



# THE MATCH

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## Second-grade classes set to increase

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PHOTO BY ANNA LABINER

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# THE MATCH

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FRONT PAGE: Second-grade students focus on the Ellis Island Presentation while they are dressed up for the event. The annual tradition allows students to learn about the history of immigration in the United States.

PHOTO BY ANNA LABINER

RIGHT: Third-grade teacher Suzi Shea helps her student look over an assignment after class. Shea, who is retiring, has been teaching at Pine View for 28 years. PHOTO BY TRICIA SAPUTERA



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PHOTO BY BEN GORDON

**BOTTOM:** A child athlete reaches new heights at an Evo Athletics gymnastics class.

PHOTO BY BEN NICHOLSON



## Minds think in sync

by Josh Gulyansky

The Florida Chapter of Odyssey of the Mind is a creative problem-solving competition involving students from kindergarten through college. It occurs every year and recently took place Saturday, April 14 at the University of Central Florida (UCF) from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Seven elementary and middle school students went to represent Pine View at the state competition. Pam Novak, the coach of the team and mother of two students at Pine View, and Andy Vitkus, a fifth-grade teacher at Pine View, went with the students to help prepare them.

Pine View was one of 20 teams participating in the

events at the state competition. The first event was the Yearly Challenge which consisted of receiving eight minutes to prepare and present the answer to a problem that the team received a year ago. The team had to enact hands-on situations to complete the task in the time allotted.

The second challenge was the Spontaneous Competition in which the team of seven kids has three minutes to think on the spot and create a solution to a given scenario. The five question topics that the members of the team had to pick from were topics like Triathlon Travels, Speak for Yourself, Classics... Mockumentary! and Seriously. Each

question is then divided into three parts to solve. Overall, Pine View ranked 8 out of 22 teams at the State Competition, and ranked 2nd place for the regional competition earlier this year.

"I really liked the Odyssey of the Mind competition because it got me thinking about things I haven't thought of before," sixth-grader Sophia Gomez said.

In preparation, every week the students have practiced a new problem and worked on their yearly problem, all while learning to work as a team.

"It is truly amazing how seven separate kids who have not known each other before can join a team and become as



Odyssey of the Mind members Sonica Prakash, Luci Morgan, Dylan Lopez, Sophia Lopez, Brennan Holcomb and Sanjaya Prakash pose for a photo dressed as their respective characters at the Odyssey of the Mind Florida chapter in Orlando, Fl. Participants attended the event April 14 at the University of Central Florida. PHOTO PROVIDED BY PAMELA NOVAK

close and hardworking as they are now. They really enjoy the creative problem solving and just working together in general," Vitkus said.

As the sponsor of the club, Vitkus said he has witnessed all of the members of the team mature and act as one together to complete their tasks.



Third-grade teacher Freda Williams has taught at Pine View for three years. Williams represented Pine View at the district level and was named the District Literacy Teacher of the Year. PHOTO PROVIDED BY PINE VIEW FACEBOOK PAGE

## Teacher wins literacy award

by Zach Bright

For her excellence in teaching literature throughout this year, third-grade teacher Freda Williams received the Literacy Teacher of the Year award at the Literacy Council Awards Ceremony May 2. As the recipient of the district title, she will go on to represent Pine View at the state level.

This is Williams' first time winning the award. Annually given to one teacher at the elementary, middle, and high school level, the Pine View award winners at the middle and high school level were Jessica Hentges and Nicole Light respectively. Of the three, Williams was chosen as Pine View's overall winner before going on to being named the district winner. The award is

sponsored by the state-wide Sarasota Reading Council, a part of the Florida Reading Association.

"I was very surprised and felt honored that I won," Williams said.

On her teaching abilities, fellow third-grade teacher Suzi Shea said, "She's a great teacher, and she really gets the kids. She's earned [the award]."

A literary lover at heart, Williams always makes reading a priority. With a classroom decorated with paraphernalia from in-class readings, Williams said she strives to bring their syllabus to the next level. "I always make sure to do some activity related to the book we read. For 'Cloudy with a Chance with Meatballs,' we had meatballs and spaghetti and all

sorts of stuff around the room," she said. "Bringing the books we read to life is really important to me."

Having spent a total of 15 years teaching, Williams will finish her third year at Pine View and second-year teaching at pine view at the third-grade level. Outside her classroom, Williams has taken part in the Pine View Literacy Committee, observing other classes to see how they integrate literacy into their own classes. "The most important thing is to observe the kids and ask questions — be open to feedback," Williams said.

"The kids here, they love reading. So I want to make sure they keep doing that, and they're having fun and learning," she said.

# Teacher waves goodbye

## *After 28 years at Pine View, third-grade teacher Suzi Shea is leaving a legacy*

by Anna Labiner

Showing 8 and 9-year-olds how to sing and dance during “Third Grade Rocks” and organizing a paper-mache project all while teaching curative might intimidate most people, but third-grade teacher Suzi Shea has proved that she is up to the task. Her commitment and genuine passion have made her a truly unique teacher. Beginning her career at Pine View in 1990, Shea said she has become extremely close to the third-grade staff, and will fondly remember the experiences and memories she has had throughout the years.

Before working at Pine View, Shea attended Florida State University (FSU) and later earned her gifted endorsement from Saint Leo University. After working with the gifted students at Wilkinson Elementary School for one year and Fruitville Elementary School for three years, she then began at Pine View’s old campus teaching second grade.

Shea knew that she wanted to teach after having some bad experiences during her childhood at school, deciding that she didn’t want any other child to feel the way that she had. Eventually, Shea recalls having a very influential teacher, a teacher who showed her how great school can be. According to Shea, one of her biggest regrets has been not call-

ing her second-grade teacher and explaining to her that she inspired Shea herself to teach.

“I am never happier than when I’m in my classroom teaching these kids. I live, breathe and die this job. I love

“I’m never happier than when I’m in my classroom teaching these kids,”

**Suzi Shea,  
Third-grade  
teacher**

the kids, and I love forming relationships with them and getting to see them go all the way through high school,” Shea said.

Additionally, Shea is close to her fellow staff at Pine View due to projects like the third-grade sleepover and “Third Grade Rocks.” “I love the way that my team works together to pull off these projects and create hands-on things for the students,” Shea said. The same staff supported her after a loss, ultimately motivating her to return to teaching.

During her years at Pine View, Shea developed “Stop the Code of Silence,” which is a program she started six years ago in which she speaks to high

school students about her experiences with the foster care system and drug abuse. The message of the talk is to speak out when someone you know is endangering themselves or other people, as well as to understand the difference between tattling and telling.

In her retirement, Shea hopes to build off this idea by trying to land a job as an educational advocate for foster children at a new foster home, considering she has experienced first hand how poorly her own foster children were treated in the system.

“She contributed like an anchor. She’s been here a long time, she knows how the school has changed and progressed, and she keeps us together like the links of an anchor,” fellow third-grade teacher Vicky Singleton said. The two have been working together for 15 years.

Shea has lived in Sarasota all her life, and her connection to the community is one that will last forever. Her dedication and enthusiasm for her work are what make her such a remarkable teacher and coworker. “Mrs. Shea is very nice and exciting, and she’s fun with all her activities,” third-grader Clover Murphy said.

Shea’s bond with students and staff will ensure that she will leave a legacy at Pine View not only as a teacher, but also as a friend.



