

**JAMES F. RHODES
HIGH SCHOOL**

5100 BIDDULPH AVE
CLEVELAND, OH 44144



The Rhodes Review

Did You Know?

OST Tutoring Schedule

Tuesdays:

- Math (rooms 200, 204, 206, 302)
- Science (205 or 305)
- English (211 or 221)

Wednesdays:

- Math (200 or 302)
- Science (205 or 305)
- Soc. Studies 216

Thursdays:

- Math (204 or 302)
- Science (205 or 305)
- Soc. Studies 304

Save the Date

December 21

End of 2nd Semester

Winter Solstice

December 22—

January 8

Winter Break

(No School)

January 9th

School Resumes

Volume 9, Issue 2

December 2017

Author Meet & Greet

By: Brenda Bermudez



Rhodes Rambunctious Readers with *Thin Space* author, Jody Casella

James Ford Rhodes has a book club called the Rhodes Rambunctious Readers (RRR). This is the 9th year of the club, whose advisors are Ms. Murray and Mrs. Anzalone-Fox. We meet every month after school on a Thursday to talk about a book that we are reading. Once a month, we read a new book chosen from a variety of different genres.

This year, The Rhodes Rambunctious Readers met Judy Casella, who wrote *Thin Space*, and she was able to sign everyone's book, including mine. The RRR was exceptionally honored when Judy Casella actually gave the book club an advanced copy of the unpublished sequel to *Thin Space*!

Ms. Murray and Mrs. Anzalone-Fox also plan a field trip each year to compliment one of the books that we have read during the year. Over the years, the RRR have been to the following plays: *The Wiz* and *Then There Were None*. They have also met the following authors: Patricia McCormack who wrote *Cut*, and Sharon Draper who wrote *Out Of My Mind*.

The book club is designed to increase students' reading ability and enjoyment," said Ms. Murray. Book Club gives members the chance to express their opinions; it also allows them to get out of their comfort zone by reading a variety of genres and discovering multiple authors. Readers also get to experience other people's lives, realities, and worlds. So, if you ever would like to step out of your own life for a while, join us one of these Thursdays!

Homecoming Game

By: Tiana Wiese

On Friday, October 27th, our JFR Rams football team took on Glenville High school. Our boys played against the Glenville Tarblooders on our home turf for our homecoming game. They went out there with open minds and determination ready to defeat the Tarblooders at our home stadium. Although we took home a loss (0-47), the

boys practice and work hard every day. Coach Andrews, a former Glenville defensive coordinator, was very eager for this game to play against his former football boys.

Our Rams play every game hard, doing exactly what Coach Gary would want them to do. Our boys look forward to every game to play in honor of Coach Gary. Coach Andrews has also made an impact on the boys, encouraging them to excel academically and on the field. Although we lost this game vs the Tarblooders, our boys were not giving up. They boys played their hearts out at Collinwood on Saturday, November 4th at Collinwood field in their last game of the season. We were hoping to take home a dub! The Rams were leading 16-6 in this game, but during the second quarter, the team suffered a major blow when star player, Javon Benton suffered a gruesome leg injury. The final score was 20-16 with Collinwood taking the win. Our boys ended with a great season. The Rams don't get enough recognition for the hard work and time they've put in. Don't forget to congratulate them when you see them; they deserve it!



Rhodes Rams at First Energy Stadium.



Rhodes Rams at practice.

Sprit Week 2017

By: Na'Tay Williams



Gender Swap



Breast Cancer Awareness



Anti-Bullying

The World Through My Eyes: Puerto Rico's Destruction

By: Sidney Vega

Everything is a cycle. Whether it starts with a flower, a bee, or us humans. Everything in this world has a purpose. The flower, for example, is here for food to the bees. The bees give us honey and we eat the honey. In this case hurricane Maria decided to keep this cycle going with destruction.

Puerto Rico is my island, the land where I was born and raised. When I look around, memories surround me. Good, warm, and soothing memories. Memories that I will forever carry with me in my heart and mind.

Just last spring, in March, I went to Puerto Rico with my mom for two weeks, as I visited my birthplace, where most of my childhood was, everything was so beautiful and perfect. My family was healthy and happy, with food, electricity, and two cars.



Left: A pier in Puerto Rico March 2017.

