

DOLPHIN PRIDE

Dec. '09/Jan. '10
Vol. 2 Issue 4
Digital Design
Class

Happy New Year MHS

"Another Year Over... A new one just begun." John Lennon

Layout: Michelle Saunders Photos courtesy of Dolphin Pride archives

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2009-2010**

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January 2009



Lourdes Dick
2009 Teacher of the Year

February



Ana Scot -Queen of Hearts

March



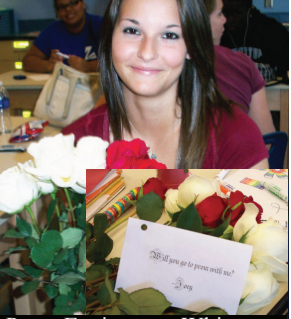
Culinary Academy 1st Annual Rib Eating Contest

April- Daric Huntt



King of Spring

May



Prom Excitement-Whitney
accepts invite!



August- 1st Day of school -seniors arrive



September- Pres. Obama's
TV speech to nation's students



October-Pep Rally Madness



November-Homecoming Royalty:
Emily & AJ

December



Alexandra Federal &
students read to Switlik
Elementary children..



Main Office Holiday Spirit Abounds-Door decorating contest!
Linda King and Alaina spread some cheer!



January 2010



Mike Lettau-
2010 Teacher of the Year

**MHS
Year
in
Review**

2010 By Paul Acosta

New Year's celebration! When you hear those words, you think of parties, fun, a couple weeks out of school, and spending time with your friends and/or family. New Year's is a celebration that is renowned around the world and it's known by everyone as the turning point to next year. The New Year is a time to make any complications in your life, your loved ones, or just about anybody's life disappear and begin anew. Everyone wants a fresh start and to resolve old problems for the New Year.

New Year's Eve is celebrated on the December 31 with many great parties going on in the major cities. In New York City, there is the famous ball drop in Times Square counting down the last 60 seconds of the previous year. The crystal ball descends 77 feet within one minute to the New Year. Millions of people flock to Manhattan Island to witness the descent or are glued to their TV sets to watch the last seconds of the old year.

There might not be anything as great as New York's crystal ball here in the Keys, but we've always managed to have a great time during those hours that make up New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. The Dolphin Pride staff will be celebrating New Year's at home with our friends and families so until next year, we all wish you a great start to the New Year!

Keys Center Students Read Holiday Stories

Photos courtesy of Mark Hooper



"Keys Center Academy students recently traveled to Stanley Switlik Elementary School to read Holiday Stories with kindergarten and first grade students. This field trip was designed to give the Keys Center students a community service experience that was both positive and rewarding for all involved. All are anxious for the next reading opportunity!"

Alexandra Federal, MHS Keys Center Teacher

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December 2009

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL! ¡¡FELIZ NAVIDAD Y PROSPERO AÑO NUEVO!!

Hanukah: The Festival of Lights

By Michelle Saunders

Hanukah, also known as the “Festival of Lights” is a Jewish holiday celebration lasting for eight days and nights. It starts on sundown December 11th and follows through until the 19th. This celebration is praise for the triumphs of ancient Jewish heroes. The story of Hanukah came about 2,200 years ago as the Jews were not allowed to practice their religion in Isreal. After three years of fighting military arms, the Jews won back their rights to practice their traditional religion.

Now, in America, we celebrate Hanukah close to the Christmas season. We follow the traditions of Hanukah which include the dreidel, once used for a serious purpose. The dreidel has four sides that stand for certain letters and words. Spin the dreidel and it will land on a word. Whichever word it represents, is the amount of tokens you shall take. One wins when they take all the tokens. The dreidel can also be played using candy and other things that can be traded.

Another tradition includes the feast. Many traditional Jewish dishes and recipes are still used. Many foods are cooked in oil, in remembrance of the oil that burned in the temple when the Jews celebrated their victory. A popular dish, known as Latkes or potato pancakes is widespread throughout the United States. Soofganiot is another widespread dish. Cooked in oil, it makes a jelly filled type donut.

The most important tradition is the lighting of the menorah. The menorah is a candle stand with nine candle slots. Each night, after a feast, candles are lit depending on the day. The menorah represents the miracle of the Jewish victory when oil burned for eight days and nights.

Although this may not be a tradition you are familiar with, it is for many Jewish families in the U.S. and all over the world. It's a great time to appreciate and to experience one of the many religious holiday traditions celebrated in our nation this season.

Performing Arts Corner- Expanding our Musical Horizons

By Jessica Smith

Music has a huge influence upon millions of people, so it makes sense that most schools have music programs. Every student should learn about music, and have a chance to express themselves through a music program. Marathon High School has only a band program, but talks of expansion in the musical arts has been rumored. One huge supporter of our musical performing arts program is John Rudolph.

