



The Howler

Dr. Augustine Ramirez

Intermediate School

February 2013

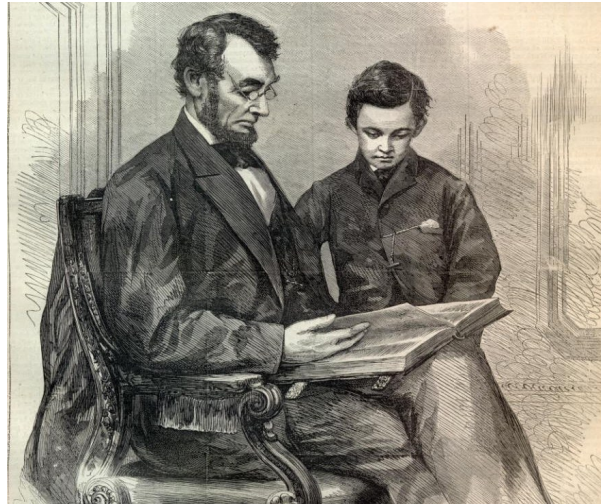
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Abraham Lincoln

By: Joyce Zhong

On the 12th of February, America celebrated a well known date - the day the 16th president was born. Regarded as one of the noblest leaders in American history, Abraham Lincoln was born in a one-room log cabin in Hodgenville, Kentucky. His early life involved only 18 months of school and no college. Abe worked several jobs to support himself. His character convinced townspeople to think twice about the tall lanky man after he wrestled the town bully. He was soon nicknamed "Honest Abe". He was known for his ability to tell stories. Lacking formal education he still ran, unsuccessfully, for the Illinois legislature in 1832. He was a member of the Whig party until 1856, when he joined the Republican Party. His spare time consisted of studying law. Lincoln became a lawyer in 1836. In 1846 he was elected to the House of Representatives. He was acknowledged in Washington for his strong opposition towards the Mexican War and slavery. Lincoln was finally elected President of the United States in 1860. His victory was feared by many Southerners. His intentions to abolish forced labor (slavery) enraged many owners of slaves.



As a result, Southerners seceded from the Union. He became embroiled in the deepest internal crisis a president had faced. To keep the Union united, he raised an army and decided to fight the South. This became a four year conflict known as the Civil War. On January 1, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation (a document issuing all slaves to be freed) was released and henceforth eliminated the practice. On April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theatre. Respected for his bold intentions, and humble actions, Abraham Lincoln was the central reason why slavery ended in the United States. In his Emancipation Proclamation, he stated: *"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom"*

Ramirez 1st Track Meet

By: Cassandra Gonzales and Brianna Oropeza

On January 25 and February 1, 2013 our very own Ramirez track team won first place at the District Finals meet. What led them to winning first? It wasn't just a walk in the park. It took time, dedication, effort, and hard work. The track team had practiced from the beginning of November to the end of December. Four days each week; through most weather conditions. They practiced intensively, pushing themselves to their limits. In the beginning 55 students joined the team but after all

that practice and hard work only 35 remained. These 35 track stars were truly gifted, dedicated, and hard working. Mr. Carter and Mr. Gray had also dedicated themselves to the track team. Without their commitment the team wouldn't have been as great as it was. On the day of the District Finals our track team was ready and able to win. All their time, dedication, effort, and hard work was aimed at achieving first place, and it paid off. Our very own Track Team won through

hard work, speed and endurance. The track Team even set district records. Wayne Richards set the school record for the mile in 5:22. Delaine McKeon set the school record for the 200 meters in 28 seconds flat. Kyle Sandoval set the school record for the 400 meters in 58.96, and Tyjon Lindsey set the record in the 100 meters at 11.43. Over all, the entire track Team has put their all into the finals and succeeded with the victory of first place in the District Finals meet.

PRIDE CALENDAR

- March 1st: Grease Performance 6pm and 8pm
- March 15th: Food Truck Fair
- March 28th: 6th Grade Student Tours A/D Track
- March 22nd- April 8th: Spring Break



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Super Bowl Sunday

By: Rami Madani and Kenneth Javier

The Super Bowl is a time to sit back, relax, and watch America's favorite sport. This year was the 47th Super Bowl between the Baltimore Ravens and the San Francisco 49ers. The Super Bowl was held at the Mercedes superdome in New Orleans. It was a very close game. Baltimore had led 21-6 at the half but San Francisco did not let down. San Francisco was known as a second half team. They fought their way back but came up short. The 49ers fell to the Ravens 31 to 34.



