

# FED UP WITH SPIRIT SPIRIT





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Junior and AP Digital Photography student Maddie Rosenbaum took this photo of a busy street on a rainy day in New York City. She used focus and macro photography to draw the viewer's eye to the rain droplets.

### E W S

### **Library Holding Textbooks**

The start of the school year brought a surprise to many of the students as their social studies teachers directed them to the library for their textbooks. In years past, the textbooks have been handed out via the social studies department.

The method always seemed to lack organization and was a challenge to keep track of who had a textbook and which one it was," said senior Kim Winter. "The new system takes about ten minutes to get every student in a class a textbook and is much easier to keep track of."

The distribution of textbooks is no longer handled by small index cards filled out by students, but instead is run by the computers in the library. The social studies department was the first to transport their textbooks to the library, but eventually all of the departments will. This new system is meant to take the burden of textbook handling off of each department and to speed up the efficiency of textbook distribution.

"It was so simple," said junior Matt Johnston. "There was no confusion for any of the students or for the teacher. All I needed was my school ID card and I was set to receive my textbook"

The new method was installed to make the process easier and more efficient, reducing stress when the textbooks are recollected at the end of the year.

The new process' proficiency is enhanced by the fact that students are not even required to have their ID cards when receiving a textbook.

"I forget my ID card but I still was given a textbook without an issue," said junior John Gallagher. "All the librarians needed to know was my name."

Most textbooks are vital to a class' curriculum and this gets the material to each student in a quicker and more organized fashion.

~ Andrew Kerr

### Filming on Irma

Once again, Port Washington has been chosen as a filming site, this time on Irma Avenue. On Wednesday, Sept. 3, film crews set up outside Coffeed, a local coffee shop, for the filming of "Fangirl," originally a young-adult novel written by Rainbow Rowell.

"Fangirl" is a story about twin sisters, Wren and Cather, who are preparing to enter college. Growing up, they are inseparable. Upon entering college, they go their own ways. Wren branches out while Cather feels abandoned.

Irma Avenue was lined with trucks and pedestrians trying to see the action on the day of the shoot. Most of the filming occurred inside the shop, so Coffeed was closed and coffee vouchers were given to disappointed customers.

Actress Meg Ryan was not seen, but Kiernan Shipka from Mad Men was there. Taniesha Jones, a Coffeed employee and extra in the film, says how "cool the experience was and how down to earth all the actors and actresses were." She got to meet some of the actors and actresses associated with the film, and see how hectic the scene was. While waiting for the filming to start, the crew spent time inside the coffee shop.

Om Sweet Om, a yoga studio right next to Coffeed, was being used for hair and makeup. The following day, the coffee shop gained a lot more business. Customers walked in, curious about the flurry of activity. From a business standpoint, local store owners of Port Washington enjoy when filming occurs within the town and the increase in business. Residents also enjoy, to an extent, all the craziness and commotion of what goes on.

"It is fun to watch the filming, but can be a little annoying when all these cars are parked along the street," said sophomore Matthew Schwatz. "It's hard to get by."

~ Kevin Hazan

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## North Shore Animal League expansion Shelter adding new facility for cage-free feline habitats

**BY Jake Knatz** 

News Assistant Editor

The North Shore Animal League is expanding through a new campaign called "Bianca's Furry Friends." The addition is possible through the help of Howard and Beth Stern, two pet-owners who, after the death of their bulldog Bianca, wanted to help the shelter expand. The Animal League cares for close to 20,000 homeless and sick animals each year, and hopes to increase this number with the addition.

"Our shelter facilities are always operating at full capacity," said a statement on the NSAL'S website. "As much as we'd like to take in every precious animal that needs our help, space limitations are an enormous problem. We have a solution! Bianca's Furry Friends, our proposed state-of-the-art Feline Adoption Center named in honor of Howard and Beth Stern's beloved best friend, will enable us to rescue many more animals by adding a second floor to our existing shelter."

There will be a 1,400 square-foot facility added on to the animal shelter, with cage-free feline habitats and an outdoor environment. The addition will also include examination rooms, grooming facilities, a feline behavior department, and a 24-hour-care nursery. The purpose of this expansion is to aid the shelter in moving cats and dogs to separate floors.

According to senior Caroline Waldman, who volunteers at the shelter, the addition is much needed.

"While volunteering I observed that in the medical center at NSAL there is no space to walk around," Waldman said. "There is an overflow of animals and too few people working there to help out and watch over the animals."

Waldman believes that this second floor will alleviate some of the struggles the animals and people who volunteer at the North Shore Animal League face on a daily basis.

Rock Legend Billy Joel has become an advocate for this project. Joel, who grew



The new expansion of the North Shore Animal League will allow the shelter to hold more animals, adding another 1,400 square feet to the current building. This is made possible through the donations of Howard and Beth Stern.

up in Hicksville, generously donated a portion of his concert at Madison Square Garden on his 65th birthday to help fund the campaign. At the concert, Radio personality and judge of America's Got Talent, Howard Stern, who is running the campaign with his wife Beth, commented

on Joel's involvement.

"Billy Joel is a Long Island guy who gives back, and tonight, Billy is the new saint of all animals," said Stern. Joel then entered while holding puppies for the audience to see.

North Shore Animal League hopes

that Bianca's Furry Friends will help them further follow their no-kill promise.

Nearly 4 million animals were euthanized nationally in 2013. The North Shore Animal League, unlike many shelters, never kills its animals.

## New bake sale regulations ban sugary snacks

**BY Tessa Peierls** 

News Assistant Editor

Bake sales have been an integral part of the Schreiber community, and are a major source of club funding in the school especially after the cuts to club funds in previous years. Recently, however, the school has instituted a new set of rules in accordance to new federal regulations.

Tighter restrictions have now been enforced on school bake sales, limiting the amount of fundraising that can be done by clubs. Many clubs in this school like Relay for Life, National Honor Society, and Social Studies Honor Society rely heavily on the money raised from sold cupcakes, cookies, and other pastries. However, with newly established rules on foodrelated fundraising in place, clubs are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain extra funds.

These new rules are in response to federal regulations on food in schools.

"Improving child nutrition is the focal point of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids

Act of 2010," wrote a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act allows USDA, for the first time in over thirty years, opportunity to make reforms to the school lunch and breakfast programs by improving the critical nutrition and hunger safety net for millions of children."

"The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act allows USDA, for the first time in over thirty years, opportunity to make real unhealthy, it has to sell it after 3:30 p.m., reforms to the school lunch and breakfast programs by improving the critical nutrition and hunger safety net for millions of children."

According to the new regulations, food that is sold during the day has to fit within the limits set up by the USDA. These limits exclude snacks with high caloric and sugar content. The snacks sold now are comprised of fruits, vegetables, protein sources, and whole grains.

Students are reacting to the new regulations with varying tolerance. Senior Jesse Epstein responded to the question of whether or not the food sold at bake sales in previous years was always unhealthy, and whether any clubs made the effort to sell healthy snacks.

'They usually didn't," said Epstein. "But it really depends on the club."

The bake sale regulations do not ban bake sales altogether, but rather restrict them based on how healthy the foods are. Food containing high percentages of fat cannot be sold during school hours. If the club wishes to sell what is deemed

so that it is not during school hours.

Because of the time constraints, making money from sugary treats has become more difficult. Some club leaders are not thrilled.

"It sort of sucks," said senior Ariel Waldman, co-president of the drama club. "It's just hindering the clubs further, because the school already doesn't fund some clubs as much as they need or want. I don't understand why the school is making running these clubs even harder, and we're going to lose some of our school clubs because of it."

In addition, food sold in the vending machines and cafeteria must abide by the same restrictions. This school year sugary beverages have been replaced with sparkling water. The school cafeteria decreased the pretzel and muffin sizes in order to comply with the new law, and they now sell more fruits as snacks as an alternative. Regulations have many students dissatisfied, despite good

## Sturdier utility poles installed on Port Blvd.

**BY Ilana Grabiner and Maddie Lane** 

Staff Writer

The Town of North Hempstead is currently dealing with a controversial issue regarding the newly installed utility poles on Port Washington Blvd. Last summer, Public Service Electric and Gas Long Island, or PSEG Long Island installed these poles as part of the Port Washington Great Neck Overhead Transmission Project. This development has been up for debate due to complaints regarding the continued presence of the old poles, despite the installation of new ones

There are two main reasons why the new utility posts were installed. Firstly, they are meant to provide customers with a more reliable service connection.

"Our reliability engineers assessed the customer demand in the area and determined that there was a critical need for the summer of 2014 for a new transmission circuit from Port Washington to Great Neck," said PSEG spokesman Jeffery Weir.

Instead of using only 13KV circuits, as the old ones did, the new poles use 69KV circuits. Additionally, the new 80-foot poles are significantly stronger and sturdier, giving them the ability to withstand winds up to 130 miles per hour.

One of the town's original worries was the cost of the project. As the Port Washington and Great Neck Overhead Transmission Project continued, concerns about the health of citizens and the town's beauty arose.

Some Port residents feel that the old poles should be removed immediately. The appearance of the old poles still standing has caused many complaints. This issue is the responsibility of Cablevision, Verizon, and Lightower Fiber. According to Mr. Weir, the cable

companies, along with PSEG Long Island, are working together to make sure that all their essential equipment is transferred to the new poles. The companies are working to handle this matter as soon as possible. Once the construction work is completed, the old poles can easily be removed to please the customers.

"The wood preservatives used to treat the poles are registered by the EPA under FIFRA," said Mr. Weir. "PSEG Long Island installs poles that have been treated with Penta by the manufacturer. PSEG Long Island does not apply Penta to the poles."

Besides aesthetics, another concern about these new poles is a potentially harmful chemical known as PentaChloroPhenol, otherwise known as Penta. Penta is used to kill off any potential organisms or living creatures that could possibly be living inside of the poles allowing the poles to last longer.

"The wood preservatives used to treat the poles are registered by the EPA under FIFRA," said Mr. Weir. "PSEG Long Island installs poles that have been treated with Penta by the manufacturer. PSEG Long Island does not apply Penta to the poles."

However, several people involved with this situation believe that the chemical may be releasing dangerous vapors and fumes that are unsafe to humans.



Residents drive past the new utility poles on Port Boulevard. These poles have caused controversy throughout the town and Nassau County.

"PSEG could have used noncarcinogenic poles or buried the lines rather than use ancient technology," said Port resident Chuck Idol. Mr. Idol, worried about this issue, organized a petition to eliminate the chemical on these poles.

"What I want is a beautiful, safe town that we can all enjoy, and I do not want

PentaChloroPhenol in or around the Beautiful Town of Port Washington," said Mr. Idol.

Port Washington is in the midst of a major debate over the necessity and possible adverse affects of the new utility poles, the outcome of which is yet to be determined.

## Senior Brittany Arnett recognized by The Concord Review

### Journal unprecedentedly chooses to publish her analytical essays on two occasions



Josh White

Senior Brittany Arnett holds her published papers. It is quite an accomplishment to be published in The Concord Review and Arnette has been published twice.

BY Izzy Gold and Aliza Herz

Staff Writers

Each year, members of the social science research program submit their papers for publications in journals, the most famous of which is The Concord Review, an academic journal for high school students. The journal is extremely competitive, and it is a great honor to have your work published in it. Senior Brittany Arnett had two of her social science research projects published in the prestigious journal in a row. Student research from Schreiber is not published often there, so Arnett's double publication is a rare honor.

The first publication, written in her sophomore year, examined Barbie dolls and their history, and analyzed the doll as a prominent feminist instead of a controversial, potentially harmful figure. The second piece was written in Arnett's junior year, about the Assyrian Genocide, an event that occurred at the same time as the Armenian Genocide.

Arnett enjoyed the writing process.

"The writing process was actually pretty fun for me," said Brittany, "because I'm a nerd and like to write papers."

According to Arnett, writing the Bar-

bie paper was more entertaining as she was able to write about "all things pink and girly, which is just how [she] likes it." However, the piece on the Assyrian Genocide was more important to Arnett, as her family members were affected by it. Three of her great aunts jumped from the top of a roof to escape rape and murder. Her great grandfather is known as a hero for saving an entire town in the province of Midyat, now in present day Turkey, but at the time in the Ottoman Empire, which is where the entire genocide took place.

Arnett believed that her paper on the Assyrian Genocide taught her a lot about her heritage.

"It was really important for me because I got to learn about my heritage," said Arnett. "I'm Syriac Orthodox, one of the first Christian religions, and I was able to learn more about my own family."

The paper also fueled her desire to spread the new knowledge.

"I'm trying to raise awareness about the horrible events that took place, because they have gone unnoticed by many people, and are not really recognized in Turkey, where they took place," said Arnett. "I hope that through my paper I will be able to bring attention to this issue."

## Seniors' Student Union gains popularity

BY Lena Kogan and Sally Kuan

Staff Writers

Last year, two Schreiber juniors decided to take matters into their own hands when they felt that a typical student council did not resolve all the issues faced by students. To do this, they founded the Student Union Party of Schreiber, also known as SUPS. This informal group, led mainly by current seniors Josh Curtis and Chris Wilson, aims to attain a more open relationship with the Board of Education and administrators as well as receive more student feedback. While the student union currently does not hold official meetings, there is a Facebook page for members that is open to the public.

"The main issue for me is the lack of funding for clubs such as the Drama Club or Model UN. We are raising the money for ourselves and the clubs that are barely surviving," said sophomore Chris Pietrantonio. "And if people really wanted to be in these clubs—which they do—then they should be funded so they can stay active."

Members of many clubs throughout the school found that this year it would be especially difficult to find enough money for their events. As a part of a new law, bake sales are no longer permitted until after 3:30 PM on school days.

"Bake sales were a huge revenue generator and other slashes to the budget would mean that things like transportation would now be on the club's dime," said junior Andrew Gruber. "I agreed with what Josh Curtis had to say about Port Washington being more than a 'college prep school district.' At other school districts on Long Island, the issues we have here are non-issues."

SUPS has a wide variety of goals, ranging from an increase in the official district budget to improved opportunities for all Schreiber students.

"I almost gave a speech last year about debate not being able to go to tournaments because of funds," said Curtis. "But this year, as all club funding got cut because of the bake sales, class sizes stayed high, and the school's rankings slipped, I decided it was time to speak up."

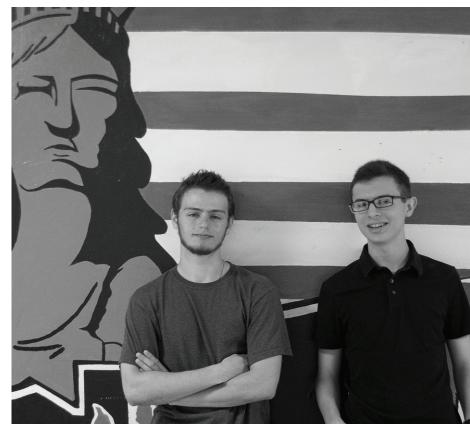
Members are also seeking to reduce class sizes, increase availability of class selection, and possibly bring change to the door policy that has been upheld at Schreiber for the past year. Because teachers and staff are told to watch the entrances, SUPS has suggested that they sign students in directly from there rather than require them to always enter through the main entrance.

"The students often have problems with many of the administration's decisions," said Wilson.

