

# HOOKED

CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL

FALL - WINTER 2017

TARPONBUZZ@GMAIL.COM

## STUDENT OF THE MONTH

### PUNTA GORDA KIWANIS

#### SEPTEMBER...

Garcell, Eliza  
Taylor, Lauren  
Gillet, Carol  
Harrison, Annabel

#### OCTOBER....

Armstrong, Zoe  
McLaughlin, Cade  
Moening, Caden  
Dattilo, Gina

### PUNTA GORDA ELKS SENIORS

#### SEPTEMBER...

Louis, Jessica  
Michel, Andrew

#### OCTOBER...

Hayse, Abigail  
Skeoch, Evan

### PUNTA GORDA ROTARY JUNIORS

#### SEPTEMBER...

Sloan, Elizabeth  
Robbins, Mackenzie\*

#### OCTOBER...

Wodka, Celine  
Tietsworth, John

## Oh Irma

As the news shows nonstop warnings of the Hurricane, Floridians begin to prepare, there are certain precautions to take when a hurricane comes. Some will leave and some will stay, but what happens after the hurricane is the nerve-racking part.

"I was hoping that it would not hit us and turn away but once I found there was a hurricane I did want to evacuate because I was there for Charlie and that was not good," Said Madison Sheppard (10).

As hurricane, Irma headed for southwest Florida Floridians hurried to prepare. Some Floridians who finished preparing their houses early helped their neighbors prepare well.

"We put up shutters and then we helped others around put up their shutters," Sheppard claimed.

As hurricane, Irma continues on its path, social media was changing the way people were

thinking about tis hurricane.

"I think it was talking the hurricane up... they blew it way out of proportion, and they made more people afraid of it," Sheppard explained.

When the new of Irma moving east spread Floridians all over southwest Florida where relieved along with the people who evacuated knowing everything they left behind would be ok.

"It was still sad because I knew that the people on the East don't deserve that either, but also I was happy in a way that Charlotte County was not supposed to get hit again," said Sheppard.

Throughout the path of the hurricane, Irma headed for southwest Florida Floridians prepared themselves for the worst. Some people went out of state, some people went to shelters, and some people just went inland but the people of Florida are thankful because the hurricane could have hit worse that it did.



# Bending a Knee?

In the news, in the schools, in the mouths of everyone, is the story of how the players in the NFL and a growing army of followers are kneeling, sitting, or locking arms during the national anthem to take a stand against institutional racism. Beginning with Colin Kaepernick, the "Bend the Knee" trend is growing with varied response.

"I think they need to get off their knees. When they play the national anthem, you stand in respect of those who fought for your right to wear a jersey." Taylor Whisenant (12)

The controversial topic really struck a chord with her. As Taylor prepares to enter the military, such disrespectful action has her on edge.

"One of the cadets in my ROTC period sat for the pledge, and I chewed him out."

People sitting during the anthem has gotten an extraordinary amount of people heated. Taylor's unique take on the reactions was

## Vegas Tragedy

Over the past year there have been a startling amount of stories in the news about mass murders, shootings, and other tragedies. They come out of nowhere and each time the country gives a tremendous amount of support and empathy. The latest tragedy happened in Las Vegas at a country music concert.

"I think that with all the violence going on right now it doesn't really surprise me, the fact that it had to happen at a Jason Aldean concert, just hurts my soul. The guy who did it seemed like a normal American. That just goes to show what a seemingly normal American can do," said Farryn Haymans (10).

There were over 50 people

inspiring.

"I don't agree with the publicized burning of tickets. While the kneeling is wrong, it's worse to mock them for an attempt at change."

The controversy, while admirable in its cause, was not well accepted by those who hold this country dear. The audience did not appreciate the performance.

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Vegas cont...

killed and injured, and the shooter wasn't even at the concert. He was hidden away in his hotel room that overlooked the concert, and then proceeded to commit suicide. His reason was still unknown, and is being looked into.

"I think that gun control isn't going to solve anything, I read an article about the use of bump stops, which is something that you put on a gun as an accessory which makes a semi-automatic gun get as close as possible to a fully automatic gun, and I think that would be a good idea. A bad person, if they want to figure out how to get something, they're going to do it. It won't stop them, what happened was terrible and I think there should've been more preventative measures," Serenna Reyes (12).

