



The Owl

November

2014

OUT OF THE DARKNESS SUICIDE PREVENTION WALK 2014 By Jenna Gregory

For the past eight years, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention has hosted an annual Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk. This year, the walk was in Hudson. There were a total of 144 walkers and 13 of them were staff and students from Hudson City School District.

A total of \$9,879.33 was raised from the walk. The money raised goes towards programs that educate people about mental health disorders and suicide prevention. Also, the donations provide mental health programs for people who lost someone due to suicide. Funds provide scientific research, too. One way to raise money is by sponsoring. Money can be donated to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention online, through email, or on the phone.

The Out of the Darkness Walk is quite inspiring and makes a statement. Mrs. Zincio, who participated as a walker, explained that the walk helps to show a better understanding of suicide. The walk raises awareness about depression and suicide. Information about prevention is increasing as people attempt to gain a better understanding of mental health.

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- Mrs. Foronda

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- Ms. Cipollari
- Mrs. Near

Jeopardy By Gina Leccese

On November 20th, the Hudson High Mock Trial Team presented the third annual Students vs. Teachers Jeopardy game. The teachers who participated were: Mrs. Near, Mrs. Albino, Mr. Tassinari, and Mr. Cukerstein. The student contestants included: senior Travon Alert, junior Danny Gelles, sophomore Christian Tampasis, and freshman Noah Taylor. Mr. Hernandez was the MC for the event.

Rebecca Ward, the president of Mock Trial, introduced the players as the game began. During the Single Jeopardy round, the categories were: State Facts, Texting, Name that Tune, Riddles, and Geography. The students were able to dominate the texting category while the teachers ran away with geography. However, the Riddles category proved to be very challenging for both teams. The Double Jeopardy round categories consisted of: 20th Century History, Soccer, Movies, Famous Actors and Actresses, and Quotes. Final Jeopardy was no problem for either team, as both were able to correctly answer the question with the name of the tallest building in the world, Burj Kalifa. The game ended with a final score of 240 for the teachers and 480 for the students.

The money raised from the game goes towards the transportation needed for the Mock Trial team to get to their competitions. The event took Mock Trial about a month and a half to put together. The buzzers used during the game were made by the technology department.

Upon interview after the game, Mr. Hernandez stated that although a few mistakes were made, he hopes that everyone enjoyed the game. He also added that it was nice to see the students win. Ward agreed that the third time was the charm for the students this year. She also stated that she felt the event had been a success. One of the teachers, Mrs. Near, was not so positive upon interview and insisted that the game was rigged. Better luck next time, Mrs. Near!

Seniors Win the Annual Powderpuff Game in Blowout Fashion By Richard Dellavechia

The annual Powderpuff football game was played Friday November 7th under the lights on the football field. The Class of 2015 was victorious 44-7. The seniors sought redemption after a blowout loss in last year's game. The game was 7-7 at one point; however it was lopsided from there. The seniors scored touchdowns on the ground and through the air. They even scored on a safety en route to the victory. Class of 2015 coach, Chris Merante, said on the win "Compared to game from last year, the girls really understood the game." Coach Zach Keeler added "The whole team improved a lot from last year and they did a great job in the game." Benefits from the game went towards suicide prevention. Over 315 dollars was raised for this worthwhile cause.



We Are Hudson Program By Jessica Sherman

For all of the students who read this article, there is an amazing social arts program just waiting for you on 360 Warren Street. It is called We Are Hudson. The program is located at Solaris. Anybody can get involved and the goal is to make positive contributions to the world. The meetings are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-5, after school.

Involvement in the program is key. There are many fun-filled activities that the club does, including walking the streets and interviewing people, acting, making crafts, and discussing events. Walking The Dog Theater is involved and there are holiday celebrations. On Tuesday nights there is a community dinner where people sit family-style and are served an amazing meal. Other local organizations are involved in We Are Hudson as well. Students from the intermediate school are bused in and take cooking classes with Hawthorne Valley's Farm Learning Center. There is something for everyone. Please stop by Solaris and check out We Are Hudson! You won't be disappointed.

Carousel, the Musical By Michael Dolan

Auditions are currently being done for Hudson High School's musical Carousel.

