



Congratulations
to the



Class of 2020

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WELCOME!
The Hawk Eye is
always accepting new
members and entries! Please
listen to the
announcements for the time
and locations of our weekly
meetings!
Thank you for reading!



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is an open forum, in practice and policy, for student expression and the discussion of
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Covid-19: How are You Spending Your Time?

By Jake Feldman
Editor-in-Chief

Undoubtedly, many of us would be willing to relinquish almost any materialistic possession to have the COVID-19 virus vanish indefinitely; however, this does not appear to be a viable option. Quarantine, self-isolation, social distancing, school closings, working at home, zoom meetings, face masks; these words are now part of our everyday vocabulary, and do not seem to be going away anytime soon. There is a saying, “when life serves you lemons, make lemonade.” In other words, you try to make the best out of what fate has given you. Even though we have all been presented with megadoses of sour lemons, this metaphor applies more than ever during these unprecedented times. This advice is not to minimize the herculean problems that we are all facing, but instead to accentuate the unprecedented opportunities.

With all the cancellations and closures, one thing that we all, surely, have more of is – time. There are no live sports to watch such as basketball, golf, tennis, hockey, baseball, for the foreseeable future. With POBJFKHS undertaking virtual lessons remotely, there definitely is even more free time, especially with the cancelling of after-school activities, such as sports, the school play, and driver’s education. In fact, some of us may have too much free time on our hands. What will we do with all this time? Will we view it as a curse, or as a gift? How can we reverse this terrible situation; or as the saying goes, how does one turn bitter lemons into lemonade? This COVID-19 intrusion, on our once-busy lives, does contain a plethora of potential for great opportunities.

Here are a few ideas.

We are accustomed to greetings, which were once considered to be normal in our everyday lives- handshakes, embraces, and hugs; all of these activities are now suspended. We are in social distancing mode. Why not transmute social distancing guidelines into societal concern, as a way to fill the vacuum created by this void? With new found time on our hands, we can now contact family and friends with whom we did not have as much communication as we would have liked. Telephone, FaceTime and Zoom, all have become golden opportunities to strengthen interconnectedness.

During this challenging period, we can also search for ways to volunteer to help others suffering. It could be through organizations or through calling those who are alone to ask if they need assistance, and then proceeding to fill that need. Clubs, such as student government, DECA, and the HAWKEYE, have already taken this advice to heart, raising over a combined \$10,000.

As told by Mr. Murray, POBJFKHS principal, we realize that “we are all in this together.” The more emotionally we unite, the better are our chances that the POB community will overcome this pandemic and its adverse effects. As a result, any self-transcending decision we make for the greater good of everyone becomes more than just a nice deed. Now, such actions are potentially life-saving. It is integral for people to have sensible purchasing, so that others also will have an adequate supply of basic food and sanitary needs, which could be the difference, for some, between life or death. A decision to shop late at night when it is less crowded is not only prudent, but it is potentially life-saving. Yes, we all now have the opportunity, indeed the obligation, to be life-savers. We must embrace and unite as POB STRONG.

Furthermore, making amends is an endeavour we can employ. In light of the current climate of our nation, whatever dispute we may have with someone, family or former friend, becomes even more trivial. So, with time on our hands, why not utilize this opportunity to stretch out a “hand” in friendship. Being “locked up” at home, as a result of closures, can be quite difficult to endure; however, this is a perfect opportunity to create emotional connectedness. Community relationships, whether between friends, parents, teachers, or siblings – now have the time to flourish.

Moreover, the new found time makes possible the realization of projects or personal goals that were on hold, such as reading, writing, creating, and/or organizing. Though we may not be physically in class, we can still strengthen our body and our mind.

I hope that we will soon overcome this most serious assault on our collective well being. Simultaneously, I fervently wish that the POB community will use the newly available time and opportunity to enhance our immediate and personal world.



Source: Mr. Murray

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Advertisements for a Cause

By Jake Feldman & Emily Zhang
Editors-in-Chief

Throughout the year, the Hawkeye Newspaper Club releases quarterly issues and features advertisements available for purchase by local businesses. In these struggling times, we offered more than 100 small businesses a free full-page advertisement, typically valued at \$200. We encouraged businesses, in return for this free full-page advertisement, to pay it forward if they were in a position to do so. Many businesses in our community have been directly impacted by the closures caused by COVID-19, and we hope to support them with our free advertisements in this issue.

The Hawkeye Newspaper Club organized a fundraiser in partnership with The Red Cross Foundation, where

all the proceeds went directly towards COVID-19 relief efforts. Any donation, regardless of the amount, was greatly appreciated. We are happy to report that the club raised over \$5000 towards such a worthy cause and included over 50 local business advertisements in this issue.

The money raised will help provide relief by supporting quarantine shelters, distributing food, connecting families, and supplying health and mental health services

We would like to thank all of those who donated and sent in advertisements. In these times, the club finds it important to support our community. We would also like to thank our healthcare heroes that have been working tremendously to combat COVID-19, you are truly an inspiration to us all. We are confident that we will come out of this stronger than ever.



Source: Mr. Murray

Salil Kamath: Class of 2020 Valedictorian

By Atul Gera
Layout Editor

Salil Kamath's high school career has been marked by excellence in every field of study. Earning the title of valedictorian is just the cherry on top of an already exceptional academic career. Salil has time and again mastered all of the classes and projects that came his way, demonstrating his talent for learning. His success has been recognized locally through underclassman awards, and nationally through his AP Scholar with Distinction and National Merit commendations. Salil scored within the 99th percentile of the National Spanish Exam and won a gold medal three years in a row. In addition to these accomplishments, Salil has distinguished himself in mathematics. Recently, he received the highest score on the AMC 12 in POB, earning him a gold medal. Salil's enthusiasm for math extends into his extracurriculars as the Vice President of Mathletes, in which he has shared his knowledge with many younger students. He has even placed within the top 20 students at the 2019 and 2020 Nassau Math Tournaments. However, Salil's greatest passion is for computer science and robotics.

"Robotics is so much more than just constructing a robot. It teaches students teamwork, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills to better prepare them for the demands of the 21st-century workforce. It encourages students to become a force for change in their communities," explained Salil. Carrying these values dear to him, Salil has participated in the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) and the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) through POBots, which quickly became his favorite extracurricular activity. As the head of programming for POBots, Salil contributed greatly to the team's success last year when they won the FRC Chairman's Award. Ryan Norris, the Vice President of Design and Manufacturing in POBots and a close friend of Salil, notes that "In robotics, he is extremely professional and

efficient, but still able to have fun with his work and teach others. Salil is hard-working and has a true passion for software engineering and math."

Outside of school, Salil has focused on engaging the community in the world of robotics and computer technology. Salil was actively involved in the FIRST Long Island Student Event Team as an assistant lead scorekeeper for the FIRST Lego League and the FTC robotics competitions in Long Island. Furthermore, he has led Raspberry Pi workshops to teach students basic programming principles and lessons on the internet of things. Not to mention, Salil has even presented on the mobile application process to a large international audience at the Maker Faire in Queens. His appetite for STEM is a testament to his unyielding work ethic and dedication to teaching the community.

Although the title of valedictorian is quite special, Salil's friends appreciate him for much more. Ryan describes Salil as "one of the most brilliant people I have had the pleasure to meet in high school. Salil has a unique and dry sense of humor, that can unexpectedly break down a conversation into laughter. He is unafraid to stand his ground in the face of disagreement but open-minded enough to change his mind." Cameron Robinson, another great friend of Salil's comments that "getting to know Salil has been a wonderful experience. I have worked with him in robotics for a while now and his ability to communicate his knowledge makes every interaction a pleasure." These

qualities set Salil apart as a one-in-a-million type of student and will take him far in the future.

Salil will be attending Georgia Tech in the fall as a computer science major, where his talents and hard work will bring him success. The Class of 2020 and I congratulate Salil on his accomplishments and wish him good luck in his future endeavors.



Source: POBJFK Yearbook

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Elizabeth Korn: Class of 2020 Salutatorian

By Emily Zhang
Editor-in-Chief

Throughout her four years in high school, Elizabeth Korn has made it clear that she is a force to be reckoned with. Her academic record has been nothing short of stellar, deserving the title of the Class of 2020's Salutatorian. She's been named a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program, along with two other students in this year's graduating class. In the 2020 National Merit Program 1.5 million students entered, and Elizabeth is among the 15,000 top scoring students. Elizabeth also shows exemplary work in our school's Research Program. She has presented at the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair, participated in the Toshiba/NSTA Exploravision Competition, and was a finalist for the Paradigm Challenge. She also attended the highly regarded Garcia Summer Research Program at Stony Brook University. Although Elizabeth has a strong devotion for research and science, it's abundantly clear that she has a passion for the arts.

"My favorite activity is to draw and paint, both in and out of school," Elizabeth explained. This year, Elizabeth was presented with the Long Island Scholar Artist Award by the Long Island Arts Alliance and Newsday. She was one of only twenty students island wide to have achieved this milestone. The award was won in the Visual Arts category for her photo-realistic colored-pencil drawings. Elizabeth has taken the full range of art classes the district has to offer, from Accelerated Studio Art in the 8th grade to AP Studio Art: 2D Design in her senior year. Elizabeth's artwork has been chosen for many prestigious Art shows and exhibitions. She's been featured in LIATA Nassau County "Art in Heart" Art Exhibition, the 16th Annual LIU 12x12 High School Art Exhibition, and the Huntington Arts Council High Arts Showcase XV Exhibition where she was recognized as an

Award of Excellence winner.

Elizabeth is a member of both the National Art and Science Honor Society, but she has gone above and beyond in her pursuit of both subjects. Through both of these organizations, she has volunteered at the elementary school craft and paint days, while tutoring other high school students in their science classes. But, she doesn't stop there. Elizabeth has been nominated for an Underclassmen Award in an abundant number of subjects. She has won the award for Honors Living Environment, English 9 Honors, Honors Chemistry, Spanish 3H, AP Biology, AP Statistics, AP Language and Composition, and Drawing and Painting 1, 2, and 3.

