

The Scuttlebutt

Garfield's Student Newspaper

April Issue



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Homelessness in Los Angeles

By: Mariela Flores

Walking through the streets of Pasadena, I saw a man sitting outside the Cheesecake Factory asking for spare change. People carrying J.Crew bags and Tiffany boxes walked by him without reaching into

their pockets. They didn't even look in his direction. I realized people didn't understand how hard it must be for that man to live on the streets and beg for money just to be able to buy something to eat. Growing up in a financially unstable household and surrounded by diligent people, I've seen people struggle and work hard every day in order to get by. My family wasn't financially comfortable but seeing people on the streets, begging for money, shivering in the cold, hurt more than not being able to have the nicest toys. We don't live in a third world country yet thousands of Americans experience homelessness every single year. Not only as citizens of the United States but also as citizens of the world and human beings, it's our social responsibility to find a solution to this problem.

The idea of the American Dream and the Horatio Alger myth glorify the "rags to riches" story. We grow up believing that as long as we work hard we can be successful, that there is equal opportunity for everyone in America and it's up to you whether or not you want to make it in life. This affects the way we look at homeless people. Instead of feeling sympathy for them, many people feel disdain. Instead of dismissing

their plight and concentrating on our own problems, we should come together and contribute what we can in order to bring homelessness to an end.

It is important to understand the root of the problem. The leading cause of homelessness in the United States among families is a lack of affordable housing along with unemployment, poverty, and low wages. Most people aren't on the streets because they want to be, but because they have no other choice. A possible way to end this negative image most people hold of the homeless is by informing the public exactly how many people are living on the streets and who they are. Unfortunately, there are thousands of veterans and single mothers along with their children without a roof over their heads. Additionally, a substantial amount of people living on the streets struggle with mental health issues which make it difficult for them to sustain a job. It will be easier to convince people of the gravity of the issue once they are properly informed and have seen the struggle first-hand. They will also be more inclined to do something about the problem.

Student Op-Ed

Streaming and its Revolutionary Effects

By: Christian Diaz

Whether it's listening to music through services like Pandora or Spotify or watching a video on Youtube, you're actively engaging in the art of streaming. When you stream you're able to listen or watch anything you want within a couple of seconds of that video being filmed and, sometimes, you're even able to watch it live. As you watch or listen to a video or song the file is being downloaded for you to watch and then erased for more data to be downloaded for you to watch. Thus streaming has enabled users to enjoy their favorite shows, films, and music on demand and in endless amounts.

Before streaming, older generations had to wait hours for their favorite songs to download. They had to wait days for their favorite show to air on TV, and if they missed an episode there was no way for them to recover or rewatch that episode. This revolutionary effect that streaming has had on the world has made rewatching old shows possible as well as downloading songs faster. Not only has streaming revolutionized the way we listen to songs and watch shows, but its revolutionary effects are being felt throughout many industries. For the music industry, streaming services have made it possible for anyone to gain a following through social media by providing them platforms to upload their songs for users to listen to. Streaming has made it possible for anyone to start a music career, as has been the case with many artists who were discovered on Soundcloud, like Lil Peep, Russ, Ski Mask The Slump God, and Lil Uzi Vert.

Yet, not only has streaming made it possible for artists to make a living sharing their content online but it's also made it possible for entertainers to start a career sharing their content on sites like Youtube, as we've seen with many popular Youtubers such as both the Paul brothers and many more. These revolutionary effects that streaming is having on the nation has created a world for younger generations to experience without having to wait for their favorite show or favorite song to air on TV or the radio. Streaming has created a world where people can become famous and make a career from an app or an account. Current generations as well as the ones to follow will experience the new and ever changing effects that streaming has and will be inspired to create now and for the foreseeable future.