Many people not only watch the Super Bowl, but watch the commercials. The top ten commercials of Super Bowl 47 were: 1. Tide-Miracle Stain 2. Get Happy 3. Oreo-Whisper Fight 4. Budweiser-Brotherhood 5. Mercedes-Soul 6. Got Milk 7. Old Spice-Irresistible 8. Ram trucks-Farmer 9. Hyundai-Team 10. Doritos-Goat 4 sale. All in all, Super Bowl Sunday is an American tradition. Watching football with your family and friends is just what makes Super Bowl Sunday better.





STAFF SPOTLIGHTS



MR. CARTER

By: Bailey Caras



Leading our boys' and girls' track teams to first place is the hard work and inspiration of Mr. Carter. This is his second year teaching P.E. at our school, but he has been teaching for a total of eight years. He loves teaching P.E. because he gets the opportunity to live out his passion for athletics and fitness. When he's not busy teaching during school hours, he coaches our award winning track team. He also has one daughter, Gabrielle, and two step-daughters

Angelica and Jessica that keep him busy too. His biggest pet peeves in school are people chewing gum in class or talking while he's talking. Mr. Carter mentioned the only downside to teaching P.E. is that people don't give 100% and just give up. Luckily, he is there to inspire his students to keep trying and to never give up. A quote from him is: "Always have a positive attitude because if you don't stay positive, the outcome will most likely be negative."

Some of his hobbies outside of school include camping, playing ping pong, and watching cooking shows and golf on TV. One thing he says nobody knows about him was that he once hated cooking shows, but now he loves them. Mr. Carter is truly an amazing teacher that does so much for our school. I'm sure that we all appreciate his hard work and efforts.

"Your not finished when you lose. You're finished when you QUIT."

Mr. Carter

MR. MARTINEZ

By: Rami Madani and Kenneth Javier

"One more lap! One more push up!" Have you heard that before? It's Mr. Martinez!!! In an interview with Mr. Martinez he was able to tell us more about his life as a teacher. Mr. Martinez has been teaching for seven years and is about to finish his eighth year teaching physical education. Mr. Martinez has taught at two schools before coming to Ramirez. They were River Heights and Del Vallejo Intermediate School. He wanted to become a P.E teacher because he liked coaching and hanging out with kids. Mr. Martinez's most embarrassing



moment was when he had go on stage and teach the staff how to line dance. His fastest period is second period. His period with the most runs passed is fourth period. In Mr. Martinez's free time he chooses to play golf with his son. His favorite core subject is history because he enjoys learning about the past. All in all, Mr. Martinez is one of the best physical education teachers you will ever meet. Mr. Martinez is truly an amazing teacher with many talents. If you don't have him as a teacher you are missing out on the fun!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



KYLE SANDOVAL

By: Kaelyn Gordon

Basketball, Italian food, sports, track, maybach, money, clothes, and technology. These are things that are in a normal day in the life of being Kyle Sandoval. You may have seen him lurking in the hallways; tall, medium skin tone, and famous black curls. He loves to laugh. In fact, he like his friends to have an interesting personality and a great sense of humor. He loves to be the center of attention; that's one of the reasons he joined video production. Kyle is a very athletic guy. He runs track and does basketball. Kyle has a passion for basketball. Shyla Jones is one of the most inspirational people in his life, because she's so good at it. Other than having fun and doing sports, he likes to try



different types of food. His favorite is Italian food. If anyone looks into Kyle's iPod one would find lots of underground rap and hip hop songs. Mr. Benor is his favorite teacher because he knows how to have fun. Kyle has a huge fear of ants. When he's done with college he plans on being a software engineer or something in television production. He's head-over-heels for celebrities Solchitta Sal and Jessica Alba. Kyle enjoys a variety of things. If you want to have a fun time or just a good laugh, Kyle is the one to talk to. If you see him in the hall or anywhere else, don't be afraid to say hi. All in all, Kyle's a really cool guy and loads of fun.

