

May 2015

# The Owl



## National Honor Society Induction By Jenna Gregory

On May 5th, Hudson High School held the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 2015. Sixteen new students were inducted. The inductees included: Clair Bazar, Logan Cozzolino, Eoghan Deforest, Tyler Dellavechia, Thao Doan, Sophie Filli, Anthony Guzzi, Julie Klugo, Justine Marotta, Christopher Meano, Omer Mufti, Ellis Richardson Jr., Cecille Ruiz, Jonathan Simmons, Emily Spateholts, and Esrat Sumayya. Students need an average of 87 or higher in order to get into National Honor Society. The students inducted this year are also involved in extracurricular activities and are leaders in their classes.

The ceremony was inspiring. The seniors, juniors, and inductees of National Honor Society were all there. The seniors were introduced first by Mr. Antonelli with a description about each of them and where they will be attending college. Not only did Mr. Antonelli introduce the seniors, but he also won a teacher award. Then there were speeches from Principal Abitabile and Board of Education President, Peter Rice. The speeches recognized the students for all their achievements and for representing Hudson High School. After the speeches, each senior inducted a student. The ceremony ended with a nice candle lighting. The candle lighting was done by the senior officers; President Becky Ward, Vice President Patricia VanValkenburgh, Secretary Jahnessa Mackey, and Treasurer Nabila Akhter.

Being in National Honor Society is a great accomplishment in life. Each student is very committed and hardworking. Although grades are important, being in the National Honor Society is so much more than just having good grades. The National Honor Society represents students who have character, scholarship, leadership, service, and those who are role models for their peers.



## Senior Prom By Gina Leccese

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Senior Prom was held at Anthony's Banquet Hall in Catskill. There were ten teacher chaperones and about 130 students in attendance and many of them had participated in the Walk of Fame earlier in the day. The Walk of Fame was held at the Waterfront Park at 5pm and the dance at Anthony's lasted from 7pm to 11pm. In addition to the dancing, there was also a photo booth where prom-goers could get their pictures taken with their date and friends. The photo booth proved to be a hit and was extremely popular. Another very popular item was the penne alla vodka that was served on the buffet. Anthony's reportedly went through more of it than ever. The Prom Court was announced at the dance. King and Queen were Gregory Abreu and Katie Zanolli. Prince and Princess were Danny Bellacicco and Charissa Gardner. Lastly, the Duke and Duchess were Joey Rivette and Zoe Johnson.

Overall, the Senior Prom, which took a year to plan, proved to be a huge success. Many thanks go out to Mrs. Near, Mrs. Spensieri, and the members of the Prom Committee for their efforts. Great job!

## Environmental Club Adopts Endangered Animals By Farzana Akhter and Jenna Gregory

This year the Environmental Club donated \$220.00 to the World Wildlife Fund to symbolically adopt a Bald Eagle, Narwhal, Sea Horse, and Snow Leopard. The money is donated each year to the WWF and other causes (such as the National Wildlife Federation, the African Wildlife Federation, the American Chestnut Foundation, and various environmentally-related organizations in and around Hudson). To date, they have donated well over \$1200 to various causes and have symbolically adopted over twenty endangered species. The donations are used to help protect these species from extinction.



**Narwhal (above), Snow Leopard (below)**



## Hudson: Art Works

### By Danny Gelles

On Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> twelve Hudson High School students exhibited their artwork at the Hudson Opera House in their very own art opening. The artwork that was exhibited included paintings, drawings, photos and cinemagraphs. One hundred people attended the opening including Mr. and Mrs. Abitabile, Ms. Albino and the local artists that collaborated on the artwork.

The project, *Hudson: Art Works*, was organized by Myron Polenberg who wished to recreate the project *Art Works*; which paired students with professional artists to create an artwork based on self-representation. The students were paired with their artists three months prior to the exhibit by practically picking names out of hat. Still the results were stunning. All projects were finished on time and some were praised by art critics who attended the opening.

