

EDITORIAL: A Staff to Remember

News, *noun*: newly received or noteworthy information, especially about recent or important events.

This is it. We have reached the final destination: the end of the school year.

Here at the *Hyphen*, we have hoped to bring you news accurately and honestly, while pushing the boundaries of things that are sometimes uncomfortable, yet necessary, to talk about.

News is news -- even if every story isn't important to every person. But often times, what was reported in the *Hyphen* as news was met with backlash from students or members of the community, questioning its importance towards the student body.

The fact of the matter is news isn't always about what you want it to be about -- news is necessary.

Stories that concern people of different races, religions, creeds, orientations, etc. are in the news all the time, and it is our job to make sure we cover all of our bases and to be an inclusive media source.

The Jeff High student body is made up of a variety of students coming from all walks of life. Now, with the year coming to a close, we can only hope that this year's *Hyphen* staff has made our student body

photo by Dylan Shupe-Logsdon



proud with the stories and people we have covered and featured this year.

And these featured stories have brought The *Hyphen* to yet another Hoosier Star finalist nomination. But this year's honor means more to the JHS newspaper staff than just adding another trophy or plaque to the collection -- it means we're finally arriving as a news outlet.

Before this year, it was 'dangerous' for

a student media source to push boundaries and talk about uncomfortable topics. And we didn't write these stories to simply push the limits of our First Amendment rights. We did what was needed to be the paper we wanted to be: one that didn't sugar coat things and gave our readers the truth -- no matter how disagreeable they might be.

And this is exactly how life can be at times. Life as a student at Jeff can be

'dangerous.' Not dangerous as a feeling of being, or feeling, unsafe at school, but dangerous as learning the truth about others and yourself.

Freshmen have finished their first crazy year. Sophomores have started to get the hang of being a student at Jeff. Juniors are preparing for their final year. And seniors are counting down the days until they are no longer students at Jeff High.

This includes the *Hyphen* seniors. As a tribute to them, and to their work put into this publication, we have given them the opportunity to write a final column - their last chance to say what they want before they are no longer a part of this staff.

We want to say thank you and a bittersweet goodbye to our seven seniors. Thank you for the countless hours of hard work, the deadlines made (and missed), the pictures taken, stories written, for it all.

In the end, though, everyone's voice matters. And we hope throughout our nine issues this year, our readers found a story they could latch on to -- something they could see themselves in.

It was a monumental year for the *Hyphen*, and it was all thanks to the hard work this staff put in.

Mission Statement

"The Jeffersonville High School newspaper, the Hyphen, is an open student forum for the exchange of ideas and opinions. The Hyphen will strive to publish fair, balanced, and accurate news for the interest and importance to the student body."

2017-18 Hyphen Staff

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A REVITALIZED DOWNTOWN JEFF

By Chloe Treat

 @Chloetreat_

On Monday, April 23, Rocky’s Sub Pub, the popular Italian restaurant in downtown Jeffersonville, closed its doors for good.

Little did Jeffersonville area residents know that the closing was just the beginning of what appears to be the end of major chain restaurants in the locally-dominated food scene.

In March, Bristol Bar & Grille also closed, the go-to restaurant for guests of the Sheraton Louisville Riverside Hotel in Jeffersonville.

"We would like to thank our guests for their patronage over the last decade and we look forward to seeing them

at our downtown, Highlands and East restaurants," the Bristol ownership group said in a statement to the Courier-Journal.

While some residents may be wondering why so many major restaurants have been closing in the downtown area, the answer appears simple: locally-owned businesses, not franchises, are dominating.

Over the past year, downtown Jeffersonville has become the hot spot for all things, including food, clothing, and entertainment/recreation.

The local boom began in May of 2014, with the opening of the Big Four Bridge, available for walkers and cyclists to walk from Jeffersonville to the waterfront in Louisville. Later in the year came The Red Yeti, the start of many locally-owned restaurants.

On April 5, 2017 came Parlour Pizza, one of the most popular restaurants in the area.

Since then, ice cream places (Pearl Street Treats), coffee shops (Too Tired Bike & Bean),

and even new playgrounds that are kid friendly, have opened in the area, swaying locals towards the appeal of the spending locally.

According to Jeffersonville Main Street’s website, “Shopping downtown Jeffersonville means finding customer service and merchandise that’s infused with local heritage and can’t be found anywhere else.”

“SHOPPING DOWNTOWN JEFFERSONVILLE MEANS FINDING CUSTOMER SERVICE AND MERCHANDISE THAT’S INFUSED WITH LOCAL HERITAGE AND CAN’T BE FOUND ANYWHERE ELSE.”

- JEFF MAIN STREET WEBSITE

