

# THE LEEWOOD LEGEND

SPOT ON NEWS

Leewood K-8 Center 10343 SW 124 Street, Miami Florida 33176 Principal Mr. Bart Christie

## Student Spotlight

By: Angel Amengual, Aiden Silva, Gianni Medrano, and Isabella Lazaro

Katie Gray is a seventh-grade student at Leewood K-8 Center. She is a stellar student and an incredible athlete. Not only does Katie impact our school with all her achievements in the classroom, but she also helps our community through charity work.



One of the many charities that Katie is involved in is Feed Miami.

Feed Miami is a charity that was created by Katie's older sister Marley, and has been a success ever since the beginning. Feed Miami is a pantry that collects food donations and distributes them to the those in need here in Miami. When we asked Katie what she enjoys most about being involved in this program, she responded by saying, "I know that I am helping people in need and it makes me feel happy." By collecting items like powdered milk, boxes of macaroni and cheese, and peanut butter, Feed Miami provides families struggling financially with basic groceries. If you would like to help donate, visit [FeedMiami.org](http://FeedMiami.org) for more details.

Katie also goes on mission trips yearly during spring break. This year Katie will be traveling to Nicaragua. In Nicaragua, Katie will visit underprivileged neighborhoods and gather groups of children to take them to do fun activities. These activities consist of riding horses, going on water slides, and visiting famous landmarks. Katie will also do work to help their community by painting fences and fixing up schools. Yet another charity that Katie will be participating in is City Serve. After Hurricane Irma, many places were left without landscaping. Katie and her family will be going to Miami Beach High School to help re-landscape around the school.

Apart from all her amazing charity work, Katie also participates in many extra-curricular activities and is a straight-A student. She is a member of the Leewood girls' basketball team and she also plays soccer. She has received numerous awards throughout her academic career at Leewood, including Principal's honor roll almost every semester.

Katie Gray has improved the lives of so many others. She definitely deserves recognition for all of her charity work, and is an inspiration to other students with all that she does. We are lucky to have Katie Gray as part of our Leewood community!

## Where Are They Now?

By: Brianna Martinez, Marcela Sandino, Natalia Vasquez, Junelle Kourany

After Leewood's first edition of "Where Are They Now?" printed, we were flooded with requests to feature Joshua Feldman in our next article. Once the paper was distributed, it was quickly shared on a Facebook post that received numerous comments stating that Joshua Feldman is a true "Leewood Legend". Not only was there a buzz on social media, but many current Leewood teachers also agreed that Joshua should be featured. So, in response to the many requests from our readers, we reached out to Joshua Feldman and organized an e-mail interview.

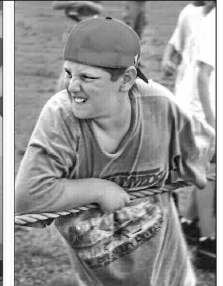
Joshua Feldman, or as most call him Josh, began attending Leewood K-8 center in 1989 when it was known as Leewood Elementary, a K-5 school. Both Josh's brothers, Matthew and Casey, attended Leewood as well. One of the reasons there were so many requests to feature Josh, is that he was involved in almost everything! Josh was a safety patrol, a member of the FFEA club (Florida Future Educators of America), started a few sports clubs, and was in student council. Josh was the class president several times throughout his years at Leewood, and was the school's president in 5th grade.

Josh said he always looked forward to Field Day, as he was very competitive. He said his classes never lost a tug-of-war match! He also remembers appearing on "Good Morning Leewood", as well as attending the 5th grade dance and luncheon. While Josh attended Leewood, there were several cool events that we no longer carry out, like the Leewood Sleepover to promote reading, and a Talent Show. Josh reminisced about several of his performances in the Talent Show, including when he sang "Kokomo" and "Ice, Ice, Baby" with a group of friends. Hopefully we can bring back some of these events!

When we asked Josh who his favorite Leewood teacher was he said "I wouldn't want to offend anyone almost 25 years later," so he instead listed many teachers including Mrs. Carney whom he remembered for pushing and challenging him to do advanced math, and Mrs. Fields whom he described as no nonsense. He said that Mrs. Fields would make the class entertaining as long as the students behaved. Josh also mentioned Ms. Collier as one of his favorites. When we asked Ms. Collier if she remembered Josh she responded emphat-



Joshua Feldman now, as a fifth grade student taking home all the awards, and dominating in tug-of-war.



ically, "Oh yes I do! I had Josh in Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 4th grade. He was an energetic and outgoing student that was very involved in Leewood activities. Every teacher that had him knew he was going to be successful." Josh also mentioned Mrs. Bethel as one of his favorites, and that he got along extremely well with her even though she was an FSU fan and he is an avid Miami Hurricane fan.

In his spare time Josh loves attending Miami Hurricane football games. In fact, he attends every home game even though he lives 1000 miles away. Josh currently resides in New York with his fiancé Kristina, where he works in finance as a Managing Director at an investment bank. "I have been going to Miami Hurricane games since I was 2 years old with my entire family," explained Josh. "Going to games and tailgates is a party for us - filled with tons of family, friends, and food. We spend hours not only eating, but also playing dominos, cornhole, and other games. We look forward to it all year round and everyone knows where to find us on Saturdays!"

Josh Feldman was an all-around Leewood student, who told us that he created friendships at Leewood that have lasted a lifetime. He feels that the Leewood community is like a family, and said that, "To this day, I will run into people I went to Leewood with and we will immediately start telling stories and act like no time at all has passed." From communicating with Josh and listening to his former teachers, we have learned that Joshua Feldman truly is a Leewood Legend!

Are you a former Leewood student? Would you like us to feature you in our next edition? If so we'd love to hear from you! Feel free to e-mail us at [TheLeewoodLegend@comcast.net](mailto:TheLeewoodLegend@comcast.net).

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