Although her academic achievements have not always been the easiest to accomplish, Elizabeth has always found it in herself to keep pushing forward. "I'm motivated by my desire to constantly improve and to eventually be able to work in medicine or general research to help people," she notes. Her yearbook quote would be, "You think I won't get my wishes, you've never known somebody this ambitious," from 13: The Musical. I can think of nothing more fitting to reflect Elizabeth's character. In the many years I've known Elizabeth, I've always been unable to express the amount of intellect and aptitude she possesses. In all subjects, from Chemistry Honors to AP Literature and Composition, she proves time and time again that there is no challenge too great for her to handle. She's made

it clear that she's aiming for the top, and nothing is going to hold her back.

Elizabeth will be attending the prestigious Cornell University next year as a biological sciences major, where her academic prowess and talent in everything she does will surely lead her to success. The Class of 2020 and I congratulate Elizabeth on her accomplishments and we wish her the best in future endeavors.



Source: POBJFK Yearbook

The Effectiveness of Cloth Face Masks

By Christine Song
Staff Reporter

With the circumstances our world has been experiencing for months, the effectiveness of face masks is under question. There are multiple types of masks, however, the variety that most people can get ahold of during this pandemic are cloth face masks. Currently, the primary use for masks is to prevent the spread of COVID-19, a virus transmitted through the respiratory droplets or airborne virus particles produced by an infected individual. President Donald Trump, and many of his advisors, have publicly shown their opinion on face masks, by forgoing the health precaution entirely. A surgeon general posted on Twitter asking the public to stop buying masks, as “they are not effective”. While the CDC and many health organizations encourage the use of even a simple fabric face mask, many people still go outside without any kind of protection on their face. So the debate goes on: are cloth masks truly necessary to halt the spread of the virus, or are they merely a useless symbol used to pacify public unrest?

Cloth masks are recommended by the CDC to keep the public risk of infection at a lower rate, while leaving the more effective masks, such as surgical masks and N-95 respirators, for health care providers. These masks are reusable and can also be made at home with common materials.

Many online tutorials have shown masks being made out of bandanas, pillow cases, and T-shirts. According to BBC, the Sars-CoV-2 virus “hijacks their cells” as the virus particles themselves “become suspended in the bodily fluids in our lungs, mouth and nose”. An infected individual who coughs or sneezes can release showers of aerosols [tiny droplets] which cause the virus to linger in the air. The National Institutes of Health conducted a test done with laser imaging to illustrate how far spit could travel even when speaking. Despite the fact that the droplets emitted are virtually invisible to the naked eye, spit can travel six to seven feet when one talks, as explained by Lydia Bourouiba, a MIT professor. This experiment also showed that covering the

individual’s mouth with a piece of cloth greatly reduced the amount of droplets being ejected into the air. Wearing cloth masks are especially important in places such as grocery stores, where social distancing is difficult to do. Although many wear masks to protect themselves from the virus, it is crucial to remember that cloth face coverings can additionally prevent the rapid escalation of the virus by asymptomatic carriers. Because not every individual who has the novel coronavirus shows obvious symptoms, wearing a mask regardless of your outward appearance can flatten the curve by slowing down the spread of the disease.

While homemade cloth masks are helpful in preventing those carrying the virus from transmitting it to others, are these also useful for protecting the uninfected? The answer is complicated, however researchers agree on one thing: although the filtration done by these cloth masks as the virus leaves the body is effective, blocking the virus that’s entering isn’t

perfect. However, there have been many tips and comments made by scientists and professors to improve the design of the mask, in an attempt to increase its reliability. Coffee filters, paper towels, and nylon stockings have all been recommended for the incorporation in the layering of the masks. Loretta Fernandez, an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at Northeastern University, was one of the scientists who conducted the research, testing the performance of a mask with stockings over it. During the experiment, the scientist measured the amount of particles found after the filtration of non-hazardous particles, whose size is similar to those which the virus attaches itself to. The results of the trials indicated a higher performance level of the homemade masks, since it blocked out many of the particles found. Furthermore, it showed that the added layer of the nylon stockings functioned similarly to the seal of an N-95 respirator, mainly because it “reduced how much air [leaked] around loose edges,” as explained by Fernandez. Tests done by Smart Air Filters have also displayed the higher filtration level of HVAC filters and vacuum cleaner bags. With these household air filters, however, one must be careful since they may contain fiberglass [this material itself can damage the lungs]. Even without extensive research, people can generally tell which type of fabric has the better ability to filter. If an individual holds the fabric up to the light and can see light through the fabric, it typically means the material doesn’t perform as

well as one which does not allow light to pass through.

Although the design of the mask is important, one should also take note of the different properties and the fit of the mask to enhance its effectiveness, while making it safe for the user. If the material used makes it difficult to breathe in, find another solution, as it is harmful to utilize as a mask. Coffee filters showed positive results in regards to their ability to block aerosols from entering, however the low breathability made it a less desirable solution. The mask should also be fit properly, secured, and made up of layers of fabric. Even one of the most effective masks, the N-95, needs to be fit accordingly so contaminated air does not leak into the face covering.

While there are people in the world who do not believe that masks will help slow the curve, it is always best to wear it to respect the health of those that might be around you. Even if you feel that you are healthy, please remember that you may be compromising the safety of those around you by neglecting your own personal duty. Having a mask to act as a boundary between the air everyone breathes and an individual’s mouth can decrease chances of those who are unknowingly transmitting COVID-19 to others. Remember, masks are not perfect. Interacting with others during this time with a mask on does not mean you will be 100% safe from the coronavirus. However, no matter what you decide is best for you, having any kind of covering will help decrease the time the world needs to stay under quarantine.



Source: Medical News Today



Source: Atul Gera

New York's Reopening

By Fiona Wu
Staff Reporter

As the state with the most reported cases of COVID-19 in America, the thought of reopening seems far in the future. However, as of May 27, nine of the ten regions in New York are beginning to undergo the reopening process—New York City is the only region that has yet to meet the requirements necessary for reopening. The requirements that the city still lacks, as of May 27, is a hospital-bed vacancy rate of at least 30 percent (New York City is at 28 percent) and 30 tracers per 100,000 residents. Though it's not clear when the city will be reopening, Mayor Bill de Blasio and Governor Cuomo both predict a mid-June reopening.

There are four vital phases the state must undergo to aid in the reopening process. Phase 1 allows

the following places to reopen: wholesale supply chain businesses, agriculture and hunting businesses, many retailers for curbside pickup, in-store pickup, or drop off, construction, drive-in movie theaters, and low-risk recreational activities. Long Island beaches have also been opened with reduced capacity and social distancing requirements. Currently, all regions of New York are in this phase and Phase 2 isn't expected for any region until May 30, at the earliest. Phase 2, 3, and 4 and their conditions are shown in the image below. To add more good news: in addition to the reopening of places, Cuomo recently announced that social gatherings are allowed in groups of ten people or less.



Source: WSTM

The Arrival of 'Murder Hornets'

By Isabella Chen
Staff Reporter

The arrival of Asian giant hornets in the United States, nicknamed "murder hornets", has struck fear into the hearts of many. These insects have terrorized honeybee colonies in Asia and have now made their way to Washington state. The Asian giant hornets are the world's largest hornet, typically measuring two inches in length with a wingspan of three inches. They are native to East Asia and in Japan, are responsible for an average of 30 to 50 deaths per year. More specifically, in 2013, they were the cause of 42 deaths in this country as well as an additional 1,675 in China. The hornet's venom is not as toxic as a honeybee's but they are able to deliver a much larger dose more than once. It is said that the hornet's sting is especially painful, with some comparing the feeling to being stabbed by a red-hot needle. The venom is capable of causing kidney failure, anaphylactic shock, and heart attacks, even to those who are not allergic.

Two hornets were discovered in Blaine, Washington late last year. They most likely entered the country by stowing away on shipping containers. Many have begun to fear for their own safety, but the hornets pose a greater threat to bees. Beekeepers are worried that this invasive species could destroy their hives. The hornets feed on a variety of insects, including beetles, wasps, hornworms, mantids, and bees. Japanese honeybees, however, have evolved to develop defense mechanisms. They are able to swarm the hornets and beat their wings quickly, which allows them to raise the temperature to a point that the hornets cannot withstand. Unfortunately, European honeybees are the most common commercial species of bees in the U.S. and their sting has no effect on the hornets.

Asian giant hornets live in colonies much like bees, with a queen and workers. These workers have two main strategies to hunt bees. Oftentimes, a single hornet captures and kills a single bee, and then takes it back to their nest where it is fed to larvae. Instead of concentrating on one colony, the hornets take bees from multiple. The second method is much more well known, and requires a coordinated attack group of 10 to 20 hornets. Even a small group of these insects are able to slaughter all the worker bees in a colony. Using their large mandibles, the hornets decapitate all the worker bees. Afterwards, the hornets collect the bee larvae and pupae to feed to their young.

In order to stop the spread of these hornets, actions need to be taken before the insects become too widespread. Researchers will be able to set up traps in the summer, when new colonies emerge. Lures will be used to attract queens. Radio-transmitting collars or a



Source: National Geographic

small streamer can be attached to the insect in order to lead researchers back to their nests, which are underground, so they can be destroyed. Using heat sensitive technology is a possible method for finding hornet hives, as the nest of hornets can reach up to 86.

Despite how dangerous these hornets seem, too much concern has been raised over only two confirmed sightings. The name "murder hornet" further perpetuates the fear among the public of these insects. If anything, hornets are more of a threat to bee populations and beekeepers than to people. There have been numerous false claims of Asian giant hornet sightings, but they are often confused with European hornets, who are a less dangerous and aggressive relative. This invasive species, if dealt with correctly and quickly, will not pose any danger to people or honeybees.

Super Tuesday and Its Impact on the 2020 Elections

By Jesse Ray Sheps
Staff Reporter

After over a year of campaigning, Democratic candidates braced themselves for what is commonly known as “Super Tuesday”. Super Tuesday is the biggest day of the Democratic campaign, with the most amount of primary delegates being awarded to the victor. With 14 states voting on Super Tuesday for the Democratic representative meant to take on President Trump in November, there were 1,357 critically important delegates up for grabs, including in two of the largest states: California and Texas.