Third-grade teacher Suzi Shea works on a project with her class. Always committed to her students, Shea has played a major role in elementary traditions such as “Third Grade Rocks.” PHOTO BY TRICIA SAPUTERA



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# Third-grader takes a 'shot' at television

*Clark Walkup stars on NBC's trivia television show 'Little Big Shots'*

by Madi Holmes

Showing off his not-so-little talent, third-grade student Clark Walkup recently made his first appearance on NBC's "Little Big Shots," and second television appearance overall. Alongside the show host Steve Harvey, the whiz kid exhibited his endless knowledge of world history through a trivia game show approach.

Walkup's obsession with history began when he was

five-years-old, with a trip to the Washington D.C. Air and Space Museum. The museum, his parents, and "Normandy," a historic action-packed World War II movie, were all main contributing factors that sparked his love for learning. "At that point, I was already interested in history similar to Ancient Rome and Egypt, but that [movie] was the thing that really got me interested in modern history," Walkup said.

His passion for history was always supported by his parents, who share similar interests and hobbies as their son. "Clark's love for history I feel we have encouraged through our hobby. We collect antique cars from 1900-1915 and travel the country visiting museums and historic locations," Clark's mom, Jamie Walkup, said.

The show, "Little Big Shots" features young kids with amazing skills from all over the world. The kids join

Steve Harvey on stage for a night of fun, and a chance to showcase their one of a kind talents. The opportunity for Walkup to join the cast of the show arose from his previous work on another TV series, ABC's "Child Support" saying that the casting directors really liked him there and re-



Third-grader Clark Walkup smiles in front of the "Little Big Shots" set. The trivia show was Walkup's second television appearance. PHOTO PROVIDED BY JAMIE WALKUP

ferred him to join the "Little Big Shots" family. His charming personality and dashing demeanor made his eligibility for the show almost a no-brainer.

There were a lot of nice kids and talents, and people from all over the globe. There were people from India, Spain and all over the place. It was really a great experience like no other,"

**Clark Walkup, grade 3**

Although Walkup's episode aired April 15, the filming process took place back in January in sunny Los Angeles, Calif. Walkup's episode was full of talented kids from all over the

world: an opera singer, a magician, a sports-reporter and even a Beauty and the Beast mega fan were all featured. "There were a lot of nice kids and talents, and people from all over the globe. There were people from India, Spain and all over the place. It was really a great experience like no other," Walkup said.

Walkup has no intentions to end his television career here, having future aspirations to appear on shows such as "Jeopardy! Kids Week" and "The Ellen DeGeneres Show." His passion for entertaining will never fade as he said, "I love meeting new people on the shows, and being the person to make someone smile when their day has been awful."

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Mrs. Delaney's  
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## May Events and Teacher Birthdays



The Python Run, held April 14, was open for all family and friends. The annual race was hosted by PVA to promote a healthy lifestyle through diet and exercise.  
PHOTO BY KASUMI WADE



A high school student teaches second-graders at the Embracing Our Differences exhibit. The second-graders took a field trip with the Diversity Council club April 17.  
PHOTO BY SUZANNE BROWN

## IN BRIEF

### An increase in enrollment

by Cate Alvaro

Looking toward next year, Pine View is preparing for an increase in the number of second graders in attendance. After last year's decrease in second-grade students, the administration is anticipating adding another class for this grade level next year.

Last year, elementary school had just four second-grade classes, a record low. That number increased this year to five, and next year, the number is projected to increase to six.

In an effort to increase attendance, the administration conducted project Pine View in Action this year. This was a

video collage of classroom activities with interviews of teachers and students. "Pine View is sort of like a black box to other people. It's a mystery what happens here. For me, even being a Pine View parent prior to getting a job here, I was just blown away by all the amazing things that happened here and in the classrooms," Grades 2-5 Assistant Principal Alison Rini said. These videos are on the Pine View website.

"My long-term goal is to ensure that every student who would benefit from a Pine View education gets to come here. My goal is that we don't have to turn anyone away," Rini said.

### Family-friendly classes introduced

by Melissa Santoyo

In a busy world, finding family time can be difficult. The Adult Community and Enrichment (ACE) classes sponsored by Suncoast Technical College (STC) seek to fix this by introducing "Family Saturdays" on its campus. These classes, implemented to encourage strong relationships between varying age groups, are hosted every Tuesday and Wednesday throughout the summer. They usually last two hours and involve a wide array of hands-on activities for families to enjoy.

Upon receiving a grant from the Community Foundation of Sarasota County Allen Wirtz Nobbe and Jo Bowen Nobbe Fund, admission was lowered to \$15. The ACE class-

es aim to bring people within the community closer through arts and crafts.

The program was spearheaded by STC Administrative Assistant Judy Kendall. "My intention was to offer a multi-generational program... I went to the program manager, and she thought it was a great idea," she said.

Aside from wanting to bring people together, Kendall also sought to expose younger children to the STC atmosphere. "We wanted families to come on to campus and feel comfortable in a college environment," she said. However, there will be one class offered off-campus: "Photography Scavenger Hunt" hosted at Payne Park.

[a review]

## Keep on (food) truckin' around Sarasota



Over the summer people travel all over the world to enjoy new experiences, but you don't have to travel far for quality food. The Match has scoped out the most interesting and tasty food trucks around Sarasota.



### Korean BBQ

by Naina Chauhan

Sarasota may be a small town, but that doesn't mean its food scene is. Bulgogi is a Korean food truck whose namesake was inspired by the traditional Korean meat dish. Its presence has diversified Sarasota's culinary climate and introduced many to the spicy, sweet, and savory world of Korean fare.

Bulgogi is owned by Charlie Chi. Chi first opened Bulgogi two years ago in May, and it was his first time ever working with food. Chi started off as a tennis coach at IMG Academy in Sarasota, and while he never professionally cooked before, he boldly headed in a new direction in life. "I had no background in cooking. I worked hard and made some tweaks until I got the fusion Korean food I serve today," Chi said. Although Bulgogi is called

a Korean barbecue food truck, Chi said it is not traditional Korean-style food. The dishes are typical of what you would have in Korea, but Chi added his own flair to them. Some of the dishes are Chicken Bulgogi, Beef Bulgogi, Pork Bulgogi, Spring Rolls, Man Du, and Kim-Chi.

Chi also offers meat combinations so you can order two or even all three for a bargain price around \$10 depending on the meat combination. All the meat dishes also come with rice, sweet potato noodles, lettuce, and sweet, spicy, tangy sauce that ties it all together. Bulgogi also offers vegetarians options, so there is something available at Bulgogi for everybody.

The perfect treat to satisfy your hunger is either the Man Du or Spring Roll. Both are hot

and crunchy, but if you prefer a more fresh flavored appetizer the Spring Roll is the one for you, while the Man Du is a more savory treat. Once your taste buds have been satisfied, Bulgogi is another must-have dish. The dish is served with a sweet and savory meat, chicken, pork, or beef, that is traditionally marinated in a blend of soy sauce, sugar, and Korean pear juice.

An important value of Bulgogi is that it remains local. Chi said, "I like to stay local and support local people. In return for what they give me, I try to give them the best food and service possible."

Since Bulgogi is a food truck, it moves around town regularly and visits new locations often. To find out where it will be, you can follow them on Instagram at @bulgogisaraso-



Owner, Charlie Chi, opened Bulgogi two years ago. The food truck serves a variety of traditional Korean at a reasonable price.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY NAINA CHAUHAN  
GRAPHICS BY BRIANNA NELSON

ta or on Facebook as BulGoGi Sarasota.

While Chi loves his food truck, it's not the end of his culinary adventures: he is looking to buy a place on Bee Ridge for

his own restaurant.



