

Official Newspaper of Rocky Hill Middle School

Pennies for Patients was a HUGE Success !

As a school we raised \$1,367 dollars for the Lukemia and Lymphoma Society. Out of that amount \$1,000 was raised by Ms. Quinn's four math classes. This nearly doubled our total from last year! Ms. Woodward's classes came in second and will receive a silver pennant to display outside of her classroom. Thanks to everyone who participated in making this event a success, especially our RHMS Math teachers who assisted with this endeavor.



THANK YOU Ms. Quinn's Math Students!



Hamilton: An American Musical

By: Vrinda Bawa



Hamilton is a musical that is sung and rapped about the life of a founding father. It is inspired by the 2004 biography “Alexander Hamilton” by historian Ron Chernow. It has hip-hop, rhythm and blues, pop music, soul music, traditional style show tunes and color-conscious casting of non-white actors as the founding fathers and historical figures. The musical off-broadway debut was at the Public Theatre in February of 2015, where it was sold out. The show was transferred to Broadway in August 2015 at the Richard Rodgers Theatre. Hamilton received a record-setting 16 Tony nominations, winning 11, including best musical, and was also the 2016 Grammy award for best theatre musical. The musical has about 46 songs. The Chicago production of Hamilton began preview performances at CIBC theatre in September 2016 and officially opened the following month. The first national tour of the show began in March 2017.

Music Festival

By: Katie Kim

Do you like music? I do too. It just so happens that there’s a music festival where the music programs from Hallie Wells MS, Clarksburg HS and Rocky Hill MS all compete! Here’s an interview with Mrs. Schiller about the Music Festival.

Wildcat Roar- What groups are performing in the Music Festival?

Ms. Schiller- Rocky Hill has four groups performing at Festival. The Chamber Singers, Treble Choir, Wind Ensemble and Concert Orchestra

WR- Where is the Festival taking place?

Ms. S- Each festival is held at a different school. This year the chorus will be at Clarksburg HS, the band at Watkins Mill HS, and the orchestra at Damascus HS.

WR- What songs is Rocky Hill Performing?

Ms. S- Each group performs a warm-up piece and two pieces that will be judged by three expert music teachers. These selections are from a Maryland state mandated list.

WR- When is the festival taking place?

Ms. S- These Festivals are in March and April.

WR- How is the Festival is set up?

Ms. S- Each school is assigned a time for the warm-up room, the performance in the auditorium, and a time to sight-read a song for the first time. They will also watch two other groups perform as part of the festival experience.

WR- Why is the Festival taking place?

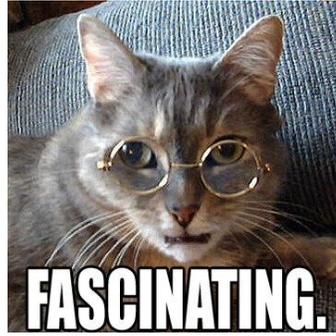
Ms. S- The festival is the music teacher’s version of standardized testing. The groups are judged and teachers are given advice on how to improve the ensemble.

I’m sure that the Festival will be great! Next time, think about coming to support the music programs at their concerts!



