



The Jaguar Journal

April-May 2018

Keeping JMHS Safe: “This isn’t a Fortress; it’s a High School”



By Rachel Savona
Co-Editor in Chief

Our school’s call to action is here. School safety: It’s a topic on all of our minds recently and Mr. DiEugenio does not take it lightly. This fall JMHS will experience new developments to keep our halls safe and protected places.

Starting in September, all students attending Jackson Memorial High School will be required to have a student ID. These will be provided in homeroom the first day of school in September.

This new technology will be used to identify us as students who are supposed to be in the building. They will also have a swipe feature which can be used to open the doors coming in and out of the building, along with swiping into rooms within the building like the nurses’ offices and IMC.

Since these are used to identify you as an attendee of our school, you must have it on you at all times. If you forget your pass three times, you are given an after school detention, and if you misplace or ruin your identification card, it will cost \$5 to replace. Also, all elementary schools within the district will have a security guard starting in the fall.

This is not all our school is doing. Taking this very seriously, the student council has already started its own call to action.

The first phase was the walkout earlier in the semester. About 200 students participated in a walkout to memorialize those lost in the Parkland High School shooting.

On April 12th, the student council had a meeting in the map room regarding safety. This is phase two; fifty students showed up including four Liberty students. At this meeting the discussion centered on ways the district plans to help us feel safe in school.

The student council was joined by our district’s Superintendent, Dr. Stephen Genco; Lt. John Convery of the Jackson Police Department; and Police Officer Colin Menafra.

The overall goal for Mr. DiEugenio is to ensure students feel safe and to do everything in his power to heighten the precautions we take. But he adamantly opposes metal detectors, clear book bags or pat downs.

“This isn’t a fortress, it’s a high school.” Mr. DiEugenio said repeatedly during this interview.

Finally, the third phase is dependent on the student council and Mr. Christopher Stella; they will be working on a program to supply voter registration forms to eligible voters. Mr. Stella will be talking to junior and senior classes and

discussing the importance of voting and political parties. According to Mr. DiEugenio, “We hope to get legislators to come and talk to you guys.” So hopefully, we’ll be able to hear from active members of the U.S. government and ask them questions on the matters at hand.

The only way to change laws to make violence less prevalent is through the government. As citizens of America, we have a right to vote and by voting for what we believe in, we could better the country for generations to come.



Safety meeting held in the map room.
(Officer Menafra, Superintendent Genco, Lt. Convery)

Oh Koi! Ponder a New Way of Learning

By Kaitlyn Sauickie
Co-Editor in Chief

Environmental science students have been given the opportunity to be a part of something that will not only enhance their education but make it even more interesting. The Environmental Science class is relatively new to the science department here at JMHS, but starting next year, students will be as close to nature as possible with a new outdoor classroom.

The outdoor classroom or lab currently has a vegetable garden, raised beds, worm hatchery and bird feeders. However, construction is underway for new aspects to this outdoor



space, including the centerpiece - a koi pond. Environmental science promotes sustainable living, which is part of the class curriculum. So what better way to go further into the subject than having your very own outdoor classroom?

“From animal behavior to photosynthesis...” explains Mrs. Lillian Levine, one of the teachers involved in the making of the outdoor classroom. “The list of what this can help us learn is endless. Students go from doing labs in the classroom to doing them in an outdoor lab.”

The koi pond is being constructed with the help of fellow Biology teacher Mr. Gary Antonelli, and will take up a good amount of the area in the courtyard between A and B wing in the Clayton building. The area was completely dug by students using only shovels. The pond will have a waterfall and will be filled with koi fish, a species of colorful carp that are used as dec-

orative fish in ponds. The point of this pond is to teach the students about sustainable living through a hands-on experience.

The goal is to have most of the work completed by the end of the school year so classes can be taught outside by next school year. Mrs. Laura Leone also helped design and oversee the project. Students in the environmental science and biology classes also volunteered their own time to construct the outdoor classroom. It was a group effort, driven by the excitement of creating an environment where students can learn about preserving our natural world.



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April 27th, 2018



THE JAGUAR JOURNAL

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Celeste: Climbing a Mountain, Physically and Mentally

By Tyler Capurso

Staff Writer

The fledgling independent video game developer team Matt Makes Games made their presence known to the gaming community in 2013 with the release of their first game, "Towerfall: Ascension." Players discovering the game learned of the developer's talents for creating fun, challenging objectives for players to overcome. Newfound fans of the independent developers and their hit game were left in anticipation of what would come next from the small team.

