

# OUT OF THE BAG

## students remember famous projects

### Seniors: Ms. Michelle Fagan, 'cat' project

Ms. Michelle Fagan has a secret. A secret trash can where she keeps dead cats in bags for her Anatomy & Physiology class. Throughout the year, students dissected these cats to learn more about human anatomy. The dead cats served as replacements for cadavers since both possess a similar internal structure.

"I think it's an important part, if you're studying anatomy, to actually look at it and not just look at pictures," Ms. Fagan said. "What it looks like on the drawings is not what it looks like in real life."

Each cat belonged to a group of three or four students, who worked on the cat from the end of September to the beginning of May. The extensive process and hands-on nature of the project appealed to senior Vincent Lee.

"Instead of doing paperwork that makes you want to quit the class, I liked actually having an interactive lab where you physically do something," Lee said. "It helps me learn so much better."

### Freshmen: Ms. Sarah Martin, 'Romeo and Juliet' project

English I teacher, Sarah Marin thinks extravagant love stories deserve extravagant projects to accompany them. When freshmen studied William Shakespeare's play "Romeo and Juliet", Ms. Sarah Martin made sure this happened. This was one of the largest projects freshmen completed. Students chose from a myriad of options to display their knowledge about the play.

"I gave so many options so students could choose something they excel at," Ms. Martin said. "They don't always get to thrive in school. I think they like it because they get to show off to their teacher and peers. They get to show a piece of themselves."

### Sophomores: Ms. Lisbeth Bennett, 'Things Fall Apart Masks'

Every year after reading the book "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe, Pre-AP English 2 students were assigned a new project – to create an African mask. Ms. Bennett assigned this as a competition to see which group of students could create the best mask.

"I like this so much because it forces kids to choose everything," Ms. Bennett said. "Their choices represent writing and how writers make decisions about what words to use and how. They also like it because it's a competition."

### Juniors: Mr. John Davis, bowling ball experiment (the ball drop heard round the school)

Among the trebuchets, rockets and mousetrap cars, the bowling ball experiment in Mr. John Davis' AP Physics 1 class made the most impact. While studying force, Davis demonstrated how inertia effects how objects fall and land by rolling a bowling ball off a lab table.

"Nobody knew what he was going to do with the bowling ball," senior Luca Chudoba said. "When he launched it off the desk, the whole class shrieked, not with joy – with terror, because it was insanely loud."

### Seniors: Mr. Craig Rabalais, campaign sign extra credit

"Extra credit" were two words not usually heard in AP classrooms, so every year when social studies teacher Mr. Craig Rabalais offered it, students jumped at the opportunity. The simplicity of the assignment thrilled students, who, in order to receive extra credit, had to bring a campaign sign to class.

"I liked it just because it was different," senior Steven Moreno said. "You actually get to do something – it was like a scavenger hunt and I liked that."

By Shalavé Cawley



### SOMETHING STINKS

Senior Vincent Lee dissects a cat in Ms. Michelle Fagan's anatomy class. "The worst part about this lab was the smell. It was awful and I hated it," Lee said. "The best part was being interactive and doing a lab that wasn't all paperwork."

PHOTO BY ALLEE AUSTIN

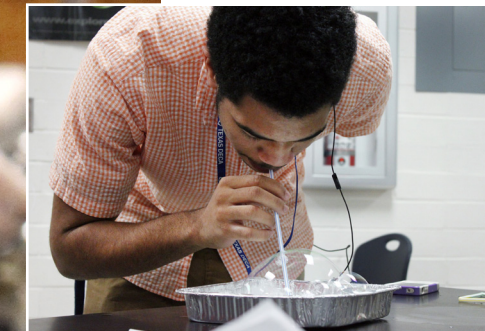


PHOTO BY ALLEE AUSTIN

### BLOWING BUBBLES

In Ms. Michelle Hurst's AP Biology class, Kelvin Hart, 12, blows a bubble into the solution as part of a lab to determine the permeability of the cell wall by blowing a bubble into a solution made of water and dish soap. "It was to show the structure of the cell membrane, how it wraps things going into and out of the cell," Ms. Hurst said. "I was blowing a bubble to stimulate a semipermeable membrane," Hart said. "It was so cool. You could pick the bubble up out of the water and stick your hand in and out of it," he said.



PHOTO BY ADRIANCE RHODES

### PAINTING AWAY

As a part of a project in Ms. Lisbeth Bennett's Pre-AP English class, Mia Williams, 10, paints her African mask. "I didn't really learn from it," Williams said. "It was a lot of work." Ms. Bennett had been giving the project for three years. "Each year students bring something new to the table," Bennett said. "What I like most about this project is seeing how the students work together to brainstorm how to represent this tribe falling to pieces."

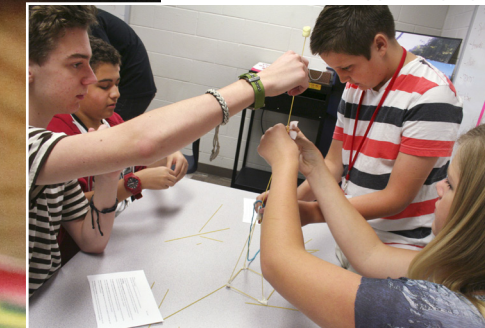


PHOTO BY JADA SUCCES

### TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK

In Ms. Jodi Esaili's AP Human Geography class, freshman Gage Mitchell, attempts to build the tallest, freestanding structure from spaghetti, marshmallows, tape and teamwork. "I liked it because we don't do many projects in that class," Mitchell said. "I did this project with my Destination Imagination team for about a year. I decided to try it with my classes here at Legacy the week school started," Esaili said. "My favorite part was watching the students figure out how to work together toward a common goal."

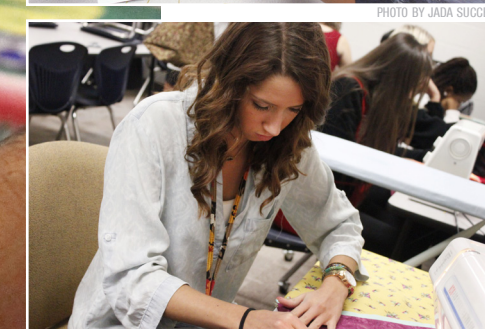


PHOTO BY ALLEE AUSTIN

### SEWING FOR DAYS

In Ms. Dawn Groves fashion design class, senior Adrianna Altstaetter pins a pillow getting it ready to make a French seam. Ms. Groves assigned this project for the last five years. "It usually takes about two to three weeks to finish," Groves said. "What I like about this project is for the students who make the pillow case to take it to college and have something to remember from high school."



PHOTO BY ADRIANCE RHODES

### CARNIVAL CRAZE

In Mrs. Burkett's AQR class, senior Karmalyana Howard plays a probability balloon game during class. "There were prizes available if you won," Howard said. "We won a stuffed monkey, and it was a lot of fun getting to play with the kids." Burkett had the carnival to show how the carnival games were unfair with their probabilities to win. "I've done this project for two years," Burkett said. "The students learn how the carnival games are rigged and how unfair the games are."