

# Husky Herald

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Harrison High School

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## A New Era Begins

Helina Dawit

News Editor

Now that Dr. Ruck has retired, we welcome a new principal to Harrison High School. *The Husky Herald* sat down recently with Dr. Steven Siciliano to learn a little more about the man, and his experiences in his new position.

**HH: Where did you go to high school?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I attended East Islip High School on Long Island

**HH: How do you think high school has changed since then?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** At the time I graduated high school, I don't think there was a big emphasis on inclusiveness, like we have here. At times it was very sink-or-swim, and there was a different attitude towards bullying at that time. We treated each other differently then, and mean-spiritedness was part of the deal. We're more attentive to climate now, perhaps due in large part to technology... so I think I would have loved to have gone to Harrison.

**HH: Who was your favorite teacher?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I had a Social Studies teacher named Mr. Len Costello. He had a really big impact on me; he got me into thinking that maybe I could be a Social Studies teacher.

**HH: Did you play any sports in High School?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I did. I used to be co-captain of my varsity soccer team.

**HH: What is your favorite thing to do?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I love playing with my two kids. I have an 11-year old and an 8-year old, both boys. They take up a lot of my time.

**HH: Do they look more like you or your wife?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I've been told they're mine.

**HH: What are your favorite books?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I tend to go back to inspiring things, and the book that I am fond of and return to often is "The Book of Ecclesiastes," and podcasts. I like listening to podcasts.

**HH: What are your favorite movies?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I like silly comedies, usually anything with Vince Vaughn in it, as he's pretty funny. *Wedding Crashers* I thought was fun-

ny. *Be Cool* I thought was hysterical. I'm now at the stage where I'm watching a lot of movies again with my kids.

**HH: What are your favorite shows?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** This is where I'm going to show my age. I like current events, so I watch a lot of MSNBC, political talk shows, and the Sunday morning talk shows I also really like.

**HH: How long have you been a principal?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** This is my tenth year as principal and my twelfth year as an administrator...I'm a lifer now.

**HH: When did you meet Dr. Ruck?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I met him when he was the Superintendent in the Sachem school district on Long Island.



Dr. Siciliano welcomes the challenges that HHS presents.

Courtesy of HCSD

I kind of bury myself in those to stay informed. I love comedy and I love watching Bill Maher -- that's my Friday night ritual. When there's time for me to watch, it tends to be either news or sports.

**HH: What is your favorite memory of high school?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** In high school I thought I was going to be a rock star. I played in a band, and we did show-cases for record companies in NYC, it was a good time. Now I'm a middle aged dad with two kids that runs a high school.

**HH: Looks like you turned out okay. How did you become principal?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I really enjoyed teaching and my principal at the time said, "Hey, why don't you consider this" and so I entered into the administrative program and what tends to happen is that you end up catching the bug. You begin to think, "Alright, I can do this."

Dr. Ruck hired me to become an assistant principal in his district. A year after that, he appointed me as the Principal of the Sagamore Middle School.

**HH: What is your goal for this coming year?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** You learn that there is so much people are doing that needs to be honored and celebrated. You don't come in and try to change everything. The key is to just take your time and see the good things that are happening, and to work to make sure that those things continue. And you listen to students, teachers, parents, discussing what we think we can do better. You have that discussion, make plans, and go after achieving them. These jobs are about serving people, it's not so much about giving directions.

**HH: What are you most looking forward to this school year?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** Really just getting to know people, and getting them

to know me. It's about building trust, building that relationship, and laying the foundations for the future.

**HH: What is your best experience at Harrison so far?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** Wow, best one, let's see....a lot of good things have happened, but I liked seeing the look on my kids' faces when I brought them to the first Huskies football game. I thought that was a lot of fun, enjoying it through their eyes. A lot of it is just every day, I try to get into the halls as much as I can and everybody is very quick to share a smile and say hello. You just feel good about being here. It's just a happy place.

**HH: What is your favorite thing about being principal?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** The position gives you the responsibility of taking care of everybody. And that's really what you're trying to do, you're trying to work collectively and use, I guess, the authority invested in the position to make better outcomes for everyone, and that's a responsibility.