The artist-student pairings were:

Paul Brown / Megan Schoep  
 Lynn Davis / Alexandra Williams  
 Judy Dryland / Omer Mufti  
 Tim Freccia / Brent Decker  
 Max Goldfarb / Brittany Varriale  
 Meg Lipke / Toni Whyne  
 Ruby Palmer / Katherine Zanotelli  
 Myron Polenberg / Alicia Porreca  
 Val Shaff / Zoe Johnson  
 Marko Shuhan / Michaela Gomula  
 Frank Tartaglione / Danny Gelles  
 Eric Wolf / Nyla Dallas

Also, I would like to give special thanks to Project Coordinator Louise C. Smith and our very own Ms. Albino, without whom this project would not be possible.



**Alex Williams**



**Megan Schoep**



**Artwork by Nyla Dallas and Eric Wolf**

## **Hudson Children's Book Festival in Review**

### **By Ramisa Tasnim**

On Saturday May 2nd, the annual Hudson Children's Book Festival was held at the Hudson Junior/Senior High School. The Hudson Children's Book festival is the largest book festival in all of New York. About 75 authors joined the Hudson community in celebrating their love for literacy. Along with meeting the multitude of authors from Victoria Kann author of the New York Times bestseller "Purpleicious" to Jacqueline Woodson, a national book award winner for "Brown Girl Dreaming", there was also live performances by children's favorite John Farrell and Aaron Nigel Smith. Each child also received a free book if they attended the fair.

Overall, the atmosphere was fun, light and included lots of reading! Kids and parents from the community all showed up take part in the fun which included face painting, meeting loveable book characters such as Clifford, and meeting the much awaited authors and illustrators. This year's workshops consisted of "Read to Me Corners", in which various authors would read their book out loud to anyone who wanted to listen. Some authors even brought special crafts that were associated with their books. This year's festival was a success so mark your calendars for next year's festival on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016!

## **Multicultural Festival**

### **By Gina Leccese**

On May 28<sup>th</sup>, Hudson High School held its third annual Multicultural Festival after school in the cafeteria. Students and faculty represented different countries from around the world. Twenty-nine countries were showcased, including: Italy, Japan, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, Cuba, Congo, Tanzania, Suriname, Guyana, South Korea, Ecuador, Turkey, the United States, Pakistan, Yemen, Liberia, Egypt, El Salvador, Canada, Spain, Bangladesh, Haiti, Morocco, Guatemala, the Bahamas, Chile, the Philippines, Native America, and Ghana.

Information about these places was presented on posters that contained facts about the language, traditions, geography, and people of the particular country. Some countries served traditional dishes during the event. Among other countries participating, Japan served green tea cookies, Turkey served baklava and Turkish tea, and the Bahamas served refreshing Bahama Mama drinks. Other students dressed up in traditional clothing or played music from the country they were representing. Several dances were performed during the festival by students. Sheila DeJesus, Jenna Gregory, and Ramisa Tasnim performed a number of dances they had rehearsed for the event. The audience was even welcomed to join in the dancing during a couple of the routines. New to the Multicultural Festival this year was the Passport Challenge. Students received passport booklets as they entered the cafeteria. They could have their passport "stamped" with a sticker as they visited each country. Students who filled up their passport and returned it the next day became eligible to win a mystery prize.

The event took weeks of preparation and proved to be very successful once again. The Multicultural Festival helps students learn about other cultures and countries in an enjoyable and memorable way.

## **Field Day 2015**

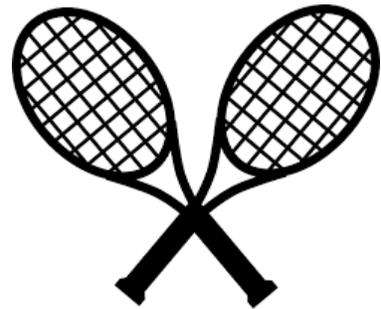
### **By Sharmin Akhter**

Hudson Senior High School Field Day 2015 turned out to be a tremendous success! There were activities like lawn games, frisbee, badminton, and dancing, to kickball tournaments, rock band performances, and tug of war! Students even had a chance to be a part of the pool party with Mrs. Graziano and Mrs. Millar and enter the chalk drawing contest with Mrs. Albino and Mr. Finelli. The fun did not stop there. Later in the day students were entertained with Mr. Hernandez karate board-breaking! There was something for everyone, including pick-up games or just having fun with your friends in your own way. Kickball tournaments and tug of war kept students on their feet. They watched in anticipation to see who would win. The four-way tug of war did prove to be very exciting as each grade faced off against each other at the same time. Kickball was highly anticipated and did not disappoint. The chalk-drawing contest featured some great drawings by students of all classes. The event proved to be successful and helped the school community grow closer.

