

Go Figure

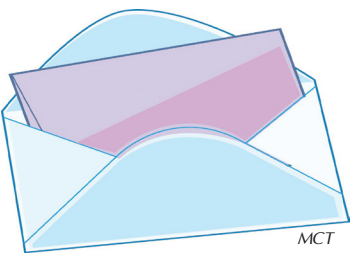


30.6 percent

According to NationMaster.com, 30.6% of people in the United States are obese. Yet again, America is still the most obese country in the world, followed by Mexico with 24.2% of the population. North Korea is the least obese country, with 3.2% of its population having a BMI higher than 24.9 (a healthy BMI would be 18.5 - 24.9). It's not surprising that America also has the most McDonald's (12,804 restaurants) while North Korea has 243 McDonald's restaurants (ranked the 12th country in the world).

107 trillion

For those who feel like Facebook and Twitter are taking over the internet, it's reassuring to know that 107 trillion emails were sent in 2010 compared to 25 billion tweets on Twitter and 600 million people on Facebook. No matter how many fancy apps and email extensions Facebook and Twitter add, they can never quite replace good ol' email.

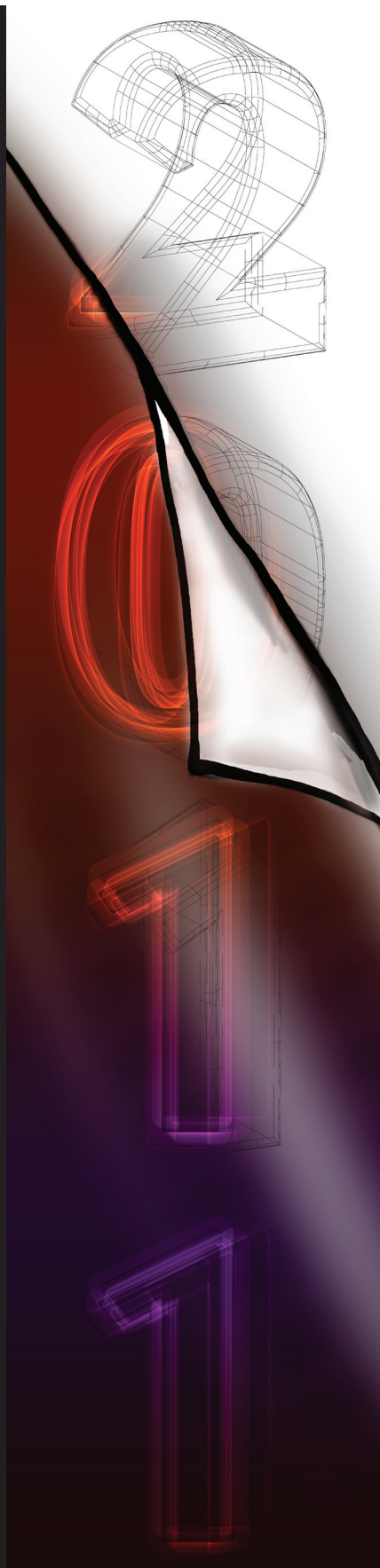


423 million views

The masses of preteen girls swooning over J-Beks have prevailed over the equally crazy Gaga supporters according to the most recent YouTube view count statistics. While Lady Gaga's "Bad Romance" has 326,832,779 views, Justin Bieber's hit "Baby" featuring Ludacris has 424,988,898 views: approximately 100 million more views.

