With the recent wave of accidents occurring on the intersections of U.S. 41 and Bay Street, as well as U.S. 41 and Blackburn Point Road, Pine View faculty have raised concerns regarding student safety when arriving and departing from campuses. In an attempt to prevent school-related accidents, teachers are teaming up with administration to discuss their worries and further inform students of basic driving safety.

In past years, the number of accidents on the turn from Bay Street and Blackburn Point Road has never been worse. But, according to School Resources Officer Deputy Chris Hudson, the frequency of accidents has been on the rise.

"There have always been busy accidents on these intersections," Hudson said. "Making the left turns [onto Bay Street and Blackburn Point Road] has always been danger- ous." Many are attributing the sudden in- crease in the number of accidents to two factors that have developed within the past four years: cell phone usage and flashing yellow traffic lights.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly a quar- ter of all automobile accidents in 2012 were the result of driver distraction caused by cell phone usage. In 2015, it was estimated that approximately 660,000 drivers use their cell phones while driving during daylight hours. Principal Dr. Stephen Covert said, "When I’m directing traffic after school, I frequently see students on their phones ... you just can’t mult task. You’re not giving all of your atten- tion to the road.

Teachers have also stressed their appre- hension regarding the flashing yellow light installed on the intersection of U.S. 41 and Bay Street at the start of 2017. As com- pared to the previous red light, the flashing yellow arrow allows drivers to turn into on-coming traffic based on their own judgment.

"Besides the accidents that have occurred at this intersection, I’ve been witness to many near-misses that have left me wondering if what could have happened," ENR teacher and teacher David Delaney said.

Although the flashing light has caused concerns, not all faculty agree that the recent accidents are directly related to it. When pressed on whether most students were able to judge if it was safe to turn on a flashing light, Hudson responded, "You’re supposed to yield at left turns like that... If students aren’t able to judge whether or not to turn, they shouldn’t have an open license.

Many accidents caused by students do not only have to do with driving with a flashing yellow light. Other times, according to Hudson, students involved in morning ac- cidents are often rushing to get to school on time.

In response to concerns, Covert and Assistant Principal Tricia Al- lian are currently contacting the Sarasota County Transportation Staff as well as the Sarasota County School District Planning Department in order to see what adjustments can be made to improve the safety of students.

They have also become aware of a new program facilitated by the Sarasota County Transportation Department to see what improvements and taking ap- propriate steps to help keep the public safe on our roads, sidewalks and campuses," Covert said.

Based on statistics provided by admin- istration, over 350 students requested shell parking spots throughout the 2016-2017 school year. This means that nearly 45 percent of high school students at Pine View own a driver’s license.

Cortman facilitated the program with the intent of decreasing stu- dent anxiety for first- and second-time drivers and increasing awareness about dangers that exist.

Because of its success, the pro- gram was brought to other elemen- tary, middle and high schools through- out Sarasota County. This year will be the first one in which the cost of the program will be included in the school budget, with enough funding to reach about 10,000 students.

"Our program is based on the concept that it’s possible, even in emotionally troubled patients, to make the change emotionally and behaviorally," Cortman said.

"We want students to realize that therapy can heal all wounds or emotions are uncontrollable in your skin, you don’t care what other people think, you just don’t care," he said. "The program was originally intended for adults, to make people conscious of common psycholog- ical myths like that." Over the course of his career, Dr. Christopher Cortman has taught a master’s degree of course, he has introduced over 70,000 students to psychotherapy. "There has had to be a kind of course in which it’s manageable in, "Cortman said.

"My wife added adult life has been, one long psychotherapy ses- sion." This week in psychology was the inspiration for his book, "Your Mind: An Owner’s Manual." "This book is the heart of the social and emotional learning program that will soon arrive at Pine View School next semester: The Social Black Belt Pro- gram." After hours and hours of read- ing, extensively studied, many of the peo- ple who came to see him had a simi- lar problem — they had never been social. In the basic principle of modern psychology, "I thought about how to be high school on a day one might never forget at a snap or Suddenly a checkbook, or some other things that would’ve been useful," he said.

"I suppose what Dr. John H. Sarno, founder of the Sarno School of Pain Medicine, was trying to get across, is that people can’t heal the way we think, because feelings are unconscious in our skin, you can’t see them, and you don’t care," he said.

Although the Social Black Belt Program was designed to teach the students the skill to handle emotions, there are certain situations in which therapy is the only way. "Besides the accidents that have occurred on this intersection, I’ve been witness to many near-misses that have left me wondering if what could have happened," ENR teacher and teacher David Delaney said.