After the early weeks of primary voting coming into Super Tuesday, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, a self-proclaimed “Democratic Socialist,” was polling ahead of the pack. However, as a result of questions involving his “electability” against Donald Trump, and as to whether America was ready for such a progressive agenda, Senator Sanders’ primary successes started to concern some more moderate Democrats. In order to help the chances of former Vice President Joe Biden build some momentum, some of the other, more moderate candidates, such as Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Senator Amy Klobuchar, dropped out of the race and threw their support behind him. The real remaining question going into Super Tuesday was whether the presence of billionaire Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who had spent over \$500 million of his own money into his campaign, would withdraw some of the support of

moderate voters from the former Vice President. As the days grew near, all eyes focused on former President Barack Obama, still very popular with Democratic voters, to see if he would endorse one of the candidates to help spark one of the campaigns. Nothing was eventually heard from President Obama and voters in those key states were left on their own to decide who would be the probable challenger of President Trump.

The results of that day clarified that the Democrats have a two-man contest going forward between Mr. Biden and Senator Sanders. Mr. Biden had a dominant day overall and was declared victorious, drawing large support from Southern States such as North Carolina, Virginia, and Arkansas. As Biden’s fortune grew on that day, it appeared that the other moderate candidate, Michael Bloomberg, would be forced to suspend his campaign after only winning in American Samoa. Senator Sanders won the big prize of the day, California, which has the largest number of candidates, his home state of Vermont, Colorado, and Utah. Overall, Biden won more delegates than Sanders that day which was a bit of a surprise no one could have predicted a few days earlier since Biden’s campaign had been stalled for some time.

Super Tuesday was considered by most political pundits to be

quite an impressive comeback for Biden, reshaping the presidential contest. However, the race is far from over for these two Democrats and there is much more campaigning ahead for both of them. Super Tuesday showed that the Sanders campaign needed to go back and seriously regroup. Most importantly, Sanders was unable to win many of the key areas he carried over Hillary Clinton in 2016.

As the two candidates battle forward, there will be large distinctions drawn between their policies including trade deals, immigration, and the American health care system. Looking ahead, Joe Biden looks particularly strong in important states, such as Florida, where Senator Sanders has alienated many Cuban voters for his perceived support of Fidel Castro.

POBJFK students have some interesting thoughts on the challenge facing these candidates.

For instance, 9th grader Jordan Goldklang believes that Bernie Sanders will still ultimately prevail over Joe Biden. Jordan stated that, “Bernie Sanders will win because he has the vote from young people, while Joe Biden is unable to get those votes.” Another 9th grader, Zack Bookspan, believes that Joe Biden will eventually win over Bernie Sanders. Zack stated that, “Biden has an advantage over Bernie Sanders because he is going to attract more moderate voters”. He also believes that many of his voters are those “who like him from when

he was the Vice President for President Obama.”

Both Biden and Sanders now have to work even harder to win over voters that have not supported either of them previously. Sanders seeks to expand his support among a larger number of young, progressive voters. Biden will have to concentrate not only on building the support of voters who may question his physical and mental capacity to fight in the long run, but also on fundraising to keep pace with Sanders. In the end, after this potentially bloody battle that runs all the way to the Democratic National Convention, the winner has to immediately engage in a challenging rumble in November against President Trump. No matter whether you love or hate President Trump, no one can argue with the fact that he is an incredibly strong political challenge for any candidate due to his unorthodox style and because he enjoys a strong economy. We will see what, if any, impact the now growing coronavirus has on all of the campaigns, as this column predicts this is a possible wild card facing all politicians moving ahead.



Source: Business Insider

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The Benefits of Caffeine

By Amanda Kang
Staff Reporter

It’s no secret that many people rely on caffeine to get their day started, whether it be from coffee, tea, soft drinks, etc. In fact, according to Kuakini Medical Center, about 90% of Americans consume caffeine on a daily basis, yet there remains a largely negative connotation surrounding this stimulant. Many argue that caffeine causes insomnia as well as cardiovascular disease and while these are potential risks of consuming caffeine, they lie on the extreme end of the spectrum and only occur when caffeine is consumed in excess. Caffeine is actually an antioxidant and consuming the appropriate amount of caffeine each day (ranging from 100-300 mg) may actually bring immense health benefits. Caffeine has been shown to:

- Boost the production of noradrenaline, dopamine, and serotonin (aka “happy” neurotransmitters) in the brain
- Correlate with improved long term memory
- Contribute to increased alertness by promoting the work of norepinephrine
- Improve athletic performance



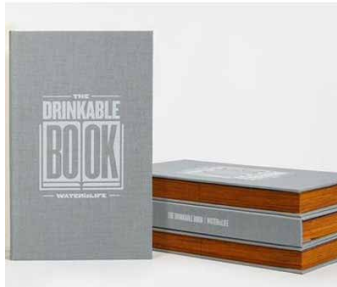
Source: LiveWell

Drinkable Book Saves Many Lives

By Elif Koch
Staff Reporter

Water is something that we take for granted and it is a very important necessity in our lives. Although today's water purification technologies provide many people with safe and drinkable water, water contamination continues to have a lasting impact on many nations. Water pollution has many sources including agricultural areas, cities, industrial processes, and many more. About 80% of the world's wastewaters are dumped into surface water. Not only could this impact the organisms that live in those areas, but it could also pose a human health risk if people start to drink the contaminated water. Unfortunately, about 35% of the world's population lacks access to clean water which means that thousands of people can get sick or even die from drinking polluted water.

Though there are various solutions to purify our drinking water, the more useful method would be to eliminate the main source of water pollution. However, this would take a lot of time, effort, and planning. Plus the pollutants that we already emitted into ecosystems are likely to have a continuing impact on human health, wildlife, and the environment. So in order to solve these issues involving water pollution in many developing nations, some



Source: WATERisLIFE

companies are opting for creating various water filtration technologies that are easy to use and easily accessible. One of these technologies includes the "The Drinkable Book" which is owned by the company, Water is Life. When you first hear the term "Drinkable Book" it sounds very odd but this book is not only very effective at reducing the amount of contaminants in the water, it is also very easy to use. Each page in the book is made from a special paper that contains a mix of silver and copper nanoparticles. In order to purify the contaminated water, simply tear out a page from the book and pour the water through it. The water that comes out as a result of this process is safe and drinkable. This process manages to kill about 99.9% of the bacteria and a single book can supply up to about four years worth of clean water, saving millions of lives.

In addition to the Drinkable Book, one other technology created by the same company is the Clean Sip Straw Filter. The clean sip straw filter has micro filters and active carbon which removes heavy metals and bacteria from the water. Overall, water is a very important part of our lives and although some people do not have access to clean water, many solutions are actively being created to solve the issue of water contamination.

The Dark Side of TikTok

By Isabella Chen, Elif Koch, Christine Song
Staff Reporters

TikTok is a video-sharing, social media app that is taking the world by storm, especially during these difficult times. It is owned by ByteDance, a Beijing-based company founded by Zhang Yiming. On November 9, 2017, they bought Musical.ly, a popular lip-syncing app, and transformed it into TikTok. Ever since TikTok's launch in 2017, this rapidly growing platform has amassed hundreds of millions of users and is continuing to grow. During this quarantine, the app has been able to reach two billion all-time downloads. TikTok has been downloaded the most in India, China, USA, and Turkey. Although, there has been suspicion that censorship is occurring on TikTok and some U.S lawmakers are starting to question if this app is posing a threat to the nation's security.

TikTok allows users to film a short video up to 60 seconds and upload the post for anyone to see. These short clips may include stunts, comedic skits, dances, lip-syncing and more. Famous TikTok users who dominate the app are Charli D'Amelio, Addison Rae, Dixie D'Amelio and Chase Hudson. These young adults have become overnight sensations, gaining over 10 million followers on the app. TikTok has attracted the attention of millions of teenagers who generally fit in the age groups of middle and high school students. In a poll conducted with a sample of 30 POBJFKHS freshmen, it was found that 66.7% have downloaded TikTok. Typically, students use the app five times a week, spending 109 minutes (1.8 hours) each time. Of the students that use the app, 20% post videos. Three out of five people who post videos have public accounts.

Although Tiktok permits only those who are older than 13, the app has attracted many underage users. To reduce the number of young users, artificial intelligence has been used to detect the age of users from the videos that they post. From the data collected on Jiminy, a smartphone tracking app that is often used by parents, it is shown that 70% of 10-year-old girls in the U.S with a smartphone actively use Tik Tok. While the app is age-appropriate for most users, those who are underage are exposed to topics that are too mature. A legal complaint was later filed by the FTC, criticizing Tiktok for breaching the Children's Online

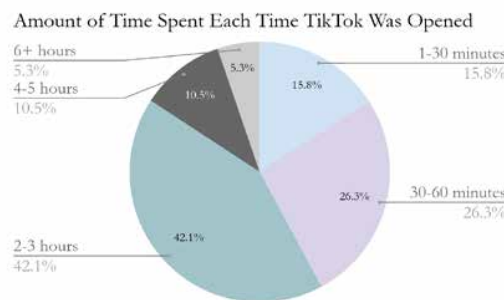
Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). To show the company acknowledged this accusation, the operators of Tiktok were prompted to pay \$5.7 million to settle the allegations.

TikTok had recently caught the attention of the CFIUS (Committee of Foreign Investment in the United States), who questioned the reliability of TikTok. TikTok allegedly censored topics such as the Tiananmen Square incident, Hong Kong protests, criticism toward China's policies, terrorism, and other sensitive political subjects. One such incident was when a viral video was taken down where Feroza Aziz, a 17-year-old girl, explained the horrifying situation of Uighur Muslims living in China's detention camps. In response to this, ByteDance stated that the suspension of her account was "due to a human moderation error" and has continued to deny censorship of any videos on the app. In an effort to solve this issue, they plan to open a transparency center in TikTok's LA office, that will allow experts to observe the app's moderation practices. This will be an attempt to address the concerns over censorship.