**HH: What is the best advice you've given a student?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** There are no perfect people walking around here, so give yourself a break, learn from this experience, and apply it. You know, the principal has to deal with discipline and sometimes, as young people or old people, we make mistakes, so I try to reassure people that everyone messes up sometimes. We still love you, learn from it, take responsibility for it, and don't do it again.

**HH: What is the best advice you've ever received?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** Probably from Dr. Ruck, when he said to me, "You've done good work so far, don't mess it up."

**HH: What is something that Harrison High School doesn't know about you?**

**Dr. Siciliano:** I was called to active duty after 9/11. I was in the National Guard and I was called into the Army. They sent us up to West Point. At the time it was pretty frightening, nobody really knew what was going to happen next... just a very, very tense time.

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HHS honors those recently passed.

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NYC Marathon back after years off.

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# NEWS & FEATURES

## Meeting Mrs. Griffio

Callie Fried

Staff Writer

The new school year always brings change and lots of it. As many people are aware, here at Harrison High School we have a new Assistant Principal, Mrs. Griffio. Before moving up to the high school she taught seventh grade math at the middle school and then went on to eighth grade math along with this year's seniors. She was willing to sit down with the Husky Herald to discuss some of the things that she will be doing for our school. Here's the inside scoop on being Assistant Principal.

**Husky Herald: How do you feel about being up at the high school now?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** I'm excited! It's a big change but I've been enjoying it. Working in summer school was the peak of my interest. In high school one of my social studies teachers told me that I should teach math but I never thought about it until college. When I first got into teaching, I thought I would be teaching high school math, but I just had to work my way up.

**HH: Was the transformation from being a math teacher to an assistant principal difficult for you or did you find it easy?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** The amount of learning here is incredible. Being an assistant principal is very new and sometimes really hard. I have so much to learn and I'm still getting used to all of it. I just keep thinking that if I hang on then it will get easier, and that goes for all of the students

as well. I left my comfort zone of being a math teacher and now I'm in a new world with new routines. I know I can handle it, but I need to get used to it all first.

**HH: How long have you been teaching in the Harrison Central School District?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** Fifteen years.

**HH: What did you do before working at Harrison?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** I was teaching in Connecticut, but it was a far commute so this is much closer and easier for me.

**HH: If you could have any job that didn't involve teaching, what would it be?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** CSI Detective Griffio! Last year I was a detective for Halloween and I wore my hat and badge.

**HH: What are your main goals for the school in terms of change?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** I like to think of my changes as gradual. I don't want to rush into anything too fast. Take the dress code, for example. I do not plan on banning yoga pants, leggings, or anything of the sort. That never came up-- it was all just a rumor. To be honest, some things will be challenging. I want to continue to help support and push students toward what they are capable of. Sometimes we can't see it when we are in it, and that's okay. I never saw all my possibilities in high school but I pushed myself and I want to help students and teachers to do



Mrs. Griffio relaxes in her office.

Courtesy of Mr. Petrillo

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Special Thanks to Mr. Petrillo

Our mission is to be the voice of Harrison High School by professionally representing and informing our school with an accurate and entertaining newspaper.

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the same. I want them to find what they love and love what they do. If everyone could come up to me and say "I found what I love and love what I do", that would be amazing. I'm not expecting that right away, but that's the goal. This isn't a job for me; it's who I am and what I do and I love it.

**HH: Is there anything else that you would like the students to know about you?**

**Mrs. Griffio:** I think that sometimes students see adults and think that it is easy to get where they are, but I worked really hard to put myself through school. I went to Columbia for grad school and I'm proud of that. It took a while for me to do it but I paid my way and I'm proud of that too. I think that anything is possible, but you have to work for it. When you find a goal, go after it and stick with it. Within reason, if you believe that you can get there, you eventually will.

**(Fun Fact:** Mrs. Griffio went to Preston Elementary School for a brief period of time, her father went to Purchase, her daughter went to Parsons and her son is currently at Harrison Avenue.)