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Based on statistics provided by admin- istration, over 350 students requested shell parking spots throughout the 2016-2017 school year. This means that nearly 45 percent of high school students at Pine View own a driver’s license and drive through Bay Road and Blackburn Point Road on a daily basis.

This year, according to Hudson, more than these student-related accidents have al- ready occurred on Bay Street and Blackburn Point Road. Fortunately, all involved students have avoided serious injuries.

Until further action prevents the fre- quency of accidents during the before- and after-school rush hours, Covert suggests that teachers and parents continue to stress stu- dents of the importance of driving safely and defensively at all times, and to not rush off to school on time.

"Students need to take a moment and realize that it’s your life we’re talking about," Hudson said.
News program aims to dispel psychological misconceptions

continued from page 1
by Ben Nicholson
West Section Editor

Pine View was one of the first schools to teach this skill in Collier and request that Social Black Belt be brought to its ninth- and tenth-graders. At the beginning of the school year, Collier began the program in 10 ninth-grade classes at Pine View and was retained by his observations. “One of the things I learned in my two

days with frauds is that they’re all in interest in that their frauds are the off-the-charts anxious,” he said.

When Social Black Belt arrives at Pine View, its founder isn’t by Collier, but by teachers trained in the skills of the program. The selected teachers will visit with students every other week and cover different topics of

how to deal with social and emotional stressors. Collier listed of selected teachers includes English teachers Christopher Pauling and Megan O’Malley, and history teachers Jim Friedrich and Roma Jagdish. On why he selected those teachers, Collier said, “They’re expert teachers that connect with their students. I want teachers who are passionate about helping

their kids and connecting with their kids.”

 Ninth-grade teacher Roma Jagdish said she has also observed exceptional levels of stress in the classes she teaches. “Sometimes I feel so helpless [with the ease of kids],” she said. “That’s why I did this program, so I could help them find truth and help them deal with it.”
Art department experiences smaller enrollment numbers

by Elizabeth Hopkins

Art teacher Louis Miller presents the objectives for the art department in October and is dealing with a decrease of students enrolling in art classes.

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Fundraiser begins for Puerto Rico

Class collects donations for U.S. territory in the aftermath of hurricanes

by William Khabbaz

Features Editor

After experiencing the devastating effects of hurricanes Irma and Maria, Puerto Rico is facing desperate conditions and remains in need of outside help. Pine View social studies teacher Scott Wolfinger and his students are answering that call for help, creating the fundraiser "PV 4 PR" to help the families affected by these hurricanes.

The effort was started after a discussion Wolfinger had with a group of eleventh graders—Nathalie Bencie, Adrianna Troche and Zoe Gavette. With the help of the rest of their class, they put their efforts into creating a support system for Puerto Rico.

"With family members of some of the students living in Puerto Rico, we thought it would be a great idea to help," Troche said. Both Troche and Bencie had family affected by the hurricanes, so they felt the need to help because of their ties with the territory.

Their first plan of action was to collect donations and materials from students to ship overseas to Puerto Rico. The fundraising group placed boxes within each social studies class, and students were encouraged to donate certain supplies most needed by the families in Puerto Rico. These necessities included baby food, diapers, batteries and pet food.

"We felt an obligation to help others in need. Adrianna and I are Puerto Rican, so helping them down there is super important to us," Bencie said. To create a fundraiser also raised money through a booth at the Pine View Fair, primarily run by Gavette. The booth consisted of a donations box, where students collected both supplies to send and money to pay for shipping costs. The group raised over $400, and with this money the group was finally able to start shipping off boxes to Puerto Rico.

The process to ship the 11 boxes that the group set up starts with the family members in the territory. Wolfinger and his students were planning on shipping them to Troche's uncle who lives in Carolina, Puerto Rico, but because of transportation issues, PV 4 PR's first load of supplies was sent through a private institution called Puerto Rico Hold On.

After dropping off the supplies at Puerto Rico Hold On's outpost in Tampa, the supplies were sorted and then placed on an airplane headed for Puerto Rico. From there, the donations were distributed among towns on the island.

"Bringing aid to Puerto Rico is a responsibility for all Americans, especially since Puerto Rico has never been the wealthiest place, nor has it ever had the best infrastructure, hence why the hurricanes had such a devastating effect," Bencie said.

The club is now putting their efforts into collecting more supplies and donations from the staff and students. They will be holding more fundraisers and events to hopefully send even more supplies to Puerto Rico.

"The sole reason as to why they're able to survive is thanks to our help from the mainland, which is why we must continue to aid Puerto Rico until the territory is back on her feet again," Bencie said. "This is the perfect opportunity for students to experience first-hand what unifying really means."

