

# The Owl



January/  
February 2017

## Community Pep Rally: A Success By Saima Hannan

On Thursday, February 16, 2017, the community pep rally was held in the Hudson High School gym. All of winter sports were presented: bowling, wrestling, volleyball, and both the boys' and girls' basketball teams. Each of the teams made a grand entrance, ripping through banners with their specific sport written on them. The athletes threw items such as glowing bracelets, blue and gold necklaces, inflatable basketballs, and t-shirts into the bleachers for some lucky audience members. There was also a mascot dance-off, which was a battle between Jahmir Barnett, in the old mascot costume, and Mike Green, in the new mascot costume. Jahmir won the dance battle and was awarded a trophy. Alicia Salvatore brought her dance crew for an amazing performance. The cheerleaders kept the audience on the edge of their seats with their impressive stunts. Overall, the pep rally was a huge success and was a great way to show support for the sports that are going to sectionals. A special thanks to Student Council members, Mrs. Factor, and Mrs. Abitabile for organizing the entire event. A huge thank you should be given to Mr. Ohrin for hosting the entire event, Mr. McDarby and the Environmental Club for the concession stand, and everyone that came out to show their support!

### BLUEHAWK PEP RALLY

February 16 • 6-7:30pm  
Hudson High School Gymnasium  
Free Admission



## Interview with Ms. Morrissey By Mashuda Sultana

Ms. Morrissey is a new ESL teacher at Hudson Jr./Sr. High School. She came from Pearl River Central School District. She did her student teaching at Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School in Times Square, New York City. After student teaching, she spent the summer teaching the Italian Study Abroad Program at Manhattan College. Then she began teaching full time at The School of Exploration and Discovery in Brooklyn, NY. When she was there she worked with elementary students in inclusive classrooms. They had the opportunity to learn about many interesting topics and then go see them in real life. For example, she remembers teaching her second grade class about the Statue of Liberty and then taking the Staten Island Ferry to go see it in real life. Last year she moved out of the city and worked at Pearl River Central School District. She taught students from kindergarten all the way to 4th grade. This is her first year in the Hudson City School District, and she can't begin to tell us how excited she is to be here. Before being an ELL teacher, she was a patient care manager for commercial insurances in New York City. Her advice for students is to "never stop trying to achieve the dream you see for yourself. You are going to go through challenges, but when you get through each challenge, you will become a stronger and better person for it." Ms. Morrissey speaks English, Spanish, German, and Italian. In the future she might help with swimming and cheerleading activities.



## Soccer Tournament By Ashraful Shamrat

The Hudson High School is gearing up for their first ever soccer tournament. The Varsity Club is sponsoring the tournament and setting up all the games. They are planning to start the competition sometime in late winter. Teams of five will play against each other in a short match. The competition will be coed and open to the community. Spectators can watch these thrilling matches from the stands. The teams that win their games and play strategically will make their way onto the finals. Students can pick their own teams, so be sure to pick who you think will work the hardest. Future tournaments of other sports are also being discussed. The contest will be coming soon, so keep an eye on your email inbox.



## Hudson High Robotics Goes to Kick-Off!

### By Sharmin Akther

After a jam-packed robotics season last year, Hudson High Robotics Team 1665 headed out to Kickoff in Troy to get ready for the upcoming season. Members, old and new, drove up to support the team and watch the robotics season reveal, Steamworks! Every robotics season is comprised of six intense weeks of building a robot that fits the standards of the First Robotics Competition (FRC). This year, Hudson High students have to build a robot that can lift gears, get fuel to a designated tower, power propellers, and so much more!

The FRC competitions are held worldwide in countries such as China, Canada, Netherlands and so many more. This year, Hudson High will be competing with teams from Turkey and India. They will also be attending two regionals, RPI Tech Valley Regional and Rockland Community College Regional. We can't wait to support our fellow Bluehawks this upcoming season!



## Dutch Mill Spring Flower Bulbs Fundraiser

### By Hasan Mufti



The Environmental Club, which is run by Mr. McDarby, is having the biggest fundraiser of the year. The fundraiser, the Dutch Mill Spring Flower Bulb Sale, will take place in February and March. There are multiple kinds of bulbs, meaning that there is a wide variety of flowers to choose from. Members of the Environmental Club will go around with a sheet for customers to place an order for the flower bulbs that they would like. The money made from the orders will go to environmental organizations such as the WWF (World Wildlife Fund) and the African Wildlife Foundation. The Environmental Club also ran the concession stand for the Sectional Pep Rally for winter sports. It took place on February 16th, from 6 pm to 8 pm. Proceeds went to fund a great cause.

