



THE SPARTAN SPEAKS

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NEWS

Service dog Blaine now attending OHS

Jazmine Borreson
Visuals Editor

Freshman Bella Andrade has a new furry friend named Blaine who has been by her side during the school day since Jan. 8. Blaine is a black lab service dog, who is a normal pet at home, but when Andrade and Blaine come to school it is work time for Blaine.

“At home Blaine is a normal dog. Blaine does not wear her vest when she is not in a public setting. She loves to snuggle, play tug, play fetch, and lick everyone’s faces. When she is not in the vest and leader that she wears in public and at school, she is a normal two-and-a-half-year-old Labrador Retriever,” Andrade said. “Blaine also loves to go to the Orono dog park to play with all of her puppy friends.”

While Bella is at school, however, Blaine is focused on making Bella’s school life easier and assisting her needs. Blaine wears a red vest which is a sign for Blaine that it is no longer time to play around

and that it’s time to work.

A service animal is any animal individually trained to perform tasks that benefit an individual with a disability; including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or mental disability, according to the ADA. Blaine will help assist Andrade around the school. She can pick up a variety of objects for Andrade like pencils, notebooks and Andrade’s phone. If Bella drops something, Blaine is there to pick it up for her.

Andrade and Blaine have a few rules that all students and staff must follow in order for Blaine to do her job, according to a video shown to the entire high school that explained the rules that apply. The rules in the video are as follows:

1. Blaine is an extension of Andrade, just like Andrade’s wheelchair. You wouldn’t touch, lean on or pet Andrade’s wheelchair, therefore the same treatment should apply to Blaine.
2. Please do not pet, whistle at, bark at,

feed or in any way distract Blaine’s attention away from Andrade. This includes adults.

3. Please say “Hi” to Andrade before saying “Hi” to Blaine.

4. Another student’s or teacher’s fear of dogs or allergies to dogs is not a valid reason to deny Blaine’s attendance to school. Andrade will never make anyone who is afraid of Blaine be near her, nor should anyone touch Blaine thereby making allergies an invalid point.

5. If Andrade asks Blaine to do something for her, pick up a dropped item, open a door, etc., and Blaine is distracted or hesitant to do so, do not jump in and help Andrade. Blaine will do the job in a short period of time and needs to know it is her job, not an able-bodied person’s job. If Andrade asks for help, then please help her but give her time to get Blaine to respond.



Photo/ Jazmine Borreson

A frame of the video created to help students and staff know how to respond to Blaine, a service dog at OHS.

6. Blaine is there for Andrade; she is not entertainment for students and staff so please do not ask Andrade to have Blaine demonstrate her skills.

7. When Blaine is taking a break in her kennel, she still does not get to be petted, talked to or fed.

8. Please never step over Blaine. If she is in the way, ask Andrade to re-position her.

FEATURES

The Naughty Greek 2 opens students up to new culture

Cari Spencer
Editor in Chief

Walking into the Naughty Greek’s second location on opening day was like stepping into a different world—a parallel universe, better and brighter than the St. Paul streets. Those who were stepping in from the biting cold were greeted by the scent of rotisserie meats and the satisfied buzz of customers, stuffed with an assortment of appetizers.

Not even a day old and The Naughty Greek’s University Avenue location was already thriving. Teasers of the menu, from warm mini gyros to orange soaked filo cake, circulated around the room, delivered by a staff that included owner Angelo Giovanis’ daughters; Sophia, a former OHS student, and Melina, a current OHS sophomore.

The crowd, a mixture of trendy couples clutching amber beer bottles, native Greek speakers, and even a mother and toddler dancing along to each “Oompa!” the live band shouted out, looked like a family—a fitting vibe, considering the community connection, “Greek dining style” and family history the restaurant



Photo/ Cari Spencer

Alongside Mayor Chris Coleman, Sophia and Melina Giovanis cut the ribbon officially opening the second location of The Naughty Greek.

Location no. 2 opened on Dec. 5, 2017, about a year after the original; in November of 2016, Angelo Giovanis brought a sliver of his home back to the Twin Cities, with the opening of his first The Naughty Greek—a restaurant dedicated to serving authentic Athenian street food with a side of a culture lesson. Compared to the first location on Snelling Avenue, The Naughty

Greek 2 is larger. It has the vibe of a sit-down restaurant rather than a quick stop place, with long tables and a high warehouse ceiling. The expansion coincides with Giovanis’ goal of expanding Greek culture which celebrates dining and conversation; it allows him to pull up a chair next to customers and let his passion season their food with a little extra something.

