

The Excalibur

The Online Nazareth RHS Student Newspaper



Life of a High School Student

By: Winnie Pierre-Louis

High school is somewhat stressful, fun, and a bit scary. I've asked many older people about their time in high school and some have told me that it can be the greatest years of your life. In high school you make friends and you lose some of them. In 8th grade you begin to prepare for a change. Some 8th graders are a bit skeptical about going to high school. Some 8th graders actually stress about which high school to pick, but once you pick the high school you want to go to, you will feel somewhat relieved.

High school is one of the big steps you take in life. When you're in high school, you may have more responsibilities, like joining clubs, making new friends and taking more ownership of your academics. There will be some ups and downs along the

way, but it will all work out in the end. If you try your best, then you probably won't be stressed. High school can actually be fun if you make it.

Picking your friends and mentors is an important part of a successful high school experience. If you surround yourself with people who motivate you and can give you the important constructive criticism to improve your academic life, it will benefit you throughout high school. In high school you're preparing yourself for the future.

Nazareth is a great school for this kind of preparation. I have been taught that if you stay focused and work hard, life will be great. Once you're done with high school, you're then onto college, where new challenges await!

April 2017, Issue 2

Have a happy Easter
from the Excalibur staff!

Happy Easter!



- Upcoming 2017 Events -

- 4/12 Stations of the Cross
- 4/13-4/21 Spring Break
- 4/24-4/28 Senior Spirit Week
- 4/25 Easter Mass
- 4/26 Trip to Riker's Island
- 4/28-4/30 Senior Trip to Virginia Beach
- 5/5-5/11 AP Exams
- 5/16 Fine Arts Banquet
- 5/18 Sports Awards Night

Op Ed: Trump Over the Constitution?!

by Gama Droiville

Donald J. Trump is now the 45th President of the United States of America. Mr. Trump has campaigned for nearly two years. During his campaigning, he has vowed to build a wall along the U.S./Mexican border, fix trade in the country, repeal and replace Obamacare, and stop gun violence in Chicago.

Many Americans have disapproved of Trump's actions on immigration and the way he's handling certain issues. The big topic in the news today is illegal immigration. Mr. Trump signed an executive order on January 27th, that banned citizens from seven predominantly-Muslim countries. Which are Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. The citizens from these countries can now come to the U.S. after several Federal Judges have blocked his order, including the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Trump has now tried to pass yet another executive order, reducing the banned countries list from seven to six. This travel ban was also blocked by a Federal Judge from Hawaii. Trump thinks he's above the law just because he's President of the United States. He's wrong!

The last time I checked, there is something called Federal Checks and Balances in the U.S. Constitution! Trump has even gone to the part where he questioned one of the Federal Judge's action towards his executive order. Which is unbelievable! The next step in this legal battle is likely the U.S. Supreme Court. This will be another issue because the court will have, most likely, a 4-4 vote. They would need one more vote in order to break the tie. Trump has nominated Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court to fill the vacancy of the late Justice Antonin Scalia. From the look of things, Democrats will make it extremely difficult to confirm him. We shall see.



President Trump has faced many obstacles in passing his agenda.

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Movie Reviews: Manchester by the Sea & Star Wars: Rogue One

By: Aaron Orjiugo

My personal favorite film of 2016, Manchester By The Sea, winner of Best Actor, Best Male Lead and Best original Screenplay along with eight other nominations, stars Casey Affleck as Lee Chandler, handy man of Boston, and everyday struggles of people. The reason why this movie is one of the better dramas to be presented in the last years of film is because it is real. The performance given by Casey Affleck and Lucas Hedges is unparalleled. I have seen this movie twice so far and I've even made the effort to go to a showing at 10 o'clock at night. This movie put out reality and emotion. Casey Affleck has taken a huge step from begging for his double burger in the back of his friends car in Good Will Hunting, and even his role in the 2009 movie, Gone Baby

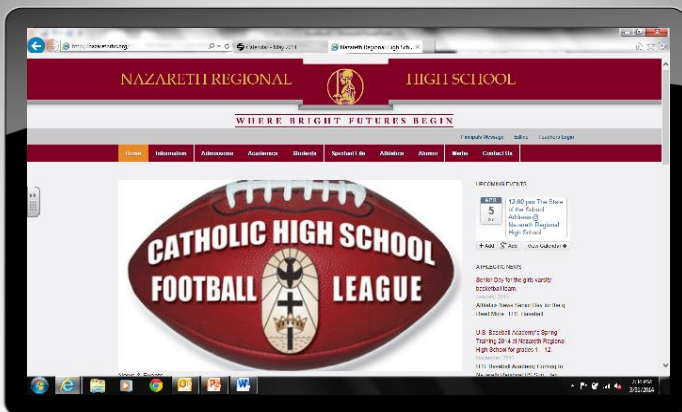
Gone directed by Ben Affleck, just proves the capabilities of Casey.



Casey Affleck won the Best Actor Oscar for his performance in the film.

Star Wars: Rogue One is a combination of what fanboys did like from the Force Awakens and nearly every part of their favorite Star Wars prequel. Star Wars: Rogue One is based off of a single sentence from the beginning text from Star Wars: A New Hope. It shows the rebels who managed to sneak out the plans of the Death Star to the resistance. So while this story is unnecessary, unpredictable and horribly executed, at least we get to waste two hours on visuals and actions that were summed up into one sentence

decades ago. Rogue One delivers dry, forced humor, forced character development and pushes on to you main characters that are completely unlikable and unrelatable. Not only do the characters actions become completely predictable, but also repetitive. This movie's version of a quote, such as, "Why so serious?", is having Donnie Yen repeat the same line about 50 times per scene. Rogue One has leveled the Star Wars franchise, making the series 50% of pure amazingsness and 50% of complete garbage.