## Career Day By Autumn Kudlack

On January 6, 2017, Sophomores and Juniors of many districts all around the community came to Columbia Greene Community College to learn about specific career choices that they may wish to explore. Sophomores from Hudson joined them. There were three sections that students were involved in. In each section, students could learn about different career choices that they could meet new people who specialized in that line of employment. There were many things to choose from such as Architecture/Engineering, Science, Education, and many others. Students went to a specific classroom to have professionals in that area talk to them about what it was like to work in that particular occupation. They could decide if they would like to work in the same field. In previous times, they had to leave early, but this time they were able to stay the entire time. During the last session, all Hudson students went to the auditorium to listen to a band play and learn about band members' day jobs. By participating in the career day, students learned about possible jobs they could have in the future without making any commitments. It gives them something to think about as they consider college choices and future careers.

## Jazz All County of 2017 By Brianna Tsitsera

On February 3, 2017, at New Lebanon High School, the All County Jazz Festival took place. This year, nine of Hudson's high school students were accepted into the festival. For the All County Jazz Band, Annaliese Tampasis was on tenor saxophone, Anthony Guzzi was on alto saxophone, Noah Wurster was on trumpet, and Jake Ebel was on bass guitar. They were the selected few. Together, with students from Columbia County schools, the students played three pieces; Bluesette by Norman Gimbel and Jean Thielemans, Hay Burner by Sammy Nestico, and Cold Sweat by James Brown and Alfred James Ellis, arranged by Allen Grey. As for the All County Jazz Choir, Ian Vitellaro and Brian Rodriguez were on tenor, Jordan Mignott was on bass, Brianna Tsitsera was on alto, and Emily Spateholts was on soprano. The songs that were performed were Moonglow, words & music by Will Hudson, Eddie DeLange and Irving Mills. Arranged by Darmon Meader, Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, words & music by Otto Harbach and Jerome Kern, arranged by Kirby Shaw, I'll Be Seeing You, words & music by Irving Kahal and Sammy Fain, arranged by Phil Mattson and 'SWonderful, music & lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin, arranged by Phil Mattson with a solo by Emily Spateholts.

The students mentioned above worked hard in and out of school on their music and came together with students they did not know to create a new experience. As a part of the festival, Hudson's jazz band was invited to play up to fifteen minutes of music for invitationals. One of the songs, Miss Otis, featured solos from vocalist Emily Spateholts and clarinetist Kristian Tampasis. It was a great show for all who attended.



## Interview with Mrs. Bender By Osman Gofran

Mrs. Bender has been in Hudson High School for four years now. She teaches 9th grade AP Global Studies, Honors' World History, and is the Economics teacher for the Seniors. She is the Class of 2017's class advisor. Mrs. Bender grew up in Schenectady and during her high school years, she was on the Varsity Bowling Team and played the flute in Band. After high school, she went to Le Moyne College in Syracuse where she studied History and minored in French. Shortly after she went to the University at Albany for her Masters and began teaching. Mrs. Bender previously worked at Rensselaer High School for a year and a half and at Lansingburgh High School for a year. Besides teaching History, she facilitates the Google Help Desk. The Google Help Desk as Mrs. Bender described, was created with the goal of having a student-driven tech team in the high school. Mrs. Bender is the teacher for the Help Desk but really more of a facilitator because she doesn't see each student in the class every day. She describes the Help Desk as more of an independent study where students learn more about tech features that they are interested in and then share what they learn with others through the community blog. Mrs. Bender further described how students in the class also helped man the physical help desk, located in the APEX room, where they provide assistance to staff and students on tech related issues. In the past students have also run their own tech training tutorials for teachers throughout the building. At the end of each semester, students take the Google Educator Level 1 exam through Google and become certified educators in their fields. This semester the Help Desk had the highest pass rate ever for this exam, with 10 new students becoming certified through Google. Mrs. Bender teaches students in all different ways at Hudson High, as shown through the variety of classes she teaches. She describes Hudson High as a place where there are opportunities because of the amount of academic course options available. Mrs. Bender further describes Hudson High as very diverse, making it fun to interact with different ideas and viewpoints. The only bad side to being a teacher she says is the paperwork. The most important characteristic for someone with her job is being able to have a sense of compassion and understanding. Mrs. Bender advises students to not freak out about the future because you don't know what is ahead of you. She says that when the time comes to find a career, you should do what your passionate about and what you like. When asked what inspired her career in teaching, she said that her teachers in high school and professors in college helped her see what teaching really was. Also, the realization of not to go into the law profession drew Mrs. Bender to teaching. In her spare time Mrs. Bender likes to read, hang out with neighbors, and take walks outside. She also made it clear that winter wasn't her favorite season but summer is. The interview came to a close with Mrs. Bender describing how she used to watch WWE religiously up until 5 years ago. Mrs. Bender is a very interesting teacher and an asset to Hudson High School.