Rating: 5/5 Torches



This wood-paneled food truck is a mainstay at a local gas station, Marathon on Beneva. Alday's BBQ offers tasty, homestyle grub at a reasonable price.  
PHOTO BY ELIZABETH HOPKINS

## Alday's BBQ

by Elizabeth Hopkins

Pulling into an ordinary gas station, one may not expect gourmet barbecue to be at their fingertips. Alday's BBQ, however, offers just that — quality, no frills fare that is truly something special.

The food truck, decorated with distinctive wood paneling, is normally busy, with hungry patrons ready to get their hands on some tasty comfort food. Waiting in line, the sweet smell of smoke and spices wafts from the interior, tantalizing hungry guests. Soon, a pleasant staff member will take your order and promptly hand over a Styrofoam box full of pure goodness.

Barbecue essentials like

spare ribs, baby back ribs, and beef brisket are all served hot, and the pulled pork sandwich is a favorite. Sides are also available, including collard greens and Mac and Cheese.

Additionally, there is a variety of serve-yourself specialty sauces, ranging from extra hot to sweet mustard. With these small touches, Alday's appeals to all tastes, regardless of barbecue preference.

Alday's offers portion flexibility that will be sure to satisfy, although standard combo options are also offered. Depending on how much is ordered, the menu options can become a little expensive, ranging from \$5.50 for 4 ounces of pulled pork at the low end, to \$20.00

for a half pound of beef brisket at the high end. Considering the time put into preparation, however, it can be said that this indulgence is worth a heftier price tag.

All in all, Alday's truly delivers, producing smoked, perfectly seasoned meats served up with a smile. Alday's BBQ is open just three days a week — Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. The food truck can be found during these times at 135 S Beneva Rd, Sarasota, Fla. 34232.



Rating: 4/5 Torches

## Peachey's Baking Company

by Ben Gordon

Peachey's donuts are a true culinary delight, with their crispy glaze perfectly coating a light, yet chewy interior. A Sarasota favorite since 2007, Peachey's Baking Company is carrying on an Amish family tradition that started on a family farm in N.C. generations ago. Serving up warm, made-from-scratch donuts and pretzels from a vibrant, blue food truck traveling all around Sarasota, the company has become a classic treat for Sarasota residents of all ages.

Brother and sister duo Sadie and Nate Peachey, the owners of the baking company, learned to bake as children at their family's farm in Statesville, N.C., making donuts, cakes and pies almost daily.

The siblings gained experience selling their delicious baked goods for their family business all around N.C. The donuts and pretzels they sell are made using their family's traditional Amish recipes crafted over generations.

In 2007, Nate and Sadie decided it was the perfect time to buy a food truck to put their expertise of baking to good use. They bought one in Sarasota to further spread the joy of their baked goods to their customers. Now, the pair shares their family tradition with Sarasota as well as in locations throughout the state.

The donuts, twice as large as your typical store-bought donut, are made from scratch and are served still warm from the fryer. Slightly messy, the

warm and fluffy donut, paired with the sweet but not overpowering glaze, creates an unbeatable guilty pleasure. Rolling Stone magazine claims the donut "puts Krispy Kreme to shame" and that the donuts were the best thing they ate at the Bonnaroo Music Festival in 2014.

A simple menu, at six dollars per donut and four dollars per pretzel, they may seem a little pricey at first glance, but once you take a bite, the indulgence compensates for any worries. After all, both baked goods are quite large and also incredibly tasty. Peachey's plans on continuing to expand business and is traveling throughout the state and country to test how products sell in additional locations.



Peachey's donuts are made fresh right before your eyes. This truck has been open since 2007.

PHOTO BY NAINA CHAUHAN

Peachey's Baking Company sells donuts and pretzels Wednesdays at the Phillippi Farmer's Market from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and at 3604 S Osprey Ave, Sarasota, every

Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



Rating: 4.5/5 Torches

# Student 'sticks' to his talent

by Ella Hechlik

Third-grader Ethan Song has been living up to his name for the past year through playing the drums.

Beginning when he was six, Song began experimenting with different genres of music on the drums including blues, funk, and rock. Song was introduced to music when he began deciding which instrument he liked the best when he was in second grade. "My favorite part about it is how it sounds when you play the drums. It is amazing," Song said.

Although beginning his musical journey on the drums just last year, Song has tried

other instruments in the past, such as the piano; however, he prefers the drums. According to Song, he enjoys the drums the most because they are louder than the piano. Additionally, he has practiced the drums for longer.

Song has practice once a week on Mondays for 45 minutes with his music teacher Murray Piper, who is the founder of Passionate Drumming and Music Lessons, where Song practices. Song also has his own drum set at home, which he uses to practice nightly.

When Song performed in the Variety Show in early February, he played a piece titled

"Rock n' Roll," which is his favorite to play. To prepare for his performance, Song practiced his piece 10 times every day leading up to the show. "He played the drums like some people my age I know. He is that good," tenth-grade Variety Show director Phoebe Laforge said.

After the show, Song said he felt happy that people listened to him perform. "I was very nervous before, but I felt a sense of accomplishment because I made it there," Song said.

Also learning valuable lessons from the art itself, he said that music has taught him that practice makes perfect. "I



Third-grader Ethan Song practices the drums during his free time. Song enjoys playing jazz, rock and funk genres, among others, on his instrument. PHOTO PROVIDED BY LIN SONG

would not be where I am without practicing," Song said.

According to this young

musician, he is eager to pursue drumming in the future, particularly as a hobby.



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## Enjoy a spa day, your way

by Sana Rahman

Finally, our favorite time of year has come around — summer. After a whole year of tirelessly working, relax with these DIY products sure to put yourself in a state of tranquility.

### Lemon Sugar Scrub

Materials:

- 1/3 cup olive oil (or oil of choice)
- 2/3 cup sugar (see tip)
- Juice of 1/2 a lemon (about 1.5 tbsp)
- Pinch or two of lemon zest
- Jar/small container

Directions:

Step 1: Take the small jar and mix together sugar, oil, lemon juice and zest.

Step 2: Next, store the mixture in the refrigerator to

keep it fresh.

Step 3: Enjoy your creation!

The scrub can be used on your hands, elbows and even face.

TIP: For a more gentle scrub, use a finer, less coarse type of sugar.

### Overnight Coconut Oil Hair Mask

Materials:

- Coconut oil
- Rosemary essential oil
- Peppermint essential oil
- Microwave safe bowl

- Hair cap (for overnight use)

Directions:

Step 1: Add 2-5 tbsp of coconut oil in the microwave safe bowl. Depending on how thick your hair is, add more or less coconut oil. Heat the coconut oil in the microwave until melted.

Step 2: Next, add essential oils. Peppermint essential oil aids in hair growth and Rosemary essential oil has anti-bacterial properties which can improve the health of your hair. Plus, both make the mixture smell great!

Step 3: Massage the coconut oil mixture into your scalp and tie hair into a bun. For maximum results, keep the mask in overnight.

Step 4: Wash your hair!

### Watermelon Citrus Detox Water

Materials:

- 1 cup of watermelon
- Lemon juice
- 1 lemon wedge
- 1 orange wedge
- Cucumber slices
- Glass
- Water

Directions:

Step 1: Take the glass and fill with water.

Step 2: Next, start adding the ingredients. Take the cubed pieces of watermelon and add to the glass.

Step 3: Take the lemon and orange wedges and add to the



This lemon sugar scrub is sure to induce bliss. Make it for yourself or give it as a gift.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY SOULFULLYMADE.COM

glass.