On top of the minor security issues circulating personal information, U.S lawmakers are now preoccupied with the concern that Tik Tok poses a threat to national security. The CFIUS has launched an ongoing investigation to research whether the Chinese government had access to user information since some people are concerned that the data and information from users could end up in the wrong hands. Tiktok uses facial recognition

for its camera filters, which could be unsettling for some people. Although Tik Tok assures users they do not sell personal information to third parties, the app does share that data with their business partners. Because of these suspicions, many U.S military officers, government officials and TSA employees are banned from downloading the app in order to protect the security of the U.S. government.

While it is important to keep TikTok's flaws in mind, do not let them stop you from enjoying this app. TikTok has provided a welcome distraction during these unfortunate circumstances and it serves as a platform for people to spread hope and joy. We can all find some solace in knowing that the rest of the world is just a tap of our screen away, and that we are far from being alone.



Source: Isabella Chen, Elif Koch, Christine Song

Our Community Offers Support

By Alison Chertoff
Secretary

During these unprecedented times, many in our community have been struggling in their efforts to get food. Perhaps it is the senior citizen who now fears getting the virus when doing her weekly shopping or the person that now finds it financially difficult to provide meals on the table for their family. Thankfully, community members and organizations are offering free assistance in many ways.

This crisis has empowered local students to volunteer and help to make a difference in the lives of others. The Mid Island Y JCC is offering a variety of ways for teens to get involved and help out those who are struggling. I spoke with Jordana Luther, a JFK 2019 graduate. Jordana volunteers to shop and drop off groceries at the doorstep of seniors in the area. A shopping list is left in the mailbox of the senior's home along with cash. The volunteer picks both up, does the shopping and drops off the remaining change in the mailbox. The best part for the senior is that there is no physical contact. Volunteers may shop for one person or several at a time. It is up to you. "It's such a great feeling to know I helped someone during this difficult situation", said Jordana. "I'm home from college and have not started a summer job yet, so I have a lot of free time to help." Other volunteer options that the JCC and houses of worship in the area are offering



Source: Fleet Appliance

include collecting food and delivering to food pantries. Items needed for donation include nonperishable food items such as cereal, rice, canned fruit and vegetables, oatmeal and shelf milk. I have participated in this program through the North Shore Synagogue. They host a food drive in the parking lot every Sunday from 9am until 2pm.

The JCC is also doing "friendly phone calls" to people that are feeling isolated. Just speaking on the phone with someone can brighten their day. It does not require much time but this can make a huge difference to someone.

Long Island Cares is now involved in a virtual food drive. This program gives you an opportunity to assist those in need and can be done without leaving your home. The drive allows people to shop for groceries and other supplies on the Long Island

Cares website. From there, the items are delivered to Long Island Cares and given to those in need. Volunteers are also needed to sort and deliver these items.

If you are interested in participating in any of these happenings contact the Mid Island JCC, Long Island Cares, or your place of worship.

As a community, we must look out for those who are struggling and vulnerable to this virus. There are so many different opportunities to offer support. Hopefully, we will all get back to normalcy soon. I hope this article provided some ideas on how to get involved.

How School Demands Impact One's Mental Health

By Brianna Rogers
Staff Reporter

Most schools are blaming the mental illness epidemic on social media, but in most cases students are also stressed over school. Is it really all social media's fault, or are schools just not ready to take responsibility for their actions?

Nearly one-third of teens in the U.S. develop a mental disorder by the age of eighteen. Schools have been heavily blaming social media for this epidemic, but this isn't necessarily true. Gabrielle Oliva, a JFK High School sophomore claims, "School's definitely a lot of stress. It can be hard to manage your work and schedule, especially if you're in honors or AP classes, you know? Like, there is so much pressure on us to be successful in school, and that alone is a lot of stress. Then you add three long term assignments a week, four tests, five plus hours of homework a night, and all of the extracurriculars people expect you to do, it's a lot." Students are advised from the second they enter high school that we need to build our colleges resumes filling it with outstanding grades, multiple extracurricular activities, board positions, and competitively make ourselves stand out. Juggling all of the school work and then finding time to have a social life is extremely difficult for any individual.

Magaret Shapiro, a well-known journalist for The Washington Post, conducted a survey of 1,018 teenagers between 13-17 years old. Her results were the following: 83% of teens said that school was "a somewhat or significant source of stress." 27% reported "extreme stress" during the school year, although that number fell to 13% during summer. 10% felt that stress had a "negative impact on their grades." 32% reported experiencing headaches, 21% reported upset stomach or indigestion and 23% had skipped a meal because of stress.

Schools are quick to say social media user numbers are rising

at the same time as mental disorders, but they haven't done thorough research to connect the two. Caroline Miller, the editorial director of the Child Mind Institute, did a study in 2017 on how social media affects teenage mental disorders. Her survey spread over 1 million teenagers between grades 8-12. She concluded that girls who interact through social media do not show an increase in depressive symptoms in comparison to those who interact face-to-face.

Social media still creates feelings of loneliness and exclusion however there's a difference between feeling left out and developing a mental disorder. School is putting a mental and physical strain on students. When asked if she noticed an increase in mental disorders amongst her friends in school, Jenna Rabin, a JFK High School sophomore, answered, "Oh yeah! Not only mental, but physical too. All of my friends are stressed out of their minds with all of the work placed on them, expectations, and competition to be the best. They're staying up all night and not eating well. I know people whose hair is falling out from all the stress."

Instead of trying to maintain a good reputation, schools should be working on getting students the help they need. It doesn't matter how smart a student is if they're depressed. It seems like schools are looking for an excuse as to why mental disorders in students are increasing. At the end of the day, social media is not something that a person is required to go on everyday. In stark contrast, school is mandated by the law.



Source: Nami

AP Testing

By Jess Levy
Staff Reporter

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been many changes in the ways people interact with their environments. Specifically, high school students have had to undergo major adjustments. Online learning, testing, and communicating from home have been big struggles for many high school students. One of the main concerns high school students have had is how they will take their Advanced Placement tests from home.

Advanced Placement tests, more often referred to as AP tests, are standardized tests administered by the College Board corporation. The College Board is a “not-for-profit” organization which says that their main goal is to expand access to higher education. Students that choose to take an AP course and pass the final AP exam have an opportunity to receive college credit for that class. The AP tests vary in format for each course but most AP tests are usually three hours long. The tests usually cover information from all parts of a course in the form of multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and essays. Because of the special circumstances this year, the format of the tests were changed and many students were not happy about it.

This year, AP tests were administered online. Students were required to log on to their tests a half hour before start time and fill out all of their personal information. After the half hour was up, tests began. For the majority of tests (not including music or foreign language), students had 45 minutes to write either one essay or two free response questions with multiple part answers. At the end of the 45 minutes, students had five minutes to upload their responses. This is where the trouble starts. If students typed their responses, they could either copy and paste their

text to the College Board website or upload their responses as a PDF. If students chose to handwrite their responses, they were required to take pictures of their work and upload photos.

Many students had issues uploading their responses. Some students uploaded too late, but in other cases, the students were not at fault. Because there were students all across the country taking and uploading the same test at the same time, the College Board system became overloaded. Some students were unable to submit their completed responses because the system had too many people on it at once. The College Board made a statement that “less than 1%” of students were unable to submit their responses, but that seemingly small amount was still over 10,000 individuals whose hard work went to waste because of technical errors, and through no fault of their own.

During the first round of AP testing, the only alternative for students unable to submit their original tests was to retake the test in June. This may seem like a reasonable alternative on paper, but in reality, it creates more stress and anxiety for students already under so much pressure. During the second round of tests, the College Board gave another alternative. If students had issues submitting their tests, they could email them to the College Board and still get graded on their original test answers. The emailing method only applied to students who had not already taken their tests. So, the thousands of kids that took the first round of tests and were unable to submit, were forced to study again, stress again, and retake the test again. This is unfair to students who have worked tirelessly the whole year.

It is completely understandable that adjustments had to be made during this time, however, it is not understandable that students have to be punished for the College Board’s mistakes.



Source: AP College Board

Pass/Fail Grading System

By Brianna Rogers
Staff Reporter

This year our school faced an unfortunate predicament: we were forced to self-isolate and resort to online learning. The problem with this situation is that our school, along with many others throughout the country, has never done this before. It took a lot of time and dedication from both the faculty and the student body, but eventually, everyone got into the habit of learning through a computer screen. However, there is still one question that remains: how will the school be grading our online schoolwork? On Monday, May 4th, the school board came to an agreement. It was decided that all grades would count as either a pass or fail. This meant that if you do the assignment you were given and you do it well, you would receive a P, meaning you passed. However, if you either chose to neglect the work all together, or your work was not deemed satisfactory, you would receive an F, (a fail). At the end of the

quarter, you start with 100 points. Each F you receive will lower your score. If you receive all P’s, then you would have a 100 average.

How the teacher chooses to grade your work is up to them. Some teachers are giving out passes and fails based on effort, whereas others are doing it based on the number grade you would have received if you were in school. For example, if you were to do a Castle Learning assignment and you received a 58%, a teacher who is grading based on effort would probably give you a P while a teacher who does it based on number grades would give you an F since it is lower than a 65%.

Although the school has decided to mark this quarter’s grades as pass/fail, you will still receive a numerical grade at the end of the quarter. While each grade may be pass/fail, this is not an excuse to slack off. So make sure you are doing the work you are assigned and putting in the right amount of effort. Remember, this system will end up helping you in the long run.

Virtual College Tours

By Tarunika Sasikumar
Staff Reporter

Planning on attending a college tour sometime in the next few months? Was it cancelled due to the coronavirus outbreak? If so, fear not!

The recent pandemic has prompted colleges and universities to shift towards technology in order to make up for these cancellations. This newly developed technological advancement is known as a “virtual college tour.” By utilizing virtual reality, colleges and universities have created a 360 degree video which prospective students can view and “tour” with from the comfort of their homes. By giving the students interactive control, they can view every square inch of the panoramic photo. Carolyn Miao, a POBJFK senior, states, “I loved using virtual college tours because I [could] take as long as I



Source: University of Arkansas

[wanted] and go at my own pace. In addition, you didn’t have to socially interact with anyone and I know that this is a huge problem for some kids.”

