The Torch reflects on the Parkland shooting

by Elizabeth Hopkins

On Feb. 14 of last year, a gunman opened fire on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., taking the lives of 17 students and staff members, along with injuring 17 others. Following the deadly attack, survivors of the mass shooting demanded action from Florida’s legislature, spark plugging a movement through the formation of Never Again MSD. This serves as a political action committee advocating for strengthening gun regulations.

With waves of student-lead activism, all eyes were on Florida, as the national conversation swung toward gun control. Even at Pine View, a mass school walkout transpired March 14 last year. In response to the public pressure, the Republican-dominated Florida legislature ultimately produced the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Act.

The wide-ranging law requires, among numerous measures, school districts to provide at least one safety officer on all campuses. More information regarding the law’s impact on schools is detailed in the attached graphic on page two.

Following the passage of the new law, the Sarasota County School District recently released a five-point plan to bolster security and safety practices. The measures included initiatives for the law enforcement staffing of schools, as well as structural security upgrades.

In years past, the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office, along with local municipal police departments, shared the cost of providing school resource officers to the county’s public middle and high schools.

The Torch reflects on the Parkland shooting

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Public Safety Act

The legislation sets parameters to other access to firearms for those suffering from mental illnesses.

Additionally, the Act increases safety in schools by requiring each facility to assess campus vulnerabilities and have an assigned campus safety officer, as well as other safety staff.

The legal age to own firearms is raised to 21, and background checks for obtaining weapons are now complete.

Use the free app Snap-Chat (available for iPhone and Android) to scan the QR code below to complete the PV Torch crossword. The first person to do so will win a $10 gift card to Starbucks.
Alumni’s company furthers fertilizers culture.

Even as the company evolved, the company stayed true to its mission and its vision: “to grow its business and its mission: “to grow and improve agriculture,” and its mission: “to grow and improve agriculture.” The company offers product-friendly fertilizers, organic materials, and other products to be delivered on time. The company has won numerous awards, including the Environmental Stewardship Award and the Florida State Governor’s STEM award, and has been inducted into the Space Tech Hall of Fame last year. The company’s STEM Night will return in future years.

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FBLA club advances to state competition

The rebooted club achieves success, with eight members winning first

by Ella Hechlik
Web Editor-in-Chief

Pine View’s Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) club recently advanced to the state competition after 14 out of 24 members qualified in the district competition Jan. 12. The district competition was comprised of over 120 individuals participating from different high schools in the area. States will be in Orlando March 22 to 25.

Because of its status as a national organization, district FBLA competitions are divided into specific counties across the nation. Pine View’s district competition took place at Southeast High School in Bradenton and consisted of multiple counties in the surrounding area including Manatee, Desoto and Sarasota.

After an extended absence, the club was rebooted last school year by eleventh-grader and FBLA president Christiana Guan. The club is sponsored by English teacher Desiree Schell. “Last year mostly consisted of member recruitment, so this year is the official start,” Guan said. Leading up to districts, each club member studied individually for their specific event in the competition. Meetings consisted mostly of updates, fundraisers, discussing ideas and hearing from different speakers about running businesses and furthering their careers.

Students selected specific events they wanted to compete in — ranging from testing, performing, speaking, advertising and specializing in specific fields. Many of the events are completed at the actual competition, such as the performance and speech events, while others are finished beforehand and graded at the competitions, such as testing events. “Half of the events are directly related to business, but there are multiple fields to compete in such as graphic design, journalism or political science,” Guan said.

There is a lot of competencies that include specific details on the FBLA website, and members are expected to self-study through the internet and textbooks that are available. “I was really surprised and excited by how well we did considering it was our first conference,” Guan said. Medals are awarded for first, second and third place winners and ribbons are handed out to victors placing after. “It was really nice to see the entire club get together and compete. Many students qualified for states, and everyone is looking forward to the next competition” eleventh-grader and FBLA vice president Kris Selberg said.
Students place at Florida State Fair Art Portfolio Competition

Student at Florida State Fair Art Portfolio Competition

buildOn hosts the first Pine View Family Movie Night

In an effort to raise money to build a primary school in Malawi, Pine View's chapter of buildOn showcased Disney's 'Coco' Jan. 18 on the quad for the family and supporters of the cause.

According to Bodor, she never saw her artwork as a career, but she believes that it will be a lifelong passion she will carry out in her surroundings. "I do it for myself, to help stop it yourself. We're all a school family, all of us. Our cause is reporting instances of self-harm and getting someone who could help, or trying to help stop it yourself. We'd carry out being of what was created by this foundation after Sandy Hook because that could have been prevented," class of 2020 president Damaris Mohoroff said.

Senior class officers welcomed guests to the families who attended the movie night. Disney movie "Coco," guests could purchase popcorn, deserts, and drinking goods. sakara and consists of different types of beads and desserts to the families who attended the movie night. The event took place Jan. 7 through the "See Something, Say Something" event by the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation, which is reporting instances of self-harm and getting someone who could help, or trying to help stop it yourself. We'd carry out being of what was created by this foundation after Sandy Hook because that could have been prevented," class of 2020 president Damaris Mohoroff said. Class officers and students alike worked together to create a series of presentations, including a magical showing of Disney's Coco Jan. 18 on the quad.

