

THE PAW PRINT POST

May Issue

Journalism Elective

A Visit to the Channel 10 News Station

By: Ella Glassman

Many South Floridians watch the WPLG Channel 10 news with anchor Laurie Jennings. Laurie will be retiring from her journalism career on May 22. On May 19th, I got to visit the Channel 10 studios, take a tour and talk with Laurie Jennings and watch the filming of the news broadcast in the studio.

Laurie Jennings went to college at Cornell and then went to Northwestern University for her master's degree in journalism. She has been in the journalism business for 30 years, spending the last 21 years in South Florida and the past 15 years as a television anchor. Laurie says she started in theater in high school and that stage presence really helped with her current job. Laurie also said to be in this profession you need to be a curious person who is always asking questions about what is going on around you. In addition, she believes you also need to be a great writer and communicator. Laurie and her fellow news anchors noted that most people in the business have a "special spark" and often work their way up from covering traffic and weather to covering news stories. For her first audition, Laurie was assigned a camera person and was given a microphone and told to go find an interesting story. Laurie shared that the most interesting story she ever covered was early in her career when she had the opportunity to travel to Armenia with a team of doctors who were performing volunteer heart surgeries for children. She was amazed by the dedication of the doctors and the struggle of the children and their parents. She also noted that she loves the craziness of working in news where every day is different. Laurie's co-anchor Calvin Hughes told me that "Laurie is the best in the business and there is nobody I would rather have shared this desk with".

When someone thinks of a studio where news is filmed, they probably think it is very hectic and crazy; in fact, it is the opposite. The two anchors are there and one control monitor person. The robotic cameras all move on a timer, but if they need to be moved the camera person may do it right from their seat. Another question someone may wonder is how the anchors know what to say. Well, there are screens around the room and connected to the cameras that scroll through the script. Also, during commercial breaks, the anchors may change something in their script if they want to. The way they change the script is very easy. There is a screen hidden in their desk with a keyboard. There is also a section of the studio used for the weather and traffic reports. The weather/traffic person stands in front of a green screen and has a monitor to the side of their set up that shows their script and where they need to point to. The actual graphics behind the reporter are taken care of in the production rooms. All anchors must wear an ear piece so they can hear the producers, who are in another room. The producers tell them information such as when a story needs to be cut, if they need to slow down or pick up the pace, or even to adjust their microphone. Before the broadcast, the traffic reporter is required to use a special computer program to design their own map of how the traffic is moving. Interestingly, the program uses the cell phone data of drivers to generate the traffic patterns.

THE WONDERS OF ART

By Valerie Roa

Art does not only mean painting, drawing or having canvases hanged up on a museum. In my opinion art is something a person does for happiness that involves creativity, joy, time, effort, and emotions. Art is a way to express your feelings in a way words could never do. Art is a way to escape from the real world in many ways that bring delight and makes you forget what else is happening in your life. I consider many things as art, like performing arts, culinary arts, literature, photography, digital art, animation, crafts etc. Art has affected me this year because it has made me feel happy with what I do and the effort I put into my drawings, also, it has made me experiment and get out of my comfort zone like getting into digital art and drawing new styles and learning every day. According to Ms. Iniguez, the art teacher of IRMS “Art means to express yourself creatively and it not only includes visual arts”. Art makes you feel good about yourself; never compare yourself or skills to others because you are good enough and you know that, so believe in yourself. “The Earth without art is just eh” (Demetri Martin).

Drawing is like therapy for me, It brings me joy and helps me calm down and relax for hours and hours, some people rather draw with complete silence, but I prefer drawing while watching T.V. Sometimes you don't notice it but the more you do something the better you get at it and when you realize that you have improved you will feel good. Am sure that there are tons of other things that might not be related to art as much but still makes you feel the same way and that is great. For example, I love gymnastics but is not as related to art as other things, it is because it is performing arts, but it is mainly a sport. It does not matter if what makes you happy is considered art or not just enjoy.

THE END OF THE YEAR FIELD TRIP

By Samantha DeCapua

One of the most beloved events of any school year is the large field trip at the end which is known as the end of the year trip. Field trips help to engage students with hands on education, and real-world experiences. Despite how important field trips may be to a curriculum, some are more educational than others. Whether or not the end of the year field trip is that educational, it is truly loved by students all around the world. This year we had a variety of different field trip locations, with sixth graders visiting Disney's Animal Kingdom, seventh graders heading to Universal, and eighth graders going to Islands of Adventure. All three trips were a hit, with an anonymous sixth grader stating that the field trip was, “One of the most fun trips I've been on.” No matter how you face it, the end of the year trips were an all-around a great experience for everyone involved.