Gang Violence

By: Michelle Garcia

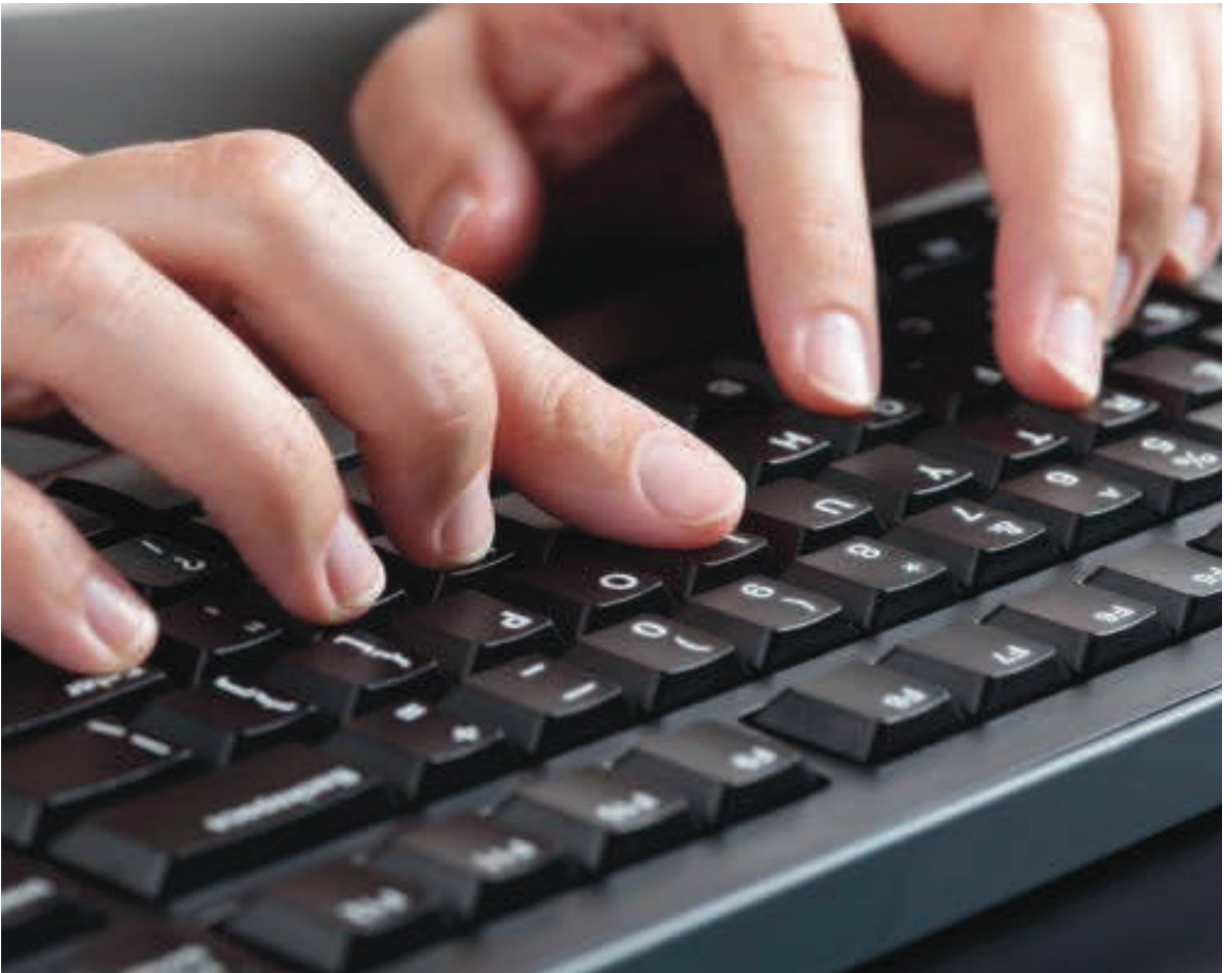
In the time between November 19, 2017 and November 26, 2017 there were 75 reports of crime in East Los Angeles. Thirteen of these were reports of aggravated assault. Twelve out of those thirteen were classified as an assault with a deadly weapon. One out of those twelve took place outside of my house. On November 19, 2017, at 7:52 p.m. a man walking down South Kern Avenue was shot in the neck and back by two other men, otherwise known as "an aggravated assault." This isn't the first time something like this has happened and it won't be the last. Events like these have been a regular occurrence throughout my childhood and according to my uncles, who grew up in the same house as me, these acts of violence have been a constant throughout

their lives as well.

Los Angeles, infamously, was known for the gang culture that enveloped many parts of the city in the 1980's and 1990's. This culture influenced the way people dressed, the music they listened to and the cars they drove. However, gang culture wasn't simply an aesthetic. It was a way of life that resulted in countless injuries, incarcerations, and deaths. L.A. has largely moved away from that culture. Neighborhoods like Eagle Rock, Highland Park, and Echo Park, once infamous for the gangs that roamed there, are now considered "hipster" because of the massive wave of gentrification that has swept those areas.