"With family members of some of the students living in Puerto Rico, we thought it would be a great idea to help." Adrianna Troche, grade 11

TOP: Eleventh-graders Adrianna Troche (left) and Nathalie Bencie (right) smile for the camera in front of their boxed donations for Puerto Rico. BOTTOM: Fallen trees crowd the streets in Puerto Rico in the aftermath of hurricanes Maria and Irma. PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SCOTT WOLFINGER

Wi-Fi outages set back campus learning

Read the full story online at PV Torch.com by scanning the provided QR code.

YOUR AD HERE

GRAPHIC BY ZACH BRIGHT
Academic Olympics teams face temporary halt

Competition undergoes county-wide pause after sponsor ends funding

by Catie Alvaro

After 30 years of holding the Academic Olympics at Pine View, the program was almost eliminated in Sarasota County altogether.

In the last days of back-to-back search for funds to fund and coordinate the program, Sarasota County was no exception. But in the last days of search for funding, the Sarasota County School Board, the Executive Director of High Schools for Sarasota County, Dr. Paul Porteous, committed to putting a path for funding that will ensure the future of this valuable program that means so much to Pine View's own Academic Olympics, English teacher Blake Wiley volunteered his coordination in an effort to save the program.

Blake began his sponsorship of Pine View's Academic Olympic team during his second year of teaching at Pine View. Fellow journalist, Stroma Llagic, notes the huge history of this school as an academic Olympic. Pine View was a partner for Pine View English and English teacher Dr. Paul Porteous has come in recent years to lead Pine View to excellence. The team was a model consisting of a large number of students who were selected by Blake Wiley. This model is consistent with several other programs across west Florida are facing a difficulty in an effort to provide meaningful coordination in an effort to save the program.

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The Torch Debunks: Star Wars

By Nathalie Bencie

"Star Wars" is one of the ultimate science fiction franchises in the world. From the original trilogy to the prequels, sequels, and spin-offs, the saga has captivated audiences for decades. However, some of the scientific concepts have been wrongly portrayed in the series. In this article, we will debunk some of the inaccuracies present in the "Star Wars" universe.

Hyperspace:

In the "Star Wars" universe, spaceships are capable of traveling at lightspeed through hyperspace. However, this is not possible in the real world. The speed of light is finite and cannot be exceeded.

Sound waves cannot travel at the speed of light, which limits the speed at which information can be transmitted. In the "Star Wars" universe, sound waves are emitted by ships like the Millennium Falcon. However, these waves would not be able to move as fast as lightspeed.

For sound waves to travel as fast as lightspeed, the distance between two points must be equal to the distance between two points in the "Star Wars" universe. In reality, sound waves can only travel as fast as the speed of sound, which is approximately 343 meters per second in air.

Lightspeed:

In the "Star Wars" universe, lightspeed is a relative concept. The speed of light is not constant, and it can vary depending on the observer's frame of reference.

The "Star Wars" universe also includes the concept of the speed of light. However, this concept is not consistent with the laws of physics. In reality, the speed of light is constant and cannot be exceeded.

For "Star Wars" fans, the idea of traveling at lightspeed is exciting, but it is not possible in the real world. The speed of light is a fundamental constant of nature and cannot be exceeded.

Despite these scientific flaws, "Star Wars" remains a beloved franchise. However, it is important to remember that science is a continuously evolving field, and scientific concepts are not static.

For "Star Wars" fans, the idea of traveling at lightspeed is exciting, but it is not possible in the real world. The speed of light is a fundamental constant of nature and cannot be exceeded. It is, therefore, important to approach the science in the "Star Wars" universe with a critical eye and to remember that science is a continuously evolving field, and scientific concepts are not static.

In summary, while the "Star Wars" universe is an imaginative world with many exciting concepts, it is important to approach the science in the "Star Wars" universe with a critical eye and to remember that science is a continuously evolving field, and scientific concepts are not static.
PISCES
February 19 - March 20
Fish as the sign, thriving on creativity and courage. Be more creative this season by planning crafty outings or hanging around the chilly, fall forecast.

TAURUS
April 20 - May 20
Generosity is your middle name, Taurus! You will be showered with Thanksgiving this year by helping family members prepare for the holidays.

CANCER
June 21 - July 22
Cancer, you are an emotional sign. Get rid of jealousy by taking time to appreciate all that you have by unwinding in your favorite relaxing activities.

SCORPIO
October 23 - November 21
Slow down this season and gain greater awareness to your relationships and family. Take some time to refocus yourself and your mind.

CAPRICORN
December 21 - January 19
You love to cook and entertain. Capricorn, channel your ambition and assist friends and family this fall season.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22 - December 21
Take more time for yourself. Sagittarius, Make health and wellness the focal point of your psyche to ease stress.

