



WORLD EVENTS



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From Tragedy to Adaptation

By Leslea Richelle Reynoso



September 11, 2001 is a day a large number of lives changed. Not long after 8am (Eastern Time), American Airlines Flight 11, a Boeing 767, is flown into Tower 1 of the World Trade Center causing many bodies to fly out of windows, papers, debris and smoke to fill the air. Not long after the first plane, a second plane flew into Tower 2 causing the same damage. Shortly before 10am (Eastern Time), our heroes (fire-fighters, medics and police officers) lives were greatly impacted, the 110 story towers collapsed, causing a cloud of dust, dirt and smoke to fill New York City, making it hard to see. Over 2,500 people were killed, beginning a long lasting tragedy.

Since the event, the United States changed, not only through the government but through the people as well. Many American's ask if the security today is better than what it once was. After Bin Laden's death, the threats have grown from Arabia to Africa. Security is not the only thing that has changed. The way many Americans do business has changed as well , businesses are more competitive, assistance programs have expanded, , entrepreneurs were given a "wake-up call", cash is king.

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I interviewed two people who did not lose someone but it did affect them. A girl who lives in Nebraska explained to me what she remembers, “I was 12 and was very scared because my aunt lives in New York City and did not work far from the World Trade Center. Back then I didn’t fully understand the depth and seriousness of what was going on, but watching it on the news was horrible especially when people started to jump out of the buildings. To cope, my class talked about it in school and my family and I

talked about it as well, especially with my aunt who watched so much of it happen with her own eyes”. Another person I interviewed lives in California. “I was turning 23 years old at the time because September 11th is my birthday. My husband took me up to Reno for my first time. When we arrived at the hotel, I called my mom to give her our hotel info and she told me to turn on the news, and what I saw would forever change everyone and everything and every birthday I would ever have again. My husband and I packed our stuff back in the car and went home so I could be with my family, kids, and friends. We have so many military personnel in my family and we knew they would be leaving as soon as they saw the news. We were all together and it stayed that way for almost a month, which is the closest I think my family has ever been. I look at 9/11 as a bad event that happened to our country but it also brought us all together. We fought as a country and got back up from what brought us down.”



Ten years later, September 11, 2011, the pools with engraved names of those whose lives were lost was finally open for families only, then open for the public the next day. To remember the loss, the Pentagon put on many memorial ceremonies, as well as reading out the many names that did not make it out alive that horrific day. September 11, 2001 was the day America came together as one family, helping each other through the bad times.

Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Massacres

By: Leslea Richelle Reynoso

On August 23, 2011, a 5.8 earthquake hit Mineral, Virginia causing seismic waves to travel as far North as New York and Canada, as far West as the U.S. Capital. The Press Corp of President Obama explained to Fox Reporters, they had “felt slight shaking” while President Obama said he “did not feel the tremor”. There were many reports from helicopters saying that the Washington Monument was tilting and after and was found to have many cracks in the stone. The „strong” earthquake as they referred to it, shook a power plant in Virginia, that could withstand no more than a 2.5. According to the Vice President of the company, the power plant is still safe.



From earthquakes one week, to Hurricane Irene’s terror the next, the East Coast just couldn’t catch a break at the end of August. As Irene made her triumph from August 21st to the 29th, she was first discovered in Puerto Rico, making her way North to Hispaniola, the Bahamas, the U.S. East Coast, ending her wrath near Canada. In North Carolina, she transformed to a category 3 hurricane. The hurricane created record floods and caused 4 deaths and left many without power. Irene is just



the beginning of a strong hurricane season. Next to be on the hurricane books are Katia, who has already started to affect Britain and Ireland and Hurricane Maria.

Crossing the pond to another tragic event, the Norway Massacre. One killed seven innocent people and left 15 injured, in the city of Oslo, and is said to be one of the most horrific events in Norway since World War II. After the cities big blast, the suspect entered an island called Utoya, 19 miles Northwest of Oslo, killing 80 people as young as 16 years old,. Many terrified teens

jumped into the water trying to swim towards the mainland. After the shooting, a 32 year old was arrested and later identified as Anders Behring Breivik. In the last several months, many have lost their lives, in tragedies around the world. Many should be constantly preparing themselves for the hurricanes heading towards them.

Starting College

From Home-school to College Campus!
See how one CWCS Grad made the transition

By: Adriana Garcia



I recently sat down with CWCS graduate, Alexandria Garcia, to talk with her about beginning this new semester as a college freshman.