Fascinating Facts

By: Marley Pinsky



1. Walter Frederick Morrison, the man who invented the Frisbee, was cremated into a Frisbee after his death.
2. There is an island in the Sea of Japan that is completely inhabited by bunnies.
3. Billy goats urinate on their heads to smell more attractive to females. Gross!
4. Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia is the fear of long words. How ironic!
5. While humans typically have 3 color receptors in their eyes, mantis shrimp can have 12 to 16 color receptors, meaning they can see colors that we could never imagine.
6. Only 1 in 10 people are left handed.
7. Boanthropy is a psychological disorder that makes people believe they are a cow.
8. Giraffes use their 21-inch tongues to clean their ears.
9. "U" was first used as a substitute for "You" by Shakespeare.
10. Barack Obama gets to watch new "Game of Thrones" episodes before the rest of the world.
11. There is a city called Rome in every continent - except Antarctica.
12. Babies are born without kneecaps.
13. There are more plastic flamingos in America than real ones.
14. Askew means not in a straight level or position. Search up 'askew' on Google and the screen turns slightly clockwise.
15. Think of a number. Double it. Add six. Divide by 2. Take away the number you started with. Your answer is 3.
16. Which came first, the chicken or the egg? It was actually the egg, but an egg laid by unevolved chickens. As genetic mutation occurred gradually, these creatures inherited more traits that made them look like the chickens we know today, and the first normal chicken was hatched from an unevolved egg.
17. It takes 17 muscles to smile.
18. People with Autism are less likely to catch a yawn.
19. There is a country 3/5 the size of Disney World inside another country. It's called San Marino, and it's completely surrounded by Italy.
20. Inside the YouTube Headquarters, employees can decide to take the stairs, elevator, or slide.

Recycling and Sleep survey

Why Recycling is Important

By: Nandi Patel

Know it or not, the amount of trash in our world is exploding! Every year, each American throws out 4.4 pounds of trash PER DAY! If we want to protect our mother Earth, we have to RECYCLE. When you recycle, you put your plastics, cardboard, paper, and cans in a different bin. This will take them to a separate place that will recycle and reuse these materials. Believe it or not, a plastic water bottle can be made into a shirt when recycled properly. Like this, many more things can be reused and made into different items. Recycling your excess junk can really make a difference in the world- one piece at a time.

Kids are not getting enough sleep

By Parker Ofner

When you get older, you will start to want to go to sleep later and that, plus waking up early, can lead to sleep deprivation. You probably remember when you were little going to sleep at about eight o'clock, but most people now go to sleep later than that especially on summer nights. Many people's sleep schedules are different, so I surveyed 15 people about what time they go to sleep.

When people wake up:

5am = 1

6am = 6

7am = 8

When people go to sleep:

8pm = 1

9pm = 3

10pm = 6

11pm = 3

12am = 1

1am = 0

2am = 0

3am = 1



The recommendation for the amount of sleep someone of middle school age should get is nine to eleven hours but most kids that I surveyed got much less sleep than that. Schools have started to notice this problem. As a result, some school districts have begun to delay the start time of middle school. I believe that even if we tell kids to go to bed earlier, they won't - maybe because their bodies aren't programmed to go to bed earlier. Instead I agree with the schools that are pushing their start times later. Letting kids sleep in is the best way to fix this problem.

No Rain No Flower

Submitted by Anonymous

Never will the battle of dark and light, stop to leave just the good.

Otherwise we'd all feel at peace, at least we'd think we should.

Really with the bad gone, no force would ever pull us down.

And having no pain in us, would keep only optimism around.

In almost no time at all, wouldn't life be greatly improved.

Never giving us any obstacles, that would leave us discouraged and bruised.

Nonetheless it would leave us empty, with no perspective of what is to enjoy.

Only making us end up mentally frail, with no immunity as if a moldable toy.

From the knowing of pain and sadness, and situations that leave hurt.

Leaving bad moments is easier, letting us go to better ones with less discomfort.

Other realities in which rain does not fall, and the sun is only exposed.

Waterless flowers dry up and do not bloom, making their access to a good life closed.

Eventually in the end, we will all accept and understand it.

Remembering that the bad moments form the good, in a way that everyone will benefit.