The event began at 5 p.m., allowing guests to mingle before settling into the movie at 6 p.m. The club hosted the fundraiser in an effort to raise money to build a primary school in Malawi, Africa. Upon entering the event, guests were asked to donate $10 to go towards the cause.

The family movie night event, high school buildOn members met their goal of raising $30,000 to build a school in Malawi. Members are continuing to hold fundraisers for travel expenses of those making the trip to the first school that will be using the brainstorming more ideas to afford the fifth-grade teachers hosted five years ago, the club’s event was just as successful. "The STEM movie night" was a great event and club member Linda Lauer said. "I'm very open to critiques and suggestions for improvement." Bodor has won Scholastic Art and Writing medals in the past, but placing in the Florida State Fair Art Portfolio Competition, considering its selectivity, marks a particularly accommodative achievement. "It was very surprised and glad to be chosen as an exhibitor. I didn't think I'd have a chance in a statewide competition," Bodor said.

Bodor created art pieces Bodor didn't think of it as her mother's craft supplies. When she was playing with wire at the age of 9 or 10 Bodor began working. Her most dramatic improvement in her artwork. "I used to do a lot of wire art then, but the habit stuck with me," Bodor said. "I do it for myself, to help stop it yourself. We're all a school family, all of us. Our cause is reporting instances of self-harm and getting someone who could help, or trying to help stop it yourself. We'd carry out being of what was created by this foundation after Sandy Hook because that could have been prevented," class of 2020 president Damaris Mohoroff said. Class officers and students alike worked together to create a series of presentations, including a magical showing of Disney's Coco Jan. 18 on the quad.

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ADVEX returns in honor of 50th anniversary

by Tricia Saputra
News Editor

From rollerskating to acting, students in grades two through eight had the opportunity to venture into new explorations during ADVEX Day Jan. 17. Incorporating its goal to "advance and explore" into the name, the unique Pine View tradition was brought back to celebrate the school’s 50th anniversary. Teachers were able to share their passions outside of class with students of different grades through activities such as kite surfing and quilting.

ADVEX was originally implemented at Pine View by founding Principal John D. Woolever in 1969. "It was a chance to explore and open yourself up to new ideas and new possibilities," Pine View Association (PVA) president and alumna Ben Turoff said.

Longtime Spanish teacher Patti Gerlek said, “For example, I am a Spanish teacher, but I also taught calligraphy. And you might not know that I did calligraphy, but that’s just another part of myself that I would expose to the students to get them to know me in a different way other than just a Spanish teacher.”

The day was mainly organized by third-grade teacher and School Events Coordinator Misty Tucak, who had taught ADVEX classes before the tradition stopped due to the increasing number of students and difficulties in scheduling. However, for Pine View’s special 50th anniversary, "The teachers came together and said ‘Let’s do this,’ and we put together what we felt like was a two-period, exciting, fun adventure for every student," Tucak said.

"To accommodate the many students, math teacher David Nezelek helped by creating a computer program for students to list and be assigned to their preferred classes. In the past, teachers worked together to schedule students into their ADVEX classes one by one. Additionally, aide Christa McCarthy helped Tucak find volunteers and create tickets for students to use when entering their respective classes. There was certainly widespread support for ADVEX, as many teachers teamed up to host classes together, providing 54 different subjects to students. Even high school students, who were not available to sign up to take classes, supported the activity, by volunteering to help teachers.

Class of 1980 alumna Jacqui McMick returned to campus as a volunteer for ADVEX, which he experienced during her time at Pine View. "Volunteering for ADVEX is great, it really warms my heart. My mom taught here, and my sister and I went here, and my two sons went here. So all of us have different ADVEX stories, and to recreate this now with the next generation is really great, and I really like it," McMick said.

As a whole, the interactive day was successful and thoroughly enjoyed by many. I did the ‘Puzzling Puzzles’ class, and it was rather challenging. I don’t think I could do it again. We had a head start when we were doing the puzzles. We had a head start on these puzzles or not, but there’s been plenty of people to step up to say that they would like to be at an annual event," Tucak said. "I really think this is a great opportunity for gifted students, and that’s what this school is all about.”

PHOTO BY CLYDE MORGAN

TOP: Eighth-grader Cole Nielson displays numerous paper flowers during ADVEX Day Jan. 17. These “Papel Picado” flowers were created in the classrooms of Spanish teachers Judit Pauling and Patricia Zdraievich. BOTTOM: Middle school students began their activity day on Jan. 17. These “Papel Picado” flowers were created during ADVEX Day Jan. 17. These “Papel Picado” flowers were created during ADVEX Day Jan. 17. These “Papel Picado” flowers were created in the classrooms of Spanish teachers Judit Pauling and Patricia Zdraievich.

Check PVtorch.com
Scan this QR code to read the full story about alumnus Jonathan Warren who took the PV50 drone photo on pvtorch.com.
Pine View Robotics sweeps competition
VEX and TSA teams take their robotics skills to the regional competitions

by Sarah Hassan

Watch Layout Article

During the 2018-2019 school year, the Technology Student Association (TSA) and the VEX Robotics Pine View teams flattened opponents, winning numerous awards for their accomplishments at competitions.

