

The Spotlight

● OUR SCHOOL'S FEMALE SUPERHEROS ● LOCURA DEL MARZO ● ACT STUDY TIPS ● OFHS'S SMALL BUSINESSES ● PI DAY ● MARCH MADNESS ● ST. PATTY'S DAY AROUND THE WORLD ●

Our School's Female Superheros

By Izzy Johnson

A lot of people know that there is an International Women’s Day but not a lot of people know the history behind it. International Women’s Day has been observed since the early 1900s as it was a time of great unrest and women began to be more vocal and active in fighting for change. They wanted equal rights for things such as shorter working hours, better pay, and voting rights. The holiday was celebrated on different days in different countries until it was agreed that the official date would be March 8th every year...

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Check out our
March Song of the
Month!

Locura del Marzo

By Rachel Whiteman

Do you like music?

Do you like Spanish?

Have you always wanted to participate in March Madness but you don't know the first thing about college basketball?

If you answered “yes” to any of the above questions, then boy, do I have the event for you! Locura del Marzo involves 16 different Spanish songs by many different artists. Participants listen to each of these songs, and every week, two songs go up against each other in a poll. As you would expect, the winner moves on to the next round. But that’s only half the event! Just like the March Madness most of us know, part of the fun is making a tournament bracket.

Cnt. on Pg. 3

ACT Study Tips

By Nora Barnard

As a second semester junior in high school, there is really only one major concern on my mind: the ACT. I know it sounds scary but we all must face it at some point. I am sitting here writing this two nights before my second time taking the ACT. As I go into my second attempt at the test, I would like to share some tips and tricks that will help your ACT testing days go much smoother!

1.) Work on questions out of order

Instead of taking a lot of time on one question, find the easier ones and answer those first....

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Our School's Female Superheros

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To the women of the time, it never mattered what day the holiday was celebrated on as the message remained the same. In honor of this upcoming International Women's Day, I decided to highlight some of the women in our school who do so much work behind the scenes and might not get as much recognition as they deserve.

I asked them a few questions about their job responsibilities and lives outside of this school. These questions included what does a day in your life working at our school look like? What is your favorite part about working at Olmsted Falls High School? If you could choose, what is one task you have to do for your job that you would like to never do again? Finally, what are some of your favorite hobbies? Let's take a look at what they said!

Ms. Caldron, our school's College and Career Counselor, says that "no day is the same. This is part of what I like about the job; every day is different." She gets to meet with students and teachers, participate in events, do presentations, and accomplish so many other tasks. Her favorite part of working at our school is the students. She loves learning about their dreams for the future and helping make them a reality; she said it is "such an honor to be a part of the process." Although she loves that she gets to serve others and make a positive difference in people's lives, she has to do a lot of paperwork and says "it's a part of the job." Some of her favorite hobbies are making things for people whether it is art or food as she "has always been an artistic person" so her hobbies have "always been about being creative;" her mother was the one who taught her to be creative. This drive to serve and creative spark is seen in her interactions with the students and her colleagues, so make sure to give her a big thank you for her dedication and commitment to her job and our school!

Ms. Smith, our school's Guidance Department Secretary, says that a big part of her day is helping all of the students who come into guidance by "answering their questions, giving them the form they need, working with grades or transcripts or report cards, or helping them get signed-in and to the counselor they need to see." She is "very busy and the day goes by very quickly." Her favorite part of her day is talking to all of the students as it is the "highlight of her day." One thing she does not enjoy is moving all of the student permanent record folders around at the end of the year. Her

favorite hobbies are traveling to Boston to see her grandchildren, reading, and crocheting. Make sure to stop by to say hi as she would love to see more smiling faces!

Mrs. Kaminski, the Secretary to the Principal, has a very busy schedule. With her day starting at 7:00 AM, some of her responsibilities include making sure an absent teacher has coverage for their classroom, answering phones, dealing with the purchase orders for the building, and "most importantly" helping Mr. Spagnola with whatever he may need. Her favorite part is "interacting with the students" as she has worked in schools for 18 years; she started out in elementary school. Something she would like to never do again is handle money; if that task could go to someone else, she "would not be upset." Some of her favorite hobbies include outings with her husband as they love to go "on small trips, out to dinners, and to casinos, concerts, or sporting events." They even have a boat and love to spend time near the water. She also enjoys going out to dinners with her two children to catch up. Make sure to stop by and greet her as you walk past the Main Office!