Step 4: To finish off, add around 5-8 cucumber slices.

Step 5: Enjoy your cooling drink!

### Aromatherapy Shower Bombs

Materials:

- 1 cup Baking Soda
- 1/4 cup to 1/3 cup water depending on your humidity
- 3-4 drops of quality essential oils add these at the end of the process for best results
- Mixing bowl

Directions:

Step 1: Add baking soda to water, stirring constantly until it forms a thick paste.

Step 2: When you grab a handful of the paste, it should feel more dry than wet in your hands, and you

should be able to form a ball shape with the paste that holds its shape even when squeezed. If you add too much water and it is not pasty enough, add more baking soda to the mixture.

Step 3: Fill your molds (silicone flexible molds preferred as the bombs can be a little crumbly) with the paste and pack them down tightly. Let dry. This may take multiple days as the shower bombs must be completely dry. Alternatively, bake in a 200-degree oven for 30 to 45 minutes, and let cool.

Step 4: Carefully remove the shower bombs from the molds and store them in an airtight container.

Step 5: Add essential oils to shower bombs right before using it for best results.

Step 6: Enjoy!



When you're craving some relaxation time, this watermelon citrus detox is perfect. Serve it in a mason jar for a summery touch. PHOTO PROVIDED BY BUILDYOURBITE.COM

## O'Brien Farms

by Nathalie Bencie

Since its opening in 2011, O'Brien Family Farms has continually provided both an enjoyable and educational environment for families to experience from all over Florida. A thriving farm that offers a variety of activities for customers, including a u-pick program, a retail store and an educational center, O'Brien Family Farms continually demonstrates their dedication, time and passion in sustaining facilities for the entire community to enjoy.

Located in Bradenton, Fla. near I-75, O'Brien Family Farms dedicates nearly six acres of land for growing a variety of fruits and vegetables used for both educational and market purposes. They grow over ten crops, including strawberries, leafy greens, herbs, tomatoes, corn, onions, and peppers.

The farm is known for hosting numerous field trips, tours and birthday parties for customers. But their most popular program offered is their U-Pick program, where customers pick their own fruits and vegetables which tends to vary depending on the season. Half an acre of farmland is dedicated to hydroponically grown fruits and vegetables available for U-Pick customers, as well as five acres of crops picked daily for retail. These hydroponic products, produce grown with nutrient

water instead of soil, provide benefits that help protect the environment such as water and soil conservation.

The primary goal of the O'Brien Family Farms is to educate families on the health benefits of locally grown fruits and vegetables. Through both their U-Pick and educational center operations, open to the public on a daily basis, approximately 2,500 stacks, 14,000 pots and over 56,000 plants are dedicated to these fun, educational programs.

They also offers a retail shop for customers to enjoy after a warm day picking their own produce. Showcasing a variety of different culinary products and produce, food items are also offered to customers like strawberry shortcake, fresh fruit smoothies, milkshakes and ice cream. A



These hydroponic towers are a staple at O'Brien Farms, growing organic strawberries and other fruits. The farm also has a retail market, where customers can purchase fruit and food items. PHOTO PROVIDED BY O'BRIEN FAMILY FARMS

limited lunch menu is also available.

"What I liked most about [O'Brien family farms] was that you could pick your own berries rather than buying it from the supermarket," fourth-grader Areeb Lalani said. "I think my trip there was amazing, I would definitely recommend it."

O'Brien Family Farms is open seasonally to accommodate only locally grown fruits and vegetables from Nov. to May.

They are located at 16505 FL-64, Bradenton, FL 34212. They are open Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed Monday and Tuesday.

# A very berry summer

by Elizabeth Hopkins

As the weather becomes warmer and the days become longer, one thing's for sure — it's berry season! This summer, head to the farm with friends and family to pick. Later, why not whip up some-thing special with the perfectly ripened fruit right off the vine?



## Berry Recipes

by Noelle Bencie

### Buttermilk Blackberry Pops

Summer is on its way, and what's better than enjoying home-made, fresh berry desserts on a hot Florida day? These desserts are fun to make and to eat with the entire family.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups fresh blackberries
- 6 tbs frozen orange juice concentrate
- 1 1/2 cups whole buttermilk
- 1 container (8 oz.) sour cream
- 1/3 cup honey
- 8 wooden craft sticks
- Plastic wrap
- Paper cups or juice pop mold



Directions:

Place the blackberries and the orange juice in a blender and, with adult supervision, blend until smooth. Place the blender aside. In a separate bowl, whisk together buttermilk, sour cream and honey until all the ingredients are mixed evenly. Pour each mixture into a juice pop mold or paper cups. To add a cool design, alternate the mixtures until the cup or mold is close to full. Swirl each mold gently and place plastic wrap tightly over the molds or cups and insert the wooden sticks into the cup. Place in the freezer overnight, and then wake up a truly delicious pop for everyone to enjoy.

### Very Berry Parfait

Fresh fruits make any parfait stand out. Spice up this typical breakfast or sweet snack with berries from the farm!

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup blueberries
- 1/3 cup strawberries
- 1 container (8 oz) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1/2 cup raspberries
- 1/2 cup blackberries
- 1-pint vanilla frozen yogurt



Directions:

In a blender, and with adult supervision, combine blueberries, strawberries and whipped topping. Then, blend until smooth, or to your desired consistency. Once mixed, transfer to a medium mixing bowl and fold in raspberries and blackberries. Layer the berry mixture with the frozen yogurt in dessert glasses of your choice, finishing with a berry layer. If using granola, scatter on top of parfait.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY MYRECIPES.COM AND FOODNETWORK.COM

# Student 'trills' her skills

by Tricia Saputera

Elegantly expressing herself through a classical instrument, fourth-grader Annica Pereira has been playing the piano since the young age of four. A hard worker and dedicated to her passion, she plays a wide variety of music and also competes in various competitions.

Pereira was first introduced to the instrument by her older brother and sister, who also attend Pine View and play the piano. "I'm really grateful she started piano lessons," mother Flavia Pereira said. "What I like about her is that when she plays her pieces, she's

very calm and composed... She likes to let her emotions flow, and it's hard to let your emotions flow and play at the same time, remembering the notes by memory."

Currently, Pereira takes 45 minute weekly lessons with piano teacher Laura Miller, who registers Pereira into the Sarasota Music Festival and Student Day, which are annual piano competitions. In these competitions, Pereira is in Elementary 1 and Level 4, respectively. This year, for Festival, Pereira played "The Wild Horseman" by Robert Schumann and "Morning Dew" by Caroline Miller, and

for Student Day this year she played the previously mentioned songs along with "A Pleasant Morning" by Louis Streabbog. At both competitions, the pieces are required to be performed from memory.

Regarding Sarasota Music Festival, Pereira has received a grade of Superior every year since second grade by the judges who grade her performance. Pereira is hoping to achieve superior again this year and earn a gold cup, which encompasses three consecutive years of Superior ratings.

In Student Day, Pereira not only is expected to master and perform three pieces, but



Fourth-grader Annica Pereira practices playing piano at home. Pereira has been playing the piano since she was 4. PHOTO PROVIDED BY FLAVIA PEREIRA

is also tested on sight-reading.

In the future, Pereira hopes to continue playing the piano, certainly through middle and high school. "I feel it's fun to play the piano because sometimes you can make up

your own songs, or you can make up your own little tunes, and you also get to learn how to play new pieces... I think it's also fun to learn how to memorize the pieces because it takes a lot of practice," Pereira said.