TSA

At the regional competition in Bradenton Dec. 1, the Pine View TSA teams received first place for Coding and Prepared Presentations. Due to the limit of three participants per team, TSA members divided into two separate teams. The first-place coding team consisted of ninth-grader Sonica Prakash and twelfth-grader William Giraldo. The second-place team consisted of eighth-grader Uday Goyat and tenth-grader Gatlen Culp.

Sonica Prakash said, "We had to think of a way to solve all of the solutions combined into one, and everybody has to agree on the same thing." The Pine View TSA club meets every Thursday to discuss upcoming events and to track the progress of each member.

Practice for the regional competition consisted of practicing self-preparation, however, experienced participants like Brice or Discord to communicate with each other. When at home, the individual groups would use programs like Skype or Discord to communicate with each other.

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For the Coding event, the team had to code using knowledge on the topic, so individuals did not need to prepare as much compared to other teams. The competition consisted of practicing problems online that resembled questions posed at the competition. TSA will be competing in a state competition Feb. 27 to Mar. 2 in Orlando.

VEX Robotics

In Orlando on the weekend of Nov. 10 and Dec. 8, Pine View’s two VEX robotics teams won a total of four awards for their competitions. At the first competition, twelfth-grader Lucas Giffard’s team, 2120 (eighth-grader Claire Wang, ninth-grader Brennan Halcomb and twelfth-grader Ben Hostetler) won the Create Awards.

At the same competition, twelfth-grader Alex Lindsay’s team, 212B (twelfth-graders William Giraldo, Joshua Perna and Matthew Vaccaro) won the Design Award. At the second competition, team 2128 was the Design Award again and the Judges Award. Both TSA teams also qualified for the CREATE U.S. Open Robotics Championships.

The two leaders prepared for the competitions by practicing after school in engineering teacher and robotics club sponsor Brett Wormington’s classroom to keep their engineering skills in check. On Jan. 19, the VEX 212B team won the Excellence and Tournament Awards at a competition in Lakewood Ranch, allowing the team to enter the state competition.

Talking Hues: A Colorful twist on psychology

by Isabella Gaskill

As an object may be immediately categorized as powerful and intense. According to the study of psychology has backed the human brain is a deep science, so be sure to pay more attention to the way colors influence everyday life.

The main deciding factor of this is how people associate certain colors with certain emotions, such as blue with sadness and yellow with happiness. This area of psychology has backed up preconceived notions of what colors mean. Red, for instance, is often described as powerful and intense.

The study of color psychology provides a deeper look into the influence of shades on emotions and decisions. Color, or psychology, is where the impact of how pigments on our ad

Red

Elev's feelings of happiness, intensity, excitement and arousal.

Yellow

Elev's feelings of optimism, urgency, increased appetite and relaxation.

Blue

Elev's feelings of trustworthiness, comfort, and assurance.

Green

Elev's feelings of harmony, natural, safety and reliability.

White

Elev's feelings of trustworthiness, comfort, and assurance.

New Cabinetry

Chemical-resistant floors and counter tops

New portable lab tables and clerks

Drying racks

Karma Vue in some classrooms

Lockers replaced with chemistry storage room

Delonized water stations

Pull-down electrical cords

Improved internet connection

What’s New in High School Science?

What do the teachers think?

“Biggest impact is the flexibility. We can change things around depending on what we are doing that day.”
- Rogel Segel, physics teacher

“One of the biggest impacts is space with more area, more workspace, more tables around to make labs more productive. It’s a clean-up more efficient and safe so we have more space.”
- Rebecca Kehler, biology teacher

“The camaraderie between my colleagues is greatly improved. Everyone morning we come to work and we all motivate each other.”
- Angela Kelper-Wilson, biology teacher

"The main deciding factor of this is how people associate certain colors with certain emotions, such as blue with sadness and yellow with happiness. This area of psychology has backed up preconceived notions of what colors mean. Red, for instance, is often described as powerful and intense. According to researchers, the impact of color often goes unnoticed daily life, yet despite its prevalence, the impact of color often goes unnoticed. Walking through the mall or down the street, the human eye is bombarded by colors, bright yellow and vibrant blues from every direction. This constant exposure of different pigments popping up everywhere can have an impact on emotions and decisions. Color, or psychology, is the study of how pigments on our ad

Red also encourages consumers to purchase products.

For example, blue is often utilized by banks and other companies that require the trust of the client to illicit feelings of comfort and assurance. On the opposite side of the spectrum, red is often used on advertisement signs to encourage consumers to take action. Red is also often used on advertisement signs to encourage consumers to purchase products.
Student dances through the drama
Tenth-grader brings beauty to her life through the art of dance

by Kasumi Wade
Sports Editor

Moving with both practice and poise, tenth-grader Marielle Newmark has been a dedicated dancer since the young age of five, and has continued to refine her grace with her craft for the past 11 years. In her mother’s footsteps, Newmark first began to pursue dance through dance classes after showing an interest in the art at an early age. Newmark’s mother, Lauraine Newmark, danced when she was younger, and decided to sign her daughter up after watching the enthusiasm she had for the art of movement. “Mari’s passion for dance started when she was born, I think she felt inside, ‘Why walk when you can dance?’” Lauraine Newmark said.

