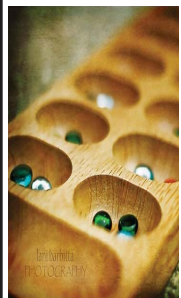


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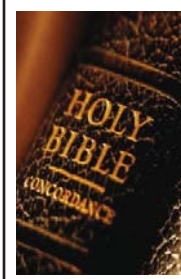
To read more about news from around the world, and here at Calvin turn to pg. 2



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The Cougar's Tale is a publication of Calvin Christian High School's journalism class. Students get the experience of interviewing people and writing articles for viewing by others.

Questions or comments should be directed to Mr. Vande Glind and will be relayed to the journalism class.

Dancing the Night Away

By Eleanor Staricka



Learning how to do spins in swing dancing

Well, nobody actually danced the night away, but I'm sure some of them would have if the CCHS Spring Formal didn't have to end. On May 3, 2009, the CCHS Student Council hosted a candlelit evening of socialization, dancing, and a pig. I have yet to hear of any other high school roasting a pig in the parking lot.

After the meal of Buffalo Wild Wings, roast pig, mashed potatoes, Caesar Salad and yummy cake, it was time for the main event: the dance. From my vantage point on the dance floor it looked like everybody was enjoying themselves with no complaints. This is the first year CCHS has had a real dance and it appeared to be a huge hit with everyone (even people who wouldn't normally dance). Liz Johnson and Ben Silker gave basic swing dancing lessons, which most people appreciated, but there were also many other types of dancing going on – everyone seemed to have their own style. Hannah DeVries said "We were just dancing for fun and it wasn't so serious...you didn't have to worry about the moves."



Rocking out and having fun.

I think a lot of people were more comfortable dancing when they saw that people didn't care what everyone else thought and were just dancing.

Before Kerri Mulder arrived, she had her own ideas of what the night would be like, but upon arrival she was pleasantly surprised.

"It was more formal. I thought we would actually see the pig. They served it to us and it wasn't cafeteria style." The task of serving was done by some of our fantastic parents, and just in case they didn't hear a thank you that night: your work was greatly appreciated!

For some, the night ended with the last song, and for others the party continued on into the night with Rock Band, DDR, and a cozy bonfire at the DeVries home. But no matter what time you called it a night, whether it was ten o'clock or 12:30, it was certainly a memorable night for all.



Fine Arts Night Prep By Rachel Mulder

"Do you like poetry?!" If you recall, that was a line that TweedleDee and TweedleDum recited in our Alice in Wonderland play, but it's also a question that I hope you will ask yourself. Because if you like poetry, (well, even if you don't) you should be present at Calvin Christian High School's fourth annual Fine Arts Night. It will be held on May 11, 2009 in the Grace Evangelical Free Church gym. There will be much more than poetry there and it will be a great night!

The choir will be singing many splendid songs, including part of my personal favorite,

Continued on pg. 2

Run for Fun?

By Eleanor Staricka

Think ahead to the middle of August. At that point, most of us are wondering where the summer has gone, and these two girls may be thinking the same thing, but they will also have been working towards the 16 of August for months.

At the beginning of this school year you may have heard that Mr. Ahrenholz was trying to get a track team together, but those plans fell through due to lack of interest. When Dani Nelson and Hanna Marra heard this, they sought out a different kind of athletic activity. Mr. Shields helped them connect with the YWCA and on August 16, Hanna and Dani will be participating in the YWCA Women's Triathlon. This 500 yard swim, 15 mile bike, and 5K run at Baker Park sounds like a lot of work to me, but these girls have already begun their training.

continued on pg. 2

NEWS: WORLD, COUNTRY, CALVIN

By Liz Johnson

International

The Rescue: Be Abducted

On April 25, 2009, St. Paul, along with 99 other cities in 10 different countries, from Australia to Scotland, held their own "Rescue." For almost twenty years, the Lord's Resistance Army has been capturing children and forcing them to help with their mass murders in Uganda. One organization that is trying to help these kids, Invisible Children, will be hosting this event. It started out in Rice Park where people left behind a picture of their family and allowed themselves to be "abducted." From there, they walked to the State Capitol where they spent the night. These people stayed at the Capitol until they were "rescued" by getting news publicity and a public figure to attend, such as Amy Klobuchar, Tim Pawlenty, John Piper, or Marc Rosen.

Around 62,955 people signed up. We hope and pray that the situation in Uganda may be resolved quickly and safely.