It's sad to say but events like this are becoming the normal in the world now, which is something that should be changed.

## Donate Life

Charlotte High School held a blood drive open for any Charlotte High student to donate blood. Dean Johnson (11) one of the donors, was happy to give his blood to help others

"It wasn't bad at all. It only took like a minute or two. I cannot remember the last time I got my blood drawn, so I was thinking it would take like 10 or 15 minutes,"

said Johnson.

Jared Borges (12) planned attend the blood drive as well.

"I was planning on going, but I woke up to start getting ready for school I didn't feel so well. So I decided it would be best if I stayed home to prevent anyone else from getting sick, I was a little upset that I couldn't go, because I wanted to help out and donate my blood for the people in need," said Borges.

Jordan McIntyre (11) showed up and prepped to give blood.

"I personally have never given blood before; I'm not a fan of needles either so I wasn't very excited for this trip. When I was done though I realized it was not even that bad. You could barely feel the needle and once it was in all I felt was some light pressure on my arm," said McIntyre.

The blood drive ended up being successful. Many people donated blood and a large amount of blood will go to people who are in need.



# Choosing the Best

H.O.P.E classes have been going to a presentation for a few weeks to learn about STDs and sexual activities.

“During the adolescence period is when hormones start activating causing people to become curious to try new things and some people who are frequently more active could get something that drastically changes their life,” Cory Lomski (9)

Being educated is vital to have safe sex. If not, unwanted pregnancy or STDs can occur.

“I feel students’ don’t realize how serious STDs are so if they could educate them like how you

get them, what they cause, and their different symptoms, they would be less likely to get one,” Alexandria Gillet.

”Students should learn about STDs so if they catch them, this [info] will be very useful in life,” Camryn Weinberg (9)

Though high school years is when most teens begin having sexual activity, others think earlier is the appropriate time to start teaching children about STDs and such.

“Students should learn about STDs 8th grade and up,” Gilley. “Kids should learn this at age at 14.”

Therefore, students should



continue learning about this to prevent unfortunate situations from happening.

## Aptitude Adjustment

The PSAT stands for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude test. This test is usually given to sophomores and juniors to prepare them for the SAT.

With taking the PSAT, you take the NMSQT which is the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. This test helps the students prepare for the actual SAT, so they can make sure they can get high enough test scores to go to the college they want.

“Even though I was tired while taking the test, I felt like I did well and I felt it was easy,” said Hunter Rompre (10).

The test has mixed reviews on whether it was difficult or not. While some thought it was easy, others thought the test was a little bit hard with some easy parts.

“The test had me a bit shaken because it wasn’t what I was expecting at all, there were definitely questions on the test that I was easier than some,” said Jaxson



Nihranz (10).

The test also gave students good practice for the actual test because the questions are like that on the actual SAT. The test was no joke when it came to the questions.

“The questions were a good practice and overall the test lets you know where you stand for when you take the actual test,” said Molly Bittner (11).

The PSAT overall gave students a great understanding of what the actual test has to offer. When it came down to time of a test that was almost 3 hours long, people may have gotten tired but they succeeded with finally finishing the test. Now it’s time to prepare for the big one.

# School's No Place for Bullies

Bullying is a worldwide issue that affects millions of kids each year. It has become such a serious problem that it is mandatory in the state of Florida to teach students in some way about the issue.

"A lot of kids don't realize how much power they have to intervene appropriately and learning other ways to get involved," Mrs. Pyle, CHS Assistant Principal.

As an administrator for a school that deals with these kinds of issues, you must have lots of advice and solutions prepared for when someone comes in looking for help.

"My first piece of advice is where ever they go, be with someone else cause it's less likely to happen when other people are around," Mrs. Pyle.

When the bully is caught, punishment is usually the first thing on everyone's minds. But there are other things you can do on top of a punishment that can be helpful so there is less of a recurring incident.

"We also try to work with the kid to change, lots of conversations to understand how they affected the victim and try to relate it to their personal life because they seem to understand better when we relate it to their own lives," Mrs. Pyle.

The teaching of bullying can easily have information that is left out due to changing times. Teachers and students may feel that some topics should be added so that students can have a more broadened knowledge.

"We change the presentation every year, so if students feel that there is something that needs to be added they can tell us," Mrs. Pyle.

No one can expect a problem to be solved if no one has any knowledge on it. Teaching and learning is an important part of

topics such as bullying.