After hurricane Maria... the flood hit. Everything went into pieces. The land I was raised in, my Island... was destroyed. I've never been so nervous as I was the day that the hurricane passed. All I thought about was my family, where were they, are they okay, are they alive! So many questions, my head - exploding, throbbing! Having to hold tears back so my mother wouldn't worry. My heart pumping fast, breathing in slowly, tears coming down my face.

Two weeks passed and still I hadn't heard any news from my family. My mother started to reflect on her feelings. She was losing sleep, she was always sad, and frustrated. It was a hard time for all of us at home. Not knowing anything about my family. The only family I have. Not having anyone here in Ohio made it worse...all my family lives in Puerto Rico.

After three weeks, my mother finally got in contact with a friend of the family assuring her that my family was okay. Yes, it was something, but it wasn't enough... Not being able to hear it directly from my family that they were okay made us go insane. It was heartbreaking for us.

Another week later, we finally heard from my grandpa. That was the best news we could ever get. All the stress and tears finally came to a stop. Hearing that my family was okay was the biggest blessing we could get.



Right: The same pier after this Fall's hurricanes.

It was sad hearing how long my grandpa had to wait in line just to get two minutes to inform us that my family was okay. They didn't have food or power. Most of the material items they had were destroyed. It was horrifying to hear how everything was there.

Till this day, I haven't heard from my family since speaking to my grandpa. The last I heard was two weeks after the hurricane hit. All I can do is sit and pray they're still alive and well.

Don't Be the Judge

By: Rayne Law

According to *The News-Herald*, more than 3,000 Cuyahoga county children are in foster care due to the opioid crisis. As of August 5th, 2017 more than 15,000 children were in foster care in the state of Ohio.

Many of these children during their time in the system encounter devastating incidents leaving them mentally and physically wounded. Children begin to feel replaceable and worthless, which impacts their confidence and mentality. They become a victim to the system. Additionally, ABC News reported, "25% of those in prison were once in foster care". This may seem like a very low percentage, but that is a quarter of 2.3 million people incarcerated in the United States federal and state prisons and county jails. Once you acknowledge that this means that 575,000 people who were previously in foster care end up victims of another system, it's hard to know how to deal with that information.

There are many ways you can help those in this unfortunate circumstance:

- * Let foster kids know that they are valued to help them retain their confidence.
- * Donate duffle bags to a children's home or a foster care agency. Many don't know that children in the system pack their belongings in garbage bags, carrying them from home to home.

- * Donate school supplies, clothing, shoes, coats and even toys.
- * Become a driver to assist them to their court meetings, appointments, family visits or to a new foster home.
- * Become a Big Brother or Sister spending 3-4 hours a week with a child. This can have a tremendous affect on them helping them in ways you will not understand.
- * Volunteer at a children's home.
- * Demand that schools bring social workers and mental health workers back into the school buildings to service children.

There are many more ways you can help. Just call your local foster care agency or children's home to see if there are needs you can fulfill.

Sources

<https://www.thespruce.com/help-children-in-foster-care-27113>

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/Fa-tal+care+Foster+care+tragedies+cloaked+secr cy/9203131/story.html>

<http://abcnews.go.com/Primetime/FosterCare/story?id=2017991&page=1>

Movie Review: *Justice League*

By: Angela Spraggins

Justice league is an exciting, 2-hour movie. It's also rated PG-13 and it is a fantasy/science fiction film. Adults, teenagers and children can enjoy the film with family and friends. In *Justice League*, the honorable superhero team, consisting of Batman, Wonder Woman, The Flash, Aquaman, and Cyborg formed their team to honor Superman's death and to save the planet from a catastrophic threat. This movie is one of the most expensive films ever made, with the budget being \$300 million dollars. The movie premiered in Beijing, China on October 26, 2017 and was released in the United States on November 17, 2017. You should really watch the movie if you like DC Universe comics and designs. Also, I think the animation is amazing and magnified the theory of how the *Justice League* was formed. Overall. I recommend this film.



Anti-Bullying Program

By: Sarah Barrett

The Anti-Bullying program is a group that helps kids prevent bullying and promote positive relationships with peers. The Anti-Bullying program works with the CMSD, using the N.O.W. (Not on Our Watch) program. Any student who is interested can begin training after school. Ten to twelve students are currently part of the core anti-bullying program at JFR. They include: team leader Janeiris Sanchez, Jazzmyn Stewart, Breanna Vega, Ricardo Gonzalez, Geovini Golden, Seanae Connel, Elijah Hoole, Tyerese Jackson, Carmela Jackson, Davana Hylton, Shaun Davis, and Lindsey Gonzalez. The team meets regularly to plan school-wide events.

