



## Letter From the Editor

I have learned in life that change is for the better. I know that we tend to get comfortable in our daily routines and we are afraid of change; however, we should embrace it rather than fear it. Change opens up new perspectives and allows one to keep an open mind on almost anything.

Changes are coming for the Bullseye. This year we have decided to move our work online along with the copies we hand out each quarter. We want to make reading more accessible to our readers by allowing people to access the website on their phone as well. We also want to be able to compete this year to become one of the top papers in the District! Moving the Bullseye online will be easier to keep you up to date on EVERYTHING going on around West Boca and the world.

Another change that we have added to the Bullseye this year is the Spotlight section. Each issue from here on out, will have a "Student Spotlight" section so you can see the cool and interesting things your fellow classmates do! The spotlight can range from multiple people with aspirations to one person with a really awesome skill. We want the paper this year to be more student based because it is all about you!

Another change we have made this year is under the Op-Ed section; we want the newspaper to be more student involved. This year students will be invited to send in any piece of writing on a topic they have a strong opinion on and it may be included in the paper. If you have a passion for writing but can't fit Newspaper into your schedule, this is the perfect opportunity for you!

This year I would like every student to be VERY satisfied with all the great changes that we have in store for the Bullseye.

Sincerely,  
Austin Winslow  
*Editor-in-Chief*

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# Christo Maccius: In Our Hearts Forever

By Matt Gross  
Sports Editor

On July 30th, 2016, the Boca Raton community, along with the West Boca staff and students, lost a loved one. Christo Maccius passed away tragically in the Sandalfoot Plaza. Maccius was a former student athlete here at West Boca who made a profound impact both on and off the field. After his four years as a student at West Boca, Christo helped in numerous ways with the staff and the students including working as a substitute teacher for the school. Whether it was substituting for a teacher or helping kids through out the school, Christo was always highly respected for his kind and humorus ways. When asked what impact Christo had on her, his sister, Eva Rubin, responded by saying, “He influenced me to be the best student and person I could possibly be. He fully supported me in whenever I tried to reach a new goal”. Through-out all parts of the school whether it was in the gym, the courtyard, or hallways, Christo had an influence on all students. Krista Huebner, a student here at West Boca, reflected on his character by saying, “He would always push me to do my best even when I didn’t think I could.”



*Picture provided by Eva Rubin*

Christo’s influence started early on when he played Linebacker and Fullback on the football team for the Bulls. Christo was a part of the Bulls’ 2009 memorable playoff run. Former teammate of Christo, and now current coach, George DeMaria said “He was my closest friend on the team, and was always fun to be around”. While explaining what made him such a great player, DeMaria detailed “He was always there for others. Coming from a tough background, he always wanted others to succeed”. Talking with DeMaria, it was clear that Christo and his teammates held a special bond.

Christo loved sports, and his loss has affected the school in ways that has brought people together. The Bulls volleyball team is now selling shirts with the hashtag “#StoStrong” on the back of them. The shirts will be sold at both JV and Varsity games for \$10.00. Every time a student wears the shirt to the game, they will get in for free. Bella Magrino, a member of the team, said, “We decided to add #StoStrong on [the shirts] because he loved sports and impacted so many peoples lives; including mine.” This response demonstrated the respect and reverence that they have for “Sto”.

On a personal note, knowing Christo was an honor. By living a couple houses down from him there were plenty of times when we threw around a football outside and always joked around whenever we saw one another both inside and outside of school. Since his time as a student, Christo Maccius left a great impact on West Boca Raton High School. He will be remembered for his influence and contributions to the students and staff. The impact he had both on the as well as at West Boca High is some thing that will never be forgotten.



*Picture provided by Lillian Richards*



*Picture provided by Matt Gross*



*Picture provided by Eva Rubin*

# 1% Tax Increase

By Lade'ja Martin and Matt Stone  
Staff Writers



How would you feel if your annual sales tax rose one percent? As of right now, the sales tax for Palm Beach County is six percent. The first thought that comes to mind when one hears that the sales tax has increased is negative. For those who are not aware, sales tax is a percentage of how much you pay for certain goods and services that goes to the government. The majority of the funding goes towards defense, social security, and major health programs; while a small amount goes towards schools. Hopefully we can make a difference by encouraging our parents, teachers, and community residents to go out and vote in favor of the new sales tax law on November 8, 2016. If it passes, an estimated \$1.34 billion will be added to the Palm Beach County budget.