John Rudolph is a local resident and a very talented performer. He has made several substantial contributions to the school already. He donated a grand piano that was once in a very famous music hall and all the accessories needed to care for it properly. He even had it tuned for us. As well as the generous piano donation, Rudolph has donated curtains custom made for us as well as the set used in the November concert held at MHS, “A Night of Music.” This concert also featured Charles Hindburg, a composer, and dancing by Theo and Ganine, professional dance performers and owners of a local dance studio. The evening also featured a catered meal to accompany the night's entertainment.

John Rudolph has mentioned that he hopes to see a continued expansion in the performing arts programs and most importantly, student involvement. The most spectacular example of the talent our students possess was evident in the performance by MHS student, Cynthia Garcia at the concert. It was a surprise to those who attended, but a very pleasant one. From all at the Dolphin Pride, we send a big “Thank You!!!!!!” to John Rudolph, for his great contributions.

MHS Band performs on deck in the annual Key Colony Beach Holiday Boat Parade. *Photos courtesy of Andrea Rapach*



Holidays: Latino Style

By Cindy Zaldivar

The holidays are here! MHS students and their families are about to celebrate some of the most important holidays of the year. Christmas Eve is really important to most people, and it reminds us of the story behind this beautiful holiday. Christmas Eve was when the three kings followed the northern star to find the place where the infant would be born.

Christmas Eve is celebrated around the world. MHS students of Hispanic roots are one of the many cultures who are celebrating Noche Buena which means “Christmas Eve” in Spanish. This year MHS students will be celebrating “Noche Buena” in many different ways. Hispanic students including myself celebrate it with loud music, a lot of food and family and friends.

Also, there are many ways to celebrate the coming New Year. My family tradition is that on New Year's Eve we celebrate it in our house. We make sure that all the doors are open at 12 midnight to receive the blessings of the New Year. We also make sure we eat twelve grapes to make a wish. Every grape represents a month, and all we do is make a wish for every month of the year. Another tradition is to wear something red for love and something green for money or have money inside our shoes but for me, I think it will be a better idea just wearing the colors.

Whatever your traditions may be, I wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all MHS students, teachers and staff.

Holiday Shopping

By Danielle Pabon

When it comes to Christmas shopping things can be crazy, especially with the economy this year and last year. The economy in 2008 was in a bad recession according to an article at www.usnews.com. Job losses were up to 1.5 million and only a .01 increase in consumer item prices. People shopped very little as money was being saved to support the family. By 2009, things got better and shopping and spending slowly began to come back. Although the economy is still having problems, it looks like things might get better. Therefore, with the economy still down people are going to be looking for sales while shopping for the holidays.

There are many things a person can do to save money and still be able to get great gifts! Make a budget on how much you are going to spend and look for items that qualify for the price range you set. Look online for sales like EBay or Amazon.com for the gifts that your want to purchase. Scan through the sales ads for ideas and don't get sucked into buying items that are on sale if you don't need them. If you want to buy it make sure it's in your budget! Do not buy anything for yourself. Not only will it give you a major guilt trip but if you wait until after the holidays, it will be on sale even cheaper than it is now. Also, it is very important to keep track of what you buy so you don't end up out of money before you know it.

Black Friday and Cyber Monday are two of the best days of the year to hit sales! Black Friday is the Friday right after Thanksgiving and the day most Christmas shopping begins. It is the biggest retail shopping day of the year and the prices range from cheap sale items to great buys. Cyber Monday is right after Black Friday and is when a lot of sales are offered online. Amazon, EBay, and Craigslist are great places to begin and get all the items you need while saving. Even if you miss these days there are always going to be sales on all kinds of products out there. So enjoy your holidays and shopping. Don't let it all stress you out for it's a time to celebrate with family and friends.

January 2010

El Siboney comes to Marathon!

Forget Fast Food, Try Cuban Cuisine!

El Siboney Restaurant is now the town's third addition to the Cuban culture in Marathon. Its original location is in Key West, where it has been recognized as a top authentic Cuban food restaurant since 1993. El Siboney is a family owned and operated restaurant, proudly serving Florida's Lower Keys community since 1984. Although it changed ownership in 2004, it still has the same recipes and great tasting food. The family-friendly Cuban restaurant offers the best in authentic Cuban dishes at budget conscious prices. Included in the menu is roast pork, palomilla steak, Cuban roast beef, seafood and many more mouth watering dishes.