Clones in the Near Future?

Fertility doctor, Panayiotis Zavos, claims to have cloned 14 human embryos and implanted 11 of them into 4 women. Even though no pregnancies resulted, the first cloned baby is thought to be in the near future. "There is absolutely no doubt about it... the cloned child is coming. There is absolutely no way that it will not happen," Zavos said. Cloned human embryos have been created in test tubes before, but never placed inside a woman.

The doctor is a citizen of the U.S., but he is thought to have done these procedures in the Middle East to "escape the U.S. ban on cloning." He used the same technique that was used on Dolly, the sheep. This definitely brings up some ethical questions that we as Christians need to think about.

U.S.

Miss USA Controversy

Miss California spurred quite a controversy at the Miss USA pageant a few weeks ago. When asked if other states should follow Vermont and legalize gay marriage, she answered with this: "I think it's great Americans are able to choose one or the other... In my country, in my family, I think that I believe



One of Kony's child soldiers

that a marriage should be between a man and a woman. No offense to anybody out there, but that's how I was raised and that's how I think it should be, between a man and a woman." Many people think it was because of this answer that she didn't take home the crown that night, but she graciously accepted the outcome saying, "It wasn't what God wanted for my life that night."

Miss California's answer caused a huge response all over the internet and television. She appeared the next morning on the "Today Show." She told Matt Lauer, "I did not want to offend anybody, but I think with that question specifically, it's not about being politically correct, for me it was being biblically correct."

Chewing Your Way to Success?

In recent studies, students who chewed gum while studying and taking tests scored 3% higher on standardized tests than those who did not chew gum. The students who chewed gum during class required fewer breaks, paid closer attention, and kept quiet for longer than those who didn't.

Another aspect to this idea is that people "who chewed gum three times hourly after lunch, ate fewer high-calorie snacks." There was reported to be fewer feelings of hunger and cravings for sweet foods. So is this the next new study technique or diet fad? Who knows, but it may be worth a shot!

Calvin

Calvin: What a Soup-er Night!

April 18. It was a fun night for many people. It was the final night of the high school's performance of Alice in Wonderland, there was an amazing dinner beforehand for guests, and a fun party afterward for both cast and crew. The dinner of soup, salad, bread, and desserts, was wonderfully prepared by some CCHS parents. After the dinner, friends and family sat down to enjoy the production. All students involved were excited to be performing again, but it was bitter-sweet as it was the last performance. Following the play, cast and crew met downstairs to enjoy some leftovers from the dinner and play some games. The evening concluded with some games of freeze tag, red rover, and star tipping. What a fun way to end such a busy week!

2, 4, 6, 8, Who Do We Appreciate?

As you may have noticed, over the past few weeks there has been lots of extra food in the teacher's lounge. This is because we were celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week. Every year the PTF and a few other families bring in food for the teachers to enjoy. Some people send cards of thanks, while others just tell the teachers how thankful they are. No matter how you show it, take some time to tell the teachers just how much they mean to you and Calvin Christian High School. 🐾

FINE ARTS NIGHT PREP continued from pg. 1

"The Phantom of the Opera," and the Dordt choir will be joining in our fun! They will be touring Europe and are leaving Tuesday and asked if they could have a concert at a church up here the night before. Since we are having our Fine Arts Night on that Monday, we asked them to join us!

Even though we don't have the privilege of singing with them, Mrs. Anderson hopes, "that the [CCHS choir] will enjoy and appreciate hearing the mature college choir sound with all the fundamentals we have been working on in place."

Although it's not required for each student to participate, they are highly encouraged. "Because we aren't teaching a poetry unit, the freshman and sophomores don't have a mandatory poem that they have to recite. We'd like as many students participating as possible; through art, music and read-

ings, we hope most students will be involved," said Mr. Schaap. This night will be a very fun, and different from the past Fine Art's nights, so if you're a student: we hope you will consider participating, and if you're an adult: we hope to see you there! 🐾

Run For Fun? continued from pg. 1

They don't have a rigorous workout planned, but Hanna says, "Basically I run some days and bike and swim other days and try to do it as much as possible."

This specific race isn't geared as a fundraiser, but athletes are asked to provide a donation that will go towards Strong Fast Fit, a youth program aimed at pre-

venting obesity in Native American and Latino youth and their families.