In 2008 the capital budget for Palm Beach County district schools was cut by \$865 million. As a result, some Palm Beach County Schools have struggled with air conditioning outages, leaking roofs, outdated and broken technology, the shortage of school buses, and other critical problems.

Virtually all students would agree that they want to attend a school that can provide students with decent school equipment, classrooms, cafeterias, and libraries. The School District of Palm Beach County has set forward a plan pertaining to how schools can be improved and what the funds will be used for. The Palm Beach Post has noted that the most important thing is making sure that the funding is well spent with the help of the "Three R's: Repair, Restore, Replace" method.

The revenue generated from this increase in sales tax would be split amongst the general county, schools, and individual cities. This money would not be allowed to be used for daily operations, but rather for capital improvements. Under the proposed plan, schools would receive an astonishing 50% of the money, the county would get 30%, and cities would get 20%. With many older schools in the county, there is a myriad of schools in need of major repairs. This extra revenue would certainly be a welcome relief to the school district. Along with the money that the schools would receive, counties and cities could use their money to improve roads, bridges,

museums, theaters, and even the Palm Beach Zoo. While a one cent sales increase does not sound like much money, the revenue that it would generate is enormous. Palm Beach County has said that this minimal tax increase has the ability to produce as much as 2.7 billion dollars over a ten year period. Most other counties in the state of Florida currently have their own additional taxes added to the state sales tax. Out of 67 total counties in the state, only nine counties, including Palm Beach and Broward do not currently have their own additional tax.

According to the proposal, the sales tax increase would begin on January 1, 2017 and end on December 31, 2026; however, there would be a clause stating that the increased sales tax would end earlier if the 2.7 billion dollar goal was met prior to September 1st of any year before 2026.

While many people support this proposed sales tax increase, there are others who are not so excited about it. These opponents feel that people who make less income would be hurt by the tax increase. They think they will end up paying a larger percentage of their income towards paying sales tax on items that they purchase than those who have higher income. Some also feel that the money for county repairs should come from the county selling bonds not the increase of a sales tax. Others also disagree that ten years is too long for the increased sales tax to be in effect. They feel like the length of time puts the burden of paying increased sales tax on the younger generation that do not have anything to do with the current issues.

Supporters of the proposed one percent increase are quick to point out that a lot of the increase in the sales tax will be paid by all of the tourists who visit Palm Beach County each year. They also stress that certain things like medication, groceries, rent on residential housing, and baby formula will not be included in the sales tax increase; thus allowing people to have access to their daily necessities without having to worry about sales tax.

Once again voting takes place on November 8, 2016, and all registered voters can cast their vote to create change for our schools. Between now and November 8th one should ask: How can my vote make a difference?

# Politics

By Katelyn Barnard and Zara Rudolph  
*Features Editor and Staff Writer*

A **political party** is a group of members who share common ideas and work together. In most elections, the Democratic and Republican parties have been the only nominees for the presidency. However, the Independent Party is also prominent in politics, despite not being a popular nominee.

- The Democratic Party:** 
- Typically pro-choice
  - Higher taxes to the upper class to close the wage gap
  - Lower taxes to the lower/middle class
  - Death penalty
  - Environmentally friendly energy sources
  - Global interactions and multi-national programs to build foreign relationships
  - Strict gun control
  - Legal gay marriage
  - Federally funded health care organizations  
Jobs within the United States, not overseas
  - Visas and rights available to illegal aliens-  
becoming citizens
  - Limited military use of missiles and  
nuclear weapons
  - World peace built on foreign relationships
  - Social security as a government funded  
insurance

