



the NOODLE

Open up and say AHHHH!!!



Volume 11, Issue 07

September 2018

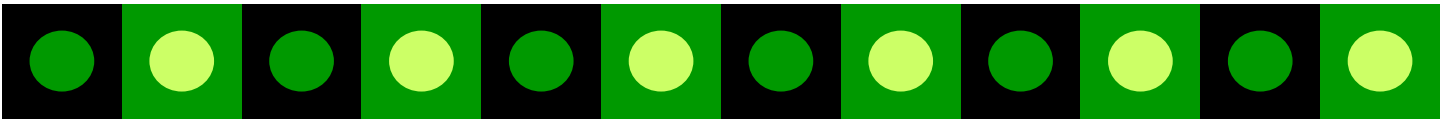
Welcome to the September 2018 edition of *The Noodle*, written and published by the FYC. For this issue of *The Noodle*, members of the FYC were asked to answer the question, “*what was your Favorite family vacation?*”

This topic allowed members to share their thoughts about trips they have taken and cherished memories. We hope you will take a few minutes out of your busy schedule to learn about our experiences and enjoy our thoughts and opinions in this September 2018 edition of *The Noodle*!

Current Members:

John Baldino
Shevie Barnes
Derek Carraway
Rocky Castro
Alexander Gonzalez
Josh Tapia
Dakota Smoot
Christina Waldron
Serena Wetmore
Brandon White
Niki Germain - FYC



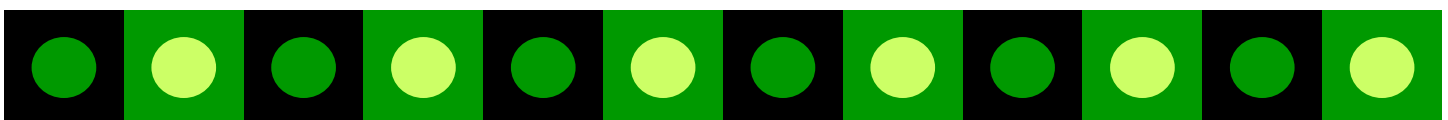


Favorite Family Vacation

A lot of people take family vacations. My favorite family vacation is my family's annual weeklong trip to Panama City Beach every year. We absolutely love it. It's a time set aside once a year just to spend quality time together in each other's company and only do what we want to do, even if that is absolutely nothing. We always go in together and rent a condo for a week. We enjoy going swimming and spending time both in the pool and at

the beach. I also particularly enjoy the hot tub. It's always relaxing, and something I look forward to. We also usually go out to eat a time or two during the week too, which we all enjoy. We've gone to other local attractions in the area over the years and sometimes we still do. No matter what we wind up doing during my favorite vacation week every year, it's become something that myself and each one of my family members that go look forward to each and every year.

By Derek Carraway



Vacation in Minnesota

When I was around 9 or 10, my dad went on a business trip to Minnesota. I remember each day speaking to him and hearing all about the amazing things he experienced. I especially remember him sharing the fun he had at The Mall of America!

This began my dream of going

on vacation to The Mall of America. In tenth grade geography I was tasked with planning a 10-day vacation for my family. My mom gave me

encouragement as I planned, and promised if I did a good job we would go on the trip . . . someday. I of course chose the Mall of America and received an A+++ on my project.

Fast forward to graduating high school and going on “our last trip together.” We actually went on a 10-day trip to the Mall of America. My mom planned

everything amazingly, and even though we have gone on awesome trips since, I have to say that that trip was the best. We spent an entire week at the mall, and had different things to do daily. The mall had a Camp Snoopy theme park. It created an amusement park feel. It had stores you hear about but don’t see. It was a life experience.

For me the trip was taken at the perfect age. Though I don’t remember everything I did there, I do remember being together as a family. I remember

laughing at my comical brothers and sharing my deep dark secrets with my older younger brother. It was a trip to end all trips. I actually remember filming a recording of my thoughts. I end the footage by saying, “Thanks Mom and Dad, not everyone gets to have one of their big dreams come true.”

By Shevie Barnes





Best Family Vacation Ever

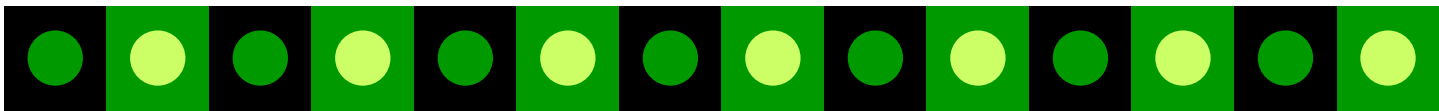
I have a big family. Being Hispanic in America is a big culture shock, from my Hispanic customs stating that pork is the main dish delicacy to the American custom of choosing beef as a main dish. Did you know that in Puerto Rico there aren't any Longhorns or Outback Steakhouses? It's a crazy idea if you think about it, but imagine how I felt visiting the States for the first time. It was a delicious dream come true.

We arrived in the Bronx, New York in the summer time when I was four years old. It was just me, my mom, my aunt and my cousin. I had been born in Puerto Rico, so I never experienced anything in the U.S., but my cousin was born in New York. He knew all the best places to go and eat. I got to see the

Empire State Building and hear other kids talk about the penny drop myth. I also went to Coney Island and I got to eat at the famous Coney dog. Before that day I never knew a hot dog tasted so good with chili and cheese!!! I also got to experience walking through Times Square. Seeing all the lights and the big TV's, as I called them, looked amazing. My best memory of that vacation was when my mom told me that if I wanted to stay with my aunt and cousin for the summer and explore more, I could. That summer became one of my best memories to date.

I can sit here and tell you about all the things I learned and saw in New York. But making new memories with my own family is my new goal. I just hope that in the future my children will love a Coney dog as much as I did!

By Josue Tapia



How Do I Become Part of The Florida Youth Council?

The Florida Youth Council is a group of youth (between the ages of 15 and 17) and emerging leaders (between the ages of 18 and 30) with disabilities or special health care needs that live in Florida.

The Florida Youth Council is all about getting youth and emerging leaders involved in self advocacy, peer mentoring and other activities that will improve the quality of life for youth and emerging leaders with disabilities in Florida. The program empowers youth and emerging leaders to decide what issues are important to their generation, to discuss those issues in their state and local communities, and to develop strategies to address them.

We are seeking a group of enthusiastic, motivated youth and emerging leaders to participate. If you would like to take a leadership role in advocating for youth and emerging leaders in Florida, please visit The Florida Youth Council website at www.floridayouthcouncil.com. The program is open to application year round. We hope to hear from you soon!



820 East Park Avenue,
Suite F-100 Tallahassee, FL 32301