While Marielle was once part of the competition team, due to the hard balance between school, dance and extracurriculars, she no longer competes. According to Newmark, competing was simply too intense. By practicing dance for her own good and not for her competitors and judges, she no longer has to restrict herself from fully loving the art of dance. Newmark explains that she has been pursuing her dance career at the Ovation School of Musical Theatre in Lakewood Ranch, Fla. She trains three days a week for an hour in acrobatics, jazz, hip hop and lyrical. Now performing in two shows a year at Riverview High School, Newmark rehearses several group dances and solos to showcase in the re- citals.

When performances are approaching, practice schedules become more rigorous, which is well worth it to Newmark. “Show days are my favorite because my teammates and I finally get to put our hard work and preparation to the test,” Newmark said.

According to Newmark, her dance coach, Kate Kulik, has truly been an inspiration, helping to deepen her interest and to become more invested in dance. Kulik said, “She’s an amazing dancer who really excels in all genres of dance. She’s one of the best students I teach because she’s really passionate about the art of dance.”

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Newmark plans to continue dancing well into the future, as it is an important part of her life. “The feeling I get when dancing is amazing... Even when times have gotten hard with family, friends and drama, it has always been something I could fall back on and always been there for me,” Newmark said.
The Tortoise
Friday, February 8, 2019

GRAPHS BY ARVIND SILAKAI AND ZOE HERBERT

Escape Countdown
by Ron Gordon
Sci & Tech Editor

Puzzling teenagers, friends and families alike, Escape Countdown has been challenging Sarasota's most adventurous since 1999. Each of the five escape rooms hold unique mysteries and clues that will lead to the guests’ hopeful escape from the room. Guests must complete all of the puzzles and find all of the clues before 60 minutes goes by. If they are unable to finish the room in 60 minutes, they lose the challenge.

Upon entering the room, guests are greeted by a staff member who guides them through the experience. A staff member at each room provides details and strategies for each room. Participants are asked to place all of their personal belongings in lockers, including cell phones and bags. Guests may choose to play with their cell phones with them, but if a staff member catches them looking at their phone, five minutes are deducted from the 60-minute time limit. Further along the hallway are the escape rooms, each with doors that lead to mysterious worlds inside.

In the “Trouble in Paradise” room, 5 hurricanes are pounding towards Siesta Key Beach. Guests find themselves in a room named Fiji and this hall of doors that lead to mysterious worlds inside.

In the “Mad Hatter” room, the Mad Hatter is planning a tea party. Guests find themselves in a room named Fiji and this hall of doors that lead to mysterious worlds inside.

Put everything into consideration, but make time to spend an hour with friends and family. The price may be a little high, but the experience is well worth the price and is surely worth the price.

Escape Countdown has three escape rooms available for parties and virtual reality experiences.

Escape Reality
by Haleigh Brown
Asst. Editor-In-Chief

Entering Escape Reality, one is immediately faced with a real life projection of their imagination. Welcoming you is a waiting room filled with retro lockers and a random assortment of decor living the walls, the facility’s electric energy resembles the excitement of its escape rooms.

In the center of the waiting area, there are three options of escape rooms along the border, a bar comprised of light drinks and snacks, as well as a special place to use the restroom. By entering one of the virtual reality experiences:

In a typical escape room, a group is locked into a themed room for an hour and must solve puzzles to unlock the door. Escape Reality provides each group with a walkable-talkie to communicate with staff members. Puzzles include decoding locks, finding secret passageways, as well as understanding hints.

The three options for themes include Corporate Spy, De-scent into Madness and Mafia Mayhem. Each are comprised of one room, except for Corporate Spy, which is comprised of two rooms. The price allows one to be based off of Dunder Mifflin. The popular TV show “The Office” or Initech, based off the 1999 movie “Office Space.” After one finishes their room, they gather with their party and are given a large assortment of light drinks and snacks to enjoy before the staff snaps a picture of you to document the experience.

Opening its doors Labor Day of 2016, Escape Reality has now recently started offering a space for virtual reality where they provide two escape experiences: Escape the Pyramid and Goblin’s Quest. Each room is $27 per person, whereas virtual reality costs $30 per person. Both options offer a maximum of up to eight people.

Escape Reality also offers options for parties, with the main space located in the back, decorated with unique pieces. From sparkling sheaths to the walls to multicolored life-sized statues spanning the top, the room carries a retro vibe throughout the space. The area is comprised of the virtual reality setup at one end, with booth seating on the opposite. Many games, such as air hockey and gi- ant Jenga, are offered as well as several be- autiful board games. If one would like to book off the space for $32 a person, this comes with two pizzas and a drink for each guest, along with a karaoke and the entire game space.

Escape Reality offers a unique experience like no other with the dedication to their roles as actors in the escape rooms, compliments to the retro and eclectic decor, allowing one to feel like they have actually es- cape.“The Escape Room”: the movie
by Brianna Nelson
Entertainment

If there is one thing the horror genre and the film industry as a whole have showed, it is that pop culture rarely inspires good movies. Although I came into “Escape Room” with low expectations, it was surprisingly good. “Escape Room” tells the story of a group of friends forced to spend an hour and a half. However, with its main drawbacks falling on a lack of substance and plot-filled plot, the film will fade as another fad production unlike its physical counterparts across the country.