Mrs. Griffio greets students in *The Den*.  
Courtesy of Sam Stein

# Going Clubbing

Clarissa Karantzis

Managing Editor

For incoming freshmen, adjusting to a new school can be tough. There are new classes, new schedules, new people—and with the flurry of everything changing, making new friends is a great way to create a more comfortable environment. Clubs are a great way to accomplish this while also trying out something different and getting involved. Here are a few of the many clubs that Harrison High School offers:

## Math Team:

For all of you that love to use numbers and solve problems, Math Team tests your knowledge on different math skills. Six contests are held throughout the year and students come for half an hour to try and complete six questions, ranging in levels of difficulty. The students compete with others in the state and the five best scores are chosen to give the team a final grade out of thirty. Even if math isn't your forte, you can still come just to challenge yourself and

see what you can do. Meetings are held in room D-224 after school on Tuesday, October 15, November 12, December 3, January 14, February 11, and March 11.

## Youth Volunteers of Harrison (YVH):

Want to get involved in community service? Join YVH, a club dedicated to improving our community and helping others out. Projects aimed at giving back to our immediate community, as close as Harrison High School itself, are constantly being run. Past projects have included Prom Perfect, where students donate dresses, shoes, and accessories that they don't need any more so all girls can have the chance at their perfect prom, and the "New Year's Resolution Wall" in the cafeteria. Numerous bake sales are also held throughout the year to raise money for organizations such as The American Heart Association. Meetings are held every other

Thursday in room D-212 after school.

## Mock Trial:

Are you interested in law? Do you believe in justice? If so, the Mock Trial team is your perfect match. In this club, students take on the roles of attorneys and witnesses for specific cases. They work together as a team and prepare to compete in Mock Trial Competition in New York. While the students imitate how a real trial would play out, they are critiqued by New York State judges. "I love Mock Trial because it gives me a real world experience unlike any other activity I've done, and it helps prepare me for what I'm looking forward to doing in the future," says senior Brittany Wolfe. Students meet every week to prepare for their competitions.

## Italian Club:

Do you like learning about different cultures? Do you enjoy traveling to new places? Then take a trip

to Italy by joining the Italian club. Enjoy the native entertainment, dive into the traditional cuisine, and immerse yourself in the language. Students who are members of the Italian club explore Italian history and learn about the country's unique culture and the traditional everyday life of its people. Students also plan various trips for a more in-depth understanding of the Italian society and have the chance to explore their own heritage as well. If you're interested, stop by the Italian club to plan your next trip!

This is just a glimpse of the numerous clubs that are in HHS. There are many more, such as Art Club, Footlight Players, Literary Magazine, R.E.E.F. (Rescue Earth's Environmental Future), and Students for World Health. So go ahead; join a club. There is sure to be one that fits you perfectly, and you'll enjoy the experience.

## Debate Team Off to a Great Start

Clarissa Karantzis

Managing Editor

Merely two months into the school year, the Harrison High School Debate Team has already climbed its way to the top. Students who are part of this nationally-recognized team meet every week with advisor Mr. Hertzog to conduct research on their topics, participate in practice rounds, form their cases, and prepare for competition. Through this determination, preparation, and endless effort, the team has definitely left its mark.

This September, students on the debate team traveled to Dallas, Texas to compete at Greenhill School and returned home with many titles and achievements. Senior Danny Debois competed in the Greenhill School's championship debate tournament and ranked second in the nation; he received the recognition of top speaker as well. At the Greenhill Round Robin, where sixteen of the top debaters

in the country competed, Danny was once again awarded the honor of top speaker and placed second in the final round. Danny also competed against 103 other national debaters in the Greenhill Classic. He was recognized as the top seed and top speaker after six preliminary rounds, and placed second overall after winning his double-octofi-



Junior Amy Geller, ready for a debate.  
Courtesy of Ariel Coonin  
who proved her potential by winning

nal, octofinal, quarterfinal and semifinal rounds. Through his constant effort and achievements, Danny has been able to hold onto his prestigious ranking as the number one Lincoln-Douglas debater in the country.

