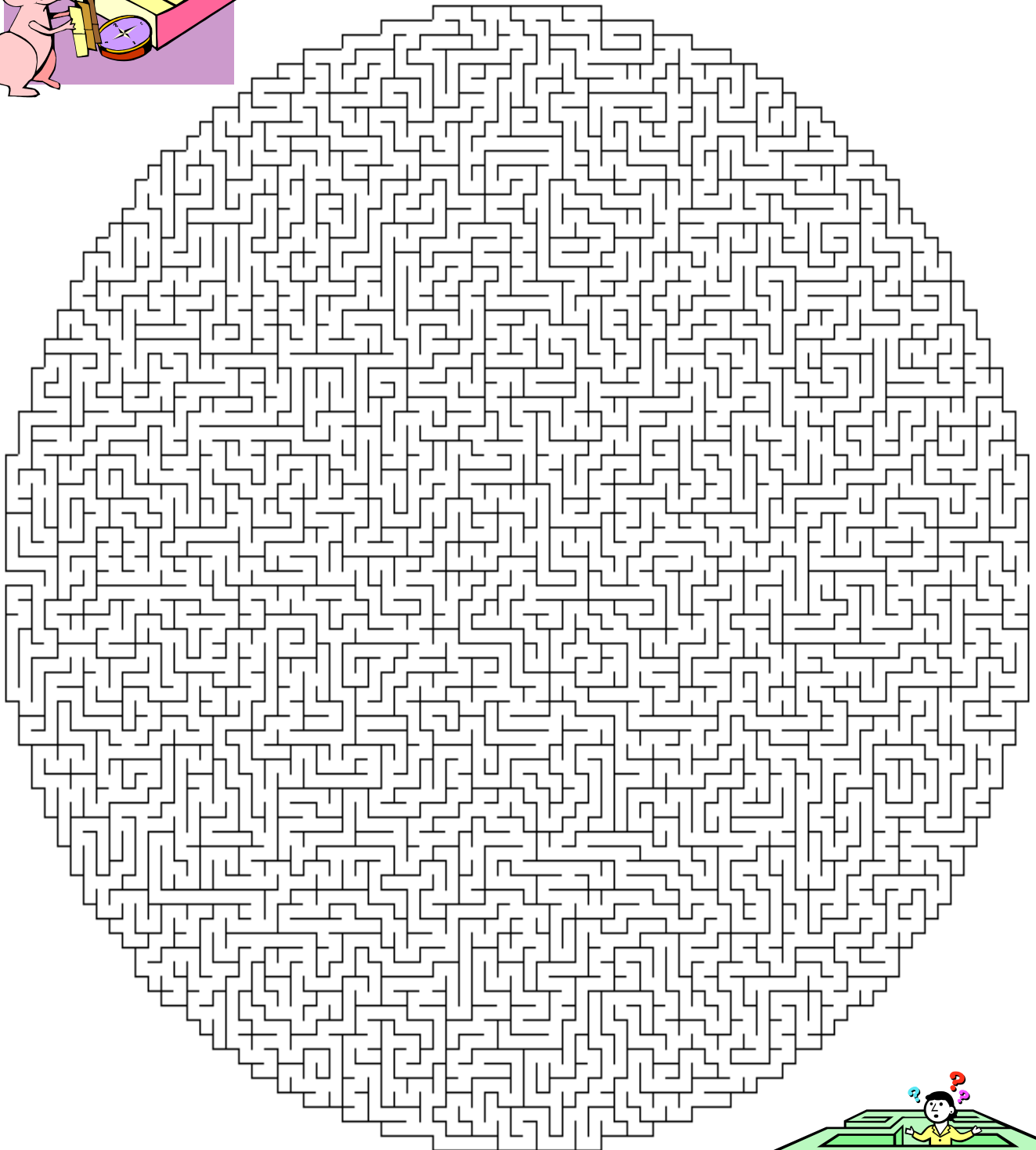
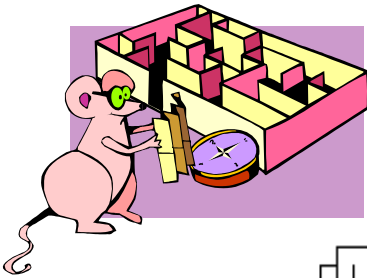


### KCYC's Top Students

This last grading period, only ten of KCYC's students earned straight A's in their report cards. They were (from left to right): Julianna Cativo, Omar Navarro, Hanita Le, Pedro Rios, Chris Tran, Angeline Le, Monica Nguyen, and Mattie Lara. Not shown here are Juliette Lai and Luis Angel Perez. Congratulations to all students!!!



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## KCYC's Fitness Club to host first Fitness Fair

### WILLIAM CASTELLON BUSINESS MANAGER

The Fitness Club will be hosting a fair about how to be and star fit. The Fitness Fair will be held in the gym, on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 from 5:45-7:30 pm. The Fitness Fair will be held once a year.

Vincent created the Fitness Fair to promote the Fitness Club, to promote fitness in our community and to educate families in a friendly way.

What will happen at the fair is that the Fitness Club members will each have a booth that they will need to run.

There will be a booth where participants will be able to play Wii, and that will be run by Christian Alarid. There will be a booth where people can find their

body mass index and that booth will be run by Nathan Garcia and William Castellon. Araceli Cativo and Alexis Sahatjian will run the booth where they will teach participants how to read nutrition labels. A booth that will allow students and families to work out will also be set up. The last booth is where Daniel Cativo and Simon Chen will show people the differences between healthy and non healthy food choices.

One of the purposes of the fair is to show families different ways to be healthy and to live life. Another purpose is to help families start their process on becoming healthy.

The most important thing about the fair is to show how many different ways or things people can do to be and continue to be healthy.

### Healthy Dessert Recipe

More recipes on [cachampionsforchange.net/en/Recipes.php](http://cachampionsforchange.net/en/Recipes.php)

#### Fudgy Fruit

**Makes 4 servings.** *1/2 banana, 2 strawberries per serving.*

**Prep time:** 15 minutes

**Cook time:** 30 seconds

#### Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 2 large bananas, peeled and cut into quarters
- 8 large strawberries
- 1/4 cup chopped unsalted peanuts

#### Preparation

1. Place chocolate chips in a small microwave safe bowl. Heat on high for 10 seconds and stir. Repeat until chocolate is melted, about 30 seconds.
2. Place fruit on a small tray covered with a piece of waxed paper. Use a spoon to drizzle the melted chocolate on top of the fruit.
3. Sprinkle the fruit with chopped nuts.
4. Cover the fruit and place in the refrigerator for 10 minutes or until the chocolate hardens. Serve chilled.



## Art Studio prepares for 4th Annual Recycling Art Contest



This year, the 4th annual Recycling Art Contest will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 from 5:00-6:30 pm. This year's theme is "Healthy Character," in which students are to build a character doing a healthy activity, such as exercising or eating healthy.

Art Director, Sarah Shin, is having the fourth through twelfth grade students work on

this project. Students are working in groups of four, and nothing but recyclable items are being used.

Next Wednesday, staff, parents, and any visitors will get to vote for their favorite "Healthy Character." There will be one winner per grade, and winners will be announced on Tuesday, May 3, 2011. Sarah will reward the winners with a healthy food party on Thursday, May 5, 2011.