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## Fifth-grader chops to the top

by **Kasumi Wade**

Chiwen Lo “kickstarted” her taekwondo career at just five years old, excelling ever since. Now a fifth-grader, Lo continues her path within the Korean sport of martial arts.

When she was just five years old, Lo’s mother decided to enroll her at Park’s Family Tae Kwon Do Center just so she could take up an after school activity. According to Lo, beginning training did not make much of an impression on her, considering she was so young.

Six years later, it is now evident that this was the right decision. “Taekwondo has taught Chiwen leadership and life skills, persistence and per-

severance, which she applies in everyday life and decision making,” Chiwen’s mother, Jessie Wang, said.

Lo is currently a school level black belt but is planning on testing for an international level black belt, which qualifies throughout the United States, in June. “I have been working so hard for such a long time now, and I feel ready and excited to test for this new and higher level,” Lo said.

Lo practices taekwondo two times a week, ranging from one to two hours. During practice, Lo focuses on forms, breaking techniques, and one steps, where a student takes an exaggerated step in order to simulate an attack.

At Park’s Family Tae Kwon Do Center, Lo has several teachers who educate her on techniques, skill, mindset, and much more. “All of my teachers are so helpful, as they always give me tips and correct my posture,” she said, “But I think something special about [Park’s school] is that outside of taekwondo, they give you lessons you can use in real life. For example, courage, goal setting, and self-control.”

According to Lo, she has made a number of friends through taekwondo, who can always be called upon for motivation and encouragement during practice. “When someone the same age as me helps me, I feel like I under-



Fifth-grader Chiwen Lo, bottom row, center, is a student at Park’s Family Tae Kwon Do Center, where she has been practicing martial arts for five years. Lo hopes to soon qualify for an international level black belt.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY CHIWEN LO

stand it more and am more relaxed,” Lo said.

Lo plans on continuing her

taekwondo career throughout middle and high school, and even in college if possible.



Fourth-grader Martin O’Malley (center) has been playing basketball for two years, participating in daily practices and weekly games. Through the sport, O’Malley hopes to improve his technical and physical abilities.

PHOTO BY OLIVIA HANSEN

## Dribble, dribble, swoosh!

by **Olivia Hansen**

Ever since he started playing two years ago, basketball has been a significant part of fourth-grader Martin O’Malley’s life. He demonstrates perseverance and hard work by participating in daily, hour-long practices and weekly games to enrich his athletic ability and teamwork skills.

O’Malley started playing after his dad encouraged him to begin a sport so that he would have the experience of being on a team, as well as gaining a form of exercise. He chose basketball after watching professionals play in the NBA (National Basketball Association) and soon began practicing at iCan Basketball Academy.

He was most inspired by his favorite basketball player, Kevin Durant, who plays for the Golden State Warriors in Oakland, Calif. He wants to be like him because of his basketball skills. “We exposed Martin to basketball when he was quite young,” his father Michael O’Malley said.

At practice, O’Malley and his team work on shooting skills, dribbling down the court, lay-ups, and jump-shots: all of which are different parts of the game. “My favorite things to do are lay-ups because they are pretty easy and fun,” he said.

Along with these daily practices at their gym, O’Malley and his team participate in weekly games against other teams at iCan Acade-

my. “[Through basketball], Martin has become more and more active and he has made some new friends,” his mother, Han O’Malley, said.

Not only does basketball provide O’Malley with a source of exercise and a place to spend time with friends, but it teaches him how to work with other people and balance a heavy schedule at an early age. “Basketball helps release stress because sometimes I am stressed about school, but then I go and play with my friends,” O’Malley said.

Ultimately, O’Malley’s goal is to work and play hard throughout middle and high school and eventually get recognized and recruited by colleges for his participation in the sport.



GRAPHIC BY LEO GORDON

[a review]

## Health: a tree of wealth

Maintaining a nutritious diet and a sensible exercise regimen can be a challenge, but ultimately, this balance is a valuable asset. Personal health is extremely important, as it influences academic productivity, keeps you energized and makes you happier. Here, The Match provides reviews of local sites to help you stay fit, as well as a pre-workout recipe.

## Evo Athletics

by Ben Nicholson

Evo Athletics' massive warehouse may be spacious, but it never feels empty. The facility is full of the thriving pulse and buzz of athletes of all ages climbing rope ladders to the ceiling, leaping through the air on the trampoline mat and vying for victory on volleyball courts. Evo's premises are filled to the brim with the youthful spirit it embodies as a business. It offers a variety of services for students who want to get physical.

The first and most prominently featured amenity of Evo is its gymnastics classes. Evo offers classes for any gymnast of any skill level, from toddler to Olympic athlete. "Gymnastics is great for anyone who wants to be active," Operations and Marketing Director Brenda Harrison said, "It's helpful for anyone

who wants to learn endurance, strength, flexibility as well as just being a team." The price of classes ranges from \$75 to \$90 per month depending on the age and skill level of the class.

Besides its gymnastics classes, Evo also offers Open Gym sessions on Friday nights, a full-size Ninja Warrior course — an obstacle course inspired by the hit TV show — and summer camps for Evo athletes, all available for ages 5 and up.

For the friends and family of athletes who just want a place to relax, Evo offers adult workout rooms, business rooms and cafes specifically just to give the family a chance to unwind. "I think a lot of parents are looking for a lot more than just a gym lobby to sit around in when their children are participating in

sports," Harrison said.

Evo also works hard to make sure that none of this fun or competition comes at the expense of any athlete's health. "I would say our biggest difference [between us and other businesses] is our investment and commitment to the health and safety of the athlete," Harrison said.

In order to prevent and treat injuries of any kind, Evo makes sure all of its employees receive first aid training, offers physical therapy centers on site and provides weight rooms to make sure athletes build up the strength needed to stop any injuries before they happen.

All in all, Evo offers a fun, unique facility with comprehensive lessons for the young, the old, the recreational and the competitive. Come to train like an Olympian or



At Evo Athletics, one can find a variety of amenities like acclaimed gymnastics classes and various summer camps. Other features, such as a full-size Ninja Warrior course as well as a number of workout rooms, are also offered.

PHOTO BY BEN NICHOLSON

maybe just to get a chance to get loose.

Evo Athletics is located at 7188 15th St E, Sarasota, FL 34243. While it is closed Sun., Evo is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Mon. to Thurs.,

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Fri. and 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sat.



Rating: 5/5 Torches

# YMCA

by Gwyn Petersen

YMCA is an organization that promotes health and wellness with facilities all over the world. Here in Sarasota, there are three branches of the YMCA — the Frank G. Berlin facility near downtown, Safe Children Coalition, and the Evalyn Sadlier Jones (ESJ) facility only ten minutes away from the Pine View campus. The YMCA is a massive hub of activity and the perfect place to train.

The YMCA has been around for generations and is well known for its athletic amenities. The wide range of equipment, from ellipticals and treadmills to the adventure ropes course just outside, provides a variety of fun ways to get fit.

Feeling inexperienced? Not to worry, the YMCA offers

wellness classes for all ages. From the BodyCombat class, which features a martial arts inspired cardio workout, to Dance Trance, which teaches you a spicy choreographed dance so you can both have fun and get fit, to Gentle Yoga, for those who need a breather just as much as they need a workout, the YMCA offers plenty of classes taught by professionals to guide you through your strenuous routine.

