

THE VICTORY VIEW

Dreaming of a Magical Hoco

BY VIVICA BOFAH

Homecoming 2022 came by like a fairytale but reached its ending quicker than we expected. But don't worry, we are here to give you guys a recap of the highs that came from Homecoming 22".

The whole week was centered around our beautiful theme, "Where Dreams Come True," which was seen through the magical Disney decorations that floated through the halls. But the decorations were not the only new additions to the JCA halls on Monday, because we also saw younger faces following our very own Angels and Hillmen. We kicked off the week with our Super Shadow Day, featuring around 200 potential future Angels and Hillmen. They experienced different classes of the students they were following and saw our school spirit through our dress down day: Country vs. Country Club. The whole school could feel their excitement during the Fall Sports Assembly where we witnessed the showdown of our favorite captains and found out the homecoming court!

Tuesday saw JCA students stealing clothes from their parents' closets through following the Soccer Mom versus Football Dad theme. We could smell the Starbucks and hear the clipboard smacking from a mile away!

Wednesday was stressful for some, but it was an amazing experience for other Hillmen and Angels. The Freshman Class had their retreat day. The Sophomore and Junior Class got out of bed and wore their jammies to take either their PSAT or Pre-ACT. Do not forget guys, no matter how you did, it was amazing that you took the test! The Senior class came to school a little grudgingly due to their day off being turned into a service day; however, it turned out to be a wonderful experience! The Class of 2023 was given a chance to give back to their community, and even some who were meant to go to the forest preserve (it was rained out!) were able to complete their favorite pastime: making pottery with Mr. McDermott.

On Thursday, the hallways of JCA were filled with leather jackets and beach gear for the theme: Biker vs. Surfer. The end of the day was extra exciting, not only because of the beloved 1:40 dismissal, but also because of the tailgate that was held at the end of the day. The endless snacks further enhanced the enthusiasm of many as we rounded the corner to the dance.

Friday was the final day before Homecoming and a fun-filled day. The Disney theme fit perfectly with the dance that was coming up. Countless Disney characters sat in their seats, counting down the minutes to the bell that started the assembly. During the assembly, the homecoming court of Luke Gould and Naomi Kasper, Zach Pekol and Marley Hennessy, TJ Schlageter and Allie Wuestenfeld, Luke Pekol and Emma Vitas, Anthony Birsa and Samantha Beckman, Carter Holbrook and Paige Michel, Preston Buss and Emma Alstott, and Tyler Surin and Lauren Cardwell competed in a variety of fun games. The senior boys, with the assistance of the dance team, put on an energetic performance, and the assembly ended with Luke Pekol and Naomi Kasper being crowned King and Queen. Congrats to the two of them! The Friday night homecoming game was also as electric as ever, and although the rain put a slight damper on the festivities, nothing could have been worse than going back to your school after losing 41-0, with JCA winning against Benet.

Saturday was the day of the dance and the amazing culmination to an exciting week. With the tasty addition of 4 flavors of TCBY, flavor palettes were rocked during the dance. With the DJ playing "The Wobble" multiple times, it was truly an educational experience. The 360-camera booth was also an amazing addition to the dance and saw countless smiles captured in photos that will last a lifetime.

I hope that everyone had an amazing Homecoming Week, and once again, we thank our student council and its moderators for putting on fun festivities and an amazing dance!



CLUB SPOTLIGHTS

Human Rights Club

BY VIVICA BOFAH

I was able to conduct an interview with one of our newest clubs: The Human Rights Club. I had an amazing conversation with the co-president, Marissa Corsi, and these were some of the amazing responses that she had for my questions:

1. What is your club's purpose/goal?

The Human Rights Club is the more international/global component to JCA's service and outreach! Student Council is for our school, Key Club works within our local community, and HRC covers issues impacting us or others on a wider scale, especially because we are a chapter of a national organization. Our goal is to both educate and to take action- it's not enough to talk about it, so we want to do something about it!

2. There has been some confusion within the JCA community about whether this club is still tied to the Respect Life Club, a continuation of the club with a new name, or a completely new club. Is there anything you would like to add to address this confusion?

So, I wouldn't call it a name change at all; it's a brand-new club. It has no connections to RLC, and it does not follow the same concepts or have the same purpose. HRC is a chapter of a national awareness-based organization and is just an additional service club for JCA; it has no ties to nor is "replacing" anything.

