

DOLPHIN PRIDE

MARATHON MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 4, 2023



Ms. Sheehan, Mrs. Dorl, and Mrs. Fuller lead the middle school in the hand jive at the PBIS Kickoff Sockhop event.

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September is Attendance Matters month and on Friday, September 29th, students who met the criteria earned an end of the day break and celebration. The criteria to attend was to have zero unexcused absences for the month of September and nearly 500 students were eligible.

It is important to attend school every day but getting sick is part of life and of course we do not want sick people spreading germs here at school. Students who had excused absences for reasons such as doctors appointments, dental appointments, illnesses, and other excusable reasons were still eligible. They just needed to bring a note in order to have their absences excused.

Attendance doesn't just earn you dancing, treats, and time with your friends. Students who miss more

than nine days in a semester must pass the midterm or final exam in order to pass the class. This means that even if you pass a class for the semester, if you have missed too many days and they are not excused, you will not receive credit if you do not pass the exam. So keep bringing in those notes and keep coming to school when you are physically able to attend.

Next month's PBIS focus will be in inclusion. We will have a Club Rush at lunch in which students will be able to see all the club offerings on campus and sign up to be part of them. Dolphin Dollars will also begin to appear on campus. The dollars will feature the teacher students chose for the honor, Mr. Driscoll. You will find out more about the Dolphin Dollars as the month wears on.

Dolphin Pride

Golf Team Prepares for Districts

The golfin' Dolphins will head to Crandon Golf Course on the 23rd of October. This year's team is much larger than it has been in the past and the team has been steadily improving all season.

Senior Summer Haines has won most of her matches this season and has a solid chance to move on to regionals. For the boys, Michael Merryman, Dylan Ziels, Mason Thornton, Rocco Piscatello, and Ethan Sauders have been doing well on their score cards as well.

Varsity Football Defeats Florida Christian

Last Friday, Marathon had a big win against Florida Christian. The 'fins beat the Patriots 14-12 in the final moments of the game. Fab Louis-Jeune intercepted a Florida Christian pass which would have turned the tables on the Dolphins. His game-saving grab wasn't the only thing he did in the game; he had twelve tackles as well.

Braulio Garcia scored both of Marathon's touchdowns in the game. Astro Gonzalez blocked a Patriots' extra point and had a huge sack. Next up for Marathon is cross county rival Coral Shores who they hope to take down at home this Friday, October 6th.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 10/2 Golf Home at 3pm
- Middle School Volleyball at PKS 5:30
- 10/3 Varsity Volleyball vs. Key West 6pm
- 10/3 JV Volleyball vs. Key West 4:30
- 10/4 Middle School Football at Coral Springs 4pm
- 10/5 Golf at Key West 2pm
- 10/5 JV Volleyball at Palmer 4pm
- 10/5 Cross Country in Miami
- 10/5 Middle School Volleyball vs. HOB 5:30
- 10/5 Varsity Volleyball at Palmer 5:30
- 10/6 Varsity Volleyball vs. Westwood 6pm
- 10/6 JV Volleyball vs. Westwood 5pm
- 10/6 Middle School Volleyball vs. Westwood 3:30
- 10/6 Varsity Football vs. Coral Shores 7pm
- 10/10 Varsity Volleyball vs. Posnack 4pm
- 10/10 Cross Country Home at 3pm
- 10/10 Middle School Volleyball at SLS 5:30
- 10/11 M.S. Volleyball vs. Ocean Studies 5:30
- 10/12 Varsity Volleyball vs. Coral Shores 4:30
- 10/12 Golf at Key West 2pm
- 10/12 JVC Volleyball vs. Coral Shores 3pm
- 10/14 Middle School Football at Westminster 1pm



Varsity Volleyball to Celebrate Seniors

Varsity volleyball will celebrate their senior athletes on Tuesday, October 10th at 4pm. Come out to see your varsity volleyball seniors play one of their final home games at Marathon and cheer on the Lady Fins as they take on the Rams of David Posnack Jewish Day School.



Above: Seniors Marquisha Abraham (6) and Kayesha Christian (2) watch as their teammate serves the ball at a recent home game.