The program plans presentations faculty and parents about the anti-bullying efforts at JFR. Information is spread monthly at the staff meetings and students publicize the program with visibility at school, such as with the bulletin board just

outside the cafeteria on the 1st floor. If you want to get involved in the N.O.W. program and help stop bullying before it starts, talk to one of the current N.O.W. team members or Ms. Chapman.



October 25th mix up in the cafeteria.

Special Olympics

By: Sidney Vega

As simple as helping sounds, it can bring many smiles. Today our society is so busy focusing on the latest news, such as sports, make up, celebrity drama and so on. They don't focus on the important things in life, like helping others in need or those with disabilities. The ego of humans now a days is so high that they don't even think twice about what helping is. A simple "hi" or "bye" or a hug can make



Sidney Vega and Jazynia Sevaadra helping out.

someone's day better. Instead, we have our heads down. Sadly, it is usually because we are on our phones 24/7, where we don't bother look-

ing around. We don't notice our surroundings. This is exactly why I decided to sign myself up for this amazing field trip.

Thank you to Ms. Black for giving some of the Rhodes students an amazing chance to help those with disabilities. We've gone two times already on this field trip. Me, I loved it. Getting the chance to meet so many kids with disabilities and being able to help them have fun means the world to me. I don't think people take enough time to show these kids that they're just like us or how special they are. Being able to do that at least twice in two weeks makes me feel so good.

What we do is we get a partner and with your partner we are assigned a group of kids with different disabilities. We take them around the gym where different activities are set up so they can play. It's so nice to see how excited they get to play and to see we cheer them on. After they're done with each event, we take them to get their awards. Then, we get another group and so on.

Sometimes it's good to help others. If you ever get the chance to help someone, take it! Nowadays we don't have enough of those acts of kindness.

Healthy Relationships

By: Kennedy Wunderle

Behind all of the materialistic desires that exist in our minds about romantic relationships, we all just want one thing: love. Real, true love. After all, love is the key to everything, but, is it enough? Many people would vote yes. This is wrong, and that opinion is precisely why most relationships fail. The other leading reason is due to lack of love, therefore lack of everything else that would normally result from it.



First and most importantly, you have to WANT to be with that said person, and from that seed usually grows love. Although, sometimes it does not. In

fact, sometimes it doesn't ever grow at all. That is why issues arise. Not everybody is meant to fall in love and be together forever, but most people do not realize that, so they stay with their said partner. Some stay for reasons like financial security, some for comfort, and some for pure insecurity and lack of motivation. The only thing

that results from that, though, is built up resentment towards each other, thus the decline of their relationship.

The other main reason why relationships fail is because of naive and immature mindsets. Many people just simply don't know how to be in a relationship. In fact, most of them think the physical and shallow aspects of one are all that matter. For example, sexual contact and showing their partner off on social media are their biggest priorities, but that is all wrong. Little do they know, their partner is an actual person with feelings and emotions who needs support, reassurance, and affection. After all, a seed cannot grow without sunlight, water, and proper care.

As I stated in the beginning, love is not enough for a relationship to grow and flourish, but it is definitely a great start. From love should come the desire to make your partner happy, therefore the willingness to do all of the things that will keep the relationship healthy. In order to accomplish that, though, you need to have these key components set in stone: communication, security, honesty, trust, patience, understanding, compromise, respect, acceptance, appreciation, support, reassurance, loyalty, and mindfulness. You can't stomp on a plant and expect it to grow straight up. Instead, it'll grow bent and won't be able to function properly.

Movie Review: *Bad Moms*

By: Ariyelle Cole

B*ad Moms* features Mila Kunis as Amy, Kristen Bell as Kiki, and Kathryn Hahn as Carla. Amy is a hard working mom who does everything for her two kids and has a successful career. To get away from daily life Amy and her two new friends take over the PTA. The PTA queen Gwendolyn James considers herself as a perfect mom, but Amy teaches everyone that moms aren't perfect. Amy lets the parents know that it's okay to be a "bad mom" sometimes and let your kids experience things on their own. They all learned that you have to be your child's parent first and their friend last. The movie is sure to make you laugh.



