



PIN THERE,
DONE THAT

PIN THERE,
DONE THAT



T A B L E
O F
C O N T E N T S

15

CHAPTER TWO

- 17..... APO
- 19..... HAWAII
- 21..... ZUORA
- 23 VOLS
- 25 PEACE SIGN

27

CHAPTER THREE

- 29 TRADED PINS
- 31..... OLYMPICS
- 33 IACP
- 35 APPLES
- 37..... MCGRUFF

1

THE PINTRODUCTION

3

CHAPTER ONE

- 5 FRIED WHAT
- 7..... CALIFORNIA TRIP
- 9 ITALY
- 11..... NEW YORK
- 13..... WICKED

39

CHAPTER FOUR

- 41 WALT'S WALTZ
- 43 ATL PRIDE
- 45 DISNEY
- 47 JDRF
- 49 FURMAN

51

PIN CONCLUSION

THE PINTRODUCTION

When traveling somewhere or experiencing something new it is always fun to get a memento or souvenir. But, what do you buy? Do you get a t-shirt that you will just wear as a sleep shirt? Do you get a snow globe that would eventually sit on a random shelf? This was my exact thought process in the summer of 2015 when I visited a lighthouse in St. Augustine, Florida. When browsing the shelves of the gift shop, a pin caught my eye. At that moment I made a decision to start a pin collection. I thought it would be the perfect collection because pins are relatively inexpensive, simple to bring back from your trip, and can be easily displayed. Since then my pin collection has grown. I have collected pins on numerous trips, been gifted pins by friends and family, and received free pins from events.



CHAPTER ONE

PINS I BOUGHT FOR MYSELF

When on a trip I will always go into shops with the one goal of finding a pin to commemorate my experience. I have found that pins are often in small containers near the cash registers. While many of the pins I have bought for myself are from vacations, I have also bought pins that I like just for fun. These pins do not commemorate any specific event and may not have a specific meaning or purpose. I bought them simply because I liked what they said, represented, or were aesthetically pleasing.

FRIED WHAT

This is one of my favorite pins. Whenever I show someone my pin collection, this is always one of the first pins I show them. I remember buying it the summer I started my pin collection from an antique shop. I can't remember the antique shop name or where I was but I do remember finding it in a bowl with other absurd pins. I also remember it being five dollars, which at the time felt expensive. Now, after many years of pin collecting, I know that is quite cheap. I loved, and still love, the confusion and absurdity of the phrase "Fried What?" and the giant question mark in the middle.





CALIFORNIA TRIP

During my sophomore year of high school, I went on a trip with my marching band to California to march in the Hollywood Christmas parade. To celebrate my first trip to California, I bought a simple pin that says "California." In addition to marching in the parade, we also visited several California attractions. We went to the San Diego Zoo where I got to see my favorite animal in person, a polar bear. The zoo was celebrating its 100 year anniversary and I found a pin featuring my favorite animal to commemorate this occasion.

Another place we visited was the Hollywood Walk of Fame where my favorite celebrities laid their handprints in the cement. We also got tickets to Universal Studios Hollywood where I lived out my middle-school dream of living in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter. The two Harry Potter pins I bought both have moving parts: the Sorting Hat pin spins to sort you into your Hogwarts house and the Chocolate Frog pin opens and closes. When I initially got the Chocolate Frog pin it had a subtle chocolate scent that has long since faded. The last pin I got from Universal Studios was another moving pin in which the clapperboard can swing up and down.

ITALY



In the summer of 2019, right after I graduated high school, my mom and I went on a 12-day tour of Rome, the Amalfi Coast, Tuscany, and Venice. While this was my first time in Italy, my mom had been a couple of times. Being half Italian my mom loved being in the country of her origins. She especially loved the Vatican city because both times she had been in the past, the pope had died. The Vatican closes its gates to tourists when this happens. She joked that she was nervous to go back because she superstitiously thought something bad might happen to the Pope.

I collected pins from almost everywhere we went. My favorite city was Venice because I loved how the streets were basically rivers and the whole city just felt surreal. Walking along the bridges made me feel like I was in a movie. I loved eating gelato and tasting the freshest seafood I have ever had. I loved going to Italy and I would love to go again.