## **Spring Sports Recap**

### **By Richard Dellavechia**

Spring sports have come to an end for the 2014-2015 school year. Here is how everyone did. Varsity Baseball made sectionals as the 17 seed and faced 16 seed Ravena in a play-in game. Ravena beat Hudson 9-4. Varsity Boys' Track came in fourth at Patroons with 67 points, while the Girl's team finished seventh. Girls Varsity Softball failed to make sectionals. They finished the year with two victories. Boys' Varsity Tennis made sectionals as a team this season as well. They were 8-2 in the Patroon Conference during the regular season.



# Mourning Lincoln

## By Amber Harris

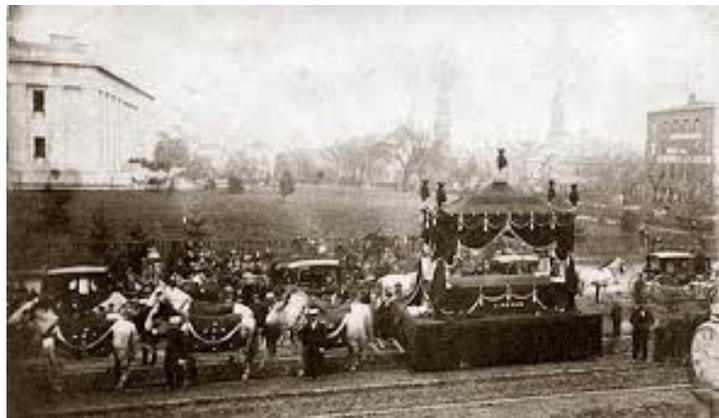
This year makes 150 years since Abraham Lincoln was assassinated at the hand of John Wilkes Booth. After the assassination, Lincoln's funeral train began to make its way to his home state of Illinois. The train briefly stopped in Hudson, New York. To mark this solemn occasion, a group of people put on a re-creation of what happened 150 years ago. The people who planned this were Carole Osterink from Historic Hudson, Jamison Teale, Windle Davis, Mary Deyerle Hack from Diamond Opera Theater, and Stephanie Monseu from Bindle Family Cirkus.

The event was well attended, and members of all walks of the community came out to show their support. Tiffany Garriga, the aldermen from the 2nd Ward, participated in the event as a mourner, mayor Hallenbeck was in the audience, and mayor Hallenbeck's potential rival for office in November, Tiffany Martin Hamilton, participated as a woman in the white, but they weren't the only ones showing their support. Students from Hudson High School and Hudson Junior High School came out to show their support as well. Shannon Hallenbeck, who is in 8th grade, McKenzi Sapoce, who is in 8th grade, Emily Spateholts, who is in 10th grade, Amanda Chaplin, who is in 12th grade, and Amber Harris, who is in grade 12, were all in the event as women in white. Jake Ebel was also in the event as a bass drum player.

The event started with the women in white singing the hymn "When Jesus Wept". Next was "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" which the women in white sang while walking, while the bass drum was playing. This led people to where Lincoln's coffin, the mourners, a few Union soldiers, and a couple of widows stood. The women in white sang "Angel Band", and then the speech for Lincoln began. Gary Schiro, the orator, gave an emotional speech about the death of our beloved President Lincoln at the hands of John Wilkes Booth. Then the women of white finished with "There is a Balm in Gilead". The event commenced with Mary Deyerle Hack singing "Comfort Ye". The event ended with the women in white exiting to the beat of the bass drum.

"What a once in a lifetime thrill to work with all members of the community," said Mary Deyerle Hack.

"I was impressed by the thought of this. The Revolutionary War and The Civil War tore families apart, and the death of Lincoln brought people together," Stephanie Monseu said. The 150th commencement of Lincoln's assassination was an impressive one; let's hope the 175th one is even better.



# Fun at Field Day



# The Multicultural Festival



