



October 4th, 2019

## Will metal detectors help with gun control at school? *by Courtney Gonzalez*

2/6/17, 2/20/18, 1/13/19. These are some of the dates when many school shootings have happened in the U.S. Why is this happening? How can we fix it?



Since the Columbine school shooting, it seems we have heard nothing but more and more stories of children coming into classrooms and shooting their classmates. It's not only children somehow getting their hands on weapons, but mentally ill adults as well. These people, for one reason or another, feel that shooting innocent children in a classroom is the best way to get the attention they want and crave or the revenge they think they deserve. How can we protect innocent kids from this? One easy solution would be to install metal detectors in all schools across our nation.

Some schools already have metal detectors in place, so why don't all our schools? One reason is the cost. It is costly to install and maintain metal detectors. Most parents would agree that there is no limit to the price they would pay for the safety of their children. There are solutions to every problem, and the answer for coming up with funds to help our schools install metal detectors to protect children should be a simple one.

## Sea otters need our help

*by Jolie LoMaglio*

Sea otters once numbered in the hundreds of thousands and were common throughout the North Pacific. For thousands of years, the native people of Kamchatka hunted them for both food and fur. Times have changed nowadays; however, since 1911, sea otter populations have slowly recovered, although they still face threats such as poachers, oil pollution, and orca predation. Recovery has been much stronger in Alaska and other northern locations; however, in California, where the southern sea otter population numbers approximately 2,900.

Years ago, there were over 10,000 otters on the coast of California, and it would be nice if we could see that again. Most of those animals back then were hunted to near extinction. Sea otters are a keystone species for the kelp forests, one that has a disproportionately large effect on its environment relative to its abundance. Sea otters feed on sea urchins, playing a critical role in maintaining the health of kelp forest ecosystems. This is all bad. But why are our furry friends still dying? "A recent study has identified which strains of a common parasite carried by cats is killing sea otters along the coast of California" -Forbes. So it is not just oil spills, poachers, and predators. It is a parasite!



The population of sea otters is going down by the minute. Some people are not aware of how much we depend

on sea otters. They are so crucial to the kelp forests. Sea otters help to clean up any kelp that has fallen to the seafloor. However, sea urchins also love to eat the holdfasts of kelp. Since sea otters feed on sea urchins, they help to keep the sea urchin populations in balance and in return, help to maintain a healthy kelp forest ecosystem.

This endangered species is going to become extinct if we don't take charge and do something to stop these sea otters from dying.

## This pen is the future of writing! *by Alijah Williams*



This new Inkless pen lets you write FOREVER! Unlike most items you purchase, this one can stay with you forever. This unique pen technically doesn't use ink. It uses oxidation. The pen is from Italian design. You won't have to buy ink for the pen.

This is an essential product because this ties into pollution and trash because fewer pens and ink will be purchased, and there will be fewer pens and ink that have to be thrown away. There will be fewer plastic pens in the water — the designers of the pen design cars like Ferrari and Fiat.

The special edition of the pen is 1,895 dollars, but the regular price point is 120. It has an aluminum and wood exterior, and the notebook it comes with is made out of powdered rock and not wood so that the pages have more integrity and water resistance. You can sketch and write indefinitely. There are lots of other people that sell metal-tipped alloy pens.



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The inkless pen is an excellent product that has a lot of potential to limit trash in the ocean.

## Plastic particles found in Arctic snow *by Maddison Schnittger*



Plastic travels faster than you may think. It's traveling to the most remote places. These plastic particles originate from larger debris that has degraded over time. The plastic is starting to enter the Earth's atmosphere, traveling great distances around the planet. The small microplastics are generally smaller than 5 millimeters in length. They come from the disposal and breakdown of human-made plastic products and industrial waste.

"The majority of the microplastic in the snow comes from the air." Lynn, Bryan. "Scientists Find High Levels of Plastics in Arctic Snow."

learningenglish.voanews.com. VOA - Voice of America English News, 18 Jun. 2019. Web. 19 Sep. 2019.

This worldwide dilemma is spreading every day as we sit back and watch it happen. If we want a healthy society to live in in the years to come, we need to step up and help the wonderful place that we call home.

Not only are they finding is in the arctic snow, but they are also finding these particles mixed into the small grains of sand found on our wonderful beaches. An article produced by Stefanie Whitmire states that "there have been many studies that indicate a strong

presence of this type of debris in marine and coastal environments."

While there is growing interest in the effect of microplastics on the environment, scientists are still studying their possible catastrophic impact on humans and animals. We are now producing groups and organizations to help recover from this pollution problem and to help the planet get back on its feet.

## The Axolotl *by Rohan Harmon*

The Axolotl or known as the Mexican walking fish, is a threatened species. Today there are only between 700 and 1,200 axolotls left in the wild. Due to habitat loss, many are dying.

Their age lasts around 15 years worms, insects, small fish, and just about anything else that can fit inside their mouth and swallow whole, including other salamanders. In the lab, axolotls are fed brine shrimp, California blackworms. Axolotl hatch from eggs 12-72 hours later



from when they have been laid.

Axolotls come in 5 different colors that are most common among the Species. These include Wild, Leucistic (which is more commonly known as the pink Axolotl), White Albino, Golden, and Melanoid. How big is an a at age 18-24 months, ranging in length from 15 to 45 cm (6 to 18 in), although a size close to 23 cm (9 in) is the most common and greater than 30 cm (12 in) is rare. The price of an axolotl is around \$20 for a

juvenile and \$35 for an adult. A necessary cage is \$85.

That is some basic knowledge about an Axolotl. Are you interested in buying one?

## NBMS Happenings

### Friday Treats

*This Friday, October 4th, we will have fudge bars, ice cream sandwiches and orange creme bars for sale for \$2. Come to the outdoor PAC stage to buy your yummy treat to kick off the weekend.*

### Girls Basketball:

#### 6th Grade:

*Your Six grade Vikings played a tough and close game last night against the B40 Bees. The score went back-and-forth but some clutch free-throws by Rebecca and Some fourth-quarter shots by Haily left is the Vikings ahead in the end for their first win of the season! Go Vikings!!*

#### 7th Grade:

*No 7th grade lady vikings played a hard fought game today we held our opponent to only 4 points through almost 3 quarters great defense and hustle. With a couple sidelined with injuries the girls held it together but were not able to overcome the 4th quarter surge by Branciforte and lost the game 28 to 10*

#### 8th Grade:

*Your eighth grade Vikings played an amazing game last night against the B-40 Bees. They were behind at the half and made an amazing comeback in the fourth quarter to end up winning by 15 points! Go Vikings!*

### Bike To School

*Congratulations to our raffle winners: Carley Stevens, Sage Kelly, Aryana Torres, Rawly Capone and Ava Root. Please stop by the office to pick up your prize.*

Capitola, CA

Saturday  
Sunny



81 °F | °C

*October 4th, 2019*

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