From what I've heard from Hanna and Dani, this sounds like a fun experience and I wish them well in their training and on race day. 🐾



Student Highlights

By Casey Teunissen and Claire Hinrichs



Micah Nedrud

Birth date: January 10, 1994

Favorite Movie:

A Cinderella Story

Favorite Music Artist:

Guns and Roses

Biggest Fear: "My biggest fear is dogs with rabies, because when I was little I got bit by a dog with rabies."

What are you looking forward to at CCHS? "I am looking forward

to graduating the ninth grade!"

What is your worst injury or accident?

"I stubbed my toe as I was walking out of my room."

What is your favorite quote?

"Humor is also a way of saying something serious."

-T.S. Eliot

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want with you? "A boat, 100 gallons of gas, and a life supply of Oreos."

What super power would you like to have and why?

"I would want to read really fast so I could read books really fast."

If there was a movie about you, what genre would it be? Why?

"It would be a suspense thriller because you never know what will happen next."



Chloe Due

Birth date: August 31, 1991

Favorite Movie: *The Patriot*

Favorite Music Artist: Styx

Biggest Fear: Spiders

What plans do you have for after you graduate?

I'm majoring in Political Science at Harding University

What is your favorite memory at CCHS? "While we were in

the Boundary Waters, I was canoeing with Lily Paul and we ran into a tree. A couple of spiders fell into the canoe and Lily stood up and tried to smash them with her paddle. She was freaking out so badly; I was afraid we would tip, but I was laughing too hard to calm her down."

What is your worst injury or accident?

"When I was in fourth grade I fell into the bathtub and hit my head on the soap dish. I had to go to the ER and they put 3 staples in my head to close up the hole and stop the bleeding."

What is your favorite Bible verse?

"I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you." Isaiah 46: 4b

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want with you? "I would take a satellite phone, a camera, and ice cream."

What super power would you like to have and why?

"I would want the ability to fly, because it would be cheaper than driving."

If there was a movie about you, what genre would it be?

"A movie about me would be a comedy because my friends are weirdos."



Vito Sauro

Birth date: July 6, 1994

Favorite Movie: *National Treasure*

Favorite Music Artist: Red Dress White

Biggest Fear: "My biggest fear is Sewer Insects because they have a lot of legs and they are going to get me!"

What are you looking forward to at CCHS? Debating with Mr. Schaap

What is your worst injury or accident?

"I was riding my scooter on my knees down a really steep hill and fell off and scraped my whole right side."

What is your favorite quote?

"It is difficult to produce a television documentary that is both incisive and probing when every twelve minutes, one is interrupted by twelve dancing rabbits singing about toilet paper." ~Rod Serling

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want with you?

"My computer, a salad because you can put anything in a salad, a Bible"

What super power would you like to have and why?

"I would want to be invisible because I could sneak onto planes and go on exotic trips all around the world."

If there was a movie about you, what genre would it be? Why?

"It would be a comedy because my life is weird and I am a weird person."



Dani Nelson

Birth date: October 16, 1993

Favorite Movie: *Sahara*

Favorite Music Artist: Petra Praise

Biggest Fear: "Snakes, because they're scary and creepy! Oh, and I'm deathly afraid of elevators."

What are you looking forward to at CCHS? Volleyball next year.

What is your worst injury or accident?

"I broke my nose mountain biking, I hit the front brakes and flew over the handlebars. I was 11 years old."

What is your favorite quote?

"We can collect nuts and throw them at telmarines!" ~Prince Caspian

If you were stranded on an island, what three things would you want with you? "I would take a boat, some water, and a GPS."

What super power would you like to have and why?

"I would like to fly."

If there was a movie about you, what genre would it be? Why?

"It would be adventure because my life is adventurous."



EXTRAS

Worship:

Do we have to sing?
By Melissa Kirk

The Journalism class has recently conducted a poll asking, “Do you think everyone should sing during worship?” We collected the student body’s answers and popped them into a graph (see right). Based on this poll, it seems our school has a pretty diverse opinion regarding this topic. As Christians, when questions arise, our first thought should be to look in the Bible for what God commands us to do. Let’s look in it now to see if we can find the answer to our question!

Psalm 98:4-6 says, “Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn— shout for joy before the Lord, the King.”

1 Chronicles 16:8-10 says, “Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to them also play the uncommon ones,

him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.” This is another command saying that we should sing praise to the Lord, but I

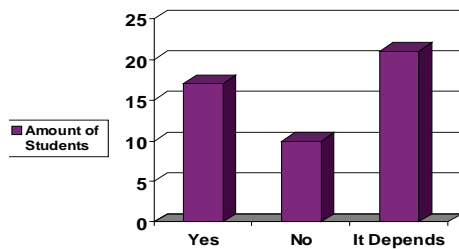
don’t think we are convinced yet. 1 Chronicles 16:23 also says, “Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day.”