NEW YORK

In my senior year of high school, I went to New York on another marching band trip as it was a tradition to do a trip every other year. We marched in the Veterans Day Parade playing songs of the different military branches. Similar to our California trip, we also visited many of New York City's attractions. I had been to New York several times before this trip, but that was usually to visit family. My most anticipated tourist stop was Times Square. For some peculiar reason, my band director let our whole band loose for a couple of hours in the

middle of New York and let us explore Times Square. At this time I got my New York City button pin. We also visited the 9/11 memorial museum, which was a sad, but informative experience. The museum was really beautiful and a nice memorial of the somber events. Another site was the Rockefeller Center where we got to go all the way to the 70th and top floor. The views from the top were amazing and a big highlight of the trip.



WICKED

My absolute favorite part of my trip to New York with my marching band was seeing Wicked on Broadway. I had never seen the show and had only heard a few of the songs before. I remember that one girl, who was wearing a Wicked hoodie, had said this was her seventh time seeing Wicked and I thought that was insane. However, after the show, I understood why she went so many times. Wicked is now my absolute favorite musical and I listen to the soundtrack almost weekly. I loved the show so much that I bought this four-pack of button pins.

For my 19th birthday my mom, my best friend, and I went to see Wicked at the Fox Theater in Atlanta, which is close to where I'm from. My mom bought us tickets knowing how much I loved the musical. Although the Fox Theater is amazing it's hard to compare to Broadway. I hope to see Wicked again on Broadway one day.



The chapter title 'CHAPTER TWO' is displayed in a decorative font. Each letter is contained within a pink, circular button with a slight shadow, giving it a 3D effect. The letters are arranged in two rows: 'C', 'H', 'A', 'P', 'T', 'E', 'R' in the top row and 'T', 'W', 'O' in the bottom row, centered under the 'A', 'P', and 'T' of the top row.

CHAPTER TWO

PINS GIFTED TO ME

Since I've started my collection, my friends and family have started giving me pins. Sometimes these pins are from a vacation or trip that they went on and they brought me a gift back as a souvenir. In other cases, the pin may be a random pin they got from an event. Either way, I love each pin and the story it tells.



APO

I joined Alpha Phi Omega or APO, a co-ed service fraternity, in the Spring of 2020. APO is one of my favorite parts of college. We all call each other brothers, even though almost all of our members are girls. APO is built on three pillars: service, leadership, and fellowship. We host events relating to all of our pillars. I love that we are actively helping the community, but also building our leadership skills and having fun. I have seen my leadership abilities grow because of this organization.

One of the best parts of APO is chapter which is our weekly meeting. To help boost chapter morale we have a position called Sunshine Chair. One of their duties is announcing Brother of the Week. Our Sunshine Chair also gives out little goody bags for winning brother of the week. We have a form where brothers nominate another brother for this award. I was the brother of the week for the first time and in my goody bag, I got this pin. I actually designed this pin so I was excited to receive something produced with my design.

HAWAII

My best friend since childhood bought me this pin on her family vacation to Hawaii. I have known her since I was about 5 years old and basically consider her family. Both of our families spend holidays together and we've been on vacation together multiple times. Her mom was even listed as one of my emergency contacts in high school. My friend said as soon as she saw this pin she knew she had to get it for me.

A few years ago I had an obsession with pineapples. I had pineapple glasses, scarves, string lights, art, clothes, etc. I even still have a pineapple phone case. So, my friend, knowing that I collect pins and had a fixation on all pineapple objects, had to get me this pin.





ZUORA



In early 2014 my dad started working for Zuora, a software company that helps businesses launch a subscription-based service. Around the time my dad started working at Zuora, they were starting a new campaign centered around the clever phrase "Shift Happens." This was in reference to the shift in our economy. Zuora claims that we are shifting from ownership to a service-based or subscription-based economy. The button pins are from Subscription, which is a multi-day conference in San Francisco where people are split into groups. These buttons were given to people as their group names. My dad brought them back from the conference and gave them to me so they could join my collection.



VOLS

I am a middle child with an older sister, Kassie, and a younger brother, Jonathan. They are both two years apart from me but in opposite directions. When each of us were seniors in highschool and applying to colleges, the University of Tennessee in Knoxville was on our lists of potential schools. We all also applied to their honors program and got in. There was an honors college acceptance day, which my dad encouraged all of us to attend.