East L.A., however, has not been gentrified yet and parts of it still seem like they are stuck in the '90's. It is a problem not often talked about but obviously still relevant if within seven days there were 75 reported crimes. Even the people that live here are reluctant to call this a problem, having been so desensitized to this way of life. But desensitization does not equal lack of effect. Because living in this environment still affects everyone in it. Not only do people have to live with the fear of being in danger in their own home, they also have to deal with the mental and emotional trauma that comes with being a witness to such crime and violence. Living in an environment in which you constantly fear for the safety of your loved ones and yourself, where you are forced to watch your own community hurt each other and where you are left to deal with the effects of these actions on your own because no one will acknowledge this as a problem, is extremely harmful. This part of L.A.'s history and culture is tainting a vibrant, diverse, and beautiful city, hurting its residents and it cannot be ignored any longer. Failure to do anything about this problem will create yet another generation that re-





Breaks the cycle of history's inequities. The Importance of Typing

By: Andrew Magallanes

Living in a technological era where computers are virtually in our pockets, certain skills are required to efficiently use these devices. One of these crucial and essential skills is typing. Unfortunately, this skill is not emphasized enough at our school and this leads to students practicing bad habits. Garfield High School is all about preparing students to be productive members of a global society. However, how can Garfield students compete in today's tech-savvy era without correctly being able to type?

Garfield should make a requirement that mandates that students must be able to properly type in order to graduate. By encouraging proficiency in typing, Garfield students will be equipped with the necessary skills to succeed in the professional workplace. Although there is a computer class offered at school, many students remain typing the incorrect way. Students enrolled in the computer class are assigned reports which are typed up, but how many of those stu-

dents actually know how to type or efficiently use the keyboard? Instead of focusing on typing assignments, students should be asked if they know how to type; if not, they should be taught. Touch typing, for example, is typing using all ten fingers without looking at the keyboard. Schools have created the assumption that children born in this era already know how to type. Students who do not know how to properly type, usually obtain the bad habit of "hunt and peck" where they find the desired key on the keyboard, and pressing each key individually.

Typing is an invaluable skill that everyone should have. Having proper technique when using a keyboard increases productivity and saves you time. For example, if someone were to type up a report consisting of 500 words, typing at 60 words per minute would save time and energy compared to those who type at slower speeds. Therefore, it would only be logical to increase your typing speed because you save time and increase productivity. Being a touch typist means reducing the amount of time typing; down to seconds. Eventually, the time you save accumulates to minutes, hours, days.

Colleges have now become more tech friendly, which means typing is a necessary skill. Why would some-

one want to go to college with a low typing speed? Typing up reports will be a norm in college. Increasing your typing speed results in spending less time typing and more time being productive; decreasing workload and avoiding stress. Moreover, in college notes are commonly done through the computer. Someone with a low typing speed will struggle taking notes because too much attention will be given trying to find those pesky keys on the keyboard and pressing them one by one.

Learning how to type is free and easy thanks to the Internet. Many online programs offer touch typing lessons for free, such as typingtrainer.com. Once you learn how to properly touch type, you can improve accuracy through playing typing games. Websites such as 10fastfingers.com or play.typeracer.com are some of the many games that help typists increase their speed and improve accuracy. Touch typing takes time and effort in order to become proficient. Although it may be a bit time consuming, being able to properly type is an invaluable skill which will follow you after graduation, college, and your future job.

Winter Olympics 2018

By: Jeanette Hernandez

22-year-old French ice dancer Gabriella Papadakis is a Silver Medalist, a four-time European champion, a two-time World champion, a three-time Grand Prix final medalist, and a three-time French national champion. In the 2018 Winter Olympics, Gabriella and partner, Guillaume Cizeron, had a quite notable performance due to a wardrobe malfunction. The mishap occurred when Gabriella leaned backwards early on and Cizeron inadvertently managed to unclip the back of her green beaded dress. Her breast was exposed to millions of Olympic viewers worldwide as a result. Not only did this prevent the pair from gaining maximum points but according to Gabriella, "It was my worst nightmare at the Olympics. I told myself 'you have to keep going'. That's what we did, and we have to be proud of ourselves, delivering a great performance with that happening."