The trip was also successful for sophomore Elyssa Alfieri,

many titles and nominations as well. Meanwhile sophomores Ella Eisinger and Kathryn Kenny put their skills to the test in competition at Yale. Both students were awarded impressive honors— Ella placed ninth in the junior varsity division and both went through to elimination rounds, with Kathryn as one of the top fifty debaters and Ella scoring the recognition of top seed.

The debate team's work ethic, dedication, and collaborative spirit have proved to be successful after its competitions in Texas and at Yale, giving only a glimpse of what's to come. The students on the debate team consistently work together to improve their own skills as well as to help their teammates thrive. With their continuing efforts and practices, they are off to an amazing start!

## Reach Out With ROTOY

Ben Rubin

Staff Writer

One of the most important rites of passage for incoming ninth graders is choosing which clubs to participate in. A longtime favorite club here at Harrison High School is ROTOY, which stands for "Reaching Out to Our Youth". The club, led by social worker Michael Iorio, allows high school students to visit Louis M. Klein Middle School and elementary schools like Parsons or Preston to tutor students and help them with their homework. Held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, ROTOY is an eight-week commitment, meaning that members are required to attend for eight consecutive weeks.

This reporter was advised to join ROTOY by his older brother, who was a member when he attended Harrison

High School.

"ROTOY does a great thing for the community by tutoring, and it's also great on college applications," says Alex Rubin, now a junior at SUNY New Paltz. He believes that helping kids with tutoring expresses the kind of leadership skills that colleges are really looking for. More importantly, this club creates great relationships between students at the lower schools and the high school. Ninth grader and current ROTOY member Adam Alper agrees, saying "I wanted to join a club this year and I knew that ROTOY was the one for me because of the great things that I would be doing for these kids". Another freshman involved in ROTOY is Thomas Gresham, who says "We hope this club will encour-

age students in LMK to join when they are in ninth grade. I believe that this club is a great way for students to share their knowledge with younger kids in other schools."

Mark Woodard, principal of Parsons, says "This club is something that the kids really look up to, something that they are excited to do. Many of these kids have developed relationships and friendships with the students who have tutored them through ROTOY before and now enjoy spending time with them." This reporter can vouch that ROTOY volunteers really look forward to spending time with these kids too. ROTOY even allows members the possibility to offer private tutoring of their own in the future—another perk of joining the club.

This reporter believes that this club is something all students in the high school can and should participate in; when it comes to helping others, ROTOY is one of the best clubs around.



Mr. Iorio, adviser to ROTOY.  
Courtesy of Rula Samad



# Getting To Know Our SRO

Alexis Puccio

Staff Writer

In this past year, Harrison has a new School Resource Officer: Richard Abbate. Officer Abbate graduated from Harrison High School, where he admits that he wasn't a perfect student.

"I would get into trouble from time to time," he said, "which is why I now realize all of the important advantages that are available at the high school."

Officer Abbate knew from the time he was in second grade that he wanted to become a police officer.

"I wanted to be able to stick up for others that can't stick up for themselves," he said. "I wanted to make the community safer. When I was a teen, a few officers made a positive impact on me and I wanted the opportunity to do the same. I made many mistakes along

the way and I know how it feels to be an underdog. Now I consider myself a very successful person with a great career, a wonderful family, and a lot to look forward to. If I can achieve this, then it's possible for others to do the same, no matter what they're going through."

After high school, Officer Abbate went to St. Thomas Aquinas College and then completed additional courses at SUNY Rockland.

"It wasn't until I was much older that I realized the importance a police officer's impact can make, the lives I can change and the good I can do," he explained.

Before becoming an SRO, he took a week long training course in Rochester, learning all sorts of relevant topics. A School Resource Officer's job is to make the school safer, including checking the safety of all exits and entrances, and assuring that security is aware of who comes in and out of the building. His daily routine at HHS involves consulting with students and teachers about problems, following up on crimes in and out of school that might involve the high school's students, and investigating any crime-related reports that happen within and outside of the school. It's a big responsibility.

