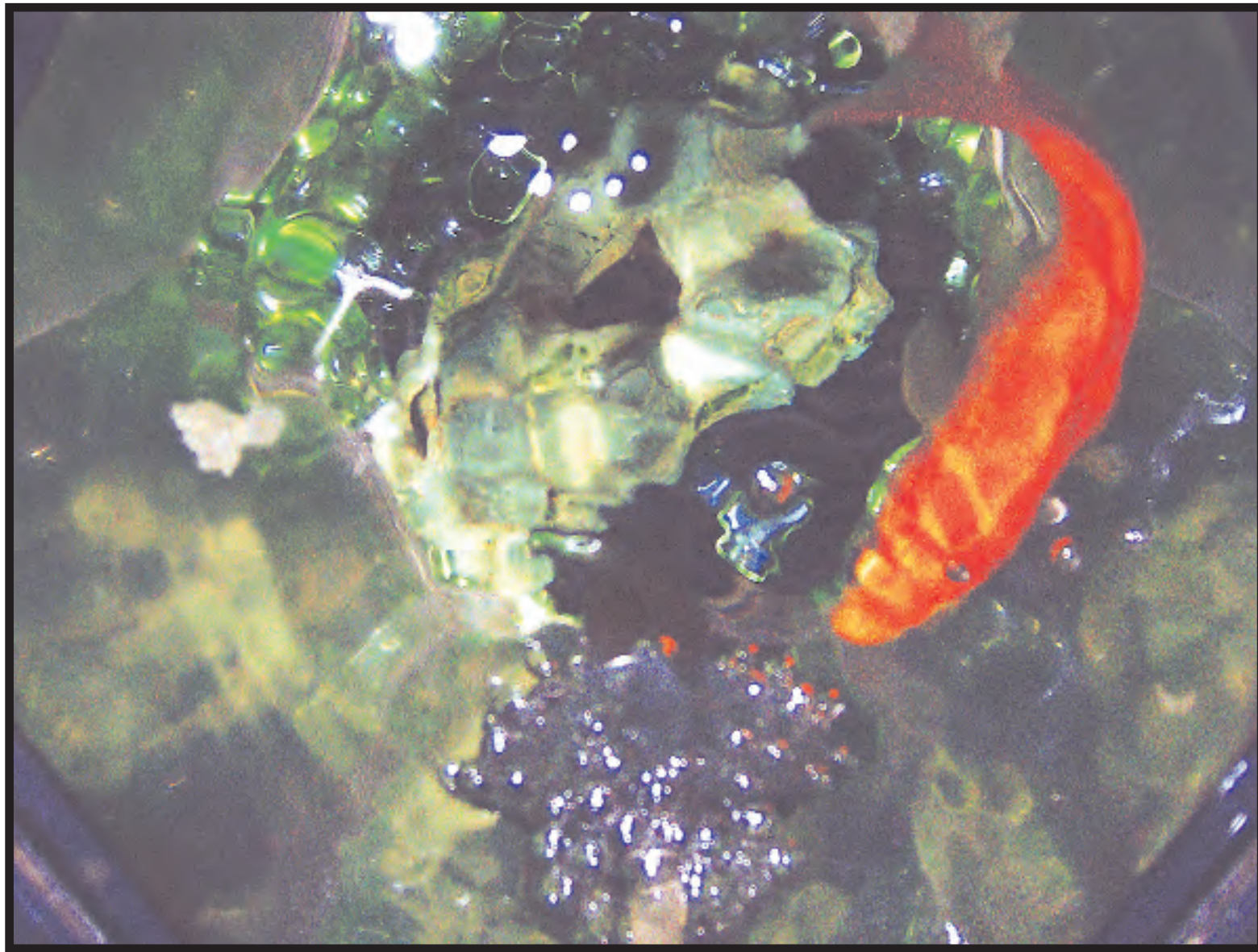


Fish bowl perspective



Here's the view from the top

This image of a fish aquarium, with its from-the-top perspective, earned fifth-grader Kaitlynn Archambeault a second-place in The Reporter's Campus Star student journalism competition in

the 5-6 grade division of the photojournalism contest. She is a student in Ed Finkas classroom at Browns Valley Elementary School in Vacaville.

Obsession with stars is harmful

Chandler Lavin
 Second Place, Opinion Writing
 Division: High School

So I finally get a minute to sit down at work and I grab the nearest magazine, one of those ridiculous gossip magazines that feature things about celebrities no one needs to know. Inside there is an interview with Ellen Page, star of the recent movie "Juno."

