

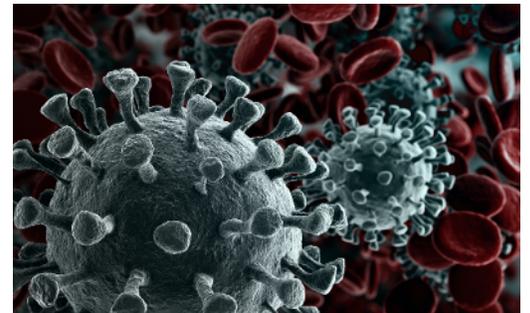


Coronavirus and Why It's Important to Have Valid Sources

By: Hannah Werle

Editor's Note: This article will be the first installment in a series discussing the topic of Covid-19 and the impacts it has had on how people view fact-finding.

Coronavirus has taken the world by storm. From everyday citizens to celebrities to the president of the United States, it has impacted us all. Originating in China, Covid-19 spread around the world faster than anyone would've believed. Now we're here, trying to find some semblance of normalcy in an otherwise catastrophic time.



With the development of any major event, opinions polarize quickly. The debate doesn't stop. Is Coronavirus even real? Are we downplaying its seriousness? Are we taking it too serious? Are all the precautions helpful? In a time where any idea can be "confirmed," absolute certainty is nearly nonexistent. Change the tv

channel and the same situation you were hearing about before is completely different. An entry into the Google search bar can yield opposite responses as the top two results. However, there has never been a situation in which having the wrong information can be more dangerous or deadly.

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First: What is Coronavirus?

Covid-19 is a particular strand of coronavirus. This strand is new, but we've actually seen coronavirus before in diseases such as SARS and bird flu. If this is the case, then why does Covid-19 seem so much more serious? Well, that's a complicated question. The first answer would be its level of infectiousness and its mortality rate, but there is more. To find additional information regarding the science behind coronavirus, visit the **"Science and Research" tab on the CDC's coronavirus website.**

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Article continues on page 2

Coronavirus article continued... If Covid -19 is more infectious than other viruses, how can we stop it? We follow the recommended precautions by washing our hands, wearing masks and social distancing. Coronavirus is unique in that it is only transmitted through droplets and is not naturally airborne. This is actually a good thing; this means that simple precautions can prevent the spread.

Wearing a mask is an effective way to help prevent the spread of the disease. Say someone with coronavirus sneezes near you- there are several scenarios that could occur. If the person is within six feet of you and not wearing a mask, then the droplets that carry the virus can easily travel and reach you. Next, if the person is not wearing a mask but is standing six feet away, then the droplets will likely fall onto a surface without reaching you. While that might seem sufficient, if you then touch the surface that the droplets landed on, you could still be infected. This is why we wash our hands. Now, in the situation where the carrier is wearing a mask and six feet away, droplets from the sneeze will likely hit the walls of the mask, not you. The CDC website writes, "According to some studies, ≈25%–50% of persons with COVID-19 have mild cases or are asymptomatic and potentially can transmit infection to others. So in areas of high transmission, mask use as source control may prevent spread of infection from persons with asymptomatic, presymptomatic, or mild infections." A simplified diagram involving social distancing and masks from The Washington State Department of Health can be found **here**.

While we'd hope that no one with coronavirus is going to be in public, the virus can often be asymptomatic or similar to symptoms of a common cold or seasonal allergies. Following the simple guidelines experts have given us is the best way to prevent the spread of this disease.

Home of the Brave **By: Riley Myers**

It's important to celebrate Veterans Day in order to honor the ones that have sacrificed for our country, and the ones who have fought and are injured. Members of the military have fought for our freedom and for our country to be safe. That's why we honor our soldiers on this day. We wouldn't have what we have if our soldiers didn't serve in the military.

My uncle, Duane A. Confer was a Marine for eight years. At the age of twenty-two he started in boot camp and was a combat Marksmanship Trainer. He was in a war in Iraq for two tours back to back, and 13 months straight. When he was in Iraq he felt bored sometimes while other times were intense. When asked about his experience joining the military, he said, "I didn't see grass for eight months, so every time that I saw grass I tried taking a picture of it." As a veteran, my uncle feels celebrating Veterans Day is important, "I feel without our Veterans to protect the U.S., America would not be like it is now. I'm glad that we have our Veterans to serve our country."