3. What has been your best memory from your club so far?

Because our club is so young, it's difficult to pick out a favorite memory, but I'd have to say mine is seeing new faces at our first meeting. It's great to see that JCA is ready to do some work for the greater good.

4. If you could summarize your club in one word, what would you use?

If I had to choose one word to describe HRC, I would probably pick "catalyst." JCA is a small speck in a very large pond, but every little action counts. By raising awareness for meaningful issues and working to fix them, even if it means moving one baby step at a time, JCA's HRC chapter is a catalyst for change that will grow over time and over many miles.

5. Are there any announcements that you would like to put out about your club?

Our topics change monthly based on the national HRC agenda, so make sure to check announcements for our next meeting date and topic! Also, if you'd like to check out our parent organization, visit www.thehumanrightsclub.org

Thank you for the interview, Marissa!



A Tree-mendous Club: The Wildlife Club

BY SARAH RATAJCZYK

In February of 2020, Caroline Martini and Lydia Pultorak decided to create JCA's very first Wildlife Club. During their meetings, they talk about the local wildlife and give presentations about nature conservation, birds, invasive species, and many more interesting topics! On top of these educational presentations, they have other regular club activities like playing nature themed games. This past year, the Wildlife Club has done a bird themed scavenger hunt, Spot the Difference with bird pictures, and Guess that Animal.

On Thursday, October 20th, the Wildlife Club went on a club trip to Four Rivers Nature Reserve (pictured above). At the reserve they were given a guided tour by an interpretive naturalist. The club witnessed an American Kestrel mobbing, or attacking, a cooper's hawk nest. This was such a blessing for them because it was a glimpse of pure nature. Not only that, but the club ran into small snakes, pelicans, and turtles along their journey. There was an area that had scopes set up by the river for water viewing, where they witnessed some gorgeous views. After the hike, the Wildlife Club went inside the nature center to visit the brand-new exhibits that just opened. How lucky!

If any of these topics or activities are interesting to you, please considering joining Wildlife Club. You are guaranteed to have a fun, educational time!

Reminder Zone--

BY CASSIDY GRAY & LIZZY MARTINEZ

Keep Your Eyes Open for Drama!

Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes of your favorite productions? JCA Drama Club is proud to perform *Noises Off*, a theatrical farce involving sardines, bloody noses, and love triangles galore! With a spectacular cast and a great production team, this hysterical play is bound to knock your socks off and send you home with a smile on your face.

Mark your calendars for November 17th - 19th (Thursday- Saturday) at seven o'clock in the evening and a special matinee performance at one o'clock on November 19th. Be sure to buy tickets because this is not a play to miss!

Parent Teacher Conferences

Due to the conferences on Thursday November 3rd, teachers and students will be remote learning from 7:50 A.M.—noon on that day.

Make sure to give your parents a heads up about Conferences!

Session 1- 2:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Session 2- 5:30 P.M.—7:30 P.M.

Remote learning will continue Friday, November 4th with noon dismissal.

November's Schedule

November 1st- All Saint's Day Mass

November 6th- Open House

November 11th- Veteran's Day- No School-

November 10th- noon dismissal- Open House

November 14th- Happy Birthday to Cassidy Gray

November 23rd- 25th - Thanksgiving Break

* Dates/Schedules are subject to change *

Be safe this Halloween!

Fall Season Favorites

BY LILY BUDNY

The fall season is finally here, and with it comes many delicious treats. Seasonal apple and pumpkin flavors have now joined store and restaurant menus, along with shelves filled with candy.

One of the most common fall flavors is pumpkin spice. It is both savory and sweet and tends to only be a seasonal flavor, rather than something seen year-round. So, to coincide with the theme of all things pumpkin, you can find the recipe to a soft, chewy pumpkin cookie (located page 4). These cookies are something you will not want to miss. Another seasonal flavor is apple. Most farm stands and stores offer the most delicious apple cider cinnamon donuts. Many people wait year-round to enjoy these sugar-coated treats.

Along with these seasonal flavors, many begin to buy candy more often than usual. Seasonal candies, such as caramel apple lollipops, pumpkin and ghost shaped candies, and big bags of mixed fun size candy bags start to fill store shelves. In a poll of popular Halloween candy, an overwhelming amount of JCA students chose Reese's as the best Halloween candy, with Kit Kats, Twix, and Sour Patch Kids following. But this result heeds the question: is the love due to the different shapes, such as pumpkins, ghosts, bats, etc., that possibly causes Reese's to taste better compared to their original cup shape? Most who have been asked this question answer yes. It could be due to the candy having a better peanut butter to chocolate ratio, being creamier, or delivering a smoother consistency.