- The Republican Party:** 
- Typically Pro-life
  - Oppose raising taxes  
(regardless of the income that  
people make)
  - In favor of lowering taxes
  - Support strong necessary  
actions at the border to keep  
people safe.
  - Health-care services are oper-  
ated more effectively by private  
companies than ones run by the  
government
  - Jobs overseas (outsourcing)
  - Oppose cutbacks in nuclear  
weapons and military missiles
  - Oppose Visas and rights more  
available to immigrants

- The Independent Party:** 
- The support of family is the  
fundamental foundations for a  
good society
  - The states deserve the rights to  
regulate funds for education  
and regulate constitutional  
authority
  - Other alternative energy sources  
have been discovered to create  
pollution-free environments.
  - Jobs not overseas
  - Against the use of nuclear  
weapons and military missiles
  - Visas and rights more available  
to immigrants

## The electoral college

- is a group of representatives that cast a vote for the presidency. The citizens indirectly elect these members by voting for Congressmen. The Congressmen elected by the people then appoint representatives from each state to the electoral college. The powers and system of the electoral college include:

- More authority than the popular vote
- The ability to vote for or against their state's majority vote: neither federal law nor the Constitution enforces electors to vote according to each state
- The ability to keep their votes available to the public or private depending on the state. This means that some electors do not have to state which candidate they vote for.
- Does not need to be affiliated with a political party at any time.

## The popular vote

- is the vote cast directly by the American citizens. This is done through a ballot system, in which the people vote privately for the candidate of their choosing. Although voting is not mandatory, the Constitution states that it is a right to vote, but it is not required to do so. The powers and system of the popular vote includes:

- Less authority than the electoral college
- Votes of each state are added to create the majority vote
- Does not need to be affiliated with a political party in the main presidential election; however, the people need to be a registered Democrat or Republican to vote in the primaries.

**Liberal views**

detail that the government should achieve equality, protect civil liberties, individual/human rights, relieve social issues, and create equal opportunities for all. Liberalism stands for maximizing freedom of choice, preservation of individual liberty, education of students, and acceptance of government intervention.

Characteristics and beliefs include:

- Typically Pro-choice
- The government should regulate the economy.
- Public schools are an efficient way to educate students. The government should focus on: additional funding towards existing public schools, raising teacher salaries, and reducing class sizes.
- Oil is depleting and therefore solar and wind-power mechanisms should be explored.

**Conservative views**

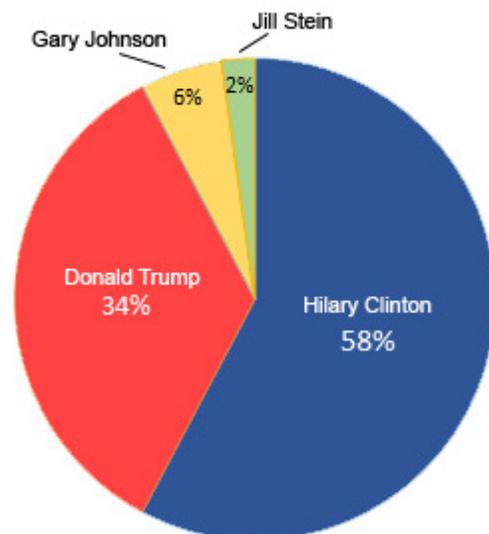
are typically more traditional in comparison to liberal views. Conservatism stands for traditional values, having a strong sense of individualism, and limiting government interaction and its size. Characteristics and beliefs include:

- Typically Pro-life
- Government control would complicate the economy
- Create competition/encourage schools to improve
- Oil, coal, and gas are strong and abundant sources of energy
- Oil drilling should be increased both on land and in the sea

**Glossary of Political Terms:**

- **Delegates**- representatives elected at the state level who will support a particular candidate during a convention based on the state's vote
- **Superdelegates**- representatives who are available to vote for any candidate of their choosing for the presidential nomination
- **Parties**- group of like-minded members who work together to win elections
- **Convention**- the meeting of a political party to select the party's candidates
- **Gerrymander**- create a political advantage by moving district boundaries
- **Lobbying**- an attempt to influence government decisions
- **Left-wing** - associates with liberal ideas
- **Right-wing** - associates with conservative ideas.
- **Primaries**- an election that selects one candidate from each party as a representative for office
- **Democratic republic**- a system in which the people hold the power of the country, and the government is made of elected officials

A survey of 370 students from West Boca Raton High School was taken to determine which candidate would win the popular vote of West Boca for the upcoming presidential election. The results follow: Hillary Clinton in the lead, Donald Trump, Gary Johnson, and, in last place, Jill Stein.