In big orange text under her perfectly air-brushed face and perfectly lined eyes is a quote: "I'd rather be shot in the foot than go the route of all these starlets." Well that's nice, but she's not American, so then I wonder, why does America have these completely horrid celebrities? Obviously their own parents had a hand in how maladjusted they are, but what role do we, the everyday citizens, play in how these celebrities turned out?

After deep thought the theory comes to me: We gave them the capability to fall apart through crazy antics as we watch delightedly. It's the money, fame, and, most of all, the insane amount of attention our media gives them.

As I'm reading this magazine the main features are Britney Spears' latest doings and how Miley Cyrus recently threw a fit over a multi-million dollar diamond necklace.

It is widely agreed upon that mental illness or not, Britney Spears is crazy. As my theory is still working its way to completion in my head, I realize that Miley Cyrus is the same age as me (although it's difficult to tell from the little girl clothing she wears and the two or more pounds of makeup she usually has on, making her a confusing hybrid of small child and 20-year-old) and instead of worrying about things like high school exit exams, she's busy getting everything she wants and more media attention than a major natural disaster.

When Britney first came out, the same age is Miley Cyrus is now, she had a good-girl image and an almost instant rabid fan base. Then money, fame, and constant media attention slowly and subversively turned her into the perfect disaster she is now. With all this fame, money and attention, Miley is quickly going the same way of her pop princess predecessor.

So why should I care? The last thing I want is someone I care about obsessing over pop sensations that throw fits over unbelievably expensive jewelry.

I worry about all those little girls growing up emulating those people. And I worry even more about the ones who don't grow out of it. Most likely, those few will grow up to be superficial, fame-obsessed, attention-seeking botox/cosmetic surgery junkies. And with Miley Cyrus generating more press and ticket sales than the Led Zeppelin reunion tour, I'm more than a little worried. It seems more than possible that in 10 years time after a few failed marriages and a steady downward spiral, we'll be betting on how much longer Miley Cyrus will live. Protect your children's behavioral development by keeping them far away from Miley Cyrus.

The author is a sophomore at Buckingham Charter Magnet High School in Vacaville.

Digital projectors replace old overheads

This story is being republished with the correct grade division and correct headline. — Editor.

By Alex Dernoncourt and Stephanie Wilkie
 First place, News Writing
 Division: 5-6 Grade

Digital projectors are in ... overheads are old school, literally! Why? So teachers can access the Internet as a teaching aid, and project it larger so the whole class can see.

They hook up to teachers' laptops and desktop computers and project what's on the computer.

All sixth-grade classes at Browns Valley Elementary School have their projectors mounted to the ceiling. But some third- and fifth-grade classrooms have portable ones to use.

Eleven digital projectors were bought for the use by our teachers.

"I love it mounted on the ceiling because it doesn't get in anybody's way,"

says Evangela Harrison, a sixth-grade teacher at Browns Valley Elementary. "It doesn't take up space and it can't get broken."

Natalie Scoles, a sixth-grade teacher, says, "I use it to show videos, display assignments, Web sites and pictures. I use it almost daily and what I like best about it is that it is easy for all students to see because the screen is so big and it has so many different uses."

The entire cost for the digital projector, mounting and a 50-foot cable was \$750 per classroom. Each sixth-grade classroom in the Vacaville. Unified School District, along with the science and social studies classes at Vaca Pena and Jepson middle schools, received the projectors, courtesy of the Buck Foundation, according to our school district technology director, Jim Wasielewski.

Lori Neuland, a fifth-grade teacher says, "I love it for the BrainPop movies. Those are great and we usually take the quiz together at the end. We've seen

some (movies) for math, science and English. I've also shown some short videos and movies because they are visual, and that seems automatically more interesting to me."

BrainPop is a fun Web site for kids to learn through entertaining movies and quizzes.

Mayra Flores, a sixth-grade student at Browns Valley Elementary, says her class uses the digital projector to watch BrainPop and online movies.

"It's way more convenient to have it mounted to the ceiling, and we use it once a week for quizzes and slideshows," says Vince Blake, a student in Kim Campbell's class.

It seems the teachers' minds have been taken over by the sleek look of the digital projector. Poor overheads ... we may never see them again!

The authors are fifth-graders in Browns Valley Elementary School in Vacaville.