The Science Fair

By Isabella Bueno

The Science Fair was a hard project. It was very stressful, and I got anxiety with every due date. Due to our other classes' projects, my partner, whom I had just met this year, didn't participate much. I didn't know how productive they were before I chose them as my partner since we had only just met. I ended up doing most of the project by myself because my partner would procrastinate both our project, and her other projects. On top of it all, my project was a fail. I had to do it again. I didn't learn anything from my project because it didn't affect society. Rock candy. Really? At the end, my project didn't even win anything. The project board that my partner made with no time, didn't look good or include all the information included in the experiment. At end of the day, my partner and I got an A and that's all that mattered to me.

Although my experiences with the Science Fair weren't the best, some people had it good. Alejandra Cibera, another 7th grader who participated in the Science Fair, claims she had a great partner and they both put in the same amount of work. Alejandra states, "Science Fair wasn't particularly difficult, considering I had an amazing partner and a teacher who explained everything in perfect detail." Although she got stressed out at times, Alejandra and her partner, Garhyson, received an A. They learned new skills such as communication, to compromise, and to be prepared.

Every participant views the Science Fair differently, for some students, it could be the most annoying assignment of the year, but to others, it could mean their big debut or learning opportunity. I personally did not like the Science Fair, but at the end I pulled through and earned my A.

Disney's YES Program

By Ella Dever

On February 8, 2019, students in Journalism and Yearbook went on a field trip to Disney's Epcot for the YES program. The YES program stands for Youth Education Series, where students learn how to work together as a team. We first did exercises that would help with team building, such as trying to do the same animal noise as our teammates without speaking. After that, we spilt off into teams of five and went around Disney's Epcot for a treasure hunt. After an hour or so, we had to have come back with at least twelve things checked off from the hunt.

As our group warmed up doing various exercises, we were taught the important details of teamwork, consensus, cooperation, support, trust and diversity to be a good team. We established consensus, which is being able to agree over things. We also learned how to support others so we all can succeed. Even though most students barely knew the people in their group, they still had to trust each other that they would do their part as a teammate.

Once we finished going around the park to find the answers to the questions on the hunt, we sat down inside and explained the strategies each group used. It taught me the importance of a good team and the importance of being a good teammate. I now trust my teammates to do their own work and to not do it for them.



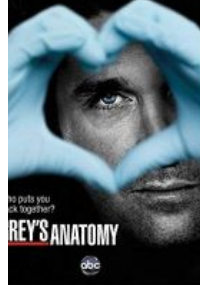
Jordan Miller, grade seven states that the YES program has helped her because she now trusts her teammates and communicates to them better than she used to.

Grey's Anatomy

By: Jaden Little

Grey's Anatomy has been a life changing show for me. The show made me think of what I want to be when I grow up. I want to be a cardiothoracic surgeon. They work on heart and lungs mostly. Grey's Anatomy is about doctors and how they work and their lives. There are always new characters coming into the show. I really suggest the show if you want to be a doctor or need a show to watch.

Grey's Anatomy started March 27th, 2005 and is still going on to this day. The show has 14 seasons on Netflix and the 15th season is on regular Tv still going on. I asked Gianna Balan who is your favorite character and she said, "Meredith Grey". I also asked Gaby Martinez what her favorite part in the show was and she said, "When Meredith and Cristina said you are my person". Spoiler alert: Derek Shepherd dies by getting hit by a bus in season 11 episode 21.



This is one of the posters for the show.

The Bird Box Challenge

By Dalila Banco-Oriolo

On December 14, 2018, the movie Bird Box was released to the public. This movie showed the main characters blind folded and going on dangerous journeys. But of course, some people or mostly teenagers wanted to replicate the movie, making the "Bird Box challenge". Some of these "challenges" were semi-harmless like walking around on the side walk. But others may have caused major injury or even death. A pre-teen named Alannah Bullock from Indian Ridge Middle School who watched the movie said, "This movie per trade a feeling that what you can't see, can't hurt you." most of these deaths were teenagers who wanted to try driving while blindfolded, these people were BLINDFOLDED! And thought it would be a good Idea to drive!

Five Feet Apart

By Jordan Miller

Five Feet Apart is a 2019 romantic drama that came out March 15th , 2019. It is a PG-13 rated movie about a 17-year-old named Stella, who spends most of her time in a hospital. She has cystic fibrosis; she meets a guy named Will who also has cystic fibrosis. Stella has many of routines and procedures that she must follow to keep healthy. They must stay within five feet of each other. Staying five feet within each other is very hard, because they fall in love. Stella Is played by Haley Lu Richardson and Will is played by Cole Sprouse.