	What is the transition between middle school and high school like?	What was something you were expecting in high school?	What is your biggest fear regarding high school?	What are you most excited for this upcoming year?
 Melissa Estep	"There's a lot more work."	"The teachers were going to be more strict."	"Not being able to handle the classes."	"I'm excited to make new friends."
 Adam Machado	"It's normal, nothing really special. You have more freedom and an extra class."	"I was expecting a lot of hard work but it's pretty easy for now."	"I had no fears coming into high school, most people are scared of seniors but why should I be scared of something that bleeds too."	"I'm most excited for the football games and the parties."
 Julie Hughes	"I love the fact we have the ability to be taking AP classes and an hour for lunch rather than just the half hour."	"I wasn't really expecting anything more than what it is."	"The difficulty of having 2 honors classes and two AP classes, with the work that comes with it"	"I would have to say the concerts we do for guitar because I get to play in front of a live audience."

## Top 5 MUST Watch Summer Flicks

By Aaron DeSimone (*Bullseye Critic Guy*)

Staff Writer



**IMDb Rating: 8/10 Rotten Tomatoes: 94% Rated: PG**

A warm and fuzzy sequel to the beloved *Finding Nemo* we all know and love; a funny and intricate extension of its charming predecessor. Talk about a splash.



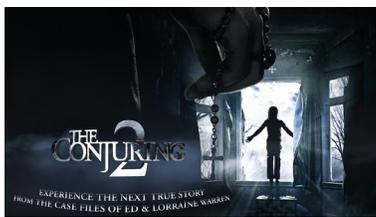
**IMDb Rating: 8/10 Rotten Tomatoes: 90% Rated: PG-13**

This is Marvel's latest, action-packed installment to the *Avengers'* cinematic universe. This decisively creative hero versus hero film paves the way for Marvel's upcoming summer 2017 blockbuster.



**IMDb Rating: 7/10 Rotten Tomatoes: 83% Rated: R**

A raunchy, animated comedy that gives a subtle twist on theology and pop culture using supermarket products as creative puppets. So grab your coupons and head to the movies because the zany plot is one you cannot afford to miss.



**IMDb Rating : 8/10 Rotten Tomatoes : 80% Rated : R**

A chilling sequel to Rob and Elaine Warren's ghost hunting escapades portrays the same characters as the first film, but with an even more horrifying plot. There are plenty of scares per minute to go around.



**IMDb Rating : 7/10 Rotten Tomatoes : 26% Rated : Pg-13**

A lively, jaw-dropping film that gives you an adrenaline rush even while sitting down. As you are hanging at the edge of your seat, the diverse cast and fast driving plot takes you on a fully loaded joyride.

# Spotlight: Olympic Aspirations

By Angelia Bulatao and Emiliano Barin  
*Managing Editor and Staff Writer*



## Christopher Haggerty

- **Grade:** 12th
- **Team:** West Boca Varsity Cross Country
- **Fastest record:** 21 minutes for a 5k race
- **Random fact:** He is the president of Model UN

Christopher trains every other day, his diet consists of drinking plenty of water, and eating healthy. The best advice he has ever been given is to pick a runner in front of him and beat that person by the end of the race. “This was so useful because it gave me a goal to achieve while running that race” Haggerty added. Although he has faced many challenges, he overcame most of them by convincing himself that he can run the long required distances without stopping.