Ms. Schaefer, our school's Cafeteria Manager, starts very early at 5:45 in the morning. Her whole day revolves around ensuring that the students and staff have "high quality meals with excellent customer service." Her favorite part of the day is the interactions she has with the students during breakfast and lunch times. She loves working with her coworkers as they "have been a team for over 20 years together." The least favorite part of her job is when the vendors are out of the items that they need; this is the reason they "always need a Plan B." Her favorite hobbies include working out, reading, listening to music, and hanging out with friends and her two children.

There are so many more female members of our school's wonderful faculty and staff that could be mentioned as they do so much for our school's community. We appreciate them so much and are grateful for everything they do. Make sure you show the ladies in your life a little extra appreciation on March 8, 2023!

Locura del Marzo

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Just like the March Madness most of us know, part of the fun is making a tournament bracket. If you're in one of Señora Hughes's classes and correctly predict every round, you can win a prize, containing gift cards and other goodies. And if you're not in one of her classes? Well, bragging rights still sound pretty good to me!

Locura del Marzo 2023 is set to begin on February 24th. While there are too many songs to reasonably list the title and artist of every one, the Locura del Marzo short promo video can be found on the Locura del Marzo website or through this link right here: <https://youtu.be/zAW8D2XVkoQ>

Last year's Locura del Marzo champion (or "el campeón," if you prefer) was "A Contracorriente" by Alvaro Soler and David Bisbal. Who will take the top spot this year? Visit the website and grab a bracket from Señora Hughes to find out! Even if you don't correctly predict the results, you'll at least be introduced to some wonderful new songs!

To learn more about each song and vote for your favorite, visit <https://www.senorashby.com/locura-de-marzo-2023.html> (Or just Google "Locura del Marzo 2023" and click the first link you see that isn't about basketball. That'll probably work.)

Special thanks to Señora Hughes!

ACT Study Tips

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2.) *Always answer every question*

Since there is no penalty for wrong answers, you should always try to answer every question. Pick a letter for the day and put that as the answer for questions you have no clue how to answer.

3.) *Be prepared before the test*

Add your picture to the test taking ID as soon as you get the first email to confirm. I had to reschedule my ACT twice because I missed the window to add my picture ID. Don't make the same stupid mistake as I did.

4.) *Look up sample tests before the testing day*

Looking at sample past tests helps you know what to expect so you aren't surprised the day of the test.

5.) *Don't overthink the science section*

While it seems confusing at first, the science section is really just reading and interpreting the graphs and charts they give you. The answer is almost always in the information supplied.

6.) *Study Packs on the ACT website*

If you are able and willing to spend a bit of money on the ACT website, there are study packs and books ranging from \$40-\$750, of which the most expensive is official ACT tutoring. I would recommend borrowing a book from a friend who has already taken

the test, but the study packs are very effective as well.

7.) *Eat a good breakfast the morning of the test*

The ACT is a long test and believe me, you'll get hungry. Especially coming from someone who gets hangry (angry when hungry), it is much easier to focus on the task at hand when you are well fed. Food fuels the brain.

8.) *Wear comfy clothes*

Personally, I have some sensory issues when I am sitting still for a long time in certain clothes, so dress comfy. I would also suggest wearing layers so you can take a layer off if you get warm or put it on if you get cold.

9.) *Show up on time*

They will not let you into the testing room late, so if you aren't on time, you will not be able to take the test but will still be charged for the price of the test.

10.) *Finally, don't overthink it*

If you don't get the score you want, it is totally fine because you can take the test as many times as you want. Just try to answer every single question no matter what, and you will do better than most!

Good luck to everyone taking the ACT!!!