Carousel is the story of a carnival barker named Billy and his love, Julie. He and Julie are expecting a child and Billy has no way to support them. Desperate for money, he attempts a

robbery but all goes wrong. Something happens to Billy and he leaves this world but returns for one day, fifteen years later. He tries to help his daughter cope with life. The play ends on a happy note. The songs are from Rodgers and Hammerstein, who claim this was their favorite musical. Carousel first



appeared on Broadway in 1945. It will be exciting to present this musical to the community. We are practicing now and should be ready for our March performances on the 27th and 28th. Stay tuned to The Owl for more!

An Interview with Mrs. Joy By Fahmida Choudhury & Farzana Akhter

Ms. Joy has enrolled as the new English As a Second Language teacher at Hudson High this year. She received her Bachelor's degree in History at the American University of Paris. She received her Master's degree at SUNY New Paltz in ESL. She comes from a long line of teachers as both of her parents were educators. She didn't know she wanted to be an ESL teacher at that time, but her love for language and culture motivated her to be an ESL teacher. She loves teaching because she gets an opportunity to experience different cultures, languages and learn from them. She believes that the best way to learn the language is to read, to speak, to listen, to be surrounded by the language and especially attempt to try it. The challenging part of teaching ESL is having students with different levels of English in the same class. Some students are beginners while others are more advanced. Ms. Joy has been to different countries such as Spain, Germany, Italy, France, England, and Mexico. She lived in Paris for two years, where she learned to speak French, which inspired her to someday be a French teacher. Ms. Joy also worked in the fashion industry where she was a buyer and traveled to places. Welcome to H.H.S. Mrs. Joy!



The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton Book Review By Saima Hannan

If you have walked into Mrs. Cipollari's classroom recently, you may have noticed some very creative posters made by her English Honors class. The posters are based on characters from a book called *The Outsiders* which was written by S.E. Hinton. *The Outsiders* is about two different gangs who live on two different sides of the same town. The story is told in first person narration by a member of the gang, Ponyboy from *The Greasers*. The Greasers are not very wealthy and most of the members have hard lives. Their rival gang,

The Socs, is known as the rich kids who basically get everything they want. This novel is based on loyalty. The members of each gang are nothing but loyal to each other. They are always there for each other, especially when one of them is in trouble.

Personally, I absolutely loved this book! I thought this book had it all. The drama was balanced with the simple truths in life, the simple things we take for granted. Although I will not ruin the book for those

that want to read it, I will say that this book has a lot of irony. There are a lot of unexpected twists and turns that the readers do not see coming. The author did an amazing job in portraying what the characters go through in a way that almost everyone can relate to. She was only sixteen when she wrote *The Outsiders*. This book is highly recommended for people who like to read realistic fiction novels and for people who enjoy a lot of action. With that said, I would definitely give this book a five-star rating! *****

Pure Poe By Emily Spateholts

On October 24, seventy-seven sophomores took two school buses up to Proctor's Theater in Schenectady to see *Pure Poe*. One male story teller acted out three of Edgar Allan Poe's works including: "The Tell-Tale Heart", "The Raven" and "Masque of The Red Death." These are works that we have read in our English classes. The actor was amazing and did a superior job of reciting each tale with dramatic music and costume. We were amazed that he memorized the works

and acted them out so well. After the show, students from various school districts were allowed to ask the actor questions. He explained that Poe's "Masque of the Red Death" was based on tuberculosis, which claimed Poe's young wife and many others in the 1800s. He explained Poe's unusual death in a Baltimore street at the age of forty. He even told the group that the football team, The Baltimore Ravens, is named after Poe's most famous narrative poem, "The Raven." The

10th graders who went thoroughly enjoyed the production. We look forward to reading more of Poe's works in future classes!



The Wizards!

By Ramisa Tasnim

On November 5th, for the first time ever, The Harlem Wizards visited Hudson High for a fun-filled night of family fun and laughs. The Class Of 2016 invited the Wizards to visit and play as a fundraiser. There was much planning and time put into the event, but it came together in the end. The Harlem Wizards went up against the Hudson Buzzer Beaters, and the Hudson Buzzer Beaters did an amazing job! Many members of the community were present to watch the game, from little toddlers to grown adults there was a very diverse crowd that came together to enjoy the game. There were many highlights in the game, from the slam dunking, to Mrs. Spensieri being carried by one of the players; there were many memories made in the High School gym. The Harlem Wizard stars presented the audience with slam dunks and classic comedic lines. The Class of 2016 would like to thank their absolutely AMAZING advisors, Mrs. Nowak and Mrs. Keyser, and of course Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Hoose! It would not have been such a success without their hard work and commitment! Hopefully all those that attended the game, had lots of fun, and it was night to be remembered.