El Siboney is now providing our community with exquisite food and recipes. Ruddy and Penelope De La Cruz opened El Siboney in the Gulfside Village location where the old Village Cafe used to be. The restaurant, which opened in mid November, is a franchise of sorts, but it's all in the family; Ruddy's brother, Jose, owns El Siboney in Key West. "It's going to be fresh, fast and affordable eating from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily," said Ruben De La Cruz, a senior at Marathon High School and also a member of the De La Cruz family.

So if you're feeling hungry and wish to eat great food, go to El Siboney, the newly opened Cuban Restaurant in Marathon!

New Moon, the Movie in Review

By Kaite Landry

After the abrupt departure of Edward, Bella develops a friendship with Jacob and is drawn into the world of werewolves, where she must later on choose between Edward and Jacob.

Overall I thought New Moon was very good and acceptable, but could have been much better. When being compared to *Twilight*, it is overruled by a lot. The graphics and story plot have improved greatly and the movie resembled the book more, which is an enormous factor for all of the diehard *Twilight* fans.

One thing that could have been changed is when Bella walks away from Jessica to go ride the motorcycles. In the book, Bella did walk away from her, but she never rode on the motorcycle. Also, Edward came and saved her when she was running away from the people on the motorcycles. This event never occurred in the movie.

Other than these minor differences, New Moon was a very well thought out movie that stayed somewhat true to the book. I enjoyed the movie and recommend it to all the *Twilight* fans out there.

READY FOR MIDTERMS?

By Trishelle Talbert & Danielle Pabon

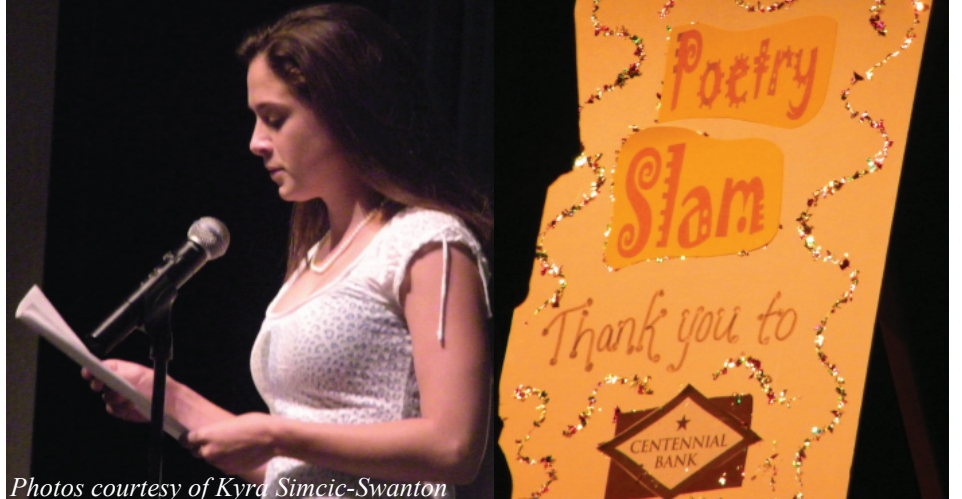
The time of the dreaded midterms is upon us and it's time to get those books out and study, study, study! Every year students take a midterm to see if they will pass the class. Some are ready and some are not. It takes patience and a lot of down time to get a passing grade and there are steps you can take to help you get through it. Many students suffer from anxiety and are nervous when the exam days come.

Since midterm exams happen every year, it's important to get an idea what people do to prepare. Paul, a fellow student at MHS, says that midterms make life a little easier and that since it's a review of the whole semester you're pretty much prepared if you pay attention. Another student stated that some people do nothing and just don't care about it and that will lead to consequences they won't want to face. Jessica said, "for math she does extra problems every night and for history she reads her notes as much as possible."

These steps will help you to pass the tests. First, you need to manage your time and plan when it's best to study. Sleep, exercise, and healthy eating are some good ways to prepare you for a new day and study time. Make sure you have a place that is quiet or free of distraction. Sometimes low music or the TV can help. Study groups also make it a good way to study; you can quiz and help each other with things that are confusing. If you need too, go to teachers after school and ask them to go over the materiel with you. It's important not to get nervous. It's like any other test and anything to calm you will help. (Resource: steps taken from <http://collegeuniversity.suite101.com>).

As you approach the midterm exam testing dates, think about these tips and try to apply them as you study. In my opinion, the midterms are pretty straightforward, but you still have to prepare to do your best! So get your pencils ready and go!

Michelle Sardina reads her poem.



Photos courtesy of Kyra Simcic-Swanton

Poetry Slam The Complete Idiots Guide to Slam Poetry states, "Poetry slam blends poetry, performance, and competition to spawn a captivating event in which poets compete in front of an animated electrified audience. It's a festival, a carnival act, an interactive class, a town meeting, a con game, and a poetic boxing match, all rolled into one."