This movie has made many people upset, and it might have even made them cry. Five Feet Apart made me realize how priceless time is. Grace Anderson a 7th grader states, "I love the movie, but it was very sad and gloomy." Her favorite part was when Stella and Will were face timing and taking their medicines together. Five Feet Apart was overall a great movie that got a four-star review.

Avengers: Endgame

By: Ella Glassman

Spoilers ahead! Do not continue reading this if you have not seen Avengers: Endgame.

The movie Avengers: Endgame has taken the world by storm. The movie currently holds the number two spot for the top grossing movie ever, right behind Avatar. As of May 22, Endgame had made about \$2.6 billion. Avengers also holds the number one spot in the domestic box office. In addition, the movie has received much praise from critics and fans. I, personally, have watched all 21 movies in the Marvel series leading up to Avengers: Endgame. And, what an adventure it has been! I have always felt inspired by Marvel superheroes because they fight for what is right and never give up.

Currently, in the real world we need to fight for what is right more than ever and what lessons we can learn from the Avengers. Endgame brought everyone in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) together to fight the biggest villain of all, Thanos. All the heroes work together in this remarkable battle. My favorite part of the movie is when Captain America was able to hold and fight with Mjolnir, Thor's hammer. This moment leads audiences to cheer out loud since it was such a shock. In previous movies, no one has been able to lift Thor's hammer leaving us to believe that only Thor, who is a God, is worthy. There are several theories about why Captain America was now worthy- was he always worthy? Had he stopped from picking it up out of respect for Thor in past movies? Or, did Captain America need to be honest about the big secret he had kept from Tony Stark before he could be worthy? Printed interviews with the film's directors and the Marvel Studio president still provide no definite answer. These mysteries are part of what makes the Marvel universe so exciting.

This movie has had an impact on me because I have watched these movies and followed the stories of these superheroes throughout my childhood. The personal struggles of the superheroes, the battles they fight and the comedic scenes all make the Marvel movies truly special. Noah Dolberg, a seventh-grade student at IRMS states, "I enjoyed the movie because after ten years of movies that was the concluding movie of all the MCU, and it was able to bring everything together in the end." Many people were disappointed by Iron Man's death. I think his death is harder to accept since some of the other superheroes might have been able to control the power of the infinity stones needed to save the world without dying. It is not easy to picture the Marvel movie world continuing without Iron Man in it. However, true fans need not worry since Marvel movies will continue with newer heroes like Spider-Man, Black Panther, and Captain Marvel.

Jonas Brothers Reuniting

By Sharon Hopengarten

The Jonas Brothers have finally reunited!!! A lot of people, including me, could not be happier, as you should be able to tell since “Sucker” hit #1 on billboard hot 100s board and stayed there for 3 weeks. Sucker has lingered on the Top 10 board for the last 11 weeks!

After, six long years they made an appearance on the late late show with James Cordon as a band just earlier this year. They recently released their new singles, “Sucker” and “Cool”. They even have a new album coming out titled “Happiness Begins” on June 7, 2019, and a tour of the same name which will start on Wed, Aug 7, which is their first official tour in over 10 years!

This made me along with many others joyful by bringing me back to camp rock days when I was six. They allowed to reminisce to when six-year-old me and her friends watched camp rock together in front of the TV singing along. Many others could tell you that they did the exact same things. Even Mr. Brosz was affected by their return according to him, “they affected my morning commutes sometimes when I hear them on the radio.”

The Jonas Brothers reuniting affected me as well as many others in a positive happy way. A look back at early 2000’ Disney, its good to see that all the Disney kids from when I was a toddler are doing well, scratch that marvelous today.

The Big Bang Theory

By Rylie Gilland

TBBT (The Big Bang Theory) ended after 12 seasons and 279 episodes. The last TBBT episode was aired on May 16. The Big Bang Theory ended just a few days before the Game of Thrones finale. The two shows have been dominating the ratings, raking in 25 million viewers. TBBT ending made a lot of people confused about what will happen next but the reality is that nothing will happen next, it’s all over. The finale episode left people in shock because the audience wasn’t sure why the producers would leave such a big gap in the ending. Well that’s just it, no one knows why they left a big gap at the end. I would hate to see TBBT leave after all the seasons and episodes they went through to make the viewers happy to laugh and smile when it comes on.