Writers of The Wildcat Roar

Teacher Mr. Kevin Conley

Chief Editor Malini Raghu

2nd Editor Marley Pinsky

Journalists

Parker Ofner Katie Kim

Nandi Patel Vrinda Bawa

Rocky Hill Girls Soccer 2018

Coach– Mr. Conley

Last Name	First Name	GR
Amoah	Melissa	7
Garviria	Camila	7
Groves	Gracie	7
Sengbusch	Claire	7
Canas-Myers	Devin	8
Colbert	Lilah*	8
Covas	Ariana	8
Dailey	Abigail	8
Donahue	Kylie	8
Garfinkel	Ella	8
Haye	Amaya	8
Jorgensen	Erin	8
Pajot	Kaitlyn	8
Sartor	Natalia	8
Shroff	Marvi*	8
Torres	Nicole	8
Yaragudipati	Sakshi	8

April 10th vs. Hallie Wells- away

May 12th vs. Baker- HOME

April 24th vs. Neelsville- away

May 1st vs. Kingsview- HOME

May 3rd vs. Clemente- HOME



* indicates Captains

Boys Soccer 2018

Coach- Mr. Shull

Gomez, Juan

Hunter, Simeon

Ngo, Ryan

Ripoli, Franco

Adedeji, Thomas

Amoh-Mayes, Max

Carabajal, Leonardo

Juwillie, Marvin

Karakheti, Anup

Manikumar, Sujan

Moraros, Elijah

Trujillo, Eduardo

Valderrama, Felipe

Ventura, Joshua

Hubbly, Vivek

Ranade, Soham

Jivan, Abbas

Moreno, Elias

Pestaner, Josue



April 10th vs. Hallie Wells– HOME

May 12th vs. Baker– away

April 24th vs. Neelsville– HOME

May 1st vs. Kingsview– away

May 3rd vs. Clemente– away

Spelling Bee

RHMS Spelling Bee

By: Marley Pinsky

Could you be able to spell vicissitudes? How about rhododendron? Or even ichthyosaurus? Seems difficult, right? But with effective effort and determination, our school spelling bee finalists have conquered these words and more.



You might remember being in English class when your teacher passed out pieces of test paper, reading words for you to attempt to spell. Once finished writing about 20 words, increasing in difficulty as they went on, you had the choice to ask for your test to be graded. If your test was graded and were in the top 10 in your grade, you were eligible to participate in the spelling bee.

These 30 students were handed lists of words to study. Some decided not to come to the spelling bee, but these students were not replaced by the next best spellers. Only the spellers who were originally entered in the bee could compete. Twenty-six students participated in the bee on Friday, February 9. It was originally scheduled for Monday, February 5, but due to the 2 hour delay that morning, there was not enough time to hold the spelling bee. This was fortunate for spellers since it gave them four extra days to study their words.

The bee was set up in the media center. If you typically go into the media center during lunch, you might be familiar with this area as the place where tables are always set up for eating and playing games. A podium was set up near the wall in front of the board, and rows of chairs sat facing the podium. Stickers with numbers were placed on each seat, since the spellers would be given numbers as they entered the room.

Once the spellers arrived at the media center, they checked in at the table where many teachers stood with lists of spellers. They received stickers with their name and number on it; then they found their chair with the corresponding number. Prior to the start of the bee, anxious spellers chatted with one another in their seats, getting excited for the competition. When the majority of the spellers had checked in and sat down, teachers spoke to the spellers about the rules for elimination.

The first speller with the number 1 on their chair would be where it would start. The round would continue until all of the spellers had attempted their word. Then, the round would be over and the first speller would spell another word. Each

round would increase in difficulty. While spelling their word, the spellers were told to stand up, face the judges, spell the word and sit back down. In order to stay in the competition, spellers had to pronounce the word, spell the word correctly, then pronounce the word again. If the spellers started to spell the word and asked to start over, they had to keep spelling the word the same way they did the previous time. If they started spelling the word wrong and realized it was wrong, they could not go back and change it to the correct spelling. If a speller was eliminated, they had to remain in their seat for the rest of the round, and then sit at tables in the back of the media center once the round had completed.

The first round was painless, having spellers spell elementary level words such as 'big' or 'nice'. All of the spellers made it past round one; however in round 2, which was a bit more difficult, a couple spellers were eliminated.