LIBRA
September 23 - October 22
With the first of end of first semester coming soon, bring down your quarter and enjoy friends and family.

ARIES
March 21 - April 19
Hey, fire sign! Your burning enthusiasm is easily transferred to others by empowering them to be their best.

GEMINI
May 21 - June 20
Use those strong opinions of yours to stand out from the crowd. Try a bold, fresh take on your family members this Thanksgiving.

LEO
July 23 - August 22
You have a fun-loving orientation that radiates to others in your presence. Do not let the stress of the end of first semester bring you down.

AQUARIUS
January 20 - February 18
Stay close to home this Thanksgiving by spending quality time with close friends and relatives. Let your gratitude shine bright.

Pine View. Blake started playing the violin at the age of 4. A version of Aladdin’s “A Whole New World” during Mr. Twelfth-grader Nicholas Blake performs an instrumental violin when he was 4 years old and adoration of music. Blake played aNous were quite proud of him. Blake; both brothers and friends have played and practiced together for the majority of their childhood.

“The hardest thing about playing the violin is keeping quiet, so stick with it.” Blake said.

In regard to what advice he would give to other violinists, “I feel like I am more creative because of playing the violin," Blake said.

Twelfth-grader Nicholas Blake performs an instrumental version of Aladdin’s “A Whole New World” during Mr. Pine View’s annual Mr. Pine View Pageant. Blake has been playing the violin at the age of 4. "I learned to play by ear because of my brother, so sight reading is difficult to me,” Blake said. "I want to try a lot of people can’t do," Blake said.

Not only does Blake enjoy playing, but also the benefits of playing. "I feel like I am more creative because of playing the violin," Blake said.

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Siblings are ‘in tents’ about sailor circus

Ninth- and eleventh-grade siblings have performed in Sailor Circus for five years

by Lea Gordon

Eleventh- and ninth-grade siblings Grace and Tommy Johnson have been captivating crowds with the Sailor Circus Academy for the past five years, dedicating more than six hours to the artistic sport per week. After participating at a summer camp held at the academy in 2013, the Johnsons joined America’s oldest youth circus program.

After being founded in 1940, the Sailor Circus Academy has been a cornerstone in the academic and athletic endeavors of its members. The program is aimed at developing life management skills, gain self-discipline and bolster a commitment to achievement, all in a circus atmosphere.

Grace and Tommy Johnson have been a part of the program since elementary school and are amazing athletes. Their dedication and drive is certainly something to look up to. Tommy said there have been many benefits to being a part of the circus. “My favorite thing about circus is that it teaches you so many different things that are extremely important, such as public speaking skills, conquering stage fright, hand-eye coordination and strength, all put together,” Tommy said. “It was like I was living a dream.”

Grace and Tommy have been captivating crowds with their unique and creative performances. This past summer, the siblings participated in a trip to the National Mall, where they performed at the National Mall for ten days. Grace and Tommy were chosen as two of the 20 Sailor Circus students asked to perform at the event, participating in daily events for the entire span of the trip. “I got to make friends with so many other kids from other circus programs, and it was really incredible to see and work with them on the equipment while sharing tricks with them. All together, it was incredible. It was like I was being a hero,” Grace said.

Tommy said there have been so many things I’ve learned on the trip. “I feel so empowered when I can sit back and say, ‘I can do that,’ no matter the circumstances needed to accomplish it,” Tommy Johnson, grade 11, said. Grace Johnson, grade 11, echoed this sentiment. “I feel so empowered the day after, I feel so empowered even owning, directing and performing in her own circus. Tommy also hopes to continue circus throughout school and possibly as a career. For now, Tommy and Grace plan on enjoying their time at the Sailor Circus before they graduate.
The Pine View Lady Pythons volleyball team clinched its third straight state title last Friday at the Sarasota County Middle School Volleyball Championships. The Lady Pythons beat the Woodland Lady Cougars’ volleyball team “set” into first place in the semifinals, with a score of 25 to 12. This kicked the Woodland Cougars out of the competition and placed the Pine View Pythons in the championship game.

In the final game, the Lady Pythons took on the Venice Crusaders for the second time since the season concluded. With Flaherty providing the first serve of the championship, the game started with a strong lead in favor of the Lady Pythons. The girls bounced the Venice Crusaders with an astonishing lead of 25 to 12. In the last game of the season, the Lady Pythons claimed their county title with a score of 25 to 17.

Eighth-grader Alek Ros- nen said, "My favorite part of the game was the celebration. The final game was so much bigger, and there were more people inside, and it was such a good team. I think we played our best game."

In the semifinals, the Pine View Lady Pythons dominated the Woodland Lady Cougars’ volleyball team. The Lady Pythons dominated with a series of aces, blocks and spikes. The Pythons hit the match with a final score of 25 to 14 in the first match.