CAST- Kaley Cuoco (Panny), Johny Galecki (Leonard), Jim Persons (Sheldon), Maymie Bialik (Amy), Melissa Rauch (Bernadette), Kunal Nayyer (Raj) Simon Helberg (Howard)



PewDiePie vs. T-series

By Marvin Mercelus

With PewDiePie vs. T-series about to finish and T-series will most likely win which will tear up the entire YouTube community due to some people not agreeing that YouTube is a place for companies, but for a single person to make content. But however, David-Nuno-Ruiz says there is no way for PewDiePie to come back, but Luis Valle says yes. The current sub count is that T-series is at the verge of winning, on 99 million while PewDiePie is at 96 million. PewDiePie even said it himself that in his disstrack "Congratulations" that he would lose and said thanks for everyone for sticking around. He made the song seem like a meme when it was explained, but however there are a few rumors that T-series may attempt to demonetize or shut down his channel. But T-series isn't innocent because PewDiePie brought up that they began "By selling pirated songs", but he got this information from Wikipedia, Bhushan Kumar the chairman is being suspected of committing tax evasion, and he also was also accused of another crime in October 2018. However, this entire war had a positively sparked new memes, serious rumors, wanted me start to YouTube, and "It's been an adventure" for Felix and was that for both T-Series' and Felix's communities. There was one thing that Congratulations did that was expected, in April 2019 the song was completely banned from Apple's Indian servers, like it got snapped away. It was fun watching this entire ride and war, but at least we all did our part to support PewDiePie. It may have been plenty controversial, but it was an amazing thing to happen in the YouTube scene to see this especially that this war allowed youtubers to blow up by streaming subscriber counts for a long period of time. Now we must see what T-series will do next once they do win which will most likely happen. The first disstrack he made was saying mostly negative things while Congratulations was more positive but noting very horrible things they have done. But we need to see if the Felix age has ended for now and we'll see if T series will get reviewed for going out after they won.

Momo Challenges Our Trust

By Gabriel Maya

The "Momo Challenge" was a hoax and an Internet urban legend about a nonexistent social media challenge that was spread on Facebook and other media outlets. Momo affected my life, because when it started going worldwide my parents made us delete social media for about 2 ½ months. Momo started to scare my sister. For example, each time she would walk in the hall in house and its dark out she would want someone to make sure nothing happens to her and she feels protected. Each time we would talk about Momo or sees a picture of Momo she would run to her room and cry. Momo is in Japan and is a sculpture. Sometimes Momo can make people faint if they look at her. When Momo was new my sister found out what is it before me. When they showed me what Momo is I was very concerned for her. When she sees something scary, she starts to have nightmares. When she has nightmares, she got to sleep at 1am and then wakes up the next day at 1pm. Then she doesn't go to school then starts to watch more of it for no reason.

The Terror of Red Tide

By Hannah Brant

Red Tide has been one of the most traumatic events that has ever happened to the South side of Florida. Killing many organisms in our ocean and posing possible threats to our health, Red Tide was extremely dangerous.

Red Tide is an algal bloom(s) that occur when colonies of algae, from common plants like seaweed, grow out of control while in the process producing toxins that can be harmful to simply any organism. In addition, the algae can also deplete the ocean of dissolved water, in return creating an event called dead zone. When algae die microbes such as bacteria and fungi feast on the them for food. As they feast on the dead algae they reproduce and multiply using more of the oxygen in the ocean. Less oxygen becomes available to organisms on the ocean floor causing them to become oxygen depleted and eventually dead via dead zone. For the past 16 months red tide has terrorized the beaches of Florida and now it's terrible reign has finally ended.

In my opinion, Red tide was a very traumatic event that has forever affected me and my community. According to CNN, due to Red tide, over 194 tons of dead animals have been picked up from beaches and the ocean surface. Not only that but Floridians including my close friends have gotten sick from the dangerous spread of algae. According to Stevie Wilde she said, "Red tide was a very serious event that happened and it's going to take a lot of resources to come back from this". Just a few weeks ago red tide has finally exited from Florida, but personally Red tide has made a big impact on a huge part of South Florida.

Trash Found in the Caribbean Sea

By Gabriel Pacheco

The locals noticed that suddenly their coast their coastline was inundated with plastic trash from bags and bottles to plastic cutlery and packaging material. It is thought that the plastic originated from the mouth of Guatemala's Montague River, which recently carried a wave of trash from Guatemala out to sea. The resulting location of the trash, from inland Guatemala, appears to be on the beaches and Its coastlines of Roatan. For residents of Roatan, a tiny island only 12 miles long by 3 miles wide, the task at hand of cleaning up their coastline will be difficult. Photographer Caroline Power, who lives on Roatan, captured the plastic tide along the small island. Caroline recently shared the photos on social media in hopes that it would raise awareness to the issues surrounding plastic waste globally.