Along with judges and other teachers watching, the spelling bee had several parents as spectators. All of the spectators were very supportive, clapping for spellers at the end of every round, even after several had been eliminated.

As the competition went on, more spellers were eliminated from the competition, leaving only two left - eighth grade Jonathan George and seventh grade Timothy Fisanich.

Originally, there were 450 words spanning Kindergarten through eighth grade that the spellers were given to study.

Down to the last two spellers, the elimination process was a bit different. If one speller spelled their word correctly, then they won the bee. But if they misspelled their word, the other speller received a different word. If the second speller spelled their word incorrectly, the first speller would get another chance. This would keep going on until someone spelled a word correctly. But if the second speller spelled their word correctly, they won the bee. Timothy was given the first word. Since it was not on the kindergarten through eighth grade list that the spellers were given to study, he was unfamiliar

Spelling Bee and Cartoon submission

with the word and unfortunately, spelled it incorrectly. Now it was Jonathan's chance. He was given the word "battlement", and luckily, spelled it correctly! All of our finalists are extremely intelligent, talented students who worked very hard.

Behind the scenes, plenty of work had to be done to run our school bee. We owe it all to our English teachers, who gave the classroom bee and graded them, hosted the bee, and did many other jobs. They all selected roles such as MC, sign in helpers, crowd control, judges and more. Ms. Gramatges also helped run the bee by making the sign in sheets, judges' sheets, name tags and certificates. She also supplied all of the bee information to the English teachers so that they were capable of hosting the bee.

Participating in our school's spelling bee can open up lots of opportunities. You can learn new words, compete with your friends, and possibly even become a finalist. It is a very rewarding experience. Congrats to our spelling bee finalists!

Superhero by: Nathan Moudouna

Superhero Name: Star Strike
By Nathan Moudouna



Cell Phones During Lunch:

Fair Right to Students or Recipe for Disaster?

By: Marley Pinsky

Have you ever taken out your phone during lunch - perhaps to check Snapchat or play Fortnite Mobile - then got caught by security or lunch aides, who reminded you to put it away? If you haven't, maybe you've seen it happen to others. Don't you feel like this is unfair? Do you think you should have the right as a student to use your phone during lunch? While using phones during lunch could be a fun opportunity, it could also cause many unnecessary problems in our school.

SMOB Candidate Nate Tinbite

Last year, current seventh and eighth grade students voted for the Student Member of the Board representative, Matt Post. Ideally, the SMOB wants to allow phones to be out during lunch. Let's take a look at one of our candidates for the upcoming SMOB election.

The Wildcat Roar spoke with Nate Tinbite, one of the candidates for the upcoming Student Member of the Board election. He attends John F. Kennedy High School. As well as being the director of the Phones During Lunch Task Force, Nate is also the Chief of Staff for current Student Member of the Board Matt Post, and treasurer of the Montgomery County Regional Student Government Association.

Nate tells us that cell phones are not banned during lunch for all schools, as it is the principal's decision, so rules are different for every school. Student government, teachers, and other administrators have the right to try influencing the principal's choice, but ultimately, it is the principal's verdict that decides whether or not students can use phones at lunch. Nate believes that principals might make this decision based on their students' behavior. If students are very loud and rowdy during lunch, the administrators might think that they are not worthy of these privileges. However, Nate believes that *we are worthy and should take a stand. He says that lunch is the students' time to socialize, and with their phones, they can "form bonds and alliances". In addition, clubs can post updates to inform each other about meetings or projects during lunch.*

The Student Voice

Lots of students seem to be on board with Nate's ideas. For example, Rayya Toor. Rayya is a seventh grade student who has a phone and likes uses it for Instagram and Youtube. She tells the Wildcat Roar, "I think there should be phones in lunch because lunch is a break from all of the academic activity... kids should have the chance to be on their phones during this break." Maria Hiles, another seventh grade girl, agrees that there should be

phones out during lunch. She tells the Wildcat Roar, "Technology is evolving... it's a big part of our lives now." She remarks on how students must go several hours a day in school without their phones, and they deserve a break from being without our phones.



