



Panther Pride News

Purple Pumpkins for Rett Syndrome

By Marissa Szcudlik and Maddy Rivera

Have you ever heard of Rett Syndrome? If you haven't you might soon. People are spreading awareness by buying pumpkins and painting them purple. The purple pumpkin has become so big in the Upper Keys community because there is a little girl in our community who has Rett Syndrome. What is Rett Syndrome? It is a disorder that affects mostly girls and can cause slowing of development, seizures, problems with walking, slowed brain and head growth, and loss of use of the hands. It affects one in every 10,000 to 15,000 female births.

We went around Plantation Key School and asked people what they thought of the purple pumpkin and raising awareness for Rett Syndrome. Mr. Jay Hillman said, "I think it's wonderful that we are bringing awareness of Rett, and I hope that everybody learns something about a disease that is rarely known. It's nice that the awareness is getting out there." Mrs. Ramsdorf said, "I think by having the purple pumpkin around, other people will also know, be more aware, and they can help out with this disease." Mrs. Gagliardini

said, "Well, first of all, it's a beautiful symbol for a great cause. I'm glad to see it going around so much now and people are getting sensitive to Rett syndrome, so I'm very, very happy."



Historical Halloween Parade is a PKS Tradition

By Cameron El-Koury and Carly Lindback

Get ready for the Halloween Parade! We interviewed Mrs. Green about the special event. First, we asked her how long she has been directing the parade, and she happily responded, "Thirty-five years." Did you know, Mrs. Green also did the parade when she worked at Key Largo School? Although she doesn't

know what she's going to be this year, she remembers that the first year she dressed up too scary for the kids. "They were too scared to come in the room." All she wore was a sheet and face paint, but it frightened the kids. The reason why Mrs. Green leads the parade is because she is the only teacher that can draw a line

through the whole school without crossing over it again. The thing she loves most about the parade is when the older students show respect to the younger kids' love for Halloween. The grades that are participating this year are pre-k through second grade. Keep a lookout for the kids this year, you will love their

Plantation Key School, Tavernier, FL

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Middle School Student Council Hosts Halloween dance
- ☺ PKS Fish Tales and Follies Reading Day
- ☺ PBS Popcorn Hands
- ☺ Middle School Awards
- ☺ Halloween Games

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Unity Day Spreads Awareness at PKS

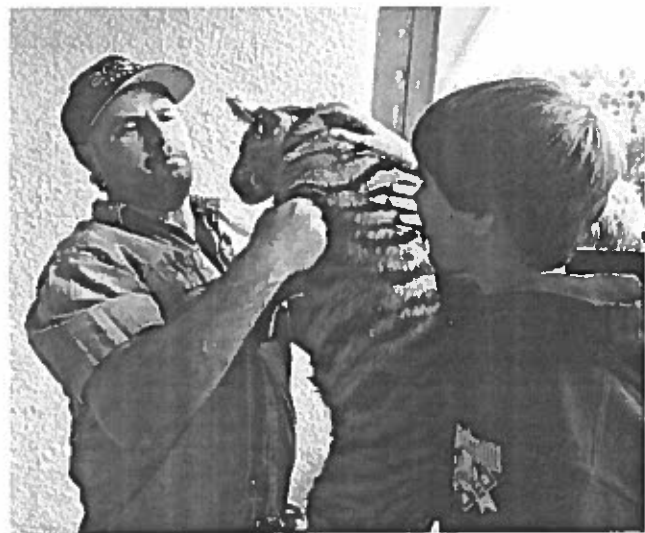
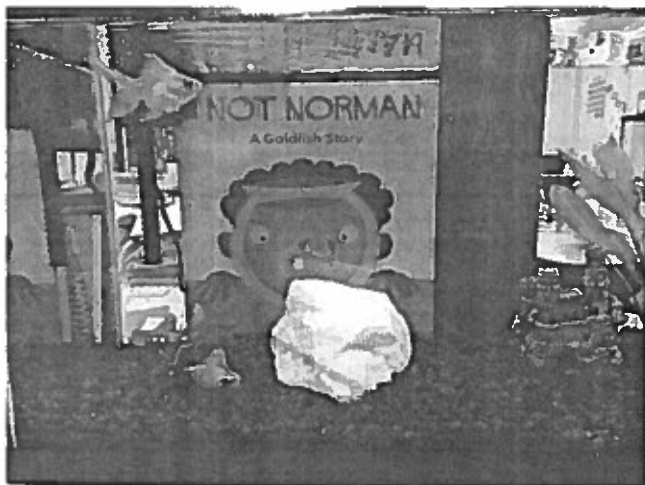
By Cameron El-Koury and Carly Lindback

Unity Day is a day to bring awareness to bullying across the nation. Unity Day started in 2011 because many children are being bullied. Unity Day lets us stand up for bullying prevention. Last year, about one million people across the United States participated in Unity Day. This year, PKS brought awareness to bullying on Wednesday, October 21st.

