

YOU WANT A *Pizza*

Food Plays Central Role in Work, School, Leisure THIS?

Katherine Huerta's strongest food memory is simultaneously delicious and embarrassing. While with her family on a pizza tour of New York a few years ago, the guide, a famous pizza aficionado, asked everyone to name their favorite pizza.

"My dad said Pizza Hut, and I wanted to die," Katherine said.

She overcame her embarrassment and went on to sample all kinds of pizza, featuring an array of cheeses, toppings and crust styles.

"We went to Lombardi's, the oldest pizza place in New York," Katherine said. "All we have around here were chains."

For many students, those chain restaurants gave them their first jobs, providing spending money, gas funds, college savings and important experience.

While working at Canes, **Xavier Hunter** has not only learned how to work behind a counter, but also has been taught several life lessons.

"I feel like everyday that I work I get better as a person," Xavier said.

Students learning to provide great service behind the counter or at the drive-through window often come face-to-face with hungry students.

Before going home after school, **James Lyles** usually stops at Panda Express.

"I like how it's not busy and they give you a lot of food," James said.

Not only do local restaurants have tasty selections, they can also serve as hubs for socializing.

For example, while dining at Buffalo Wild

Wings with his friends, **Conrad Liu** decided to try the The Blazing Challenge.

"I lost a bet," Conrad said. "Definitely not the hottest wings I've had, but I was not expecting them to be that hot given that I've already completed the challenge once before."

The challenge involves eating 12 wings with blazing sauce in six minutes. Conrad finished in 3:40.

"Imagine setting your tongue on fire and then doing it repeatedly doing it 12 times," Conrad said.

Instead of eating out and spending money, some choose to stay at home and cook.

"I like aesthetically pleasing food. When I cook things myself I can have it look exactly the way I want it to," **Poonum Mehta** said.

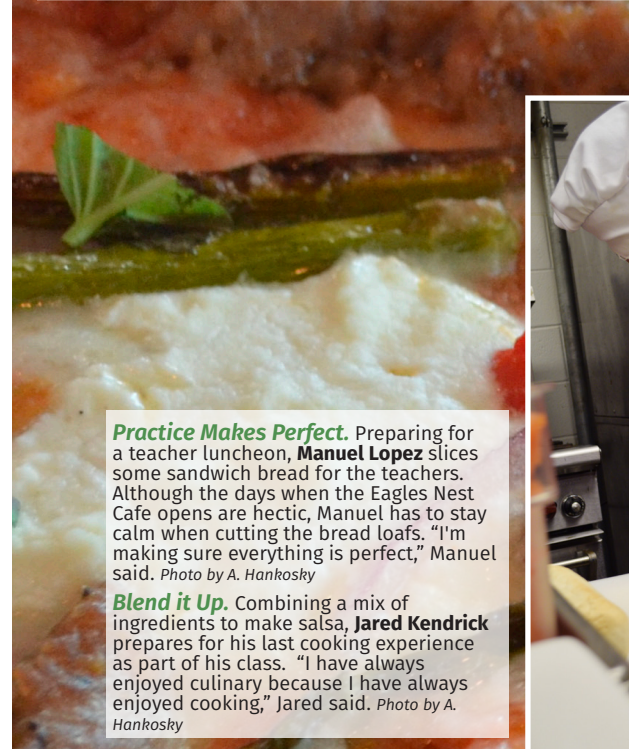
But cooking at home doesn't always work out according to plan.

"Once my sister and I tried making apple cinnamon cakes," Poonum said. "We didn't have baking powder so we used baking soda and forgot to make the portions smaller. The whole thing ended up exploding."

Students who wanted more than do-it-yourself experience enrolled in culinary arts. Some even competed, advancing all the way to state, placing fourth in Management and 8th in Culinary.

Culinary teacher **Sean Dunn** said the students were very close to winning scholarship money and placing even higher.

"We scored first in the state for critical thinking," Chef Dunn said.



Practice Makes Perfect. Preparing for a teacher luncheon, **Manuel Lopez** slices some sandwich bread for the teachers. Although the days when the Eagles Nest Cafe opens are hectic, Manuel has to stay calm when cutting the bread loafs. "I'm making sure everything is perfect," Manuel said. Photo by A. Hankosky

Blend it Up. Combining a mix of ingredients to make salsa, **Jared Kendrick** prepares for his last cooking experience as part of his class. "I have always enjoyed culinary because I have always enjoyed cooking," Jared said. Photo by A. Hankosky





Big Responsibility. Passing out condiments at the drive-thru, **Kevin Munoz** makes sure customers have everything they need at Chick-Fil-A. "I'm in management so have more responsibility," Kevin said. *Photo by K. Huerta*

Work Hard, Play Hard. While working her shift at Chick-Fil-A, **Anna Stunz** shares a funny moment with her coworkers. "It's always fun because you're hanging out with your friends while working super hard," Anna said. *Photo by L. Ingram*



Get in the Loop. **Angela Angulo**, **Kelsee Gosbee**, and **Samantha Solomon** try some sweet treats at Donut Heaven. "My favorite one would have to be the Froot Loops one because I love fruit and it was pretty," Angela said. *Photo by A. Hankosky*

Let's Taco 'bout It. On a Saturday, **Cameron Holman** and **Connor Mitchell** have a lunch date at Torchy's Tacos. "We wanted to try something new and see what all that hype was about it," Connor said. *Photo by C. Holman*