Nevertheless, Papadakis' persistence to finish the program was admired by viewers. The pair also refused to stop their program because they realized they had to continue performing if they wanted to win a medal. If they had paused to fix the top, the judges would have been forced to deduct points. To explain, under rule 503, paragraph 2, it states that for every interruption of more than 10 seconds, up to 20 seconds, skaters are deducted 1.0 points.

Gabriella Papadakis and Guillaume Cizeron scored 81.93 points putting them in 2nd place despite the mishap. By refusing to stop performing despite the

misfortune, Gabriella showed immense commitment and determination to the sport.

Giving Teachers Guns is Absurd

By: Kevin Hernandez

Over a month ago, hundreds of teenagers ran for their lives from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where 17 students and staff members suffered severe injuries because of a school shooting. This event spurred the topic of guns and, of course, gun control. With the number of school shootings already in the double digits in 2018, people have a reason to be concerned. According to CNN, this has averaged to 1.5 school shootings every single week. Students, parents, and faculty are all worried. As a result of these occurrences, people from both sides of the debate on gun control have responded. Many believe that an effective way to combat gun violence would be to arm teachers. That is absurd for many reasons.

Obviously, the proposal assumes that the teacher may take action to stop a school shooter. This proposition may seem like an idea that is not too "absurd". A good guy with a gun can stop a bad guy with a gun. The problem here is all the mishaps and misfires that may occur. A teacher has a bad day, week, month, year and is pushed to the edge. Not all teachers are comfortable with this proposal. A "bonus" is not enough for one to go against their morals, in the case one is anti-gun. In an actual school shooting, it is im-

possible to determine the effectiveness of a handgun against an assault weapon. Asking our teachers whether they are willing to pull the trigger on a human being is a question that should not be asked. When four officials whose job it is to protect the campus flail around waiting for even more back up, what do we expect our teachers to do? On the chance that a teacher has no issue with firing a gun to save lives, can they live with the potential mistake of shooting a student? There is also the issue that may arise from a teacher in such a situation. Energy is high and tense. When the official police come to deal with the situation, they are looking for an individual with a gun. What exactly prevents them from shooting a teacher trying to help the situation? Also, making guns more available is horrendous. Giving students access to guns in the classroom would probably add to the problem at hand. Yes, teachers would not have their gun accessible, as we would like to believe, but accidents do happen.

This issue at its core is far past a gun control issue. It is a mental issue. There is the whole argument that "guns don't kill people, people kill people". It is true, no matter what people say. Yes, a killer with a knife cannot harm nearly as many people as with a gun, but the issue is quite the same. It is not an issue of being a hindrance to the "bad guys" but an issue of stopping the existing "bad guys" in the US and the world. If we could put as much attention and care in focusing on our people and their mental stability as much as we do in debating the issue of gun control, maybe we can find the cure for this disease.



The Problem With Easy Streaming

By: Mariana Villaneda

A few years ago, I'd often go to a store in Commerce Center called J.C Video to rent movies. This store was great because it had movies, video games, sold snacks, and the old man that worked there was very generous. My sister and I were there so often that he would give us discounts and also movie recommendations. This place was amazing, but one day we

everything, and just like any store that rents out movies it gives you a genre. Horror, Sci-Fi, Comedy, whatever kind of movie you feel like watching the option is there. In fact, families can individually pick what they each want to watch instead of picking something they all agree on. Parents seem to be watching a whole entire series together and having their children watch something else on their own time. It's not something necessarily bad, it's just different than how things were done in the past. Having an app that gives you a variety of options to watch is a positive change in my opinion. It is something you could get used to, and in fact, something you could easily get addicted to.

diction published on the Huff Post website gets pretty technical about it. Catherine Franssen tells us, "When faced with the acute stress of not knowing what is going to happen next, the body produces an excess of CRH, a hormone that mediates the release of other stress hormones in the body. This causes the body to remain alert (our fight or flight response), which can disrupt sleep." She explains that the reason this hormone is released is because we watch shows with cliffhangers which leaves us "on edge". It's hard to turn off the T.V. when the option to keep watching is there.