Another proposed idea is to create a public forum on which anyone within the student body could discuss important subjects to allow for greater representation of student matters. This would provide insight to the Student Council as to which situations more students are concerned with. On the other hand, such a forum could also be used by members of the Student Council to inform students regarding the progress of their actions. According to the Student Union Party's Facebook page, the club's goals revolve around "Increasing participation by students in local politics and community, increasing the schools' presence, and bringing the community together."

"We tried to run for student government, but it was too late because we didn't have the necessary StudCo experience," said Curtis. "Plus, it was the end of the year, and we'd rather keep student unity."

However, some students still felt that it was necessary that their opinions about school policies and funding were voiced, even if they were not able to be directly involved in student government. As an alternative, Curtis has been attending



Josh White

Josh Curtis (left) and Chris Wilson (right) have recently been receiving publicity for their unofficial organization meant to help students voice their opinions.

numerous Board of Ed meetings this year to try and represent student interests. He plans to bring attention to the importance of the Student Union through a series of speeches.

"I am hoping that before the end of it, more students will come to watch or even join me in speaking," said Curtis.

Admittedly, there are many challenges associated with spreading the party's message.

"I think most students are really engaged by the SUPS message; however, whether or not it has any power whatsoever is something that time will tell," said junior Andrew Gruber. "Also, it's a very senior-heavy movement that could very well die out after graduation. Ultimately I think SUPS is a great idea but it requires an enormous amount of dedication."

Nevertheless, students are determined to have their opinions on school policies heard.

"I want people to know that it seems scary to join with people who are political or want to do things, but the power to do something is in that moment when you decide not to," said Curtis. "It lies with you."

### THIS MONTH IN SCHREIBER HISTORY

September 22, 1950

The paper gave advice to incoming students, warning them that there is no pool, that assemblies are free and one should not be tricked into buying a ticket, and that seniors often loosen the salt and pepper tops.

September 27, 1974

Faculty members planned on renovating the cafeteria by painting the walls bright colors, adding colored round tables for eating, and setting up a student lounge in the back area. September 18, 1977

New York State initiated testing for physical fitness in gym classes, and also started requiring high schools to have only co-ed gym classes for the first time (Schreiber had yet to comply).

September 30, 1987

A Cabbage Patch Kids commercial was filmed on campus drive, causing much excitement. The new dolls featured the ability to talk, with a vocabulary of over 800 words.

September 28, 1994

Schreiber teachers were officially banned from smoking on campus. Previously, only students were not allowed to smoke.

September 9, 2002

Students rose against the pledge of allegiance, claiming that school was not a place for pledging allegiance to God.

September 26, 2008

A newly successful restaurant in town was growing in popularity, but most students noted that "The Port Washinton Diner" spelled Port Washington incorrectly. September 20, 2010

Schreiber became one of the many schools in the area to have free wireless internet provided by the school, in order to create "learning environments."

## School zone cameras enforce speed limit

### Twenty digital cameras installed to prevent collisions

**BY Sophie German and Madeline Lavin** 

News Assistant Editor

The lack of adherence to the 20 mile per hour speed limit in school zones has recently come to the attention of Nassau County officials. To enforce the speed limit, 20 digital speed cameras were placed in school zones across the county in July. After some technical difficulties, they were officially activated on Sept. 2, and will remain on from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on school days.

"As a vehicle passes the technology instrument, the speed is recorded," according to the official Nassau County website. "If the vehicle speed exceeds the posted speed limit by more than ten miles per hour, two images of the rear of the vehicle are taken. The date, time, speed and location of the violation are recorded on the digital image."

The purpose of installing these cameras is to prevent collisions and crashes in congested school areas, thus ensuring safer roads. When asked whether he supports the installation of the cameras, School Resource Officer Detective Anthony Guzzello came out in support of the new technology.

"I am for public safety first and foremost, especially when it protects children," said Detective Guzzello. "Once the program is in place for a while, then we can truly judge its impact on safety."

Exceeding the set speed limit results in a fine. Exceeding the limit by more

than ten miles per hour is a fine of \$50. However, there is an additional \$30 driver responsibility fine that is assessed after the incident. Officials expect to make at least \$25 million a year through these fines.

"I believe that a \$50 fine is a reasonable ticket price for exceeding the speed limit by ten miles per hour," said Port Washington resident Ms. Jill Mindlin. "These cameras are placed within a range of one thousand three hundred and twenty feet on a roadway to a school, or near it. I do believe there is speeding, and this might not be the best solution, but this problem should be addressed."

After the initial installation of the cameras in July, their effectiveness was questioned due to system malfunctions. The cameras began to give out speeding tickets before they were activated, and the system sent 40,000 tickets to undeserving drivers. Although the tickets have since been dismissed, many Nassau County residents continue to be skeptical about the cameras.

"Many drivers simply do not realize they are speeding in school zones," said freshman Genia Peierls. "The sudden change in speed limit must be explicitly pointed out now that there are cameras to penalize those who speed. The cameras and hours of operation should be more easily identifiable."

County officials do intend on addressing these kinks in the system, and plan on installing 200 more cameras all throughout Long Island and New York



Baltimore CBS

The county has installed cameras in school zones throughout Nassau to record vehicle speed. A camera was installed on Campus Drive in order to increase public safety around the school zone. Violators of the speed limit will be prosecuted.

## Technology dept. now offers 3D design class

By Andrew Adelhardt

Staff Writer

This past year, the technology department purchased two three-dimensional printers and a digitizer. These machines were acquired with the hope of educating students in this dynamic new field of design.

"This is the future of design, and it is time for Schreiber to start taking part," said director of technology Mr. Don Schaefer.

The school decided to invest in this new technology after Schreiber graduates studying engineering told Mr. Schaefer that they were a step behind in their course without 3D printing experience. After hearing this, Mr. Schaefer decided the printers were essential tools for technology classes. With the number of ways this tool can be implemented in the fields of education, the proposal for a 3D printer was quickly accepted. Donations from an anonymous benefactor and the school's regular budget contributed to the funds necessary to purchase the two printers, which now reside in the technology wing and portables.

The concept of 3D printing is relatively new. First invented in the '80s, the printer makes use of additive manufacturing. This is a process in which objects are divided into thin layers and then printed layer by layer to create the final product. The layers, which are not flat like a traditional laser printer, are printed using a plastic that is heated to match the shape of the layer and then cooled in order to create the

physical object. This heating and cooling process isnecessary for the layers to solidify is maintain the product's rigidity. The printer is not limited to plastics, but the substance's low melting point, quick solidifying time, and price make plastic the ideal for this procedure. This complex process of additive manufacturing forces students to look at the basic shape of an object and comprehend its form.

"It's a new way of thinking that students have been picking up quickly," said Mr. Schaefer.

The 3D printers were recently supplemented with a digitizer. A digitizer is a machine that analyzes a 3D object and inputs it into the computer as data in order to make it into a modifiable file. This process is used to replicate objects during which the digitizer "digitizes" the object, and the 3D printer can take that file and print it again to the exact specifications.

In order to get the full use out of the machines, Mr. Schaefer created a 3D design class that works with software compatible with the 3D printers called SOLIDWORKS. The software allows students to modify, resize and even create new objects that can be produced using the printer. Since the technology is so new, few teachers in the building are trained in it.

Over the summer, various teachers in the technology and research departments were educated in the software in order to teach students in the upcoming year. These teachers hope that these machines will give students a new medium for research and education.



http://talesofa3dprinter.blogspot.co

The new 3D printer is allowing for more advanced technology classes to be offered. The machine can be used to replicate objects once "digitized."

"Successful projects involving 3D printing are becoming more common," said science research teacher Mr. John Schineller.

The research department plans on making use of the 3D printer in

upcoming projects. Although the printer is currently being used only in the 3D design class, Mr. Schaefer and others believe that this technology can and will be used throughout Schreiber to enhance students' learning experience.

## Point

## Counterpoint

### Should current events be incorporated into history curricula?

**BY Caitlin Ferris** 

Contributing Writer

Educating high school students in the social sciences is more than teaching them about dates they'll forget and battles they never witnessed. The long-term goal of history education is to benefit society; by teaching our students our country's past, we hope to help them better understand the social and political conflicts occurring here today.

Here's my question, though: what's the point of teaching our students about America's long history of racial tension and civil rights battles, if they never use the information to understand what occurred in Ferguson last month? Today's current events are the history of tomorrow. One can even argue that they take precedence over our historical knowledge, because these things can still be changed.

"Students should know what's going on in the world right now," said senior Charlotte Lathrop. "That we are actually a part of and we're helping create the history for."

We reason that by studying the past, we can prevent bad events from reoccurring. For that to be true, however, we must pay close enough attention to the present to recognize that past issues are reemerging.

Students today know an incredible amount of information, ranging from mathematical principles to biological processes to the legacies of ancient civilizations. Most any student in our hallways can explain the factors leading to the French Revolution, but if you ask about the causes of the conflicts in the Middle East, the most you would get from an average student is a blank stare.

"I know more about Teddy Roosevelt than I do about George Bush," said senior Evan Kaminsky. "And I think that's sad."

Only a small minority of Schreiber students read the news, partly because they have never been taught the importance of knowing what's happening in their world.

An argument against discussing current issues in the classroom states that the teacher can too easily insert his or her own bias into the lesson. Unfortunately, this is quite

possible. The fault in this argument is the fact that all of history is biased. Humans are not naturally objective creatures, and that is especially true of our records of the past. Wherever you go, history is written from the perspective of that area.

observe phenomenon, you need not look any farther than our dear southern neighbors. Even to this day, some deeply loyal confederates still refer to the Civil War as "The War of Northern Aggression," as if the North had just been overreacting to a

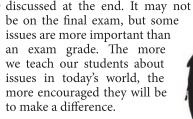
little issue known as slavery. In our history classes, the American Revolution is one of the most emphasized events in our curriculum. In Britain, the war is only briefly touched upon in class. History is different depending on who's telling the story. To accuse news outlets and teachers of coloring current events with bias is not incorrect, but to refuse to mention or discuss any information in class that is not objective would be to discount the study of history entirely.

'History is full of value judgments," said senior Kim Winter. "For example, saying that 'Allowing women to vote is a good thing, is an opinion. Even though I agree with this opinion, it's still an opinion."

I would argue that it's even more important to study current events due to the bias of the news outlets. If our students are going to read news outlets, which they should, it's better that they are prepared to assess how accurate the articles are.

I would propose that along with adding current events to our curriculum, we also have teachers show students how to assess the truthfulness of a news article. By having our teachers demonstrate to students how to ascertain bias, we're teaching our students another useful tool that will benefit them for the rest of their

I understand that time is limited in the classroom setting. As a result, current events should not take entire class periods, but any current events related to an existing lesson should simply be



BY Aimée Levinson Staff Writer

It seems that every year there is some type of curriculum change. A recent example of this is the newly accepted Common Core curriculum that has had its own issues and conflicts. But as the school year commences and the world keeps turning, a new question is raised: should current events be incorporated into the Social Studies' curriculum? The answer is no.

As is, AP courses have very little time to go over a variety of topics. Teachers must thoroughly cover a wide range of subjects, make sure that the students master them, and prepare students for the AP exam in early May. Is it reasonable to ask teachers to teach even more when they are already pressed for time?

"At this point I am staying up late each night trying to keep up with the current curriculum, so any additional material would be too much to handle," said sophomore Anna Watson. "We are going fast enough as is."

While students understand the importance of current events, they also argue that courses could become overwhelming.

"I would say that it's very important to learn about current events and be aware of the world," said sophomore Anna Cohen. "But that should be taught in such a way that can be connected to the curriculum, if possible, so that the students are well prepared and haven't spent class time debating things in a way that detracts from curriculum."

On a national scale, current events to the exam could be disastrous. How would students prepare for a test that keeps being updated? Who would know how up-to-date the questions will be? Is it really fair to put students and teachers under such pressure?

"I don't think that anything within the last decade should be asked as questions on AP exams," said senior Reilly Beckstrand.

What about political opinions? The majority of a current curriculum will most likely contain hot-button topics. With a class consisting of young adults, many not even legally allowed to vote, could class become a platform for political spiels?

'When teachers present current issues in a class, it may alter the perspective that a student may otherwise have on popular social topics," said senior Shia Miller. "This can create a school-based bias, which may not always be a good thing."

Even if teachers do their best to teach this material as neutrally as possible, it can still create an environment that makes students uncomfortable. These topics tend to be combustible.

We cannot close our eyes to the world around us merely because it is easier not to touch upon particular subjects. Despite this, the notion that current events should be part of the curriculum, and a part of the curriculum that is tested, creates a

very tricky situation. Students and teachers alike are pressed to complete their work and to cover large amounts of information over a short period of time. add to that

staggering, especially for AP classes. Students are exposed to relevant, affairs current

without the pressure of needing to master the information or conform to one idea over another.

"It's important least at mention and briefly discuss current issues," said Michael DiPreta. "But it should not be incorporated into the curriculum or seen on tests as to not confuse students."

**Aaron Jenoske** 



## Should computer science be mandatory?

BY Chris Wilson

Contributing Writer

Chicago Public Schools recently made computer science courses a graduation requirement. The city is adding computer science to the elementary school math and science programs, in addition to a required one-year Exploring Computer Science class. The non-profit group, Code.org, provided the grant for these programs.

There has been a large increase in career opportunities in the field of computer science. A 2012 Microsoft report found that there are two times as many job openings in computer science as there are college graduates with computer science degrees.

Despite this, most students will never get any exposure to this science. At Schreiber, the course is only available as an elective, and the subject is difficult to learn outside of school unless sought out actively. Furthermore, most people today are completely ignorant in regards to how computers function.

"Ît is a sad reality that, even though people use computers every day, most don't understand how they really work," said senior Sam Goldman.

Understanding the basic things a computer can do will teach students to know what to expect from a computer, improving their ability to use the machine. Everyone can also benefit from knowing basic computer science. Many people waste time manually doing tasks that could easily be automated with only a basic knowledge of computers.

An entire class dedicated to computer science may be too much. However, computer science as a unit in the standard math curriculum would make sense.

"The basics of logic are already taught as a part of standard geometry," said senior Carter Walsh. "Adding computer science to to this unit would fit in perfectly."

Standard concepts found in all computer science classes, such as basic arithmetic operations, if statements, variables, and loops, can be taught. This is all that would be needed to introduce students to computer science. Once students are exposed to these concepts, they will be able to make an informed decision regarding whether they want to take a computer science elective or pursue further studies in college. Technology-wise, all that teachers would need would

be the school's Chromebooks. Online development environments, such as the ones provided by Code Academy could be used.

Computer science should therefore be a part of the math curriculum. With only a week's worth of instruction time, students would be exposed to one of the most important fields available to us today. These skills would also give students new opportunities.

"Computer science skills provide opportunity," said senior Evan Kaminsky. "For example, I used computer science to develop my app Parker the Seal."

Finally, it would educate students about the technology they use daily for nearly everything they do.



### Next on the agenda: Throw away the new planners

BY Jake Arlow
Contributing Writer

The first day of school brings a kind of excitement unmatched by any other day of the year. Frantic parents purchase pens, notebooks, and binders to help their children start off the year with a clean slate, literally.