Teachers vs. Students Volleyball Game

By: Iyana Bachelor

On Tuesday, November 21st, 2017 Rhodes held its annual Teacher vs Students Volleyball game in the main gym with packed stands. Screaming could be heard throughout the gym and echoed down the halls, as the ball went back and forth. A DJ was provided to entertain fans and keep spirits high. Many students participated in this fun event although the teachers crushed the students in the end with a score of 25-18.

Don't miss out on a similar upcoming event on December 21st called "King of the Hill basketball contest". It'll be a great way to end the semester before our Winter break!



Net Neutrality

By: Adam Hurley

How would you feel if you had to pay to see your favorite celebrities Instagram posts? Or pay to watch YouTube videos? Without “laws in place to keep the internet neutral”, called Net Neutrality, this is what the future of the Internet might look like. A vote on December 14, by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to undo net neutrality laws could be the end of free internet content. Net neutrality laws were created to stop internet companies and other corporations from making you pay for generally free content over their service. The rules prevent companies like AT&T or Verizon from charging a fee to companies or you if you want to use Google or YouTube.

Democratically appointed commissioner on the F.C.C. Michael Copps stated, “we could be witnessing the beginning of the end of the internet as we know it.” If you’re asking, “What can we do

to stop this?” there isn’t much we can do; for the most part it is out of our hands. The site www.battleforthenet.com allows you to write directly to Congress to help stop anti-net neutrality. If enough people voice their opinion we can stop the internet from being a corporate playground. If nothing else, Google “net neutrality” and educate yourself while you can still do these things for free!



What Are Modern Farms Like?

By: Ashley Rengifo

Do you ever wonder what happens behind closed doors in modern farms? Have you ever thought about if we’re getting food that’s safe to eat? Animal cruelty happens inside these farms. Animals are being tortured, stressed, made ill and worse. Even if you don’t care about this cruelty, you should care about the possibility of the spread of disease, because it can make you sick as a consumer. More public awareness is needed about what goes on in some modern farming practices.

However, states are enacting laws called “Ag-gag” or Agricultural gag laws in an attempt to hide these unsafe and abusive practices from the consumer. These laws forbid journalists from filming, taking pictures or recording audio of farms or farming practices from within or outside of these modern farms. This prevents people from knowing what kind of abuse these farm animals receive. On the positive side, in past years, there are already more than 20 states that have defeated these ag-gag bills.

On some industrial farms, people are getting away with abusing animals that we eventually consume. These animals live out their lives in horrific and stressful conditions. Since journalists can’t report on these modern farms and provide evidence with photos or videos, we consumers won’t know about our food being threatened. These ill animals can spread disease and affect our health. So far, about 8 states have legalized Ag-Gag laws and we consumers must stop this practice in order to become more aware of what we are eating and because these poor animals deserve better!



JROTC Holiday Food Drive Donation

By: Ricardo Gonzalez

Attention all James Ford Rhodes staff and students, through December 22nd JROTC will be accepting canned food items to help families in the community during this holiday season. It's the season of giving and time to give back to those who are less fortunate and those who don't have much for their family this holiday season. JROTC also helped out at Mayor Frank Jackson's food drive on Saturday, December 9th, 2017 at Michael Zone Recreation Center.



JROTC with Mayor Frank Jackson helping out at the food drive.

Drop off any canned food donations in room 107 on the first floor. All donations will be taken to the food pantry on Denison. No boxed food such as cereal or mac-n-cheese will be accepted. Individual students, teachers and/or homerooms are encouraged to compete or participate!

JROTC is also collecting presents for children in need this holiday season. They have created

their own Giving Tree, where students are given an ornament, then they return the ornament with a New toy that will be placed under the tree located in room 107 before the toys are given to The Salvation Army as a part of their Toys for Tots program. These gifts will be distributed to needy children before Christmas Day.

Bring It On: All-City Musical

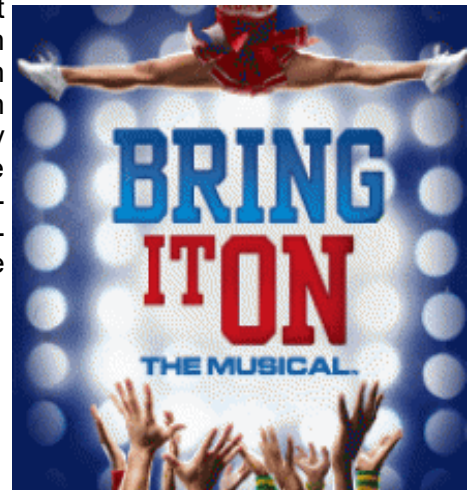
By: Rayne Law

The 19th Annual All-City Musical will be performing *Bring It On* in 2018, but they have already started finalizing the cast for the production. Congratulations to the following JFR students:

Anatasia Cobb
 Marriana Gonzalez
 Rayne Law
 Danayra Rivera
 Jocelyn Stone

These students were invited to attend the first round of callbacks on November 21, 28, and 30. During each callback, these fellow students were tested on their character. They learned dance choreography, tested on the projection of their voice under pressure, attitude, and their ability to

follow instructions given. The official second audition was held Thursday, November 30, where each student had to perform in groups in front of each other. They will receive their acceptance notice before the holiday break.



Krampus

By: Brittany Caminero

Have you ever thought there would be a Satan for Christmas? Well there is, and his name is Krampus. He is considered to be the horrific Christmas devil, with dark hair, fangs and bearing horns. Krampus comes for naughty children with a chain, bells that he lashes, and a bundle of sticks to swat at the naughty children.

The Christmas devil's name came from the German word *krampen*, meaning claw. Krampus has been a legend for centuries; it's an old Christmas tradition in Germany. However, Germany isn't the only country who celebrates Krampus; Austria, Hungary and Czech Republic celebrate this devil. They dress as devils and chase people around. *National Geographic* published a book in Germany about the Christmas beast, and there was also a movie published in 2015 about Krampus. On December 6, 2016, Cleveland had

an event all about Krampus. It started with a brunch at 11:00 A.M. and ended with a parade and dinner at 5:00 P.M. The people got together and celebrated with a parade, while Chardon Polka band provided a soundtrack.



Rhodes Ramettes

By: Iyana Bachelor

Since 2014, James Ford Rhodes has been without a cheer squad. This year, our head coach, Hannah Armenta took on the task of starting a team. We practice daily and learn new cheers often. Most people don't realize the work that goes into cheering. It requires athletic ability such as running, flexibility, stamina and coordination. Not to mention, it requires extreme team-work and the dedication needed to show up to practice for over an hour every day.

James Ford Rhodes cheerleaders performed at the pep-rally to encourage the football players for their homecoming game that was later that night. We practiced hard for it. Our team was lacking uniforms at the start of the year and we took it upon ourselves to create a cost-friendly alternative with the help of a fellow senior, Treshaun Duncan, who himself is interested in fashion design.

The first game we cheered at was Tuesday, December 5th against Lincoln West, and we were wearing actual cheer uniforms, unlike at the homecoming pep-rally. However, the team was

kept in the dark about what those uniforms would look until that game so it was a highly anticipated performance.



Senior Iyana Bachelor in the new uniform.

THE RHODES REVIEW STAFF

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The Rams



It's okay to ask for help...

By: Ariyelle Cole

In a classroom of 25 students, 5 of them may be struggling with issues such as: depression, anxiety, substance abuse and more. Some students feel invisible. You never know what high school students are going through. It wouldn't hurt to ask, "Are you okay?". Some kids just need a friend or someone to talk to who actually cares about what they have to say. Suffering from depression is hard to deal with alone. If you or someone you know is suffering from depression, addiction, suicidal thoughts, eating disorders, or self harm please contact these numbers and get help.

HELP HOTLINES

1-800-273-8255 (Suicide Hotline)
877-226-3111 (Addiction Hotline)
844-228-2962 (Eating Disorder Hotline)
877-455-0628 (Self Harm Hotline)
888-640-5174 (Depression Hotline)
If you want a hotline closer to home,
call 216-623-6888 or text 741741 .



Senior Deadlines

By: Nicole Thornton

Seniors should keep in mind the following deadlines:

- * Look for Scholarships in the college access office
- * ACT or SAT should have been taken and everyone should have received a 18 or 1100 or higher, applied to 3 or more colleges, be mind full of college scholarships, complete FAS ID and complete application for financial aid
- * December 4-15th were OST re-takes. Any seniors that do not have their eighteen points should have retaken these tests. Even if you are deciding to graduate using an alternative pathway, you still need to have taken all seven of the tests at least once or twice depending on your alternative pathway. See your counselor if you are unsure.
- * December 21st is the end of the second marking period and the first semester. Credits will be assigned based on semester grades in January. This day is also The King of the Hill basketball tournament.