A few years after "Towerfall's" release, the developers at Matt Makes Games had announced their next game project, a mysterious puzzle platformer titled "Celeste." On January 25th "Celeste" was released on all gaming platforms and pit its players against a large variety of unique platforming challenges that required precise movement and skill to conquer. The game offered all the hard-as-nails platforming action that fans were expecting and anticipating from the devs, but what the players weren't expecting was a heartfelt, emotional and well-written story to accompany the well-designed gameplay.

"Celeste" puts players in the shoes of Madeline, a girl who aspires to reach the top of the mysterious Celeste Mountain because... well, she doesn't know why. Something inside her is driving her to climb this mountain, and she refuses to let that feeling be denied. When the beginning of the climb already proves to be a deadly challenge, she starts to deny her courage to continue, but she perseveres. As

the player, you help Madeline to climb through several screens of platforming challenges,



T. Capurso

avoiding giant bottomless pits, piles of spikes, falling rocks, and more than a handful of other perilous obstacles.

Once Madeline finds a mysterious mirror left inside the mountain, she meets a sinister version of herself in the reflection, who's made up of her negative thoughts and emotions. The dark Madeline breaks through the mirror and proceeds to use any means possible to get her to stop climbing and give up. (Continued on page 4)

POETRY FOR EVERYONE

By Brandee Spampinato
Staff Writer

Poetry is often overlooked when people think about literature, but it can do a number of things for the adolescent mind.

Reading poetry can fuel creativity and enable a student to better understand a subject. Learning how to read poetry is one of the hardest things to do in any English class, but well worth it. Once able to read and analyze poetry, a student can read any form of prose text and interpret it in many new ways.

Writing poetry is a healthy habit that students can think about incorporating into their daily lives. Being able to put words down on paper in a creative format can allow people to express their growing thoughts, enable them to clear their minds of bottled up feelings, and focus on other things that demand their attention.

There are lots of books littered with dozens of poems for inspiration. Here are a few:

For poetry pulled towards heartbreak and sadness, *I Wrote This for You* by Iain S. Thomas is a great first choice for straight forward poetry. The book has well over 150 poems, all focused around the author and his relationship from beginning to end. Each small poem can get deep and sentimental, which will entice any reader.

For motivational poetry, *The "As If" Principle* by Jerald Simon goes into the mind of the reader and can create the need to do something or the need to write something build inside them as they read. It's always guaranteed to put a smile on the face of whoever reads it and can make their day much better.

For happy poetry, *Happy: A Collection of Poetry and Prose on Happiness and Being Happy* by Robin Barratt is perfect. It is, as the title tells, a poetry book that has a goal to make the reader happy and motivated to think more positively, as well as write more positive pieces of work.

For poetry that gives hope as well as makes the reader think deeply, *Black Butterfly* by Robert M. Drake is the exact book to choose. Each poem has different meanings in them, all varying between sad and happy. Yet all provide a common theme, which reminds people that despite the differences, humankind is all the same.

Poetry, despite being sometimes overlooked, is vital to adolescents in several ways. Especially for a generation so creative, the artform is only one way to help them express themselves properly without any negative consequences.

Literary Magazine

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By Rachel Savona
Co-Editor in Chief

The Jackson Views is our school's literary magazine. You've definitely seen the name postered through the halls and in classrooms, but do you really know what they do?

The club, advised by Mrs. Jill Stolzenberger, produces a school-wide literary and art media outlet. The magazine meets every Thursday in room 404 to discuss material that has been electronically submitted.

The material they accept includes and mainly consists of poetry, short stories, song lyrics, and art. And although they look to Mr. Matthew Kennedy for submissions from his creative writing class, and the art teachers for submissions from their students, they rely on work from the student body.

Anyone can submit their work to the magazine, and that means anyone. All you have to do to have your work considered is send it to their group email: JacksonViewsLitMag@gmail.com.

However, work submitted must adhere to two rules. The first rule is that your work is appropriate for a school environment. And the second rule is that you must submit it with your name attached. If your name is not attached the work cannot be published as anonymous because publishing unsourced work is considered plagiarizing.

The Editor-in-Chief of the publication is Erin Meyer, and the layout editor is Andrew Zenobia. They work to produce this magazine once a year with help from their accompanying staff of six people.

Considering that the magazine is only published once a year, it's important to know how and when they put their work on sale. The staff print the week of the art expo and sold it there. They were also being sold during lunches and at scholarship night. If you are unable to purchase at one of those events you can buy them in room 114.

The magazine also comes up with contests

to engage the student body which also provide them with wonderfully creative work. In the fall they held a contest for halloween asking for scary submissions and the most impressive one would receive a prize. These contests help to inspire creativity and benefit the publication they are working on.