## Bengali Bandhan By Ummeh Era

The Bengali Bandhan took place at the Hudson Area Library, January 7th, from 2 - 4pm. The celebration was presented by the Bangla class at the Hudson Area Library. The Bangla class had students perform a talent of their own pertaining to the Bangladeshi culture. Both boys and girls performed dances, poetry, stories, and sang in Bangla. The Bangla class teacher did an excellent job in helping the students prep for the celebration; with his help they went from not knowing a single word to writing and reading fluently. After the celebration, guests were served traditional Bangladeshi cuisine such as biryani and pilau. The food was delicious. If anyone is interested in attending Bangla class, it is held every Wednesday from 5 - 6:30pm at the Hudson Area Library.



## Mock Trial

### By Tahrira Siha

The Mock Trial club at the Hudson High School is run by Mrs. Naramore, our beloved US history teacher! The club is about role playing court cases created by the NYS Bar Association for the tournament- cases that are based on real incidents. The cases practiced during these tournaments are usually civil cases. The case being tried at the March 2017 tournament is Robin Berkman v. County of Dover. It is a civil case about Robin Berkman supposedly being wrongly accused of a robbery that she did not commit. It is a case of malice, meaning wrongful intention. The Hudson High School Mock Trial team competes against other high schools in the state, including Cairo Durham, Coxsackie Athens and Ashland Jewett. The club organizes various fundraising events throughout the school year to raise money for transportation to the competitions. Mrs. Naramore had high hopes for this year's tournament due to the many experienced members in the team, but the snow days seem to have deposited some doubt and uncertainty into the situation. Not every day will be filled with rays of sunshine, but we can always hope. Let's just keep our fingers crossed and encourage our team because the members are absolutely brilliant!

Mrs. Naramore has been leading a Mock Trial team for quite some time now, and she does an absolutely phenomenal job at it! The team overall is mind numbingly awesome! It's like every single person of that team radiates this energy of intellect and confidence. I am a member of the club myself, and everybody else is so smart that I am always left lost inside that classroom. You really have to see it to believe it. They're like little adults being serious! The team consists of two sides, defense and plaintiff. Each side consists of: three lawyers, three witnesses, a few alternate lawyers/witnesses, and researchers. For the defense, lawyers include: Gillian Perry, Annaliese Tampasis, and Kristen O'Connell. Witnesses include: Sabrina Johnson, Gabriela Cozzolino, and Osman Gofran. Alternate lawyers/witnesses include: Jahid Hasan and Ayesha Chowdhury, and their researcher is Daniela Rivera. For the plaintiff, lawyers include: Devon Sweatt, Sifath Khan, and Christian Tampasis. Witnesses include: Siddique Ahmed, Brianna Tsitsera, and Sarah Li. Alternate lawyers/witnesses include: Shamrat Alam and Matthew Styles, and their researcher is Autumn Kudlack. As for Most Islam and I, we are just observing and learning at the time being. It is pretty obvious what roles the lawyers and the witnesses play, the alternates are substitutes for those roles, and the researchers examine the case thoroughly and find key evidence and points in the case to address at the "court." They're all wonderful, hardworking students!

I'm sure you've heard many of these names around school before, they're known for their brainpower. We've got a fantastic team with a fantastic leader! Now only if we could get a hold of some time and luck, we'll be all set to go! Actually being there in person and watching everyone work so hard, I believe they'll make us proud. Wishing lots of luck and sending lots of encouragement to the Mock Trial team, just believe in yourself and good luck! I'll keep the rest of you posted on how the competition goes once the time comes. Happy reading!