If members are looking to take advantage of the year-round warm weather Florida has to offer, the ESJ YMCA recommends a dip at the on-site water park. Home to the Sarasota Sharks, the ESJ YMCA boasts an Olympic-quality pool open to all members. For younger students, the Selby Aquatic Center is equipped

with large waterslides and fountains galore. If members are feeling hungry, the Shark Bait Grill offers a delicious menu with a variety of choices including cheeseburgers and fries.

Members also have access to the Welch's Family Center to play a few rounds of ping pong or air hockey. Before leaving, members can view a seasonal calendar for fun events, like the adult tap dancing class or Parent's Night Out. The schedule is constantly being updated, and there's always something new to look forward to. When looking for something to do this summer, there's also a myriad of classes and camps for staying active over summer break available.

The cost for a membership to the YMCA is slightly



The Evalyn Sadlier Jones YMCA facility offers a variety of amenities, such as a waterpark and olympic-quality pool. The gym also hosts a wide assortment of classes, available to all, regardless of skill level.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE EVALYN SADLIER JONES YMCA

expensive — it's \$8 a day for individual sessions, \$20 a month for kids up to age 11, \$30 a month for ages 12 to 19, and \$41 a month for adults, but a family membership is available for a discounted rate. All in all, the YMCA is a great way to stay in shape and have fun while doing it.

The YMCA Evalyn Sadli-

er Jones Branch is located at 8301 Potter Park Dr, Sarasota, FL 34238. It is open Mon. through Fri. from 5:30 a.m., Sat. from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sun. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Rating: 4.5/5 Torches

## Pre-workout recipe: green smoothie



PHOTO PROVIDED BY SIMPLEGREENSMOOTHIES.COM

by Ryan Wasserman

### Ingredients:

- 2 cups fresh spinach
- 2 cups almond milk (unsweetened)
- 1 teaspoon shredded ginger
- 1 apple
- 1 banana
- 1/3 cup rolled oats
- 1 tbsp coconut oil
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

The best kinds of pre-workout foods are filled with protein, good carbs and healthy fats. These ingredients help you stock up on energy and keep you full for a long time. The apple, banana, rolled oats, coconut oil, and (of course) leafy greens make the perfect combination for a pre-workout green smoothie that you can drink before every workout!

### Instructions:

Blend spinach and almond milk until smooth. Add remaining ingredients, and blend until smooth. Enjoy!



Rating: 4.5/5 Torches

## Student gleams on the beam

by Mackenzie Dydra

Having been a gymnast for six years, fourth-grader Olivia Jernigan has set the bar high. Jernigan demonstrates commitment to her sport by participating in three to four competitions per year all around Florida and practicing two to three hours per week at GTFL Athletics (Gator Tens for Life) in Venice.

Currently, Jernigan competes at the XCEL Gold level, which compares to Levels 3 and 4 on the Junior Olympic scale. Jernigan is currently placed at the third highest level of competition.

Impressing judges with perfected routines and challenging tricks, Jernigan and

her team take the competition circuit seriously. For regionals and state competitions, Jernigan travels statewide. She won fifth place for her balance beam and bar routines at AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) State Championships in Tampa last May. Jernigan and her team participate in four regionals and one state competition per year. At these events, gymnasts are awarded medals for first second and third place, and each participating gym can run for the Best All-Around trophy. Jernigan's gym has been awarded two first-place trophies, one second-place trophy and one third place trophy.

Fellow XCEL Gold team-

mate and fifth-grader Lola Delbridge has been competing with Jernigan for over a year. "She's a very strong gymnast," Delbridge said. "Since we are on the same level, we can help each other learn new skills."

Jernigan's favorite event is the floor routine round-off double backhand-spring. "I like tumbling and flipping around. It's fun," Jernigan said.

Her ultimate goal is to continue gymnastics through middle and high school, and to eventually become a professional gymnast. "My favorite part is practicing and having fun with my friends," Jernigan said. "When I'm doing gymnastics, I feel happy."



Fourth-grader Olivia Jernigan practices her flips on a bar. Jernigan's favorite gymnastic event is the floor routine. PHOTO BY MACKENZIE DYRDA

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# Touchdowns passed down

by Manny Rea

Bursting past defenders on his way to the end zone, fifth-grader Grady Hillerich plays for i9 Sports Flag Football. For four years with the league alongside his twin brother Quinn, Grady has been running back for his flag football team.

Football holds a legacy within the Hillerich family, boasting an additional older set of twenty-year-old twins, Tristan and Bart, who too have both played football from an early age. Tristan currently plays at the University of Virginia as a backup quarterback. Inspired by the progress made by his older brothers, Grady hopes to continue

to thrive in the sport.

Currently, Hillerich plays on a five-man team in the i9 league. He and Quinn play for the same team and often run plays together. As a running back, Hillerich loves the thrill of getting the ball and scoring touchdowns. Their seasons run from August to December, and they have their playoffs over winter break. The playoffs are the last two games of the season and pit the best four teams against each other. When one team loses, they are out of the playoffs. “We last won in 2016,” Hillerich said. “It was really exciting to win. Even though it’s a small team and league, nothing feels better than to

be the champ of it all.”

The season can often be riddled with setbacks for teams. “Sometimes there are minor injuries for people that can mess up the game,” Hillerich said. However, he said they recognize that all of this can be part of the game and they must work past their injuries.

Next year, Hillerich hopes to play for the Sarasota Sun Devils organization. There, Grady would play tackle football and be able to simulate what real football is like. “I am excited to continue in the footsteps of what my older brother does,” he said. “Football is really fun because you can try to beat your friends



Fifth-grader Grady Hillerich poses with his football that he practices with for his i9 Sports Flag Football Team. Hillerich has been playing football for four years.

PHOTO BY MANNY REA

and come out on top.”

He aims to be like his favorite player, wide-receiver

Jordy Nelson, and he hopes to play for the Green Bay Packers one day.



Fifth-grader Michael Mauro exhibits his batting technique which he has worked long and hard to perfect. Inspired by his father, Mauro started the sport six years ago.

PHOTO BY MADI HOLMES

# Keeping his eye on the ball

by Annie Hassan

With six years of playing baseball under his belt, fifth-grader Michael Mauro continues to perfect his skills. Now, he has played for a total of 12 baseball seasons and plans on continuing to pitch and hit home runs.

Inspired by his father to play baseball, Mauro decided to pick up the sport. “My dad played baseball when he was in college,” he said. “I just thought it would be a fun sport to play, and when I also watched it on television, I knew I had to play.”

Within his team, the Sarasota Little League, Mauro is part of the Minor league, composed of students from the ages of 7 to 11. Mauro is currently in the AAA division which prepares younger players in transitioning into the Major League.

An integral part of his team, Mauro is the third baseman and a pitcher. As the third baseman, Mauro needs quick reflexes and a strong arm, so he can throw players out of first base, whereas as pitcher, he tries to strike the batters out. Practicing on Mondays for two hours, this training prepares Mauro and his team for the games that occur on either Tuesdays or Wednesdays and Saturdays at Twin Lakes Park. While practicing with his teammates, Mauro particularly focuses on his throwing and pitching skills. “I love practicing with my teammates because it is a bonding experience,” he said.

Recently, the season ended with his team, the Bobcats, not winning the championship but coming close. Mauro said,

“Even though we lost, I still enjoyed playing with my teammates and did the absolute best I could.”

The spring season of 2018 has already commenced and is now in session. Fellow classmate Mark Ruster said, “Michael is a good player and is always in the game. He’s a really good pitcher.”

Mauro not only contributes to his team, but also enjoys the feeling he has when playing. He said, “It’s just a fun sport, and honestly the best part of it all is being able to get three strikeouts in a row.”

