



Bearkat Buzz

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GRAND CHAMPION

BEHIND THE SCENES



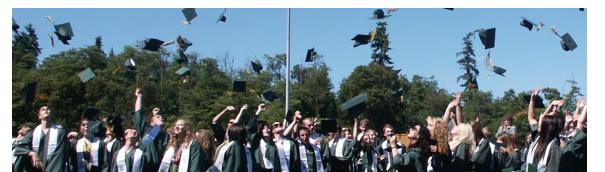
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Behind The Scenes

Brandon French, Cushing junior, is no stranger to dedication when it comes to showing pigs. In an exclusive Bearkat Buzz interview, French gave us a behind the scenes look at the showing process from purchasing the pig as a baby to winning Grand Champion at the Pineywoods Fair.

French purchased his pig, "Forrest Gump", in May at only six weeks old. A baby pig can cost anywhere between five hundred to three thousand dollars.

"The work starts as soon as you get them. You have to feed them every morning, in the middle of the day, and at night," French said.

A sack of feed costs between ten and twenty dollars depending on the brand. This can add up when you consider the fact that it is recommended that you switch the feed every four days. French reported that some of the feed he used was only available from Lufkin feed stores, so it required special trips to stock up.

"You have to walk them every day for at least thirty minutes," he added.

While walking a pig, a quirk, also known as a pig show stick, is used to guide the pig by tapping each side of its head.

"Most importantly, you have to love on your pig whenever you can." Sitting with your pig, petting it, and holding it are ways to show affection and go a long way with the animal.

Pigs also require bathing most days. "You bathe a pig like you would a dog, but then you have to rub baby oil on its skin."

As fair season approaches, the time required to "work" the pig increases to roughly two hours a day.

"I missed out on so many activities like basketball games and going out to eat with my friends," French said, "but it was

all worth it."

When the day of the fair arrived, French said that he felt confident that his pig would place. Since French broke his leg earlier in the year, he was not able to show the pig himself, but he didn't miss a second of the show.

"You want your pig to have a flat back, big butt, and usually a box body. They need to have their head up," French said.

"Forest Gump" represented French well in the show, and his hard work paid off with a Grand Champion Prize.



Grand Champion Prize money ranges from two-thousand to four-thousand dollars.

For the students, the real prize is not the money but the dedication, commitment, and responsibility they gain from the experience of caring for and showing their animals.

Meet Custodian Pancho Tutt



Pancho Tutt is one of the new custodians at the high school. He is from Palestine, Texas.

Tutt said his favorite part about his job is keeping the school clean for the students.

If he could travel anywhere in the world, he said he would go to Hawaii.

Tutt always has a smile on his face that can even be seen through his mask. His positive and friendly demeanor is appreciated by students and teachers alike.



Day of the Dead Art

Cushing Junior High art students participated in the Tyler Museum of Art's eleventh annual Day of the Dead event.

"Day of the Dead is a fun, family-based Mexican holiday," Rhonda Spencer, art teacher, said.

"Although it is celebrated around the same time as Halloween, instead of spooky trick-or-treats, it is a time to honor family members and friends who have passed away. Altars are built to honor the dead, food and treats are left in cemeteries for them, and festivities are held over three days," Spencer added.

Cushing JH students created stunning artwork while learning about the holiday.

This year, Day of the Dead will be from October 31st to November 2nd.



See the complete junior high
"Day of the Dead" art collection at
www.cushingisd.org

It's the Great Pumpkin.... Patch

The rotunda in the elementary has been converted to a pumpkin patch. Every student from grades pre-K to fifth grade painted a pumpkin to contribute to the patch.

With the elimination of traditional activities like the homecoming parade and school plays, elementary art teacher, Alisa Ripley, said that she has had to think outside of the box when it comes to her school-wide art projects.

"I've been teaching students about installations, which is when we convert an entire space into something else; in this case the rotunda," Ripley said.

The pumpkins, stuffing and all, were made with one-hundred percent re-purposed materials. The only cost involved was two and half gallons of orange paint.

"I'd like to publicly thank Ms. Julie Davis for donating paper bags to our art program for the past ten years. We couldn't have done it without her," Ripley said.

The pumpkins will be on display for all to enjoy through Thanksgiving.



THANK YOU!

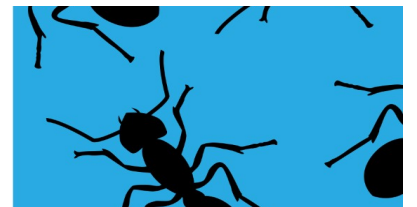


The Cushing Fire Department and Rescue Team donated water bottles to the entire student body at the elementary school.

With water fountains being inaccessible due to COVID-19 regulations, the water bottles are a timely, needed treat.

Parents are encouraged to write their student's names on the bottles and send them to school so students stay hydrated throughout the day.

OCTOBER 2020 | ANTS
INTEGRITY



Student Sound Off: Integrity

What does integrity mean?

"Telling the Truth."- James Wyatt, 1st grade

When should you tell the truth?

"Always."- Corbin Litts, 2nd grade

How can you show integrity?

"Be truthful in all of the ways; in your words and what you do." Morgan Crisp, 2nd grade

What does integrity mean?

"To always tell the truth." Brynli Rogers, 3rd grade

What is integrity?

"Being kind to everyone." Charles Mallord

How can you show integrity?

"Do good things that a good friend does." Daegon Lee

"Be truthful." Evie Donnell

Mackenzie Fitzgerald

How long have you been a cheerleader?
I have been cheering for six years

What is your favorite part of being a cheerleader?
Getting to cheer on the football players every Friday night. Win or lose, I'm one of their biggest supporters. I also love the bus rides to the games.

Are you going to miss cheer when you graduate?
Yes! If I could give any advice to the underclassmen, it would be not to take anything for granted and to cheer your heart out at every game, because it goes by in a blink of an eye.

Where do you plan to go to college?
Currently, I'm not sure where I'm going to go. I'm considering going to SFA or maybe Panola; and I plan to study nursing.

Senior Spotlights**"Deuce" Garrett**

How long have you been playing football?
11 years

What position do you play?
Safety and running back/receiver

What is your favorite part of being a football player?
Getting to have fun with all my friends.

Are you going to miss being a football player for CISD after you graduate?
Yes, I will because we've made so many great memories together.

Where are you planning to go to college?
As of right now, I'm looking into Hardin-Simmons and Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Senior Haunted House

\$5.00 A PERSON

ENTER IF YOU DARE

Thursday
October 29
6pm-9pm
Little Spook
6pm-7pm

CLOSED FRIDAY

Saturday
October 31
6pm-11pm
Little Spook
6pm-7pm

SUPPORT THE SENIORS

The 2021 Senior Class has been working on a circus-themed haunted house.

The Senior Haunted House has been a long-standing Halloween tradition at Cushing High School. The 2021 seniors were grateful to carry on the tradition despite all of the other irregularities that have come along with 2020.

Younger students are encouraged to attend during the designated 6-7 p.m. "Little Spook" hour.

As for everyone else, "Enter if you DARE."

JOIN THE JUNIORS ON A HAYRIDE

The Senior 2022 Hayride Fundraiser is scheduled to be held from 5-9 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st.

The cost is five dollars for adults, three dollars for students, and children five and under are free.

There will be a photo booth, and pictures are available for three dollars. Pictures will be sent home with students the following week.