Students write and recite original poems to compete for prize money. The contest was designed by Language Arts teacher, Roxanne Skaggs and sponsored by the Centennial Bank. The bank offered prizes of \$50 for 1st place ; \$25 for 2nd place; \$10 for 3rd place. Students had to submit their applications in advance and have their poems approved as well as select student audience members as part of their performance team. The performances were held in the courtyard on Dec. 18th.

Senior Focus

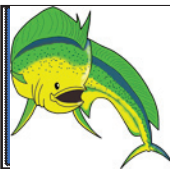
By Sabrina Zaveri

The past twelve school years have zoomed by faster than we could have ever imagined and now we're all inching toward the end of the rope with only a semester to go. There are many things we need to do in order to prepare for graduation and the astounding events that take place after. First things first, don't come down with senioritis and let your classes and grades slip right through your fingers, midterms are right around the corner and many of us need to pass them to get our hands on that diploma. Every day is a step towards graduation, and everyday counts. So starting to visit colleges would be a great idea along with following up with teachers to obtain letters of recommendation. Also taking or retaking the SAT/ACT, reviewing how you intend to pay for college, search and apply for scholarships, getting a couple copies of your transcripts to send to the colleges in which you applied, and maybe even getting a summer job would definitely put you ahead of the game.

MHS seniors, don't get too overwhelmed, we have many teachers and staff you can talk to right here at school, including Mrs. Lynn, and our guidance counselors, Dr. Sympson and Ms. Butcher. So make an appointment with them and they can even help you fill out applications, and create a resume of your academic achievements.

Midterm Exam Schedule

January 12-Tuesday	January 13-Wednesday	January 14-Thursday	January 15-Friday
1st period	1st period exam-1/2	1st period exam-1/2	1st period
4th period exam	3rd period exam	2nd period exam	5th period exam
MS 6th period exam	MS 7th period exam	HS Lunch	Period 6
HS Lunch	HS Lunch	HS Lunch	HS Lunch
HS 6th period exam	HS 5th period	HS 7th period	MS 7th period
MS Lunch	MS 5th period	MS 7th period	MS Lunch
3rd period	MS Lunch	Period 2	Period 2
7th period	11:30 Early Dismissal	Period 3	Period 3



DOLPHIN SPORTS

Winter Sports

by Jose Galicia

8-0 Dolphins Dominate Miami Christian

The MHS soccer team was visited by Miami Christian on Wednesday December 2nd. It was a good game for the Dolphins after coming back home from 9-1 mercy rule win against Colonial Christian the week before. It started good for Marathon when Matt DeFillips opened up the scoreboard five minutes into the game. A few minutes later he doubled the score on a breakaway. Manuel Chiari scored the next two goals making it 4-0. The first half ended with a 7-0 lead with the other three goals coming from Ethan Wallace, Romarlo Robertson, and Doniel Esquirol-Lopez. When the second half started, Miami Christian began playing better but it was too late. Ricky Ceja scored the eighth and final goal with about 20 minutes left of the game.

Girls' Soccer

Marathon girl's soccer team hosted the game against Princeton which we won 3-0. The game was a very good game since the Dolphins dominated the possession. Marathon had many opportunities to score and at the 21st minute mark, freshman Taylor Konrath scored from outside the 18 yard box. Kaite Landry doubled the score at the 27th minute and then Jasmine De La Cruz scored the final goal. The MHS girls team now has a 5-1-2 record and will be facing Mater Lake at home.

Boys' Basketball

The boy's basketball team was visited by Miami Country Day on Wednesday, December 2nd. Even though Marathon had three of their starters on the bench for the first half, the Dolphins got an easy 69-49 victory. Dwayne Ellis, one of the starters, came off the bench in the second quarter and he led the Dolphins with 15 points and also six rebounds. Nyran Ross, another starter, had 11 points and two steals, finally Travis Leachman scored 10 points, 10 rebounds and two blocks. This was Marathon's first win of the season but we're expecting more since they've been playing better as a team now.

Girls' Basketball

The MHS girl's basketball team fought hard to win their first game against Miami Christian School. The Lady 'Phins were trailing at half-time but then the girls stepped their game up by netting 23 points to win the game. Junior point guard, Dionis Herrada led the Dolphins with 11 points and then Alaina Davis with 10. The game ended 39-28, Marathon. They now have a 1-4 record and will be facing Palmer Trinity next.

Culinary Academy Holiday Cookout Dec. 17, 2009

Good Food, Music and Dance: A lunchtime culinary holiday treat!

Photos courtesy of Jesse Bonilla/Culinary Academy

