



Special Talents at CJHS

By Joseph Kahl



Many kids at CJHS have interesting hobbies, and everyone has something they're good at whether they realize it or not.

Hudson Melvin, a 7th grader said that he enjoys football. He discovered this in first grade. His brothers also play. Someone Hudson looks up to is Rob Gronkowski who plays on the New England Patriots team.

Ashtin Swann and Jared Melvin both like to draw. Ashtin said he is best at drawing cartoons, and Jared likes to draw anything. They both said they started to have interest in this around the age of 4. Ashtin said his mom and dad enjoy drawing, but he is best at it. Jared said that his Dad, grandpa, and grandma all like to draw. Draw with Jazza is a channel on youtube that Ashtin is inspired by.

Johnny Tindall, a CJHS 7th grader, said something he likes is bas-



ketball. He discovered this when he was eight and practicing with his stepbrother. Johnny said that his uncle and his brother both like to play, and that he really looks up to his uncle for inspiration in basketball.

Quincy Bates, another 7th grader, really enjoys softball. She started when she was 3. Someone that Quincy looks up to is Delanie Gourley who plays on team U.S.A.

Dublin Mckinnies, another CJHS 7th Grader, said he likes biking around town. He said he started a couple weeks ago. Someone he looks up to is Austin Beery who does stunts.

Presley Yeager, an 8th grader loves to sing and tap dance. Presley said she started when she was five and was asked to be in a musical from her church. Someone that she looks up to is Kristen Chenoweth, who is a Broadway

actress and singer.

Kristin Rutherford, an 8th grader at CJHS, said she likes tumbling and dance. She started about two years ago when she was watching a parade. Someone she looks up to is our own Joey Tennant here at CJHS.



Yet another talented 8th grader, Joey Tennant said he can sing. He said that he started about three years ago. Joey said his whole family enjoys singing and a singer that he looks up to is Bruno Mars.

Many kids this year at CJHS, have special talents, or hobbies. They are all good at something whether they realize it or not. The kids here are very interesting people.

Special points of interest:

- *Movie Review: IT*
- *Wrestling*
- *Halloween Recipe*
- *MLB Playoffs*
- *Staying Positive*
- *Holiday World Fun!*

MLB Playoffs 2017 By Jacob Moak

The 2017 MLB pennant race is on! If you follow baseball, you know all about this. Right now, the Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee Brewers are in a tight race. The St. Louis Cardinals are out of the playoff running. The Cubs are in 1st place in the NL Central division. The Milwaukee Brewers are $3\frac{1}{2}$ games out of 1st place (have the most wins in the NL Central at the end of the season).

Right now, the Arizona Diamondbacks would play the Rockies in the Wild Card game. In the Wild Card game, whoever wins goes on to play in either the ALDS (American League Division Series) or the NLDS (National League Division Series). As of this week, the American League, the Minnesota Twins will play the New York Yankees for the Wild Card.

Back to the NL, the Washington Nationals and the Los Angeles Dodgers have made the NLDS already. There are 2 NLDS matchups. There are 2 ALDS matchups as well. There is one team that is guaranteed a playoff spot. The Dodgers and Nationals are the NL guarantees. The Indians will host the winner of the AL wild

card. The Astros will host the Red Sox in the other AL division series. The Dodgers will host the winner of the NL wild card, and the Nationals will host the Cubs. After the divisional rounds end, the winner of those will go on to play in the League Championship Round (ALCS/NLCS). The league champion will go on to play in the Fall Classic. You know it as the World Series! The World Series championship team gets a ring. But, the World Series MVP wins \$10,000 and a brand-new Corvette!

A LEGENDARY SEASON

The Los Angeles Dodgers have 4 excellent players this season, and they all are up with the best records in MLB history! Cody Bellinger (1B First Baseman), Justin Turner (3B Third Baseman), Yu Darvish (SP Starting Pitcher), and Clayton Kershaw (SP Starting Pitcher) have been amazing this year. The Houston Astros aren't

far behind! George Springer (CF Center Fielder) and Dallas Kuechel (SP Starting Pitcher) have played in the All Star Game. Giancarlo Stanton of the Miami Marlins has over 50 home runs this season! The last player to accomplish that feat was Mark McGwire back in 1999! Aaron Judge plays for the New York Yankees, and he won the Home Run Derby. Judge is a rookie this season, and winning the Home Run Derby as a rookie is very amazing. Judge's longest home run was over 510 feet! But, Judge has hit a slump, and Yankees manager Joe Girardi almost sent Judge to the minor leagues!

