

THE CARROLL CHRONICLE

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Adventures in Yosemite

By Jade Nicula

Covid-19 has changed almost everything we do in our everyday lives, like going to the store, going to school, and especially, traveling. First of all, if you are taking a plane to travel, you have to wear a mask the whole time. The only time it is okay to take off your mask, is when you are eating or drinking. Secondly, you have to take a Covid-19 test. You have to take one before you leave, and when you get to your destination. Thankfully, places are starting to open up. One place I highly recommend you visit is Yosemite National Park, which is only three hours away from Elk Grove.



Sixth graders during the pandemic could not go to Sly Park because of Covid-19. If you are a sixth grader who cannot travel to Sly Park, don't feel sad. There will be other fun places for you to travel to, such as Yosemite National Park. First of all, you can go camping. I suggest you stay at Hodgdon Meadow. You can see waterfalls, valleys, ancient trees, and more! In addition, you get to learn about the animals that live there. On hikes or just driving, you can see awesome animals such as bears or deer! There are different types of bears so maybe you find a black bear, then the

See "Yosemite" on p. 3

Pandemic Pet Adoptions

By Vivian Robbins

My favorite animal in the world is a Staffordshire Terrier whom I call "Echo". I adopted her 5 years ago from the SPCA in Sacramento. She's been an excellent companion during the 2020 pandemic. This got me wondering...did COVID-19 affect pet adoptions? If so, how?

The SPCA is the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. I spoke with the Marketing and Communications Director, Dawn Foster, and she told me that the most popular adopted species of animals in the SPCA are usually dogs, but during the pandemic, the most popular animals were cats!

The reason for this is that there were many more cats going into animal shelters, and because people were surrendering their pets, more people picked up those animals. Luckily for cats, their appointments didn't take as long, which might also be part of why they were the most adopted pet during 2020.

There was an overall drop in adoptions while stay-at-home orders were in full effect,



Echo Robbins

See "Pets" on p. 2

Sayonara, Adios, and Goodbye

By Vivian Robbins

As a sixth-grader, I will be leaving Carroll Elementary this year. Saying goodbye can be difficult, especially when there are lots of great teachers and school staff to say goodbye to. Here are some meaningful ways to show your appreciation of all the valuable lessons you've learned.

You can write a card or poem with your teacher's name on it. An example is, "Nothing beats a school day, is it too late to give me an 'A'?"

You could also give them gifts of school supplies! Highlighters, dry erase markers, and paperclips are some examples of useful teacher tools.

Another good idea is to check in with teachers because they like to see your progress. You can email them or stop by the school

for a little visit.

Once you are in high school, you can volunteer in their classroom at a designated time and help them out! When I was in 4th grade, my teacher had some of his old students who were in high school help him out. It was fun for the students, having an older person come and hang out with us.

The knowledge, friends, memories, bonds, and kindness elementary school has given, with the help of the staff, are irreplaceable.

So when you say, "Sayonara, adios, and goodbye," don't forget to say, "Arigato, gracias, and thank you!"

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causing a decrease of about 1,100 adoptions, but once adoptions re-opened, appointments were at full capacity. Although the demand of pets increased, the people who work at the SPCA decided to keep the price of the different pets consistent throughout the pandemic. Dogs are \$110-\$175, cats are \$35-\$85, and other animals like birds, rabbits, and guinea pigs are \$35-\$45, depending on age and species.

Foster provided invaluable information on adoption rates in percentages. Before COVID, 53% of adopted pets were dogs, 40% cats, and 7% other small animals. During the pan-

demic, 44% of adopted pets were dogs, 53% were cats, and 5% were other animals. In 2021, 53% are dogs, 38% are cats, and 9% are other animals.