The Kindness Club

By Ramisa Tasnim

Mrs. Foronda and the Kindness Club are doing great things! They have been selling their scrumptious cotton candy and everyone is so in love with it! Recently they sold their cotton candy at the Harlem Wizards game which was a huge hit. The entire crowd was a sea of blue and pink puffs. They participated in a bowling tournament and have contributed various items to many organizations. No one can forget their classic trademark "Fried Dough Fridays" at the Senior High School and the Kindness Store, which has healthy yummy snacks for everyone. The Kindness Club still continues to spread kindness wherever they go!



Powder Puff 2014

By Danny Gelles

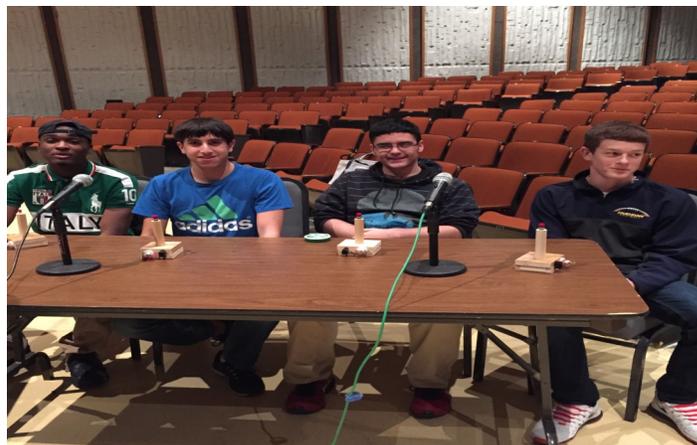
On the night of November the 7th in frigid weather, the juniors and the seniors faced off in Hudson's annual Powder Puff game. For the seniors it was a chance at redemption for last year's loss against the senior class of 2014. This year's game ended with a senior win of 44-7. The juniors still put up a good fight with a touchdown by Lauren Bowes.

While interviewing Ramisa Tasnim, Lauren Bowes, Sophie Filli and Fardush Sultana of the junior team, they explained their plans for the game. They said that they had good practices after school and developed plays with special codenames such as nachos, pizza and the enchilada. When asked about their hopes for the game, Lauren Bowes said "We will take it seriously but if we lose, we lose. If we lose it doesn't matter because it's still for a good cause." The cause she was describing is the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Admission to the game was one dollar, and all proceeds were given to the foundation. At the end of the day the seniors were content with their win and at the same time the juniors were hopeful for next year's game.



Junior pictured left, seniors huddled on the right

Jeopardy Contestants



Ouija Movie Review

By Sharmin Akther



If you want to go watch a thrilling movie, watch *Ouija*. For a comedy, I suggest something else. Everyone has different opinions and some may consider the film to be funny, but it really is not. In *Ouija*, there are unexpected twists and surprising antics that will keep you up and aware.

The movie begins with a curious teenager who feels the need to wake up spirits of an ancient board. The main character, Debbie (Shelley Henning) awakens something evil which haunts her and tells her to commit suicide. Laine (Olivia Cooke), Debbie's best friend, was not able to say goodbye and decides to get her closest friends and sister to talk to Debbie's spirit. The friends find themselves talking to the nasty spirit who was haunting Debbie. The spirit continues its plan of horror on others by haunting friends to their deaths. There is never a dull moment in this thriller! *****

The Lightning Thief Review

By Devon Sweatt

The Lightning Thief is the first book in the series of Percy Jackson novels. This novel is about a teen named Percy Jackson who has strange visions and is able to read Greek letters when he goes on a field trip to a museum. When he is there, he is attacked by a monster and it is revealed that the lightning bolt belonging to Zeus has been stolen. He also learns he is the son of the god Poseidon and suspicion of the theft is cast on him. Zeus has claimed that he would start a war between the gods on the summer solstice if his bolt was not recovered. Percy is sent to a camp for children of gods for his safety. He soon begins a quest to find the stolen bolt and stop the gods from going to war. The book is not too long or short and it makes for a good read. Some parts of the book



do require some background on Greek mythology to understand, mostly when Percy encounters a monster. The book also can have you confused about what is going on sometimes because of how it is worded, usually having to make you read it over to understand. The story is great and uses many elements from Greek mythology. I recommend the book, but learn a little about Greek mythology beforehand. ****