Along with Rayya and Maria, more students have expressed similar opinions. Liana Kim and Saloni Singh, more seventh grade girls, both mentioned that with phones allowed during lunch, students might not feel as tempted to use their phones in class. They say that without allowing phones during lunch, students might be on their phones anyway just to break the rules.

Kaitlyn Pajot, an eighth grade student, tells the Wildcat Roar that there should be phones during lunch because students might need to call their parents, and they shouldn't have to get permission from administration to make a phone call home if it is an emergency. She believes that our cafeteria would get less loud and not more rowdy, since everyone would be sitting down on their phones. In addition, seventh grader Ainsley Mate agrees that the atmosphere of our lunchroom would become "A lot more quiet, to be honest. People would be on their phones." Would having phones out during lunch preoccupy our students, making them less wild and loud during lunch?

The Administration's Concerns

The Wildcat Roar spoke with our very own principal: Dr. Eldridge. The Wildcat Roar appreciates her taking time out of her tremendously busy schedule to speak to us. Remember how the SMOB candidate Nate Tinbite said that principals make the decision of whether or not to allow phones during lunch? Well, Dr. Eldridge is against phones during lunch, but she has many good reasons to support her decision.

Dr. Eldridge tells the Wildcat Roar that starting in May, 8th grade students will be allowed to use their phones during lunchtime, but only when they go outside for 15 minutes. This is because at Clarksburg High School, Principal Owusu has decided that phones are permitted in the hallways and during lunch. The idea of this privilege is for students to learn the responsibilities of having phones out. Before allowing students to use their phones, the staff talks to the students about the appropriate ways to use their phones.

The Wildcat Roar asked Dr. Eldridge if what SMOB candidate Nate Tinbite said was true - that principals might not think that their students are worthy of being able to use their phones during lunch. Dr. Eldridge says definitely not. "The Student Member of the Board characterized the response from principals," she remarks, meaning that Nate saw the principal's decision as something it isn't. The administrators keep students from using phones because they care about their students, and they believe that having phones out during lunch could be a potential problem.

Exclusion of Students Without Phones?

Dr. Eldridge says that sometimes students are allowed to use their phones, such as before and after school. It has come to her attention that during this time, students have been taking

pictures of students who don't want their picture being taken. Taking pictures or videos before and after school and posting them on social media is common with many students. However, some students don't like getting their pictures taken. For example, Zoe Moore, another seventh grader at RHMS who does not have a phone. She does not think phones should be allowed during lunch. Zoe's parents don't allow her to appear in social media pictures or videos, so she has to make an effort to stay out of people's pictures while riding the bus. She finds worrying about this bothersome, and this problem would increase if phones were out during lunch.

"I don't think cellphones should be allowed during lunch because if someone takes a picture for social media of other people, it could be embarrassing and they could get cyberbullied. Plus, people's phones could get stolen, or their lunch time could be disrupted," Zoe tells the Wildcat Roar.

But since Zoe and several other students don't have cellphones, would they feel left out while everyone else is on their phones? "Yes," Zoe answers, "I would feel kind of left out, but I would know that my friends would not desert me for their phones."

While some students without phones have many friends who also do not have phones, this is not always the case. What about students who don't have phones but have friends who do? Watching their friends taking pictures and scrolling through social media might make them feel very left out or lonely. In consideration of the students who don't have phones, it might be better for our students to keep their phones away while eating lunch. But there's another reason that Dr. Eldridge brought up. Teachers don't want students spending too much time on their phones in the first place, for the lack of socialization amongst students might be impactful to our experience here at school.