According to Mauro, he will play baseball during middle and high school and throughout college. “I’m definitely going to play when I get older and follow my father’s footsteps,” he said.

[student submission]

## Going to Jupiter

by Leo Schwimmer, grade 2

First, Lucas Tong, Mr. Umbrella, and I flew on a big red spaceship, called the Expedition 27, to Jupiter. We were the first humans to land on Jupiter! After arriving, we discovered a movie theater and bought movie tickets for the movie “King Kong.” When the movie was finished, it had started to rain and Mr. Umbrella saved us. After that, we went to the store and bought King Kong costumes and Mr. Umbrella paid. Then we went back to the big red spaceship and almost forgot Mr. Umbrella. Finally, we went to Pine View and did a math test.



ART BY MALLORY GORDON, GRADE 2



ART BY LUCY CARNEY, GRADE 4

## The Crazy Trip

by Rose Ottaviano, grade 2

One day, an umbrella turned alive. The umbrella took her owners to Puppy Land. When they were close to Puppy Land, the umbrella got ripped and they almost died. But they landed at the airport. So, they went inside and they flew to Puppy Land. When they got there, they ate pink and white marshmallows with a bunch of puppies. It was a crazy trip!

## [student question submission]

# Why are some cats hairless?

Question submitted by fifth-grader Jack McCarrick



PHOTO BY NAINA CHAUHAN

## by Naina Chauhan

Featured throughout popular culture, hairless cats may strike some as peculiar, with their hallmark wrinkled appearance. These cats were worshiped by the Aztecs thousands of years ago and have forever fascinated us with the mystery of their unusual characteristics.

The modern-day hairless cat, also known as Sphynx, originated in Canada. In the 1960's, a cat named Prune was born hairless in Ontario. Prune was the first hairless cat that the modern world was aware of. Soon after, two sets of Sphynx were born in Minnesota and Toronto.

According to the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory, the phenomenon of these cats being born "hairless" is due to a **genetic mutation** that leaves the cats with wrinkled

skin and lacking a coat of fur. The International Mammalian Genome Society stated that the genetic mutation has been traced back to the loss-of-function of Keratin 71, which allows the **keratinization** of hair follicles.

However, what turned out to be an irregularity in the genetic code was turned into a new breed, popular across the world. Today, Pawculture.com said that Sphynxes are the fifth most popular cat in the world. This was all possible through the process of **selective breeding**. Through years of trial-and-error with selective breeding, scientists successfully bred the lineage is Sphynxes we have come to know and love.

While Prune seemed to be the first of a whole new breed of cats, findings from Mentalfloss.com show that Sphynxes can be dated back to Aztec culture, an ancient Central American civilization. The Aztecs thrived in central Mexico in the post-classic period from 1300 to 1521. The Aztecs considered these cats to be very special and were even revered. Due to their importance to the Aztec people, the Aztecs learned how to breed them.

Catmess.com added that adult Sphynxes are typically eight to nine pounds. They have very slender bodies and tails but are quite muscular for their size. Their lifespan

ranges from 15 years to older. They also have a variety of colors like Blue Mackerel Tabby, Tortoiseshell, and Solid White. Interestingly, Mentalfloss.com wrote that Sphynx cats are about four degrees warmer than most felines, have a faster **metabolism** and need to be fed more often relative to other cats. Because the cats don't have a thick coat of fur, their natural oils cause their skin to be oily without weekly baths.

Although Sphynxes are often called "hairless" cats, this is actually false. Their genetic mutation merely causes their hair to be extremely thin and delicate. Their fuzzy coat is often compared to a peach.

Regarding temperament, while some assume Sphynxes are aggressive, they are quite to the contrary. According to the Journal of Veterinary Behavior, Sphynxes are actually considered the most affectionate cat breed. While the reason for their friendliness is unknown, there are some theories: experts claim it's because they rely on their humans to stay warm, while others tie it to the fact that breeders keep Sphynx kittens with their mothers long after they are born. Since they spend more time being watched over and taken care of by their mothers, they become more kind and loving than most other breeds of cats.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY YOUTUBE.COM

## Definition Box

### 1. Genetic Mutation

An alteration in the sequence of the genome which makes up every part of an organism.

### 2. Selective Breeding

The process of choosing organisms with specific chosen characteristics to make similar offspring.

### 3. Keratinization

The process of cells beneath the skin being converted to hair.

### 4. Metabolism

The chemical processes that the body carries out to maintain homeostasis, or a stable internal environment of the body.

## Students are 'spell' struck

by Alexa Mollod

Greetings, Pine View muggle. It has been a while since I last spoke to you; but, I promise I will divulge all my exciting secrets to you soon. If you were not listening last time, I was sent into a construction site by Mr. Lenny to be trained as a wizard at Pinewarts. However, before I continue, you must promise one thing — that you will not tell a soul.

Upon discovering Pinewarts, my confusion was quite intense. I had no idea why I was there, nor how I never knew about this place before. I began to ask questions and demand answers. "Young wizard," Mr. Lenny said. "You have been sent here by none

other than myself. You have shown true wizarding potential for a while now, but I had to wait until your tenth birthday to finally admit you."

"I don't understand," I said, shaking my head in amazement. "How have you managed to keep this all a secret for so long?"

Mr. Lenny laughed jubilantly. "Young wizard! My job is really just to search for and recruit eligible wizards and witches for Pinewarts. Once recruited, I train them and send them off to succeed and prosper in the wizarding world — where they belong! The construction on campus is simply a cover-up," he said.

Once everything made sense, my questions stopped

and excitement began. Mr. Lenny and my fellow wizards and witches took me to the sorting hat to pick my "house," or, the community in which I will associate myself. "Not Slytherdoodle, not Slytherdoodle," I thought to myself.

"Gryffindoodle!" the sorting hat announced. I got what I wanted! Everyone cheered in excitement. "Let the training begin!" Mr. Lenny announced.

For the next three weeks, I went through intense training and delved into various interesting classes. One was Pin-eology, which taught me the history of wizarding at Pine View, but my favorite was Defense Against the Rolly Backpacks. "Obliviate!" we would yell in unison, and laugh as



Kids practice their spells on the golf cart, expediting their trip to fields. Mr. Lenny observes as he has been training some of these kids for years. GRAPHIC BY MADI HOLMES

the roly backpacks would disappear into thin air.

Now that I am 11-years-old, however, I have left those childish spells behind me. I now prefer mature spells, like "Levioso," allowing me to levi-

tate the golf cart to not wait for the fields whistle.

All in all, life at Pinewarts is a blast, and I can't wait to see how many more fun spells I can learn. And, who knows, maybe you'll be recruited next!



Miss part 1 of the story? Check it out in our last issue under 'print issues'!



## Joke Box

1. Why do bees have sticky hair?  
Because they use honey combs!
2. What do you call an alligator in a vest?  
An investigator!
3. What kind of shoes do ninjas wear?  
Sneakers.
4. What do you call a bear with no ears?  
A B.
5. How did the farmer fix his overalls?  
With a cabbage patch!

## Student drops to all time low

by William Khabbaz

A moment of stress blistered the mind of second-grader Matthew Appleseed after his Language Arts grade dropped from a 96 to a 95. The student portal notified Appleseed's parents, Honey and Fuji Appleseed, of this enormous drop right after receiving a poor grade on his vocabulary test in Abigail Green's class. Due to an enormous sneeze, Matthew filled in the wrong bubble to answer, which ultimately caused him to receive a lower score than expected.