Both my sister and brother got this pin that said “Future Vol.” Yet, I never got a pin when I went. Unfortunately, I got a lousy sticker name tag, but luckily my sister and brother both gave me the pin theirs. So, these pins were given to me four years apart. They honestly probably gave me these pins because they would have thrown them out otherwise. Now, they stay together in my collection.

PEACE SIGN

Even before my collection started I had a couple of pins that stayed around my room. This peace sign pin was given to me by my mom when I was in fifth grade. My elementary school had an event called Freaky Friday on the closest Friday to Halloween. In fifth grade, I dressed up as a Hippie. My mom and I thrifted my main outfit, but she got me a few accessories like a headband, some blue-tinted glasses, and a peace sign pin to tie the outfit together.

I also wore this outfit for trick-or-treating but I mainly cared about Freaky Friday because all of my classmates were there. Freaky Friday's main event was the costume contest. I had won the costume contest in first grade dressed as Nancy Drew and I wanted to win again. However, there was definitely a better costume: a fifth-grader, who was taller than most teachers, dressed as a baby sporting a diaper and a bib. His comical outfit had to be the winner.



CHAPTER THREE

PINS FROM MY GRANDFATHER

My grandfather Brendon Patrick O’Hanlon, “Pat,” served for 30 years as a Diplomatic Security Special Agent to the U.S. Department of State. During his career, he was assigned to Washington D.C., Vietnam, Cambodia, Korea, Pakistan, Egypt, Chicago, New York, the Philippines, and Burundi. Pat served in these positions:

- Regional Security Officer (RSO) - Seoul, Islamabad, Cairo, Manila
- Reserve Officer - Burundi/Philippines
- Special Agent in Charge (SAC) - Chicago
- Special Agent in Charge (SAC) - New York
- Assistant Director for Protection - Washington D.C.

As of 2017, my grandfather is no longer with us. Throughout his life, he collected pins and had hundreds, maybe even thousands of pins. Growing up my siblings and I would go through his collection. My grandfather was one of the best storytellers I’ve ever known and each pin tells one of his stories. Most of his pins were linked to his work in law enforcement. We inherited his pin collection, which has many more pins and stories than what I reveal in this book.



HIGHWAY
PATROL



TRADED PINS

Similar to how people will exchange pins at Disney, federal officers, chiefs of police, or state troopers trade their department's pins. The purpose of having department pins is not only decorative but to exchange them as goodwill between agencies. It is seen as a courtesy to exchange pins. For example, here I show pins from the Bomb Squad, Highway Patrol, and the Mobile Training Division. These are only a select few of the pins my Grandfather received. He would have given his department's pin in exchange. At the event they exchanged pins, each person would wear that pin on their lapel for the duration of the event. After the event, they would probably never wear the pin again. They might wear it if they were going to a formal event for that agency, like a reception or if they were having a meeting with the person who gave them the pin.



OLYMPICS

My grandfather attended multiple Olympics as a federal agent in charge of the protection of dignitaries and the Secretary of State. I own a very few select pins from the Olympics he attended including the 1988 Seoul Olympics, the 1994 Lillehammer Olympics, the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, and the 1998 Nagano Olympics. The Olympics I have the most pins of are from Atlanta. While I was not alive for this Olympics, I grew up in a suburb of Atlanta. Coincidentally, my grandfather's favorite Olympics was in Atlanta. At the opening ceremonies

Celine Dion performed and my grandfather even got to meet her. I also have a few other miscellaneous Olympics pins that are not from a distinct Olympic year. One of the most interesting Olympic pins I have is the one that says "Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee." Many countries have their own Olympic pins and they would often hand out pins from their country or even trade them for a pin from another country. My grandfather received this from a government dignitary of Papua New Guinea.



IACP

The IACP or International Association of Chiefs of Police is an annual conference that is held in a different city each year. My grandfather, a federal agent working in diplomatic security, was invited to this event. His official title was the Assistant Director for Protection and he lived in Washington D.C. at the time of these conferences. He was also allowed to bring his spouse, my grandmother. As part of the conference, they also experienced the city that it was held in. The pins from the IACP would try to reflect the host city. As part of the 1997 IACP in Orlando, they went to Disney and also took a tour of other Orlando attractions. I also have pins from the 1995 IACP in Miami, the 1998 IACP in Salt Lake City, and the 2000 IACP in San Diego.