Duane Confer at the age of twenty-two.

Our principal, Mr. Carkido, was in the army for six years from 1987-1993. When asked about his experience in the army, he responded, "In hindsight, I am glad I joined. I met some amazing people that have become lifelong friends." He believes celebrating Veterans Day is important for several reasons as well, "I think it is important to honor the men and women that served in our armed forces. It is a sacrifice that few people make, but one of the most important sacrifices an American can make. A veteran gave up a part of his/her life to serve their country and that should be recognized and appreciated. Veterans Day reminds us to do just that."

Students at McDonald also recognize the importance of Veterans Day. Sophomore Caidan Morris, whose grandfather served in the Air Force during the Gulf War, said, "I think it is important to celebrate Veterans Day because we as American citizens should honor those who served in the military to protect our freedoms."

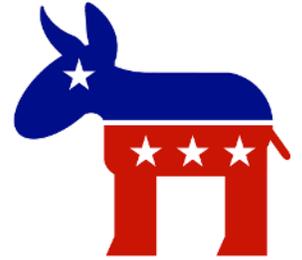
Veterans have served our country and have fought for our homeland to be the way it is now and Veterans Day is something we should all take seriously and pay our respects to those who have or had the honor to serve our country. If you see someone that is or was a Veteran, walk up to them and say thank you any day of the year.



Editorial: Should We Have Politics In School?

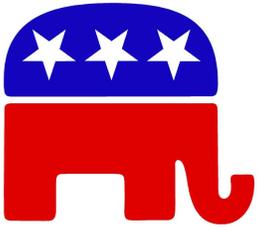
By: Elle Airhart

Okay, okay. I know. This is really controversial and I'm opening a big ole can of worms, but hear me out since it's political season (or was depending on if the election is still being investigated). Politics are already pretty bad when adults are dealing with them. Why are students being allowed to prematurely jump into that confusing and problematic world as well? Obviously, if you're interested in that kind of thing, you can educate yourself and voice your opinion as a hobby or take classes that deal with politics since they have no way of skirting around the topic. That's completely fine. The question I'm discussing here is if schools should discuss them in depth and promote the act of doing so.



These days, people are super opinionated about their views and don't like to hear otherwise, so adding politics to the mix doesn't sound like the best idea. And sometimes that's the only thing people know how to voice their opinion, so hypothetically teachers would have a lot of hoops to jump through to have civil discussions about the different views of the Republican and Democrat parties. Would it be worth that trouble? Maybe. Maybe not.

Like I said above, there are classes like Government and other electives that necessarily HAVE to discuss politics to get a full understanding of America's institutions and history. Plus, politics follow you for the rest of your life. You never stop hearing the end of it. You participate in an election every four years and hopefully vote your personal opinion into office. It never ends, so maybe learning about it and getting a jump start on your own view and the basis of how our government works while you're still young is a good idea. Besides, it'll take you the rest of your life to fully understand and digest the world of politics.



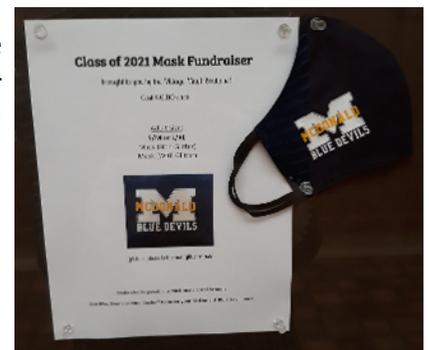
So, I guess the TL;DR here is that maybe politics should exist in schools to help students learn about a chunk of the real world, however, maybe should only scratch the surface and not enable less than civil conversations in the class. In this day and age, information is at the touch of button so if any students who are seriously interested in politics have the means and the time to research and educate themselves further they should do it. A win-win in a way. Those who are interested get to enable that curiosity and those who aren't don't have to sit through a forty minute lecture on why *insert candidate here* is *insert adjective about integrity or belief here* and why you should agree with them.