On the first day of school, in their homerooms, students eagerly await the moment they can open their crisp, new planners and plan every detail of their lives to the second. Or maybe that's just me. And maybe that's why I was so upset when my new agenda was placed in front of me

The deteriorating agenda situation has attracted the attention of most of the student body. The first clue that something was amiss was the sunset on the cover. This calming scene is just a facade, an attempt to distract from the horrific contents of the book.

The agendas from previous years had distinct regions on each day for different subjects, while the new agendas simply have a blob in which unorganized homework is written and, in turn, forgotten.

Wait a second..."

cannot fit into such a minuscule area. Most students have a hard time writing

"When I saw that there weren't definite sections for each subject in my new agenda, I felt like I was going to cry," said senior Olivia Mann. "How can I possibly keep myself organized? What's next? No tissues? Oh, wait a second..."

In addition, the lack of distinction between subjects does not even grant more space. Considering the decreased size of this agenda, most students' workloads

"When I saw that there weren't definite sections for each subject in my new agenda, I felt like I was going to cry," said senior Olivia Mann. "How can I possibly keep myself organized? What's next? No tissues? Oh, wait a second..."

cannot fit into such a minuscule area. Most students have a hard time writing down their assignments each day and have to resort to other means in order to make

sure that no homework is accidentally left unfinished.

"There's not enough space for each day, considering it's not separated," said senior Paige Torres. "I'm better off just using loose-leaf paper for each week which I actually do."

The issue goes far beyond lack of space for homework from different subjects. To disappoint students further, where there was once a space to list long-term projects, there is now a vocabulary word of the week, with stimulating words like "vocabulary." There is also a creative writing prompt at the top of each page, which motivates students to describe to their grandmothers how to log onto Facebook, and design their own personal cartouches.

"On one page, it asks you to design a stoplight for blind people," said senior Kim Winter. "Whoever wrote that really didn't think it through because blind people should not be on the road to begin with."

The time has come for students to accept that the glory days of helpful agendas have come to pass. In the meantime, students must make due with what they have, or just develop an exemplary memory for remembering assignments.

## ISIS - briefly summarized

BY Sabina Unni
Opinions Assistant Editor

Many people are aware that two American journalists and one British journalist were beheaded on video by a terrorist organization. Many people are also aware that this same group posted the video on social media for the general masses to see. However, most people do not know who this terrorist group actually is, or the true magnitude of its evils. The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), also known as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), is a militant, Islamic terrorist organization that aims to gain political dominance of Muslim nations in the Middle East region. ISIS is currently in control of a region of about 35,000 square miles, the size of Jordan. The amount of soldiers that ISIS has ranges anywhere from 20,000 to 50,000 individuals. Through looting banks and acquiring military assets, ISIS is believed to have acquired over \$2 billion; the daily revenue of ISIS is approximated to be over

Amnesty International accuses ISIS of perpetrating "a wave of ethnic cleansing" on various ethnic groups throughout the region, thus exacerbating preexisting racial conflicts. ISIS specifically targets Armenian, Chaldean, Assyrian, and Syriac Christians, Shia Muslims, Yazidis, Druze, Shabaks, and Mandeans. The United Nations has deemed ISIS' actions to be "acts of inhumanity on an unimaginable scale." It is hard to find an accurate estimate of the death toll attributed to ISIS's devastating actions due to the vastness of the organization's controlled region. Although currently spanning more than five countries, the area is expanding. However, gathered statistics show that in the first six months of 2014, nearly 6,000 Iraqis have been murdered-almost double 2013's death count. In addition, 116,665 Iraqis have been wounded. 40,000 Yazidis, a sect and ethnically Kurdish group, have been displaced from their homes and forced to flee to neighboring Syria rather than Turkey.

When in power, ISIS requires citizens to wear full face veils, bans nude mannequins, the sale and use of alcohol, cigarettes, and hookah pipes, music in public, cars, parties, shops, and photographs of people in shop windows. ISIS also suppresses what we consider natural human rights by denying journalists the power of free speech. ISIS has publicly beheaded Western journalists James Foley, Steven Joel Sotloff, and David Haines. These actions were allegedly in response to the United States' air attacks on Mosul Dam.

Clearly ISIS makes the Iraq-Syria region inhospitable for citizens living in these areas. But, it is crucial that trailblazers like Foley, Sotloff, and Haines continue to travel to the Middle East's and world's most dangerous regions. Without journalists, there would be no way to spread information, no way to resolve these international conflicts, and no way to help save as many lives as possible.

In order to keep bad history from repeating itself, we need journalists. Journalism is not always safe or easy, but that is what makes it so significant.

## Schreiber Speaks

## What would you have done differently this summer?



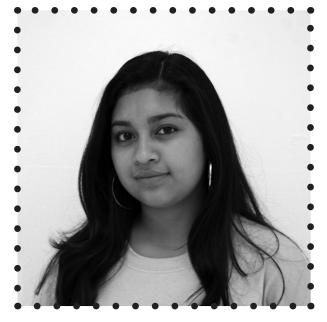
"I wish I visited the Bahamas, the greatest place on this earth."

~ Emily Schieber, freshman



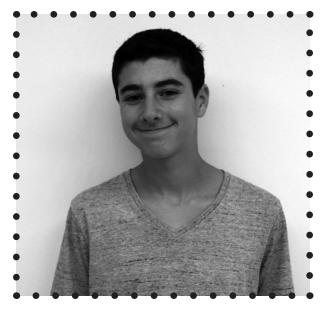
"I would not change anything; I did everything perfectly this summer."

~ Sam Reisman, senior



"I would like to go back to El Salvador to spend time with my family and friends."

~Jackeline Perez, junior



"Instead of reading at the last minute, I wish I actually had time to read my summer reading."

~ Jake Grossman, sophomore



"I want to start an acapella dubstep group with Adam Tuch."

~ Naomi Boico, senior



"I wish that I would have watched more episodes of Sherlock."

 $\sim$  Andrew Gruber, junior

 $Photos\ and\ reporting\ by\ Stacey\ Kim,\ Jake\ Knatz,\ and\ Josh\ White,\ Opinions\ Editor, Assistant\ News\ Editor,\ and\ Photo\ Editor$ 

## A student's reaction to the racism issue in Ferguson

BY Shia Miller

Contributing Writer

On Aug. 9, an unarmed 18 yearold, black teen named Michael Brown was gunned down and killed by Darren Wilson, a white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri. This headline blazed the page of every newspaper across the country, screaming for the nation's attention.

Details in these articles were blurry. No one seemed to know exactly what happened that afternoon in Ferguson, but they did know that this headline seemed all too familiar. And it angered millions across the country.

After Michael Brown's murder, a series of protests began in Ferguson, Brown's hometown, and lasted for over two weeks. Instead of reacting

peacefully, Ferguson police officers blatantly mishandled the protests and employed military strategies. They threw tear gas, released dogs, and intimidated protestors with army ammunition.

Despite the threats, protests continued. The riots were said to be the worst the United States has witnessed since the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s.

The protesters in Ferguson were not merely speaking out against the injustices experienced in their town, but rather, they were speaking against all the racial injustices that have been razing this country for years.

In countless cases, police have killed or severely injured unarmed black men. According to a recent study by rising grassroots organization MXGM, a black American is killed by a police officer, watchman, or vigilante every 28 hours.

As ridiculous as this statistic may sound, it is unfortunately true. These inhumane murders result from racial profiling, one of the most pressing problems in America. Too often we think that racism exists only in the South. Too often we think that racism is a thing of the past, erradicated by the spirited protests of the 60's. The stark reality is that it does not simply exist, but thrives across the country.

There have been many times that I walked into a store in town and felt uncomfortable, because I was treated as an inferior. I have had teachers who found it shocking that I am an AP student and excel at school. I have even been labeled as "white" or "not really black" because of my academic achievements.

While many do not intentionally try to be hurtful, the way that the majority

of people view Black Americans is incredibly inconsiderate and in many cases, outright injurious.

After the Civil Rights Movement, which was supported by members from all races, cultures, and ethnicities, racism should not even be a word in our vocabularies.

However, it is. Racism in this country may be as bad, if not worse, than it was in the 20th century. While it is true that legislation such as the Civil Rights Act has technically made Black Americans equal to white Americans, they are not equal in society's eyes.

Black Americans have to continue fighting racial inequality. Only this time, the fight is more difficult. It is easy to write a piece of paper, but very difficult to change a person's heart.

## Editorials

## Malfunctions of ASPEN

The new school year has brought many changes to our district, including a new student management system (SMS) called ASPEN. The upgrade was made over the summer after administrators and teachers requested that the school revise the way it communicates online.

ASPEN has the potential to aid teachers in preparing effective lessons and to increase the efficiency of student-to-teacher and parent-to-teacher contact. Teachers can view numerous resources to improve their curricula and use ASPEN to compare their lessons with those of other teachers. ASPEN also provides a means for scheduling classes, sharing grades, creating auto-score quizzes, and compiling medical records for school nurses.

The Schreiber Times commends the district for adopting such a helpful and advantageous system, but recognizes that there are multiple problems with the way the system has been implemented.

Despite having the summer to test ASPEN and address any malfunctions, the system was not completely ready for use at the start of the school year. The problems began when guidance counselors found scheduling somewhat difficult. This led to delays in the release of student schedules. Upon receiving their schedules, many students saw that they were placed in the wrong courses and had conflicts between classes. Scheduling conflicts are extremely stressful for students, especially for freshmen, to handle on the first day of school.

Many teachers have limited knowledge of ASPEN. As a result, they are not comfortable using the new system and many prefer to make Engrade accounts for their students.

Engrade.com is a website used to

easily display student grades throughout the year. With little knowledge of how to use ASPEN's grading program, teachers are forced to leave students without any grade updates, or simply continue using Engrade.

Finally, students have not yet been given ASPEN account information. All of the benefits of the system cannot be taken advantage of without access. So even when some teachers adapt to the new system, the students cannot keep track of their grades, making them frustrated more than ever.

The Schreiber Times advises the district to thoroughly test all platforms in the future before introducing new programs. Additionally, pamphlets and information sessions should be available to students when new software is installed.

## Yik Yak here to attack

Anti-bullying efforts have made significant strides in recent years as educators have tried their best to placate the new monster, cyber-bullying. However, there are certain platforms created by app developers that are still attractive to the percentage of the student population looking to bully other students.

Yik Yak is one such example. For those who do not know, Yik Yak is a social media app that allows people to post anonymous comments that anyone with the app (and within a ten mile radius) can view.

The rise of Yik Yak has been exponential. *The Schreiber Times* believes that the use of such anonymous social media services like Yik Yak or ask.fm serves no purpose except to undermine the strong efforts by the faculty to cut cyber-bullying out of Schreiber.

Preliminary steps, such as not allowing students to use the app within certain radii of high school campuses, are not enough. There have been dozens of bomb threats made on the app, including one at Mount Sinai High School. In each case, the students responsible for the threat were expelled.

Although Yik Yak is considered a form of social media, scientists show that that app makes us anything but social. As psychiatrist Dr. Keith Ablow told FOXNEWS, "Psychologically, Yik Yak actually removes all pretense of being a person with empathy, genuinely connected to other human beings." This lack of personal connection is what causes some students to use the app maliciously. *The Schreiber Times* urges all students not to download Yik Yak, because it brings nothing but trouble to the community.

## Weeding out students

Each year, class sizes seem to get larger and larger, troubling students and teachers alike. The increased number of students in each class can make teachers' jobs more challenging

than they already are.

This problem, among others, is exacerbated for honors and AP classes that teach more rigorous curricula in the same amount of time as regular classes. Rightfully so, teachers try to solve this issue in several ways.

One such way is trying to "weed out" students in the beginning of the year by scaring them with lengthy homework assignments and exceptionally challenging exams. In this way, students become more inclined to drop the course prematurely.

The Schreiber Times believes that the teachers' attempts to scare students into dropping classes is wrong. Assigning abnormal amounts of work can lead to increased stress and impaired performance by students.

Rather than getting to focus on learning the material, the students are delayed by a seemingly endless load of homework. It ends up being a game of who can memorize the most information

on the least amount of sleep, instead of a true learning experience.

Because there is a limited period of time for students to place out of classes, most of these types of courses try to scare students out of classes within that same time frame. Thus, students face the challenge of completing overwhelming quantities of homework and successfully preparing for intentionally difficult tests on a weekly basis.

The purpose of higher-level classes should be to challenge students intellectually and to educate them more deeply than a regular class would, not to scare students away from learning.

Interested in writing for
Opinions? Then come to the next
newspaper general meeting on
October 9! All new writers
are welcome!

### **Times Policy Statement**

The Schreiber Times' primary purpose is to inform its readers of events, issues, and ideas affecting Schreiber High School. The Times also serves as an open forum in which members of the Schreiber community may express their ideas and opinions.

The Times will report all news accurately, honestly, and fairly. We will not give preference to any group or individual. We will respect the rights of all information sources and any errors will be corrected promptly.

We will print submitted materials on the basis of their quality and significance as determined by the editors of this publication. The editors reserve the right to print, refuse to print, or return any submitted materials. The editors also reserve the right to edit any submitted articles.

We will print letters to the editors if judged to be of sufficient quality and importance on a space-available basis. We will not print letters that are obscene, libelous, or contain unfounded charges. The Times reserves the right to shorten letters if doing so does not alter their meaning, and to choose a representative letter from a group of related ones. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors. We will not print any anonymous letters.

Editorials printed in this publication reflect the opinion of the majority of the editors. If the situation warrants, minority editorials will be published. Editorials do not represent the views of the Port Washington Union Free School District.

We will not publish advertisements if they are deemed libelous, obscene or likely to incite criminal activity. Prices of advertisements are standard and price schedules are available upon request. Advertisements do not necessarily represent the views of The Times.

We will establish new policies if the need arises. Until such a point occurs, The Times will follow the policy described in this space as well as the guidelines of common sense and reason.

### Why are you taller than me by Ethan Bookstein



### Schreiber Class of '64 reunites after 50 years

**BY Maddie Cohen** 

Features Editor

Imagine where you will be fifty years after high school. Traveling the world? Enjoying life? Working hard? Well, the Schreiber Class of 1964 paused their busy lives fifty years after graduating to reconnect with their former classmates. On the weekend of Sept. 12, more than a hundred classmates got together for a 50th reunion.

Port graduates of '64 have come from all over the world, from Guam to Montana, to visit their alma mater. They kicked off their reunion Sept. 12, the former classmates played golf at Harbor Links and had a cocktail party at Finn McCool's.

"Some of us have not seen each other since our last reunion, ten years ago," said Amy Bass, co-chair of the Schreiber High School Class of '64 Reunion Committee and founder of PWEF. "For others it has been many more years, maybe even since high school. However, right when someone entered the door, we were immediately able to tell who they were.

Some people look the exactly same!"

By Saturday, it was almost as if the classmates had never left. The group took a tour of Schreiber, cheered on the Port Varsity Football team, went on a boat ride around Manhasset Bay, and attended a gala at the Port Yacht Club.

"Schreiber has never looked better," said Robb Mitchell who now lives in Jacksonville, FL. "Besides, there are many more places to hide from the teachers."

Walking through their home town, while reminiscing about their high school experience, the graduates of '64 noticed many similarities and differences between the past and current Schreiber.

"The cafeteria, bathrooms, and auditoriums have not changed at all," said Katie Kramer who graduated from Skidmore College and now lives in New Hampshire. "I would say the main differences are where each subject is located in the building, because our science classes used to be the top floor! Also, the commons is where our library was located, and the atrium used to be metal shop and wood shop. Right outside

the atrium, there was an area where we were allowed to smoke."

