

DOLPHIN PRIDE

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Class

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2009-2010

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"Congratulations Class of 2010"



Photo courtesy of Diana Walker



Bye Bye Seniors

By Selene Garcia

Good-bye to Another Great School Year

By Lianet Fleites

From the seniors' first day arrival on the fire truck to the last school dinner for the 2009-2010 school year, this year has been outstanding! We've had school wide cookouts and we even had a junior-senior trip to Boomers! Graduation is getting closer and we are all thinking of ways to say good-bye; it's finally getting to the seniors. Meanwhile, all of the juniors are starting to feel like the top dogs at MHS and the freshman won't be as fresh as before. What happens next year will be an exciting mystery to the remaining students and staff. Congratulations to the 2010 seniors, and good luck to the upcoming class of 2011. Make your last year a great experience like we did! We will always be proud to be Marathon High School Dolphins.

The time has come to move on to new beginnings. We are finally graduating leaving behind many memories that forever will be in our hearts. We have all dreamed for this moment to come and now that it's here, I can say that we are all sad just to think that we are leaving our friends. Maylin Ibarra a senior remarks, "I'm excited to leave but I hope the real world will be better." Senior, Lianet Fleites says, "Even though our fellow classmates are going in different directions, I hope that we all come back for the 2020 reunion!"

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Class of 2010 on their academic achievements. I wish all my senior classmates the best, and hope they have a bright future ahead of them. There's only one thing left to say about the CLASS OF 2010: WE ARE THE BEST THAT EVER WAS!

Finally, I would like to leave all of you with this thought by author Richard Bach: "Don't be dismayed at goodbyes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. Meeting again, after moments or a lifetime, is certain for those who are friends."

Looking Towards the Future

By Sahalie Smythe



Once again, the cycle repeats itself, as the class of 2010 throw their caps into the air, rising juniors will step in and take their place. As we look past our summer break; a new school year is about to begin. In September, juniors will become seniors as their first big step towards graduation. The focus will then turn to the class of 2011 as they stand with one foot out the door, and the others anxiously ready to follow. There are many big changes in becoming a senior that, I know, we are all looking forward to. This is our last year to figure out who we really are and what we want to become. At least, that is what we've all heard from adults. In more ways than one, this upcoming year will probably be the most stressful one in our high school education.

Every one puts so much pressure on seniors to do well in school, get accepted to college, and know exactly what they want to do or where they want to go. I asked Brendan Frailey, a junior at Marathon High School, how he felt about becoming a senior next year and his response was, "I'm excited for my last year of school and a bit nervous about what will happen after high school." This response is very common for many high school students. It is easy to talk about what you want to do, but a lot harder to actually do it. I feel many high school students get anxious when they realize what it takes to make it in the world today. However, I feel anyone and everyone can succeed if they give it their all. Let's wish our departing seniors, and our soon to be seniors good luck on their journeys. Congratulations class of 2010, class of 2011 will be right behind you following your lead.

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May is...

A Day to Remember Mom

By Kaite Landry

Nearly 150 years ago, an Appalachian Homemaker, Anna Jarvis, established a day to raise awareness of poor health conditions in her community. She believed that mothers would be the group to assist with this plan. The idea came to be known as 'Mother's Work Day.'



Fifteen years later, Julia Ward Howe, a Boston poet and author of the lyrics to "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," organized a day dedicated to mothers to rally for peace. She thought that mothers mourned the loss of children more than anyone else.

In 1905, Anna died and her daughter, also Anna, embarked on a campaign that commemorated the work of her mother. Anna later remembered her mother praying for someone to establish a day to praise the work of mothers.

Anna began to rally large political figures such as Presidents Taft and Roosevelt to support her campaign. At her mother's first funeral service, Anna passed around white carnations, her mother's favorite flower, in her honor. Five years later, the House of Representatives ratified a declaration to all public officials to wear a white carnation on Mother's Day. In 1914, Anna's dedication led to Woodrow Wilson signing a bill to observe Mother's Day as a National Holiday.

In the beginning people celebrated Mother's Day by attending church or sending their mothers flowers and letters. Gift giving became big during Mother's Day and this angered Anna. She filed a lawsuit in 1923 to stop Mother's Day from being a 'greed and profit' holiday. She was soon arrested for disrupting peace at a convention for a war mother's group.

In 1948, Jarvis confessed that she wished she had never begun campaigning for a Mother's Day heritage. She later died after this confession and Mother's Day continued to flourish and prosper throughout the world.

Now, the second Monday of May has become the most popular day to dine out along with telephone lines ringing off the charts and children from all over using this day to express their gratitude to their mothers.