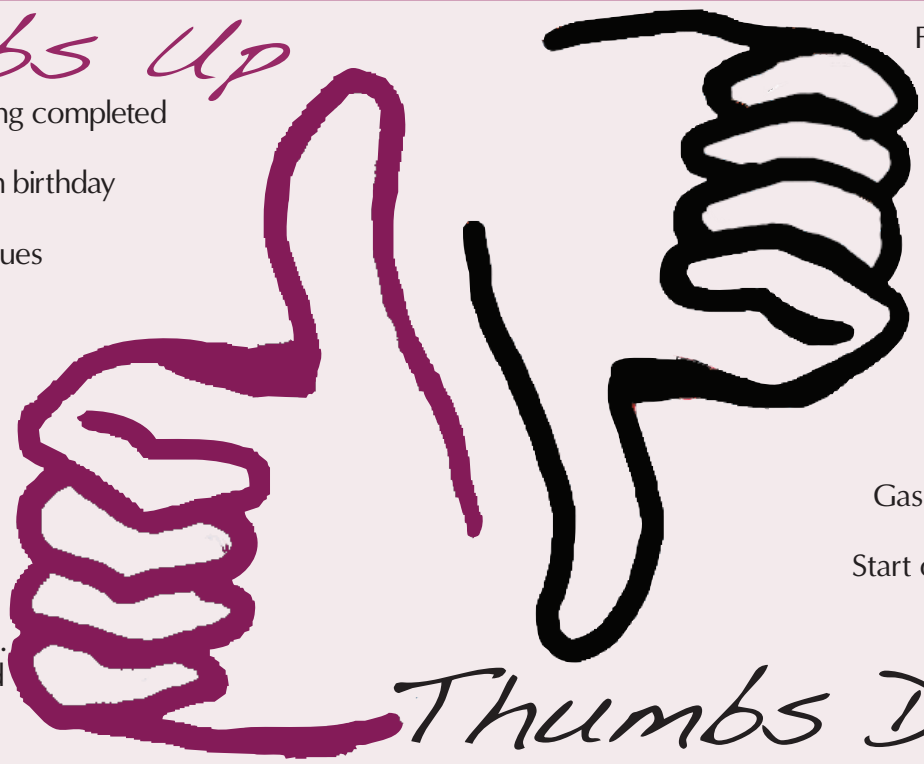


FROM SKETCH TO REALITY, WHAT 2011 HAS TO OFFER



Thumbs Up

- New addition to the building completed
- Tennessee Williams' 100th birthday
- Economic recovery continues
- NFL Playoffs
- New Year's resolutions
- 11/11/11
- Smoking ban in effect
- Pat Shurmur leaving St. Louis to become head coach in Cleveland



Thumbs Down

- Forgetting to write 2011 in dates
- No Olympics or World Cup
- 10-year anniversary of war in Afghanistan
- Anticipated 2011 Cardinals season
- Gas prices on the rise
- Start of the presidential race



The Nissan Leaf, a 100 percent electric car, can seat up to 5 passengers, has 5 doors and can go 100 miles per charge (convenient for suburban commutes or daily short trips). The estimated price is around \$26,000.



There's going to be a lot of exciting technology in 2011, from the iPhone 5 to the Playstation phone. One anticipated market is the "tablet war," with Toshiba's Tab, Motorola's Xoom, and Blackberry's Playbook all having gesture-based interfaces.



The Chevrolet Volt is the new generation hybrid, with a gas engine that recharges on a battery. The Chevy Volt will charge overnight, enough to carry you 40 miles on pure battery power before the gas generator, which is capable of powering the car for hundreds of miles on one tank of gas, kicks in.

Gas prices are predicted to keep rising, possibly hitting five dollars a gallon. Likewise, crop failures will cause a two to three percent increase in food prices. The increase will be particularly notable in fruit and dairy products.



New beverages with less carbonation and more fruit-based flavors from real (and exotic) fruit juices are expected to be on the rise in 2011. With flavors extending from the comfort zone of apple and orange to South American crops like acai, these new drinks, which are loaded with naturally-occurring vitamins and minerals, are expected to be a new health craze.

Photos from MCT Campus

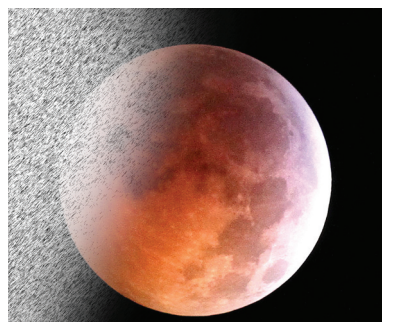
- Green Lantern - June 17
- The Hangover 2 - May 26
- Super 8 (Director J.J. Abrams) - TBA
- Hugo Cabret (Director Martin Scorsese) - Dec. 9
- The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo - Dec. 21
- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 - July 15.



The phrase "there's an app for that" has extended to food service. With an increasing amount of food apps, don't be surprised when ordering and waiting for your food becomes obsolete. Eventually, your phone will let you pre-order from a restaurant's menu and send a signal for the kitchen to make your food by the

time that you enter the restaurant. This will eliminate the customary restaurant waiting time.