Some of the fondest memories that the former classmates have of Schreiber are participating in extracurricular activities such as the Latin Club, Drivers Ed, as well as sororities and fraternities for students, which provided opportunities for volunteer work. In addition, many of the girls spent their afternoons dancing at Mrs. Reid's Dancing School. Some students even wrote for *The Schreiber Times*.

"For us, *The Schreiber Times* came out weekly; however, it was fewer pages," said former editor-in- chief for *The Schreiber Times* in 1964, Carol Seeger, who now lives in Los Angeles. "We had many sections of the paper, such as features, editorials, news, and sports. I remember having to write articles on the typewriter or handwriting them. Then we would paste each article individually onto the paper and we did this with rubber cement balls, which is similar to glue. If we made any errors, we had to paste it again and afterwards, we would send it to be printed."

After asking many of the adults about their most vivid memory of Schreiber, almost everyone said, "The day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated."

"I was in gym and all of a sudden they turned the PA on so the whole school was able to hear what was going on through the radio," said Kramer. "All classes and after school activities were cancelled and everyone was in shock."

Whether it was kneeling down to make sure your skirt touched the floor, having a perm, or being allowed to smoke on school grounds, the Schreiber class of '64 said that some of the best years of their life were during high school. So for all of you who want high school to rush by, the Class of '64 will tell you to enjoy every moment of it.



Raymond Ehrlich

The Class of '64 poses with old friends on the front steps of Schreiber. All of whom attended were happy to see their former classmates.

### How to avoid falling into Procrastination Nation

BY Delia Rush

Features Editor

Ah, September, how I love yet loathe you so. This beginning-of-the-school-year month is filled with anticipation and excitement. Whether you have clubs, sports, a job, or a combination of the three, finding time to do work is difficult. Under such overwhelming circumstances, you may find yourself already slipping through the cracks. But do not worry friend, I am here to help.

Picture this: you are scrolling through Twitter, posting on Instagram, or catching up on Netflix when, suddenly, you realize that it is way past four in the afternoon on a Sunday. If this sounds oh-so-familiar, you, my friend, are a procrastinator.

Being a part of Procrastination Nation is nothing to be ashamed of. Acceptance is the first step to recovery. After all, so many of us leave assignments until the last minute or tell ourselves, "just ten more minutes and then I will start studying." Whether you identify yourself as just another citizen of this overpopulated nation, or even as the President, it is not the most productive place to be. Fun fact: I procrastinated writing this article. Although it may seem impossible to overcome, avoiding procrastination is doable, and we'll do it together.

First, if you tend to resort to social media, separate yourself from your

phone: put it in another room or just turn it off. This option may seem scary for you phone addicts but this simple tip is life-changing, no exaggeration. You would be amazed at what can be done without a phone. There is more to life than a three inch wide screen!

However, if the root of your social media addiction is your computer, there are ways to eliminate that temptation as well. The StayFocused application on Google Chrome allows you to limit the amount of time you can spend on specific websites. Yes, you can have your cake and eat it too with this application.

With StayFocused, you can go on Twitter, Tumblr, Facebook, whatever the addiction, in order to quench your daily thirst for social media. But after the time limit that you set on this application expires, the site is blocked for the rest of the day. From then on, every time you try to return to the beloved site, a screen with the words, "Isn't there something you should be doing?" pops up. Your millions of followers will just have to wait until you finish your homework.

"But Delia, I'm constantly surrounded by distractions! How can I not procrastinate if I cannot find a place to focus?" I am glad you asked. If you find that your working environment is not beneficial to your studies, maybe even hindering, your work ethic, I suggest relocating. The Port Washington Library is the ideal place to get work done. This quiet and sacred temple of all homework-doers just screams, or whispers, rather, "working environment." Focusing is practically contagious in this local establishment filled with hard-working people. It is the perfect place to spread out work, set up your computer, and have a little concentration haven all to yourself.

The best way to avoid putting off your work is to avoid distractions. Emphasis on the word "avoid." Simply put, procrastination is easily preventable if the tools to do so are eliminated. Put yourself in a relaxing environment that permits you to work to your full ability. In the end, who likes staying up into the early morning hours just because they could not put Netflix away? That's right, no one. It's in your best interest to surround yourself with good karma and move out of Procrastination Nation and into Concentration County.





BY Sammy Bizenov and Danielle Tawfik

Assistant Features Editors

A perfect sunny day on the Brooklyn pier should consist of two things: outstanding food and beautiful views. At Smorgasburg, a Brooklyn flea market composed of all things delicious, one can bask in the spectacular view of Manhattan while consuming the famous Ramen Burger and Ched-Bred, along with more than 100 other gourmet foods from well-known Brooklyn vendors.

Offering every type of food you could ever imagine, the food stands at the market come from some of the most respectable food companies and restaurants in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

The Good Batch, a new phenomenon in the ice cream world, has a stand in the Smorgasburg community. Their most famous ice cream sandwich is a chocolate chip cookie with sea salt vanilla ice cream drizzled with fudge.

The Ramen Burger is debatably the most-recently-talked-about burger in the nearby area. With lines that stretch across the entire market, the signature stand sells a burger that apparently is like no other. With a soy sauce seasoned patty, two buns made out of buttery ramen noodles, and scallions on top, the Ramen Burger is certainly an original.

Being food fanatics, we came to the conclusion that standing on a line for 45 minutes to try this trendy new burger would be worth it. As it turns out, we were right. It was was even more heavenly than we hoped it would be.

This overwhelming food fair is also known for Ched-Bred, a Brooklyn-based cornbread company with a stand. It is famous for its cornbread that with cheddar cheese in the batter. Their best flavors include maple bacon and honey sea salt.

Smorgasburg is located in Williamsburg on Saturdays and at the Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 5 on Sundays. They are open until it starts to get bitterly cold in November.

If you happen to find yourself debating whether the trip to Brooklyn is worth it for just a few food stands, debate no more. This food market is unique. With over 100 food stands, you are sure to find something you'll love. You'll be thanking us after you stuff your face with some of the most delicious food in New York.



The delicious ramen burger from Smorgasburg.

## IELING BLUE?

played by the football team, which fell to 0-2 on the season after a 21-18 loss to Hicksville. The team has yet to win after moving up divisions.

Pride in Port seemed to be well-recieved even though most of the day is geared towards a younger audience.

"I think Pride in Port was really fun this year as it usually is. I think it's a great representation of Port Washington and it is nice to see the entire town come together to celebrate," said senior Justin Malekan

The event does not, however, seem to generate much school spirit; rather, it creates Port spirit.

Pride in Port, senior shirts, and Schreiber pep rallies are good examples of the Schreiber community coming together to celebrate our high school. Students dress in blue and white, and the bleachers fill up during the homecoming football game.

Even so, part of the student body is less than passionate about cheering for Schreiber around the clock. In a poll of 190 students, two thirds of students said that they did not have school spirit. Only 73 percent of polled students attended the pep rally on Sept. 19, and only 40 percent went to this year's Pride in Port celebrations.

"I think school spirit should be important, but it isn't. There are some students who don't even go to the pep rally. I guess the students don't put much effort into raising school spirit," said senior Melody Sagastume.

Others are even less optimistic.

"The people on sports teams definitely have the most school spirit, but that's just relative to the general student body," said senior Jake Arlow. "There's basically no one with any legitimate school spirit."

It's clear that some students think that people on sports teams find it easier to identify with Schreiber. At the pep rally, only sports teams were invited to participate in the tug-of-war game. There are many clubs that compete for Schreiber, like the debate team and the mock trial team, but only athletes compete with blue and white jerseys.

"It seems to me that school spirit falls along 'party' lines," said senior Sandra Riano. "In other words, those who participate in sports and have a close knit



Josh White

Senior Justin Malekan and sophomore Eli Lefcowitz march in the Pride in Port parade with band teacher Mr. John Meyer, who co-direct the Viking Band. The parade began at noon on Sept. 20.

community of friends tend to enjoy school events, such as the pep rally. At these events, school teams are highly celebrated. Although this can be a great way to unify the school, often times students who participate in clubs or demonstrate school spirit in other ways are left out. School spirit should include athletic and academic achievements."

Riano is a graduate of North Shore Middle School. She remembers that there, during spirit week, the school held an inter-grade academic bowl.

Being part of a sports team does not necessarily indicate an abundance of school spirit.

In the aforementioned poll, 59 percent of students on sports teams pro-

fessed that they would rather cheer for their team than for Schreiber. There are arguably also slight rivalries between Schreiber teams, as evidenced by a number of comments on the anonymous social media app Yik Yak.

But the moral of the story is a positive one: the most "up-voted" comment in the thread about school sports teams read, "Rivalries between sport teams are dumb! We're all one school and should support each other!"

Senior Sandra Kumwong agrees.

"I think sports teams and seniors participate the most!" said Kumwong. "We don't have a lot of school pride for various reasons but individual sports teams have a lot of respect for each other, mostly be-

cause they work so hard!"

Many younger students also come to school with a positive outlook.

"I think the entire school has team spirit," said sophomore Daniel Melgar.

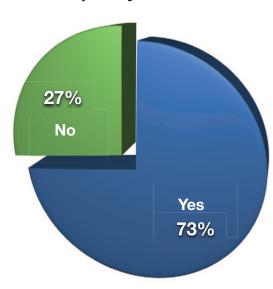
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### **Pep Rally Attendance**





Josh White

Homecoming Queen and King seniors Mariam Gejadze and James Brensic accept their crowns.

This ceremony is a tradition during the annual Pride and Port celebration.

## 

n many high school-themed movies, there is a scene involving students cheering on their school at a pep rally. Schreiber does not deviate from this stereotype; it hosts two pep rallies every year.

This year's fall pep rally landed on Sept. 19, the day before the community-wide Pride in Port celebration. As in years past, the Student Council, along with student volunteers from all grades, organized the event and entertained the student body.

Seniors and this year's hosts Martha Horowitz, Diandra Burton, and Mia Walker entered the gymnasium on the shoulders of six varsity football players. Upon descending, the three hosts welcomed the student body to the fall pep rally and invited senior Juliet Walzer to sing the national anthem. Later the crowd of students watched a trailer for "Sch-

The Portettes danced to Avicii's "Hey Brother." Schreiber's Varsity Cheerleading team followed the Portettes with acrobatic stunts and tricks. The Latin Dance Troupe performed a choreographed routine that included a mixture of Latin and

reiber Slam III: The Invasion."

hip hop dance moves. Later, Horowitz, Burton, and Reed introduced the nominees for Homecoming

King and Queen, as well as the captains for the fall sports teams. Students participated in competitions like "Eat a Donut" and the "Bayview Challenge." Sports teams also battled one another

in four rounds of tug-of war. The pep rally concluded with a performance by the band "Dirty Dan and the Pinheads."

Despite student government and volunteer attempts to entertain the audience, many members of the student body were unhappy with the pep rally. Although some disliked this pep rally specifically, many students expressed their aversion to pep rallies in general.

"I did not enjoy the pep rally," said senior Wyn Stopford. "If I had a choice of Parade, and family fun activities. whether or not to attend the pep rally, I would most likely choose not to go. Pep rallies can be exciting for the first 10 minutes or so, but after that, they just seem monotonous. It's easy to lose interest after four different games of tug-of-war."

This is a familiar theme at Schreiber. Students often mock school spirit events. events. Some people attribute this mentality to those students that do not participate in school sports, but are nonetheless mandated to attend the pep rally.

"Well, pep rallies are for sports kids," said senior Ariel Waldman. "The thing is, we're not exactly a sporty school. We don't want to be spirited because many of us don't do sports. What makes the kids who are interested in the arts interested in pep rallies? Nothing. It's just watching the 'jocks' of our school make idiots of themselves as half of the school looks on in complete and utter boredom."

Nonetheless, there are students that enjoy the event.

"I definitely enjoyed the pep rally," said sophomore Maria Kogan. "I do every snow cones, popcorn, and hot pretzels. year. Sure, this year could have been better if more people could have participated. But I think that the concept of the pep rally is just to feel united with the whole school and to celebrate no matter our age or our interests. So in that sense, the pep rally is as amazing this year as it was last

Some seniors wore their "senior shirts" to the pep rally. It is a tradition at Schreiber for the seniors to create and design

shirts with a group of friends, based on their interests.

"I think senior shirts are a great way for students to come together in their friend groups and showcase their unique personalities and interests in the contents of their shirts," said senior Sameer Nanda.

Teachers also like the tradition. "I think people should be able to have

fun with senior shirts. I mean it's accepted that not everyone is friends with everybody else, not everyone is the same, so people should be able to create shirts for their specific friend groups," said science teacher Ms. Ezratty.

The next day, the annual Pride in Port event, a town-wide celebration, kicked off. This year's daylong occasion included two Vikings sporting events, the Pride in Port

The day kicked off with a girls soccer team game. Schreiber fell to Oceanside by a close score of 2-1, giving the team a record of 2-3 in its first season after moving divisions. Because the game was at 10 a.m., preceding the parade, its attendance was small compared to that of other

After this game was the parade, which included all five elementary schools, Weber Middle School, Schreiber's marching band, the Portettes, the cheerleaders, and the police and fire departments, among others. Several participants of the parade deviated from the norm by using actual floats instead of banners.

"I enjoyed the parade. The new floats were cool and it was as good as past years," said junior Jed Bondy.

The family fun day at Weber's front field included several inflatables and a rock climbing wall, with a band playing in the background.

Many of Schreiber's clubs sold classic carnival foods, including cotton candy, This is of significance because it was an exception to a new rule which does not allow clubs to profit from selling unhealthy foods during school hours.

"I would say it's great that the event allows us to sell things," said junior class club president Jen Hepner. "The money that we earned goes towards allowing clubs to grow and support other causes like the funding of our junior prom."

Next was the homecoming game,

played by the football team, which fell to 0-2 on the season after a 21-18 loss to Hicksville. The team has yet to win after moving up divisions.

Pride in Port seemed to be well-recieved even though most of the day is geared towards a younger audience.

"I think Pride in Port was really fun this year as it usually is. I think it's a great representation of Port Washington and it is nice to see the entire town come together to celebrate," said senior Justin Malekan

The event does not, however, seem to generate much school spirit; rather, it creates Port spirit.

Pride in Port, senior shirts, and Schreiber pep rallies are good examples of the Schreiber community coming together to celebrate our high school. Students dress in blue and white, and the bleachers fill up during the homecoming football game.

Even so, part of the student body is less than passionate about cheering for Schreiber around the clock. In a poll of 190 students, two thirds of students said that they did not have school spirit. Only 73 percent of polled students attended the pep rally on Sept. 19, and only 40 percent went to this year's Pride in Port celebrations.

"I think school spirit should be important, but it isn't. There are some students who don't even go to the pep rally. I guess the students don't put much effort into raising school spirit," said senior Melody Sagastume.

Others are even less optimistic.

"The people on sports teams definitely have the most school spirit, but that's just relative to the general student body," said senior Jake Arlow. "There's basically no one with any legitimate school spirit."

It's clear that some students think that people on sports teams find it easier to identify with Schreiber. At the pep rally, only sports teams were invited to participate in the tug-of-war game. There are many clubs that compete for Schreiber, like the debate team and the mock trial team, but only athletes compete with blue and white jerseys.