When asked about the goals of the magazine, Mrs. Stolzenberger said "to represent the talent of the student body at Jackson Memorial, and to encourage creative writing."

A member of the staff, Gianna DiMouro went on to elaborate. She spoke of how the magazine thrives on creativity and how writing in this way inspires people to express themselves.

They try not to deny work they are sent; if you follow the aforementioned rules you are almost guaranteed a spot in the publication.

DIMENSIONS
JACKSON VIEWS LITERARY MAGAZINE



2018

Cover of the JMHS Literary Magazine "The Jackson Views"

There is so much potential in an outlet like this. It gives those who have a creative voice a platform where they can be proud of their work.

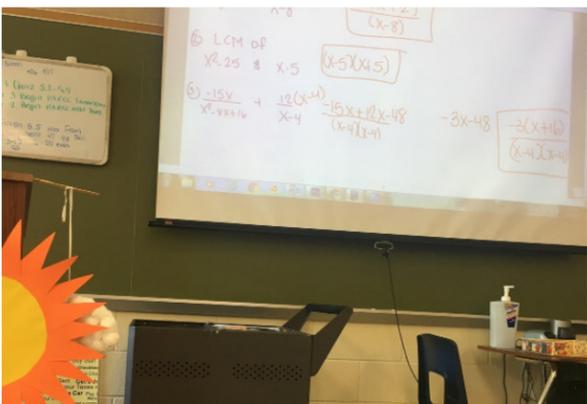
No Class is an "Unnesseary" Class

By Brandee Spampinato
Staff Writer

"We don't need to know the pythagorean theorem in life." "When will I ever need to know about William Shakespeare?" "I don't care what happened a century ago." "No one wants to know the formula to gravity."

Every student has no problem admitting that they complain about the curriculum they are assigned to in the school district, though everybody wonders why we students are urged to take said classes or why they are required to graduate.

In the student handbook on the school website, it states the required classes that all students must take before being eligible to graduate. These requirements mainly consist of: three mathematic classes, three science classes, three history classes, four English classes, two sequential language classes, and four physical education classes.



First of all, these subjects are usually required to get into higher education institutions. Most of the colleges do suggest or have it mandatory to take the classes previously stated. JMHS is trying to help all students to get into a majority of the colleges around the area and in the country, while still allowing for flexibility to let the students take classes they find interesting or partake in subjects they wish to pursue in life.

The classes listed above, though very neutral and not focused on any specific future career, help people with the general idea of life skills and how to handle problems in the future.

Mathematics teach students how to handle certain problems. How to break apart bigger issues into smaller factors or how to put it back together. Not to mention the factor of them helping with taxes and tips when out living the life of an adult.

English is used to help achieve better grammar and a higher vocabulary. Being well-educated in those two subjects will allow employers to see the possible employee as someone who knows higher level words and can properly type or write without worrying about grammatical errors.

History is useful for one specific reason. To keep the past from repeating. It teaches students the painful past of their ancestors and is meant to provide them with information so they

will not cause a repetition of the same event or events that happened in the past.

Science can help people understand themselves more. If someone is sick or unwell, biology teaches them what could be the problem and let them help themselves. The subject teaches them a way to understand the world and develop a new form of understanding for the world around them.

Language is necessary for most professions involving business. Knowing a language, at least partially, is a large step up for that area of study. People are most likely to hire someone who has two years of a language as opposed to zero years of a language.

Health and physical education both have the same goal: To teach and regulate healthy habits to students. Teens learning habits like playing sports often or exercising and eating healthy can be very beneficial to them later in life. Those classes are meant to provide a foundation of a healthy lifestyle for the youth and future generations to come.

Despite these classes being mandatory, they are essential for most people pursuing college as well as life skills. Sure, the formulas and books may not help in the future for everyone, but the point isn't from the actual lessons; it's from what underlies those lessons that teach students how to become successful through life.

“Coach X Disney : A Dark Fairy Tale”

Recently the fashion world found out that Coach would be collaborating with Disney!! Coach was founded in 1941 and has become one of the leading fashion design houses in 2018. The brand uses their modern touch to make their items timeless, such as this effort in creating this new collection.