McDonald, Briefly

By: Theresa Greathouse

All order forms for the McDonald mask fundraiser were due November 20th. If you did not turn your paper into Mrs. Bosheff or Mrs. Evans, please see them as soon as possible!

Prep Bowl season is right around the corner, and sign-ups are in the office. Throughout the years the team has been very successful and looking for new members to help continue that legacy. Good luck McDonald Prep Bowl crew!



Congratulations to Caleb Domitrovich, Michael Porter, and Anthony Ragazzino who were selected to the all district golf team. Caleb and Michael were selected to first team and Anthony was selected for second team. Congratulations!



Brody Rupe Breaks McDonald Records at State Cross Country Meet

Brody Rupe made history in McDonald High School Saturday morning, November 7th placing sixth overall at the State Cross Country Meet. Brody made First Team All Ohio Honors and ran with a final time of 15:55. This gives him his 4th new record for McDonald High School and making history. Keep up the amazing work Brody!

What Grinds My Gears

By: Riley Myers

You know what grinds my gears? People taking their phone out when you are talking. I can't stand that! I think that ever since phones kept evolving people just got more rude with taking their phones out as you are speaking. Nothing is worse than when you want to talk to your parents and they're on their phones scrolling on Facebook and they yell at you because you're "bothering them." The question is, can you just put your phone down for ten seconds?



I don't think anybody really likes when you're talking about something important and others just put the phone to their face because you're boring them to death. It makes no sense, though, when you are texting someone and it takes an hour for them to text back, but when you are with them they are always on their phone. Man, I think I should start talking to a wall or text an imaginary friend. There is more to life other than a screen that's going to be there when you get back. I think people will still be there to text you if you put the phone down for a couple of minutes.

People are prisoners to their phones and that's why they call them cell phones. When someone sits there on their phone, I can't help but think, "Thank you for being on your phone the entire entire time we hangout. I am sorry for boring you with my company." But there is always one person, their phone dies, and they judge other people because they are always on their phones. I mean, I think you get the point that I hate when people sit there on the phone when you are talking. Really...really, just why do you have to be so rude? But if you want me to stop complaining then STOP USING YOUR PHONE WHEN I AM TALKING!



People On The Street- "Why Do You Think Veterans Day is Important?"

By: Bri Callow

In honor of Veterans Day I had the opportunity to speak to some MHS students about why they think Veterans Day is important. Many of our MHS students had insightful thoughts on why they think Veterans Day is important to us all.



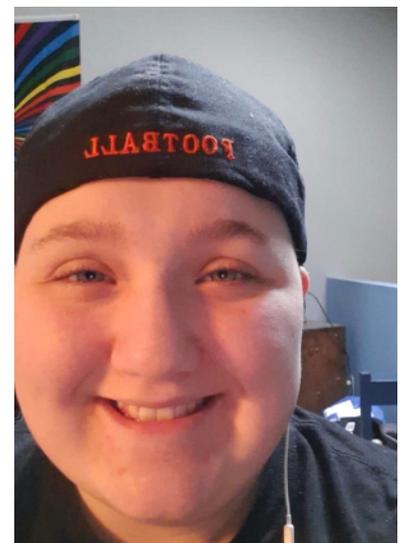
"I think Veterans Day is important because it's a day to honor all of those who have served and given their lives to make sure we have the rights and freedoms we deserve." - Katie Gardner

"In terms of veterans, I believe they have earned our utmost respect for the sacrifices they have made, and what they have given for this country." - Collin Mulrooney



"Veterans Day is important because it's important for us to honor and recognize the people who fought for our freedom. - Jacob Wolford

"Veterans Day is important to me because I had family in the military. I also plan on going into the military. Veterans Day is a day to remember all who served." - Quinn Ague



Villager Vlog's Famous Pumpkin Pie

No Thanksgiving is complete without a slice of pumpkin pie to end off a delicious dinner. Whether you are celebrating alone or with your whole family, the Villager Vlogs have you covered with a pumpkin pie recipe that is guaranteed to impress everyone. So follow along with this recipe to have everyone at your dinner table begging for second helpings!