"It seems to me that school spirit falls along 'party' lines," said senior Sandra Riano. "In other words, those who participate in sports and have a close knit cent of students on sports teams pro-

community of friends tend to enjoy school events, such as the pep rally. At these events, school teams are highly celebrated. Although this can be a great way to unify the school, often times students who participate in clubs or demonstrate

academic achievements." Riano is a graduate of North Shore Middle School. She remembers that there, during spirit week, the school held an inter-grade academic bowl.

school spirit in other ways are left out.

School spirit should include athletic and

Being part of a sports team does not necessarily indicate an abundance of school spirit.

In the aforementioned poll, 59 per-

fessed that they would rather cheer for cause they work so hard!" their team than for Schreiber. There are arguably also slight rivalries between Schreiber teams, as evidenced by a number of comments on the anonymous social media app Yik Yak.

Senior Justin Malekan and sophomore Eli Lefcowitz march in the Pride in Port parade with band teacher Mr. John Meyer,

who co-direct the Viking Band. The parade began at noon on Sept. 20.

But the moral of the story is a positive thread about school sports teams read, "Rivalries between sport teams are dumb! We're all one school and should support each other!"

Senior Sandra Kumwong agrees.

"I think sports teams and seniors participate the most!" said Kumwong. "We don't have a lot of school pride for various reasons but individual sports teams have a lot of respect for each other, mostly be-

**STARBUCK** 

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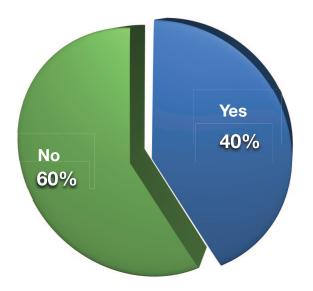
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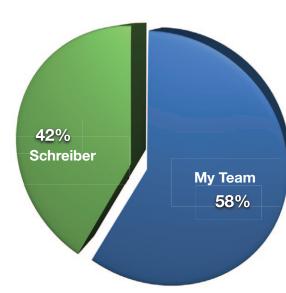
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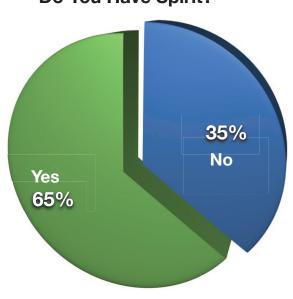
**Pride in Port Attendance** 



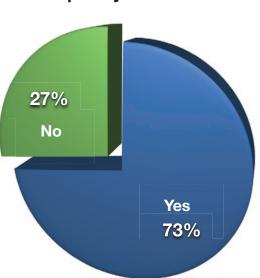
Who Do You Cheer For?



Do You Have Spirit?



**Pep Rally Attendance** 



Homecoming Queen and King seniors Mariam Gejadze and James Brensic accept their crowns. This ceremony is a tradition during the annual Pride and Port celebration.

## Students share summer anecdotes

Going to Tanzania this past summer was easily the most transformative and memorable experience of my life. Although it took an enormous amount of effort and patience to convince my parents to allow me to go on this journey halfway across the world, I knew these troubles would be

From sitting through a 20-hour flight together, spending a month with them in rustic conditions, or bonding over the fact that we were in Africa, these 21 kids from all over the country, including a few kids from Colombia, Spain, and China, soon became my best friends.

Throughout the trip, we lived in a village called Maji Moto, about an hour away from the city of Arusha. Maji Moto, which means "hot water," was a relatively large village of poverty-stricken families with an average yearly salary of \$300-400. For the three weeks that we lived in Maji Moto, or "The Maj," we had no electricity, no running water, and no standard bathroom facilities. Our restrooms consisted of holes dug in the ground. It was a harsh transition. But a transition that was well worth the

Our mornings consisted of my friends and me running around "The Maj," accompanied by the sound of village children yelling out our names as they walked to school. Throughout the day, we worked near the primary school, located in the village. We built housing for the teachers, painted the school, planted a garden, taught English classes to the children, and took Swahili lessons from the school's principal twice a week.

Although, at times, the language barrier made it difficult for us to actively speak to the locals, we were able to communicate through gestures and thus connect with the children.

Every day we played soccer, ran around, danced, and even attempted to have conversations in Swahili with the kids. Although by our standards these kids have nothing, I noticed that they were by far the most jovial people I have ever met. These kids who were full of energy and laughed almost every second of the day allowed us to see life from a different perspective. You do not need money to be happy.

During the final week of the trip, we spent six days on a safari visiting national parks and sleeping in tents. At the first national park that we visited, Tarangire, the safari guides piled us into old-fashioned roofless jeeps and drove us around to see the animals. Often, the animals were so close to us that we did not need to use our binoculars.

As we drove through the park we noticed, giraffes, elephants, baboons, zebra, and wildebeests wandering. I felt as though I was in a movie. The second park that we visited was Ngorongoro National Park. The park contains a large crater wherein we viewed lions and their cubs, hippos, warthogs, rhinos and several other amazing animals.

Seeing a different culture and living without an abundance of resources, was able to comprehend why the people in Tanzania were so happy. They did not have room in their lives to worry about the little things in life or to compare themselves to others. They accepted life in the moment and used it to its fullest potential. I only wish that I could share this message.

By Maddie Cohen

This summer I took part in an 18-day teen Spanish language immersion program and a homestay in Turrialba, Costa Rica. This trip was one of the best experiences of my life. Throughout my trip, I met people that lived as near as Virginia to as far away as the Netherlands.

During the unforgettable 18 days, I went to learn Spanish everyday at the local school. After three hours of school, depending on the day, my group would either go zip lining and rappelling down waterfalls to helping out at a youth soccer program for underprivileged children. After a long and exhausting day of fun filled activities, I would return home to my mom. My Costa Rican mom that is. Noemi Diaz was the nicest and most thoughtful woman I have ever met, who just happened to cook the best food in the world. Waking up to "Hola Josh! Buenos Días," put a smile on my face every day. I would reply "Hola mama! Buenos Días." Over the span of my incredible experience, I was able to immerse myself in and experience Costa Rican culture. By living with people who only spoke Spanish, I was able to improve my Spanish speaking. A skill that will help me as I continue to learn Spanish throughout my life.

At the end of the trip while I was on the runway at the San Jose International Airport in Costa Rica, I reflected back on how amazing this journey was and how grateful I was for the opportunity to be a part of it. I will forever remember my friends and the memories we made during those 18 days. Especially the nights that we played Uno together as a family. This was the most memorable experience of my young life and I wish for others to partake in this program as well.

By Josh White

No matter how many times we go to the Saratoga Race Course in upstate New York, it never gets old. For the past 35 summers, my family has made the journey to Lake George and Saratoga for Travers weekend. The Travers is one of the largest horse races of the year. But to us, it is more than a horse race; to us it is an opportunity to finally spend quality time with our family.

Ever since I can remember, we have been staying at the same hotel with a beautiful view of the lake. Waking up in the Adirondack Mountains, smelling the fresh, earthy air, and looking out onto the "Queen of American Lakes" fills you with wonder of nature's beauty.

The beautiful view provides a perfect background for our traditional family vacation. To us, the event is so important that we plan for it the entire year. Although we always spend our summers at Lake George, interestingly enough, our family always finds something new and interesting to explore on every visit.

Even though it is only September, I am already excited about our next trip and am looking forward to continuing this tradition as I grow older.

By Emily LaRosa

### Best-selling app makes Kardashian lovers' virtual dreams a reality

By Danielle Tawfik

Assistant Features Editor

As if their TV show, Keeping Up with the Kardashians, magazine covers, and a social media takeover were not

"I was playing the game nonstop and it was becoming such a problem," said junior Carly Lanzkowsky. "I decided to delete it when school started so I could get work done.

enough, the Kardashians have yet again found a way to take over our lives. The new app, Kim Kardashian:

Hollywood, was the summer's hottest and most addicting game. Peaking at number



Users complete photo shoots, purchase outfits, and go to fancy events with Kimmy K on the new app, Kim Kardashian: Hollywood.

one on the App Store chart, this game has been a huge success, and analysts predict that it will earn at least \$200 million by the end of this year. This app has provided Kim with exactly what she needs: more money!

In the game, Kim mentors the user and helps him or her become a celebrity.

Then, you network with other "celebrities," and appear in photo-shoots and movies in order to gain money and fans. The goal of the game is to gain fame by moving from the D list to the A list, thus showing young people what's really important in life!

Remarkably, all the hype about this

app is not meaningless. If you have ever tried this app, you know that considering it addicting is an understatement. There is just something about the app that makes people even more glued to their phones than they were before. admit that partake addiction. the in

In order to not lose my fans, I set my alarm early in the morning this summer to make sure that I had ample time to finish one of my Kardashian photo shoots. As pathetic as this may sound, I know I am not alone in the obsession with this game.

"I was playing the game nonstop and it was becoming such a problem," said junior Carly Lanzkowsky. decided to delete it when school started so I could get work done."

So if you have a lot of free time on your hands, download this app. However, remember that you have been warned about its ability to take over your life. As for those who are constantly busy with schoolwork and sports, it is highly recommended that you stay away from this app and whatever else the Kardashians have planned next, as they sneak closer to world domination.

## Fresh faces join the high school teaching staff *The 2014-2015 school year brings many new teachers*

#### Mr. Gorman

**Math Chair** 

Favorite food: pizza Favorite TV show: Survivor

Advice to students: "Always be at your best at whatever you do. At times, you may only have one chance."

How does being department chair differ from your previous teaching experience? "I'm not just responsible for a classroom. Everything's on a bigger scale in a larger





### Mr. Wolfert

Common Core Geometry, Algebra 2 Trig Plus

Favorite food: steak
Favorite TV show: The Walking Dead
Advice to students: "Find something you
really enjoy, and put all your effort into it."
What made you want to start teaching?:
"I actually began in banking, but I always
wanted to be a teacher. I then moved on
to writing. I sold one story and realized
that paying for my apartment was more
important than writing stories."

#### Ms. Saraceni

Business Education, College Accounting, Accounting, Word Processing, Microsoft

Favorite food: nachos
Favorite TV show: CNN, The Cooking
Channel

Advice to students: "Be the best you can be. Work hard, and just follow your dreams." What made you want to start teaching?: "I wanted to work with young people and be a positive role model for high school students, influencing future business leaders."





#### Mr. Pulice

Freshman English, 10th Grade Composition

Favorite food: pasta with meat sauce Favorite TV show: Sports, namely soccer Advice to students: "Ask questions!" Why do you like Schreiber?: "I heard great things about this school. There's a lovely, diverse community here. Everyone I talked to impressed me."

#### Ms. Pillar

Common Core Geometry, Honors Geometry, AP Calculus

Favorite food: apples
Favorite TV show: Big Bang Theory
Advice to students: "Work hard, and don't
be afraid to ask questions."

Why do you like Schreiber?: "I really like the community and attitude that the students have towards learning."





### Mr. Russell

Spanish

Favorite food: dessert

Favorite TV show: Everybody Loves Raymond

Advice to students: "Enjoy your life: don't wish away time. Live in the moment and enjoy everything now."

What made you want to start teaching?: "My teachers were a huge inspiration to me, and I wanted to do the same and change my students' lives by teaching."

### Ms. Dougherty

Italian, Spanish

Favorite food: pizza Favorite TV show: none

Advice to students: "Every little thing counts in the end. Work hard and never regret not doing anything by the time you graduate. Wherever you go, you may need to remember the silliest things. When you're sitting in Spanish class, thinking, 'Why do I need to remember this word,' it may come in handy later."

What made you want to start teaching?: "I always wanted to be a teacher, but I initially wanted to teach music. I did the whole NYSSMA thing, and all of a sudden, I realized, I'm really good at Italian. I loved languages so much, and they were my passion."





### Ms. Klock

Urban Studies, US History, Psychology

Favorite food: cheeseburgers
Favorite TV show: 30 Rock
Advice to students: "School is important,
and even little things that you learn
in history can be beneficial and useful
outside of the classroom."

Why do you like Schreiber?: "There's a warm environment here; every single person wants to see you succeed."

## All photos by Josh White and Pam Hidalgo



### Mr. Schultz

**Social Studies Chair** 

Favorite food: Mexican food Advice to students: "Work hard, play hard, work smart, play smart."

How does being department chair differ from your previous teaching experience?

"I get to help and work with my colleagues more, and there's a lot more responsibility. It's a bit frustrating at times, but I still get to be in the classroom, working with students."

ву Talia Silverstein

Staff Writer

As summer slowly fades away, students find themselves mourning the loss of their free time and summer activities. Now, it is time for schoolwork, sports, and extracurricular activities. For that sudden change in pace, one needs the perfect back-to-school wardrobe. But what is the perfect fall look?

During the first week of school, students refuse to adjust to the stark reality of school and thus dress as though it is still summer. This year, the halls were filled with cut-off shorts, tanks, and flip-flops. But as we move further into the school year, it becomes time to say goodbye to Flash Tattoos and hello to backpacks.

Baggy summer shorts will now give way to boyfriend-style jeans. Additionally, tattered and ripped jeans will continue in popularity this fall as they lend a relaxed and comfortable feel to nearly all outfits.

Another school trend we will see this fall is flannel. Many students wear long sleeve flannel shirts paired with t-shirts or tank tops, as well as slip-on sneakers, with or without a platform. These sneakers will often be more than just standard color slip ons. They will be textured and patterned. Also, expect to see camouflage showing up on various articles of clothing including jackets, pants, shirts and sneakers. Throw on a camouflage jacket over any day-today look to change it up a little.

Another fashion trend to watch for is the return of retro. Pieces that are reminiscent of the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s are all in. We will continue to see patterned clothing with bright pops of neon color. Wide-leg or high-waisted jeans and harem pants are options for this

## Fashion! Fall into back-to-school trends





Boyfriend jeans are among the hottest trends for fall. For those chillier days, throw on a comfy flannel to keep warm while still looking cute. Slip on sneakers are super trendy, and so easy to pair with any outfit.

fall. Opportunities to wear different types of tops are endless. Crop tops, graphic tees, floral prints, leather accents, and plaid are all in stores.

As the weather continues to turn, expect to see more layering. A big sweater over any of your fall outfits will work and recently, sweaters have large graphic designs on them. Or, if you're going for a different look, you can wear an oversized cardigan as well. Feel free to mix and

Take off those summer bracelets and put on your chokers. Just like tops, necklaces can be layered. A choker with one or two longer necklaces will be a popular look this fall. Speaking of jewelry, layering rings on more than one finger has made a comeback.

As the temperature continues to decrease, you will see different boots come back. This year's boots will be an important staple in fall fashion. The type

of boot does not matter; they can be high, low, combat, slouchy, and everything in between.

Coming back to school is definitely stressful and sometimes you just want to be comfortable and trendy all at the same time. Luckily, large sweaters and leggings are always a cute and easy option. If putting together outfits stresses you out, invest in a pair of overalls, as they can be very chic.