Design-an-Ad winner



This advertisement, designed by Khiely Jackson for the Nut Tree Family Park earned the fourth-grader a first-place honor in the 3-4 grade division of the Design-an-Ad contest in The Reporter's Campus Star student journalism competition. Khiely is a student in Ashley Lankford's classroom at Notre Dame School in Vacaville.

Puzzles, Games, Comics winner

Nut Tree Family Park Rides & Attractions

I	Z	G	J	T	A	N	G	O	H	L	A	L	G	A	D	E	E	R	F	S	X	F	F	H
G	H	G	J	J	Z	U	H	I	F	K	D	L	A	H	L	W	Q	K	P	A	K	A	D	H
K	C	A	K	D	X	T	L	U	S	H	G	J	J	W	O	Q	S	C	V	H	U	I	O	J
D	B	D	S	U	T	R	Y	C	G	J	F	Q	G	O	B	F	T	H	N	K	O	P	A	
A	V	D	D	X	L	R	F	C	V	D	K	S	E	T	H	E	B	C	S	A	Z	D	S	E
E	L	D	F	G	J	E	Y	S	A	A	L	R	R	C	W	I	Y	O	P	J	T	Y	I	
Y	K	N	S	Y	R	E	L	D	Q	R	H	F	Y	W	S	D	K	A	H	J	A	T	J	O
Q	J	A	D	Y	V	R	L	F	Y	E	O	A	I	A	T	E	L	D	F	O	G	A	S	P
E	H	L	H	E	T	A	A	D	J	Z	K	U	M	R	H	S	E	G	B	G	R	D	D	A
T	D	L	I	D	X	I	W	F	K	X	B	N	S	H	G	G	S	U	S	H	J	S	F	Q
U	F	A	P	G	E	L	E	S	H	N	M	H	E	E	I	Y	H	I	L	A	L	D	E	R
O	A	M	U	F	Y	R	C	F	A	F	A	F	S	E	L	U	F	D	J	F	K	F	G	E
P	S	I	O	D	R	O	A	F	Z	S	A	S	G	D	F	J	F	R	H	S	K	H	G	H
I	O	N	I	T	R	A	F	F	I	C	J	A	M	M	E	R	S	S	T	Q	O	N	J	N
Y	P	A	G	P	I	D	L	I	U	R	D	Q	Q	S	E	S	E	G	E	W	I	Y	W	V
R	I	O	Q	O	D	L	S	J	H	T	X	A	S	D	R	R	Y	B	A	T	P	T	E	B
W	Y	L	E	I	D	K	P	N	B	F	Z	W	G	H	T	H	C	D	E	O	R	T	K	
A	U	K	W	K	G	J	L	M	V	C	S	E	D	F	T	Y	G	V	G	R	N	P	Y	F
D	C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	R	E	S	C	U	E	S	Q	U	A	D	I	U	S
L	T	Y	T	W	E	R	T	V	X	C	R	U	D	K	N	F	P	R	S	V	R	A	S	F
H	W	T	H	E	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	B	A	L	L	O	O	N	T	O	U	R	L
K	S	Q	W	R	V	J	K	H	E	R	E	W	Q	P	O	L	K	A	A	D	A	S	U	O
B	K	N	S	Z	X	V	N	M	N	C	X	Z	Q	W	R	T	U	H	D	X	G	I	P	Z
X	L	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	E	X	P	R	E	S	S	C	O	A	S	T	E	R	L	Q
C	M	Z	C	B	P	I	K	J	H	T	R	D	Z	A	Q	P	L	M	F	G	L	D	Z	

Instructions: There are 12 names of rides and attractions at the Nut Tree Family Park hidden in the word search to find. Words can be spelled vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. Some are spelled backwards.

This word search puzzle, which uses attractions found at Vacaville's Nut Tree Family Park, earned seventh-grader Michael Gloudean a second place in the middle school division of the puzzles and games contest in The Reporter's Campus Star student journalism competition. Michael is a student in Ms. Battiste's class at Notre Dame School in Vacaville.

- WORD LIST
- Nut Tree Railroad
 - Carousel
 - Nut Tree Flight School
 - Harvest Express Coaster
 - The Vineyard Balloon Tour
 - Traffic Jammers
 - California Rescue Squad
 - Koi Pond
 - Hobby Horse
 - Face Wall
 - Animal Land
 - Boats