"Being informed always helps, knowing that they're not alone, and being educated on reporting and intervening," Mrs. Pyle.

When people hear stories from victims about their experience with bullying, most think about how awful it must be to be a victim and how they would never treat someone else like that. But the truth is that it happens way more than people think.

"There's usually something in that bully's life that makes them act the way they do, for each kid there is probably something different," Mrs. Pyle.

With the requirement in Florida only being once a year, some may think that it should be talked about more since bullying is becoming more and more serious each year.

"It wouldn't hurt, it's something that the more you talk about it, the more educated and comfortable people become, and it may reach that one kid who needs it," Mrs. Pyle.

Hearing stories from bullying victims is never easy. It can be very emotional and can hit close to home for some. When it is your job to take care and listen to these stories on a daily basis, it can have a great effect on you.

"It makes me a little bit angry and a little bit sad," Mrs. Pyle.

When you hear so many stories from victims for so many years, it can start to take a toll on you. Bullying is a very emotional topic that can affect people greatly, although it can also open your eyes more and make you more aware.

"It's made me much more aware with my own children, with looking out for signs," Mrs. Pyle.

In movies, you always see bullying taking place in middle schools and high schools, but it can happen anywhere at any age. Some

may feel that kids should be taught at a certain age (usually around middle school and high school), so the kids are old enough to understand but not too old to where it's almost too late.

"Pre-K and Kindergarten. It's important from the very beginning. Some kids can be raised that way and start from a very young age," Mrs. Pyle.

Bullying is a serious and emotional topic that should be talked about to all students. Teaching kids about the effects it has on people and how they can intervene is important because you cannot expect anything to change if you don't do anything about it.

## Are you Hooked?

The Tarpon Journalism program is flourishing at Charlotte High. This year's staff has many new faces and all are promising journalists. The current staff not only designs, writes, advertises and produces the yearbook, they also write for the Charlotte Sun page and for the online paper "Hooked."

These students carry a full schedule of academics, athletics and outside curricular activities, while learning graphic design and Photoshop skills. They do all of this within one class period, five times a week.

Should you have comments/suggestions, compliments or would like to contribute to the program by photo or story, please contact Tarpon Journalism. [tarponbuzz@gmail.com](mailto:tarponbuzz@gmail.com). Thank you.

Ms. Kelli J. Lipe, Adviser

Yearbooks can still be ordered online 24/7  
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# TARPON YEARBOOK

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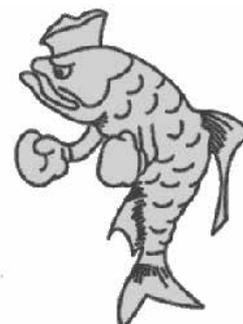
It is time again for the students of Charlotte High School to begin to put together another outstanding yearbook. We are pleased that our yearbook is created using the latest computer technology in the publication process. We hope that our efforts at school will help prepare our students to better meet the needs of the business community.