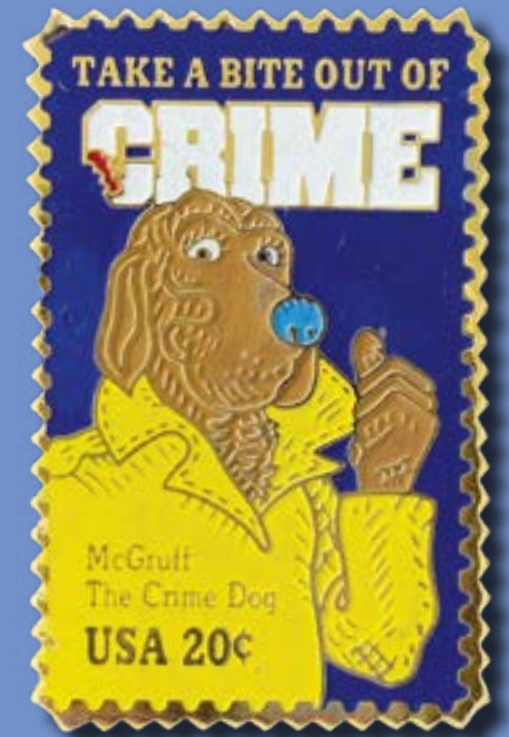
APPLES

Starting in 1983, my grandfather was promoted from the Special Agent in Charge of Chicago to the Special Agent in Charge of New York City. He was raised in Manhattan and was very proud of his city. He took great pride in this job. During his time in New York, he obtained many apple pins. Cities would often have pins for their law enforcement that represented them and the apple is the symbol of New York. The red apple was the most traditional pin color. However, my grandfather liked the green apple because it reminded him of his Irish heritage. The gold apple may have been worn at formal functions. One of the red apples reads “DEA” which stands for the Drug Enforcement Administration. While my grandfather was not part of that agency he would have received this pin from someone who was. While there were general apples with no signifiers some apple pins would have been made to represent specific agencies. You could give out your agency pin to other federal agents or high U.S. government officials.



MCGRUFF

McGruff the Crime Dog debuted in 1980 as an advertising campaign to increase crime awareness and prevention. With these campaigns came McGruff merchandise. My grandfather loved McGruff because he loved dogs, anything to do with being a cop or detective, and he liked that the name sounded Irish, as my grandfather was also Irish. McGruff was modeled after detectives at the time and my grandfather even owned a similar trench coat and hat to McGruff. My grandfather had a huge teddy bear collection. Many of the bears were in some sort of police or military outfit. He was very particular that only bears were part of this collection. However, the only exception was McGruff. He had numerous McGruff stuffed animals and he even gave some to my sister and me. My grandfather had a lot of McGruff merchandise, including these McGruff pins. Most of the McGruff collectibles he probably got for free at police conventions.



CHAPTER FOUR

PINS I GOT FOR FREE

The best part about going to events is receiving free stuff. As someone with a pin collection I love that pins are often given out. At events or places where pins are given out, there is usually not a place to buy a pin. So these free pins can act as a way to remember these events just as if I had bought one. Getting a pin for free also saves the hassle of trying to find the perfect pin to commemorate something. I am a very indecisive person so I almost always end up buying more than one pin.

WALT'S WALTZ

The summer after my sophomore year of college I interned at a small nonprofit called Walt's Waltz, whose mission is to end the stigma surrounding mental health conditions. This was my first internship and it was a really great experience. The founder of Walt's Waltz Susan Crooks is a wonderful and hardworking woman, who started this nonprofit after her son died by suicide. His name was Walt and she named the organization after him. The name is Walt's Waltz because their slogan is "Let's stop dancing around mental health conversations."

I helped run their social media pages, create flyers and other graphics, and plan events. Every event we ran or attended Susan brought these butterfly pins, which Susan and her sister made themselves. Susan gave them out to anyone who would take one. The pin depicts their mascot which represents mental conditions and how they can be messy and there may not be a straight line to getting help. They wanted people to see themselves in the mascot, as we are all perfectly imperfect.