First of all, congratulations on graduating. How was the ceremony?

Thank you! The graduation ceremony was beautiful. It was very professional. If you're a senior, I highly recommend participating in the Connecting Waters graduation. It's worth it. Remember, you only get to graduate from high school once!

Q: What college are you attending?

A: San Joaquin Delta College. Go Mustangs!

Q: What has been the hardest part of going from homeschooling to college?

A: I think the hardest thing for me has to be getting up early. I was used to sleeping in until 9-9:30 in the morning, and then all of a sudden I have to get up early, (before the sun is even up all the way), to get ready for school. My earliest class is at 9:30 though, so I'm lucky.

Q: What information have you found to be most helpful during this transition that would be helpful to others?

A: I think the most helpful suggestion I can give someone is to complete everything early! Go on before registration starts and find all the classes you want to take for that semester, then go online on the date and time given to you when you sign up and register. Make sure, if you are doing the FASFA, to get all the paperwork done early, really early. A lot of work has to be put into those papers. The campus also gives tours to new freshmen at the beginning of the school year that are very useful and I suggest going to the 'New Student Welcome Day'. Also, on the first day of school, remember there are no stupid questions. If you don't know where something is, just ask.

Q: What process did you have to go through to get into Delta College?

A: First I completed the online application for admission. When this was completed they gave me a Delta e-mail address. Next I had to schedule an appointment to take the assessment test and when I completed that I attended the New Student Group Advising session. After that I picked out and enrolled in classes through the online registration. Payment is due within 10 days of registering or you will be subject to disenrollment, so try and pay the same day you sign up for classes so you don't accidentally forget. Finally, I signed up for MyDelta to keep track of everything

Q: What did you do to prepare to attend college?

A: I prepared for college by making a list of all the classes I wanted and registering for them early. After I got my classes, I went during the last couple weeks of summer school and bought almost all of my text books. You do NOT want to try and buy your books at the begin-ning of the semester. Trust me, I saw the lines of people. It looked like a nightmare. . There are a lot of really great sites online where you can purchase your textbooks much cheaper than in the book store.

Q: What are you planning on majoring in?

A: I'm not quite sure what I want to major in, but that is what's so great about Delta. You can try out all different types of classes and see what you enjoy doing the most. You might plan on majoring in one thing, then take a class that totally changes your mind.

Q: What classes are you taking and which is your favorite one?

A: I'm taking Mexican-American History, English 1A, Guidance 5, and Algebra. Surprisingly I really like my math class. I've never been very good at math but my teacher explains everything really well.

Q: In your personal opinion, what is the best part of college?

A: The best part of college? I'd have to say hanging out with friends and knowing people in the same class as you. Then if you ever need help on homework, you have someone you can ask. I didn't know anyone in my classes when I first started, but then I found out there was a couple people I knew in my classes. It's more fun going to class if you have a friend there to talk to (but not while the teacher is talking!).

Q: Finally, what do you miss most, if anything, about homeschooling?

A: Sleeping in!!! I also miss the online classes on Elluminate. Those were so much fun and I had great teachers. All you had to do was roll out of bed, turn the computer on, and BAM, you were in class. I didn't have to get dressed or worry about how I looked. It was awesome.

There you have it folks! From homeschooler to college student, Alexandria, thank you for your time.

Thank you for interviewing me.

Deep Down Under

By Victoria Wilfong

Creepy Sea Creature: Anglerfish



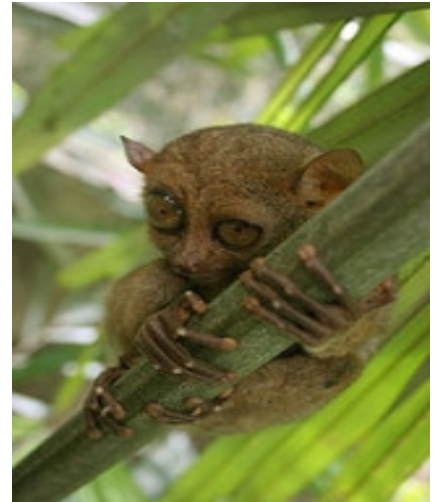
If I asked you what the scariest animal you've ever seen is, what would you say? Maybe a shark, squid, octopus? Coincidentally, the weirdest animals we've ever seen are sea creatures. So, what *does* live beyond the blue, into the black? The anglerfish is the creepiest sea creature I have ever seen. Although I'd never like to come face to face with one, my favorite is the black-devil anglerfish. Interestingly, there are more than 300 species of anglerfish. They are usually dark gray or brown, nearly all head. Some can grow up to a meter in length, but most only grow from eight to twelve inches. Despite their small size, I wouldn't want a, anglerfish swimming up to my face and have its translucent teeth digging into my skin for dinner. The most eye-catching part of an anglerfish is its bioluminescent glow. Attached to their back is a piece of dorsal spine that hangs out above their mouth. Attached to