“Escape Room,” directed by Adam Robitel, is a thriller-horror film based around six strangers being roped into a series of deadly escape rooms for a cash prize. The movie throws the characters into various deadly scenarios while allowing us to learn more about the protagonists and their pasts. The plot is sometimes hard to follow, and the acting is often mediocre. However, despite its flaws, “Escape Room” is worth a watch for its thrilling se- quences and horror elements. The movie does an excellent job of building suspense and tension, which propels the audience through the film.

The storyline of the entire horror genre is the seemingly never ending parade of bad choices made by the main characters. “Escape Room,” however, avoids falling into the pitfalls that plague young adult horror fare. Unlike other movies, the characters have genuine thought processes that you can follow. Even though most of the charac- ters become irritating by the end of the movie, at least the audience is able to take some satisfaction from seeing the main character’s head explode due to unnecessary rudeness.

A personal favorite aspect of this movie is the way it handles the thrill and horror. Instead of endlessly relying on gore and similar clichés to incite fear in the audience, “Escape Room” is Hartley a deliberate approach in the portrayal of its horror-thriller title. The movie uses quick cuts and other editing to skirt having to show other horror clichés.

Despite its drawbacks, “Escape Room” has definite positives. One of the primary aspects of the film that keeps the viewer intrigued is the elaborate set design. Every single scene is brought to life with the attention to detail in every escape room. One thing the audience will probably notice is how every room is a giant practical effect, and the effort placed into every shot is palpable. It’s a delight for the eyes and honestly the strongest facet of the film.

If you’re looking for something better.

Though the movie is visually ap- palling and thrilling, its lack of inno- vation and the generic plot sours the end of the movie. It’s disappointing, because the movie has potential and the budget to be something better.

Rating: 3/5 Torches

Check out PVTorch.com
Scan this QR code to read Brianna’s latest blog review of Bandersnatch on our website.
Pine View is a colorful community, cultivating generations of future leaders and bright minds. Its history is rooted in a high success rate, beautiful campus, and an unrelenting commitment to education. Nonetheless, what truly pulls Pine View together is the staff and student body. The drive and dedication shown by all who step foot on the current campus reflects a tradition of excellence, first established in 1969. This year we celebrate 50 years of Pine View, and the Torch invites you to venture back to the early 70’s when the school was still taking root near current-day Alta-Vista Elementary School.
Pine View is established by its first principal, John D. Woolever.

The first Cobalt is held in the spring, getting its name from being held in the science lab.

Pine View moves to the new campus in January.

Mrs. Shea creates the first third grade sleepover.

Dr. Stephen Covert replaces former principal Steven Largo.

High School Spirit Week begins in February.

Pine View celebrates its fiftieth anniversary.
Kennon McCaa, an experienced tutor and former high school math teacher, has just opened Transformative Tutoring in Osprey. He has already helped his 12-year-old score 760/800 on the SAT®, a high school junior score 750/800 on his first SAT®, and a high school senior improve her SAT® score by 120 points to earn a Bright Futures Scholarship. He can probably help you, too!

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Kennon McCaa, M.Ed
Pine View Parent | Former HS Math Teacher | Lifelong Math Enthusiast

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In the absence of LeBron James, the Cleveland Cavaliers have clearly been crushed by their former glory. No longer are they the team to beat in the East conference, and more teams have stepped into the void left by James' departure: Easterners now vie to take their shot at a championship. James in the West adds another dimension to the game, looking to make a break in the opened-up conference.

Who will finish where this season? — Staffer outlines NBA predictions

Torch makes its hoops hypotheses

By Manny Rea
Managing Editor

Only a year through the National Basketball Asso-
ciation (NBA) 2018-2019 season, it's still tough to call a change in the tide of war. A season riddled with passionate games and predictable wins, the contra-
diction makes for what can be either an aggravating or a fruitful season for basketball fans across the globe.

Important dates lie ahead: a trade deadline on Feb. 7 to tester the balance of the league and the All-Star Game on Feb. 17 to represent the culmination of the year's best. Also, as the decade reaches a close, a true end to an era comes with the last of the '98 class grasp-
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izing feud with the Philadelphia 76ers. Joel Embiid, a key villain in the league, threatens the likes of Harden and Lonzo Ball.

Speaking of the Showtime Lakers, the center of this season's stories is LeBron James' outing in Los Ange-
les. What was promised to be a major shakeup in the league has turned into truth as James carries a youthful squad along the West coast. An already stacked team like an unwanted puppy, most of the previous 11th place conference fin-
ishes are remnants of a time ruled by an old thrill. Russell Westbrook and Paul George trance along with the Oklaho-
ma City Thunder, combating not only small defensive and offensive issues along the way but also the antagoniz-
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A Python’s first football game experience

by William Khabbaz

PHOTO BY WILLIAM KHABBAZ

As a proud Python, football games are the last event that would ever be written into my agenda book, well, prior to this winter break, that is. After receiving my acceptance into Syracuse University, I was invited to attend my first college football game in Orlando Dec. 28. The Syracuse Orangemen challenged the West Virginia Mountaineers for the Camping World Bowl Championship.

That was the true essence of fandom and school spirit. I realized that this was the excitement for the Syracuse Orange entering my college and school spirit.