"I was so shocked to see that my son had caused such a disaster. I plan on fixing this mistake, promptly, in order for

my son to have perfect grades. I require that he attend Harvard University after he graduates high school in about 10 years," Honey said, "And a perfect grade point average is necessary for this."

After long hours of meetings and ample extra credit, Matthew was slammed with even higher expectations from his mother. Appleseed will have to practice vocabulary around 100 minutes per day and partake in tutoring for four hours a week. These measures are just a few steps being taken in order for Matthew to continue his road to success.

"I personally believe that, although having access to my son's grades has given me ad-

ditional stress, it has also allowed me to ensure that my son's grades aren't slipping," Fuji said.

Matthew's work ethic throughout elementary school has been stellar. Without missing a single day of school, Matthew had received the highest score possible on every exam and project until this most recent vocabulary exam. He thrives off the feeling of a hundred percent, but his mom unfortunately doesn't. She doesn't approve of Matthew's work and wants him to be achieving even higher.

"I want my son to do more things. He needs to get a hundred on every test without extra credit, play the piano, the



Second-grader Matthew Appleseed received a low grade on a vocab quiz in Abigail Green's class. With his grade dropping to a 95 overall, he risks his entire school career.

GRAPHIC BY LEO GORDON

violin, the clarinet, create a non-profit organization, create his four year plan, and eventually clean his room," Fuji said.

"I want my parents to know that I have worked my hardest to achieve my high grades. I can't slip up and now,

as my school work and grades are being watched to make sure that I am the smartest student I can be," Matthew said, "hopefully, my 100 percent average for semester one and quarter three will compensate for this disaster."



Third-grader Max Proffit saves up for college with his lemonade stand. Working out the statistics on how to make the highest profits, his goal is to sell 81 cups a day for a year to reach his Stanford dream.

GRAPHIC BY NAINA CHAUHAN

## A stand for Stanford

by Riley Board

When third-grader Max Proffit turned nine-years-old, he knew it was time to start saving up for college. With his dream school, Stanford, and its 59,000 dollar tuition, room and board on his mind, Proffit began preparing for his future the only way he knew how: starting a lemonade stand.

"I don't have much entrepreneurial experience and I'm too young to get a job," Proffit said. "My mom suggested a lemonade stand, so I got to work right away."

Proffit's mother came up with the idea after speaking with an expert. "It's never too early to start saving up for college," College Resource Counselor Lance Bergman suggested. "Lots of children have

begun raising tuition money as early as two or three. In fact, Max really should have started earlier if he wants to go to Stanford."

The young mogul began by figuring out the math on his stand in order to make sure he would be profitable. He added the cost of lemons and sugar and materials like a pitcher and table, and determined that at three dollars a cup, he would make 2 dollars off of each sale.

"I only have to sell 29,500 cups of lemonade to cover the cost of tuition and room and board — now I just have to work out books and transportation and food," he said.

Proffit will have to sell about nine cups of lemonade each day for the next nine years, or 81 cups a day for one

year, in order to cover his costs.

"I'm so proud of my son," his mother, Vicki, said. "He works so hard to make his dreams come true; because of this lemonade stand, our family will only go into mild, lifetime debt instead of crushing, crippling debt as a result of his college expenses."

In regard to getting into Stanford, neither Max nor Vicki is particularly concerned. "He's a young business owner, why wouldn't he get in?" Vicki asked.

"To be fair, I won't really have time to do any homework, or study, or participate in any extracurriculars, but hopefully my essays will be strong enough to carry me through," Proffit said. "Either way, at least I'll have some financial security."

# A play on (vocab) words

by Leo Gordon

After utilizing his weekly spelling words to create a mystery story about a blind detective and blind dog, fifth-grader Matrick Thorpe reformatted the story and submitted it as a play; one which would ultimately be chosen to be performed by professionals at Florida Studio Theatre. Over 5,600 plays were submitted to the competition, but Thorpe's, as well as 11 others' plays, were selected to be produced on stage.

In Andy Vitkus' fifth-grade Language Arts class, Thorpe was originally assigned to write a mystery-themed short story using his weekly spelling words. "Matrick has shown creativity for this whole school year, and I'm glad that he took my advice in reformatting his detective story," Vitkus said.

The finished product of Thorpe's work is titled, "Case File 402: Love is Blind." In Thorpe's play, a blind detective and his blind dog are on a mission to expose a "catnapper" who has supposedly captured Romeo, the cat of a character named Juliet.

By the end of the play, it is discovered that Romeo was not kidnapped by the "catnapper," but actually chose to move to the home of the suspect because of his impressive baking skills, which in turn are far superior to Juliet's.

"I didn't even have the slightest intention of playwriting until I was assigned to submit one," Thorpe said. Thor-



Fifth-grader Matrick Thorpe (center) poses with the cast of his play, *Case File 402: Love is Blind*, which was submitted and chosen to be produced by the Florida Studio Theater out of over 5,600 submissions. This play was Thorpe's first foray into playwriting.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARK THORPE

pe's talent for playwriting was not even a thought in his mind until recently, as he had never attempted playwriting before the submission of his play.

"It was neat to see the evolution of Matrick's play from a school assignment to an original play. One of the coolest parts of the whole experience was the fact that he was able to see and hear people's reactions and interpretations of his own work," Mark Thorpe, Matrick's father and P.E. teacher, said.

Prior to Vitkus' playwriting assignment, neither Thorpe nor any of his classmates had experimented with playwriting. However, the class

focused on playwriting in the classroom for a total of three weeks, courtesy of local expert Adam Ratner, who came into class to further enhance the special curriculum.

In the future, Thorpe plans to continue writing, hoping to possibly submit more plays in the coming years. "I'm excited to see my play...because I think this is an accomplishment to be proud of. I really hope that those who get to see my play really enjoy it," Thorpe said.

The play, which was performed throughout the month of April, will continue to run for the remainder of May at the Florida Studio Theater.

[a column]

## Thank you & farewell



Haleigh Brown,  
Match Editor-in-Chief

by Haleigh Brown

Four other times this year I have sat in front of my computer, contemplating where I was in life and thought, "What can I convey to younger students who may be going through the same things I am?" From giving advice on priorities, quality of friends, appreciating your family and growing from setbacks; a lot has happened.

As described in my previous columns, I am in eleventh grade and have been going to Pine View since the fourth grade. Once, I was in your shoes, and I did get through it all, but I'm not going to lie to you, certain parts of it can be rough. However, while balancing school, work, and social life, I have always had one class that has been with me through all of high school: The Torch.

Starting my freshman year, I was beyond intimidated. I wasn't really sure where I belonged. Then sophomore year came along, and my involvement in the newspaper became my main focus. The layout became easier, and I started thinking of ideas on how to improve small parts

of the paper and eventually, I applied to be the editor of the very paper you are reading right now. The moment the application came out I left school immediately to fill it out, revising my answers a million times. Ultimately, getting the position as Match Editor has changed me for the better in ways I can't even describe.

It has allowed me to harness the loud voice I have always had, to have amazing relationships with my assistants as well as others in the class, and truly realize how much the class means to me. Earlier this year I talked about priorities, and this paper has always been one for me.

The amount of heart that needs to be put into this newspaper can be quite daunting; but I believe the next editor will be more than up to the task: I am excited to introduce to you Elizabeth Hopkins.

This column is not advice; it is a thank you and farewell. Thank you to everyone who may have taken one piece of advice from my column and can say it helped them, to everyone in my Torch class and most importantly to my amazing staff. I couldn't have done it without you.