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What's in a Caribbean-American Name?

By: Anne Lebrun

Many names, outside of race, have some type of meaning behind it. That is the case when it comes to Caribbean American names. These names originated from a purpose; a purpose to be divergent. This is exactly what the young descendants of the Caribbean should know. Several names tend to be longer and have more complex elements to them. To be more specific, when you look more into the culture, the Caribbean islands can answer and explain the origin of these classification of names. Look at the island of Haiti. For females of Haitian descent, their names usually have Marie somewhere in their name. The name Marie originates from France. The reason for this instance of cultural diffusion is because of the enslavement of the Haitian people by the French.

Another instance involves the neighboring island of Barbados. The island of Barbados was colonized by Spain and England. The island of Barbados was the first to create a plantation for sugarcane dependent primarily on African-American labor. By the 1730's, the population of Barbados was made up of 65% of Africans and 15% of white European.

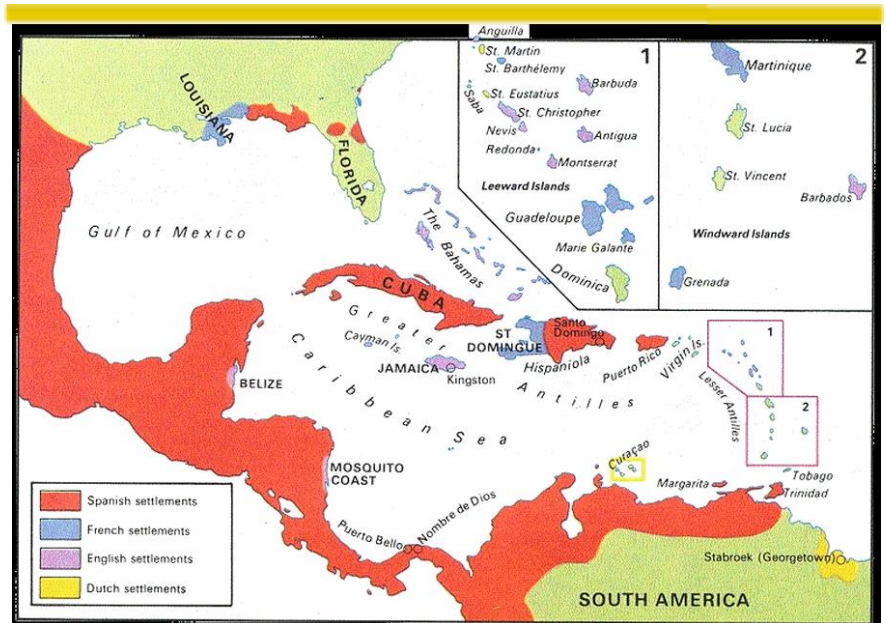
A case study based on the slave names and practices of Barbados was based on slave life centering around the 1730's. Bajan slave names were created by things such as plantation utilities, slave lists, newspaper advertisements, legal documents and so on. This led future generations to name their children names such as Joyce, Spencer and so on. The European influence on Caribbean names is extremely significant.



The national flag of Haiti.



The national flag of Barbados.



European colonization had an influence in the names of native people.

Video Game Update: Overwatch OE

By: Isaiah Clark

The diversification of the available characters in Overwatch: Origins Edition is very exciting for all gamers. For example, for the Chinese new year update, the Asian background oriented characters had skin updates, new icons, and sprays. The event lasted January 24 - February 13.



The upcoming update in Overwatch: Origins Edition is going to have another major appearance as well. The new character is from the map Numbani and is of African descent. This kind of diversification of the character base will allow the Overwatch community to grow. Her damage power is tremendous and she should fit in great in gameplay and solo play.

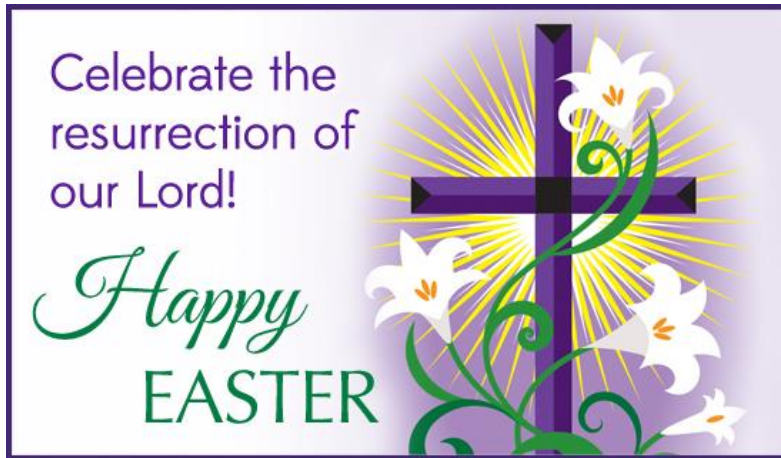


Career Day at Naz a Massive Success

By: Mr. Bryer

On March 24, 2017, Nazareth had its annual Career Day. Career Day provides juniors and seniors the opportunities to listen, learn about and experience professionals from many different career paths. Being able to understand and appreciate the diversity of career options is one in a long list of preparatory activities that are provided to the students of Nazareth to prepare them for their post-secondary academic and professional careers. Juniors and seniors had the opportunity to sign up for four different half-hour workshops in the career fields that interested them the most. Students were excited to have the ability to interact with these professionals, ask questions and get a real sense of what it takes to achieve and succeed in the real world today. Some of the speakers represented careers in the fields of: law enforcement, fire and rescue, psychology, the military, engineering, and aviation.





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