Cross Country Looks at Another Run at States

Marathon's girls and boys cross country teams have been running down their competition again this season. Senior Mikkell Ross has consistently led the girls team and her times continue to improve as the season goes on. Junior Vance Bursa, senior Jafkub Bursa, and eighth grader Tony Bursa hold the top three spots for the boys. Both teams are running strong, and if they can keep their times down and their health up, the teams should do very well at districts on November 2nd at Palmer Trinity.

After districts, the 'Fins will look to run their best times at regionals on November 9th in Boca Raton. Should the Dolphins place high enough in Boca, it's on to states in Tallahassee on November 17th. The boys team has an 8 season streak of qualifying for the state meet and the girls have made an appearance there the past four seasons. The cross country team has consistently been one of our strongest programs on campus and we have great expectations for them this season!

Jimmy Buffett: His Death, Discography, and Impact on American Music

By Olivia Polizze

Jimmy Buffet was an author, businessman, and a songwriter. You may recognize his most popular songs; Margaritaville, Its 5'oclock Somewhere, and Son Of A Sailor; just to list a few. Jimmy Buffett was known for his tropical rock music style, but not only that; he also owns the Margaritaville (resorts and restaurants) brand intellectual rights. Jimmy Buffett's music always brought along the feeling of a blissful tropical escape.

Sadly, Jimmy Buffett's life came to an end at age seventy-six due to a rare skin cancer on September first, 2023. He died at his home in Sag Harbor, N.Y., on Long Island. From what was

stated on his official website, he was surrounded by his family, friends, music, and dogs when he passed. His last words to his sister were "Have Fun."

Jimmy Buffett was an inspiration to many artists, including Greg Taylor, Alan Jackson, and Kenny Chesney. His impact on American folk and country music was very significant, especially to his fans. Jimmy discovered Key West in the early 1970s and was immediately inspired. He was influenced by the islands, which inspired his hit song, Margaritaville.

Jimmy Buffett was born in Mobile, Alabama in 1946. Growing up, he often helped his father in the dockyards. He was raised learning about sailing, fishing, and shipbuilding. His grandfather, James Delaney Buffett, was a steamship captain and his father was a

marine engineer and sailor. His childhood was another of his inspirations.

Jimmy Buffett had released over thirty albums and sold over twenty million albums. He was one of the world's richest musicians. His net worth is one billion. He also formed the Coral Reefer band in 1975.

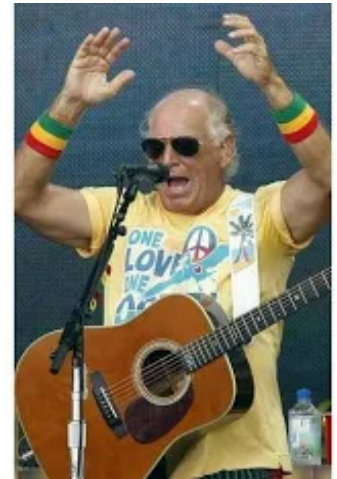
Jimmy Buffett has gone on more than 40 tours throughout his career. Another thing, he was once a pilot too! He was also an activist who really cared about the environment.

In terms of his family, he has two younger siblings, Laurie and Lucy. Jimmy went to St. Ignatius School, and he played the trombone in the school band. When he got older, Jimmy went to Auburn University. That's where he learned how to play guitar. Later he failed out of Auburn.

At a young age, Jimmy

Buffett was also largely influenced by his father, James Buffett Sr. He showed young Jimmy how to sail and exposed him to the life of a sailor and fisherman, which was also a huge part of his inspiration and influence.

Ever since Jimmy Buffett discovered and fell in love with the Florida Keys, he and his music helped others discover the Keys, as well. His music heavily influenced the Keys and the island culture in Florida.



What to do During a Hurricane in the Florida Keys

by Hydrie Boggs

Hurricane Season

Tropical storms and hurricanes are common here in Florida around the months between June and November. That's a six month long period of possible storms. So whether you decide to leave or stay, how can

you prepare and keep safe for a hurricane in the Florida Keys?