So, make sure to try out some new candies or seasonal treats. Pumpkin, apple, chocolate, whatever it may be, do not miss the delicious treats the fall season has to offer!

HOCO Comparison

BY MYA MAGADAN

JCA's Homecoming this year had many different aspects such as TCBY, lights, a camera that took 360-videos, a new DJ, and music. Here are some of the homecomings I was able to attend and my ratings of each event.

Hoco #1-

School #1 didn't throw a homecoming; it was more like a rave. They handed out lightsaber type things to the crowd. The fog machine and nonstop fire sprinklers made the night great. There were a couple people walking around taking pictures and giving you a link to them after. The songs were all iconic and some new songs from TikTok were included. The lights were multicolored and roamed around the crowd. I give it a 10/10!

Hoco #2-

School #2 was a letdown when compared to the year prior. The DJ let kids on the stage and then complained about how many kids were on it. The stage ended up breaking due to the amount of people jumping on it for hours. The DJ didn't play any good songs and when he did, he would pause it every 30 seconds to yell at the students. They did have the 360-camera where you could go up with your date or friends and have that taken. \$15 for fried Oreos was a bit overpriced. The score? 7/10.

Hoco #3-

School #3 was a wild ride. The crowd was not fascinated until about an hour in, and while songs were played, they had pictures show up on a screen that didn't even connect with the song lyrics being played. They let out balloons and confetti from the air which people passed around in the crowd for fun. The songs were good, and the DJ was too. They provided free snacks and water, but it wasn't anything special. I give it an 8/10.

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE, NO... IT'S AN ORANGE LANYARD!

BY LILY BUDNY

With the start of the new school year came a few changes to the typical school day. A new object entered every classroom, stirring controversy among not only students but also teachers and staff. A bright orange lanyard, labeled hall pass, became a mandatory object for every student who considered leaving the classroom. However, is this necessary, or is it causing more problems than solutions?

With this new hall pass system, a student starts by asking to leave the classroom, to either use the restroom, retrieve something from their locker, etc. However, some students have now taken advantage of this system to just leave class, which has created traffic with students waiting to leave. Some students claim that, compared to previous years, these passes have caused an influx in students leaving the classroom. Additionally, some teachers continue to let students out without the pass. It is also quite common at the beginning or end of class for many teachers to tell students to go to the bathroom during passing period (before a pass is needed), which can cause more students to linger in the hallways and be tardy to class. Because of these observations, The Victory View decided to interview Dean Arnett.

When talking to Dean Arnett, many questions about the changes were answered. She stated that the pass system has changed from a more lenient system to this stricter one for many reasons. Some reasons include the past destruction of the bathrooms during the "devious lick" era, a large number of students ditching class or lingering in the hallways, and disruptions to classes due to wandering students or students constantly coming and going from the room. She believes this change was necessary and has been 100% beneficial in creating order in the classrooms and hallways.

Another issue regarding the passes: are they sanitary? Clearly, something that travels to and from bathrooms may be easily covered in germs and other substances. When asked this question, Dean Arnett claimed that they are in fact sanitary. She mentioned how if a student did not want to touch it or thought it was dirty, there is hand sanitizer and sinks to wash your hands and cleanse of any germs on it. Hopefully, every student is sanitary enough to wash their hands every time they are in the bathroom. Suggestions of other more sanitary options were voiced as well. At some schools, an online hall pass system is used to request to leave the classroom and track when a student leaves the room. Dean Arnett does like that idea of it, but the student size of the school doesn't justify an online system at this point. Others have suggested the use of multiple passes, such as one for the girl's bathroom, one for the boy's bathroom, and one as a general hall pass. This would be helpful because if a student were to go to the help desk for the entirety of a period, other students who may need to use the bathroom or retrieve an item from their locker could leave. However, a phone call or email from a faculty member also serves as a hall pass, without a student needing to take the lanyard him or her.

Many teachers enjoy the use of a hall pass system because it makes it easier to track those needing to leave the classroom, and it keeps students accountable for being timely if they know there's a line to use the pass.