Small Business Owners at OFHS

By Hadley Allen

Being a high school student isn't easy. We're tired 99% of the time, we are always swamped with school work, and most of all...we're broke. Sure, lots of us probably have jobs, but if you're anything like me, squeezing four-hour shifts into your schedule in between school, sports, and homework equals a \$50 paycheck. However, some OFHS students have decided to use their special talents to create their own small businesses. These students not only get to do what they love but also get to make an extra buck while doing it. I decided to talk to two of our school's most prominent entrepreneurs and get a little insight into their lives as small business owners!

First up is Shelly Allen, owner of Sweets by Shelly!

What kinds of products do you produce and sell?

"I make homemade baked goods like cookies, cakes, breads, flan, , , and much more, including Asian, European, American, and other sweets from around the world."

What inspired you to start your business?

"I have been making baked goods for years. I was asked by my teacher in my Polaris Business class to partner up with the Young Entrepreneur Institute in their K-12 Young Entrepreneur Market program where you can sell anything you want and don't have to pay any fees. After some consideration, I took the opportunity and started selling back in October of 2021."

What is your favorite product that you've ever sold?

"Chocolate chip cookies or milk bread because they both sold really well...and the milk break took out a chunk of my floor and killed my old stand mixer."

What do you love most about creating and selling your product?

"I get to be my own boss and do these markets when I want to. All the profit is mine aside from my helper's tip I give when I have a friend with me."

How can people contact you? Go ahead with some shameless self-promo!

"I have an Instagram account called @sweets_by_shelly that I use

to promote the future markets I will be selling and to update about my baking escapades."

Next up we have Bianca Montalvo, the proud owner of Bees Beauty!

What kinds of products do you produce and sell?

"I make all organic lip gloss and cosmetic sugar scrubs. I also make custom press-on nails. I also sell customizable lanyards."

What inspired you to start your business?

"So it actually just started as me making products for myself. I have very sensitive skin, and I'm allergic to many products sold on the shelves at the store. So I decided to make organic products, and I shared them with my friends. They fell in love with the products, and I expanded from there!"

What is your favorite product that you've ever sold?

"My favorite product would have to be just my simple clear lip gloss. This one always sells out the fastest because it's affordable and works so well!"

What do you love most about creating and selling your product?

"I love seeing the reactions that people have to my product. I think that being a very, very small business is fun because not a lot of people are aware that I sell products, and once they get to try some, they fall in love."

How can people contact you? Go ahead with some shameless self-promo!

"I mainly use my Instagram @bees._beauty"



Pi Day!

By Hailey
Johnston

Pi day is something that many people worldwide celebrate, depending on its importance in citizens' lives. Pi Day is always celebrated on March 14th, this year 03/14/2023. Pi is a Greek letter, and Pi Day has become an annual opportunity for people who have a strong love for mathematics to recite the supposedly infinite digits of Pi, talk to their friends about math, and eat some delicious pie. Pi has been calculated to be over 50 trillion digits beyond its decimal point. That being said, Pi is an irrational and mystical number that will supposedly continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only a handful of digits are needed for typical calculations, Pi's seemingly infinite digits make it a fun challenge to memorize and calculate more and more digits. Here are the first 200 digits of Pi:

3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197169399375
1058209749445923078164062862089986280348253421170
6798214808651328230664709384460955058223172535940

8128481117450284102701938521105559644622948954930
3819.

We here in Publications are quite curious to know how many digits of Pi the math teachers know (and of course what their favorite type of pie is). This question has been eating us alive. Here are the results from the math teachers:

Mr. Zrenner - 3.14159265358 (favorite pie: chocolate strawberry pie)

Mrs. Voisinet - 3.1415926 (favorite pie: chocolate peanut butter pie)

Mr. Zillich - 3.15159 (favorite pie: blackberry rosemary pie)

Mr. Linder - 3.141592653589 (favorite pie: apple)

Mr. Novotny - 3.14159265 (favorite pie: chocolate chip cookie pie)

Mrs. DiLoreto-Smith - 3.1415926535 (favorite pie: key lime)

Mrs. Byndas - 3.14159 (favorite pie: banana cream pie)

Mr. Vas - 3.1415926 (favorite pie: dutch apple pie)

Mr. VanArnhem - 3.14159265358 (favorite pie: apple crumble pie)

Going Mad for March Madness

By Claire
Wiggenhorn

Even if you're not the biggest sports fan, you definitely have heard of March Madness. The college basketball competition has taken the world by storm. Since 1939, the highly-competitive event has brought together friends and divided families.