## Alejandro Ramirez

- **Grade:** 12th
- **Team:** West Boca Varsity Swim
- **Fastest record:** 55.74 for 100 FLY SCY
- **Random fact:** He is very passionate about cars

Alejandro trains 2-3 hours a day, Monday through Saturday, and does not follow any extreme or unusual diets, just a basic healthy regimen combined with regular training. He added: “[swimming] has taught me important life lessons; I would be a different person if I did not do swimming”. He hopes to continue his successful swim career at Florida State University after he graduates.



## Sammi Kanterman

- **Grade:** 11th
- **Skill:** Olympic Weightlifting.
- **Best record:** 71 Kg (156 pounds) for clean and jerk, 53 Kg (116 pounds) for snatch
- **Random fact:** She hopes to be a chef someday

Sammi has competed in the Junior Olympics and won several medals. She does not follow a strict diet; however, she trains 5-6 days a week. The best advice she has ever been given is “there will always be days when you don’t want to train, but these are the most important, because they make you mentally, and physically stronger”. She hopes to compete in the next Olympic Games.



## Cassidy Clements

- **Grade:** 10
- **Skill:** Olympic Gymnastics
- **Highest Level:** 10 (highest level to receive in this sport)
- **Random fact:** She needs to take 2 of her classes online in order to pursue her dream

Cassidy trains for 4-5 hours a day, six days per week. She has loved gymnastics since the day she learned to walk. She is the Florida State Champion on bars, as of last season, and she received a silver medal in the Level 9 Eastern Nationals, two years ago. She believes that without her supporters (her family, coaches, & teammates), she would not be where she is today. The best advice that Cassidy has ever been given is to “have fun and never take shortcuts”.



## Douthshine Prien

- **Grade:** 9
- **Team:** West Boca Junior Varsity Basketball
- **Most points scored:** 39 points against Lake Worth Christian
- **Random fact:** Her favorite candy is Swedish Fish

Douthshine trains 4 times a week, for 3.5 hours a day, and does not follow a specific diet. She focuses primarily on her ball handling skills and dribbling. Her greatest inspirations are her brother, her coach, and the legendary football coach: Vince Lombardi. Lombardi taught her that that not everything will be perfect, but if you chase it long enough, it is possible. The best advice she was ever given is: “Excuses will always be there for you, opportunities won’t.”

## Miami Marlin's Ace Dead at 24

By Lillian Richards and Meghan Zaffuta  
*News Editor and Graphics Coordinator*

Baseball players, fans, and coaches alike have been left devastated by the tragic death of beloved pitcher José Fernández. The twenty-four year old Miami Marlins player was killed in the early hours of Sunday morning when the thirty-two foot boat he was aboard struck a Miami Beach jetty, capsized, and landed upside down on the rocks. The details of the crash are still being investigated while it is presumed that the rocks were not visible to Fernández and his two friends during high tide.

Coupling his charismatic personality and inspirational story with his prodigious talent, Fernández quickly became a popular favorite among the Miami Marlins community. His death has had a profound impact on many individuals and groups of various standings. The Boston Red Sox's David Ortiz, who Fernández named his favorite player to the Boston Herald, requested that his pre-game retirement tribute be canceled and had Fernández's initials written on his hat. During the emotional press conference, Marlins manager Don Mattingly spoke of José Fernández by saying "I see such a little boy in him with the way he played. There's just joy with him, [...] you just see that little kid you watch play little league or something like that. That's the joy that Jose played with. The passion he felt about playing, that's what I think about."