the tip of the dorsal spine is a bioluminescent illicium that lures prey to their fateful death. Once a fish is attracted to the light, the anglerfish opens its mouth, gushes water in, and catches its prey in the current, ending up in the stomach of the horrific monster. Astoundingly, the anglerfish is capable of eating other prey larger than itself because it has an expandable stomach. Who knew something so scary existed?

Roaming the Face of Earth

Weird Animal

Tarsiers are the smallest monkeys found today. The first time I ever saw one, I jumped and gasped in fright. I do not think I have ever seen anything so weird before and did not know what to make of it! These creatures only grow from ten to fifteen centimeter. Their hind legs, including the feet, are twice as long as their bodies; with their tail stretching to an amazing 20 to 25 centimeters. Tarsiers have unique eyes which are the scariest part of their body. Each eyeball is six-teen millimeters in diameter, which is as large as their brain. Consider this for a second. Both eyeballs put together are twice as large as a tarsier's brain! If they are so tiny, what do they eat? Tarsiers catch bugs by jumping at them, which they are able to do quite easily due to their hind legs and feet. They also eat snakes, lizards, bats, and can even catch birds flying in midair as they jump from tree to tree. You might find these animals cute, but do not count on one as being the perfect pet. Tarsiers are very shy and contact with humans, even petting, can result in their death within a few months. This is why it is important to keep them in their natural habitat away from human contact. Are they strange? Yes. Cute? I think so.



For more info on anglerfish, go to:

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/fish/anglerfish/>

<http://science.jrank.org/pages/371/Anglerfish.html>

<http://lifestyle.iloveindia.com/lounge/angler-fish-facts-7709.html>

<http://www.chacha.com/question/what-do-angler-fish-use-to-catch-their-prey>

<http://photobucket.com/images/Anglerfish/#!cpZZ3QQtpZ20>

For more info on tarsiers, go to:

<http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/topics/Tarsier> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarsier>

Black and White Street Photography Contest

Submit one photo that portrays B&W STREET PHOTOGRAPHY. Dive into the fun of this project and shoot things that happen as you walk around your town. Wander around the lively areas, where you know something exiting is going to occur. Try researching Street Photography and gather some inspiration for your photo. Have fun with this project, and remember you don't need a fancy camera to produce a sweet picture. Remember, only one photo may be submitted per person. Submit your photo to my email at simonemingua@yahoo.com , include your name, grade, and where you shot your photo.

You also must complete the Release Form in order to take part in this contest.

<http://www.connectingwaters.org/CWforms/cwauthrelease.pdf>

Submit Photos by: November 15, 2011

Did you know?

factfile

By Victoria Wilfong

Have you ever wondered what makes your fingers wrinkle in water?

It's because the outer layer of skin on our fingers swells when it absorbs the water.

Why do cats knead their paws?

One reason is because they find it necessary to mark the place they're kneading (maybe your lap) as their territory.

Why do ladybugs have spots?

Not all ladybugs do, but scientist's seem to believe that ladybugs have spots because they use it to warn away predators.

For more info visit:

http://cats.lovetoknow.com/Why_Cats_Knead_Paws

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/wrinkles.html>

<http://www.ladybug-life-cycle.com/ladybug-spots.html>

Healthy Foods 101

By Victoria Wilfong

Healthy Vegetable: Cucumbers



I do not know about you, but I love cucumbers. Do you ever wonder what this delicious, juicy vegetable actually is? It turns out that cucumbers are known as fruit, vegetable, and belong to the melon family; including watermelons, cantaloupes, squash, zucchinis, and pumpkins. Maybe you already knew that. Here is something you probably did not know: cucumbers contain three lignans called lariciresinol, pinoresinol, and secoisolariciresinol. You may be thinking, what are lignans and how do you even pro-nounce those words? I can only guess how to pronounce them. But I do know that lignans are health-benefiting substances that help reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease and certain cancers, such as breast, uterine, ovarian, and prostate cancers. Cucumbers contain antioxidants and fresh extracts that help reduce inflammation. This is why people put cucumbers on their eyes; to help reduce eye puffiness. Not only are cucumbers delicious, but they also come in a variety of colors: dark green, yellow, orange, and white. The next time you eat a cu-cumber, remember to eat the skin and seeds; they are high in nutrients. Enjoy!!!



