Students Show Compassion, Generosity by Donating Hair to "Locks of Love" Organization

Junior Yolanda Chu was the first in line on Monday at the makeshift hair salon (also known as the SJA Board Room) set up by volunteers from Options Salon and Spa in Fairview Park. She was nervous as Ms. Hollie Bukovac of Options started cutting, but Yolanda and the other students participating knew it was for a good cause... the 4th Annual "Wigs for Kids/Locks of Love" event.

"Locks of Love" is a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children and teens suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis.

"This is such an important cause. I feel strongly that we need to help those who might be struggling due to cancer or other medical conditions," shared Allie Hippler '15, who organized the event this year.

"I've never had short hair before," shared Yolanda. "I am glad I can help others."

"I felt this was the right decision to make. It is a wonderful gift to those who need it," stated Nicole Carson '15.

This is the fourth year that Options Salon has participated, donating its equipment and expertise for this event. We thank them for their generous donation of services.

SJA on "Academic Challenge" Tomorrow on Channel 5

Three SJA students will display their academic prowess this weekend on the venerable "Academic Challenge" TV show on Channel 5. The show, taped in February, is airing tomorrow, May 25, at 7 p.m. The team is composed of Julie Simmons '13 (captain), Marley Yarian '14, and Cari Milowicki '15. The alternates are Kat Coughlin '14, Hayley Gallo '16 and Katelyn Mandola '15. They are competing against students from Edgewood and Shelby High Schools. The team was coached by Ms. Meagan Fowler, a librarian in the Learning Advancement Services department.

Tune in for a great show! Go Jaguars! ~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.
Holocaust Studies Classes Have Profound Impact on Students

The 46 students in Ms. Emmy Levine's "Holocaust Studies" classes took what they learned about the horror of the Holocaust and translated it into moving collages and reports this week. "Students wrote reports on the victims to emphasize the human side of the story," shared Ms. Levine. "The bottom line is for students to know they can and should stand up against injustices."

Maureen Loftus '14 combined work from her English and Art classes, creating a Holocaust report that included a ceramic representation of a person behind prison bars, a moving poem from English class and her report about a couple named Stefan and Maria Sava Moise sent to Auschwitz who survived.

"This class has humanized the Holocaust for me. I know that when I see injustice, I will take action," shared a visibly moved Maureen.

Technology Club Students Shine at Robotics Competition

On Saturday, May 18, three SJA students competed in the 14th Annual Rock Your World With STEAM Family Festival, advancing to the championship finals of the robotics competition. That was quite an accomplishment, considering that more than 3,000 students participated in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) festival, which was sponsored by Cleveland Metropolitan School District. The students who participated are members of SJA's STAR Engineering Club. In the championship round, they paired with two students from Saint Edward High School.

"Our students did quite well," shared science teacher Mr. David Weiss, who accompanied students to the Great Lakes Science Center, site of the competition. "The group had been working on the robot since January."

"We really enjoyed watching our robot perform on the obstacle course. All the hard work paid off!" shared junior Katrina Wrabel.

"We were proud that our robot was one of the few that didn't malfunction," added Liz Millar '14.

EARN YOUR SPOTS
Jaguar 5K Race/1 Mile Walk for Saint Joseph Academy

THERE IS STILL TIME TO JOIN US for the inaugural Saint Joseph Academy race/walk, being held this Monday, Memorial Day, May 27. Race day registration is only $25. The morning event will no doubt separate the Jaguars from, well, the kittens! The “Earn Your Spots Jaguar 5K Race/1 Mile Walk” supports the Saint Joseph Academy Scholarship Fund.

The race/walk starts at 9 a.m. on Memorial Day at Saint Joseph Academy. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. The route includes parts of West Park and western Lakewood. Please plan on joining us and start a new Memorial Day tradition, as well as help build the scholarship fund at Saint Joseph Academy!

Come on .... Earn Your Spots!
Jazz and Cabaret Concert Illustrates Students' Musicality, Talent

Instrumental and Vocal music classes collaborated this week in the annual “Jazz & Cabaret Night” held on Thursday, May 16, in the auditorium to an enthusiastic audience. Jazz Band selections ranged from “Watermelon Man” by Herbie Hancock, “Don’t Get Around Much Anymore” by Duke Ellington, “Every Little Thing” by Sting and “Poker Face” by Lady Gaga.

Featured instrumental soloists included Clare Panek ’14 playing a flugelhorn solo of “Smoke Gets in Your Eyes,” and Jessica Calton ’15 performing “The Final Countdown” on the tenor sax.

Vocal selections in the 90-minute concert included Cecilia’s Song performing “It’s a Love Story” by Taylor Swift and Concert Choir singing and dancing to “One Fine Day” featuring senior soloist Mikayla Liston ’13, as well as “Breathe” featuring Lianne Winship ’13. Other featured vocal soloists included seniors Ginny Sullivan, Annie Kostell and Kaleigh Macalla singing an eclectic mix of songs, as well as Jiana Koussa who wowed the crowd with her rendition of “The Way I Am.”

Students Help Tanzania Hostel, School

Earlier this month, students were honored to meet with Sister Jackie Goodin, CSJ, to hear about the St. Joseph Youth Hostel and school in Songea, Tanzania where she has served since 2009. Students were so moved by her stories that they organized several fundraisers, including a day in which students, faculty and staff could "dress down" if they made a donation.

Sister sent a thank-you note to students for successfully raising $1,000, as well as clothing and supplies for the children in Tanzania. "Thank you so much for caring for your global sisters and daughters,” she wrote.

