

# Polyglot

Pinellas County Schools

May, 2007

Volume XX1, Issue 4

*Teachers of world languages use best practices and state standards to facilitate student success in the global community.*

## Forever Our Teacher, Our Friend *Carmine Zinn, 1935-2007*

Teachers and former students of world languages as well as friends and administrators from throughout the district continue to mourn the loss of a dedicated educator, mentor, master teacher and dear friend, Carmine Ranieri Zinn. Carmine passed away Sunday, March 25, in the home of her daughter, Lisa, in Warsaw, Indiana. She had been valiantly living with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Carmine was a graduate of St. Petersburg High School and Florida State University. She taught Spanish from 1957-1986, first at Meadowlawn Junior High School, and later at Northeast and Pinellas Park High Schools. She served as supervisor of foreign languages for the district from 1986 until she retired in 2000. As supervisor, Carmine was responsible for initiating Foreign Language Field Day, publishing the first *Polyglot* and for starting elementary foreign language instruction in Pinellas County. Carmine also taught Spanish at St. Petersburg College. Carmine truly impacted the lives of those students and teachers she served, leaving the kind of legacy that will not fade. Throughout this past year, many marveled at the way she continued to reach out to others, teaching all who surrounded her how to gracefully deal with life's most daunting challenges. A funeral mass and memorial reception will be held at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church in St. Petersburg at **1:00 p.m. on May 12.**



### Livia Wein Receives High Honors

Congratulations to Livia Wein, World Languages Department Chair and SHH Sponsor at Seminole HS and Florida Foreign Language Association Regional 6 director, who was recently named Seminole Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year.

## Students Shine at State Competition

*Boca Ciega, Lakewood, Northeast, and SPHS Participate*

### Lakewood State Winner For Second Year Poems

Congratulations to **Darlene Lebo, Linda Santiago** and students for winning second place honors (Division I, Class 5A) at the Florida State Spanish Conference held April 19-20 in Orlando.

#### Impromptus

Cameron Miller, category 5A, Sobresaliente  
Luis Pena, category 5C, Sobresaliente  
William Skinner, category 4A, Superior  
Diana Rodriguez, category 3C, Sobresaliente  
Amber Sylvester, category 4A, Sobresaliente  
Chelsea Creaturo, category 5A, Sobresaliente  
Lauren Walsh, category 5A, Superior  
Haley McHugh, category 5A, Sobresaliente  
Rachel Scherer, category 5A, Sobresaliente  
Melissa Balmer, category 5A, Sobresaliente  
Emily Bingham, category 5A, Superior  
Lisa Vlaming, category 5A, Sobresaliente

Cameron Miller, Sobresaliente  
Luis Pena, Sobresaliente  
Lisa Vlaming, Sobresaliente  
Melissa Balmer, Sobresaliente  
Rachel Scherer, Sobresaliente

#### Play- SOBRESALIENTE

Luis Pena, Lisa Vlaming, Melissa Balmer,  
Rachel Scherer

Scrapbook—Lauren Walsh, 3rd place in state

#### Senior Scholarship

Cameron Miller- \$300.00 scholarship

**St. Petersburg High School**  
earned 4th Place State Honors at the French Congrès. Congratulations, **Nan Griffin** and students.

### Boca Ciega Also Shines

Congratulations to Bogie's state conference team for their great work this year, earning 9 Superior ratings and 2 Excellent ratings in Extemporaneous Speaking and Declamation categories. Participating students were: A.J. Pauta, Rodolfo Estrada, Barry Yuille, Zach Cornett, Jessica Denmark, Sam Potts, Paige Robinson, Ashley Herbert, and Amber Harris. Many thanks to teachers **Pam Benton, Becca Bottone and Celia Rubi.**

### NEHS at Latin Forum

**Alan Blessing** and students attended the LVIII Florida State Latin Forum in Jacksonville. In competition with 1100 other Latin students, these students brought home the following awards:

Konstantin Kerekovski —9th place, Latin Vocabulary II

Eric Lentz-10th place in Latin Derivatives II and 6th place in Latin Vocabulary II.

## Honor Societies Induct Students, Accumulate Service Hours

Congratulations to the hundreds of students who were inducted this spring into language honor societies. Among those Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica induction ceremonies made known to the editor are: The *Don Juan Tenorio* chapter at Dunedin HS held reception and candlelight ceremony in the school's media center January 30; St. Petersburg HS held dinner and candlelight ceremony for new inductees in the *Sancho Panza* chapter in February at the Feather Sound Country Club; Seminole HS's *José de la Luz y Caballero* chapter hosted a dinner and candlelight ceremony for new inductees at Banquet Masters in Seminole on April 16; Largo HS's *Antonio Cubero* chapter held a dessert reception and candlelight ceremony at the school media center for new inductees April 23. Congratulations to sponsors Gail Barrett (Dunedin HS), Gloria Muñoz (SPHS), Livia Wein (Seminole HS) and Larell Chavez (Largo HS).