### Here are sixteen facts on our favorite number 16:

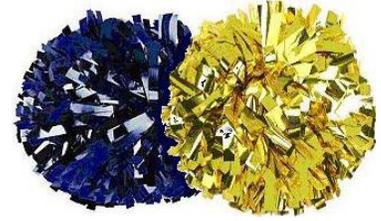
1. Fernández was born on July 31, 1992 in Santa Clara, Cuba
2. Trying to escape Castro's regime, Fernández, his sister, and his mother attempted to defect three times before they were successful.
3. After each failed attempt to flee Cuba, he served time in prison. While recalling his experience in an adult prison as a teen, he described his cellmates saying, "To them, their lives were already over. What did it matter to them if they killed you? That's just one more murder."
4. While sailing to Mexico from Cuba, Fernández heard what sounded like someone falling overboard and jumped into the water to help. It wasn't until he got close enough that he realized that the person who fell was his mother.
5. Fernández attended Braulio Alonso High School in Tampa, Florida, where he won two state championships- once during his sophomore year, and again during his senior year.
6. He was selected fourteenth overall by the Florida Marlins in the 2011 first round draft.
7. Fernández made his debut on April 7, 2013 against the Mets.
8. As a two time All-Star, he represented the Marlins in the 2013 and 2016 All-Star Games.
9. In between the 2015 and 2016 seasons, Fernández underwent Tommy John surgery.
10. He became a United States Citizen on April 24, 2015
11. On September 20th, five days before his death, Fernández announced that his girlfriend, , is pregnant with their first child.
12. In his last game played on September 20th, Fernández pitched eight shutout innings, striking out twelve, and allowing only three hits.
13. After his sudden death, the Marlins cancelled their September 25th game against the Atlanta Braves.
14. Left-handed secondbaseman Dee Gordon was first to step up to the right-side of the plate on Monday's game wearing a number 16 jersey and hit his first homerun of the season while imitating Fernández's stance. After crossing home plate, Gordon pointed to the sky in tribute to Fernández as he choked back tears.
15. All Marlins players wore number 16 in honor of Fernández on September 26th in their game against the Mets.



The Miami Marlins will retire Fernández's number, 16.

# Yes, Yes, Yes we do... We've got spirit, how 'bout you?

By Austin Winslow  
*Editor-in-Chief*



The best sports teams don't become the best from winning every game, but instead from their strong support system even through losses. Of the number of sports teams at West Boca, three teams last season, finished with a record of over 500%, two of which made the playoffs. One major factor for this was the lack of school spirit last season at games. Without the adrenaline rush from the roaring crowd, West Boca players will not be able to perform at its highest tier.

For some athletes at West Boca, their game day will be the closest thing they'll have to a "Saturday Morning Game Day" type of atmosphere in collegiate sports. In other words, besides the great coaching, recruiting, and players these institutions have, the thing that gives them that extra boost is the love and support from fans. While some games last season did have support from families and friends, some West Boca athletes were not satisfied.

"I felt like we were playing in front of solely parents every game last season," said Trevor Marcus, Varsity Basketball and Volleyball Senior, regarding his team's fan support last year. "We feed off of the fan love, and I feel as we'd be that much better if we could get some more support" Marcus added. Another



Varsity athlete who hoped for more fan support last year was Jordan Keller. As a senior and starting Shortstop, he explained "we were such a good team last year, and it seemed like we had no one to show it to". Keller, who's been a member of Varsity since freshman year, added that they had much more support when they started to win. Whether fans realize it or not, players are clearly affected by school support.

Furthermore, a possibility for the lack of attendance at sporting events could be the sole reason for the games not being exciting enough.

It's understandable for fans to come to the games expecting a show; and with there being a norm of games not living up to expectations, this causes fans to not want to attend to show love. As Keller mentioned previously, once teams started to win the attendance record started shooting up. However this is not just reflected off baseball. Four years ago, the profound effect of school spirit on sports was demonstrated when West Boca's football team made the playoffs for the second time in school history. Each Friday night everyone wanted to be at the games to show support for the team because all they did was win; creating an atmosphere similar to college athletics.

However, West Boca's Student Government is on the verge of improving school spirit for games. A new club created by SGA, called Spirit Club, allows students to show their love and passion for West Boca by attending games in return for hours, which can be very effective. The club's intentions are exactly what it sounds like: to show spirit at games. If this is done efficiently, attendance for games will increase much more this year.

While some games last season did have support from families and friends, some West Boca athletes were not satisfied.

Athletes from any team, whether it be baseball, basketball, etc, feel that they deserve the support that others schools get. With more positive support from the school community, teams from West Boca will have greater chances while competing against more successful schools in the county. The viewers are everything about a sport. With a supportive group, a poor team can be the best, but without them a great team can be the worst.



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