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SPORTS

Alpine vs. Nordic: the rivalry continues

Katie Udell
Sports Editor

Since the dawn of time, the Nordic and Alpine ski teams have been in a state of rivalry, debating which form of the winter activity is better than the other.

“Although Alpine and Nordic are rivals, we both have fun being outside doing one of the most Minnesotan things in the state,” junior and alpine skier Abbie McGrann said, “but Alpine does it better.”

The Orono Alpine Ski Team, also known as TOAST by many of the skiers on the team, is under the supervision of head coach Heidi Butler and assistant coach Ben Thiess. Both coaches are accomplished skiers and have been racing for many years.

“The coaches are amazing, we always hangout on the bus and the chairlift with them. It’s always a lot of fun,” junior and alpine skier Ben Quinlivan said.

Alpine practices are consistent to a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday schedule. The bus leaves from the high school at 3 p.m. and brings the team to Hyland Hills

where they ski from 4–6 p.m. Races are held on Fridays for JV members and Thursdays for Varsity members, with occasional JV and Varsity combined races on Fridays.

Cindy Conger, Mark Kobilka, Speedy McCollor and Oumar Cherif are the coaches for the Nordic Ski Team. Practices are held five to six times a week and off season training is encouraged for skiers to stay in shape all year. Practices are Monday through Friday from 3–5 p.m., with Varsity also practicing on Saturday mornings.

“The challenge in technique and athleticism can be hard, but it’s worth it because we always have fun having snowball fights and hanging out as a team,” junior and nordic skier Alexis Mullen said.

Every year both ski teams compete against each other in a friendly game of soccer before their seasons start. Teams are allowed to recruit their friends to play for them, but ski team members are encouraged to participate. According to McGrann, Nordic is undefeated due to the

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GREEK *from 1*

"People just love listening to him talk because he's so passionate about it," Sophia Giovanis said. "This means so much to my dad, and people see that and people respect that."

A large part of what he shares with his customers is what makes real Greek cuisine authentic. This ideal is part of the foundation that The Naughty Greek was built upon, reflected even in the name of the restaurant itself.

While the bathrooms have wall sized pictures of donkeys ("asses") and the menu has little innuendos hidden in the graphics, Giovanis said that what really makes the place naughty is the way it breaks the rules of typical American Greek restaurants. As Giovanis was creating the restaurant, he found himself telling vendors "no" time after time. Instead of buying cheap pre-made ingredients, Giovanis decided to go the harder route: homemade, with many ingredients imported straight from Greece. He also opted to eliminate lamb gyros from the menu, as lamb is not in traditional Greek gyros.

"The rest of the Greek restaurants will not like me, but I'm actually doing it the right way," Giovanis said, "I'm okay with the idea that...okay, I'm the 'naughty one' because...I'm breaking the rules, doing it my way."

Ingredients aside, the true authenticity of The Naughty Greek comes from the recipes themselves; most of them were born in Greece, with roots from the Giovanis family. The honey syrup soaked orange filo cake, one of the most popular foods on opening night, is on the menu as "Yia-Yia's Orange Filo Cake." In Greek, yia-yia means grandmother.

"I'll tell you about the filo cake, not only is that really good, that's what grandma used to make us, the loukoumades, my grandma used to wake us up...on the weekends, that was our breakfast," Giovanis said.

The Naughty Greek's sense of family injects a truthfulness to the atmosphere that not all restaurants are lucky to possess. Sometimes, whether working or hanging out with friends for a

few hours, Giovanis' daughters can be found at the restaurant. Spotted occasionally too, is his own mother or a table with friends from the Greek community. It's not uncommon for the sound of Greek words to be heard, overlapping with the background music.

"I think I have gotten a lot [closer] with my, with the culture...I am more of a Greek girl," Sophia Giovanis said, growing more animated as she spoke, "It's a constant reminder... you have Greek people coming in, and you're speaking Greek all of a sudden, like I would never do this unless I was with my grandparents or I was in Greece."