The *Don Juan Tenorio* chapter of the Dunedin HS *Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica* has been very active this year. They made cards and delivered them to a local nursing home, adopted a Hispanic family and provided them with gifts during the holidays, sold carnations on Valentine's Day, took Salsa lessons from a volunteer serviceman, and planned a Latin festival with dancing, food and music.

Seminole High School's *José de la Luz y Caballero* chapter met recently to stuff bears that they will be delivering to pediatric cancer patients.

The *Sammy Sosa* chapter of the Spanish Honor Society at Countryside HS, under the leadership of Monica Diba, prepared and shipped a care box of items to a home for abandoned girls, ages 4-15, living in Peru. In return, the students received a beautiful letter of gratitude in Spanish, as well as pictures of the grateful children.

## Congratulations, PRIDE Award Winners

Azalea-Joshua C M. Chau  
Bay Point -Stefani B. Simenova  
Carwise -Cory J. Roberts  
Coachman Fund-Cassidy R. Bingham  
Dunedin -Yianni Protopapadakis  
Fitzgerald-Tabassum Tasnim  
John Hopkins -Samantha N. Virgilio  
Kennedy -Kaitlyn M. Mangel  
Largo-Serjan Bratic  
Madeira Beach-Kelsey R. Carter  
Meadowlawn-Phabian I. Graham

Oak Grove-Lanae M. Thompson  
Osceola -Bradley T. Kraut  
Palm Harbor -James M. Ballow  
Pinellas Park-Shazia Majid  
Riviera -Jynessa Sampson  
Safety Harbor-Heather M. Landis  
Seminole-Alexandra M. Lasso  
Southside Fundamental-Kelly Vasbinder  
Tarpons Springs -Erin M. Miller  
Thurgood Marshall-Tess L. Huttenlocker  
Tyrone -Breanna N. Bass

## Spanish Students and Teachers Among Special Honorees

A group of student honorees representing this year's 42 National Merit Semifinalists, Hispanic and Achievement Scholars from Pinellas County Schools was recognized at a breakfast held April 19, at the Harborview Center in Clearwater. Also honored were the "significant educators in their lives". Among those students and educators were Nicholas Bradley, Dunedin HS, and his teacher, **Gail Barrett** as well as Hayley Germack, St. Petersburg HS I.B. Program and her teacher, **Gloria Muñoz**.

## NEHS German, Latin and Greek Students Participate in National Exams

Five Students from NEHS participated in the 2007 National German Exam with 24,000 others from around the country. Mirza Tajic answered 92 out of 100 questions correctly on the Level II exam, and Medissa Medic answered 96 out of 100 questions correctly on the Level III exam. Both will receive a medal from the National Association of Teachers of German. Six students also participated in the National Latin Exam in March, competing with 134,000 students from 13 countries. The following students won awards: Cassandra Karcz-cum laude Latin I certificate; Blaze Martin-cum laude Latin I certificate; Charlotte Karrer-magna cum laude Latin I certificate; Konstantin Kerekovski-maxima cum laude in Latin II silver medal; Eric Lentz-summa cum laude in Latin II gold medal. Finally, nine beginning Greek students took the National Greek Exam in March and four of these students placed nationally with merit awards. They are: Allyson Cox, Sasa Mehmedovic, Aldo Medina, and Samuel Rosenberger. Congratulations to teacher, Alan Blessing, and these worthy students.

## We're So Proud....

Beth Marshner Scholarship: \$1,000– **Nicole Scholet**, Countryside HS

Pam Silva Memorial Summer Immersion Scholarship-**Summer Cerallo-O'Donnell**, Countryside HS

WLTA Senior Achievement Award-\$100-**Nicole Scholet**, (Spanish) Countryside HS; **Brittany Beel** (French), PHUHS

Kennedy MS multi-cultural club held "Pan American Week", a sharing of Hispanic culture with Kennedy students, who rotated into the gym to take part in activities planned by **Renee Belvis'** ESOL students. Special Congratulations to Renee, sponsor of Kennedy's Principal's Multicultural Advisory Committee, named **2007 Middle School Winner** at the annual recognition banquet held April 26.

Marianna Steriadis, TSHS, was selected to participate in the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar for Teachers.