WOLF PACK PRIDE

By: Bailey Caras and Haley Gomez

ELECTIVE COURSES

Do you like to act, write, or are interested in being a leader on our campus? If so, you could be qualified to be in Advanced Drama, Journalism, or ASB! These electives are all application based, so be sure that when the applications go out to get one. Be aware that to be in ASB you must have a grade point average of at least a 3.0 with no D's or F's. Advanced Drama and Journalism also have their own criteria that you will be informed of soon. Make sure to keep your grades up for the rest of the year to ensure that you have the opportunity to try out.

6TH GRADE TOURS

The bell rings as students scramble off to class, unsure of where to go, what to expect... Ding! They're late to class... Do you remember how hectic and chaotic the first day of middle school was? Well this year, just like the past two, the 6th graders of Rosa Parks and Clara Barton Elementary will be visiting Ramirez for a tour of our beautiful school. Hopefully with the help of this tour, the incoming students will become more familiar with our campus. The tours for tracks B and C already took place on February 21st. The last day of tours will be on March 28th for tracks A and D. Make sure if you see the students to be on your best behavior. We want to set an amazing example for the students to make them feel welcome, because this will be most of the student's school next year.

8TH GRADE ACTIVITIES

A message to all 8th graders! End of the year activities will be coming up soon. To be allowed to participate in the activities, students must maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA and less than 70 class period absences (equivalent to 10 days). To be eligible for promotion on May 30th, students must have a minimum of a 1.5 GPA and less than 70 period absences. Continue to work hard and be aware of your grades, most end of the year activities will be based on second trimester grades as well as current grades on Zangle.

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

1ST PLACE WINNERS

Ashley Wong and Zaira Gudino

2ND PLACE WINNERS

Bailey Caras and Kaelyn Gordon

3RD PLACE WINNERS

Noelani Origel, Sean Davidson, Sabrina Madero, Micah Tattao, Evelyn Sun, and Ashley Wilson





STUDENT VOICES



TOP 10 TEST TAKING TIPS

By: Skylar Harris

Tests, probably one of the most evil things in a student's life. All they do is make you nervous and stressed. What if I told you that I have some ways to make them easier? We all know that the state tests are coming up, so why not figure out how to make them easier? Here is the top 10 test taking tips from me to you. **1)** "Reading out loud can improve memorization." It's true, if you read the material out loud your brain processes it and stores it into memory, like song lyrics. If you sing a song enough times then it sticks in your memory so that you can remember the lyrics. **2)** "Listening to classical music increases brainpower." I know what you're thinking; classical music is boring. Studies show that it increases math test scores! **3)** "Taking study breaks increases memory retention." If you study for hours on end, you start getting off topic and thinking about other things. 30 to 45 minutes is a good amount of time to study. **4)** "Avoid foods high in sugar." Instead, eat foods with protein to clear your head. **5)** "Always guess when there is no penalty."

Educated guesses can help eliminate wrong answers and make it easier to decide between choices. Plus, on true or false questions, true is the correct answer over 50% of the time. **6)** "Don't cram." Even though it's what most of us do, it doesn't help in any way, shape, or form. All cramming does is make you anxious. Study ahead of time. **7)** "Your first answer is usually correct." Always trust your instincts; they tend to be right most of the time. **8)** "It's okay to skip questions." All it does is waste time if you stay on one question. You can always go back to it later. **9)** "Exercising before a test can increase your brain's ability to reason." Exercising helps oxygen get to the brain, making it easier to remember and increase reasoning skills. **10)** "Studying before bedtime increases memory retention." Studying at night improves the chance of remembering in the morning, but don't forget to get a good night's sleep!!!