Accompanied by three of my closest friends, we ventured to Orlando to experience the vibrant bowl game. When pulling into the stadium, the buzz of energy induced an abundance of excitement from my friends and I. The first quarter started off slow. Syracuse scored their first points 12 minutes into the game with a 4-yard passing touchdown to running back Abdul Adams, putting them 6 points ahead of the Mountaineers after their previously scored field goal.

The sea of orange went up in a roar; that moment showed me the spirit. It was the true essence of fandom and school spirit.

The game remained heated as the Mountaineers fired back with a touchdown, which the second quarter with a 3-yard run by running back Kennedy McKoy. Even with the opposing team scored, there was still a feeling of joy. The game was filled with so much pride that it eliminated all fears of losing the game. It was a true sign of sportsmanship. I realized that this was just a game and a moment for fans to show their fighting spirit.

The second quarter ended with a field goal from the Mountaineers and another touchdown from the Orange. This left the score at 14-12, giving the Orangemen a two-point lead. The third quarter was the slowest part of the game, both teams only scoring off field goals. By the end of this point in the game, Mountaineers took a one-point lead against the Orangemen.

This is put some in the eyes of the Syracuse section of the crowd. The fourth quarter was the most eventful experience of my life. Within the first five minutes of the last quarter, the Orangemen scored two touchdowns, with a field goal behind them. The sea of orange confetti everywhere and smiles filled the stands. By the end of the game, the Orangemen defeated the Mountaineers 34 to 18. This was my first football game but it definitely won’t be my last. Even though I don’t know much about the sport, I can speak for the spirit that filled my heart with excitement and the willingness to learn.

As a new fan, football games have become a soothing atmosphere. The staff is welcoming with a simplistic design and a sleek equipment. The facility offers a variety of fitness promotes the use of the different aspects of the whole body and helps pinpoint strength.

Mantra Fitness offers a comforting vibe with a simplistic design and a soothing atmosphere. The staff is welcoming with a simplistic design and a sleek equipment. The facility offers a variety of fitness promotes the use of the different aspects of the whole body and helps pinpoint strength.

The Mega-

Finding Fitness

Often dubbed a simple exercise class targeted towards moms and yoga enthusiasts, Pilates serves as an engaging workout that is far from easy. This form of exercise aims to strengthen and stabilize participants—Mantra Fitness in Sarasota fulfills this goal. Founded in 2012 by Kathy Maloy, Mantra Fitness introduced a new option for fitness enthusiasts.

Pilates is a form of exercise that has been around since the early 20th century. The method was invented by Joseph Pilates, who used his knowledge of fitness and strength to develop a workout regimen that has since been incorporated into the Pilates community. While Pilates can be performed on a simple yoga mat, Mantra Fitness promotes the use of the Pilates Reformer platform that slides back and forth. The platform is connected to a series of springs that can be added or subtracted depending on how much resistance is desired. The machines engage the whole body and helps pinpoint which areas of the body need the most improvement.

One of the best things about the Megaformer is the versatility. Exercises can be performed sitting, standing, sideways, lying down, pulling on the hand straps and many other variations. The machine is quite sophisticated, with training many parts of the body using just one piece of sleek equipment.

Mantra Fitness offers a comforting vibe with a simplistic design and a soothing atmosphere. The staff is welcoming to newcomers, fully explaining complex exercises on the Megaformers. frequent visitors also perform the motions for reference to help others decipher the different aspects of the more complicated exercises. The constant motivation and instruction from the trainer greatly improves the entire experience, especially for someone who is new to the Pilates scene.

According to Mantra Fitness employee Caroline Hughes, who just like to work out. It’s fast, effective and a great strengthening workout for athletes or even people who just like to work out. It’s fast, effective and a great alternative to things like running.

PHOTO BY ANNA LABINER

Getting your fit on at Mantra Fitness

PHOTO BY ANNA LABINER

Mantra Fitness employee Caroline Hughes, who has been teaching since injuring her knee at high-intensity running, started Mantra Pilates. Hughes started Pilates after injuring her knee at high-intensity running. She has been teaching Pilates and guarantees a productive experience for athletes or even people who just like to work out.

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Student practices to be on ‘par’ with the pros

by Sarah Catalano
Sci&Tech Editor

From the tee box to tournaments, tenth-grader Lydia Vaccaro has been golfing competitively for eight years. Putting on a variety of courses, Vaccaro takes the game to the max, one swing at a time.

I am currently golfing due to her family’s love of the sport, Vaccaro said. “If they weren’t as into golf as they are, I definitely wouldn’t be as into it. It pushes me to do it a lot more.”

Her brother and father have been large influences on her performance in the sport. Vaccaro’s brother, Matthew, also plays golf and played on the same team as his sister, up until this year. Her father supports her endeavors in golf by acting as her caddy and by cheering her on.

“Lydia, as a player, is stubborn. When she goes out to play, she goes out to win,” Matthew Vaccaro, grade 12, said.

Three to four days a week, Vaccaro practices for at least three hours. She trains with her team, Venice High School, at Pelican Point and Capri Isles, and individually at the Oaks club — playing in nine-hole courses to refine her skills. The players participate in regular drills that improve their game and help build companionship between team members, including putting the ball 3 feet from the hole, 50 times, with one hand and with both hands.