Some people could argue that sites like Netflix can



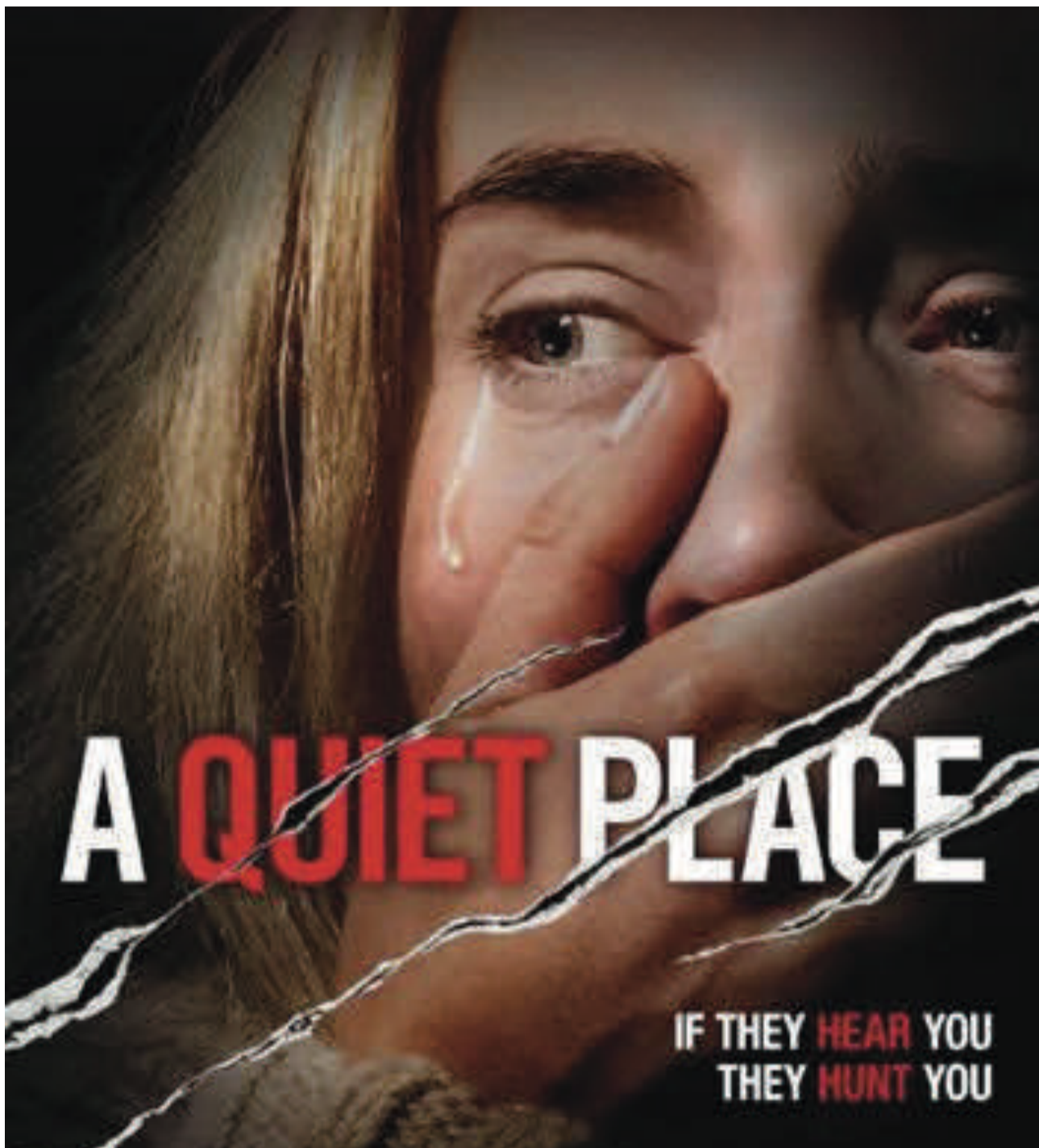
showed up and the room was completely abandoned. Nothing was left behind and I remember feeling very sad. What I didn't know was that it was the end of an era. Other movie rental places, like the famous Blockbuster, began to close down too. From then on, things began to change.