"In making sure the school stays secure, I work closely with administration and security here," he said, "and I take pride in being proactive and present in regards to student concerns."

Is being an SRO different from

being a police officer?

"I'm still a cop, but I'm working in the capacity of being an SRO. When I was on patrol division, I didn't come across situations involving youths or school problems very frequently," Officer Abbate said. "Now I get to work with students on a daily basis."

Like regular cops, School Resource Officers do carry guns which are loaded; they are still police officers of the state of New York.

"I have never had to use it," said Officer Abbate, "but we are trained to be prepared for the unexpected. I hope I never have to."

Students possibly interested in becoming SROs someday might try to develop a relationship with their local police department, Officer Abbate said. "Also, do your best to stay out of trouble, consider a college that offers criminal justice or other law-related majors."

Officer Abbate has made many valuable relationships, even in his short time at the high school. Students do go to him if they have problems, some wondering about the parameters of possible crimes.

"I have bonded with many students," he said. "You wouldn't believe how fast the day goes by when faces that started out as merely students have become friendly faces, it truly feels that I have a purpose here. It's been my pleasure to mentor these students."

"Students need to understand that high school goes by fast. The real world can be difficult and competitive, so you should take advantage of all the wonderful things the high school has to offer you. Even students that have been in trouble with me in the past have remained on my good side. We should be in an era where we can respect each other, even if we dislike each other. What they want to do is stay on the right side of the law by educating themselves on what is a crime and what is not, to ensure that they will not cross the line."

Officer Abbate enjoys the work that he's done here with HHS students, and hopes to continue to bring positive changes. When not on the job, he likes spending time with his wife and his three beautiful children. After a long day's work, he enjoys working out.



SRO Abbate.

Courtesy of Mr. Petrillo

# The History of *Falling Back*

Isabella Prado and Katie Kramer

Staff Writers

Daylight Savings Time (DST) has caused a recurring debate in many countries for the last hundred years or so, especially in the United Kingdom and in America. According to the website Time and Date.com, the earliest form of DST was used when ancient civilizations would adjust their clocks based on the sun. The formal invention of DST is credited to William Willett, who came up with the idea to move the clocks an hour forward in the summer to benefit from the longer daylight hours. In 1905, his original idea was to move the clock about twenty minutes forward each Sunday in April and to switch back the same amount in September.

DST was first enforced in Germany during World War II to save fuel for the war effort during April 1916. The British and many other nations quickly mimicked this idea. During WWII, DST was first recognized as an energy saving aspect. President Roosevelt put year-round DST into place in the

U.S. from February 1942 to September 1945; this resulted in the creation of different time zones, such as "Eastern War Time," the "Central Time Zone," and the "Pacific War Time." After August 1945, the time zones were labeled "Peace Time" after the surrender of the Japanese.

Throughout the years, DST has been extended for certain periods of time to accommodate to specific circumstances; for example, many complained that the dark mornings in the winter were putting the lives of school children in danger. Furthermore, the Uniform Time Act was enacted in 1966 to stop confusion regarding the schedules for public transportation during DST. Currently, more than 70 countries use some form of DST; the current schedule has been used since 2007 and follows the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Nowadays, most U.S. states implement DST, except for Hawaii and most of Arizona.

# Feeding Families

Brian Barry

Staff Writer

This November 28, people are excited to celebrate Thanksgiving. This means some time off, big meals, and family gatherings. A lot of people cook for their families first, then go and volunteer at shelters to feed the homeless and needy people, those who don't have a home or family to eat with or be comforted by. Harrison is a community with a lot to give and so many members of its community volunteer at shelters, including POTS (Part of the Urban Service) in New York City.

On Thanksgiving, such places are packed with people who come for the meal, and full of volunteers. To help, people donate canned food, whole turkeys, potatoes, gravy and other foods. Or people serve the food at the shelter

directly to the many people who attend.