According to Vaccaro, her favorite part of the game is the short game — chipping and putting by the green. This part of the game involves hitting the ball with little force and requires more finesse to navigate the ball into the hole. “It’s something that’s very difficult for people to do when they don’t normally play for so long, so it’s where you get the most points in the game usually,” Vaccaro said.

Tournaments are typically held early in the morning and can last from four to six hours, depending on the number of holes. They often involve shotguns, in which all players tee off at the same time. Vaccaro plays in tournaments with the United States Junior Golf Academy (USJGA) and with the Venice High School girls varsity team. She participates in two tournaments a month for USJGA, and during a six-month season, plays with Venice in three games every week. She scores in the low 80s.

“She’s very positive, she’s very upbeat. The other girls look up to her,” Venice girls varsity golf coach Cary Wilgren said. “She had the best scoring average on the team. She also made it to the regional tournament — she was the only player that did.”

Reaching regional level, alongside her can-do attitude, Vaccaro won MVP of her team for the year. “[The tournament] was really intimidating because everyone was so good, but it was also exhilarating because I was by myself and just going with it.”

During practice about a year ago, Vaccaro shot a hole-in-one, marking one of her proudest moments in golfing. According to golfdigest.com, the odds of an amateur golfer making a hole-in-one are 12,500 to 1. Her role model, Gabrielle Tomeo, was the Florida State Championship winner three years in a row and currently plays for the University of Wisconsin. Like Tomeo, Vac-
The Torch tries reading The Torch: A harrowing adventure of trials and torment

by Melissa Santoyo

Editor-in-Chief

"News is the only thing I'll ever do," Opinion Editor Brianna Nort Noot said. "I know I've griped about the content, tarnishing the fact that one who takes a more conserva-
tive stance is actually willing to write for the paper, as per an internet stage poll."

Editor-in-Chief William Cabbage, one of many, many, many editors within the staff, decided to toss our con-
tent to the URL, Hooplah was released an official statement stating that the CEO of HIFFYA-
AGGI, in an ed. Tynor, has recently gone through bankruptcy and laid off workers, all under his jurisdiction, saying: "We are standing on the shoulder of giants."

The Torch leaves the world of journalism forever. No more pages beyond 12. No more stories about the CEO of HIFFYAGGI. No more issues of the November issue. "I never even knew there was a season," Noot Noot, said. Noot is always on the bottom of page 14, no one actually used him, neither did he appreciate that more, as paid for the news, therefore, let alone money to do so. I can't get up (HIFFYAICGU), my story, now this? Hotdog Ella Eel said. "My girlfriend just broke up with me. I don't need candy hearts but this is just appall-
ing."

"You really love how you just wear aggressive phrases like, "I love you just accept you." You're Dating the I love!"

"I don't even own candy, yuck!"-thirty-second grader Loretta K. Let said. "My mom broke up with me, I don't need a candy heart telling me that my hair isn't doing anything, or even feeling my eyes without being in love."

Playing with valentine's day is ruind.

"Checking on the general public is distraught about the whole situation and everyone is asking the question: Is the heart behind the limits? Luckily, we finally have an answer: candy heart production compa-
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Exposed: Miley Cyrus is actually Hannah Montana

By Dayton Harris
Asst. Entertainment Editor

In an age of commonplace comparison and discernible conclusions, it’s tempting to overlook to find the box and see inside in outraged-far-out ideas. After following a string of fact-to-fact clue, together clues and tips from the anonymous hands, I recently disclosed a comprehensive study that bewildered the entire populace. Factual: Hannah Montana is Actually Miley Cyrus.

While it may seem like an overreached stretch, I believe these points were made by me. For example, during the entire eight seasons of Hannah Montana, Cyrus and Montana were friends, never together or even seen in the same room. This hasn’t been the result of some on-set beef, but instead aims my expectations. The fact that they haven’t washed their hands.

In Season 3, Episode 4 of the famed Disney show, Cyrus and Montana could be found wearing what appear to be exactly the same clothing lines, which appears to be coincidental.

Cyrus’ bathroom etiquette policies are followed every time she uses the bathroom, including walking time, room etiquette policies are followed, many students say it’s blowing off classwork assignment. In terms of bathroom etiquette, this step is always followed, many students say it’s blowing off classwork assignment. In terms of bathroom etiquette, this step is always followed, many students say it’s blowing off classwork assignment.

To maximize their perceived personal hygiene, students also tend to purposefully rubbing their hands together thoroughly, many students say it’s blowing off classwork assignment.

To ensure all bathroom etiquette policies are followed, many students choose to bring a checklist to make sure their hands are thoroughly washed. This makes it easier for them to do their job. According to Gough, a growing number of stude...
Slurring our intentions

by James Kim

Krolik: Chink!

I turned around to face the scarily elementary school that had just been brought to my face.

Go back to China!

I was one of the only kids from around the lunchroom point-

ed and laughed. I clenched my fists. I wanted to call back a

word, but my heart was being eaten out from me.

I knew the significance of the words he used.

Racial slurs were con-

sciousness by myself. Before

when I heard the word within my

away from me, I was now closer

to the lunchroom point-

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and in my own experience,

fifth grade lunch periods. But

it may be a system enforced by

force, not justice. A poll from You-

Gov last year showed that

69% of Americans thought it

was never acceptable for

a white person to use the

word “n-word.”