Caroline Power, who specializes in underwater photography, has dedicated her career to highlighting the damage plastic waste is doing to our oceans. She said witnessing the plastic blanket of forks, bottles and rubbish between the islands Roatan and Cayos Cochinos, off the coast of Honduras, was "devastating". "To see something that I care so deeply for being killed, slowly choked to death by human waste was devastating," she told The Telegraph. "Once the trash is in the ocean, it is incredibly difficult and costly to remove. The key is to stop the trash before it enters the ocean. "In order for that to happen, we need to improve waste management, environmental education and recycling facilities on a global scale. This is a developed nation (first world) problem as well."

The Never Ending Storm: The 2019 Polar Vortex

By Vanessa Flores

In January of 2019, the mid-eastern states and Canada was hit by the brutal Polar Vortex. Even though this vortex never hit Florida, it did cause a lot of damage to the people in states like Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. According to National Geographic, “At least 21 people died as a result of the 2019 polar vortex.” This polar vortex may not seem like much, but it caused temperatures to drop lower than -60°F . Temperatures like this can lead to frostbite and hypothermia. The weather can affect highway or air transportation and even damage crops. The people living in areas where it hit were massively affected. Over 1,000 flights were canceled in the Chicago airport and hundreds of schools were closed. In Michigan its capital had to close because of all the snow. The last notable Polar Vortex was in the winter of 2014.

This Polar Vortex is nothing new. The storm is composed of strong upper-level winds that is normally covering the northern pole. These winds never go away, but when the winds notably decrease, it can cause the vortex to become misshaped. When the storm weakens, the winds aren't as strong to keep the storm in one place. This results in a jet stream that falls into the south. When the jet stream falls it brings the cold air with it. In a CNN report, it states, “Seventy-five percent of the continental US will dip below freezing at some point this week, leading to record low temperatures across the country.” I asked Kiarra, a student at Indian Ridge, what her thoughts on this never ending storm. She responded saying, “ I actually think the dynamics of the storm is pretty interesting, but it is still very concerning since it is harming so many people and causing so much damage.” This may not have been the first time the storm has hit, but it is still just as damaging, and this won't be the last.

What is GPGP?

By Jonathan Ramirez

What is GPGP? GPGP stands for Great Pacific Ocean Patch. The GPGP is made up of several patches of trash that float in the north Pacific Ocean and is the biggest of the five garbage patches in the ocean. It was first recognized by Charles Moore in 1997, and since then has been growing.

“I have always heard so many stories about ‘garbage in the ocean’ and ‘ocean pollution’. But I never really realized how big of a problem it really is. A couple months back, I was scrolling through the news on Google and saw an article about ‘Ocean Garbage’ and I thought to myself, ‘Oh, another Garbage Article’. After reading the article, it really opened my eyes to the amount of garbage in the ocean. Patches of garbage not only in the Pacific Ocean, But also in the Indian Ocean. It really is not acceptable and it's scary to think what the future of the ocean will be.”

Ms. Weintraub, Social Science teacher, says it is not appropriate to have that much trash in the garbage. “Could It bring a positive or negative effect to the ocean?” “Of course, it can for sure have a negative effect on the ocean.” When asked how she said it can affect the marine life by killing it. Do you think the garbage will disperse in the future? “It is hard to tell, it all depends on human actions.” She does say it could be worse if it dispersed though.

Rest in Peace Stan Lee

By Hadley Turner

They say, “never meet your heroes”, but I wish I could have met mine. Stan Lee died at the old age of 92, due to congestive heart failure, on November 12, 2018. He was born December 28, 1922. He married Joan B. Lee, a British model, at the age of 25. They had 2 children, Joan Celia Lee and Jan Lee, before she died in July of 2017.

Millions of people used his comics and movies as a way to escape their day-to-day lives. Many people also enjoyed seeing his small cameos in marvel movies. He has had a cameo in every marvel movie so far, some roles smaller than others. From humorous roles to serious ones, he was never one to disappoint. He is responsible for many big screen titles such as: The Fantastic 4, Spider-Man, X-men, Hulk, and even Thor. Among his many accomplishments, he also won various awards. Some of which include: two halls of fame in the 90's, the Bill Finger Award, the PGA Vanguard Award, and many more. Stan Lee's final cameo was in Avengers: Endgame. Endgame was a fitting name because it marked the end of an era. The end of Stan Lee's Era.

Mya Rodriguez, a die-hard marvel fan, had lots to say about Endgame, and where the MCU could go now. But she also had a few things to say about Stan Lee. For starters, she said, “my favorite cameo of his is either Captain Marvel or Spider-Man: Homecoming.” She also said that marvel movies were something her whole family loved. And that, “on rainy days her and her family could sit down and watch a movie, and not have to worry or argue.”