There was a lot of orange!



Mrs. Given's Class Supporting Unity Day at PKS.



Fish Tales and Follies Day

By Hannah Lane and Nola Frank

On Thursday, October 22nd, Plantation Key School participated in Fish Tales and Follies Reading Day. The students took part in *Read for the Record*. This is where people across the country read the children's book Not Norman by Kelly Bennett all at the same time to break the record for the world's largest shared reading experience. From 8:00 to 10:30 a.m., volunteers came in and set up 12 stations that were 15 minutes long. Grade levels rotated to each station, and read the book with the guest readers. The guidance counselor, Mrs. Laurie Beaton said, "Fish Tales and Follies was an awesome day! We are so happy with all of the community support. We live in a great town." Thank you to the guest readers, volunteers, and teachers for planning the exciting event!

Upcoming Events at Plantation Key

10/27/15 Red ribbon week

10/29/15 Middle School Student Council

Halloween dance

10/30/15 "Block out" drugs -

(Wear hats, sunglasses, costumes)

10/30/15 PBS popcorn hands at lunch

11/3/15 Awards Ceremony

8:05-8:25 5th grade

8:25-8:55 4th grade

1:40-2:00 8th grade

2:00-2:20 6th grade

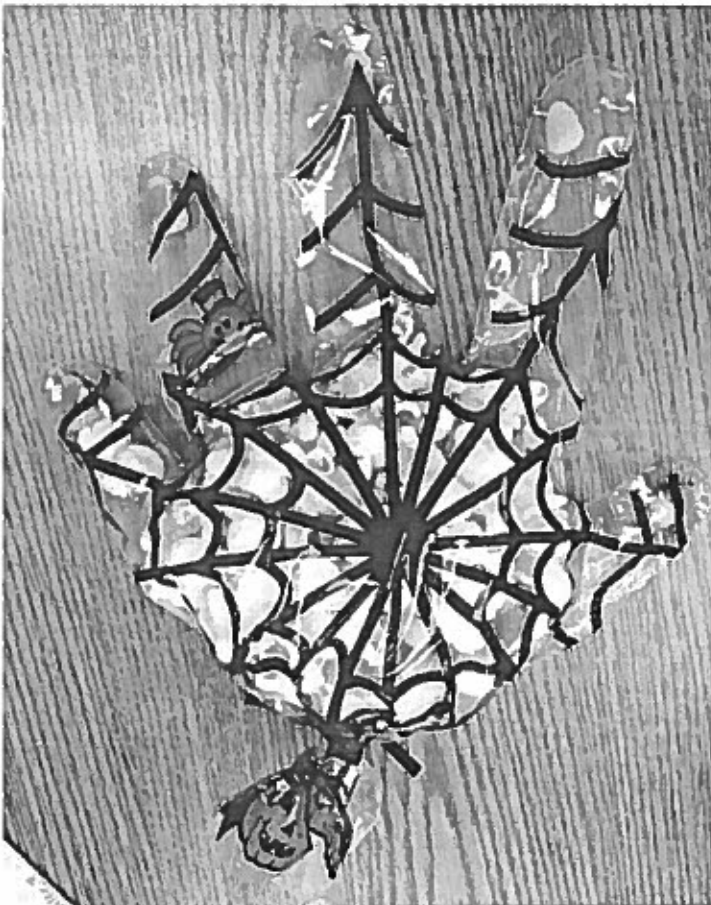
2:20-2:40 7th grade



PBS Rewards Students

By Haley De La Torre and Alyssa Sanchez

To celebrate Halloween, student effort, involvement, and good behavior at PKS, the PBS class organized a fun reward: popcorn hands! The popcorn hand is a plastic hand filled with Halloween treats. The fingers are filled with candy corn and the glove part is filled with popcorn, pretzels, or Goldfish crackers. Teachers have been on the lookout for students who are following the PRIDE expectations. You can buy the popcorn for five "Caught You" tickets in the cafeteria during lunch. So show your PKS PRIDE and get a nice treat! The PBS team has many more exciting events planned for this year.



Halloween Brings Scary Movies



By Andreja Medina

Boo! Halloween is coming up! So let's get you in the mood...with movies! Get some popcorn and soda and snuggle up, with these horrifyingly good flicks. The movie is "Corpse Bride" by Tim Burton. Starring Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter, this movie was released in 2005. It takes place in the 1800's Victorian Era. Don't get too scared yet, "Corpse Bride" is for kids and adults alike. It has singing and dancing, all while being very creepy.