One feature that is commonly found in many tours is an interactive map. The map provides links that can be clicked on to transport the student to different locations on the college campus. Another aspect is a video recorded tour. This feature allows students to pursue a step-by-step tour with narration and other special effects.

While people learn better when there is a visual component present, this understanding of knowledge is heightened with added audio.

Here is a list of a few colleges that provide virtual tours: Boston University, Brown University, University of California, Los Angeles, Cornell University, Tulane University, University of Connecticut, Ohio State University, and many more!

Battle of the Classes: Wins and Losses

By Atul Gera
Layout Editor

The first week of March is that time of year when all four grades at POBJFK HS put their game faces on and compete head-to-head in a series of challenges. Battle of the Classes was revamped this year during the week of March 2 with events every day of the week leading up to the main showdown on Friday. On Monday, each grade flooded the hallways with extravagant decorations to rev up the school spirit. On Tuesday, the grades brought their best artists to compete in Pictionary. On Wednesday, Battle of the Brains put everyone's trivia up to the test. Thursday's scavenger hunt led each grade to hunt down every last item, except for Mr. Herman's tie because he made the wise decision of not wearing a tie at all that day. Finally, on Friday, each grade gathered in the gym to face off in a variety of athletic events from the traditional Tug of War to a human version of Hungry Hungry Hippos. Battle was tons of fun, however, there weren't too many winners.



Source: Sophie Goodman

Win: Juniors

The Incredible Juniors (Class of 2021) took first place on all the events from Tuesday to Thursday giving them an insurmountable lead heading into the final day. Led by President Joey Cline, the juniors always had tons of spirit at each game which definitely gave them an advantage. On Friday's main event, the Juniors had a great turnout and started off really strong by winning the basketball shooting contest against the Seniors. At the end of it all, the Juniors received a well-deserved victory in Battle of the Classes and hopefully, they can keep their title next year. Congrats to them!



Source: Sophie Goodman

Win/Loss: Decorations

The highlight of Battle week, for the most part, was the decorations in the hallways. The Seniors (Class of 2020) illuminated the social studies hallway with genies, lamps, and posters related to their theme of Aladdin. The most eye-catching element of all was the 390+ mini genies and lamps, one with every senior's name, that covered the hallway from top to bottom. The social studies hallway was well-received by the

school and succeeded in raising spirit, interest, and support for the Battle of the Classes. The other grades didn't even come close to matching the decorations of the Seniors. For example, the Freshmen Hulk decorations were below par and did not appeal to the student body, thus taking away from the purpose of the whole event. But the biggest flaw in the event was the timing. A fire marshall was scheduled to inspect the school the Friday of Battle week so all accessories had to be taken down on Wednesday. Two days is not enough time to hype up Battle, and as the President of the Senior Class, I can say for sure that it was disappointing to see our hard work get torn down so quickly.

Loss: Participation

In recent years, participation in Battle has dwindled. One of the main goals of Battle is to help each grade raise money through selling custom shirts meant to be worn on Friday. This year, the Seniors sold 56, the Juniors sold 42, the Sophomores sold 24, and the Freshmen sold 29. These numbers are not good whatsoever. Although every grade tried their best to advertise shirts and sell as many as possible, it wasn't enough to

attract more students. So what should be done? For starters, hallway decorations have a lot of potentials, therefore in the future, it would be much better to make this contest earlier while grades are still selling Battle shirts. The extra publicity of Battle will definitely help increase shirt sales and consequently participation in the event as a whole. Another option is to change the order of Battle. The games leading up to Friday are not athletic and therefore less tiring than the list of sports all played on the final day. Switching this order might help Friday be less exhausting especially since it is three hours long.

All things considered, Battle is a great school-wide event that deserves to be improved in the future, and as a school, we have the responsibility to restore the missing value and spirit.

DECA States Competition

By Fiona Wu and Tarunika Sasikumar
Staff Reporters

Late February, the POBJFK DECA chapter sent approximately 150 motivated and hard-working business students to DECA States. DECA is an international organization of highschool and college students that prepares them for careers in marketing, entrepreneurship, finance, and other business fields. This year our students joined thousands of other students from across the state, with hopes of advancing to the national competition ICDC (International Career Development Convention) in Nashville. The 2020 NYS DECA competition took place in Rochester, NY.

Everyone who attended the competition found it to be a positive experience. Sharan Grover, a junior who attended the competition stated that her favorite part was "meeting other people who shared the same interests in business."

She also expressed that watching the presentations of peers and being able to bond with them was a huge plus for her. Another student, Avani Patel, exclaimed that her favorite part of the competition was the different events that had been hosted, for instance the Lip Sync Battle. She also believed that the competition was extremely beneficial for her as it "taught her a lot and was a good experience to have, since most people have never done a



Source: POBJFKHS DECA Twitter

competition with this many people." Finally, sophomore Amanda Fong, stated that her favorite part of the competition was being able to make memories with her friends. She then says that, "They—DECA—made everything so exciting and I would love to be able to do this again!"

Congratulations to all participants and our 40 winners and a huge thank you for all the chaperones and advisors who helped make the event run smoothly and successfully!

POBJFK Goes on Tour

By Alison Chertoff
Secretary

This past January, POBJFK provided the sophomores and juniors an opportunity to visit a variety of colleges. This is the sixth year our school has offered students this unique college tour experience. Students who would like to participate, were required to enter their names in a lottery. The lottery is held because most of the colleges visited do not allow more than fifty students to come along on the tour. Due to this general trend, the maximum number of students allowed to attend is fifty.

The three-day trip included a visit to the following schools: University of Maryland, Towson, Goucher, Rider University, George Washington University, Delaware, and American University. On each tour, the students became aware of the admissions processes and atmospheres of the schools. A variety of different buildings were visited during these trips. Students were encouraged to ask questions during the tour while social activities were planned for the evenings. The first night, students spent time at Dave and Busters before heading back to the hotel. On the second night the students attended a basketball game at the University of Maryland. This exposed students to the college life and activities at this school. I spoke with sophomore Tarunika Sasikumar, an individual who attended the trip. She commented by saying, "This trip really opened my eyes and allowed me to understand how colleges at times can be completely different from each other". Tarunika also

added, "The basketball game was a fun time to relax and hang out with friends after a long day of hearing information and traveling from school to school".

I had the privilege of talking to Mr. Miller, the advisor of the college tour program and a guidance counselor at our school. He was one of five adults that went with the students on the trip. Because the trip occurred during a normal school week, Mr. Miller said that he notifies teachers to be lenient with assignments and allow students time to make up any work. He asks them to be understanding of the student's time away from school. Mr. Miller also shared his thoughts about how the trip was a great time for students to become exposed to the college world and experience things they had never experienced before. The advisor continued by adding, "I want to expose students to the college process and their options". When I asked him how colleges were selected, he said, "We look for a diversity of options. City schools, big schools and all the different programs each school



Source: POB Guidance

has to offer".

The main concern of students interested in the program was about missing school. However, the experience gained outside the classroom was beneficial for many students. Although I did not attend, I believe that the college tour our school offers is something I will participate in next year. It appears to be a great opportunity for students to experience a college campus and social activities while still in high school. The more informed students become, the more it will allow them to make better college choices in the future.

Spring is Coming! — Cycling Safety

By Michael Khalfin
Treasurer & Advertisement Representative

The sun is coming out. You don't have to wear a trillion gazillion layers anymore. The flowers are blooming and the mosquitoes are coming out of hibernation (this year we are actually going to have a lot more mosquitoes because the eggs didn't die due to lack of freezing weather). And if you are anything like me, you are dusting off your bike and pumping up the wheels for a ride... or a dozen rides.. or perhaps one hundred of them. There is nothing that I love more than cycling in the warm breeze, whether it is around the neighborhood with friends, or to Tobay Beach and back, and then Tobay beach and back again (88 miles!).

But cycling is all fun and games until there is an accident. In 2010, a total of 618 cyclists were killed. Since then, the number of casualties has gotten worse year after year. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration released an annual report in 2018 indicating that 857 cyclists were killed, nearly a 37 percent increase from 2010.

Peter Flax, from the *Bicycling Magazine*, has several theories about what has caused this spark in incidents. Bigger vehicles, "texting and driving", and state ignorance are all cited as possible reasons. These are all factors that are out of our control. That being said, there are a number of ways that we can be safer on the streets.

Rule number one: Wear a helmet! Nobody wants a concussion — at this age, you need your full cognitive abilities in order to deal with schoolwork. Also the last thing you want is a concussion when you

should be enjoying your teenage years. High school is probably the most fun you will ever have in your life, except maybe during college. If you are going to suffer a bad fall (it happens!) or get in an accident, you want to be protected. Think about that next time, before you leave the house with your hair soaring in the wind.

There is other safety equipment that you should utilize in addition to helmets. Reflectors on the back or front of the bicycle increase visibility for drivers. Bright-colored (orange, yellow, red, etc.) synthetic shirts can minimize risk of an accident. If you are going to be riding around during the nighttime, which is not advisable to begin with, use white headlights and red tail lights (I'm only a little bit of a hypocrite — I'm guilty of cycling during the dark to observe sunrises and sunsets, but I always come prepared with lights and reflectors).

Next, if you are going to be riding alongside traffic, do it properly. Bike on the road in the same direction as traffic. Even though they lack a motor, bicycles are considered road vehicles just like cars. Make sure to keep to the shoulder of the road, and always obey traffic signs. If possible, map out your route before you leave the house. Try to use marked bike paths or lanes whenever possible: seek out the safest route before you



Source: Biria

leave the house. Keep out of trouble!

If this sounds borrrrrring, then maybe you would like to reevaluate your credibility as a cyclist. Good cyclists are self-aware and safe. That's how they remain good cyclists and avoid the hospital. Be safe. Compromising your safety is not worth it.

Parasite - A Movie Review

By Jesse Ray Sheps
Staff Reporter

All great movies share the integral element of extraordinary storytelling. Parasite, this year's winner of the Academy Award for Best Picture, maintains that tradition of a story told by an innovative new voice from across the world. Writer-director Bong Joon-ho's Oscar winning South Korean social drama "Parasite" centers around a poor family struggling to find work and a sense of stability in a difficult world. The story unfolds in a bright and vibrant way that will change movie making for many years to come.