So, my pick for the MLB playoffs is the Los Angeles Dodgers from the NL, and the Houston Astros from the AL. Whoever you are, even if you don't like baseball, maybe this year, this October when the playoffs start you may discover you enjoy baseball!



Wrestling By Gavin Mann

Wrestling is a very hard sport which you must be dedicated to in order to succeed. Competing in this sport requires you to practice long hours. In this sport, it is important that you never give up on whatever you are doing.

Even people that have been wrestling for their whole life have not made it to the state tournaments. It is a hard goal to accomplish. There are over 300 wrestling moves to learn. So if you are a first timer, it is hard to remember all the moves. It might take over a year or more to just remember all of the moves that you are taught in practice. Some people never learn them all, while others learn them quickly. Being a quick learner is a good trait to have when becoming a wrestler.

If you want to qualify to compete in this sport, you have to make weight for the weight class. Before determining weight class, you must be weighed in by your coach. From there you and your coach will decide which weight class you should compete in. Sometimes this requires you to gain weight, while other times this means that you will have to lose weight. In order to get into the weight class assigned to you, you might have to run or even give up your favorite foods. If you don't want to run or lose weight, you might not qualify to compete and for any of your matches.

I have been wrestling for nine years. I do not wrestle in West Frankfort, but there is a wrestling team that you could sign up for here in town if

you are interested. I practice two times a week and have either 1 or 2 wrestling tournaments a week which is a lot, but you got to dedicate all your time to this sport if you are going sign up. I think I have the best coach of all time. We practice very hard.

It takes a long time to get good at this sport. That is one of the reasons why I like to wrestle, because it is a hard contact sport. Wrestling is not for the weak.

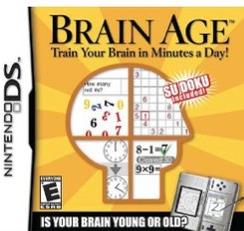
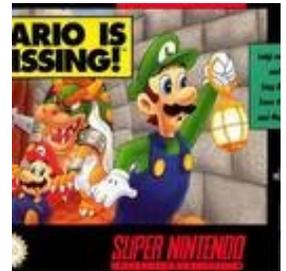
Can Video Games Train Your Mind? By Daniel Pitchers

Video games, what a wonderful product. Although, many parents do say that they are bad for the mind. I decided to take up on this and research if that is actually true. I went online to see what the facts were about it. I found out that there are educational games, many of which are good for you.

As I researched, I managed to find a few educational games I would recommend to people looking for education. One of which is the popular pixel game Minecraft. It can teach you how to use your imagination to create things, it even has an educational edition. Brain Age for the Nintendo DS can help train your mind in memory, math, and so on. Mario is Missing! for the Super Nintendo Entertainment System and the PC helps train you in geographic areas with Luigi.

After my research, I decided to review a couple of fellow students on their thoughts of the question "What do you think video games can do to help you?" Dublin Mckinnies replied with, "Playing video games can help you get out of tricky situations." Kristin Rutherford went with, "Video games can help challenge you and help you to learn how to get through situations." Joey Tennant replied, "Playing video games can help your hand coordination and they challenge your mind to make you smarter."

Eventually, I learned that video games CAN be your friend. So yes, feel free to continue using that console, as long as it can help you. I even found out there are physical gaming consoles out there, such as the Nintendo Wii. How intriguing...



Life: The Good and The Bad By Evan Murphy

A lot of bad things happen like 9/11, war, robbed, and death. Then there are good things like people helping homeless and winning the lotto. There is a reason behind everything even if you don't believe in a God and you just believe in science or nothing at all. It doesn't matter, there is a reason for everything.

Everything you do has a reason. It could be the smallest thing and it could save someone or multiple lives. I know some of you think your life sucks and that's not entirely true (P.S you are most likely just being a teenager, and something bad happened and you think that it the end of the world).

At least everyone has one of these moments. After that you think you want to be angsty or feel like you "are" angsty. There is no real reason

people should be like this. I was sad at one point. It was in 2014-2015, and I was at this carnival with Isaiah Kissar. When we left my mother told me I was going to my grandma's. When we got there I didn't know what was going on. I kinda wish I never knew. Brandon, one of my brothers, sat me on the sofa. I noticed something was off. I tried to get ready, but I didn't expect this. He told me my brother Paul died that morning.