According to the website *New York Cares*, there are several opportunities to volunteer in the Westchester and NYC areas. Rye's Resurrection Church does a food drive every year that goes to POTS for their big Thanksgiving dinner. The Yorkville Community Pantry, located on 8 East 109th Street in New York City, on will offer a dinner for the homeless on Thanksgiving. They are also



Illustration by Amna Haider

running a Turkey key drive for the large event that ends on Wednesday, November 20. The Food Bank of New York, 252 West 116th Street, offers a virtual food drive online to raise money for their cause.

Have a happy and healthy  
Thanksgiving  
from the staff of *The Husky Herald*!

# Dress Code and School Rules

Caroline Lauro

Staff Writer

Along with the incoming freshman class, the high school is also gaining a new principal, assistant principal, and athletic director; the most talked-about change, though, has been the increased enforcement of school rules like the dress code. There have been many rumors about the school banning articles of clothing like yoga pants and leggings. Some of the upperclassmen have said that they are now prohibited from wearing things that were accepted by the dress code last year. "I think that the rules about the dress code have gotten a little too strict. There has been more pressure for me in deciding what to wear," says sophomore Carolina Franca. Another sophomore, Allison Karantzis, says that while she

has not personally had any issues with the dress code, she has heard horror stories from some of her peers. "I'm not sure if what I hear is the truth or just rumors," Allison confesses. "I can see where the school is coming from on some of the things they're doing. There are many students that honestly don't dress appropriately for school."

Another rule that is being more strictly enforced this year is the rule that students are only allowed to be in the library or the student union during their free periods or lunches. This year there are even teachers stationed near the lunch room entrances to make sure that students are only going where they are supposed to. Many students feel that they should

be able to walk around freely and are annoyed that teachers will not let them go to places like the vending machines or the library. "I don't feel that the teachers patrolling the hallway are necessary," Franca says. "We should be able to walk around the whole campus, both inside and outside. Most students are responsible enough to know not to disturb classes by causing too much noise."

It is true that the main reason for the ban on free roaming across the school is the concern about disturbing classes—there have been many cases of noisy students in the hallways disrupting lessons. The administration also wants to make sure that students are not cutting class. However, that doesn't mean that the teachers

patrolling the hallways are only there for academic purposes. They are also meant to make sure that there are no fights going on in the halls so that all students are safe. As for the dress code, most of the rumors that have been circulating are false. Mrs. Griffo has confirmed that leggings and yoga pants are not being banned, and there are no plans to ban them either. The dress code exists to make sure that students wear appropriate clothing; while some students believe that changing fashions render many of the banned items on the dress code archaic, it stands that most of the time when students are called out for what they are wearing, there is a valid reason.

## The New "Student Union"

Alyssa Muto

Staff Writer

The new school year has finally begun, and with a new school year comes many changes. Changes this year vary from new teachers and principals to the new cafeteria, or "Student Union" as it is now referred to. Over the summer a huge amount of time, money and thought went into the remodeling of the cafeteria—an effort that, in the minds of many, paid off. The cafeteria was transformed from a place with bland, colorless walls and tables to a colorful and inviting atmosphere with couches, new tables, and eight flat-screen high-definition televisions.

"It's a lot more inviting than an ordinary school cafeteria and has a much nicer appearance," says sophomore Sydney Woolf.

Along with its new appearance, the new Student Union will eventually be open until later hours, providing students with a location at which they can study and hang out if they have to remain on campus after the library closes at 4 o'clock.

"I think it's an enjoyable space for students to go to at any hour up until 10 p.m. and a good opportunity to hang out, relax and do homework in the comfort of your own school," says sophomore Jasmine Tucker. Many

agree with Jasmine's words, but some question whether or not keeping the cafeteria open later during the week is a good idea. If students are staying

on school grounds after hours, there will have to be faculty on duty as well.

"Students usually prefer to hang out outside of school, so it may create more of a hassle for the faculty to stay later," says sophomore Maisy Gellert.

However, it is not the Student Union's improved appearance or later hours but its promise of a new smoothie bar that is fueling chatter throughout the school. It has been said that the new Student Union will include a smoothie bar, but actions speak louder than words and students have yet to see signs of this promised addition. Fortunately, the Husky Herald had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Mastrotta and discuss

the plans for the Student Union.