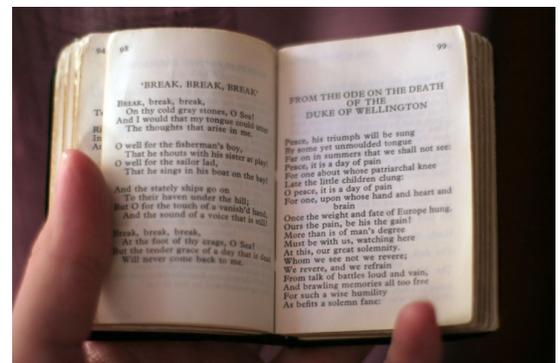
## Poetry Group By Cecille Ruiz

In Hudson High School, we have Poetry Group once a week during lunch. It's run by Mrs. Wheeler in RM 5. She provides food and drinks and we provide poems and quotes. During Poetry, one can read a poem found online or that someone has written themselves. It's open for discussion by the entire group. Discussions range from poetry to current issues in the world. Personally, I like poetry because we talk about current issues. Aside from poetry during lunch, Mrs. Wheeler also is available after school. Starting in March, she will be conducting an Underground Railroad Project with students after period 9. In this project students can turn their research into poems, writings or drawings. This is a great way for students to be creative.

### \*Poem from Poetry Group\*

*Sitting among granite. Insulated from the "My wife's the reason anything gets done  
the horrors humans wreak. She nudges me towards promise by degrees  
Sitting on my chair of rock, infused with a She is a perfect symphony of one,  
mineral core that strengthens and upholds Our son is her most beautiful reprise  
each molecule of me. We chase the melodies that seem to find us  
Can I not turn a deaf ear to what my fellow Until they're finished songs and start to play  
inhabitants impose? When senseless acts of tragedy remind us  
Can I not stay among stone? That nothing here is promised, not one day  
Fluid like the water that calls me, taking the This show is proof that history remembers  
particles from my covered feet, We live through times when hate and fear  
Uncovering toes that I might walk, seem stronger  
The water calls and reminds we are part of We rise and fall and light from dying embers  
the same Remembrances that hope and love lasts long  
Reminds that like her, I must run the course. And love is love is love is love is love is love is  
Rise and fall, again and again, and do my part love is love is love  
to soothe and seek. Cannot be killed or swept aside,  
And do my part to make aware I sing Vanessa's symphony, Eliza tells her story  
even if it is only One. Now fill the world with music love and pride"*

- Lin-Manuel Miranda



## Student Advice By Clair Bazar

Maintaining the balance between school, work (if you have one), and your social life can be a nightmare at times! It doesn't feel like there are enough hours in the day to cram everything in without sacrificing something. It is never easy to do everything all in one day and I am speaking from experience. Here are quick tips to find balance:

**Keep a planner with you.** Having a planner or a calendar of some sort is really helpful when it comes to knowing when you are available. It is hard at first to be consistent with it but when you get used to having one, it becomes a routine.

**Don't wait until the last minute to do your homework.** Getting your work done early will help reduce procrastination based stress. The earlier you get your work done, the more time you have to hang out with friends or relax and binge watch a show on Netflix.

**Don't take more than you can bargain.** It's okay to say no when you have a lot on your plate and feel as if you can't add anything more to your schedule.

These are some pieces of advice to help you juggle your hectic life. Hopefully you can apply them and take the stress off of yourself!

## Movie Review: *Split* (Directed by M.Night Shyamalan) By Annaliese Tampasis

Filmmaker M. Night Shyamalan has established a powerful comeback with this rigid and gratifying thriller film. *Split* is refreshingly imbued with astute ideas and slick suggestions, rather than pure gore and brutality. The eventual genesis of "*Split*" coincided with Shyamalan's own career crossroads. The film's themes of survival, strength, and adaptability reflect the turns Shyamalan took to get to a place of re-energized autonomy.

Kevin has evidenced 23 personalities to his trusting psychiatrist, Dr. Fletcher. However, there remains one still submerged, which is set to materialize and dominate all the others. This personality is recognized as, "The Beast." Compelled to abduct three teenage girls led by the observant and willing Casey, Kevin reaches a war for survival among all of those contained within him - as well as everyone around him.



Run time: 106 minutes

Cast: James McAvoy, Anya Taylor-Joy, Haley Lu Richardson, Jessica Sula.

Contains: Violence, Frightening Scenes, and thrilling content

# PBIS Quarter 2 Luncheon



## Student Art Displayed at Hudson Area Library



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