IF YOU ONLY KNEW

By: Skylar Harris

What would you do if I were to tell you that 1 in 12 people 'self-harm'? In a class of 42, that would be about 3 to 4 people. There are four possible things running through your mind right about now. 1) That's stupid and they do it for attention. 2) That's a large amount. 3) You don't know what I'm talking about. 4) Or you're that 1 in 12. One question that first needs to be answered is, "What is Self-Harm"? For those of you who know, you can skip this part, but for those who don't, keep reading. Self-harm is the act of deliberately hurting yourself. One of the most well known and talked about is cutting. People who self-harm might also suffer from depression, an anxiety/stress disorder, substance abuse, eating disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia, and several personality disorders. They are not attempting suicide. People who cut themselves some-

times do it to "know they're alive" or believe that the physical pain helps block out the emotional pain they're experiencing. For a short time, it does. Endorphins are released into the blood stream when cut, creating a "natural high". People do become addicted to it; like others become addicted to alcohol or drugs. Now that you've all read about self-harm and why people do it, it's time for me to talk to the people that actually practice it. Their is help, trust me. What's best is talking to someone like a friend, parent, sibling, even a teacher or counselor! This enables you to get it out into the open. You will feel like a weight has been lifted off your chest. I know that you don't do it for attention or you want to kill yourself. Sometimes you just want to feel something.

WATCH D.O.G.S.

By: Ashley Wilson

With all the recent occurrences of violence, schools need to be better protected. One simple way to help keep us protected is through the help of our dads. After all, that's what dads are for. Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students) is made up of dedicated dads that come to our schools throughout the year to help make sure the students are safe. Watch D.O.G.S. aren't only at Augustine Ramirez; they are at many other schools throughout the Corona Norco Unified School District. Of course, here at Augustine Ramirez, we are great students with tons of potential. This potential can only be realized if we are kept safe and if we feel safe. We have been practicing lock-downs at our school. Other schools are doing the same so that all are prepared for emergency situations. Nevertheless, some students are still fearful of what could happen.



If students do not feel safe they may not be able to concentrate on their work. However, if there are more dads willing to come and volunteer at our school, then students will feel more comfortable and will be able to continue focusing on their school work. Dads can supervise before and after school, during lunch, and monitor the hallways. We need more dads to step up and become Watch D.O.G.S. to better protect our school. The more secure the schools are, the more secure the students will be. This will allow parents and teachers to also feel secure in the knowledge that students are safe. Uncles and older brothers are also welcomed helpers. If you are interested in protecting our school and being a part of our Watch D.O.G.S. program, call Mr. Gutierrez, our counselor. Come to our school now to sign up. More information is available at www.fathers.com/watchdogs. These dads will become "heroes of the hallways."

"Tell me and I forget, Teach me and I remember, Involve me and I learn."

Benjamin Franklin

"Man becomes great exactly in the degree in which he works for the welfare of his fellow me."

Mahatma Ghandi

Aliens

By: Haley Gomez

Yesterday I found out that everyone except for me is an alien. I decided to act like it was a normal day and go to school. In first period, I was writing in my journal as I usually do. I wrote about the day before and how I had found out that everyone was an alien, except for me. The girl, or should I say the alien, who sits next to me started to read what I had written. She read and read and read. As she read her face was becoming more and more red. She was getting mad. When she got to the end of what I had written, she glared at me. All of a sudden, I couldn't breathe anymore. The girl was choking me. I tried to get her off of me, but I couldn't. Finally, she let me go. I was trying to move, but my body felt like it was paralyzed. I just stood there, frozen. After what felt like about five minutes, the strange feeling went away. I stood, looking at everyone else in the room. It seemed as if they didn't even hear my screams of terror as she choked me earlier. I looked to my right and I saw the girl now running after me. I bolted out the door, my teacher yelling for me to come back. I had been on the track team at my old school, so I knew I could run fast for a long time.

"Hopefully I'm fast enough to outrun her", I thought to myself. I was frantic to get to the office. The girl was screaming at everyone she raced past, "She figured it out! she figured it out! She knows we are aliens!" I looked back to see if she was still coming; she was. Bang! I crumpled to the ground. My head throbbing. "Stupid pole," I muttered to myself. I hadn't seen that pole because I was looking back at my pursuer. I heard even more footsteps; a lot of footsteps. All of the people that the girl was shouting to were now after me. I looked at all of the familiar faces; people who I thought were my friends! I pulled myself off the floor. As I ran I tried to think of a good place to hide. I remembered that last week, at the park, my friends and I found a cave. The entrance was difficult to find. I thought about my parents. I decided to go home first and get supplies that I might need in the cave. When I got to my house I knew I had to be quick. I had gotten far enough ahead of the angry aliens. I figured I had about five minutes to grab what I could before they caught up to me. I grabbed some Tylenol, band aids and some gauze