Eighth-grader Analee Mo- ren said, "We work well as a team, and over all I think we played our strongest game."
Ninth-grader Kassie Cross pitches the ball at a game in Clearwater. PHOTO PROVIDED BY KASSIE CROSS

A leader,“ Tomas Travnicek, a

The Torch Trials: Pinterest Water Challenge by Haleigh Brown Match Editor-in-Chief

Starting off playing for the Desert Boul-

ted into various tournament teams, theoretical work, as well as fine
seasonal produce, prime cuts of meat and seafood,

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

PHOTO PROVIDED BY KASSIE CROSS

PHOTO PROVIDED BY KASSIE CROSS

Like any sport, softball takes a lot of time and prac-

to get your energy going. I could feel the

to keep their users fit and happy. But how

to- go items, as well as fine

Sarasota Boys until she was 12 years old as the

Soccer is a way to get away from

24-ounce water bottle in under five minutes

Today, the first thing I did when I

Day 5

Recently, Cross has taken part in many soccer

Day six is complete and I have around

Day 6

I had to be in full time school work

Day 3

Any day was coming to a close, I realized that I had

Day 1

Some positive effects.

Day 2

Some positive effects.

Day 1

I also noticed that I barely go to the cupboard at

I feel more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 6

I feel more awake, fuller for longer, and my skin feels

Day 6

I waited to drink my water until after the

Day 5

I consecutively drank my water and started to

Day 4

During the 2016 Capital Area Soccer League

Day 3

Cross’s love for softball is evident, and her

Day 2

I could feel the need to drink water

Day 4

I know my body had become dependent

Day 4

I used to be strict on

Day 3

Keeping water intake.

Day 2

I was able to finish my workout at the

Day 1

It helps release tension, and it’s very

Day 1

It helps release tension, and it’s very

Day 1

It was as if my body

Day 1

I feel like I have

Day 1

I am going to miss it.

Day 3

I can honestly say I am going to

Day 1

Before this day, drinking all my water was a

Day 1

I feel like I have

Day 3

I feel more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 2

I used to be strict on

Day 2

I feel more awake, fuller for longer, and my skin feels

Day 4

Having ice cold water gave myself

Day 5

I was able to finish my workout at the

Day 4

I used to be strict on

Day 4

I could feel the need to drink water

Day 5

I used to be strict on

Day 5

I feel like I have

Day 3

I feel like I have

Day 3

I am going to miss it.

Day 1

I can honestly say I am going to

Day 2

I used to be strict on

Day 2

I feel like I have

Day 1

I can honestly say I am going to

Day 1

I used to be strict on

Day 1

I feel like I have

Day 1

I can honestly say I am going to

Day 1

I feel more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 2

I felt more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 6

I feel more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 5

I feel more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 4

I feel more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 3

I felt more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 2

I felt more awake, fuller for longer,

Day 1

I felt more awake, fuller for longer,

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Day 1

I felt more awake, fuller for longer,
Hallie Schiffman sails international waters
Twelfth-grader competes in the Laser World Sailing Championships

By Sana Rahman
Editor-in-Chief

Sailing competitively for the past seven years and receiving numerous international awards, twelfth-grader Hallie Schiffman continues to add to her list of accomplishments. Schiffman competed with the Olympic Development Team at the U21 Laser World Championships, in Belgium, and at the U19 Laser World Championships, in Netherlands, where she received 13th place.

According to Schiffman, at the age of 10, after reading “Deep Blue,” by Jessica Watson, a novel in which the protagonist embarks upon a solo worldwide sailing expedition, Schiffman was inspired to sail around the world. Unable to do so, she decided to do the next best thing — sail her own sailboat.

When first starting her competitive sailing, Schiffman was a member of the Sarasota Youth Sailing Team. After realizing she wanted to compete at a higher level, she switched to practice with the Lauderdale Yacht Club. Every weekend, Schiffman trains with the Lauderdale Yacht Club, staying in Fort Lauderdale for practices. This occurs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday. “They have better coaches, conditions and sailors, so being in that type of environment really helped me improve,” Schiffman said.

Aside from training with the Lauderdale Yacht Club, Schiffman has also competed on several national teams. Every year, Olympic Development with the Olympic Development Team. This past summer in Europe.

“People have watching seats, so when I started during fourth grade, I was asked to attend one of their camps,” Schiffman said. “I learned things in her performances that I got involved with the camps in the spring of 2014, Schiffman was then invited to be one of the three youth females on the Olympic Development Team. As Schiffman gets older, she is starting to transition out of the Olympic Development Team and into the Senior National Team, in which she will compete with people in their 20s. On average, Schiffman attends camps for both teams once every two months.