Evacuations

To prepare for a hurricane you need to be on high alert and keep updated with the news and weather.

Depending on how severe the hurricane is you might need an evacuation plan. Visitors in the Florida Keys are typically asked to leave during any category storm and locals are mandated to evacuate if the hurricane is a category 3 or higher. However, some might prefer to stay during the storm to protect their homes and property.

How to Prepare

If you decide to ride the storm out and stay at home then you will need to take the right precautions. You should make a

list of things you might end up needing during the storm. Examples of this might be flashlights, candles, nonperishable foods, drinking water, and any necessary medications.



Protecting your Home
During a hurricane you will need to be sure to make your home as safe as possible. If there is expected to be flooding or high winds then you should clean up your front and back yards. Take inside all of your outside furniture to keep

it from getting ruined in the storms. You should also take anything you have on your window sills off and replace them with a towel in case of leaks. Putting plywood on your windows and doors is also an effective way to protect them from flying debris. If you own a boat then be sure to take it out of the water. If you would rather keep it in the water then tie it down properly to make sure it stays safe from high winds, water rise, and strong waves.

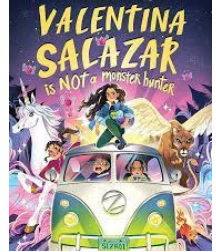
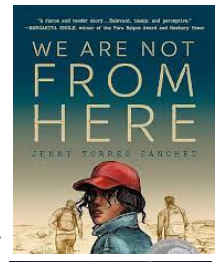


Hispanic Heritage Book Recommendations

by Nathan Ramos

Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from September 15th to October 15th, is a month-long celebration in the United States. It commemorates the rich cultural contributions and diverse heritage of Hispanic and Latino Americans. The chosen dates mark the independence anniversaries of several Latin American countries. During this time, various events, festivals, and educational activities take place to highlight the significance of Hispanic culture. Hispanic Heritage Month serves as

a platform to recognize the achievements of Hispanic individuals in various fields. Hispanic heritage month also serves as an important reminder of the need for representation and inclusivity, it's an opportunity for cultures to share traditions and stories. Come down to the library and check out some of these books for Hispanic Heritage month and ask Ms Medero



All Should be Wary of Risks of Artificial Intelligence

by Natylee Siegel

I'm sure you've heard of artificial intelligence, also known as AI. I'm also sure you know what impressive things it can do. It can create designs, write essays, do math, create videos, etc. Though all these things seem positive, the downsides are crucial.

If people over rely on AI, It can really harm artists. As you probably know, AI can create images of whatever you can think of! But this can undermine the abundance of time artists put into their work. A majority feel that their hours, days, months, or even years of work go undermined. AI can devalue the work and years of practice of artists that human artists worked hard for. AI lacks original creativity and could limit art skills for some people. A genre of art has been created called "AI Art" where people generate "fascinating" art pieces using artificial intelligence. Artists have expressed their anger with this sort of "Art"; many artists say that AI is theft as it has the ability to copy art styles without permission. Others say that it lacks originality, emotional depth, and creativity that comes with human artists' skills.

There has been a recent study from Goldman Sachs saying that artificial intelligence can

affect 300 million full-time jobs worldwide which could lead to a "significant disruption" in the job market. In November of 2022, ChatGPT was released and has "helped" create children's books, write cover letters, and help students cheat on their essays. One of the fields most vulnerable to the effects of AI are media jobs which includes journalism, advertising, content creation, and technical writing may be affected by ChatGPT.

AI may also be a danger for your privacy. There are several privacy concerns surrounding Artificial intelligence with its ability to process very personal data and potentially sensitive information such as names, addresses, contact details, and other things which may be collected while having interactions with AI systems. When it processes the personal information, this puts it at risk of unintended exposure or misuse of your personal information that you may not want to be shared. Not only that but AI sources like chatGPT can help out hackers with more sophisticated attacks and help the effectiveness and improve the likelihood of their attacks to be successful. It's not only the regular hackers using it, but also newer hackers getting



their hands on these sources, and it's very easy to use; it's as simple as asking the Chat bot to code!