"Corpse Bride" starts off with a boy named Victor Van Dort, (Johnny Depp) getting married off to Victoria Everglot, (Emily Watson). Their family wants them together, so they can get a fortune, not knowing that each other's family is bankrupt. When Victor runs off to practice his vows, he accidentally recites them to a grave, hidden under a tree. The ghost then rises, and assumes Victor married her. The main character, Victor, is now "married" to a ghost, Emily.

Emily got killed when waiting for her love to run off with her and eloped secretly, when her parents don't approve. After confessing, that Victor doesn't love Emily, they go through a whirlwind of problems, such as, going into the underworld, fighting an evil killer, and finding love, all while making the audience cry in fear and laughter. I recommend this movie for any day, not just Halloween. It's a perfect mixture of scary and fun for your whole family. Rated: PG

Protecting Animals is Essential

By: Jayden Haus

Do you think every animal deserves a home? I believe that they absolutely do. Animals are treated badly every single day. They are abused and neglected by humans. Some animals don't ever get a home because they wander the streets of cities and neighborhoods with no one to care for them. They usually end up getting hit by a car or end up in animal shelters.

Some animal shelters in Miami will give the animals a place to stay for

a few days. When no one comes to pick them by the end of the day, they will put them to sleep permanently with a poison. Animal protection is highly needed and killing animals in shelters needs to be stopped. Not many people care because its been going on for so long. I want this generation of people to have some remorse and stop this horrible act on animals. So if you care, please volunteer at a no-kill shelter and do your part to help.



Local Organization Helps Pets

There is a local pet organization in Key Largo called Marr-Velous Pet Rescue. They are a NO-KILL group and instead find loving homes to foster and adopt pets. They save and rescue many animals that are in need of care. They have given homes to many animals in the Keys. Joy Martin started the non-profit in April 2007. They are

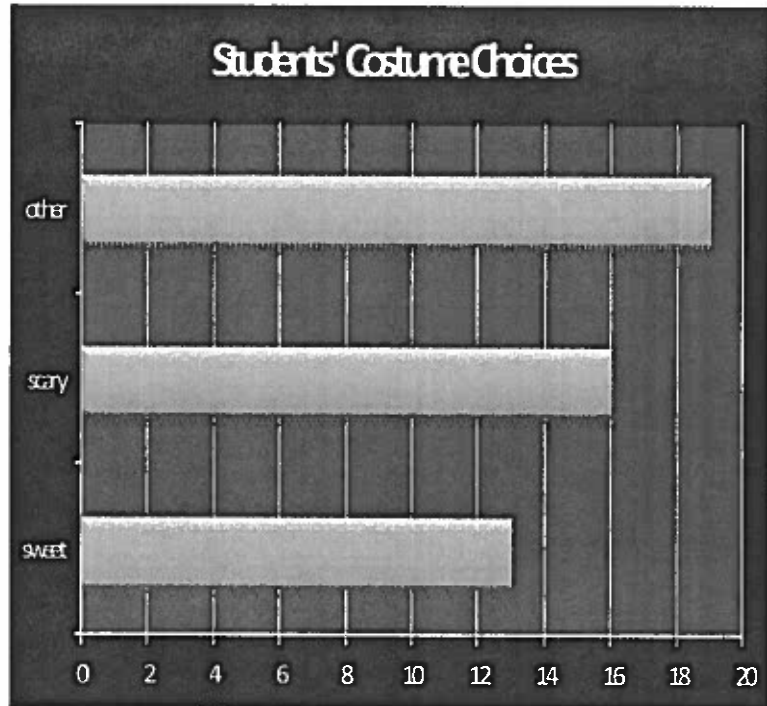
always looking for volunteers to help out, and they always need donations to help the animals. They plan many events throughout the Keys to help raise funds for the cause. All they want is for the animals to go to a good home. Sometimes at the events, they have adoption tents set up for people who want to buy a pet. So if you truly love animals and want to help out, their number

is 305-453-1315. If you call them, you can volunteer or donate to help the animals. You can also check out their website: <http://www.marrvelouspetrescues.org> for more information. If you are interested in fostering or adopting an animal, they will definitely want to hear from you!