Paul was more of a father figure to me. I thought it was a joke at first, but then Brandon started crying. I was scared I didn't know what to do. The first few months I thought it was the end of the world. When I went to his funeral, I was happy to see him again. I couldn't stop crying. Weeks later I forced myself to get my life

back to normal. If I didn't it would most likely effect other people's lives. Just like I did, you must learn to overcome these obstacles that are put in front of you. Learn from them, and live. There will always be a reason for everything that happens to you, like crashing your bike, getting in an argument with someone, or the death of a loved one. These things are important and they do change your life, but you have to learn to keep living.

That terrible thing will eventually turn out to be good in the long run if you know how to control that anger and hate. It will help you. Life is what you make it.

Holiday World By Spencer Metro

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari is an awesome place to go to ride thrilling rides or water rides, to eat, play games, and have a great time!

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari is a combination of theme park and water rides. It is located in Santa Claus, Indiana. Holiday World is currently open from 10:00am-6:00pm. Splashin' Safari is currently open from 11:00-5:00pm. Holiday World offers many freebies, such as, parking, sunscreen, soft drinks, and admittance into Splashin' Safari with the purchase of a Holiday World ticket.

This past weekend, my family and friends went to Holiday World and had the best time ever! We rode a bunch of rides, got a little wet on the log ride, ate great food, and made special memories. My favorite ride is the Turkey Scrambler. My mom loves

riding the log ride, eating great food, and making special memories. My favorite ride is the Turkey Scrambler. There are all types of rides to please any family member.

The theme park is divided into four sections that celebrate Christmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving, and the Fourth of July with rides, games, and attractions. The park is known for its three wooden roller coasters: The Raven, The Legend, and The Voyage. The water park includes the world's two longest water coasters: Wildebeest and Mammoth. If you're lucky, you might run into Holidog, Safari Sam, or

George the Eagle.

Now, let's talk about food.....my favorite thing! You can visit a variety of different restaurants or snack stands. They offer everything from burgers to gluten free pizza, nachos, Hot Diggity Dogs, and you can even have a Thanksgiving meal. The desserts are pretty good, too. A trip to the park is not complete without eating a funnel cake. Mmmmm, good!

Holiday World has many games to play. You can shoot hoops for a prize, have a friendly competition with water pistol races, play skeet ball, ring toss and even play a game of Plinko.

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari is a great place to have fun! If you haven't made it over that way, you still have time. The park offers Happy Halloween Weekends beginning in mid-September through the end of October. Go on over, for a scary good time!



Halloween Recipe

By Emma Gass

Need something to creep out your friends this Halloween? Try this easy recipe where you make Jell-O worms that look very real!

Ingredients:

2-3oz packages Jell-O
3-0.25 envelopes unflavored gelatin
100-150 flexible straws
Green food coloring
3 cups boiling water
3/4 cup whipping cream

Directions: In a large bowl pour the Jell-O, gelatin, and the boiling water into the bowl. Stir well. Now add 15 drops of the green food coloring. Set aside to cool. Meanwhile stretch out all of the bendy straws to full length. Then, set all the straws into a tall glass and put a few rubber bands around all the straws so that they can't move. Now set the glass in a bowl to catch any overflow. Now to the mix add the whipping cream and stir well. To avoid any messes pour the mix into something easier to pour with. Carefully pour the mix into the straws and put them in the refrigerator overnight. The next day take the Jell-O out of the straws and take a rolling pin or something similar and roll the Jell-O out of the straws. Now fix them up to make them look like real worms and enjoy!



I have never tried making these, but it sounds like a good idea for this holiday season. Now you are sure to creep out all of your friends!

Movie Review By Hunter Karns

People have been talking about the new movie *IT*. I guess you could say it's a good movie, but if you pay attention to the first and second *IT* movies, the plot is basically the same movie with different actors and actresses.

The movie is based on a clown that tries to lure people in the sewer. In the *IT* movies, there is a little boy who has a paper boat that accidently flows into the

drain. Then it falls down the sewer. From there, more and more kids are harmed by crazy clowns.

There are a couple different movies that have been made based on this same idea. In fact, there are about three *IT* movies so far. I am not trying to ruin the movie for you if you haven't watched it yet. However, just to warn you, the movies are so cheesy. There are several thing I would

have done differently to make the movie better. I would make the clown scarier than the new one. I would also make the sounds of the music scarier.

If you aren't use to watching scary movies, this one would be a good start. You won't get scare unless you don't like clowns, then you might jump a little. Remember *they all float down...*