By : Sage Mason

Ingredients include:

- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup dark brown sugar
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/8 teaspoon cardamom
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest
- 1 15 oz. can pumpkin puree
- 1 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 pie crust

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
2. Beat the eggs in a large bowl. Mix in the brown sugar, white sugar, salt, spices -- cinnamon, ground ginger, nutmeg, ground cloves, cardamom and lemon zest.
3. Mix in the pumpkin puree. Stir in the cream. Beat together until everything is well mixed.
4. Pour filling into an uncooked chill or frozen pie crust. Bake at a high temperature of 425 degrees for 15 minutes.
5. After the 15 minutes, lower the temperature to 350 degrees. Bake for 45 to 55 minutes more. The pie is done when a knife is inserted to the center and comes out wet but relatively clean. The center should be barely jiggly.
6. Cool the pumpkin pie on a wire rack for 2 hours. Note that the pie will come out of the oven all puffed up (from the eggs), and will deflate as soon as it cools.



Recipe by Elise Bauer, www.simplyrecipes.com

Helpful Tip : To stay away from soggy crust make sure to bake your pie dough for 5 minutes before putting the filling in!

As always make sure so subscribe and watch our videos at [The Villager Vlogs on YouTube](#).

Horoscope of the Month

By: Riley Myers

Scorpio:

October 23 - November 21

Element - Water

Color - Red or Scarlet

Ruler - Pluto and Mars

Lucky Number - 8 or 22

Strengths: Resourceful, brave, passionate, stubborn, and a true friend.

Weaknesses: Distrusting, jealous, and secretive.

Likes: Truth, facts, being right, and longtime friends.

Dislikes: Dishonesty, revealing secrets, and passive people.

Overall: November is for issues that were a consequence of self-destructive choices. You will find reason for the way you have been treated and understand how well you need to treat yourself in the process of connecting with other people, so you can form healthy relationships. The final week will bring you support that you have by new insights and implemented solutions to your routine.



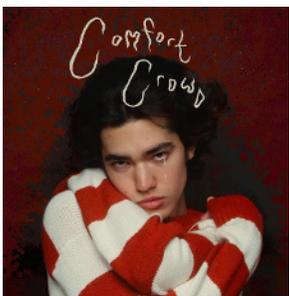
Adapted from: <https://www.astrology-zodiac-signs.com/zodiac-signs/scorpio/>

Song of The Month - "Comfort Crowd" by

By: Elle Airhart

Conan Gray

Alrighty! This month, we're winding down to the end of 2020! Yayyyyyyyy!!! Despite this, though, there has been talk of a second wave of the Disease-That-Should-Not-Be-Named so we aren't out of the woods of quarantining and social distancing yet. That's lonely. Trust me, we all can relate. So that's why this song is on the chopping block for this month.



"Comfort Crowd" was produced by the young artist Conan Gray this year. He produced it during a time of loneliness without his friends. They were away in college, leaving him without his "comfort crowd" as the song goes.

The meaning is as the title inspires. The song is about having those people that just always seem to comfort you. They always seem to know how to cheer you up during rough times (Haven't we all felt that this year?) and are always ready to help if need be. Those people are, as Conan Gray puts it, your "comfort crowd/ You can count on".

The song specifically talks about the friends that you can just sit next to and just enjoy their company. You gotta know what I mean. If you don't have one of those friends, find one! Trust me, that type of friend is amazing. You don't have to be doing anything necessarily fun. You could just sit there and talk or even just play on your phones, being in your own worlds. It's therapeutic and really hard to come by now since social distancing became the norm.

Listen to this song if you want to reminisce about the memories of your comfort crowd and want to feel all those good feelings in your stomach. Or maybe cry. I've heard it's actually a good coping mechanism even though it sounds counter-intuitive. Whatever helps to make you feel less lonely or at least better than what you felt during this wild ride of a year.

Everybody's got this! This year is almost over and we'll be able to see our friends and loved ones soon enough. Stay positive, y'all!

Backpage Pics

By: Hannah Werle