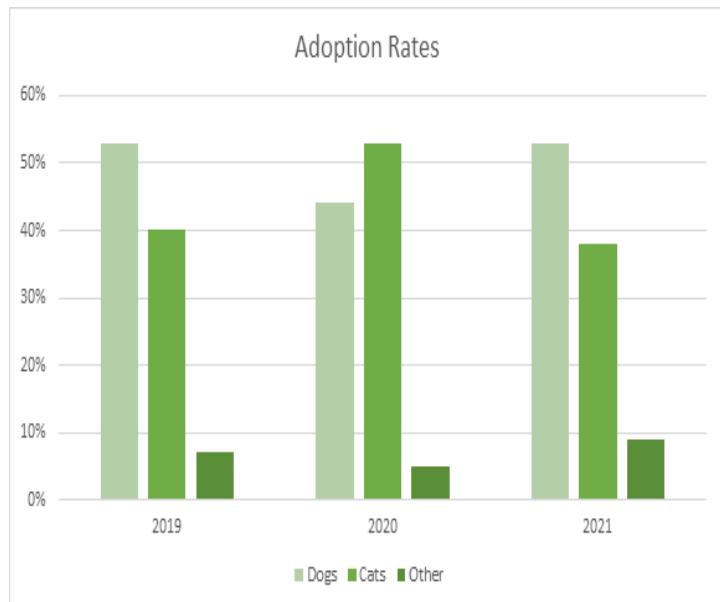
Animals are good therapists, and according to <https://www.pawsforpeople.org/who-we-are/benefits-of-pet-therapy/> they help with physical and mental health, literacy support, and physical rehabilitation. No wonder people love pets!



Mickey Stults

Now that vaccines and proper hygiene are preventing the spread of COVID-19, there is hope that the popularity does not decrease as people go back to their old lifestyles. However, as people return to work, they may find it difficult to take care of their furry friends.

I could not imagine having to give up my dog, Echo,



who has helped me through these difficult times by keeping me company, giving me a friendly distraction, and getting me to spend more time outdoors. I am thankful that someone surrendered Echo to the SPCA, otherwise I would have never

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next day, you find a brown one! Just as Sly Park, you can



go on trails and explore. When I went on a trail in Yosemite, I saw breathtaking views of waterfalls and valleys. It was fun to be with

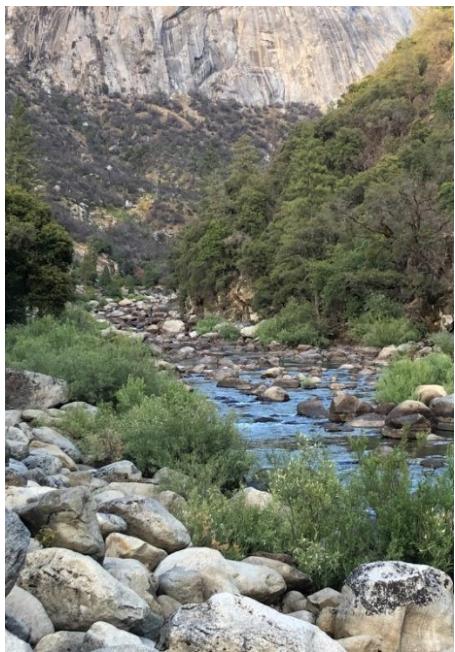
loved ones and enjoy exercise. In Yosemite, you can learn and have fun, just as you would at Sly Park.

The first step of your adventure in Yosemite is to plan what you want to see. To begin your trip, you need



to have a good start. You will have to make reservations to visit, EVEN if you have

an "annual pass" or a "lifetime pass." I suggest you stay at the Yosemite Lodge with a beautiful river flowing behind it named Merced River. Leave your hotel at 9:00 AM to miss traffic that could slow you down. Next, when you are exploring, you should definitely visit Glacier Point. You can see Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, Yosemite Falls, and the rest of Yosemite! Finally, you can go



to Tunnel View. From there, you see El Capitan, Bridal Veil Falls,

and in the distance, Half Dome! To get to Tunnel View you can just take a car. Don't forget to make those reservations!

In Yosemite, you can participate in

many fun activities. A good idea for people who love to hike long distances for fun or for exercise, can hike Half Dome! There are monitors going on the hikes along with you to not only guide you, but encourage you to make it to the top. Cables are all around to keep you safe and to take you thousands of feet in the air. Perhaps a better activity may be to go horseback or mule riding! This is not the kiddy one where you go in tiny circles. You can actually explore trails on a horse or mule! Children must be seven years or older, weigh about 52 pounds, and be 52" tall for a two-hour ride packed with fun. In my opinion, traveling around while learning to take beautiful pictures is one of the best activities. You can take beautiful pictures and take classes at "Ansel Adams Gallery". The teachers can give you tips on where and how to take your photo. You can also learn the history of Ansel Adams, a photographer, who took black and white photos. He also took a picture of the moon over Half Dome. There are more fun activities for you to try out!