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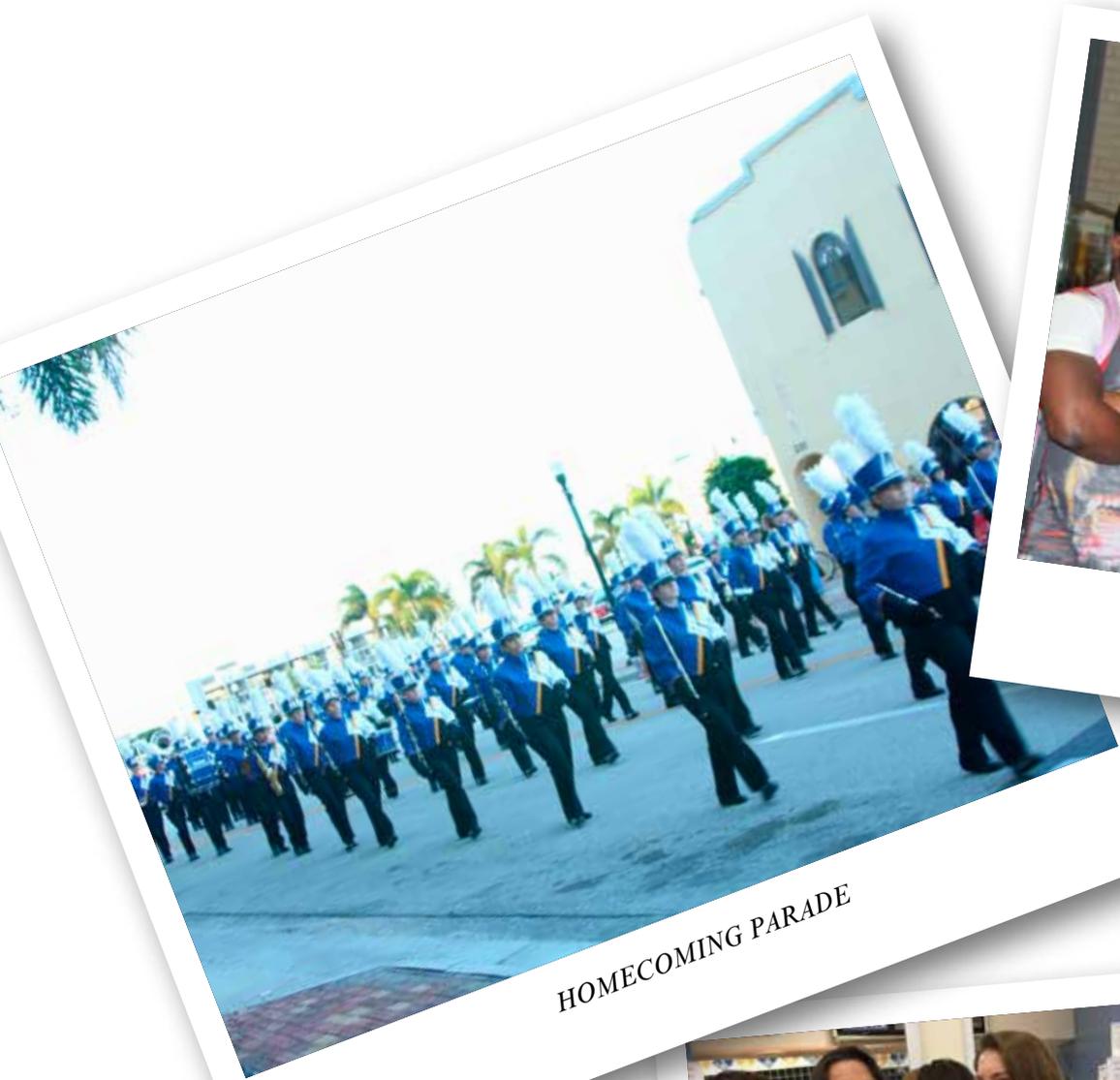
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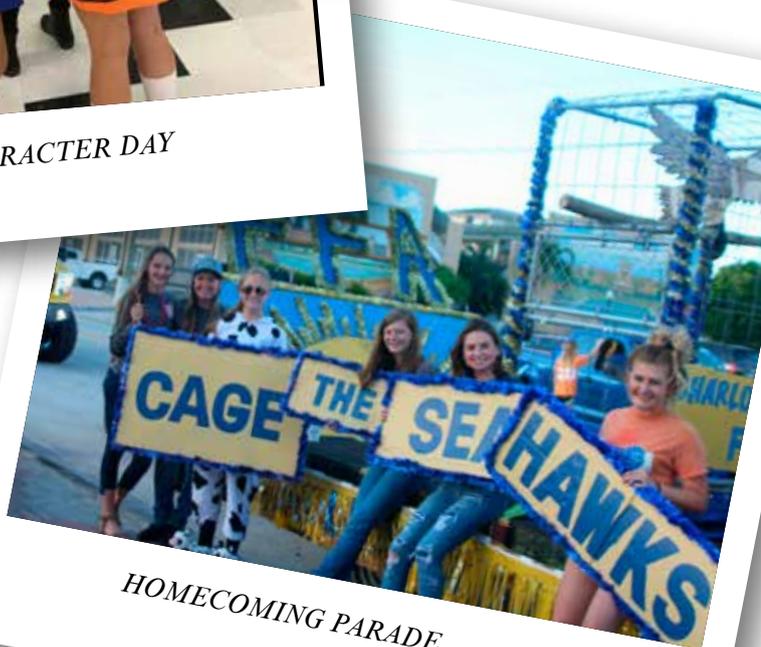
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# HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS 2017



*CHARACTER DAY*



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