"We are still working to get the smoothie bar and coffee bar in; it is estimated that it will be open in about six to eight weeks. The idea of the new design is to update the space so students have a place that is enjoyable for not only eating lunch, but getting work done and engaging with friends. More changes can be expected in the near future," Mastrotta reveals.

Since it has been confirmed that a smoothie bar will be put into the cafeteria and smoothies will be made daily, many are excited over having drinks adjusted to their personal likings.

"Personally, I feel the smoothie bar will be a huge hit, considering most upperclassmen are sent out to retrieve smoothies and coffee for those who can't leave campus and will now no longer have to do so," says sophomore Katie Murabito.

The faculty has worked hard to make the new Student Union a free environment for students to enjoy, and for the most part everyone seems to be fond of and appreciative towards the modern-styled cafeteria. For that, we thank the faculty and look forward to a new school year with a welcoming Student Union!



The Den, before the busy school day. Courtesy of Samantha Stein

## Bidding Goodbye to Mike Castellano



Custodian Mike Castellano is retiring after 29 years in the Harrison school district. He is best known for his upbeat humor, his often corny jokes, his love of animals and classic rock music, and his collection of versions of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and related memorabilia.

Mike had these parting jokes to offer the students: Why was the cookie crying? Because its mother was a wafer so long. A Zen Buddhist

goes into Central Park and says to a hot dog vendor, "Make me one with everything." He then noticed that the hot dog was meat on one side, and just bread filler on the other, so he said, "It's hard to make both ends meat."

Mike and his humor will be missed at the high school. The staff of the Husky Herald wishes him a happy and healthy retirement ahead as he moves down to Florida.



# Resources for Students Discovering Their Sexuality

Helina Dawit

News Editor

High school is difficult for everyone, but it can be especially difficult for students who are first discovering their sexuality. Being gay, straight, lesbian, transsexual or bisexual is your sexuality, not your identity. Still, when it is something hidden, it can feel like a burden. In truth, it is anything but that. How you feel about someone and who you like is completely natural and not something about which to be ashamed. Sometimes the hardest thing is to find someone to talk to about it—this article will help inform you about available resources.

At Harrison High School, there are guidance counselors, social workers, psychologists, after-school clubs and teachers that are here to listen or discuss such matters.

The G.S.A. is a club that meets every Monday in room D-126. The Gay-Straight Alliance is a student-run club. This year's presidents are senior Sarah Curtis and sophomore Eliot Fuerst; the teacher advisers are Ms. Milne and Mr. Gunnell. This club provides a judgment-free, accepting, fun environment. It is a great place for all students to talk to each other and show their support with only one rule: what is talked about in that room doesn't leave that room.

Harrison High School also has a number of social workers, psy-

chologists, and counselors. At the beginning of high school, you are assigned one of six counselors: Ms. Chieco, Mrs. DiFalco, Mrs. Heyen, Mrs. Katzenberg, Mrs. Grammas, or Ms. Leong, but you are by no means exclusive to that counselor. If you find it easier talking to another of the counselors, or to Dr. Miller, then feel free to explore that option. They are there not only to help you excel as a student, but also as a helpful sounding board should you wish to talk about personal things, and they can be found in the Counseling suite of offices. As for teachers, most if not all are there to listen and help in any way they possibly can.

While some students like going to guidance to talk, others enjoy talking to one of the school's psychologists or social workers. The two psychologists are Dr. Manning and Dr. Kerwin (D-205); the school's social workers are Mrs. McCarthy (D-109), Mr. Iorio and Mr. Gold.

"Everyone, each and every one of us, needs and deserves a place where there is no judgment, where there are no preconceived notions, where there is no pressure to 'be' anyone or anything other than what you feel," said Mr. Iorio. "I would encourage students to look for a place to feel safe and respected. We are all here

to help."