Dr. Eldridge: We Might Have Students "Glued to Their Screen"

Lunch! The best part of the day! You can socialize with friends. You can laugh and chat and gossip with whoever you want! You can go outside and enjoy the fresh air, play soccer or pass a football, or just walk around and talk with friends. Struggling in a class? Get extra help from a teacher, study, and work on homework. You can also go to the media center and participate in their activities. Lunch is supposed to be when students have the time to socialize and build bonds, but with phones allowed during lunch, our school's administration worries that students will connect to WiFi and disconnect from each other.

Our staff is afraid that our students will miss out on valuable opportunities during lunchtime because of being preoccupied by their phones. Dr. Eldridge tells the Wildcat Roar that students should ideally be talking with friends and having a break from screen time. Instead of being on their phones, she says students should interact and make friends.

Studies show that children who are socially active grow up to have better jobs and overall become more successful people. Interacting with others, building social skills, and just having a good time will not only enhance our school experience, but will build a foundation of communication skills in our students. Being antisocial, especially while staring at a screen, would have the opposite effect.

Dr. Eldridge assumes that with phones out during lunch, "We would have students who are not interacting with anyone else and just staying glued to their screen". She doesn't want students playing a game all alone or scrolling through social media by themselves. Rather than being antisocial, Dr. Eldridge wants students to take advantage of their free time.

"It's about being present and in the moment and to not miss opportunities around students. Talking with friends, getting extra help from teachers, going to the media center - those are all very important things," Dr. Eldridge remarks.

Would you rather have a quiet lunch where nobody is talking to one another, or a lunch where everyone is socializing and sharing good vibes face-to-face? However, there are bigger concerns than students being antisocial; students might use their phones to hurt one another.

A Potential Disaster?

While having access to phones during lunch could be enjoyable for some students, there are many cons to using phones at lunch. Perhaps the most important reason: cyberbullying.

In today's world full of social media, text messaging and more, it is so easy to hurt somebody. Cyberbullying is a prominent issue for kids and teens in this generation. Think about it - have you ever said something via technology that you wouldn't have said in person? I'm sure we all have, one time or another. When you're staring at a screen, you feel more powerful, more confident. With just a few clicks that might take just a moment or two, someone can make another person feel awful for days, even weeks. Phones out at lunch could do the opposite of bringing our school together; it could open up opportunities for students to harm each other.

Dr. Eldridge brought up cyberbullying during our interview, stating "We don't want cyberbullying to happen at all, much less during school hours." Easily, students could take degrading pictures or videos of one another and post it on social media, making others feel humiliated and less safe at school. The goal at Rocky Hill is to make students feel comfortable in school, and being bullied over the internet could make students feel very uncomfortable, afraid, and ashamed.

Students see a fun opportunity, a chance to use their phones after keeping them off and out of sight while in class. They see a fair right, since lunchtime is their time for socialization and free time. Teachers see potential issues; kids feeling left out, antisocial kids, cyberbullying incidents. Can the students of our school handle the privilege of phones during lunch? Or is it nothing to worry about anyway?

Once Upon a Cat

By: Katie Kim

I crept down the stairs. The stairs were silent. I reached the end of the staircase and take a look around. There are sparkling chandeliers and marble statues. It's a rich house.



"Kat, what are you doing?" says a voice behind me. I turn, dreading to look the face behind me in the eye.

"Nothing, Mom," I say, knowing I didn't sound convincing.

"Mhh," she says. I know she really doesn't care but is trying to act like a perfect mom. It never works. My father had died a year ago and my mother just stopped caring about life. We had inherited the money from my father and it was a lot of money. My mother was usually off at the bar, drunk. I was usually left home alone. My mother was saying something. "So, I decided it wasn't safe for you to stay home alone. I asked a guy at the bar to take care of you. He has a son that's about your age. We're going to his house. Now." I reluctantly went outside and got in the car. We drove to a fancy house two streets away. It was huge. Bigger than my house. We climbed up the fancy stairs. They were huge too. Mother rang the bell. A butler opened the door for us.