ATL PRIDE



During my fall break in my freshman year of college, I went to Atlanta Pride with my sister and a few friends. This was my first time going to a Pride festival and it was a really fun time. While I enjoyed all of Pride, the parade was definitely my favorite part. Everyone had such creative and innovative outfits/costumes. My sister who had been to Pride before told me to bring a big bag because they hand out so much free stuff. I got hats, stickers, candy, flyers, sunglasses, and even pins. The three rainbow pins came with a pack of matching rainbow stickers with pronoun labels. So, instead of “protest” and “party” at the bottom, they might have said “they” and “them.”

Pride is an amazing event where people can celebrate who they are. It is so important to have these celebrations of ourselves and be able to be around people who support and love us.



DISNEY

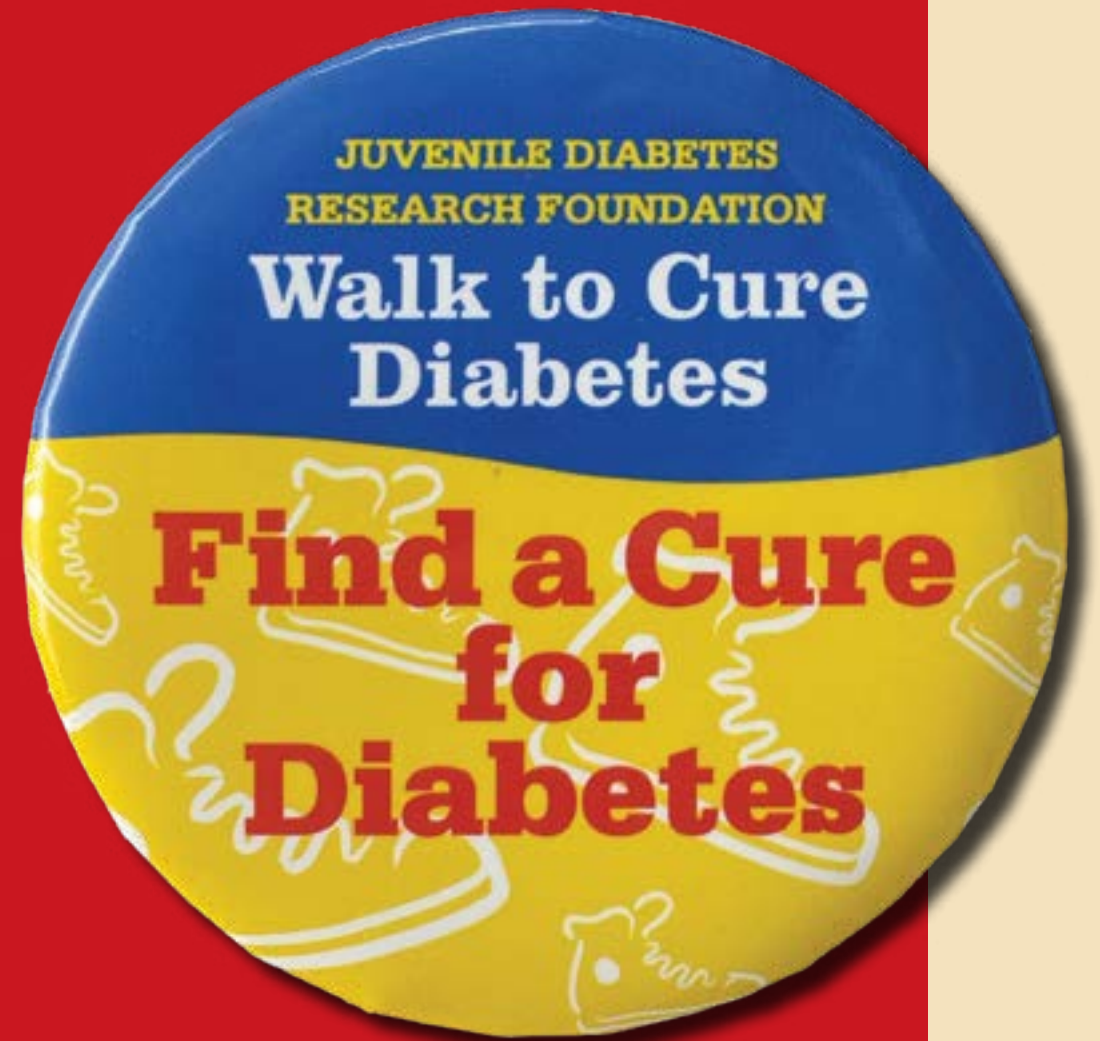
For my 16th birthday, my mom surprised me with a trip to Disney World in Orlando. She pretended that we were visiting my grandfather in Florida for the weekend and told me to pack for a trip. While I was a little suspicious of the whole trip, I did not question it that much. I had not been to Disney since I was really young and I did not remember much of my previous visit.