- NASA' MESSENGER will arrive on Mercury - March 18
- Partial solar eclipse - June 1
- Total lunar eclipse - June 15
- Jupiter, Venus, Mars and Mercury will all be visible in May

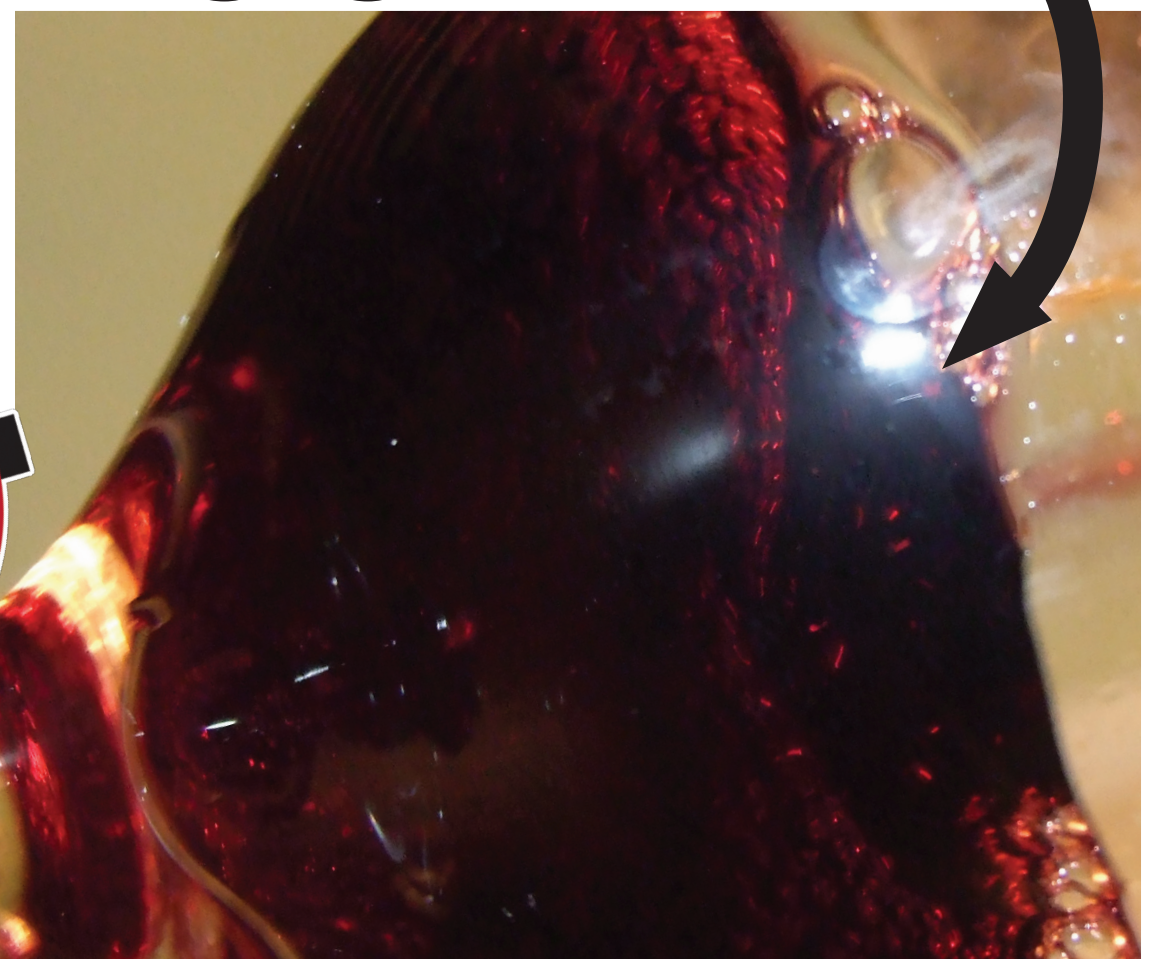


Spring fashions are already out, and there a couple of interesting trends. According to Reporter Andie Clik, anything sheer and mesh is in while ruched clothing and oversized purses are out. Natural colors, leggings, neon lace and men's button-down shirts are also going to be very trendy in 2011.



On Jan. 9, America woke up to a disturbing scene playing out in Tucson, AZ. A single gunman opened fire at a constituent meeting for U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords, wounding the congresswoman and 12 others and killing six. Though the murderer's motives are yet unknown, there has been speculation that the attempted assassination was politically motivated. Giffords, a Democrat, was an ardent supporter of President Obama's healthcare plan and had just won reelection in a brutal campaign. Whether or not the shooter was actually fueled by political fury, this horrible event serves as a dire harbinger of things to come if the vitriolic nature of national politics is not redressed. Both the left and right are guilty of using violent and overly aggressive rhetoric. This was exemplified by Sarah Palin putting Giffords in crosshairs during the 2010 congressional race. Such actions are deplorable and counterproductive to addressing in a meaningful way the real problems facing the nation. If politicians fail to cool their fiery, slanderous talk, the American people will likely witness more and more wake-up calls like the one they experienced two weeks ago, when six civilians were killed and 13 injured at a Safeway in Tucson, AZ.

Zoom In



This picture is a close-up of an object. What is it? Go to chsglobe.com/zoomoutjan for the answer!

Dee Luo