With so many styles the possibilities for fall fashion are endless. No matter what the trend of the season is, remember that fashion is about having fun and putting together outfits that represent you as an individual. The best part about fashion is being able to put your own spin on it. And from designer clothes to thrift shop finds, we will definitely be seeing a lot of fashion diversity this coming school

## hreiber ience

BY Anna Fox Contributing Writer

"The iPhone 6 isn't simply bigger it's better in every way," states Apple on its website about its new technological innovation. The iPhone 6 was available for pre-order on Sept. 12, and released to the public one week later. With the combination of both advanced new software and hardware, there are multiple features in the iPhone 6 that are sure to raise the bar in the scientific and technological world.

The iPhone 6 comes in two different sizes. The larger one is known as the iPhone 6 Plus. Compared to the iPhone 6's 4.7 inch screen, the iPhone 6 Plus's 5.5 inch screen is obviously greater in size. Also, the iPhone 6 Plus is 7.1 millimeters thick, while the iPhone 6 is only 6.9 millimeters thick.

The iPhone 6 camera, iSight, has improved the quality of images and videos. The combination of higher contrast and dual-domain pixels creates brighter colors at wide viewing angles. Additionally, features in the iPhone 6's camera such as time-lapse and slow motion video were unavailable to preceding iPhones. When it comes to FaceTime, the new feature FaceTime HD allows for more light to enter the camera, thus enhancing the resolution. All of these features are facilitated by the new Retina HD display that improves image clarity on the screen and makes these images appear exceptionally vibrant. The image quality improvement may further be attributed to the new glass screen, which is considerably stronger and less likely to

All students have experienced entering school with 100% battery on their phone and leaving with only 3%. This is no longer a problem with the iPhone 6. The iPhone 6 has a significantly longer-lasting battery life. Now, using the iPhone throughout the day (not in class, of course) and after school while doing homework (or procrastinating) is finally possible without having to recharge the device. Additionally, the iPhone 6 also has a faster Internet connection and download speed.

"The battery life is incredible. I came home from school today and it was at 76. Made my whole day. I love how thin it is because it fits in my pocket nicely. Other than that, a phone's a phone to me," said senior Laynie Calderwood.

The security on the iPhone 6 has upgraded using fingerprint scanning technology. Now, not only can it be used to unlock the phone, but is can also used when approving purchases from iTunes, iBooks, and the App Store. For the first time, people can use this "Touch ID" for third-party apps. Speaking of purchases, a new feature called "Apple Pay" makes it possible to make transactions using the fingerprint scanner.

From security to durability to even picture quality, the iPhone 6 seems to have it all. Compared to previous iPhones, the iPhone 6 has more features and useful applications to make people's lives easier. This technological breakthrough has surpassed previous dreams of what a cell phone can do. Now more than ever, it is evident that the future is here.

### ALS Ice Bucket Challenge makes a splash

By Katie Oppenheim and Carly Perlmutter

Contributing Writers

The best way to cool off during the summer? Dump a bucket of icecold water on your head. For charity. During the summer, participating in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge became a worldwide trend. People of all different ages and cultures have partaken in this informative yet fun activity that spreads ALS awareness.

or amyotrophic lateral ALS, sclerosis (often referred to as Lou Gehrig's Disease), is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the spinal cord and brain. In nearly all cases, ALS causes paralysis that often leads to death. Each year, about 5,600 people in the United States are diagnosed with ALS. In order to raise money to help find a cure, the ALS Association created the Ice Bucket Challenge.

The Ice Bucket Challenge began in July, and within weeks, spread across the globe. From young children to senior citizens, celebrities, politicians, sports legends and teams, nearly every social and cultural denomination participated in this trend. The Ice Bucket Challenge raised \$100 million as of late August.

But how does the challenge work? If a person is nominated, he or she is encouraged to videotape himself or herself dumping a bucket of ice water





From former president George Bush to Mr. Met, the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge has been completed by millions of people across the world.

on his or her head. Then, the contestant must post the video on social media and nominate others to do the same. If they do not complete the challenge, they must donate money to ALS.

"Although the temperature of the water was excruciatingly low, it was totally worth it because I did it for a good cause and helped spread awareness of this fatal disease," said sophomore Alex Devas.

Despite overwhelming support for the trend, many people have expressed their concerns regarding the Ice Bucket Some believe that the Challenge. challenge is a waste of water. To counteract this, a new challenge was formed, known as the Rice Bucket Challenge. For this challenge, the purpose is to give a bucket of rice to someone in need, post a photo, and nominate your friends to do the same. Additionally, others feel the challenge is good, but that other crippling diseases are so deserving of need funding and increased awareness.

The ALS Association has seen the challenge greatly exceed their initial expectations. It has raised millions of dollars for research, and spread awareness of the disease to countless people around the world. The innovative concept behind the challenge has created an enjoyable alternative to just dumping ice on your head resulting in an unforgettable experience for all participants. Let us

## arts8. Entertainment

## High school: media portrayals against reality

BY Max Miranda

A&E Editor

Moving from middle school to high school is probably the most daunting task that most 13 year olds have ever had to face. The large part of this trepidation can undoubtedly be attributed to external information tweens get from the media. As such, a great deal of that information is devoted to this very transition. People have begun to question the media's depictions of high school.

"Movies like Mean Girls definitely made high school out to be a scary place full of gossip, obnoxiousness, and competitiveness," said junior Carolyn Blumberg. "But everyone is a lot more supportive than the media made them out to be."

As studies have shown an increasing rate of middle school suicide in the United States, putting more pressure on students by insisting that high school will be worse, seems to be a very bad strategy.

"We hear about more bad things that happen to teenagers in school than good things, and that gives us a very negative perception of high school. News stories about bullying, eating disorders, and suicide only serve to intensify the stress," says senior Wyndham-John Daly

Stopford.

People have criticized outlets intentionally trying to stir up excessive conflict in high school where there is none. Other outlets have already began poking fun at television news segments inaccurate their Comedic reporting. artist Bo Burnham's song titled, "Channel 5 News: the Musical," paints TV news as biased towards sensationalism rather than quality reporting. Saturday Night Live also recently aired a sketch that makes fun of bogus teen trends that news outlets use to scare parents.

Obviously, the news is not the only media source that exerts its influence on perceptions of high school. Several movies like Mean Girls, Bring it

On and even High School Musical have affected this generation's perception of high school. Meanwhile, television shows like Glee, Pretty Little Liars, Friday Night Lights, One Tree Hill and Degrassi hold

LATTY RAM. TO

Mean Girls is one of the several movies that had an influence on current high school students' intial percpetion of high school, the movie takes a more negative view on high school.

sway over how many think about high school. However, Schreiber's student body seems to believe that these portrayals are often exaggerated and inaccurate.

"I feel like movies and TV shows

really distort what high school and real life is like in different extremes. There are some movies that show high school as a myriad of freedom and sunshine, but then there are movies like *Heathers* that are significantly more aggressive than any real high school experience," said sophomore Sarah DeMarino.

Yet there are also students that believe that such negative messages about high school serve as positives, in that they give teenagers fair warning that sometimes bad things do happen. News stories, TV shows, and movies have the ability to raise awareness about important issues like drug abuse. For example, the film Bully, which came out in 2011, started a serious wave of anti-bullying feeling in

America. People exited the theater with considerably more sympathy for the bullied

"One positive about the media's view of high school is how they emphasize being true to yourself and finding the right friends pays off in the long run," said Blumberg.

However, even well-intentioned attempts to educate children about typical teenage problems may unintentionally place stress on current middle school students.

"I think children's television can oftentimes provide a very intimidating view of high school. I remember having a very negative concept of what I thought high school was as a child. Although these TV shows are meant to address issues that teenagers face while in school, they consequently leave out the lighter aspects, making it difficult to see high school as anything but frightening," says Stopford.

In truth, however, you will find hundreds of high school students who will testify on behalf of the safety of high school

"If I had any advice for upcoming eighth graders I would tell them that high school is not as scary as the world makes it out to be, once you get the hang of things everything gets significantly easier," said freshman Julia Gurlitz.



High School Musical, one of the more optimistic movies about high school, still portrays a student body resistant to change, where the protagonists are initially bullied.

## Fox breathes new life into aging Simpsons franchise

ву Rami Chaudhry A&E Editor

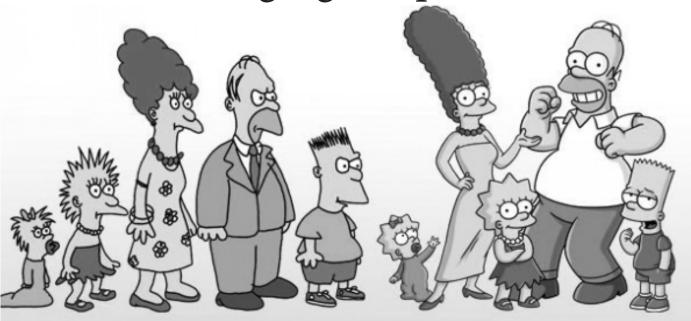
You either love them for their heartfelt hijinks or hate them for their satirical depiction of American families. You might not even realize they still exist. But one thing is for certain, the Simpson family has made its way to just about every television set at least once during its 25 season run. That is over 550 episodes of "d'oh!'s," doughnuts, and Duff beer. Sadly, the show's popularity has been on the decline over the past few years. But there is still hope for the famous family; Fox has a plan to bring The Simpsons back to life.

Starting in October, every episode of The Simpsons will be available to stream online for the first time in the show's history. But how did television's favorite yellow family make it to this milestone?

Created by illustrator Matt Groening, The Simpsons started out as a series of animated shorts for the popular American variety show, The Tracy Ullman Show. Groening's vision was to depict a dysfunctional animated family with names based on those of his own family members (he opted to call himself Bart instead of Matt). Whilst creating the cartoons, Groening was primarily influenced by The Firesign Theatre and Tom and Jerry cartoons.

After its release, the show quickly picked up a devoted fanbase that survived for the animated short's three seasons. With such success, the show was picked up by Fox as a half hour sitcom in 1989, and has since been airing new seasons annually on the same network.

The Simpsons, upon its arrival, was ahead of its time. Combining adultoriented and family-friendly humor, colorful animation, and intelligent stories



In recent years, The Simpsons' massive influence has faded in the media. However, Fox is attempting to give the show a re-birth. All 25 seasons will be aired on cable television on FXX and also available to stream via the FXNOW app.

about the human condition, the series was unlike any sitcom that had come before it.

Fast forward to the present, and the animated sitcom environment has changed significantly. Networks added more and more animated shows to the mix. Family Guy and South Park are currently the two top dogs of the animated sitcom arena, with Fox's Bob's Burgers the underdog.

So, where does the Simpson family stand in all of this? The correct answer is: they do not. This fact is to be expected, since the show is going on to its 26th season. Like most television shows, it has faded as viewer's tastes and preferences have changed.

However, Fox is not ignoring the potential that they have with as large and influential a property as The Simpsons.

Instead of idly standing by while their 25 year-old show starts to bite the dust, the network decided to push The Simpsons back into the hearts of cable subscribers across America. With their newly-released cable channel FXX, Fox has made it so that the Simpson family sees 24 hours of screen time a week. The network devoted twelve straight days to an "Every Simpsons Ever" marathon near the end of the summer on FXX in celebration of them acquiring all of the series' episodes.

In addition to the episodes shown on FXX, the channel will also release every episode on its subscription based app, FXNOW. For the first time in 25 years, every episode will be available in one place whenever and wherever you catch a bit of Simpson fever.

Fox hopes that the all-time longest running sitcom will gain a new generation of audience members in addition to regaining the viewers lost over the years. This show's legendary impact on television deserves the attention it has been recently receiving. Think about it; without Homer Simpson, Peter Griffin may have never seen the light of a television screen.

Do yourselves a favor. Before you watch new episodes of Family Guy on Sunday nights, run to your couch an hour early and watch the show that paved the way for Family Guy. If you cannot find anything to watch on TV one night, tune in to FXX or FXNOW and watch one of the greatest television sitcoms of all time. Watch *The Simpsons*.

## rime drama The Drop is thoughtful and thrilling

ву Eli Lefcowitz Contributing Editor

On the surface, The Drop is just another formulaic crime drama about the mafia. Slap on a solid cast and you have a generic B movie. However, take a second look at it and you may be surprised with what *The Drop* has to offer.

Director Michael R. Roskam and writer Dennis Lehane have created a smartly written, thrilling drama. Starring Tom Hardy, Noomi Rapace, and James Gandolfini, The Drop is an crime actiondrama set in the underworld of Brooklyn. The movie marks the final appearance of

the late James Gandolfini in a featurelength film. This alone should be incentive enough to see the movie in

The plot of the film centers around Bob Saginowski (Hardy) a lonely bartender in Brooklyn. However, the bar is not a normal bar. It is used as a drop box for mafia money. Yes, this is where the movie's name comes from. Supposedly, the mafia keeps money procured from con jobs, murders, and pizza place revenue at Saginowski's bar. Saginowski's boss and cousin, Mary (Gandolfini), is at the center of the operation. The main conflict of the film is ignited when a gang of criminals attempts to rob the bar, resulting in mafia

Rising star Tom Hardy carries The Drop with his best performance yet as Bob Saginowski. His filmography is quickly growing with an array of dramatic roles.

members getting angry as they lose a large sum of money.

Calling the police is out of the question, so Bob, Marv, and Bob's love interest, Nadia (Rapace), have to solve the crime on their own. What follows is an hour-and-a-half long thriller with more twists and turns than a roller coaster. The unpredictability is what sets this movie apart from other mafia movies. The characters are developed in unique and thought-provoking ways. The film also illustrates the neighborhood in a character similar to the hard-boiled gangster lifestyle. Through these positive aspects, The Drop presents moviegoers with a startling depiction of the hardships that come with a life of crime.

The film was shot on location in Brooklyn. The cinematography is excellent, fully capturing the emotions of all characters. At the same time, it is not distracting, avoiding smash-cuts and other modern techniques that action directors tend to use. Many scenes use one or two camera angles for a prolonged period of time, which although boring at some times, do not detract from the overall quality of the film.

Also stunning is Gandolfini's final performance in the film. Gandolfini, who died of a heart attack in 2013, ends his acting career by playing the corrupt gangster. Considering his past roles, Gandolfini plays this part with ease.

The Drop is a wonderful display of



James Gandolfini finishes his acting career on a high note, playing the rugged employer to Bob (Tom Hardy), cousin Marv.

a diverse cast who can work together. Fans of action and crime will not be disappointed, with plenty of thrilling scenes. In addition, romance and drama fans will also enjoy the relationship between Bob and Nadia.

Despite its R rating, The Drop is worth experiencing in theaters due to its talented cast and well written story.

### Robin Williams and Joan Rivers: two cornerstones of American pop culture

ву Elizabeth Muratore

Staff Writer

Over the past month, Americans witnessed the shocking and untimely deaths of two legendary comedians, Robin Williams and Joan Rivers. Both broke significant ground in the worlds of acting and comedy and were sources of hope and strength for the general public.

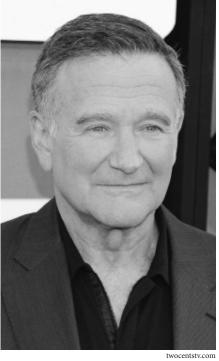
For decades, Williams was a beloved actor in both film and TV. Initially, Williams' career advanced slowly. The stand-up comedian performed local shows in San Francisco and Los Angeles. However, upon landing the role of Mork in the 1970s sitcom, Mork and Mindy, Williams leapt to comedic fame. He later starred in such classic movies as Hook, Aladdin, Mrs. Doubtfire, and Dead Poets Society.