Cecilia's Song at Indians Game

Cecilia's Song performed the National Anthem to an enthusiastic crowd on Tuesday, May 21, at Progressive Field. They were even on on Fox Sports TV! Congratulations to all!

Prom 2013

On Saturday, May 18, seniors and their dates enjoyed beautiful weather as they first posed for pictures at SJA, and then boarded buses for an evening of fun at Sammy's Metropolitan Ballroom in downtown Cleveland. Afterward, party-goers enjoyed the After Prom activities at the Gemini Center in Fairview Park. For more pictures, go to SJA's Facebook page and make sure to watch Cleveland.com/prom for the posting of a slideshow.
Students Are Working to Provide 10,000 Meals for the Needy Through Harvest for Hunger

Between the all-school "Penny Wars" held last month and daily "Can Do!" collections just outside the dining hall, our community has raised $1,730 for Harvest for Hunger of Northeast Ohio, one of the largest annual, community-wide food and funds drives in the nation. Harvest for Hunger provides critical resources to local hunger relief organizations in 21 counties in Northeast and North Central Ohio.

But students aren't resting quite yet. Between now and Friday, May 31, students are hoping to raise another $770, bringing the grand total raised to $2,500. Why that figure? Because $2,500 is enough money for Harvest to serve 10,000 meals to those in need.

"People are incredibly generous, but we are really hoping to reach our goal!" shared Sophia Tayeh '16. Those interested in contributing will find the "Can Do" table set up daily in front of the dining hall every day during activity blocks.

Senior Parade 2013

Continuing a fun tradition, the Senior Parade from Kamm's Corners to SJA took place on Wednesday, May 22. Dressed in tie-dyed shirts emblazoned with "Believe in the Blue," the 161 members of the Class of 2013 arrived at the school in a multitude of cars, on bicycles, roller blades, unicycles and roller blades. Juniors, sophomores, freshmen and faculty and staff members clapped and cheered as they arrived at the school. Here are a few pictures from the parade to enjoy!
Rugby: Success at Nationals!

What an awesome season for our nationally ranked SJA Rugby team! Last weekend, Varsity competed at the National Rugby Championship in Racine, Wisconsin. The first game on Saturday ended in a heartbreaking kick-off with a final score 12-11. Scorers for the Jaguars included Ali DeCrane ’14 and Jackie Harter ’15. The other team selected Chelsea Hirzel ’13 and Amanda Burns ’15 as game MVPs. The team won the second game with a dominating score of 59-10. Scorers in this game included Jackie, Ali, Erin McGinty ’15, Rachel Kean ’16 and Chelsea, who along with Ali was named MVPs of the match. On Sunday, the team played against their Ohio neighbors from Parma High School. SJA won 19-5, leading them to National standings and making them the top team from Ohio. Scorers for the Jaguars included Casi Manuszak ’15, Ali DeCrane ’14 and Jackie Harter ’13. Rachel Kean ’16 and Jackie Harter ’15 were game MVPs.

The SJA Rugby team is now ranked 5th place in their division and 13th in the nation under USA Girls Rugby Union! Having never been ranked nationally before, the Jaguars should be extremely proud of their accomplishment. SJA players were recognized at the awards presentation, as the head coach for the All American Girls Rugby Team elected Ali Decrane ’14, Jackie Harter ’15 and Chelsea Hirzel ’13 to the All-Tournament Team. To be noticed by a National Team Coach looking for perspective Olympians is amazing!

Next for the Jaguars are Division 1 and Division 2 Playoffs for the State Championship tomorrow, Saturday, May 25, in Hudson.

Good Luck!

Crew: Going to Nationals!

Congratulations to our Crew team and coaches for earning bids to compete in the National Championships this weekend in Camden, New Jersey! The following rowers will be competing: Morgan Clark ’15, Annie Grove ’14, Brittany Hegeman ’15, Nicole Hegeman ’13, Julia Herrel ’15, Sarah Johaneck ’15, Karen McGraw ’13, Hannah Smith ’14, Casey Sudetic ’13, Maggie Sudetic ’13, Maggie Bishop ’13 and Kristen Hegeman ’13.

Good luck! Go Jaguar Navy!

Track & Field: Good Luck at Districts!

The Jaguars’ track and field team traveled to VASJ last Saturday, May 18, for an unscored end-of-season competition among Catholic Schools. Team scores weren’t kept, but the Jags had finishers in the top 3 of most events. The Jags lone victory came from senior MaryKate Caja ’13 in the 300 hurdles. Second-place finishes were earned by junior Rachel McGuire in the 800m run; the 4 x 200m relay of MaryKate, Audrianna Farris ’15, Maria Coreno ’15 and Brenna McGrath ’13; the 4 x 100m relay team of Mackenzie Dorin ’14, Sarah Stottner ’15, Gab Leon ’14 and Jenea Adams ’15; and Alesha Vovk in the high jump.

Softball: District Champs!

Congratulations to our Jaguar Softball team for beating Midpark High School on Wednesday, May 22, 10-5 to win the OHSAA Parma District tournament! The Jags will advance to the regional tournament and play next Thursday, May 30, against Elyria High School in Clyde, Ohio.

The week leading up to that win included the Jaguars facing Valley Forge in the second district game on May 15. In the game, Ashley Klimczyk ’13 went 4-4 with 4 runs scored and two triples. The girls overall scored 12 runs in 5 innings. Brenna Hefferman ’15 got the shutout, getting 12 strike outs and giving up just one hit.