Junior Isabella Koch, a friend of Sophia Giovanis', jumped in. "I can definitely see that it's a bigger part of your family and you. I think it's brought you guys so much closer together...it's such a support system," Koch said, "I just think [the experience] brought out her inner Greek Goddess and now I see her, always flying."

Despite living in the Orono school district, both Melina Giovanis and Sophia Giovanis have spent ample time in Greece; as a family they often return to Monemvasia, a town on an island east of the Peloponnese, and connect back with the culture that Angelo Giovanis strives to promote. Now, the shared experience with their father has developed even more, as they live out a history similar to his. The Giovanis girls are not the only ones in the family with a father who opened an eatery.

After growing up in his father's restaurant, a "magical" place located in a Greek village, it's no leap that Angelo Giovanis continued on with the restaurant legacy. Although he once told himself he would never go back to the restaurant business, there was always a shred of the experience that stuck with him: the love for people. This, he said, was what ultimately drove him

back to serving food in his own Santorini colored restaurant; and to anyone who dines at The Naughty Greek, it's certainly apparent.

Between talking to his employees and dashing into the kitchen, Giovanis said he tries to meet every customer. A few days after opening, at just 3 p.m. on a Sunday, Giovanis could already point out two tables with regulars. His love for his creation has helped

"I just think [the experience] brought out her inner Greek Goddess and now I see her, always flying."

— Isabella Koch
junior

it blossom into a Twin Cities gem, and in turn people are noticing and coming back for more. It's nearly impossible to talk to Giovanis without getting infected with his excitement, without being inspired.

"I want my kids to know that if you have a dream, and you want to do it, get out there and do it," Giovanis said, "I actually have to be the example of that, I can't just tell my kids to do that—if I don't live it, it's just words. So for me a very big part of all of this is to demonstrate to them that...you've got to work hard, follow your passions, follow your dreams. If I don't do it, who's going to do it?"

GUMBOOT *from 19*

almost bittersweet, as the beginning of the end to their impressive feat.

Tracks like "Barefoot Desert" and "All is Known" focus more on micro-tones, something they frequently experimented with in their first release of 2017, *Flying Microtonal Banana*. Other tracks like "Superposition" and "The Last Oasis" have more jazzy progressive vibes to them. If Pink Floyd made elevator music, these tracks are what they would sound like. The tracks are very percussion-based and would fit in perfectly to *Sketches of Brunswick East*, their third release of the year. These songs aren't for everyone, but they're still the more interesting tracks on the LP.



Gumboot Soup album cover

"Greenhouse Heat Death" and "The Great Chain of Being" have more of a metal grunge sound. This is a new sound for King Gizzard that they actually pull off very well. Again, these might not be for everyone but props still go to Gizzard.

"Down the Sink" and "I'm Sleepin' In" are definitely two of the best songs on the album. "Down the Sink" begins with a guitar riff that captures you for the whole song, while "I'm Sleepin' In" is a more mellow, relaxing track that will make you want to stay under the covers for five more minutes.

Overall this album deserves an 8/10. Fans will definitely be pleased with their final album of last year, as it was somewhat of a mash up of all the other albums, with some fresh ideas added in too. Even though King Gizzard has been pumping out albums left and right, quality of content still remains their focus. If you are someone

who is looking for some new music, or are a fan of Pink Floyd mixed with a little Santana, King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard is highly recommended as they have proved themselves to be one of the best bands of 2017 and one to watch out for in 2018 and the future.

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VAPE *from 4*

itchiness, puffy/dry eyes, caffeine sensitivity and minor nose bleeding issues according to the Ecig Alternative.

Along with vapes are the newest model of e-cig: JUUL. A JUUL is a little rectangular e-cig. Although a JUUL is smaller in size they have a significantly more nicotine.

When a chemical called diacetyl is inhaled it can cause a serious lung disease called "Popcorn Lung." Popcorn Lung

is formed when the tiny air sacs in the lungs thicken and start to restrict the airways. The symptoms can be coughing, wheezing, or shortness of breath according to American Lung Association. Diacetyl has been since removed from all vape juice.

"It would be almost impossible to put a complete stop to this issue because there are just so many people who do it and they will always find a way," senior Patricia Johnson said.