Like I previously stated, Artificial Intelligence can create any images, videos, films, responses, lyrics, etc. You can create just about anything with AI Including voices! This can lead to misinformation, violating privacy, damaging reputation, impersonating identity, and influencing public opinions. These videos or voice clips or images are called "deep fakes". In some states, certain types are even illegal. AI can take any face and superimpose human features on another person and manipulate sounds to create a realistic human experience. That puts celebrities, presidents, and really anyone at risk of identity theft, fraud, or cyberattacks and the technology is getting more sophisticated and harder to detect.

A Modest Proposal for Our Vending Machines

by Noah Howell

I've spent tons of money on the vending machines here at Marathon High School. The only issue I have is despite my repeated patronage is that the options are very lackluster. Marathon High is a Pepsi school for some reason and all the drink options are diet. There are all kinds of wacky and useful vending machines out there

in the world, why can't we have some practical vending machines here at Marathon High School?

How about a supplies machine for children who forgot to bring something important, like a pack of pencils, Chromebook chargers or crayons for the younguns?

What about a vending machine that

dispenses cheap t-shirts or basketball shorts for children who decided they didn't want to wear practical clothing and are trying to avoid the humiliation of wearing thick khaki shorts all day, after an administrator catches them being comfortable.

Perchance, a machine that would sell food, not like expired Cheetos, but rather microwavable

meals that you could eat during lunch. Like a sad dinner for one, or cheap ramen noodles. Because if you didn't care enough to bring or eat school lunch, you probably don't care enough to care what's in a vending machine meal. So much untapped potential exists in this realm!



Artificial Intelligence is the Wave of the Future

by Traes Neathery (and an AI bot)



Artificial intelligence (AI) has transformed many facets of our life by reshaping industries, increasing productivity, and improved decision-making. AI has enormous potential to help high school students succeed academically in the field of education. The positive effects AI can have on high school students are examined in this essay, including individualized instruction, cutting-edge tutoring, educational accessibility, and skill improvement.

For high school students, one of the major benefits of AI is the ability to customize instruction to meet their unique requirements and learning preferences. Learning systems with AI capabilities may assess students' skills, limitations, and preferences to offer individ-

ualized learning opportunities. AI promotes engagement, motivation, and a deeper comprehension of subjects by tailoring the curriculum to each learner. The success of students and overall academic accomplishment may enhance as a result of this individualized strategy.

AI-powered tutoring solutions provide students the chance to get individualized assistance whenever and wherever they need it. These virtual tutors use AI algorithms to deliver individualized feedback, direction, and extra resources to assist students in overcoming obstacles and achieving academic success. AI tutors can adjust to different learning styles, provide prompt explanations, and monitor progress, giving students a customized learning experience that traditional tutoring could find difficult to match.

The gap between students with varied levels of access to educational materials might be closed by AI. AI can be a game-changer for high school students in underprivileged places or with limited access to high-quality education. Students now have access to tools, interactive courses, and high-quality instructional

materials that were previously out of their grasp thanks to AI-powered online learning platforms. All students, regardless of their circumstances, will have equal opportunity to study and flourish thanks to the democratization of education.

High school education might be transformed by artificial intelligence thanks to its capacity to offer individualized learning possibilities, cutting-edge tutoring, educational accessibility, and chances for skill development. High school kids may benefit from individualized guidance, have access to a top-notch education, and acquire the abilities required for success in the twenty-first century by utilizing AI. To ensure that all children have the chance to succeed in the digital age, it is critical for educators and policymakers to embrace AI's promise and integrate it into the educational system as it continues to develop.

And if an essay on the benefits of AI wasn't enough to change your mind about it, a little under half of that essay was either written, corrected or enunciated by AI further proving the point of its helpful ability.

