



The Owl

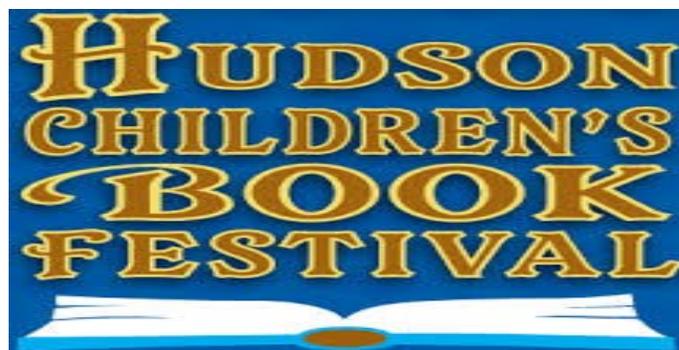
April 2015

Upcoming Hudson Children's Book Festival

By Gina Leccese

On May 2nd, the seventh annual Hudson's Children's Book Festival will be held once again in the Hudson Jr. /Sr. High School. Admission is free for everyone and the book festival will be held from 10am to 3pm on Saturday. Seventy-five authors of children's and young adult books will be in attendance. Some of the authors attending include: Daniel Region, Hudson Talbott, Nancy Viau, Jerry Craft, Debbie Dadey, Frank Cammuso, and Lisa LaMonica. Besides having the chance to meet your favorite authors in person, there will be many other fun-filled events to participate in. People can participate in face-painting and book giveaways. There will be read alouds and reading workshops with some of the authors throughout the day, for children ages three to twelve, and a musical performance by John Farrell held in the auditorium in the morning for everyone to enjoy. Twenty-five exhibits from community groups such as the Friends of the Hudson Area Library, Hudson Police Department, Catholic Charities, Investments in Youth, and Skribblers Magazine will be on display during the book festival. New York State Assemblywoman DiDi Barrett and United States Congressman Chris Gibson will even be making a special appearance to show their support for the festival.

Students from the National Honor Society and the Jr. Honor Society will be helping out at the event. Many thanks go out in advance to Mrs. Dolan and Ms. Clark, who planned the Hudson Children's Book Festival, which has grown to become the largest book festival in New York. There's something for everyone at the Hudson Children's Book Festival, so come and have a great time!

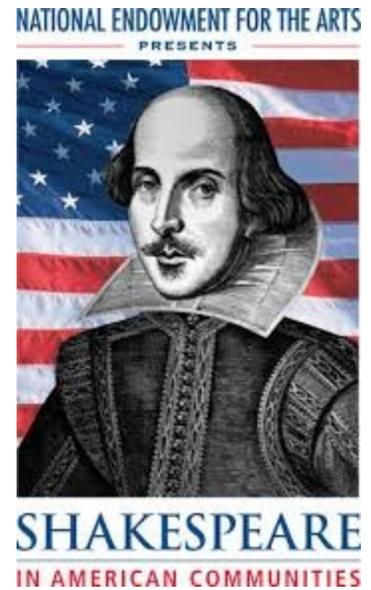


Shakespeare and Company Performs Hamlet

By Jenna Gregory

On April 15th, Hudson High School had some visitors. *Shakespeare and Company* from Lenox, Massachusetts returned, but this time they performed Shakespeare's famous play *Hamlet*. The play was not only a great performance but was very entertaining to watch. The play also taught the viewers some lessons as well. After the performance, the room was opened up for questions, which gave the students to get to know a little bit about the actors.

Some classes even got to participate in a workshop with the actors later on in the school day. The students were able to express themselves on stage by doing some fun activities. During one activity, the students were split into a couple of groups. Each group was given a small part of the play *Hamlet* in which they performed in front of the class. Students were given an amazing experience due to the workshop from *Shakespeare and Company*. We'd love to have them come back next year!



NYC Field Trip

By Fahmida Choudhury

On April 20th, Mr. McDarby's Marine Science and AP Biology class, Mrs. Flint's Forensic Science and Living Environment Honors' class, and the Scrub Club went on the Body's trip and the Natural History Museum in Times Square, in New York City. Students were able to see real preserved body parts of Body donors who were willing to give up their body parts for showcase. Students were able to educate themselves about the human body, its structure, and function. The Natural History Museum was a four floor high building. Students viewed exhibits that presented the beginning of creation to the present, such as ecology, geology, and astronomy. There were displayed artifacts that dealt with the history of cultures for certain groups of people such as the Asian, African, and South American. There were many other exhibits, such as the Rose Center for Earth and Science that demonstrates the history of the Big Bang theory to the present day. Overall, the trip was worth going to, students enjoyed it, and it was a great experience for everyone.



Hudson High Envirothon Moves on to State Competition

By Farzana Akhter

The Hudson High School Envirothon team came in 3rd place overall at their competition and they have moved on to states. The Hudson Valley Envirothon had 23 teams from five different counties competing to go to the New York State Envirothon. They have prepared for this competition since the beginning of the year. The Envirothon team has come in first in Columbia County. The competition took place at the town of Fishkill. Both teams from Hudson High School received a higher score than the Chatham Envirothon team. The second team came in 6th place overall. The competition required the teams to demonstrate their knowledge in Aquatics, Soils, Forestry, Wildlife, Current Issues, and Problem Solving. The teams from Hudson High School finished with the top two scores in Columbia County. The top team will go on to represent the county at the NYS Envirothon competition, on May 27th and 28th, at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. This is the fourth time in six years that a team from Hudson High has represented the county at the State Competition!