"Hello. Master Clark has been waiting for you," he said in a French accent. Butler's always have an accent. We came inside and the butler led us to the living room. There a man and a boy was waiting. The man had brown hair and hazel eyes. He had smile on his face. It seemed genuine. The boy had blond hair and sky blue eyes. He wasn't smiling. He was glaring. I glared back.

"Clark!" my mother said.

"Susan!" Clark said.

"Thank you so much for taking care of Kat!" she exclaimed.

"Oh, it's my pleasure," he said with a dreamy expression on his face. Mother has that gift for making men fall for her.

"Well I have to go. Bye!" said my mother.

When my mother had left, the dad (Clark) said, "Well, I'll leave you kids alone." He left and the kid continuous glaring.

"So..." I say. Awkward silence.

"Okay, bye," I say. I literally walk out of the house. He doesn't follow me. I sit in the front yard. I start singing. It's a beautiful tune from Snow White. My grandmother use to say that it would attract all the beautiful birds.

"Well, I didn't expect that," said a voice behind me. I turn. It's the kid from the house.

"Well I'm sorry," I say, not sorry at all.

"Don't be," he said. He had a surprisingly soft voice. I turned and looked at him. He sat down next to me.

"My name's Leo. What's your name?" Leo asks.

"Kat. But you should know that," I say, not wanting a conversation.

"Well, I was just trying to make conversation."

"Then don't try." I stand up and walk out the front gate.

"Hey wait, you can't just walk out," he says.

"Why not?"

"Cause you're suppose to stay," Leo says.

"Oh well," I call back. I start walking to my car. Then I realize I didn't bring my car.

"Fine. I'll come with you. We'll ride in my car. How did you expect to get to the city anyway?" Leo asks.

"Um..." I say.

"Wow, you've planned out everything," his voice thick with sarcasm. We walk to his car. It's baby blue. We get in. I stare out the window. The city was big. There was tall skyscrapers and small cafes. There are cars and yellow taxis everywhere. People were outside walking or playing in the park. This was truly the Big Apple.

"Where we going?" I ask.

"I dunno," he says. "I thought we going where you

Story cont.

wanted.”

“Um... I don't exactly have a place in mind,” I say, embarrassed.

“Oh. You hungry?” he asks.

“Yeah,” I say.

“Okay.” We park in one of the parking slots. We walk to a cafe. Cafe Cleo & Cat. Inside there are about 10 kittens inside.

“Wow,” I say.

“Yeah. I use to go here all the time with my mom.” Awkward silence. Leo leads me to a table. I sit down and a kitten jumps on to my lap. It's adorable. It's an American Shorthair. It has blue eyes. It is a dirty white and is striped grey. I start petting him? I'm not sure if it's a boy or girl. We order sandwiches and some lemonade.

“You know, that cat is on sale,” says a voice.

“Really?” I say looking up. It's the manager. “How much?”

“\$500,” says the manager.

“Oh, well I didn't bring money. Do you accept credit cards?” I ask.

“Wait, are you serious?” Leo asks.

“Of course,” I say.

“What's your mom gonna say?” he asks.

“Nothing,” I say. Nothing she can do about, is what I meant.

“I accept credit cards,” the manager says.

“Okay.” I go to the back. I also purchase a cage, and a feeding bowl.

“Oh yeah, he has no name so you can name him.”

“Oh, okay.” I find Leo again.

“Come on let's go,” he says, once I meet him outside. We ride silently to his house. I get out and enter the house. Leo stays outside.

“I think your cat would prefer being outside,” he says.

“Alright.” I head outside. I unlock his cage.

“What do you think I should name him?” I ask.

“Lightning,” he says. I look at the cat. He has stripes that kinda do look like lightning.

“Okay,” I say.

We play with Lightning for a 10 minutes. It's fun. After we take him inside to feed him. It was fun.

I still remember those memories. Leo and I had a strong bond after that. I guess Lightning had bonded us in a way we will never forget.