In Memory of Stephen Hillenburg

By Kayla Barcenas

November 26th of last year Stephen Hillenburg sadly passed away due to ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Hillenburg was widely known for creating the beloved Nickolodeon television show Spongebob Squarepants. The first episode aired on Nickolodeon May 1st, 1999 and currently 250 episodes have been aired in total. He has earned multiple awards in his lifetime such as the Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Special Class Animated Program and the British Academy Children's International Award.

Stephen Hillenburg was loved by many including these two IRMS students, Maria Gaitan and Nicole Dale. They both watched SpongeBob SquarePants, more widely known as “SpongeBob”, as a kid. They also agreed that they were attracted to the show because of its humorous appeal and the creativity of it. But they were of course very sad when they heard Hillenburg's death along with me and many others. Maria said, “may his name be remembered by the people he inspired.”

The passing of Stephen Hillenburg affected me and many others last year because his show was easily lovable and reached such a wide audience, many, including me, used cartoons to escape “the real world.” apart from all the heroes featured in the television series, Stephen Hillenburg was truly the one that had the greatest impact.

New Zealand Massacre

By Malik Suleiman

On Friday March 15th, 2019 a man by the name of Brenton Tarrant carried out a mass shooting at two different mosques, the Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Islamic Centre. These shooting amounted to a total of 51 fatalities consisting of men, women, and even children. Many say that this was one of New Zealand's darkest days, especially because it was a relatively peaceful country. Jacinda Ardern, prime minister of New Zealand, was shocked saying how people with these "extremist views that have absolutely no place in New Zealand and, in fact, no place in the world." Jacinda Ardern is the youngest prime minister there ever has been in that country.

This event affected me because it was horrific to see this happen to people that I felt close to. This happened at mosques, which my family and I pray at. My grandfather goes to a mosque every day. Knowing that this could have happened to one of my family members is traumatizing. Seeing how the killer shot and killed so ruthlessly not caring whether they were kids was horrific. He bragged about his killings and even live streamed it on Facebook. My heart goes out to all those affected and their families.

May those who were killed rest in peace.

737 Airplane Crash

By: Madison Adkins

Three hundred forty- six people, two planes, two crashes. What is happening to Boeing's 737 Max? Why are they the only ones crashing? On March 10th, 2019 and in October 2018 737 Max crashed in Ethiopia and Indonesia causing 346 deaths. Safety. One thing we can't promise but must trust in. I would trust Boeing's 737 Max because they came out with other airplanes before and there was no safety concern. Since the first crash, the trust that has been built is in question. Lion Air Flight 610 took off in the brand new, state of the art plane, 737 Max 8. Shortly after the plane plunged into the Java Sea. Boeing is receiving a lot of lawsuits for the dozens of families that lost a passenger or a crew member. Wistfully, all 189 passengers and crew died in the sinking of the plane. On a more pleasing note, Boeing has sent 345 737 Max's globally and has 2912 on order. Boeing claims to have a technical team ready to supply assistance to the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board. According to The Washington Post, "An Ethiopian Airlines executive said Sunday that the airplane had "no technical remarks" and was flown by an experienced pilot, Yared Getachew, 28, of Addis Ababa. He said the pilot mentioned he was having difficulty and wanted to return before he lost contact with air traffic control." The cause of the crash of the Ethiopian Airlines plane is unidentified because of it's so recent. Some say that this will negatively affect Boeings sales and airplane quality. Researchers are making an effort to understand why there would we two crashes in such a short period of time. They also say if this has a connection with the Lion Air incident then the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) will act and investigate the planes to avoid future crashes. In the future, I hope that we learn from our mistakes and improve aviation for everyone.

Me Too.

By Vania Guadarrama

In 4th grade, I met a wonderful girl that was one of my closest friends. She was goofy, always had saw the bright side in things, wore a gorgeous smile regardless of the circumstances, and always made the mood light and fun. Something about her made everyone adore her. Harumi Kimura, my Mom, exclaimed, “She was such a fun friend to have over. I remember she would always come over and make everyone laugh.” We would usually walk to each other’s houses numerous times a week. Towards the end of 5th grade, I noticed a drastic change in her personality. The once loud, energetic, fun-loving girl became quiet and sometimes it felt like she was not there mentally. I did not confront her about her change in personality for a few weeks until I began to grow immensely concerned. The words she spoke to me tore my heart and broke me down in tears. She told me she had been raped in a van by a man she had started an innocent conversation with.