and stuffed it into my Hello Kitty bag. Knowing I would get hungry later I grabbed some apples, bananas, and some leftover cupcakes made the day before. Time was running out so I raced upstairs and grabbed a pillow, blanket, and all of the money I find. Seizing two water bottles I escaped out the back door and ran to the park. I had a little trouble finding the entrance to the cave. Once inside it felt damp but still warm. I had a major headache from my collision with that pole, so I got some Tylenol. It was about 6:00 p.m. and I was hungry. I ate an apple and a cupcake. Settling in for the night, I thought about the day's events. I was almost strangled, got chased by aliens, collided with a pole and I'm hiding in a dark cave. I started to cry. I missed my old life: My pet dog, my friends and school. Most of all I missed my family. "I will never be safe," I said to myself sadly. I decided to go to sleep for the night. I still couldn't believe that everyone else in the world was an alien, except for me. Like my mom used to say, I truly am one in a million.





The Rolling Stones

By: Jordyn Cox



Half a century after taking the stage for the first time, the Rolling Stones are still considered one of the best rock bands ever. The Rolling Stones are comprised of six English rockers: Brian Jones on guitar, Mick Jagger as the lead singer, Ian Stewart on piano, Keith Richards as backup guitar and vocals, Charlie Watts on drums, and Bill Wyman, the bassist. The Rolling Stones are a classic rock type of band with hits like: "Start Me Up", "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction", and "Paint it Black", along with many others hits. The Stones began "rocking and rolling" in 1962 in London, England. Twenty years later the Rolling Stones were inducted into the Hall of Fame. Though a few of the original band members are gone, this band is still going strong! From 1962, and even through today, the Rolling Stones continue to make new music. Some of their newest songs include "Doom and Gloom" and



"One More Shot". It makes one wonder, will they ever stop? Bill Wyman walked away from the Rolling Stones in 1963. He said he'd had enough and thought he should retire. Ian Stewart was also dismissed from the band line-up in 1963; however, he still helped the band in many ways. He became their "road manager" and, from time to time, played piano for the band when they were on tour. In 1969, Brian Jones, former lead guitarist, became addicted to drugs and lost his part in the band. Weeks later, Jones drowned in his swimming pool at home in Hartfield, East Sussex. Even though some of the members left, Jagger Richards and Watts are still together. (Other members have joined to replace the ones who left.) In 2012, the band celebrated their 50th Anniversary. The Rolling Stones have made it this far, but how much longer will they last?

BOOK REVIEW

DISNEY AFTER DARK

By: Ashley Wilson

Do you ever wonder what goes on inside the parks when the gates are closed and the lights are off? If so, then this book will tell you. The book Disney After Dark is the first of seven books in the series 'Kingdom Keepers'. Ridley Pearson, the author, was asked by Disney to write these books. He knew what to write after a trip to the Magic Kingdom in Disney World with his family. The idea came to him when he turned to look back at the park as he was leaving. He said "I had a Toy Story moment, it occurred to me that when we all leave the parks and the characters have not, that there's stuff going on in there that no one is going to know about." He said that he envisioned a battle for control of the parks. Such was the start of the 'Kingdom Keepers'. Finn, Charlene, Willa, Philby, and Maybeck were just average teenagers until they became DHI's (Disney Host Interactive, or Daylight Hologram Imaging). At first they just thought of it as a fun way to get money for college and garner popularity. The job ends up being so much more. When the kids wake up inside Disney's Magic Kingdom they think it's just a dream. The teens soon realize: after being shot with a Toy Story laser, getting burned, being bitten by It's A Small World dolls and bleeding, that it's much, much more. I would recommend this book to anyone that enjoys Disneyland, Disney World or both. You might also be interested to know a little more about the dark side of Disney and what to watch out for next time you're there. Overall, this book would be best for children above the age of nine due to some mild violence. You should definitely check out this book next time you visit a book store.