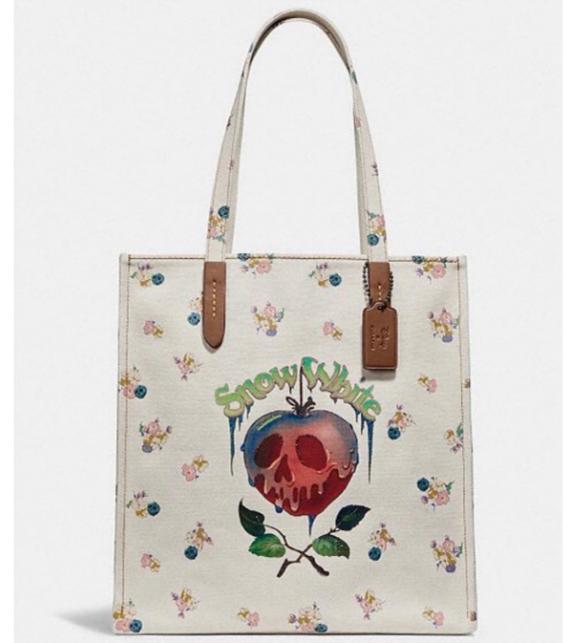


Coach.com

Coach took a different route with Disney's classics like "Snow White" and "Sleeping Beauty." Images taken from the movies and incorporated into the collection include poison apples, cartoon eyes and The Seven Dwarfs. These iconic symbols used in the fairy tale movies have been transformed into dark pieces either by designing them in graffiti or using dark colors. This new collaboration known as "Coach X Disney: A Dark Fairy Tale" is paying homage to some of the classics we all love.

After researching the idea behind the collaboration, Coach's creative director Stuart Ververs stated that it was fun working with the dark side of the brand. He said the images will not be forgotten and reflect a youthful side of the luxury line.

This is not the first collaboration that Ververs took into his own hands. He set out a different perspective for Mickey and Minnie Mouse in 2016, keeping the joyful aesthetic and classic symbols that we remember as a child. This new collab is different from the rest; Ververs didn't focus too much on one brand but married them to embody the two films and remind us of Disney's best.



Coach.com

Celeste: Climbing a Mountain, Physically and Mentally (Continued)

Now Madeline has to continue climbing the already treacherous mountain with her dark side chasing, insulting, and humiliating her and the people she meets on the climb.

Madeline's struggle with her dark doppelganger personifies how someone may feel when dealing with issues like anxiety. Madeline tries to cope with her dark twin by running away from her - similar to how we may run away from our own problems - only to find that she follows her wherever she goes. Ignoring her doesn't help either and trying to get rid of

her only makes things worse, leading to Madeline almost giving in and going home.

All the effort and struggle to escape her scary thoughts seems to be in vain until a strange old lady who lives on the mountain gives her a new idea. Instead of trying to run from her problems, the old lady suggests that she try to come to understand how she's feeling and accept the part of herself that she doesn't like. Madeline does so by finding her dark twin and making up with her, coming to understand her and why she can't just get rid

of her. The idea works, and with her dark twin on her side, her will and determination to climb Celeste Mountain is restored.

"Celeste" teaches a very important message of self-acceptance and what can go wrong when you struggle to treat problems like anxiety. Paired with the fun, challenging gameplay, "Celeste" is an experience that will keep you engaged and may even speak to you on a personal level.

Seniors of The Month

April

Vance Balce Jessica Towns

My best JMHS memory goes back to the night of my last marching band competition at Nationals in Allentown, PA. It was full of tears, excitement, and joy because I was about to close out my marching band career with my best friends after four long years of hard work and dedication to the program. We commemorated our last competition with a senior toast, thanking our teachers, parents, and friends for their unconditional support throughout the season. We laughed, cried, and cheered throughout the night. All of these emotions blended into this final feeling of determination in us, and we were ready to leave more than everything on that field. Our time came to perform, and I took to the podium as my friends set up on the turf, waiting for our show to begin. I raised my hand, and when I brought it down, I was overwhelmed by a blast of colorful melodies and harmonies. I surrendered to the music, letting every vibrant sound I heard surge throughout my body. It took me on a ride to remember. These were the moments I lived for in band. The music we made took me on adventures I could never forget. We won Nationals that night, placing 1st in our group. It was the perfect ending to a perfect season.



After spending four years here at JMHS, I have come to know the sense of pride that students, including myself, take in attending this school. I will definitely miss the school spirit and the community that JMHS has created. Friday night football games cheering in front of Jaguar Nation, Powder Puff, and nights like Junior Formal and Homecoming are all events that I greatly enjoyed and will miss in the future. I could never forget winning the State Championship for cheerleading, and for football two years in a row, in addition the National Championship I won with my team during my freshman year. I take so much pride in attending this school, a school that excels not only in academics, but in sports and extracurriculars as well. The tradition we have here at JMHS is unmatched, and I wouldn't ask to go to any other high school.