Of course, I did buy myself some Disney pins. Buying and trading pins is a big Disney thing. But, I also got a free pin from the parks because it was my birthday.

JDRF

When I was 9 years old I was diagnosed with Type One Diabetes. I was actually diagnosed on Friday the 13th which is something I like to joke about. The year after I was diagnosed my parents and I decided to participate in the JDRF walk to cure diabetes. JDRF stands for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. When my dad asked me what I wanted my walk name to be I just said “pickle.” As a fifth-grader, I thought that was hilarious. My mom decided to change the name to “Diabetic Pickle” adding a slogan that said “Help cure Type One Diabetes and get me out of this pickle.” We made T-shirts, which were neon green that had our name, slogan, and an illustration of a waving pickle. We handed these shirts out to all my friends and family that came to support us and walk.

We participated in the JDRF walk for several years before our schedules got too busy. Two of the years we did the walk we raised over \$5,000 dollars, which means we won an award called the Golden Sneaker Award. In my room, I have two sneaker-shaped trophies that say Diabetic Pickle in nice gold font. I hope to participate in the JDRF walk again and bring back the reign of Diabetic Pickle.





FURMAN

When going through the college decision process I applied to eleven colleges. I have always been very indecisive and I was nervous about making a final decision on where to go for the next four years. It is interesting to think about how I ended up at Furman University considering it was the only small school I was seriously considering. Almost every other school I applied to was a big state school. A few weeks before I had to make my decision I re-toured my two top schools, UGA and Furman. Every time I went to Furman I liked it more and more. I think a lot of other small schools felt limited by what they could offer compared to big schools. Furman felt different and it definitely helped that the campus is beautiful and their school color was my favorite purple.

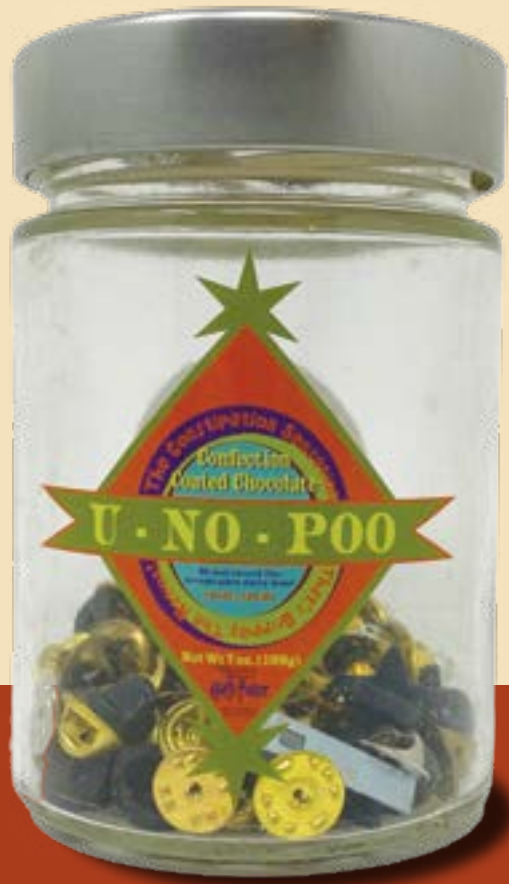
I can not remember exactly where or when I got this pin. There is nothing college students like more than free stuff and pins are a very popular giveaway. At this point, I have so many Furman pins that I have received from different events around campus.

PIN CONCLUSION

I hope this book piqued your pinterest. The selected pins here are just a fraction of my collection. I have over 200 pins, many of which I do not even remember where or how I got them. I have included some additional pins on this page. I'm excited to see my collection grow and acquire more cool and interesting pins. Thank you for reading along and learning about my pin collection.

Pincerely,
Rebecca





THE JAR WHERE I KEEP ALL MY PIN BACKS

EDU

ALL THE TIME

Find a Cure for Diabetes



PROTEST PARTY NEW YORK



THE EMERGENCY STATE



HIGHWAY PATROL



HAFFLEPUFF



NATHAN
ature Vol



Happy Birthday