The Bible says we should “burst into jubilant song with

music.” That said, it doesn’t mean that we have to sing every song, or that we must always sing during a worship service. Multiple times the Bible states that God does not want to be worshipped with hypocrisy.

How can we conclude with this? God commands us to sing praises to him, except when the words are not meaningful to us. It is clearly stated in the Bible that we should cry our hearts out to God by singing. But singing isn’t the only form of worship, and it isn’t more important than any other form of worship, but we should still take into consideration that God calls us to sing, dance, pray, serve, and fast. Should any of them be taken lightly? 🐾

Do We Have to Sing During Worship?



BOARD OF GAMES

By Vito Sauro

“How much could one learn from playing board games?” one might ask, plenty if you’re in this club. The Board Game Club has spent the year playing different strategic games to sharpen their mental skills. They not only play the ordinary board games like Chess or Chinese Checkers, but

like Blockus and Mancala.

One might also say that playing board games is a waste of time, but they couldn’t be more wrong.

According to studies by the International Journal for the Study of Board Games, games like Chess and Mancala improve critical thinking, organization, and strategy.

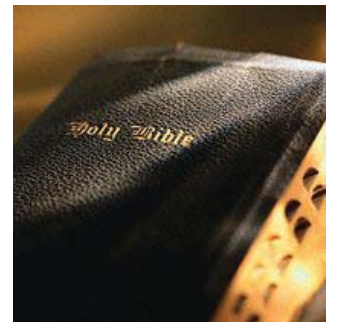
So, what’s the goal of this club? According to their mission statement, “We wish to have fun while playing the games we pick. We will enjoy each other’s company, snack, learn how to play games strategically, and teach others.” Have they met this standard? I think they have; and further more I think that this club is one of the best here at CCHS. 🐾

All Who Are Thirsty, All Who Are Weak

By Jordan Severin

Invitation to the Thirsty

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come,



buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.”- Isaiah 55:1



God tells us His Word is the necessary bread of life. It’s like rain; essential for survival. What if it never rained? Ever. The land would dry up and nothing could grow. Rain is nourishment for Earth as God’s Word is used to feed us, so that we can grow and be fruitful for Him. When it talks about thirst or hunger, it is meaning an absolute desire for God; he offers all we need. The best part is it’s free! Our satisfaction has no price.

The word “come” is mentioned four times. This must have some significance, right? Like in the Kutless song, “All Who Are Thirsty,” we are called to come to Him and “let the pain and the sorrow be washed away.” God calls us to him in the joyful and stressful times. We get stressed a lot. There’s homework, sports, or other activities. Our time is always filled. We worry about not being able to be with friends, getting somewhere on time, or making it to a sports practice. Why

can’t we afford to skip something once in a while or just remove it from our lives? You don’t need to go to every party or basketball game. Alone time with God is a necessity. He should be most important in our lives, but we need to make the personal commitment so God is number one in our lives; He won’t make it for us. 🐾

The Best Bathroom?

By Brian Estrem



The Hermitage Hotel has afternoon tea in the grand lobby,

down-filled duvets (that’s a fancy word for comforters), a presidential suite with 2,000 square feet, and a really nice toilet. So nice, in fact, that it’s been voted (drum roll please) America’s best restroom. It has four stools, three urinals, four sinks, spotless mirrors, and a Sultan telephone that connects to the front desk They even have a shoe-shine station in the restroom.

The restroom won the honor in an online poll sponsored by Cincinnati-based Cintas Corp. which supplies restroom hygiene products. The company says thousands of people voted over two months last summer. It was judged

based on hygiene, style, and access to the public. This high honor has earned the restroom entry to “America’s Best Restroom Hall of Fame.” This year they had the second, third, fourth, and fourth posted on the internet and they all look extraordinary. In second place came a futuristic feeling bathroom located in Louisville, Kentucky at the 21st century museum. In third place was a bathroom in Rockford, Illinois which I thought this was the most interesting; this bathroom was a heaven and hell themed. The last one that made honorable mention is located on the 95th floor of the John Hancock center overlooking Chicago. You can vote online for the best restrooms, and hopefully a restroom near you will take home the prize of best restroom of the world! 🐾