Healthy Fruit: Pomegranate

I love pomegranates. Pomegranates have great health benefits! Most people only pop the seeds into their mouths, suck off the juice, and spit them back out. Little do people know the seeds actually contain fiber and antioxidants, so chew them up and swallow! It's absolutely safe; so don't worry about the fruit growing in your stomach! Did you know that drinking the juice could prevent your blood platelets from clogging your veins and arteries? Pomegranate juice fights against breast, prostate, and lung cancer, lowers bad and raises good cholesterol, lowers your blood pressure, and works to prevent plaque in your teeth! Remember, the next time you go to the dentist and they ask you "How do you keep your teeth so clean?", you can confidently say that you drink pomegranate juice! If pomegranates have so many benefits, why not give it a try?

For more info on cucumbers, go to: <http://www.whfoods.com/genpage.php?tname=foodspice&dbid=42>

For more info on pomegranates, go to:

<http://pomegranateinformation.com/>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pomegranate>

<http://www.healthcentral.com/peoplespharmacy/408/61202.html>

<http://www.healthdiaries.com/eatthis/11-health-benefits-of-pomegranate-juice.html>

Wow, My Brain Hurts

Brain Teasers to Keep You Thinking

By: Ayinde Banjoko



If it takes six men one hour to dig six holes, how long does it take one man to dig half a hole?

Your Answer: _____

You throw away the outside and cook the inside. You eat the outside and throw away the inside. What did you eat?

Your Answer: _____



Five athletes were returning from a cross-country race. Athlete C placed third, and athlete E placed second. From the following information, can you tell how athletes A, B, and D placed in the race?

Your Answer: _____

What Would You Do?

By: Logan Sisco



“I would be the President's shadow for the day so that I could listen in on the important strategic and defense meetings to see first-hand how the United States works things out.”

Mario Muniz, Juinor, Modesto High School

Dear Sensible Seniors,

My little brother who is 2 years old keeps hitting my head what should I do?

Sincerely,

All Beat Up

Dear All Beat Up,

I understand what you're going through because I have a little brother as well. Even though my little brother is five years old, I remember he use to do the same thing to me and my other brothers and sisters. The best way to tell your little brother to stop is with love. Kindly tell him to stop, but since he's only two years only he might not understand. The best thing to do might be to try to distract him by playing a game with him or even tickling him! The most important thing to remember is to be patient with your brothers and sisters because in the long run, if you treat them with love and care, they'll be your best friends.

Sensible Seniors

Dear Sensible Seniors,

My little sister is 7 years old and I am 9 years old and my little sister can be annoying sometimes, what should I do?

Sincerely,

Really Annoyed

Dear Really Annoyed,

We all have one or two siblings that get on our nerves at times. It's important that we make sure we are the bigger person. Try to calmly find out what she is so annoyed about. Maybe she wants to play with the toy you're playing with. Always try to find out why she is annoying you and then try to handle the problem. But remember, it is important that you handle the situation with love and kindness. If she continues to annoy you make sure you let your parents now and explain to them the situation. Your parents will always know how to handle the problem.

Sensible Seniors

ANSWER KEY

Answer: Corn on the cob
You throw away the outside and cook the inside. You eat the outside and throw away the inside. What did you eat?

Answer: There is no such thing as half a hole.

If it takes six men one hour to dig six holes, how long does it take one man to dig half a hole?

Five athletes were returning from a cross-country race. Athlete C placed third, and athlete E placed second. From the following information, can you tell how athletes A, B, and D placed in the race? Athlete A was not last. Athlete A came in after E. Athlete D was not first.

Answer: Since C was third and E was second, A could only be first or fourth. Since A was behind E, A could not be first; therefore A must be fourth. D could not be first, second, third, or fourth, so D must be fifth. If D is fifth, A fourth, C third, and E second, then B must be first.