In Parasite, we first meet the Kim family in their incredibly cramped basement apartment. A quick showing of their squalid shoebox home, with no space, no privacy, and no internet, tells you all you need to know about the

family's financial struggles. From the beginning scenes, we see how this family works together to try to find a better situation no matter what it takes. Their inability to secure work and financial stability folding pizza delivery boxes puts the family's survival firmly against the wall. While the Kim family may be poor due to overwhelming circumstances in the harsh world they live in, they are smart and dedicated to working together to find a way to become wealthy.

Upon the gift of a rare rock that is said to bring great economic fortune and his knowledge of an incredibly wealthy local girl needing a tutor, the Kim's twenty-something aged son named Ki-woo creates a plan to make their lives better. Along with his sister, the two of them fabricate an elaborate false resume, thus giving Ki-woo the fake credentials necessary to tutor the high school daughter of the Parks, one of the wealthiest families in South Korea. As "luck" would have it, the Parks have an opening for a new art teacher/therapist and Ki-woo just "happens" to know someone who could immediately fill that role - his sister! She too comes under the employment of the wealthy Parks family. The Kim siblings never let on that they know each other- each assuming a false identity to fool the Parks. Despite the ongoing scheming behind their backs, the Parks begin to trust this brother and

sister team. It does not take much time until the family driver is framed by them for things he did not do and gets fired. The Kims' father, also with a false undercover identity unknown to the Parks, is recommended by the siblings and hired to become the family chauffeur. As you can guess, the Kims continue on their quest for full control of the Parks' luxurious home until their mother also eventually gets hired as a new house maid after the Kims pretend the old one had a contagious disease. Mrs. Kim also never lets on her real identity to the rich owners of the home and they believe that all four of the Kims are total strangers to each other. The parasitic invasion is complete. All four members of the Kim family, each with a false name and background story, are now employed by the wealthy Parks family, leeching off of them and living a life of

luxury themselves.

When the Park family decides to go on a family camping vacation, all members of the Kim family sneak into the house to enjoy an evening of luxury and solitude. As the Kim family finally lives the "good life" and get to enjoy the lavish palace to themselves, we finally see them having a moment of tranquility. That relaxing moment ends very quickly, however, as suddenly the doorbell rings. This bell rings out



Source: Blasting News
the movie continues.

Highschool Freshman Josh Leffel really loved Parasite because of its uniqueness and supported its selection for "Best Picture." He thought it might have been even better if the movie was filmed in English but overall he did not find the subtitling of this Korean picture to be a problem.

The Oscars have never been quick to award its highest recognition upon a foreign made movie. Incredibly, Bong's film won the Best Picture and Best Director award over the predicted rival films created by industry legends such as Martin Scorsese and Quentin Tarantino. Parasite was the first non-English language movie to win the Academy's highest award of Best Picture. In doing so, the film made history and

an ominous sound for the viewer as to alert them that the Kims are about to find themselves tangled in the shocking twist of fate that the diabolically brilliant writer-director has created for them. Everything is about to change, as does the entire tone of the film, switching from comedic to a fast paced thriller. We will not play the spoiler and ruin the fun for readers of this column but the movie quickly transforms into the ultimate battle for survival for the Kims. The director creates some of the most twisted and ingenious traps possible for both the family and the viewer as

left an entire world of devoted fans excited to hear more new and innovative foreign voices. Parasite is not only the first Korean film to win an Oscar but the first to ever be nominated.

The real winners of Oscar night were not just this immensely talented writer-director and his well deserving cast but all movie fans who now will reap the benefits of the growing trend of diverse storytelling shared from all parts of the world. Parasite was brilliant, funny, unsettling, uplifting, depressing, and tragic- all at the same time.

In the end, we learn about the commonality of human dignity and perseverance that we all share no matter where we live. For those not used to watching subtitled movies, I guarantee you that within two minutes of the film's start you will forget about them and fall deeply for the characters and the pure cinematic brilliance which is Parasite. This is the ultimate must see for everyone.



Source: Matt Petit

Review of Tiger King

By Jesse Ray Sheps
Staff Reporter

In the midst of the unprecedented historic pandemic and lockdown, when America needed a hero most to lighten its spirits, he was found in the most unimaginable form- Joe Exotic AKA "The Tiger King." Tiger King is a nearly unbelievable documentary on Netflix, revolving around the unimaginable leaders of the "Big Cat" breeding industry. Tiger King introduces you to various bizarre characters but none as eccentric as Mr. Joseph Passage, better known to the world as Joe Exotic.

The Netflix series is really more like watching an eccentric carnival sideshow than a serious television drama; the most amazing part of it all is that the storyline is seemingly true. The show's creators sell the series on its increasingly crazy twists and turns that you might find too unbelievable that it was not merely a work of pure fiction. Tiger King draws you into the bizarre lifestyles of big-cat breeders of tigers and lions, but focuses more on surprisingly sinister murder plots and allegations of abuse towards these animals.

The series invites us into the world of Joe Exotic, the owner of an Oklahoma private zoo with over 200 big cats. Describing Joe as "unique" would be an understatement- as the series unfolds you will learn about his unbelievable run for President, and allegations about his plans to murder animal activist Carole Baskin, who has dedicated her life to protect animals and to close down Joe's zoo. Joe's instantly iconic

"look", including his partially bleached blond mullet and fringed vests, is one that you might find on a Saturday Night Live character. Aside from animals, Joe spends his free time making wacky music videos that are hilariously comedic in an un-ironic way. You just can not help to watch these videos even after you are done with the series on Youtube.

In the end, this series is a brilliant disaster with the perfect mix of weird for everyone during this unprecedented time in our lives. At every corner the creators pull back the curtains from the circus and

show a whole new layer to everything that has gone on the show. Every detail is more unique, from Carole turning from innocent to homicidal, to Joe's polygamist ways, this show is guaranteed to be impossible to look away from

Tiger King has a unique way of getting everyone's attention through limiting information and then revealing brand new twists that change your perspective on everything you thought you knew. The show is an introduction to the dark world of conspiracy theories out there. These theories are especially

crazy when they come from Joe Exotic's chaotic world. In the midst of a pandemic, Joe Exotic may just be the exact sort of escape we need in 2020. The best part of it all is that the show does not end there. It already has an extra episode with an interview of all the characters and there is a feature film on its way, starring Nicholas Cage. Let's all hope we can find a cure to COVID 19 real soon, so together we can all enjoy this upcoming feature film in a crowded movie theatre!



Source: Netflix

Binge Worthy Recommendations

By Ellisa Lee
Staff Reporter

Stuck at home with nothing to do but binge shows while eating junk food and staying up until ungodly hours because you threw your sleep schedule out the window? Sounds about right! Here are some Binge Worthy recommendations you should definitely add onto your quarantine binge bucket list! Happy watching!

For those who want to relive their childhood shows/movies, here are some iconic ones that'll bring you nostalgia!

- Avatar: The Last Airbender
- Victorious
- Spy Kids
- The Adventures of Sharkboy & Lavagirl
- Literally any Disney movie
- Jaws
- Grease
- Back to the Future
- Narnia
- Hairspray
- Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory

For the romantics who daydream about their imaginary significant other and create their own love stories while isolating themselves from everyone during this pandemic (or all the time)

- The Notebook
- William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet
- Grease
- My Girl
- Her
- A Cinderella Story
- To All the Boys I've Loved Before
- About Time
- The Kissing Booth
- La La Land

- Little Women
- Pride and Prejudice

For those who are into action movies due to their excessive fighting scenes and alluring main characters!

- Any MARVEL movie (everyone loves marvel)
- Indiana Jones
- Any James Bond movie
- The Matrix
- Suicide Squad
- Star Trek
- Star Wars
- Train to Busan
- Men in Black

For the fantasy lovers out there who immerse themselves in daydreams and books

- Any Harry Potter movie
- Any Marvel movie
- A Wrinkle in Time
- Game of Thrones
- Umbrella Academy
- The Hobbit
- Lucifer
- Legacies
- Doctor Who
- Flash
- Vampire Diaries

Anime recommendations for my fellow anime buddies

- Your name
- Demon Slayer
- Haikyuu
- Pokémon the Series: Sun & Moon
- Violet Evergarden
- Bleach
- Death Note
- One Piece
- Naruto

- One Punch Man
- Your Lie in April
- Fate/Zero
- Attack on Titan
- Sword Art Online
- Kakegurui
- Black Butler
- Seven Deadly Sins
- Little Witch Academia
- Any Studio Ghibli movie
- The Devil Is a Part-Timer!
- Hunter x Hunter
- Black Clover

Good shows/movies in general!

- Stranger Things
- Black Mirror
- Sex Education
- Rick and Morty
- Orange is the New Black
- Grey's Anatomy
- Criminal Minds
- Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness
- 13 Reasons Why
- The Bachelor
- RuPaul's Drag Race
- Any MARVEL show
- Riverdale
- Doctor Who
- Parasite
- Joker
- Never Have I Ever
- Mama Mia!

Team Israel Baseball Interview

By Seth Schlank
Sports Editor

Israel's first attempt at professional baseball did not fare well at all. In 2007, 6 teams played a 45 game season over the course of 8 weeks, to earn the title of Israel Baseball League champion. The league was created to provide Israel the opportunity to participate in the 2009 World Baseball Classic. However, they were not accepted but instead were eventually invited to play in the 2013 World Baseball Classic. In the 2013 World Baseball Classic Qualifiers, Israel defeated South Africa in their first game 7-3, Spain 4-3 in their second game, but lost 9-7 in 10 innings in the qualifying match. After winning the 4th qualifying round in 2016, Team Israel was able to participate in the 2017 World Baseball Classic. Israel swept all three games of the qualifiers and were the last team to qualify for the World Baseball Classic. Their opponents in Pool A were South Korea, Taiwan, and the Netherlands. Israel's roster included 20 MLB-affiliated minor leaguers, making up 86% of the team.

