





Palm Beach County School District and The Perry J. Cohen Foundation Announce The Creation Of The "Perry J. Cohen Wetlands Laboratory at Jupiter High School."

Pond at Entrance of High School To Be Transformed Into A Permanent Wetlands Habitat and Outdoor Classroom

Jupiter (FL) October 26, 2016 - Jupiter Community High School ("JCHS"), the Jupiter Environmental Research & Field Studies Academy and the Partnership for Environmental Education along with The Perry J. Cohen Foundation have announced today a partnership to transform and develop the existing storm water retention pond into a created wetlands habitat by introducing the plant material most recognized as the five Eco Zones of Florida. The Perry J. Cohen Foundation is a registered not for profit 501(c)(3) organization devoted to the advancement of Boating Safety Education, Environmental, Marine, & Wildlife Education & Preservation, Teenage Entrepreneurship, and The Arts.. In support of these programs and the preservation of our coastlines, the Foundation has committed to contribute and raise funds to complete the Project, to be named upon completion the "Perry J. Cohen Wetlands Laboratory at Jupiter Community High School." Encouraging and supporting environmental education, stewardship, and environmental responsibility by bringing together students, scientists, educators, businesses and governmental agencies to promote an environmental legacy for our region.

The Perry J. Cohen Wetlands Laboratory and created habitat will be planted with materials ranging from Coastal Upland Hammock to the Littoral Shelf just inside the shallow portion of the pond. In addition, the design includes a bridge with stairs into the water, and an ADA boardwalk into the deepest part of the pond. These hardscape elements will provide platforms from which students can access the water safely for taking water samples and teachers can conduct lessons. A nature trail with interpretive signage will identify the varied plant material and the Eco Zones.

"We are very honored to have this opportunity to carry on Perry's legacy and reinforce his love of the environment and marine sciences, which is one of the pillars that his Foundation was founded on. For our family it is a way that we can give back in a meaningful way to the community that has given so much love and support to us through this tragedy. Perry was extremely excited to begin the Environmental Research & Field Studies Academy at JCHS which he was accepted to, but tragically went missing only three weeks prior to beginning high school. We believe that Perry would be happy and proud knowing that thousands of teenagers in Palm Beach County will be educated over the lifetime of this project named in his honor. In the coming weeks and months we will focus on a fundraising campaign that will include the support of Perry's Foundation, private citizens, corporate partners and other foundations to realize this projects completion prior to what would have been Perry's scheduled graduation date at Jupiter Community High School in June of 2019.







This is phase one of a continuing collegiate educational program in the Marine Sciences that PJCF will also fund in the future honoring Perry's life. We look forward to working hard with the Palm Beach County School District, Jupiter Community High School and the community on creating this wonderful educational asset, said Pamela Cohen, Perry's mother and Nick Korniloff, Perry's step-father.

The created wetlands laboratory will be a template for outdoor classrooms within school campuses all over the Palm Beach County area. The outdoor classroom will be utilized by students throughout the entire school for research, scientific analysis, wetlands monitoring, and biology. Field trip opportunities may be developed for local elementary and middle school classes. "Jupiter High School is looking forward to it's partnership with the Perry J. Cohen Foundation, and the creation of the Perry J. Cohen Wetland Laboratory . As a middle school student, Perry shared his enthusiasm and love of the water and the outdoors with his teachers and peers. The creation of a permanent wetlands habitat at Jupiter High School will give other students the opportunity to learn, conduct research and share in his enthusiasm for the environment." said Colleen Iannitti Principal of Jupiter Community High School

The Perry J. Cohen Foundation will lead the fundraising effort for the Project through donations to the Foundation or JCHS directly from private individuals, corporate sponsorships, scheduled fundraisers, in kind contributions, other foundations, etc. in a collaborative effort with Foundation and JCHS working to raise the funds as quickly as possible. All donors will be recognized through appropriate displays within the Project, which may include one large recognition display or individual displays, appropriate to the setting and educational mission of the Project including the Foundation's logo and mural of Perry J. Cohen created by world renowned artist Shepard Fairey.







About The Perry J. Cohen Foundation:

Perry Cohen is a 14-year-old boy who went missing at sea on July 24, 2015. He was last seen leaving the Jupiter, Florida inlet on his good friend's boat. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) conducted one of the largest Search and Rescue (SAR) missions in modern day history to find Perry and his friend. After an exhaustive eight-day, 55,000 square nautical mile search, the United States Coast Guard (USCG) suspended their efforts at sunset on July 31, 2015.

The Perry J. Cohen Foundation (PJCF) is a 501(c)(3), established by Perry's mother, Pamela Cohen, and his stepfather, Nicholas Korniloff. The foundation was established to carry on Perry's legacy and reflect his passions in life, the foundations PJCF is devoted to the advancement of:

- The ARTS
- Environmental, Marine & Wildlife Education and Preservation
- Teenage Entrepreneurship
- Boating Safety Education

Because of Perry's deep love for the sea, a highlight of the foundation's work will be its annual scholarship program that will recognize deserving students who plan to further their education in the Marine Science and Marine Wildlife fields, as well as the preservation of our coastlines. Perry had recently been accepted into the Environmental Research & Field Studies Academy at Jupiter Community High School. He was one of 30 students chosen out of 500, unfortunately he never got a chance to attend his first class.

For more information please visit: http://www.pjcf.org, facebook.com/perryjcohen instagram.com/perryjcohenfoundation and twitter @pjcfoundation







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