From that day, I began researching advice to help my friend. I began looking into #MeToo posts scattered around Instagram. The phrase was first used in 2006 by Tarana Burke, an American social activist and community organizer, and later globally popularized in 2017 after actress, Alyssa Milano, re-tweeted a post and encouraged those who had been harassed to reply, “Me Too.” Me Too focuses on empowering victims and giving them a greater voice, as well as, helping implement laws around the globe to protect individuals from sexual abuse. USA TODAY reported that as of Sept. 11, 28 percent of women and 9 percent of men said they have been sexually harassed at work. Lawmaking bodies of at least 11 states from Vermont to California have passed new protections addressing workplace harassment. Many countries in Europe created new laws about consent and laws against catcalling. In the first 8 months, 447 fines were given to potential harassers. “I would like to say that they have come a long way since the days only a few people were coming forward with their stories,” Shayna Banano, 7th grade student at Indian Ridge and Me Too supporter, says. Me Too is growing and improving each day and this movement has had a lot of impact on my friend and I. The movement has helped her realize she is not alone and things can get better. Thank you to all the courageous victims that shared their life changing stories and helped my friend during her low times.

Curvy Spines?!

By: Giselle Bouzaglou

At Indian Ridge, many people, including students, have scoliosis due to unfortunate causes. Scoliosis is a disorder in which the spine loses its posture and curves, thus giving the spine an arc. Scoliosis can cause back pain, an uneven waist, and leaning to one side. During my two years at Indian Ridge, I discovered I had scoliosis in 6th grade. I had a 13-degree curve, in which it wasn’t that bad at its time. My scoliosis got severe very quickly, now with two curves, and shaped like a backwards S. I also have an uneven waist, which makes it worse. It has had no impact on me at school, I can’t bend certain ways and usually bump into people when I walk next to them.

Grace Anderson, 7th grader at Indian Ridge, has a particularly minor case, in which she only has a 16.5--degree curve placed on her spine. She isn’t treating it now because of the curve being so small.. Scoliosis is “not considered” scoliosis if the curve is under 10-degrees. Although, it can get worse extremely quickly. Minor back pain can occur in small cases with abnormal sleep, which is what Grace experiences with. “My scoliosis isn’t that hard to deal with,” says Grace Anderson.

Ariana Grande Comeback

By Dani Larios

On May 22, 2017, the Manchester Suicide bombing killed 22 people at one of Ariana Grande's "Dangerous Woman" concerts. Two weeks after the bombing, Ariana Grande put out her "One Love Manchester" concert in honor of the people who passed away. She then took a break from Instagram and Twitter for almost a year and hit everyone with a big surprise. Ariana released her first song since the bombing, "No Tears Left to Cry," on April 20, 2018. August 17, 2018, she released the rest of the album, with her last song, "Get Well Soon," serving as a tribute to the victims of the Manchester attack. I saw this as a really big step for Ariana because she suffered a lot from her PTSD and from the attack.

Ariana released her "Thank U, Next" album on February 8, 2019, which features a song that pays tribute to Mac Miller, her ex-boyfriend. She recently has started her "Sweetener World Tour," but doesn't believe it's beneficial to her mental health. Ariana wrote on Twitter, "I have [so much] on my mind and it's so heavy and no energy to process or work thru any of it but i'm trying hard. Making [music] is healing. Performing it is like reliving it all over again and it is hell."

I think this event is relatable to students at my school because a lot of the students at my school have experienced what it feels like to lose loved ones in a shooting. Many of us have suffered from the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas and I think we can see Ariana as an inspiration that we can bounce back from hard times. Valentine's Day, last year, 17 students and staff were killed in a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas. This scarred and emotionally hurt many people for life. Miranda Peralta, a 7th grader at Indian Ridge, believes Ariana Grande is an inspirational figure for people who dealt with hard moments like those. She stated, "Ariana Grande came back from a difficult time and still keeps writing her songs and performing at her concerts because it's what she loves. I think she knows that she's not going to heal that quickly, and that she just has to keep doing what she was doing before." I believe Ariana has been through a lot in such a short period of time and it makes me happy to see her getting through this more and more. I also believe the people who are recovering from both shootings serve as an inspiration that things get better.

A Girl's Best Friend By Hannah Keller

Here's the scoop! Pet adoption can be an amazing experience. For this, you will need permission from your parents or legal guardian. Trust me, I know. I have had to wait 13 years to adopt my first pet or I probably would have 100 animals by now. Before I begin, the adventures of our newest family member, I wanted to provide you with some great facts on pet adoption.