This past Summer and Fall, Team Israel reunited but this time with Israelis making up the entire team. In order to qualify for the Olympics, all members of the teams need to be passport-carrying citizens of their country. The Israelis managed to win tournament games against Russia, Netherlands, Italy, and even Germany at home. The Israelis defeated South Africa 11-1 in September to win the WBSC (World Baseball Softball Confederation) Europe/Africa Qualifier, and earned a berth to the Olympics being held in Japan. In the following weeks, Mexico and South Korea both qualified to earn their spots in the pool of 6 at this year's Olympic Games in Tokyo. Below is a series of interviews with members of the 2020 Israeli Olympic Baseball team.

Questions:
Why did you decide to make aliyah (move to Israel) and obtain Israeli citizenship?
What were some of the reasons you decided to play



Source: Margo Sugarman

for Team Israel?

What is the best experience you've had as a part of Team Israel that you'll never forget?

What are you most looking forward to during the Olympics?

Zachary Penprase:

1. I've always had a distinct connection to Israel because my great grandfather's name is Reuben Israel. My family is from Rhodes, and seeing that 1600 Jews were taken from that island and only 200 returned, I felt I have always been tied to Israel, forever. I really made Aliyah so I could play for a chance to make it to the Olympics, but would never have been willing to without this feeling of connection I've always felt.
2. I decided to play for Team Israel because I knew I still could play after being retired for 5 years. I also had a feeling about how good we could possibly be. I've never really been a top prospect or somebody who has been selected to teams so I figured why not? Also, my wife

said "why aren't you trying to pursue the Olympic thing?" That was definitely a sign after ignoring the opportunity for a few weeks.

3. Definitely my best experience was winning the very first tournament in Bulgaria and meeting guys who I've never even seen before, and creating instant chemistry with them. In the 5th inning of the 2nd game of that tournament I was crying with gratitude and I felt extremely proud of my decision to play for Team Israel.

4. Winning a medal and upsetting the world, since we've already upset all of Europe.

Jake Rosenberg:

1. Wanted the adventure of living in Israel and trying something new out, also had to make aliyah to join the team.

2. I wanted to be able to rep my religion on the biggest stage possible and continue to have a baseball career.

3. Playing in our first qualifier in Bulgaria. No one really knew one another and had no idea about the journey we were gonna take. [We] surprised everyone and found ourselves in the Olympics.

4. I'm most looking forward to representing Israel and keeping Israel baseball on the map with a gold medal.

Jonathan DeMarte:

1. I decided to make aliyah to represent Team Israel and it was really important to be able represent Israel and the Jewish people on a global stage.

2. Never really thought about playing for anywhere else, watched WBC

2017 in college and as a Jewish player watching the team was something he felt a connection to. When asked if he would play for Team Israel, my first answer was yes, I'll play for Team Israel.
3. My favorite part of being on Team Israel was qualifying for the Olympics and being able to be a part of the largest delegation in Israel Olympic History. Another highlight is being the first Israeli

sports team to play in Germany since 1972, then beating Germany in Germany. It was an awesome experience.

4. I am most looking forward to representing Jewish and Israeli people all over the world through the biggest international stage there is. I'm also looking forward to meeting athletes from all over the world.

Blake Gailen

1. I made Aliyah to become eligible to play in the Olympics.

2. I reached out to play in the WBC in 2016-2017 because of my heritage and the exposure it would provide. The longer I played with Team Israel the more I identified with the culture.

3. The best experience was playing in Japan against Japan (WBC). 45,000 fans in the Tokyo Dome. Even though we lost, it was the most electric atmosphere in which I've ever played.

4. I'm looking most forward to living in the Olympic Village and letting all the other Olympians and learning their stories as well as competing for an Olympic medal.

Class of 2020 Senior Send Off

By Eshwin Varghese
News Reporter

Congrats Class of 2020! You survived!!

As seniors in our final month of school, it is difficult to imagine that we will not be attending POB this coming fall—whether we are moving onto college, a job, or vocational training, these next few years will lead us down completely new paths much different from what we experienced in high school. Whether high school was the best four years of your life, or the worst, POBJFK will have forever impacted your life. Looking back, there were so many memorable events in high school that we will never forget: battle of the classes, pep rally, senior BBQ, senior spirit week, and the list goes on. Then...everything just stopped. The pandemic that has now claimed over 100,000 lives put an end to our senior year. But as our great POBJFKHS Staff repeatedly tells us, we will come back stronger. Unfortunately, I regret not being more appreciative of such senior year experiences. But for some reason, I have a strong feeling that us seniors will not be done with our POB

experience.

We will come back to have a final farewell to our teachers and our classmates. We can not forget to thank our teachers. The mentors who have guided us throughout this treacherous time. The teachers who you did not like, but secretly grew fond of by the end of the year; the teachers who were strict, but you learned the most from; and the teachers who were just simply a-m-a-z-i-n-g! Thank you to all the high school teachers to have shaped our lives and influenced us in such a foundational period of our lives. Make sure to say thank you to the friends that helped you come this far! As Plainview alumnae, we will always be connected. Sadly, we can no longer revel in the comfort and familiarity of high school, instead, we will have to learn to adapt to new environments and take on new adventures. Seniors, take these last few months at home to fully appreciate what it is like to live at home. Take college as a fresh start and an opportunity to find what you are truly passionate about, and always keep in mind the memories you made at POBJFK. Again, congratulations and see you all soon (I hope)!

Where Do We Go From Here?