<http://blog.seattlepi.com/seattleshopper/library/happy-mothers-day.jpg>

MHS Teacher of the Year

By Cynthia Garcia



Photo courtesy of Cynthia Garcia

The award "Teacher of the Year" goes to a hardworking teacher who cares for his students and takes his job very seriously. The lucky teacher this year is Mr. Mike Lettau. When he was asked why he wanted to teach, he replied "I didn't choose to teach, it chose me. Me and my buddy were talking one day and informed me about it, and I thought I would give it a try. Ever since then, I have loved my job."

Mr. Lettau has been a teacher for 10 years. He teaches Alternative Education classes. He teaches English, Geometry, History and Science. He stated, "I love teaching, because I learn stuff from my students while I'm teaching them academics. I learn everyday things and interesting facts. I love my job."

Since his wife, Ms. Lettau-Costello also works in the same school, he was asked if working in the same school with his spouse interferes with his job. He replied "Honestly, no it does not interfere, because I don't really see her very often, we work in two different buildings and never really cross paths, but we do save money on gas."

Mike Lettau has been awarded "Teacher of the Year" because of his loyalty and dedication to his job. That's what people look for when they award a teacher this title. We appreciate the hard work he has done this year and hopes he has a great summer.

National Military Appreciation Month

By Paul Acosta



National Military Appreciation Month is renowned for all the military personnel that are currently or previously in the armed forces and the families that they have back home. There is a big chance that someone you know is in or was in the military. It could be a friend, relative, neighbor, or someone in your community. In one way or another, we are all affected by someone we know who

has been in the military, maybe by that someone's been in battle or stationed in some foreign country.

The month of May was chosen as the NMA month because during the Civil War days, Memorial Day was marked as a day of recognition for all the people that have died in service. Traditionally, Memorial Day is always on the last Monday of the month, which this year it is on the 31st. If there is any high school or middle school student that has a member of their family that has served or is serving in the military, they should have the upmost respect for their family members and wish them well in the struggle that they may or might be going through.

Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

By Cindy Zaldivar

What's a better way to show our MHS teachers how much we appreciate them for what they've done for us? At MHS, we celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week by doing many different things for teachers. For example, DTV students place teachers' names in a bowl and whoever's name gets picked wins a prize. There's also a teacher's luncheon hosted by the school advisory council (SAC). Chef Green's students helped to prepare wonderful entrees and parents also brought specially prepared dishes that they know teachers should enjoy. Some students bring gifts to their teachers to say an extra thank you. Teachers at MHS don't just teach us different subjects, they also teach us about life. Our teachers are also good friends who will listen to you no matter what. Teachers are highly appreciated in MHS all year, but this week is reserved for them. Thank you to all our staff and faculty at MHS!!!



Pictured above: Diana Walker (center) enjoys a collegial lunchtime with colleagues. Photo courtesy of Lianet Fleites

MHS... in the Halls

A Farewell to Mr. Russell

By Christina Rios



Mr. Russell posing before the trophy given to him by the SAC.
Photo courtesy of Chris Falcon

Mr. Russell, our principal, will be leaving us at the end of this school year. He has been transferred to Sugarloaf Middle and Elementary School where he will lead the school as its principal. As a member of the Dolphin Pride staff I had the privilege to interview him, and received quite a bit of insight into his job and feelings toward the MHS and MMS students.

Mr. Russell has worked hard as principal of our school. During his time, he has worked to improve our school. "I feel as if I established a large amount of MHS pride, not only among the MHS staff, but the student body and community as well." He has also increased the types of classes offered to our students such as AP (Advanced Placement) classes. As we talked he went into detail on the fact that when he started work at our school there were about five AP courses. Next year

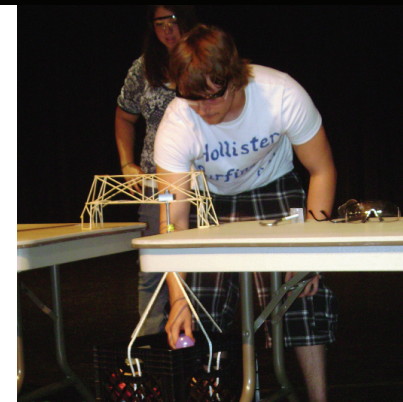
there may be as many as fifteen. "I have also seen the Career Technical Education (CTE) programs flourish at my time here, and that, in itself has been amazing."

All of this effort he has put into our rapidly improving our school has been for the sole purpose of improving the lives of our students. When asked about the best part of his job, he simply said, "working with the students." He added, "Everything the staff and I do is for the kids." It has always been that way for him ever since he went into the field of education. He told me that he had originally been a teacher. When he had been given the opportunity to work in administration, it was an offer he just could not refuse. His reasoning for this was that in theory by being a teacher you affect maybe twenty to twenty-five students' lives but as principal at MHS, he was able to affect so many more students.