Another change that was present at the beginning of the school, but has since been changed back to normal, were the announcements. With the exit of our beloved Father Jeff, announcements were a big question that followed his departure. At the beginning of the year, they were moved from second period to homeroom. When asked about why this change occurred, Dean Arnett explained that she wanted to give student council more responsibility when it came to the school community. However, it didn't seem to work as everyone had hoped. Homeroom is the main time for students to attend club meetings, meet with teachers or tutors, or catch up on homework. This caused many students to miss important announcements. Despite the announcements being emailed every day, many students surprisingly do not check their email often or sometimes ever. Dean Arnett decided to change the announcements back to second period so that this would not occur.

Always with changes, it takes time for people to get used to them. Many positive changes have followed and helped to bring more order to previous disruptions. Hopefully we will continue to see many more beautiful improvements and growth to the JCA community as the school year progresses!

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

New Teacher- Mr. Gregory

BY LIV LAMONTANA, ARIANNA MARTINEZ, & ALEX RODRIGUEZ

Mr. Gregory Interview

Where did you previously teach?

“I taught at the Cathedral of St. Raymond for 7 years.”

Why did you pursue the career of teaching?

“Because I like math, and a lot of other jobs involving math are pretty boring, so I wanted to get into teaching because it’s a fun way to apply it.”

What have been your best memory teaching at JCA so far?

“We’ve done [his classes] some fun skits in Spanish so far that have been very interesting. Although next month after we do the Día de los Muertos stuff, it’s probably going to change.”

What is your favorite subject to teach and why?

“Math, specifically algebra because I personally find it really fun, and it’s like a puzzle.”

How long have you been growing your hair for?

“Ever since I was in 8th grade, so around 18 or 19 years.”

Have you ever measured how long your hair is, and if so, how long is it?

“Never with a ruler, but last time I checked it’s about 28 inches.”

Are you trying to pass up G’s great hair?

“You know, it’s a close competition, and I appreciate that he’s a good sport about it.”

Do you think you’d win in a “best hair” contest against G?

“Hard to say, hard to say. G has a strong following here at JCA, so going up against him is...I’m definitely the underdog, but you know one day I’ll get there.”

G Interview

How do you feel about Mr. Gregory competing for best hair?

“First, Mr. Gregory is a fine man. Knew him when he was at admissions at St. Rays. Blame JCA administration for bringing him to the school. He wants a hair off? The female faculty should vote who has the best hair.”

Do you think you’d win best hair against him?

“Is there any doubt?”

Cookie Recipe

Cookie Ingredients:

- 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon ground cloves
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cups white sugar
- ½ cup butter, softened
- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Icing Ingredients

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease cooking sheets.
2. Combine dry ingredients (flour, cinnamon, baking powder, baking soda, nutmeg, cloves, and salt) in a bowl.
3. Cream butter and sugar in separate bowl. Add the rest of the wet ingredients (pumpkin, egg, and vanilla)
4. Slowly incorporate wet ingredients into dry ingredients
5. Place spoonfuls of cookie dough onto a cookie sheet
6. Bake for 15-20 minutes.
7. Combine icing ingredients and ice cookies once cooled down.
8. ENJOY!!

“From Dee to Gen”—an Art Teacher’s Weaving

BY MRS. SAMANTHA BUSH

Did you know that our very own Mrs. Peg Stoiber was featured at the University of St. Francis in August? Her weaving titled, “Dee to Gen” was on display along with others in the community.

Her piece was inspired by her first Fiber Arts professor in college and her most recent student, Genevieve Darley in her Fiber Arts 2 class. Genevieve wanted to learn the knotting technique called macrame, and when Mrs. Stoiber was teaching her, she realized that Dee, her college professor, had taught the same macrame years ago, and that would be the perfect finish to the piece Mrs. Stoiber was currently working on.

Her professor Dee challenged Mrs. Stoiber and her fellow students to use colors that were not necessarily their favorites, and Mrs. Stoiber decided to use red, rust, orange, purple, and shiny copper, which are all choices that she usually doesn’t aim for initially! Even though the weaving technique in the piece is relatively simple, the twisted fringe was a new experience for her. Plus, this fringe was usually completed by fastening it to an electric drill, allowing the drill to twist it, but Mrs. Stoiber chose to complete it by hand.

By working with Genevieve on her project, Mrs. Stoiber felt inspired by Genevieve’s enthusiasm and courage, and she felt very happy and proud to have her art recognized at the reception. This beautiful piece definitely speaks volumes on the impact those in our lives can have on us, and how the power of those interactions can additionally be illustrated through powerful works of art.

Mrs. Stoiber and Genevieve Darley and “Dee to Gen” are pictured below.