Halloween Costume Favorites

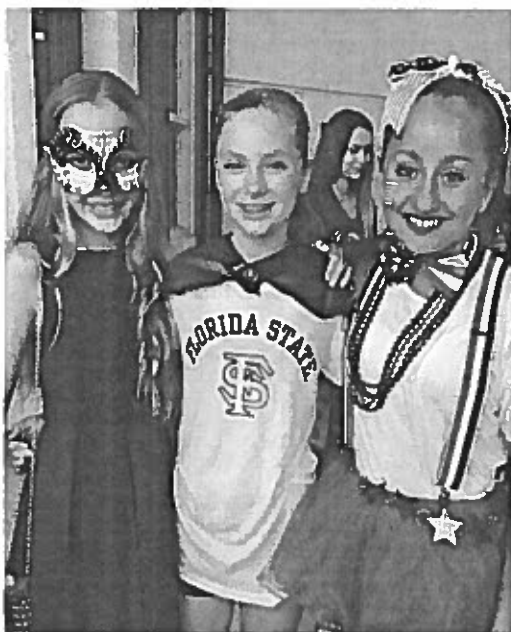
By Ally Cooper and Lilly Trumbull

We went around Plantation Key School and asked students and teachers what they thought was the coolest Halloween costume they have seen. Of course, we split the answers into categories such as "sweet", "scary", and "other". Here is what they chose:



Student Council Hosts Halloween Dance

By Nola Frank and Hannah Lane



The first event planned by the PKS student council was the Halloween dance. Led by sponsors Mrs. Perrotti and Ms. Jensen, the newly elected officers: President Emma Lovell, Vice President Bridget Rader, Secretary Krista Black, Treasurer Alexis Martin and the representatives organized the event for the students.

The dance took place on Thursday, October 29th in the multi-purpose room from 5:30 to 7:30 P.M. There was a costume contest for the student with the best costume and prizes were awarded. Students from other schools were invited to the event for the first time ever.

PKS Student Q & A



This month we asked students the following question:
"What are your favorite Halloween candies?"



"Smarties"

Makena Woolet-Stockton, 6th grade

"My favorite would probably be Twix and Tootsie
Rolls."

-Jaynie Curzi, 6th grade



"Kit-Kats"

Facundo Bareto , 6th grade

"Milk Duds!"

Cayleigh Deakins, 7th grade



"Reese's"

Ansley Gregis, 8th grade

October Games and Cartoons

Halloween Crossword

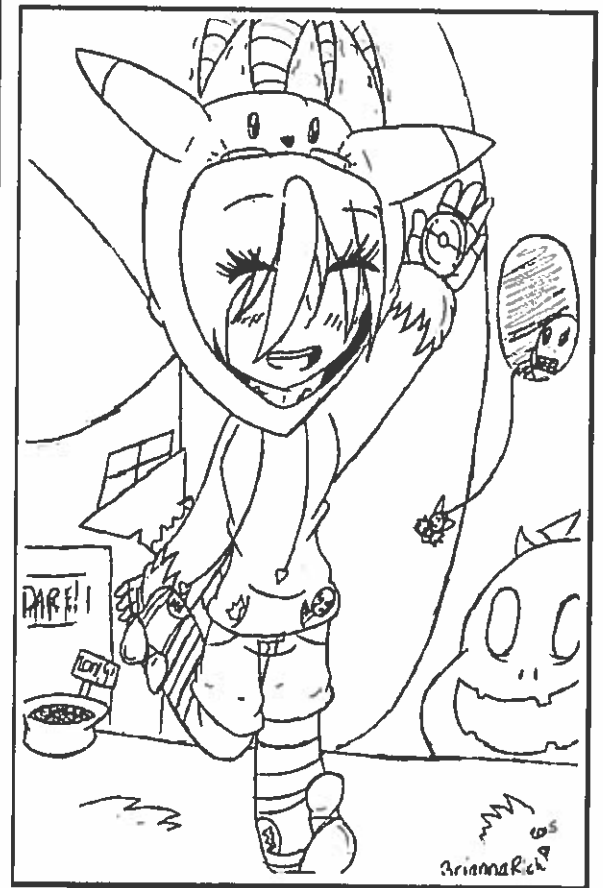
BOO
CAT
BAT
GHOST
TREAT
WITCH
TRICK
SPIDER
BLACK
HAUNTED
PUMPKIN
VAMPIRE
COSTUME
SKELETON
HALLOWEEN

If you complete this crossword correctly, write your name on it, and give it to Mrs. Poetz by Monday, November 2nd, you will be entered into a PRIZE drawing!!!

Red Ribbon Week Cartoon by Kristina Alvarez



Halloween Cartoon by Brianna Rich



Happy Halloween from the Panther Pride News Staff!



The Panther Pride News Staff

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Staff Cartoonist/ Graphic Artist:

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