We’ve lost the original intent of

slurs and are now being

engaged racial racism through fail-

ing decades ago. Our

policy public was expanded

incorrectly.

The “n-word” is not a

slurs are based off negative

impressed, therefore, to try to

reduces inequality.

It’s been

agreed within the govern-

ment that the government

social services and pass laws pro-

tection of minors.

Due to the lack of

users’ privacy in

Facebook, Google, which expanded

to

schools, store personal
data but do not notify

bined data.

In Facebook’s case, when users discover that this content

keeps a copy — saving memory of some-

thing the person chose not to share. And

cancel the post, the social network still

keeps a copy.

Many companies fail to report that when

students’ private information is concern-

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Some closure on disclosure: Prioritizing student safety in the digital age

by Odelia Tiutyan

With personalized learning ser-

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As a result, however, the political momentum behind

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by Odelia Tiutyan

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The secret loopholes corrupting our politics

by Grace Johnson

For as long as politicians have been passing laws, there have been loopholes to exploit those laws in a way for power. In recent years, one specific loophole has been dominating nationwide politics, especially those in states like Florida. Superpreemption laws are specific parts of a state law established to prohibit counties from enacting legislation that is more stringent than state laws. The only way for local governments one by one to gain an advantage over the state is by passing ordinances that contradict state law. This can include cutting state funding or filing lawsuits against individual government officials. The new laws have had drastic impacts statewide. Counties prioritize and struggle with different issues and demand that these laws be governed by the state to give their residents the extra protections. One issue that is hotly contested within Florida’s super preemption laws comes from the local government’s power. Currently, these restrictions are being enforced on the state’s behalf. Despite the demands for new laws, the fight must be continued to avoid giving state governments an inordinate amount of power over local counties, allowing them to suppress the lawmaking powers of local governments by withholding necessary funding or filing lawsuits against individual government officials.

Across the country, these laws have affected daily life, causing a growing divide between those who hold power and those who do not. A new trend of state preemption is spreading, as increasing numbers of states are enacting these laws on a county level. 

These laws have real impacts statewide. One notable example is the state’s high school diploma requirements. As many high schools across the state have adopted these requirements, it has been shown that students are required to take more courses in STEM and fewer in the humanities. Students who do not qualify as STEM students are somewhat undervalued on college application forms, which may lead to students feeling cast aside due to their education. In recent years, giving state governments an inordinate amount of power over local counties has become a common trait as more states continue to pass these laws.

One issue that is hotly contested within Florida’s super preemption laws comes from the local government’s power. Currently, these restrictions are being enforced on the state’s behalf. Despite the demands for new laws, the fight must be continued to avoid giving state governments an inordinate amount of power over local counties, allowing them to suppress the lawmaking powers of local governments by withholding necessary funding or filing lawsuits against individual government officials.

In recent years, giving state governments an inordinate amount of power over local counties has become a common trait as more states continue to pass these laws. Many local governments have been forced to give up their sovereignty, with some counties not being able to give their residents the extra protections they need. These laws have real impacts statewide. One notable example is the state’s high school diploma requirements. As many high schools across the state have adopted these requirements, it has been shown that students are required to take more courses in STEM and fewer in the humanities. Students who do not qualify as STEM students are somewhat undervalued on college application forms, which may lead to students feeling cast aside due to their education.

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Alumna writes for student-run magazine at Florida State

By Frankie Grasso-Clay

From being an editor of the well-known Pine View Mirror to being a staff writer for the University of Minnesota’s student newspaper, The Daily True North, Alumna is a part of Clutch Magazine’s editorial team. 

Alumna’s Pine View career also influenced her decision to continue writing in college blossomed from her love for storytelling and creative writing, which lead her to the University of Florida, where she pursued a double major in Advertising and Merchandising Association (CMA), which is FSU’s fashion club, allowing Alumna to explore a wide variety of topics. 

Before coming on board Clutch Magazine, she worked for another paper on campus. However, she said she didn’t click with the publication as a whole and began looking for well-known magazines at FSU campus.

During her time with Clutch Magazine, she has gained experience as a writer and as an assistant to the Lifestyle Section Director, and currently holds the title of Assistant to the Content and Social Media Analyst.

“I love that every day is different,” Alumna said. “I love getting to work with so many incredible writers and artists, and I love the freedom it gives me to be creative.”

Alumna’s future plans include pursuing a career in advertising or writing, and she hopes to continue writing in college.

“Writing has always been a passion of mine,” Alumna said. “I love being able to express myself through words and I want to continue doing that throughout my life.”

Class of 2016 alumna Jordan Glover displays a spread from FSU’s student-run magazine, Clutch Magazine. Glover has been a member of Clutch since the fall of 2017 after learning about the magazine through her sorority.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY JORDAN GLOVER

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email the editor at ben.gordon@pineviewtorch.com

Because in the last 100 years on this planet, we have gained experience as a writer and as an assistant to the Lifestyle Section Director, and currently holds the title of Assistant to the Content and Social Media Analyst.

“...what challenges students to pursue our interests earnestly is the individual who surmounts them,” Alumna said. “I truly realize that my time here is done. I want to contribute to this student-run magazine because it gives me the opportunity to share my love for writing and journalism.”

While Pine View may unravel, its possibilities are endless. So here’s to 2019 and the changes that (does change and never is changing)