His crowning achievement in acting came in the form of the critically acclaimed movie Good Will Hunting, for which he received an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Williams made numerous appearances on talk shows, such as The Tonight Show. More recently, he was involved with the movie franchise Night at the Museum and the CBS comedy The Crazy Ones. Throughout his career, Williams was noted for his unique, free-form, unscripted style, as well as for his impeccable wit and comic timing.

Sadly, on Aug.11, Williams was found dead in his home at age 63, due to an apparent depression-related suicide. His death made headlines nationwide. Celebrities quickly took to social media to mourn the comedian's death. On Aug. 25, Billy Crystal led a moving tribute to Williams, a friend and colleague, at the Emmy Awards.

As if the death of one beloved comedian was not enough, the world was forced to witness a second death, that of comedian Joan Rivers, only four weeks after Williams' passing





Less than a month apart, both Joan Rivers and Robin Williams faced untimely deaths. Though their legacy will live on, their deaths have shocked the world.

women in comedy throughout her life. She began her career as a performer in New York City comedy clubs in the 1950s and 1960s, and later became a writer for film and television.

For years, Rivers was the official fill-in host for Johnny Carson on The Tonight Show, but a contract dispute in 1986 led to Rivers leaving the show. The severed relationship with Carson and The Tonight Show banned Rivers from making future appearances on the show. (She eventually returned to the program for new host Jimmy Fallon's first show, in February.) However, Rivers did not disappear from public view. Instead, she started her own talk show, The Joan Rivers Show.

Throughout her life, Rivers published acclaimed memoirs and comedy albums. In 1990, she received the Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Talk Show Host on The Joan Rivers Show. During the Rivers was celebrated as a pioneer for 2000s, Rivers further became a public

figure, hosting red carpet specials and the popular show Fashion Police on E! With her trademark fusion of self-deprecating humor and acerbic comments about politicians and actors alike, Rivers paved

Like Williams', Rivers' life came to a tragic end this summer when she died at age 81 on Sept. 4, due to complications during a throat procedure. The next day, a private funeral was held for her in New York City. To honor Rivers, the Broadway league fought to have the marquee lights on Broadway dimmed. Despite initial technical difficulties, Broadway finally basked in faintly lit lights at 6:45 pm on

the way for female comedians everywhere.

Both Williams and Rivers received significant public attention following their deaths. Some may see this attention as unnecessary or a distraction from more urgent events happening elsewhere in the world. However, let us not forget that with these deaths, the world did not simply lose two comedians. It lost two role models and sources of hope.

When the commotion surrounding their deaths subsides, there will still be millions of devoted fans mourning the loss of Robin Williams and Joan Rivers.

Despite their personal problems and public controversies, Williams and Rivers will be remembered for their talent, work, and accomplishments. With their many achievements, the glowing posthumous media attention they received was rightfully deserved.



and this was one of the many events they attended with one

S&M: Sex and the media's unhealthy relationship with teens



Fifty Shades of Grey will soon become one of the first erotic novels to get turned into a movie. The popular book will get its big screen debut Feb. 15.

ву Mikayla Hyman Contributing Writer

Sex. It is just a monosyllabic threeletter word. Yet, the media is emphasizing it more today than ever before. And who do they target? The answer is simple: teenagers. As this snowball turns into an avalanche, one is forced to ask: is the consistent use of sex by the media a

positive or a negative thing?

Studies have shown that the earlier people observe sexual content, the earlier they will engage in it. And teens who participate in sexual activity are about three times as likely to become suicidal or depressed as teens who do not.

Additionally, teens who watch sexually explicit movies and TV shows are more likely to have self-confidence issues; the actors featured in steamy scenes do not exactly have average body types.

Take the sexually explicit book series Fifty Shades of Grey. The immensely popular series has gained a passionate following, and is now being adapted into a big-budget Hollywood film franchise. The film will undoubtly reach the eyes of teens everywhere. In turn, they will not only create false depictions of the act of sex, but their physiques as well.

When teens attempt to hold themselves the same standards as Hollywood movie stars, poor habits, such as going on extreme diets and using appearanceenhancing drugs, arise.

However, a recent study from the University of Maryland proves that having sex increases cognitive function by creating more brain cells. Of course, sex is not the only way to grow more brain cells. The issue is maintaining these new cells and for that, you need to undergo some serious brain training.

On the other hand, pushing more sex into the media may help educate the masses and provide precautionary tales. Since the show Teen Mom premiered in 2009, there has been a decrease in teen pregnancies. There is a direct correlation between areas that watch the show more often and a decrease in teen pregnancies.

Similarly, as the number of tweets about Teen Mom and its spinoff 16 & Pregnant increase, so do posts about increases in birth control. In this case, sex in the media is helping teens avoid becoming sexually irresponsible.

Still, according to a study by greatschools.com, only about 15% of all shows that include sexual content regularly discuss safety precautions or responsibility. This is especially concerning, considering teens on average talk to their doctors for less than two minutes a year about sexual topics. Couple that with the fact that many believe sexual education is lacking in schools, the results do not appear to be very pretty. An article titled Emerging Answers 2007 by Dr. Douglas Kirby proved that abstinenceuntil-marriage programs had no effect on students. Sex ed seems to be as helpful to regular students as it is to those in Mean Girls, but sex in the media, no matter how limited, can be a good teacher.

In review, sex in the media can either decrease mental well-being or add brain cells, and be a guide to sexual responsibility or irresponsibility.

Should teens be exposed to so much sex through the media? That is for each individual to decide on his or her own.

## The Leftovers: Leaving critics aghast

ву Michael Colonna

Staff Writer

On Oct. 14, 2011, on a seemingly normal day, 2% of the world's population suddenly disappears. 140 million people vanish worldwide, no explanation, no rationale–just like that.

That is the premise of HBO's original series *The Leftovers*, a show that refuses to dwell on the question of why, but rather on the people that the Rapture-like event left behind.

The Leftovers is based on the novel of the same name by Tom Perrotta, and was created by Perrotta and Lost co-creator Damon Lindelof, who definitely leaves his mark on the show. In fact, the ways in which Lost has influenced The Leftovers are very apparent; Lindelof kicks off the show with his signature "big mystery" to reel the viewer in, and proceeds to focus on the characters' reactions to this big mystery, rather than the mystery itself. This style of storytelling was a huge reason why Lost angered so many viewers, as it dangled questions in front of their noses and never answered them. Fortunately, the much more focused Leftovers does not suffer from this-it thrives on it, keeping everything just ambiguous enough to make you salivate for more.

From the onset, *The Leftovers* establishes itself as a show about characters, not mysteries, and in that

way, it succeeds immensely. The actors' performances range from thought-provoking to truly devastating.

Justin Theroux gives a rugged, yet vulnerable, performance as Kevin Garvey, the police chief of Mapleton, NY. Kevin struggles to keep the peace between a religious cult known as the Guilty Remnant and the Mapleton civilians angered by the G.R.'s inflammatory actions, all the while trying to keep from losing his mind.

Amy Brenneman conveys an ostensibly strong yet deeply regretful Laurie Garvey, Kevin's estranged wife, communicating so much with so little, because of her vow of silence as a G.R. member. However, the most moving of all the actors is Carrie Coon, who gives a deeply powerful breakout performance as Nora Durst, a woman who lost her entire family in the Sudden Departure. Each character brings a new angle of devastation, of hope, and of strength to the table, and it is truly amazing to watch them all interact.

The Leftovers does tend to get a bit grandiose at times. It opts to be a piece of artwork, a carefully crafted Renaissance painting. This bombastic tone is bolstered by Max Richter's beautifully tragic original score for the show, contrasting each moment of redemption and grief with exhilarating violins and somber piano pieces. It is enough to turn viewers looking for a sense of grounded reality away, and make the show a seriously

delicious treat for those who stay.

Many critics are calling *The Leftovers* "the most depressing show on TV," saying that it wallows in its own self-righteousness and the characters' grief without direction. However, these are only surface analyses of the show. The reason it succeeds is not because of its dark tone, but because of its character studies and its illuminations of the human condition in times of deep and unbearable stress.

Episodes like "Two Boats and a Helicopter," "Guest," and "The Garveys at Their Best" are perfect examples of the show diving deep into its characters, examining their psyches and drawing conclusions about hope, about moving on, about loss and guilt and shock. The show, with its fractured community and cast of characters, ultimately brings all of us closer together. It reminds us to hold our loved ones close, but also that moving on is alright.

If you are a fan of light shows like One Tree Hill, then The Leftovers is probably not for you. But, if you enjoy being rocked on an emotional roller-coaster, being devastated and empowered and enlightened by the aftermaths of deep tragedies at the same time, then give the show a try. The first season is full of masterfully crafted character studies, and will certainly make you realize that we all have our own stories, and carry around weights others cannot see.

### The Streamy Awards 2014

By Lexi Cruz

Contributing Writer

On Sept. 7. the fourth annual Streamy Awards, which celebrates the best in online video, was held live in the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California. The biggest names in online video got together to celebrate the Streamy Awards.

This year, YouTubers Hannah Hart and Grace Helbig became the first females to host the Streamys. The awards show is still in its infancy as it moves through its fourth year.

The show snowballs each year as online personalities like Jenna Marbles (crowned for Best First Person Channel) and Harley Morenstein from *Epic Meal Time* attract more and more viewers. There was a significant number of surprises that night: the Best Drama Series Award went to the *Lizzie Bennet Diaries*, a fictional video diary based on Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice, and co-host Hannah Hart took home the Streamy for best comedy series. The Best Ensemble Cast and Best Sci-Fi Series awards went to *Video Game High School*.

However, Youtubers were not the only online entertainers to win Streamy Awards. Viners also had the opportunity to be honored by the Best Vine of the Year award. Brittany Furland, known for her appearance in "Ghetto Dora the Explorer," took home the prize.

In addition to highlighting the best content on the web, the Streamys introduced the first Streamys ICON Awards. The Streamy ICON Awards recognize the accomplishments of remarkable individuals who have demonstrated leadership in online video. The category is split into four subcategories: activism, convergence, entrepreneurship, and inspiration. The activist ICON went to the most viewed LGBT vlogger on YouTube, Tyler Oakley. Tyler's "It Gets Better" antibullying campaign has become a global phenomenon. In addition, his work with The Trevor Project has helped raise over half a million dollars for the organization, making Oakley one of the Internet's most successful individual fundraisers.

The entrepreneur ICON went to Shay Carl. Since Shay joined YouTube, he and his family have won the hearts of millions with their daily adventures on the SHAYTARDS YouTube channel. Shay was one of the first to risk turning online video into a full-time job. As a co-founder of Maker Studios, he helped induct a new generation of Youtubers by creating a talent-first network. In March of 2014, The Walt Disney Company acquired Maker Studios.

The Streamys also featured live musical performers, including the cappella group, Pentatonix, singing their rendition of Ariana Grande's "Problem" and Scott Bradlee & Postmodern Jukebox, performing a doo-wop remake Miley Cyrus' "We Can't Stop." The Streamys also payed tribute to the recently deceased Joan Rivers with a performance by Mamrie Hart. The fourth annual Streamy Awards honored talented Youtubers and those who have made a difference both in the online video community but also in real life. The show's growing popularity indicates the increasingly powerful presence of online video in youth media.

### The Legend of Korra fails to bend TV ratings upward

By Andrew Falzone

Contributing Writer

Imagine possessing the ability to bend earth, wind, fire, and air to your every will. That is exactly what an Avatar is, as the Avatar franchise continues with *The* 

Legend of Korra.

Kids and teens are familiar with the popular anime-inspired Nicktoon, Avatar: The Last Airbender. The show follows the story of a young man named Aang who is able to "bend" or manipulate natural elements, and is thus referred to

as an Avatar.

Because the show was a major hit during its three season run, the creators decided to put their talents to work in creating a sequel entitled *The Legend of Vorte* 

This new series picked up in 2012, set 70 years after the events of *The Last Airbender* and follows Avatar Korra, Avatar Aang's successor, on her journey to restore peace and balance in her world.

Following the nature of spin-offs, *The Legend of Korra* has not been as popular as its original counterpart. *The Legend of Korra* is critically acclaimed, receiving a critic's score of 100% on Rotten Tomatoes. However, critics' opinions do not coincide with those of the general public. With each new season, viewership and ratings continually have declined.

Thus, it is evident that *The Legend of Korra* has not been resonating with its viewers. But why? One possibility is that the show portrays Korra as too strong of a character. There are times throughout the series that Korra seems stronger than Aang, an already powerful figure. Such power increases the show's predictability, as viewers realize Korra will aways be victorious.



inido.com

Assuming the position as the new Avatar, Korra attempts to restore order in the divided nations of water, fire, earth, and air through her bending capabilities.

The show's repetitiveness further hampers the audience's experience. Korra manages to saves the world twice from massive chaos by the end of the third season: one time too many.

It seems that in order to make up for their short supply of ideas, the show's writers add intense bending fight scenes. Although created with the intention of engaging the audience and increasing drama, these scenes do not achieve their goals. Yes, the scenes might be amusing at points. But their power is usurped by the sheer quantity of them in the series. They end up only furthering the show's predictability. Although the good conquering evil cliché is expected in a series like this, the way the writers utilize the theme detracts from the show's quality and makes it boring.

However, there may be an explanation for the show's recycled themes. Originally, *The Legend of Korra* was created as a twelve-episode mini-series. Since the

show now has three seasons, with a fourth season coming soon, the narrative is being stretched out to accommodate.

Because of its dwindling viewership count, *The Legend of Korra* was taken off of the air. The show has since been moved to Nickelodeon's website, where the rest of the third season was released.

It is truly upsetting to see a once-great series fall. It is unfortunate that, because of the lackluster selection of cartoons on Nickelodeon, *The Legend of Korra* might be the best series currently airing on the network.

Despite its faults, *The Legend of Korra* is still somewhat enjoyable to watch. If you have are a religious viewer of the series, you should definitely check out the fourth and final season when it is released on nick. com on Oct. 3. Hopefully, the writers' original vision for the follow-up story will be fully realized by the series' end.

## Athletes of the Month &

### Katrene Rustemi



Senior captain midfielder Kat Rustemi looks to advance the ball up field on Sept. 18 against the Wheatley Wildcats. Rustemi tallied one goal to help the Vikings win the match 5-1.

## Peter Kirgis



Junior captain Peter Kirgis trains in preparation for the New York State Qualifiers on Sat. Nov. 1. Kirgis will be representing the boys cross country team, which finished second in the county.

## Girls soccer practices translate to playoff success

ву Kyle Cohen

Staff Writer

The girls varsity soccer team knows how important practice is to its success. Every day, the girls go through an intense session of practice to try and improve. After getting the equipment out of the cage, they run four laps around the field and do some dynamic stretching to warm up. Following a water break, the team does drills to work on passing, shooting, defense, foot skills, and off-the-ball movement.

After these high-intensity drills, the team will usually scrimmage or play small-sided games (games played with smaller lineups). Finally, the coaches conclude practice with a speech about effort, hard work, passion, and playing as a team.

"The team works on all aspects of the game every day at practice. We do technical work, tactical concepts and conditioning every day," said head coach Ms. Lauren Bishar.