As a student at MHS, I think that I can speak for the entire school body when we say that we will truly miss Mr. Russell and wish him all the best at Sugarloaf School. His final words to MHS are: "It has been an honor and privilege to serve as principal of MHS and MMS the last three years." He ended the interview with his signature slogan: "I will always remember team, family, and pride!"

Good Luck Mr. Russell - MHS will miss you!

Math Bridge Building Fun



Master builders design bridges and test for strength and load bearing capabilities. Katelyn and Jasmine are pleased with their bridge performance. Steven Nelson applies load pressure to his bridge. Photos courtesy of Math Department.

Final Finals Tips

By Chris Falcon

Students only have a couple days left. Seniors should have already paid their dues and underclassmen should be studying for the upcoming exams. With finals only a few days away these are some basic study tips to follow:

Flash Cards:

Putting flashcards into your study tactics can not only benefit you but these little life savers can also help your friends in need of a refresher. With math and some of the harder subject, put examples on one side and the definition/answer on the other.

Study groups:

A lot of individuals make mistakes when this idea is followed. I cannot stress enough how many people choose the WRONG people to study with. Choosing people to study with that share your goals also ensures how much material will be reviewed or covered. Some people want to skip the areas they know. Make sure the people in the group are responsible, or if not that; respectful.

Turn off or on the music!

Music can help a lot of kids when studying. Make sure though that if you do study with music that it does not interfere with the other students studying. Some can even get a thought in when music is on!

Eating and sleeping right!

Just like FCAT preparation tell us, students need to eat and sleep accordingly. Each person needs eight hours of sleep and a breakfast that fills the person. Eating junk foods in the morning will in no way benefit you before the test. Rather, the effects would be a rise in active thinking then a very heavy drop in only a couple minutes or an hour. So eat right and sleep tight!

Prom: A Night to Remember

By Maylin Ibarra



Shadiana, Maylin and Helen ready for an enchanted evening.
Photo courtesy of Lianet Fleites

All the juniors and seniors gathered at the very sophisticated Sombrero Country Club for the prom. They all had an amazing time and enjoyed themselves very much. All the girls wore beautiful elegant dresses and the boys looked handsome in there tuxes. Prom this year was a terrific experience especially for the seniors. The juniors planned the event very well and the decorations were spectacular. As you walked in, it seemed like you were immediately transported to a fantasy. Inside there was an array of disco lights that went along with the rhythm of the music. There were also appetizers served along with refreshments. As soon as everyone heard the music they jumped out of their seats and started dancing. Senior, Lianet Fleites, commented "Oh I had so much fun! My friends and I danced all night." As a senior, this Dolphin Pride reporter thanks the juniors for making our last prom an unforgettable one.



Royals: Prom Queen Patricia Bologna and Prom King Patrick Auguste pose for pictures.
Photo courtesy of MHS Website

DOLPHIN PRIDE **Extra! Extra!**

Softball Seniors Send Off



By Jose Galicia



Megan (left) and Shelby (right) give one last smile for the Dolphin Pride camera.
Photo courtesy of Dolphin Pride Staff

The Dolphins' Softball season ended on Tuesday when they travelled to Miami and lost to Florida Christian School in the regional quarter finals. This was the final game for seniors, Shelby Kuck and Megan McKenna who graduate this year. Both players had a great season despite the team's struggles this season. Shelby was the most consistent defender and a great leader for the team. Megan improved a lot this year and had her best season. This was also her best hitting year. The Marathon Softball team will lose two valuable seniors this year. We wish them good luck and future success.

Summer Travel Plans With EIL

According to Ms. Gina Hipson, the Experiment in International Living application process is over. Three lucky MHS students will spend their summer vacations traveling to distant places. Kasey Platt will be spending three weeks in sunny Spain. She will be immersed in Spanish customs as well as work with a Red Cross camp. Thomas Bowersox will spend five weeks in South Africa. He will stay in Johannesburg as well as travel extensively to visit colonies of penguins along the Cape of Good Hope and go on safari. Tori Lomanaco will visit south and west China, exploring Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City. She will learn conversational Mandarin, learn to prepare food with her host families and cycle through remote villages.

These students are, "overwhelmed with the excitement," Bon Voyage and happy traveling! The Dolphin Pride staff can't wait until they return to tell us about their adventures.



Pictured above: Thomas Bowersox, Kasey Platt and Victoria Lomanaco facing exciting travel opportunities this summer with E.I.L. *Photos courtesy of Cindy Zaldivar*

Middle School News: Florida National Guard Youth Leader Program



Rock wall climbing : National Guardsman show the way to scale walls by using endurance to reach goals. Middle school students watch with interest and attentively listen to instructions as a guardsman (above) inches upwards. Right: students give it a try. *Photos courtesy of Lorayne Garcia*