GAME REVIEW

MINECRAFT

By: Jordyn Cox

The Indie game Minecraft has now forged its way onto consoles! To its credit, Minecraft: XBOX 360 Edition is largely the same game as its PC counterpart. This new version was released May 9, 2012 by Microsoft. If you're not familiar with Minecraft, let me quickly break down the basics. You start in a randomly generated world with only a map. You must obtain resources by chopping down trees and mining out caves. It's easy to accomplish during daylight hours. Come nightfall, you better be prepared to take on monsters such as creepers, spiders, endermen, zombies, and skeletons. unless played on "Peaceful" difficulty. I've always loved games that emphasize exploration and freedom, and that's what Minecraft does at its core. I'm a big fan of Minecraft as are so many others. I really like the feeling I get from scaling a blocky mountain and seeing a huge expanse of pure possibility in the distance. I would recommend this amazing game to anybody that likes to use their imagination and create their own domain. Finally! XBOX players have a chance to experience all the wonder that Minecraft offers.

MOVIE REVIEW

THE SAND LOT

By: Jocelyn Figueroa and Andrew Contla

You've never seen baseball like this! These kids play at "The Sandlot". The director of this awesome classic family movie is David M. Evans and the film came out long ago in 1993. This movie is about a group of kids who love baseball but yet lose almost every ball they ever hit into the "Monster's" yard. That yard contains a large rabid dog who everyone fears. Although, the movie particularly focuses on one kid, nicknamed "Smalls". The entire cast is Tom Guiry, Mike Vitar, Patrick Renna, Chauncey Leopardi, Marty York, and Shane Obedzinski. This movie includes the story of a group of young men finding their love for baseball. They stick together through the toughest of problems and always come up with solutions. There is a more richer

team of rich kids from the city, but they're no match for The Sandlot Team. Turns out that the owner of the rabid dog happens to have played with Babe Ruth! The ball that "Smalls" hit over fence happened to be his step fathers signed by Babe himself! The boys do whatever it takes to get that ball back. Yet, his step father has no idea that it went missing because he was on vacation for business! Will these boys get their ball back? Will they actually find their true potential for baseball? When we watched this for the first time we I wanted to see it over and over again. It's just plain awesome! Clearly, this movie had us both enjoying life and feeling very funny and goofy. This is a classic all American movie. We recommend you watch this mesmerizing film.



COOKIES

By: Ashley Wilson

Soft and chewy
Maybe gooey
Very delicious
Sometimes nutritious
White chips, butterscotch,
Dark chocolate too
What flavor will you choose?
Smearing, oozing from your mouth
Your taste buds explode
With the intense flavor
Icy cold or steaming hot
Quickly get them before their not
Walnuts, pecans, almonds
On the top or inside the luscious treat
They are yummy, they are great.
Quickly get one before it's too late.

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RESTAURANT REVIEW

NESTLE TOLLHOUSE

By: Josh Tolley

Are you hungry for a delicious treat? In the mood for something sweet? Then stop by Nestle Toll House! This great little cookie shop (Nestle Toll House) is located off of Limonite, right by the Edwards 14 Cinema. It is a convenient location, surrounded by many great stores. While you're out shopping or on your way to watch a movie, you can pop in, get your treat, and pop out. You can also place orders for cookie cakes or party trays to enjoy later. The co-owners of this fine establishment are Ashley and Deborah Burnette. They offer mini cookies, traditional sized cookies, and brownies. In addition, they make scrumptious cookie cakes that can be made in any of their delicious flavors and decorated any way you want! Some of their famous cookies include: snicker doodle, sugar, chocolate chip pecan, white chocolate chip macadamia, and triple chocolate. They also have a variety of smoothie flavors like a tropical sunset if you enjoy pina colada or a coastal cooler for you mango, raspberry and pineapple lovers. Sound delicious? They are! The service there was amazing. The Brunette's and their employees were very friendly and knowledgeable about their incredible products. I had the opportunity to taste a variety of cookies and smoothies. My favorites were the triple chocolate cookie and the tropical sunset smoothie. I really enjoyed my experience. It's the perfect spot on a hot summer's day. Just imagine, you can enjoy a smoothie in the shade by a fountain, or in the winter, you can step inside for a fresh hot cup of coffee coupled with fresh baked cookies. Don't just take my word for it- go down and get yourself a treat! There is never a bad time for cookies!