This tournament is different from any other because it is so fan interactive. Fans put together brackets of who they think will win each game. If you can't picture what that looks like, think of the Book Brackets in Language Arts classes. Then, games are played in the four regions—West, Midwest, South, and East—until there is one winner from each region. Next, the Final Four face off with the winners competing for the NCAA National Championship. The tournament tips off Sunday, March 12.

You can find the NCAA Championship game being played on April 3rd. Right now Houston, Purdue, Alabama, or Kansas are favored to win the NCAA title. With this being such a big deal in the basketball world, we wanted to know what some students at the high school think. Personally, I think that Kansas will take the crown again this

year. Freshman Caitlin Farber agrees and says, "I think Kansas will win because I root for them every year. I've said that they would win since I was six, and last year they actually won! So a back-to-back championship would be amazing." Senior basketball star Paige Kohler thinks, "Houston this year!! They made the Elite 8 last year and are returning some of their best players. They play great defense and play really hard!" Additionally senior Rachel Neumann remarks, "If I had to pick, I'd go with Baylor because they won a few years ago." Sophomore Steven Demchak has differing opinions, though. He thinks, "Purdue 100%. I think that their offense has what it takes to win." And for a wild card, junior Eman Gole is rooting for "St. Peters because they were the 15th seed and they made it to the Elite 8 last year."

Overall, this will be a close competition, holding everyone on the edge of their seat.

St. Patty's Day Around the World

By Halle Sonson

St. Patrick's Day was introduced on March 17 in 1637, and it is a global celebration of Irish culture. This holiday is celebrated in honor of the Patron Saint of Ireland, St. Patrick. The day is celebrated through parades, parties, and wearing a lot of green. In addition, shamrocks and leprechauns are heavily associated with St. Patrick's Day and Irish heritage. St. Patrick's Day is celebrated all around the world from Chicago, Illinois, Ireland, China, and more!

In Ireland, many people celebrate this holiday by wearing green and attending parades or parties all across the country. The Irish capital of Dublin throws the biggest parade out of all of Ireland. Other than Ireland where St. Patrick's Day originated, many places in the United States celebrate. Chicago, Illinois is well-known for dyeing their river green for the holiday, and so is the fountain in front of the White House in Washington, DC. In Boston, many people are known for their deep-rooted Irish heritage, and the NBA team, the Celtics, uses a leprechaun mascot. Many major cities in the United States hold parades on March 17th, such as New York, Savannah, Georgia, Washington, DC, and Boston. In New Orleans, they celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a street party and a vegetable food fight! This food fight mostly uses cabbage, which represents how cabbage replaced potatoes during the potato famine in Ireland.

Parades are also held in countries such as Argentina, the United Kingdom, Turkey, Norway, Japan, Australia, South Africa, and India. The city of Brussels, Belgium, celebrates St. Patrick's

Day by playing Irish sports such as camogie, hurling, and Gaelic football. Many landmarks across the globe will light up green in honor of St. Patrick's Day. These landmarks include the Great Wall of China, The London Eye, Niagara Falls, the Las Vegas "Welcome" sign, the Colosseum in Rome, and the Christ the Redeemer statue in Brazil. In Mexico, they celebrate this holiday by remembering those Irish soldiers who fought for Mexico against the United States, and they celebrate by having a live bagpipe band playing!

Foods are also a big part of St. Patrick's Day. Many people enjoy having corned beef and cabbage, along with Irish soda bread and colcannon! Celebrate St. Patrick's Day by wearing green, eating corned beef and cabbage, and maybe even sipping on a Shamrock Shake from McDonald's! Or perhaps set up a leprechaun trap the night before with a little sibling, niece, nephew, cousin, or even the kid you may be babysitting. Make St. Patrick's Day enjoyable, just like many do across the world!



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