With 36 hours of practice each week and traveling nationwide for one-week training camps, Schiffman has learned how to balance both school work and sailing. “When I get off the water, I have to do my homework and same thing when I’m flying,” Schiffman said. “It’s something I’ve worked on since I was younger because I used to be really bad with procrastination.” According to Schiffman, despite the long and hard hours she has to practice, the memories she makes with her teammates and coaches make all the stress worth it.

As a member of the Olympic Development Team, this past summer Schiffman went to Belgium for the U21 Laser World Championships and Netherlands for the U19 Laser World Championships. At these events she raced with laser radial boats, a boat designed for competitive sailing, Schiffman has learned how to balance both school work and sailing.

“Even within my team, although we all compete against each other, there’s a good team dynamic and it’s almost like a family,” Schiffman said. Over the years, Schiffman has discovered what works best for her to have a strong competition mentality. “I used to be really strict with myself on these international trips thinking that I was only here for sailing and not sightseeing, but then I realized that I would go to events and not do well,” she said. “Now, I make sure to have fun and enjoy myself as well as compete.

Currently on the Olympic Development Team, the next step for Schiffman will be to obtain one of the three spots on the Senior National Team. On this team she will have the opportunity to compete for the one spot in the 2020 Olympics. At the time of press, Schiffman had received numerous recruitment offers from colleges where she hopes to sail and get training to aid in her Olympic aspirations.

“Hallie’s always been on the top of the fleet working harder than everyone else,” Lucas Sawin, teammate said.

At these events she raced with laser radial boats, a boat designed for competitive sailing, against competitors from 48 other countries. Although not completely satisfied with her performance in Belgium, coming in 13th in Netherlands was a personal best for Schiffman. “I used to be really strict with myself on these international trips thinking that I was only here for sailing and not sightseeing, but then I realized that I would go to events and not do well,” she said. “Now, I make sure to have fun and enjoy myself as well as compete.”

Beautiful Smiles for a Lifetime

Nitin Sallapudi, DDS, MSD
Board Certified Orthodontist

www.crossbite.com

Editor’s Note

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY HALLIE SCHIFFMAN

TOP LEFT: Twelfth-grader Hallie Schiffman is shown representing United States of America in the sail marked USA. TOP RIGHT: Schiffman is shown sailing toward the top course mark at worlds this past summer in Europe. BOTTOM LEFT: Schiffman changes directions, also known as tacking, to avoid sailing into the wind. BOTTOM RIGHT: Schiffman rounds the course mark.
**Humor**

The Torch

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

**Underclassmen host senior college forum**

By Suzanne Brown

As senior forum approaches,Need students, funded by Suzanne Brown. This year, underclassmen are planning to host a senior college forum. As seniors prepare to leave campus, they aim to offer valuable advice to younger students about the college application process. Recently, underclassmen have begun a new initiative to aid seniors in the painful application process. PHOTO BY ALICE GREGG.

**New changes to campus security actually implemented to keep students from escaping**

By Zach Bright

With Editor-in-Chief

There is a crisis at hand that is unfortunately not receiving the attention it deserves. It’s not what Hurricane Mary did to Port Ricky. It’s not yet that thing that Mickey Mouse said about the gaps in the football team. It’s the lack of tissues in classrooms here at Pine View.

You might think, “Oh wow, typical Torch kids, reprinting their liberal agenda in poorly-sourced articles and copy, but I’m born to tell you that this time issue affects everyone. And so, you can’t see your paper as a solution. Recent reports have revealed that some classrooms here at Pine View have one tissue box, forcing students who need them to search all the way across the campus to a single, inconspicuous room to the back.

“Have you ever been in class before and suddenly you feel your nose getting runny? You turn to the left and to the right, desperately searching for a Kleenex to ease the fluid gushing from your nose,” eleventh-grader Litty Gator decried. “Believe me, I’ve done it only twice box is all the way across the room. You try to pick it up, but the noise produced draws stares from your peers as your teacher glares. The situation is hopeless.”

This problem is exacerbated by the fact that this singular tissue place is most often placed on the teacher’s desk, a largely inaccessible location for students, as they will have to look their superiors face-to-face in the event of a runny nose.

For whatever reason, teachers seem to think that they’re the only ones who put stuffy noses to the back of the room. The hundreds of kids they teach,” Litty Gator, an attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union “This issue affects accessibility to tissues in your classroom.”

This means that students have to walk up to the front of the class and blow their nose in front of all their peers as their teacher sneakily asks them if they’re “OK.”

It’s the nastiest that it gets.