Page 16 · June 2020 hawkeyee@gmail.com · THE HAWK EYE

Adelphi University Dylan Mason	CUNY Baruch College Matthew Kim	Hofstra University Brian Burke	Molloy College Ziv Gar	NYADI Diesel AOS Rohit Aggarwal	Pennsylvania State University Joseph Accovelli
Arizona State University Sivan Plotkin	Lauren Park	Angela Dallaris	Trinity Pascarella	Northeastern Univ. Jacob Frisch	Samantha Colon
Belmont University Olivia Belluomo	Poojitha Seenivasan	Angad Dev	Isabella Persaud	Grant Gordon	Shelby Fleischman
Bentley University Adam Aledort	Max Willett	Livia Futterman	Connor Savino	Emily Liu	Sydney Garbus
Dongchan Seo	CUNY Queens College Steven Noh	Joshua Hecht	Nassau Community College Joseph Ashton	Ryan Norris	Gianna Laucella
Bloomsburg Univ. of Pa. Olivia Riegler	Dean College Alexandria LaMarsh	Fatima Khalfan	Christina Bono	Evan Shapiro	Emma Lesser
Boston University Lucas Alexander	Drexel University Sean Benson	Ethan Lander	Jack Briguglio	Charles Sheldon	Matthew Lipchik
Soo Bin Han	Rebecca Graubart	Evan Licari	Alexandra Capella	Kreena Totala	Emily Maistelman
Bucknell University Jordana Groveman	Anna LaCorte	Carolyn Miao	Michael Capella	Nova Southeastern University Jacquelyn Hilber	Danielle Mintz
Carnegie Mellon University Jaehyeon Song	Emerson College Sierra Miles	Gia Romano	Jennifer Choi	The Ohio State University Nicholas Arciold	Alexa O'Connor
Chapman University Maxwell DeFalco	Ryan Young	Andrew Bathija	Gwendolyn Clarke	Abby Benowitz	Griffin Thurber
Coastal Carolina University Samantha Luskin	Duke University Allison Taub	Chance Christenberry	Gina Dolan	Brandon Bernstein	Anna Vig
Elizabeth Weissmeier	Emory University Benjamin Fox	Ethan Criss	Tatiana Diaz Flores	Jillian Bettan	Purdue University Amy Lederer
Cornell University Maxwell Diamond	Florida Atlantic University Cameron Love	Andrew Gelfman	Ash Drebsky	Andrew Carella	Noah Lederer
Kristen Dong	Florida State University Connor Healy	Jerome Kessler	Max Edelson	Maxwell Cohen	Ross Ostrager
Seungbin Hwang	Fordham University Michael Lupia Jr.	Ben Solomon	Neelab Jawed	Sophia Fama	Daniel Rubin
Elizabeth Korn	Franklin & Marshall University Anthony Casale	Indiana University Andrew Bathija	Yunus Karimzada	Amanda Futterman	Allison Scher
Jaime Levy	Georgia Institute of Technology Salil Kamath	Chance Christenberry	Michael Katevatis	Riley Gillman	Quinnipiac University Jacob Biren
Jared Slade	LIM College Sadaf Omar	Ethan Criss	Jake Kessler	Avery Goldman	Logan Bruno
The Culinary Institute of America Elizabeth Kim	LIU Post Brian Futerman	Andrew Gelfman	Nicolette Levine	Sophie Goodman	Gabriela Feijoo
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		Ravneet Kaur	Jack Poggioreale	Elizabeth Liebman	Cameron Robinson
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			John Yucel		
			New York University Ziho Kim		
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Salve Regina University Abbey Stein			Univ. of California-Los Angeles Breanna Huang- Ouyang Emily Zhang		Employment Christianson Kim Nicholas Krangle- witz
School of Visual Arts Fuxin Zuo		SUNY Oswego Matthew Bernstein Alexandria Campbell Benjamin Diamond Juliana Diaz Joshua Koplitz Zachary Malamud	Univ. of Colorado-Boulder Shaun Kapla	University of Pittsburgh Jady Panchal	Gap Year Yael Stochel
Seton Hall University Sahiba Bhatnagar Ryan Kim Anna Rabinowitz	SUNY Cobleskill Max Perskin		Univ. of Connecticut Chisa Fukuda Anthony Machado Michael Marinaccio Nicole Mastorides Olivia Napoli	University of Rhode Island Brianna Valenza	Israel – College Tel Aviv University Ori Tal
St. John’s University Cleopatra Dallaris Ashley Sanchez Andre Shum Andrew Tucci	SUNY Cortland Austin Adams Jaclyn Barnett Hannah Braccia Robert Brussenski Madison Cohen Lindsay Gurtman Nicholas Leone Alex Lessman James Manzo Eric Melle Theodore Ricketts Francesca Russo Maxwell Shapiro	SUNY Plattsburgh Heather Baron Matthew Ferrara			Japan – College Ritsumeikan Pacific University Hinako Tamai
		SUNY Purchase Marien Lopez	University of Delaware Jessica Abelow Sofia Kachianos Deven Patel Jessica Rosenfeld Jenna Wolff	University of Rochester Mansi Kothari	Military Jonathan Balletta Max Redler
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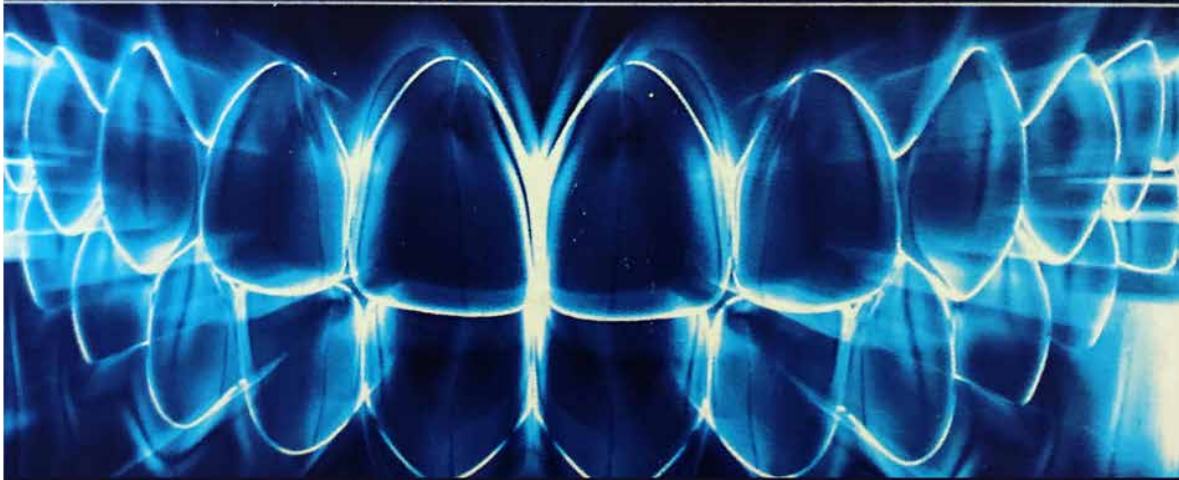
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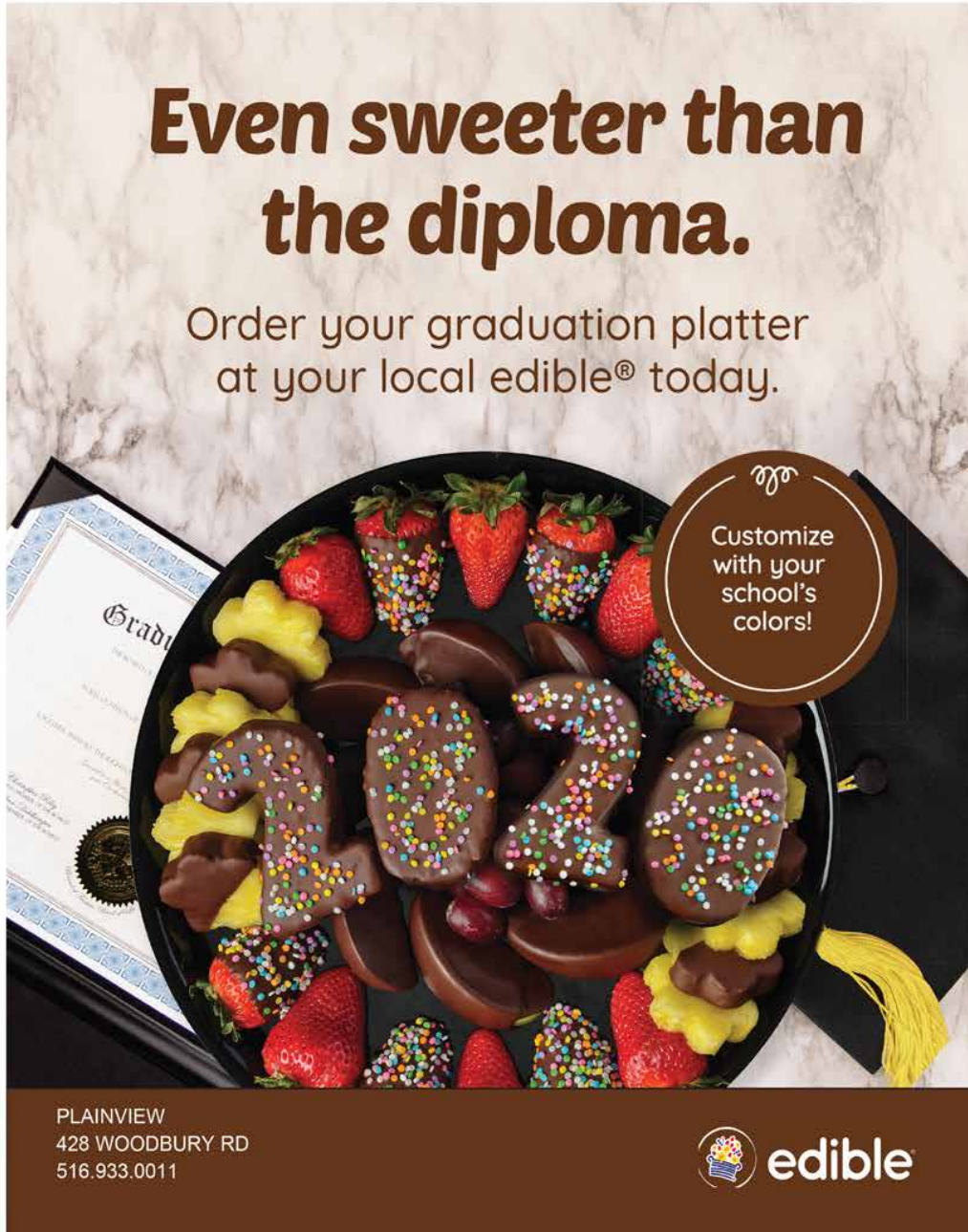
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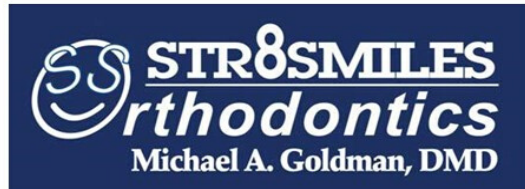


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1048 OLD COUNTRY ROAD . PLAINVIEW, NY

516.226.3900

WWW.NOSTROPOSTO.COM

**TAKE OUT, DELIVERY, OR
CURB SIDE PICKUP
AVAILABLE**



\$2 OFF

ANY SPECIALTY PIE

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT AT TIME OF PAYMENT.
NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS OR WITH
REGULAR & SICILIAN REDUCED PRICING PIES

2 REGULAR 18" PIZZAS

12 GARLIC KNOTS

\$26.50 plus tax

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT AT TIME OF PAYMENT.
NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS
AVAILABLE SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

FAMILY DINNER SPECIAL

**1 REGULAR 18" PIZZA
1 BAKED ZITTI OR GARDEN SALAD
12 KNOTS
2 LITER SODA**

\$29.95 plus tax

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT AT TIME OF PAYMENT.
NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS
AVAILABLE SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

FAMILY STYLE MEAL DEAL

**FEEDS A FAMILY OF 4-6
CHOOSE 1 FROM EACH SECTION**

SALAD

Garden Salad
Caesar Salad

PASTA

Baked Ziti
Ravioli
Stuffed Shells
Penne Garlic & Oil
Rigatoni Marinara
Rigatoni Bolognese

ENTRÉE

Chicken Parmigiana
Chicken Piccata
Eggplant Parmigiana
Sausage & Peppers

\$49.95 plus tax

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT AT TIME OF PAYMENT.
NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS
AVAILABLE SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

PIZZA & HERO SPECIAL

**1 REGULAR 18" PIZZA
1 CHOICE OF HERO:
- MEATBALL PARM HERO
- EGGPLANT PARM HERO
- CHICKEN PARM HERO
- SAUSAGE & PEPPERS HERO
6 GARLIC KNOTS**

\$19.99 plus tax

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT AT TIME OF PAYMENT.
NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS
AVAILABLE SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

**BUY ANY 2 ENTREES &
GET FREE GLASS OF WINE**

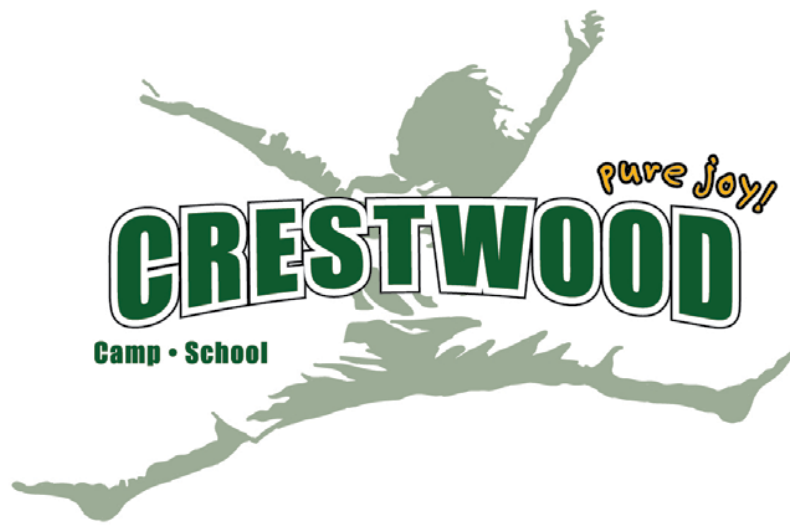
COUPON MUST BE PRESENT AT TIME OF PAYMENT.
NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS

NEW DAILY PIZZA SPECIAL

NOT COMBINABLE WITH OTHER DEALS

**REGULAR 18" PIE
\$13.99**

**SICILIAN PIE
\$15.50**



Congrats to POBJFK graduates!