According to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals® (ASPCA®) Approximately 3.2 million shelter animals are adopted each year (1.6 million dogs and 1.6 million cats). About 710,000 animals who enter shelters as strays are returned to their owners. Of those, 620,000 are dogs and only 90,000 are cats. Human Society of Broward County has up to date information about rescues, adoptions and even education. Be sure to check it out at <https://humanebroward.com/education-programs/>. They are located at 2070 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312. The telephone number is 954-989-3977.

Now, here's a little bit of fur love to share. Bailey was born in November. She is now six months old. This Summer she will have to attend or find some animal training classes. She's doing pretty good. She requires lots of love, lots of dog treats, lots of walks and some patience. I wish you luck on you adventures of pet adoption!

Learning New Languages

By Chiara Cremonti

Many things have impacted me this school year, but one of the main things is learning a new language. A few years ago, I started learning Italian on Duolingo, but I just never finished my courses assigned to me. This year in February, I decided I needed to take up a new hobby to fill my time when I wasn't at school or hanging out with my friends. My father and his whole family is from Italy and so is my step-mom, so that is one of the main reasons I chose to learn Italian instead of Spanish or French. In my opinion, having an app to teach me was a better option than having an actual person teaching me is because I can learn wherever and when I want. Previously a few years ago, I had about 150 words in my Italian vocabulary and now I have over 300. Emilia Hueller, a 7th grader here at Indian Ridge says that she used Duolingo to learn Spanish so she could speak to her grandparents. She says "[Duolingo] worked pretty well because she doesn't really know English so I can understand her." I know that I'm not fluent in Italian but I plan to keep practicing.

Peer Counseling

By Ciara Matthews

Peer counseling is an elective class for seventh and eighth graders at Indian Ridge Middle School. Peer counseling is my fourth period class this year. In his class, I learned about the dangers of smoking, vaping and how I can help those who are suicidal or have suicidal thoughts. Also, I learned about abusive relationships and how to help those in one as well as how stereotypes can affect different people.

When asked what she learned from peer counseling and how it affected her, Kaylie Greenhauff said "I learned how to cooperate with others and to have more patience for others." Also, Ms. Golembiowski, the peer counseling teacher, says peer counseling is an important elective class to have because, "It covers a lot of life skills. Everything from learning how to communicate effectively, from having personal boundaries, navigating relationships, and of course there is the prevention piece which is very important, preventing everything from stress to anxiety to bullying to vaping."

ONE-WAY HALLWAYS

By: Carlos Mallett

Throughout the year there have been more complaints rather than compliments on one-way hallways. It is clear that many students are not happy with this solution, but it is equally as clear that the motive was for the better. One-way hallways were meant to help keep the hallways from being too crowded, but some of the teachers take it above and beyond as they continuously direct students to go certain ways to get where they need to go. To illustrate, 7th grade student Caitlyn Balbach says, "If only the teachers can listen to our reasoning for going the wrong way. The first week of school, I was on my way to Mr. Hasse's class and he made me walk all the way around after I tried telling him I was in his class." With some teachers going a little harsh with this enforcement, not only are they constantly tiring themselves of repeating the same thing, but they are making things complex for the one rule. It is evident that if one-way hallways are going to stay, there needs to be some leeway along with reasonability, but it may be best to come up with a better way for less crowded halls. Hopefully, at some point in time, we will be able to walk throughout the halls without stressing to get where you need to be.

DEBATE

By Hunter Ring

There are many fantastic classes that really stand out when helping children learn information and how to be a better person. Debate was one of those outstanding classes that I took this year. Debate taught me many things, such as how to speak in front of a crowd and the different categories in speech. It introduced the whole world of speech, debate, and much more. Every child should take debate at some point in their lives, and I strongly recommend it for people. Children who do not take it are missing out on important information that they should not live without. The class starts off with a category called poetry. Every month, we go to the choir room, next to the band room and take a certain amount of time, (usually a month,) and practice nonstop until we fully know the speech. Then, we each present the speech to the whole class. Each person has a critiquing paper that they use to critique the person presenting. Over the course of the year we have done many different categories of speech, like declamation, duo, HI, and more. During the year, we are taken to other schools to compete against other children in our categories that we choose. For example, I went to a speech tournament in February, and had to present my speech twice in front of a room full of kids that are doing the same category as me. After the tournament we take a bus ride with all the kids from our school back. About a week after the tournament, the results come back in, and we are told our placing. Eric Seo, another student that does debate with me, says, "Debate is not always the easiest but at the end of the day, it definitely helped me speak." I agree with Eric, because debate is truly amazing and teaches so much more than anyone could ever ask for.