“Yale is unfortunately not receiving the attention it deserves. It’s not what Hurricane Mary did to Port Ricky. It’s not yet that thing that Mickey Mouse said about the gaps in the football team. It’s the lack of tissues in classrooms here at Pine View. New Pine View security on campus has led to exposure of a new reality: measures are to retain students rather than deter intruders. Angry Floridian screams at the ever-persisting summer weather

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Litty Gator

Civil liberties attorney

**Unnecessary issues with Kleenex accessibility affect every classroom here and now.**

“Recently, underclassmen have begun a new initiative to aid seniors in the painful application process. PHOTO BY ALLIE ODISHELIDZE.

**If I can pass down at least one piece of valuable advice to the twelfth-graders, I’ve done my job.**

Hansom Dan
grade 9

**Begone snot: the tissue issue**

By Zach Bright

With Editor-in-Chief

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"Tis the season for college decisions and dreaded rejection. As a senior at Pine View I have seen my friends continue onto college — many to elite institutions. I was there the night the former Torch Editor-in-Chief and true queen, Marinna Okawa, was accepted to Harvard. Seeing their successes has made me excited and anticipatory of my own college applications process. I have submitted my first round of apps and I have one thing to say — you may be excited now, but you are not ready for the interrogation by any person you meet ever to ask about college. As soon as you reach the last year of high school, any person you meet in any situation will ask you about college plans. This is quite possibly one of the most awkward situations possible.

Following general greeting and introduction, as soon as someone realizes you have entered the Final Stage of your high school adventure they immediately ask the stress-inducing, “So where are you going to college?” Not only do most of the people you encounter inevitably not understand the college decision process — namely that decisions are not yet released — you also are stuck listing off the schools to which you are applying. As someone who is applying to 11 schools, three of which are not in the United States, rattle off a list of schools is a chore. The amount of times I have repeated my list currently numbers in the hundreds. Not only does a diverse school list become a nuisance, the very act of naming a highbrow school invites an inundation of commentary on the choice. “Wow! You’re applying there? My dad went there!” and “That’s your top choice? It’s pretty hard to get into right?” and “Won’t that bother your mom? Having you so far away?” These questions have become the soundtrack behind my existence for the past six months. Admittedly, this column is fully just a list of complaints. However, as someone who will not know where I am attending college until approximately April, I have one request of the general population. Please do not ask where I am attending college until after I am done facing the inevitable crushing depression of rejection. Once I know, I will proudly announce it. My Nissan Altima will have a bumper sticker. I will walk around entirely clad in merch. It will be apparent.

College applications: a tale of crushing self-doubt

Allie Odishelidze, Humor Editor

Please do not ask where I am attending college until after I am done facing the inevitable crushing depression of rejection.

[meme of the month]

When the vitamin gummies kick in

When you’ve lived for many years

Typically this publication features popular memes, relevant at the time of authoring and endlessly relatable. These memes typically come from Twitter and spread from there. This month’s meme is in fact an entire genre of meme. Surrealist memes saw their beginnings in the golden age of internet memes. Beginning before ever rage comics were a popular trend, surrealists are a subgenre of ironies. Memes. The humor of these memes is drawn from the absurdity of the content. The humor behind these memes is hard to explain — it is best to observe.

[Tag Urself: Pine View edition]

When you’ve lived for many years

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY VARIOUS SOCIAL MEDIA

GRAPHIC BY ZACH BRIGHT

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[Tag Urself: Pine View edition]

Parking Lot
- tries to bring 11 items in a 10 items or less checkout aisle
- only shampoos once a week
- wears crocs

Surf Bench
- drinks red gatorade
- loves the beach
- actually athletic

Pine View Sign
- really stressed
- fueled by energy drinks
- thinks they’re better than everyone else

Bleachers
- forgot how to run
- constantly covered in ants
- is always watching from the sidelines

Portable
- H E C K
- wears shirts backwards
- and inside out
- always sweaty

Community Garden
- only eats organic
- only cooks in the same pot constantly
- that they’re vegan
- flushes toilet once a month to save water

humor
None of the aspects considered address general student contentment, the specific success of programs on campus, or the plethora of other students think college considers when applying to schools.

Ringing in at 125 percent is student selectivity. Schools are permitted to only accept students who meet their criteria. The acceptance rate that makes elite institutions elite is so low due to a significant percentage of the consideration for rankings, student selectivity is arguably the most important. Students apply to institutions based on their acceptance rates.

Schools are also judged based on their financial resources, academics, prestige, and alumni giving rates. These are all components that make a school desirable to a potential student.

The college application process is crucial and many students work towards getting into the best institution chosen by an admissions committee. However, it is one of the few chances students have to shape their own educational experience and potential. It is important that we have the chance to take control of our educational journey.