Do you miss traveling wherever you want, whenever you want? If so, consider a trip to Yosemite National Park. You'll have the time of your life surrounded by family and stunning nature.



"Pets" continued from pg. 2

met that faithful friend. To find out more about how to get your own animal, visit <https://www.sspca.org/>.



Talent Shows!

By: Jordyn Daniels

Talent shows are not only fun, but are unique. It's amazing because you get to see talented people from all over the world, on tv, or being at a simple school talent show. Everyone has a talent, even if you don't notice it. You get to see people with talents that you don't even notice is a talent. I am going to tell you a couple of shows that require talents as well ideas you can do at a talent show.

Talents that are most common at talent shows are singing, dancing and magic. The thing is, talent shows that feature types of skills such as singing still have variety. Usually none of the songs are the same because there are different genres of music. For example, country, hip-hop, rap, R&B, pop, rock, yodeling, and much more. Just like dancing there are many categories like contemporary, hip-hop, ballet, jazz, tap dancing, and much more. Magic as well comes in different varieties, from cards to pulling a bunny out of a hat. Even though all talents are in different categories, they are all very special.

Next, you have the unique talents like skating, teaching pets how to do

amazing tricks, art, people with disabilities doing fascinating things. I think it is amazing how people with talent all around the world learned how to do these amazing tricks. How do peo-



Bryan 1st grade

ple even learn or think of doing an interesting talent that most people don't even think about? Have you ever seen shows where boys and girls, maybe your age, sing one of the most difficult songs or do difficult tricks? I did give you a lot of common and non common

ideas of what you could do for a talent show, but I will name some more unique talents. For example, Glow Stick-man



Natalie 1st grade



Melia 2nd grade

Dance Routines, comedy, you can create a skit, you can sing with your mouth closed, do a puppet act, stack cups and do a fun routine as well talking backwards is cool. Some more talents are mathematical intelligence, jugglers, unicycles, archers, baking, and much more.

There are many shows, live shows, or documentaries that require a lot of talent. Well did you know that most Disney shows require people who can sing and sometimes dance? Baking shows require a lot of skill for baking and cooking. Some shows that require talent that includes baking are Sugar Rush, Nailed It, Zumbos Just Desserts, and much more. Did you know that Carroll Elementary had a talent show, if not you should check it out. Those are most of the shows I know that include lots of talent if you ever need an idea of what to do for a talent show.



Ethan 2nd grade

Word on the Blacktop: *What is your favorite Carroll memory?*



Kaleb

Ms. Gonzalez/6th

"Buddies with Ms. Fernald's class"



Bea

Ms. Grooms/6th

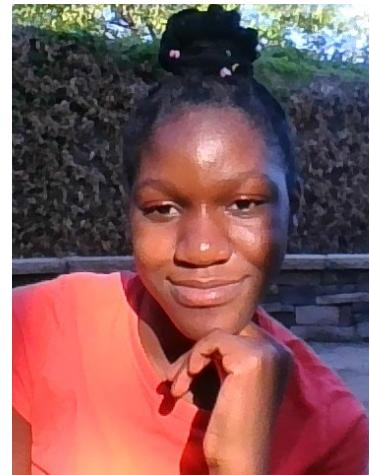
"Playing on the school basketball team"



Jalena

Ms. Van Hoosen/6th

"When we took the heart photo for the yearbook."



Chinenye

Mr. Milburn

"My best memory in Carroll Elementary is when I got a good grade in Math."



Leah

Ms. Jillson/6th Grade

"Learning how to play chess"



Christian

Mrs. Gonzalez

"When I was in 4th grade and we had fun Fridays. We would play games such at Connect 4 or play with cork and build cool things. This memory was my favorite in my whole 7 years here."

