

# FIGHT CLUB

WILLOW sponsors self-defense class on Jan. 18



By Asia Simmons  
STAFF REPORTER



JALA DANIEL

**DEFENSE MODE** | Junior BJ Gerangaya, far left, watches director Michael Schaefer teach the first defense move. “You know what to do now after this class,” Gerangaya said. “It was pretty interesting, I enjoyed it.”

## Michael Puppos

Almost every person uses computers to access information quickly and easily. But, most only see the bright screens, not the programming behind them. Sophomore Michael Puppos has been learning about computers for four years.



He currently uses Javascript and C++ to program, and is also very interested in creating games.

“My inspiration mainly results from the TV show ‘Doctor Who,’” Puppos said. “There’s just so many different characters and sets, it’s just hard not to base anything off of it.”

Puppos hasn’t learned it all on his own. His teachers, Elijah Lorden and Jack Trent, who he calls close friends, taught him everything he knows.

Although Puppos mostly makes science-fiction games, he’s also done some adventure games, basing storylines off of games that already exist.

He said he wants to study programming in college, and possibly work for Google. If he decides to make his own games though, he’ll probably start his own company instead.

“Programming is really fun, you never know what you’re going to expect,” Puppos said. “You keep getting better and better, and that’s the wonderful thing about code, you can always get better.”

## Sophia Smith

Freshman Sophia Smith loves everything about music, especially making it.



She first learned a few songs in first grade, but really got into the art in sixth grade, when she learned how to play notes and keys on the piano. This was also when she started making mashups, which she now does on GarageBand and Audacity.

“I create mashups on my laptop,” Smith said. “I’m saving up for a high tech version called Logic Pro X.”

However, she doesn’t only create mashups. Smith also does covers of pop and jazz songs as well as writing her own.

Along with the piano and digital software, Smith is working on her singing. She’s currently in Treble Choir and takes private lessons on the side.

In the future, Smith hopes to upload her songs to Youtube or Soundcloud. She said she wants to study music production in college.

“(Making music) eases stress and is really fun, while occasionally posing a slight challenge,” Smith said. “Going to college for music production is also one of my aspirations.”

## Mikey Ciaravino

Winter and fishing are an unlikely combination. Summer is a popular time for fishing, and while junior Mikey Ciaravino does spend his summer on the water, he also enjoys fishing in the winter.



He started when he was about 5 with his brother. When he was 13, he found out about ice fishing and was excited to try it out.

“I always had a love for fishing in the summertime, but when I found out I could fish in the ice, that was pretty cool,” Ciaravino said.

Ciaravino usually fishes on the main lakes, and said Lake St. Clair is one of the best to fish from.

In the summer, he usually releases any fish he catches. But in the winter he usually catches fish like perch or bluegill, and takes them home to fry them with his family.

“I like fishing because you gotta be patient and it’s just a great feeling, just catching something and being able to see how pretty they are sometimes,” Ciaravino said. “It’s just really satisfying.”

By Tarun Sanikomm



JALA DANIEL

**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT** | Sophomores Katie Louwers and Ava Wisniewski practice with the teacher. “Just seeing the girls be taught something and then be able to actually apply it and see,” Schaefer said. “They got confident and were able to perform the techniques.”

**MAKING CONTACT** | Junior Stephanie Schaefer spars with black belt Femmineo. “It’s important for everyone to be aware of things like this and to know how to defend yourself, so it’s a really useful meeting,” Schaefer said.



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**GOING OVER THE BASICS** | Senior Olivia Randazzo gets help with her form from the sensei. She said she liked the event because it was different from usual WILLOW activities. “We thought it would be something fun to do right before midterms,” Randazzo said. “It’s something unique that I’ve never done before.”

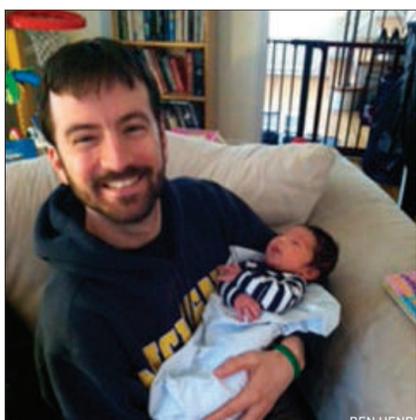


JALA DANIEL

**GETTING DOWN TO THE BASICS** | Junior Stephanie Schaefer learns the first attack move. “I like the takedown moves,” Schaefer said. “I thought it was really helpful and it’s a good technique to have.”

## FIVE MINUTES WITH Choir teacher Ben Henri

By Gowri Yerramalli  
BUSINESS MANAGER



BEN HENRI

**FAMILY TIME** | Choir teacher Ben Henri holding his godson and nephew, Isaac.

Even as a child, choir teacher Ben Henri was always infatuated with brain-teasers and Sporcle quizzes. His love for puzzles and trivia comes from playing family games and his high school’s academic quiz bowl team.

“Growing up, my family would always play games like Trivial Pursuit and Pictionary and Scrabble. I was also really encouraged by my parents to do those kinds of things,” Henri said. “We would watch ‘Jeopardy!’ as a family, and it was fun to answer the questions and often get them wrong but sometimes get stuff right.”

Henri is currently the assistant coach of the quiz bowl team. He also participates in a trivia league and attends trivia nights with friends.

“Places will have trivia nights so we will go out for dinner and also answer questions,” he said. “I have a couple friends I like to go out with.”

Henri said his main goal is to be on “Jeopardy!” His biggest encouragement for this has been through his brother, who made it onto the show three years ago. Right now, he is in the contestant pool.

“I’m actually currently in the contestant pool hoping they’ll call me at some point in the next year or so,” Henri said. “But if my time runs out, I’ll just try out again.”

One of Henri’s favorite things about participating in trivia is learning more about history and different parts of the world. He said his education and reading as well as quick access to information helped him become better.

“I really like learning about the world: the facts and figures and the world and its history, and the people in it. But also sometimes it’s really cool to learn little stories about something,” Henri said. “After going to school and getting my degree and continuing to just learn and read, it’s just become something I’ve really liked to do, whether it’s in a competitive or social setting.”

### FAVORITE FUN FACT

There are four universities in the country that have produced both a President and a Super-Bowl winning quarterback. One of them is Stanford, another one is the Naval Academy in Annapolis, another one is Miami University in Ohio and the last one is the University of Michigan.

### HOW I INCORPORATE TRIVIA IN MY JOB

If you ask any of my students, they will be like ‘Mr. Henri is full of random, completely useless information and when we have a free day he likes to do Sporcle quizzes.’ I (also) work with the Quiz Bowl team and I love working with those students and watching them grow and seeing how they ... increase their breadth and knowledge about topics that they are really passionate about. It’s a neat club to help coach.

### IF I COULD TRAVEL ANYWHERE

It would be Australia. It seems like such a great country. I don’t think we realize how big it is. It’s not as full of people as our country is but it’s on the opposite side of the world and it seems like a fun place to go.