Coach Bishar and assistant coach Mr. Sean Dooley put a large amount of time into the preparation and planning of each

"Planning is very important," said Coach Bishar. "We assess the previous game and implement the things we need to work on at the next practice to prepare

us for our next opponent. Practice is very important to the team and its success. It is where the team works on their weaknesses, prepare for our opponent and improve on our strengths. We learn how to work together as a team and become a unit to achieve our goals."

The players agree with their coaches about the importance of practices. They know it is their time to improve daily and get a better feel for each other on

"Practice is very important to our cess because it allows us to practice tactics and set plays as well as gives the team an opportunity to get comfortable playing with each other," said senior captain Krista Ledins.

While the team's performance in games is only reflected by its record, practice is where all the hard work and preparation is put in.

The team feels that it needs to come to practice focused every single day, ready to try and improve in order to reach their goals.

"The team sets individual and team goals at the beginning of the season. They have a goal to reach and they know what it takes to achieve it. They understand the work and effort they put in each day is going to help them reach that goal. They are a good group that wants to achieve individual and team success,"

said Coach Bishar.

Soccer is a physically demanding sport, and being in shape contributes to the team's performance. Many teams use practice time to run laps and improve their conditioning.

Coaches have the players run laps and do sprints throughout the entire practice. It is often used as a punishment but there are many soccer teams that condition this way regularly. However, the girls soccer team has a different philosophy. They believe that the intensity of their practice should help them condition and stay in game shape.

"Our conditioning is included in our drills, meaning we are expected to work hard during the drill so we don't have to take away time from practice to run," said

"We do a lot of conditioning in the drills during practice. We try and incorporate as much into the drills to make them competitive and run rather than just getting on the line and running," said Coach Bishar.

On Oct. 25, the Vikings defeated Valley Stream Central 3-0 in a playoff game under the lights on the turf. Junior Olivia Fetherston recorded a hat-trick in the game.

These intense practices filled with all kinds of drills and conditioning are tremendously important to the success of the



Junior center back Ashley Randall looks downfield for a teammate on a throw-in against the Oceanside Sailors on Sept. 20. The Vikings fell in the match 2-1.

team during games. Each drill is competitive and the players understand that this intensity and competition will pay off at the end of the season.

## Calling the Shots Academic fraud assists UNC athletes

**BY Seth Barshay** 

Sports Editor

In recent times, the NCAA has had one argument against those who say that college athletes deserve to be paid: their payment is a college education. In order to ensure that student athletes work hard in their classes, the NCAA has set the number of unsatisfactory grades a student athlete can receive before being deemed ineligible to play.

Student athletes, according to NCAA rules, are also not supposed to receive special benefits in academics compared to regular students.

However, over the past eighteen years, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill athletes have been receiving high grades for classes that they were not required to attend; instead, each athlete only had to write a paper at the end of the term to receive a grade. In most of these socalled "paper classes," the teachers would not even read the submitted papers.

Earlier this year UNC hired former United States Department of Justice official Kenneth L. Wainstein for an independent investigation.

On Oct 22, Wainstein released his report based on the eight-month investigation; it includes several shocking statistics of what is being called one of the worst cases, if not the worst case, of academic fraud in the history of NCAA athletics.

The report says that over 3,100 students received artificial grades from paper classes to maintain NCAA eligibility. Forty seven percent of those students were student athletes, and most of that group of Tar Heels was on the football team.

The department to blame for the nonexistent courses is the African-American



Former University of North Carolina shooting guard Rashad McCants dribbles up the court in a game against Santa Clara University. Last June, McCants admitted to taking artificial classes to inflate his grades and maintain his eligibility.

Studies department. The fraud was facilitated mainly by professor Debbie Crowder and department chairman Julius

In 2005, the UNC Tar Heels men's basketball team won the national championship. Of the 15 players on the roster, two thirds had majors in the notorious depart-

One such player, Rashad McCants, who was an instrumental member of the roster, admitted in June to having taken fake classes at UNC and to having tutors write his classwork.

This is especially interesting because McCants was in contention for the Wooden Award during his tenure at UNC, a prestigious award that is partially based on academic performance.

"You're not there to get an education, though they tell you that," said McCants during a segment of Outside the Lines on ESPN. "You're there to make revenue for the college. You're there to put fans in the seats."

The fact that a prestigious university like UNC could put the performance of its athletes over the academic integrity of the institution speaks to the amount of money brought into large schools by clothing endorsers like Nike and Adidas and lucrative television deals with broadcasters like

UNC and similar schools depend on their athletes for financial gain. For many large programs, millions of dollars are at

But those other schools did not give their athletes special benefits. Syracuse University, for example, has had recent athletes become unable to play for academic reasons. Several seasons ago, the NCAA declared star basketball player Fab Melo ineligible for the NCAA tournament, affecting the then-contender's odds. A similar situation likely would not have happened at UNC due to its culture of cheating.

Schools need to realize that the education of these students should be of utmost importance, especially during present times in which student athletes looking toward the pros view these classes as formalities.

A recent study on UNC athletes from 2004 to 2012 indicated that 60% read at levels between those of fourth and eighth grade. This is shocking, to say the least, especially for a school like UNC that previously prided itself on its academics.

At Schreiber, we are lucky to have a policy in place to determine academic eligibility that is actually followed, unlike that of UNC-Chapel Hill. If a student were to fail at least two subjects in any given marking period, that student would be ineligible for Vikings athletics for the entirety of the next marking

Last school year, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association named Schreiber a Scholar Athlete Team School of Distinction; in addition, each varsity team last year was a Scholar Athlete team. A team is recognized when its players have a composite GPA of at least 90 when converted from Schreiber's GPA to a scale from one to 100.

### Girls tennis has success in playoffs, reaches out to community

ву Eric Fishbin

Sports Editor

Heading into the season with low expectations and a new coach, the girls tennis team surprised not only itself, but also other teams in its division this season.

"We lost seven out of eleven of last year's lineup so it was a completely new, very young team," said junior Emma Rosenberg. "Because of that, expectations were pretty low going in, but we exceeded everyone's expectations by coming in third in Conference 1 and making it to the semifinals of the playoffs."

Playing at the top level of competition Conference 1, the Vikings surpassed their hopes, and made a playoff push this

Competing with a young team with four underclassmen including an eighth grader, the Vikings were proud of their accomplishments. Beating top teams and making a playoff push, the team made the new head coach Mr. Shane Helfner proud.

"This season has far exceeded many people's expectations," said Coach Helfner. "We were supposed to have a 'rebuilding year' after graduating seven or eight starters last year. I think no one expected much from us this year, including not making the playoffs. But this team finished third in a very tough conference 1 and even defeated the top seed Manhasset and the second place team Roslyn during the season. We were the only team to defeat each team in the conference."

With a young team, expectations for the future are high.

'We had only two seniors in our starting lineup this season so next year won't be as drastic of a difference, even though one of those starters was our first singles player, Sarah Seeman," said Rosenberg. "There was an eighth grader, two freshmen and two sophomores in our lineup, so they have a few more years on the team and it should get stronger and stronger

Although the team's main goal was to perform well on the courts, it also focused on smaller aspirations, such as being philanthropic.

The girls hosted a free clinic for young athletes in Port.

They are also set to host a Breast Cancer Awareness Play the Teachers Tournament on Nov. 3.

For this tournament, the girls were asked to find a teacher, form a doubles team, and play a tournament for a worthy cause. All of the proceeds from this event will be donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

"There will be raffles, friendly competition, and lots of fun." said Rosenberg. "Students, faculty and the community should come out to cheer on theirfavorite teachers and support breast cancer!"

The event will take place at he Schreiber tennis courts at 3:30.

In the playoffs, the girls fell to Roslyn 4-3 in the Nassau Team semifinals. The match came down to a third set in the



Senior captain Emily de Reyna, and juniors Annie Kline and Sydney Levy (left to right), give pointers to young Port Washington tennis players at the Schreiber courts on Sept. 27 during a free clinic.

second singles match, but the Vikings were eliminated.

Despite the loss at its end, this season displays what the team has in store for the future. Coach Helfner is ready for the jour-

ney.
"I am so very proud of my girls for an incredible season and keeping Port Washington tennis at the top of Nassau County," said Helfner. "These girls worked hard and really came together as a team and family. Port Washington tennis continues to be a powerhouse in Nassau County and will be for years to come!"

Not only is coach Helfner optimistic, the

departing seniors are too.

'We have a very young team," said senior Sarah Seeman. "We are losing our first singles player and our third doubles player, but the underclassmen are hungry to improve and try to come back to win the county championship next year," said Seeman.

The leaving seniors have influenced the younger Vikings set them on the path for success in the future.

"The leadership was great, the seniors were captains and always kept the spirit up," said junior Blake Dolin.

### Girls tennis and field hockey welcome new head coaches

BY Eric Fishbin and Justin Suzzan

Sports Editor and Contributing Writer

#### Coach Mr. Shane Helfner, girls tennis

The girls tennis team started their season off with three consecutive wins on Sept. 8, Sept. 10 and Sept. 12, improving its record to 3-0. Team members can attribute this early success to new head coach Mr. Shane Helfner.

"Coach Helfner is great," said junior Emma Rosenberg. "He is so enthusiastic and excited about our team. He takes it all so seriously, but he is a lot of fun at the same time. He motivates us and works us hard. So far it's working."

In addition to being the coach of the the girls varsity team, Coach Helfner is the fourth and fifth grade band director at both Sousa and Manorhaven Elementary Schools.

"I get to share two of my greatest passions with the students I work with," said Coach Helfner. "I get to watch them achieve, succeed, and grow as I instill a passion for music and tennis."

This is Coach Helfner's first year in the district. In Commack, where he previously worked, Coach Helfner coached both the boys and the girls varsity tennis teams.

While in Commack in 2009, he led the boys team to the Suffolk County Championship. In addition to winning the championships in Suffolk County, Helfner was voted the League 1 Coach of the Year three times, and Newsday's Long Island Coach of the Year in 2009.



Jake Knatz

Head Coach Ms. Hellene Bruckner (center) discusses strategy with the girls field hockey team on Sept. 18 before their game against the Wheatley Wildcats. The Vikings went on to win, ending in a 5-1 score. The Vikings have six games in the season remaining, including one against rivals, the Massapequa Chiefs.

Later, he became the president of the Suffolk County Tennis Coaches Association.

Coach Helfner is no stranger to varsity tennis, whether as a coach or as a player.

He played varsity tennis at Commack for six years and was an All-State doubles player.

With this new addition to the girls ten-

nis team, the goals are as high as they have

"My expectation is that my team will play competitively and hopefully fight for a playoff spot," said Coach Helfner.

Port Washington has competed at a high level in the past and Helfner looks to continue the winning tradition.

Coach Ms. Hellene Bruckner, girls field hockey

After Mr. Joseph Lederer, the long time coach of the girls field hockey team, retired, the job as head coach opened up.

Coming in with four years of varsity field hockey at Port Jefferson, and four years of college field hockey played at LIU Post under her belt, new head coach Ms. Hellene Bruckner filled the spot, bringing a new energy to the team.

During her four year tenure at Port Jefferson, Bruckner helped lead the team to two Long Island Championships.

In her junior year at Post, Bruckner was named to the NFHCA National Academic Squad.

With many returning players, Bruckner relies on her upperclassmen to lead the team.

"Bruckner goes through the upperclassmen to motivate the team before games and in practice," said junior Julianne Avazis.

After losing her first two games as a head coach, Bruckner and the Vikings went on a two game winning streak. With a little time to adjust, the Vikings made changes to help them win.

"Since this is her first year coaching a varsity field hockey team, there is definitely communication between not only the captains, but with all returning players. We talk about what drills we think are beneficial and what corner plays have worked for us in the past," said senior captain Jina Lay.

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—David Hare



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## Boys volleyball starts season as defending champs Team aims to top conference and county for second consecutive year

**BY Seth Barshay** 

Sports Editor

On Sept. 5, the boys varsity volleyball team kicked off its season as defending Nassau County champions. They started off the season by shutting out Farming-dale on the road, 3-0.

In the season opener, senior and captain Steven Lopez led the way with 10 kills, with senior and captain David Adler and senior Ryan Capps each contributing five kills.

"The team is looking great. We definitely got off to a great start, and talent exists everywhere, so we're in good shape," said Lopez.

Since then, the Vikings have accumulated a 4-2 in-conference record. Two

"I'd say for this season, our goal is definitely to finish at the top of the conference. For the postseason, I definitely want to make it back to the county championship," said junior Kevin Hazan. "This year it is up for grabs, and I think we can definitely win it again."

of these wins were first place finishes in tournaments, including when the team defended home court in the Port Washington Tournament, defeating Bellmore/

"Winning this was awesome. We

haven't won that tournament for a couple of years and to be able to win it this year was huge for the team. It built our confidence and put us at a point that we know later in the season we will be able to win," said junior Andrew Kerr.

Led by captains Lopez and Adler, the team truly believes that it has what it takes to succeed in the regular season and repeat in the Nassau County Championship. However, the Vikings first need to finish at the top of Conference A-I to achieve this goal.

"I'd say for this season, our goal is definitely to finish at the top of the conference. For the postseason, I definitely want to make it back to the county championship," said junior Kevin Hazan, who is currently sidelined with a torn labrum in his shoulder. "This year it is up for grabs, and I think we can definitely win it again."

A huge factor that the team thinks contributes the most to its continued success has been its chemistry.

"Each person is like a gear, and when one breaks, we all stop working. Currently our team chemistry is very strong. We are all extremely close and just enjoy playing the sport we love together," said Adler.

In terms of trying to repeat, they are not becoming complacent after winning it all last year.

The hunger for a title is still present, and the team is aiming to surpass its accomplishments from last season.

Despite the team's high aspirations, there are still other contenders with the same goals in the conference, namely Plainview/JFK, which seems to be the Vikings' most formidable opponent.

This team handed Port its second and worst loss of the season thus far on Sept. 17, winning 3-0 on Schreiber's court.

"Although we vowed to play well against Plainview, we lost pretty badly. We had a rough patch, but we're working hard



Senior outside hitter Ryan Capps serves during a match against the Lawrence Tornados on Sept. 13. The Vikings won the match and each match after during the day, on its way to a tournament win. Capps and his fellow seniors have been key to the team's recent success.

and coming together as a team again," said

Since the loss that one team member called "embarrassing," the team bounced back during a road win against Roslyn on Sept. 19.

"The team's attitude is always positive, despite tough losses like that one. We come to work every single day at practice, and we always go at 100 percent. A lot of us have plenty of experience and are more than capable of overcoming a midseason hurdle," said junior Zach Jimenez.

Over the rest of this season, the Vikings have several intriguing matchups, includ-

ing a revenge match against Plainview JFK on Sept. 23.

In order to right the ship and top the conference, the team believes that several factors need to come into play.

"Communication and a strong work ethic are two major components in order to achieve success," said Lopez. "Our goal is to keep picking up from where we left off last season, working hard together as a unit and making our way to the top again and hopefully earning another county title," said Lopez.

As the team approaches the halfway point of the season, it recognizes the fact that it has a somewhat winnable schedule, but that it needs to continue to play at the high level it has since the start of last season.

"I know the team can earn a county title again and I'm sure we can achieve more," said Kerr.



Josh White

The boys volleyball team huddles before a game against the Long Beach Marines on Sept. 13 at the Port Washington Invitational. The Vikings won the tournament, with an undefeated record. This was their second tournament win this season.