Iguanas in the Keys



Here in the Florida Keys there are a lot of iguanas. Not everyone likes iguanas, but they do have some interesting characteristics. Iguanas can break their tails off if they feel threatened then they can grow them back afterward. They have amazing eyesight which can allow them to see their prey and see any danger that is coming their way. Iguanas can live 12-15 years. If you are wondering just how big they can get, well the answer is 7ft long and can up to 20 pounds. If the weather stays at or below 40 degrees for more than 8 hours, iguanas can die. If it is cold for shorter periods of time, iguanas become immobile and

by Daisey Crisp appear dead. They usually liven up again when the weather warms up but sometimes they fall right out of trees in their cold-stunned stupor. And just how did they get here in the first place? Iguanas were on ships that were bringing fruit over from South America and now they are all over the Florida Keys.



Iguanas are great swimmers.



You can try to keep them away... good luck with that!

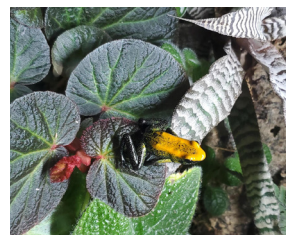
Teachers' Pets

by Justice Lee Isom

As a person who loves all animals and has seventeen pets of my own at my house, I thought it would be cool to see what pets our staff at Marathon High School have. I did not want to hear about ordinary animals that a lot of people have like dogs and cats (I myself have three dogs and one cat). I wanted to know about interesting and uncommon pets that they have like reptiles, chinchillas, tortoises, chickens, etc. Or, teachers with a lot of pets in general. Turns out, Marathon is full of fellow animal lovers!



Ms. Sheehan with her lizard, Charlie, dogs Zeke and Luckey, and her bunny Agustus.



Mrs. Yablon has two dogs, four fish, and three dart frogs (one is pictured above).



Mr. Bish has this chicken named Betty, and two cats, Jack & Crumb.



Ms. Sullivan has an axolotl salamander named Nilla.



Mrs. McDonald with her hen, Big Momma. Her family also has two dogs, a cockatiel, and three other chickens.



Fun Facts about Pets

69 million U.S. households have a pet dog, compared to 45.3 million with a cat,



It is completely normal for your pet rabbit to eat its own poo. It is the rabbit's natural way of making the most out of the nutrients it gets from its food. The type of poo it eats is called caecotrophs and is packed with vitamins. Mmmm.



Cats spend 70% of their lives sleeping...and your parents think you sleep a lot!

When dogs kick backward after they go to the bathroom, it's not to cover it up, but to mark their territory, using the scent glands in



Underrated Must-Read Books

by Olivie Polizze

Are you looking for something new to read? Something good that won't lose your interest? I've put together a list of four underrated books that will keep you invested and on the edge of your seat between every page. These four books are some of my favorites and definitely deserve a spot on your bookshelf, especially if you are someone that hasn't read a good book in a while.

One book that I have read many times is *Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sachar, the author of *Holes*. If you liked *Holes*, you'll definitely like *Fuzzy Mud*. The story is about a young girl named Tamaya and her childhood friend, Marshall, who venture into restricted woods behind their school to escape a bully from their old school. Tamaya had gone missing when the school was put under lockdown, and Marshall went through the woods to save her. What Tamaya and Marshall didn't know was that there was a strange mud that lived in the woods. It was no ordinary mud. It consist-

ed of man-made bacteria that had escaped from a nearby science laboratory and settled in the woods. There is not a single page in this book that didn't have me on the edge of my seat! I couldn't put it down. If you're looking for something that will keep you interested, and doesn't have too many pages, this is definitely the book for you.

Second on my list is *Screenshot* by Donna Cooner, author of *Worthy*. This is a book that I could read time after time without getting bored. You'll be hooked within the first pages. *Screenshot* is a book about a girl named Skye Matthews who had to face difficult issues and decisions due to an unflattering image of her that went locally viral through her school and town. She faced blackmail, bullying and had to fight for important people throughout the way. This book will keep you guessing throughout every chapter and leave you shocked in the end. This is the perfect book for anyone who wants to read something that

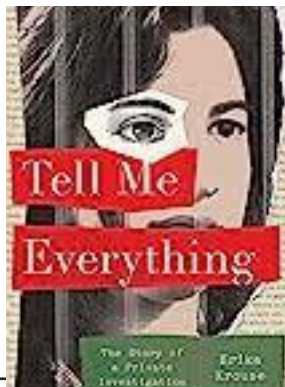
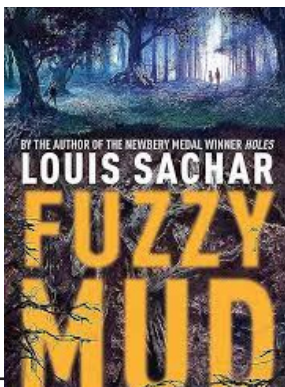
deals with the struggles of high school and social media.