The college application process should be less about the money and more about the potential experiences. If children are taught that there is a cycle between content that is age-appropriate and content that is not. While I did not subject my children to the pressures of filling out forms faster than I could type, I acknowledge that I did find a year in which I must complete my child’s high school application forms faster than I could type.

Students can be seen as young adults due to the high schools they are attending or the colleges they are applying to. Instead of considering whether or not they were accepted to the school, they are concerned with the school’s ranking, the size of the student body, and the higher acceptance rate. These are all factors that make a school desirable to a potential student.

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Immigrants in office: the presidential problem

By Brianne Nelson

Equipped with an aura of privity to the common man, a presidential candidate with an origin outside the United States commonly fades from the political stage once he or she steps from the public eye. Yet, in various instances throughout its history, world leaders have obtained their citizenship through naturalization. This phenomenon has been observed in specific political climates as a means for career advancement. For the American political elite, the acquisition of citizenship is but one of the many strategies available for assessing political power. This power is often a result of the limited number of individuals who can become president, the requirements of the Electoral College, and the constitutional framework that imposes itself upon the presidential candidate. These factors, coupled with the political landscape, make citizenship an integral component of becoming president.

In the past, the threshold for becoming a master of the world political stage was a significant one. In the 16th century, the Habsburg Empire was the dominant power in Europe, controlling a vast expanse of territory spanning from the Iberian Peninsula to the Ukraine. The empire was led by the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, who was born in Spain but ruled over a diverse array of lands. His ability to maintain control over such a vast empire was due in part to his skill in diplomacy and military strategy. In the 18th century, during the American Revolution, George Washington was pivotal in securing independence for the colonies. His leadership and military prowess were instrumental in gaining the support of the American people and ultimately achieving victory. In the 20th century, Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. were also instrumental in leading the United States during wartime, with FDR serving as a president and FRD Jr. serving as a vice president.

In the 21st century, the process of acquiring citizenship continues to be a significant factor in the political landscape, with a number of cases involving naturalization. For example, in 2016, Hillary Clinton was the Democratic presidential nominee and vice president Joe Biden was the nominee for vice president. Both candidates were naturalized citizens, having obtained their citizenship through naturalization.

In contrast, during the 2016 election, Donald Trump was President-elect, while his running mate, Mike Pence, was the vice president-elect. Both candidates were naturalized citizens, having obtained their citizenship through naturalization.

In the 2020 election, Joe Biden ran for president as a naturalized citizen, while Donald Trump ran for re-election as a naturalized citizen.

In the 2024 election, there are currently no candidates with an origin outside the United States, but it is possible that this will change in future elections.

In conclusion, the acquisition of citizenship is an integral component of becoming president, and it is likely that this trend will continue in future elections. The political landscape is constantly evolving, and it is possible that new candidates may be able to enter the political arena by obtaining citizenship through naturalization. As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, it is possible that future presidents may come from a wider range of backgrounds, including those with origins outside the United States.
Behind the scenes of Mr. and Miss Pine View 2017
by Alexa Malholst
Co-Copy Editor

Every year, two seniors serve as Mr. and Miss Pine View. This year, Chandler Baker was crowned Mr. Pine View and Sophie Goodwin (Miss) took home the title of Miss Pine View. The two were crowned together on the elementary playground. The two were crowned at school.

Mr.: During rehearsals, Harris Merril and Miss: During rehearsals, Lindsay and Harris Lichenstein were crowned Mr. and Miss Pine View.

Did anything interesting happen behind the scenes? Mr.: While rehearsing, Harris Merril fell in love with Miss Pine View.

What is your best memory about these interactions? Mr.: The thing is, spontaneity is something I was never good at. And I never thought I would be overly dramatic. I used to be the person who was always looking for something to do. Now, I’m the person who always wants to try something new. I’ve learned that you can’t always control what happens in your life. Sometimes, things just happen by chance. But that is something I hope to embrace more.

What do you think people who have never seen these events might think? Mr.: I think that people who have never seen these events might think that they are a waste of time. But that is something I hope to change. I think that by embracing spontaneity and being open to new experiences, you can find joy in unexpected places.

What would you do for fun this weekend? Mr.: I would take a walk in the park or go out for dinner.

What would you do for fun this weekend? Miss: I would read a book or watch a movie.

Being someone who constantly feels the need to work, study, read or feel accomplished, in the future, what can you do to change this mental pattern and harness my own potential? Mr.: I am completely honest with you, there is no de

Baker often looks back on her experiences at Pine View and how they have shaped her life. "I was taught by teachers who knew their subject matter and who were passionate about teaching. They made learning fun and engaging," she said. "I feel so lucky to have had these experiences at Pine View, it has truly shaped who I am today."