I, like many others, have resorted to Netflix as a movie provider. Netflix is the whole package! It has both movies and T.V. shows without the commercials. Recently, Netflix has also started to provide its own original content, and many have followed in its footsteps. The experience of spending time with family every weekend to rent a movie and buy snacks is long gone. Why do that when you could watch a movie in a few clicks without even leaving the house? Not to mention, there are so many other sites that offer streaming services. Netflix has sections for

Before having apps that stream movies and shows, the normal pastime was to just browse T.V. channels. Why have we stopped watching T.V.? Commercials, obviously. For those that find the commercials annoying, we've now got sites like Netflix where commercials are long gone. While being an advantage for consumers, it also comes as a disadvantage. Commercials for most people were what allowed viewers to take a break, hence the existence of the phrase "commercial break". T.V. shows also provide this break by airing a new episode every week. The problem with streaming is that it is too easy. We went from watching an episode a day to an entire season a day. That amount of T.V. feels uncomfortable after a while, yet most people keep watching, even after Netflix gives us that "are you still watching" message.

My question is why? An article titled The Netflix Ad-

get so addicting to the point where it affects our health. As a matter of fact, another Huff Post article titled, "Why Netflix and Sleep Don't Mix" by Lucy Friedmann states, "My roommate Laura falls asleep to the familiar voices of her favorite sitcoms, dozing off as Netflix auto-plays episode after episode." Although it may seem odd, this is actually pretty common. Perhaps some people just need to hear something in the background so they don't feel so lonely. A perfect example would be how my sister leaves Netflix on before falling asleep because she is scared of the dark. I strongly believe Netflix has replaced the typical nightlight. People also stream movies or TV shows as a filler noise in the background. And as I write this, The Office is playing in the background so I won't fall asleep.



The Bad Side of Streaming

By: Sandy Villareal

Streaming is a worldwide method that helps people enjoy a variety of forms of media that range from YouTube videos to music. It seems beneficial to a lot of consumers but it can be financially debilitating to many companies and artists. People who access these streaming services are never exposed to the ugly side of it because they enjoy streaming for free. Not many people realize that their "free" streaming comes at a cost for their favorite artists or companies.

By streaming for free, streamers are financially disabling and cheating their favorite artists. In other words, our use of free streaming, as consumers, robs producers. For example, YouTube enables users to stream their favorite songs and videos for free. But by streaming for free, we fail to compensate the producers of the content we're streaming. On the other hand, services like YouTube Red, a paid streaming subscription service, do compensate artists and creators but users are less willing to pay for a membership. Yet, by supporting YouTube Red, we help support creators.

Shane Dawson, a YouTube creator, author, actor, songwriter, singer, sketch comedian and film director, is a victim of our free streaming. Despite having millions of views, subscribers, and assistance from his brand deals and sponsors, he has recently mentioned that he is struggling economically because he isn't earning money from his YouTube videos. This could be due to the fact that YouTubers only get paid when a viewer clicks on a featured advertisement. Indeed, views are not the main factor in how a YouTube creator generates money. On the contrary, it's all based on ad revenue. Hence, in addition to consuming free streaming services, we also fail to support creators through advertisements.

Movie Review

By: Abby Carmona

The horror film *A Quiet Place* earned the top spot at the box office this past weekend raking in about 50 million dollars it is an old-fashioned creature feature with a single, simple hook: The creatures are blind, hungry and hunt by sound similar to the sonar location of bats. But they are creepy crawlers with craniums that open to expose a pulsing, wet membrane. Drawing inspiration from horror films of the past, including *Alien* and *Predator*, their design is familiar yet effective in creating a terrific visual. Lee and Evelyn Abbott (John Krasinski and his real-life wife, Emily Blunt) and their three children communicate only in sign language to avoid alerting the beasts of their whereabouts. But the youngest child's battery-operated toy initiates the attacks of the membraned creatures. And thanks to that toy, the audience finds out what the Abbott family fear so much.

This film is a definite must watch for horror film fanatics. It brings in aspects of our favorite films of the past adding a new modern sinister take on them appealing fans of early horror films satisfying the traditional theme of the fear of the unknown while also satisfying newer audiences with themes like the zombies of the post apocalyptic life of *The Walking Dead*.



APRIL

WORD SEARCH

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WORDS



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 underground
 daffodil
 tulip
 bloom
 taurus
 diamond
 earth
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