Third on the list is a book called *The Music of What Happens* by Bill Konigsberg, which portrays a blossoming romance between two highschoolers, Max and Jordan, who fight against their personal issues together. This book will forever be one of my favorites, because of its heartwarming and comforting tone and plot like no other. This is one book that I did not want to end. At first, Max and Jordan did not get along. Their opposite personalities clashed but throughout the book, they quickly grew very fond of each other. They opened up to each other about their problems and trauma, which opened a new door of fondness between the two. Throughout every event that took place in the book, I genuinely could not put it down. If you're looking for a heartwarming LGBTQ+ Highschool story, you'll love *The Music of What Happens*.

The last book I have on my list is *Tell Me*

Everything by Sarah Enni. *Tell Me Everything* is about a girl named Ivy, who loves photography with a passion and loves sharing that passion on an app called VEIL. VEIL is an app where you can share your art and post anonymously. The posts stay up for a week, then get deleted to maintain anonymity. Ivy started taking advantage of VEIL by discovering the identities of some anonymous users on the app. Trouble ensues when VEIL gains popularity amongst Ivy's school and people start posting personal hate towards other students. *Tell Me Everything* is an incredible story that will certainly spike your interest.

I love reading, and when I haven't been interested in finding a book to read, these four books got me back into reading, and I'm surprised that more people aren't talking about them. If you haven't been able to find a book that interests you, believe me when I tell you that you'll love these.



Homecoming 2023

Monday 10/16

Country vs. Country Club



Tuesday 10/17

Twin Tuesday



Friday 10/20

Fin Pride Friday



This year's Homecoming theme is Cartoons and each day has a designated theme. High school students are encouraged to dress up daily according to the theme and middle school students are encouraged to accessorize their uniforms.

Wednesday 10/18 Woke Up Like This Wednesday



Thursday 10/19

Float Theme Thursday

Freshmen: Looney Tunes
Sophomores: Winnie the Pooh
Juniors: Scooby Doo
Seniors: Spongebob Squarepants

Preorder Your Yearbook!

If you would like to preorder your yearbook, go to yearbookordercenter.com and use our school code 10740. Books are \$50 and online preorders will continue until the books arrive in May.

If you are a senior and would like to purchase an ad in the back of the book, go to the same website. The directions are easy to follow. Our yearbooks are full-color and have a hard cover.

There's a New Killer on the Loose

by Yetzaily Cruz-Medina

There's a new killer on the loose. One of the latest trends in the Florida Keys is owning e vehicles. Many kids use them for fun and even for going to school and work but are they really safe? In the past few months we've had a couple of accidents with some of our students and electric scooters due to people not being careful. Electric scooters can be fun and useful but they can also be very dangerous

when people aren't safe with them and ignore the laws.

A few weeks ago freshman Mathew Machado was riding his electric scooter near IHOP when a motorist carelessly ran a stop sign forcing Machado to run into the vehicle. Fortunately, he is okay but others across the country have not been so lucky. Between 2017 and 2021, 119 e-scooter and e-bicycle deaths were reported nationally.

While some feel the vehicles should be banned entirely, many depend on electric scooters and bicycles for transportation. So how can you keep from being a terrible statistic? Machado has the answers which he learned from the officers who responded to his accident. "Yes, they're dangerous," he said, "but the person riding the scooter should be riding with the flow of traffic and if you do choose to

ride an electric scooter, make sure you are wearing a helmet."



Know The Law!

- *Wear a Helmet
- *Single Riders Only
- *Obey Traffic Laws
- *Be Aware of Areas Where Cars Cross the Sidewalk