When asking the team how they felt, they said “The hard work has made it worthwhile,” and “It feels amazing to know that all our hard work paid off.” Mr. McDarby is very proud of the team; he says "I am extremely proud of all the time and effort that both teams put into preparing for this event. Their success at the competition shows that hard work really does pay off. I'm looking forward to the State Competition and to working with the returning members again next year.” Congratulations to the Envirothon team and good luck at states! Team Members included: Nabila Akhter, Mahmuda Alam, Jacob Kulyniak, Jenifer Rosete-Garcia, Patricia Van Valkenburgh, Farzana Akhter, Jean Busta, Alexis Stevenson, Ramisa Tasnim, Brianna Tsitsera, and alternate Annette Sturdivant.

Hudson High Students Participate in Battle of the Belts

By Gina Leccese

On April 26th, Hudson High students represented their school in the Battle of the Belts at Sean’s Run. Sean’s Run is an annual 5K race that helps to raise awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving. Battle of the Belts is meant to raise awareness of the importance of wearing a seatbelt. Seniors Zach Keeler, Jacob Topples, Chris Merante, and Joey Rivette participated in the Battle of the Belts and several other Hudson High students and teachers were present at the event to show their support for such a worthy cause.



Hudson Youth Government Day

By Ramisa Tasnim



On Friday, April 24th, students from Hudson High participated in the annual Hudson Youth Government Day. Hudson Youth Government Day is a day in which students are taken to City Hall to learn more about the local government. In the beginning of the program, city officials such as the mayor, several aldermen, town supervisors, and the city treasurer gave quick overviews of their job. City officials such as Mayor Hallenbeck, Alderman Henry Haddad and John Friedman and Town Supervisors Sarah Sterling, Richard Scalera, and Chief of Police Ed Moore attended the program. Students then were broken up into groups and shadowed city officials. Some students went to the police station and shadowed the Chief of Police and toured the station, while others shadowed the Mayor and Common Council members. The day continued at the Hudson Opera House where students had an informal lunch with city officials. Finally the day ended with a Mock Common Council Meeting in which participants voiced their opinions on current issues concerning the city of Hudson. This year the topics were the proposal of a SWAT team, apartment size regulations, sewage treatment, and the ward boundaries. The topics definitely did get heated but overall students had a wonderful time. Hudson Youth Government Day is presented by Operation Unite Educational and Cultural Arts Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting youth through high school and into higher education and the City of Hudson.

Junior Prom

On Saturday, April 25th, the class of 2016 held their Junior Prom in the Hudson High cafeteria. For those who did attend, it was a fun experience. James Chaplin organized a dinner at LaBella's beforehand and also a walk of fame at the Waterfront. There were hours of dancing and a fun time was had by all!



Hudson High students enjoy their Junior Prom at Hudson High, which was held on April 25th.

Spring Sports Update

By Richard Dellavechia

Boys' Varsity Tennis is enjoying a 6-1 overall record and a 5-1 Patroon Conference record thanks to good play in both singles and doubles. They look to continue their fast start Friday, April 24th against Maple Hill. Boys' Varsity Baseball is off to a 3-3 overall start and a 2-2 Patroon Conference record. On Saturday, April 18th, they blew out Watervliet 19-0 and beat Cairo-Durham 4-3 on April 29th. Varsity Track has also been doing well, with their next meet coming on April 23rd. Varsity Softball currently has an 0-4 overall record after losing two heart-breaking 1-run games to Catskill and Coxsackie-Athens. They look to capture their first win of the season Thursday, April 23rd against Coxsackie-Athens.



Logan Cozzolino

March Madness Recap

By Richard Dellavechia

Duke won its fifth National Title in school history Monday April 6th as they defeated the Wisconsin Badgers 68-63. They may not have won the game without Grayson Allen, who had a career high 16 points off the bench. Tyus Jones led Duke in scoring with 23 points. The title was also legendary coach Mike Krzyzewski's fifth title. The Blue Devils came through the South region to get to the Final Four. They beat 16 seed Robert Morris, 8 seed San Diego State, and 2 seed Gonzaga along the way to the Final Four, however their toughest test was against the 5th seeded Utah Utes. The game was tight all the way to the end, but Duke prevailed 63-57.

The Cinderella team to make the Sweet 16 in this year's tournament was UCLA. Even though UCLA is a powerhouse college that virtually is a contender every year, this year's team had underachieved mightily. Many experts believed that they should have not even been in the tournament. The Bruins had to take the opportunity and they sure took advantage of it. The 11 seed UCLA Bruins made it to the Sweet 16.

Kentucky's bid for a perfect season came to an end against Wisconsin, 71-64. The Wildcats were in pursuit, trying to become the first 40-0 team in NCAA men's basketball history. They finished the season 38-1. There will be no repeat attempt at perfection for this group of kids, as seven of the team's members have declared for the NBA Draft this summer. One of Kentucky's players, Karl Anthony Towns, is a projected top 2 pick in the draft. Kentucky's incoming recruiting class ranks number 1, which is led by #2 overall player Skal Labissiere.

There is one team to watch for the 2015-2016 season. That team is LSU. LSU brings in the number 3 overall recruiting class but brings in number 1 overall player Ben Simmons. Simmons, a power forward from Australia, is a 6'9 versatile player that has the ability to see the floor like a point guard yet can score in the post. Scouts rave about his passing and believe he is the most NBA ready out of the 2015 class. LSU also brings in dynamic guard Antonio Blakeney. The 6'4 guard can play either the point guard or the shooting guard positions. He is ranked as the number 3 shooting guard in the 2015 class. With 3 ESPN Top 100 recruits and a solid roster returning from last season, LSU could very well be a dark horse for a number 1 seed come selection Sunday in March.