"Social workers and the support team in HHS are often seen as valuable resources to come and talk about issues that may affect the high school, community, or the students themselves," said Mr. Gold. "Often-times the support team can help connect students to resources both in and outside of the school."

Though it may seem like you spend your whole life in school, you don't, so for times when these in-school resources aren't available, here are some additional helpful resources available through your smartphone or computer connection.

Quist is a free mobile app that displays events from this day in LGBTQ history. It's a fun app to have and it is interesting to see and read events that likely are not getting mentioned in the mainstream media.

The QTA Mobile App is a free online magazine for the LGBTQ community, friends, and supporters. According to the publisher, "this app is a comprehensive source for breaking news on politics, arts, entertainment, and issues that affect you and your friends." It's another fun app to have, and it shows how much support the community really does have.

Gayborhood is another free app that helps you locate gay-friendly

businesses across the country in over 1500 business categories. Though these places are growing in number daily, this app can be a great way to "support the businesses that support YOU"

Revel & Riot is an organization with a free website/app to "promote LGBTQ rights, awareness and equality through new media, graphics, writing, and products on the internet." This site is a favorite of many HHS students, as it features specific resources, an online merchandise shop, and blog posts comprised of pictures and words.

EveryQ is the free, self-proclaimed LGBTQ Social Directory. Once you get the app, you create a profile (you can use Facebook to do that) and become part of "an all-inclusive LGBTQ community: featuring groups, clubs, organizations and businesses."

Of course this is not a comprehensive list; there are many more resources out there, but this is a good list for starters. Nobody should feel like they have nobody to talk to and nowhere to turn, especially in this highly inter-connected world. Remember this: you are loved; you are welcomed; you are supported.

## NYC Marathon Returns To Form

Andrew Carton

Staff Writer

On November 3, after a two-year absence, a record 50,740 runners finally had the chance to take their place at the starting line on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge for the ING NYC Marathon. Our own Dr. Christopher Miller was among those to endure the grueling 26.2-mile trek through the five boroughs that has been run annually since 1970.

Although the pomp and circumstance surrounding this year's race mirrored that of years past, the 2013 NYC Marathon also had a unique significance; it served as a symbol of our resilience and determination. The marathon marked the first major international race of that distance in the United States since the tragedy of the Boston bombing, and the first marathon to be run in NYC since Superstorm Sandy. In recognition, victims, heroes, and first responders from both Boston and New York were honored at the start of the NYC Marathon.

According to the New York Road Runners Club's website, marathon race director, and CEO/President of NYRR, Mary Wittenberg, exuberantly proclaimed, "Today we are honored to run for New York, [and] to run for Boston."

In response to the Boston bombings, increased security measures were ever present. New York City Police, in conjunction with Homeland

Security and the FBI, implemented stringent security protocol including thorough bag checks, restricted access to the course, and family reunion staging areas removed from the finish line. As a result, runners and spectators alike felt comfortable throughout the day's event.

In the words of our own Dr. Miller, "There was certainly a pronounced level of security this year. However, once the race started, I was solely focused on the excitement of running alongside 50,000 people and some two million onlookers."

Despite the heightened security measures, the race was business as usual for the

world's most elite runners, who finished the race in blistering sub-two and a half hour times. Defending his title from two years ago, Kenyan Geoffrey Mutai won the race with a time of 2:08:24 (a little more than three minutes off his previous record-setting time), while his countrywoman,

Priscah Jeptoo, led all women with a winning time of 2:25:07. The top American finishers were Ryan Vail in thirteenth place, with a time of 2:13:25, and Adriana Nelson, also in thirteenth place, crossing the finish line in 2:35:05.

With this year's NYC Marathon in the books, the

Kenyan's continued dominance (nine of the past 19 male champions have been Kenyan) had many wondering what contributes to the Kenyan's success. Although nobody truly knows, there are several theories.

Running in Kenya is a favorite pastime, much like baseball in America. Young children often run from village to village, and with the success of Kenyan long distance runners, Kenyan youth have been provided with role models to emulate. In addition, the increased prize money available to elite runners has inspired young Kenyans to run with the hope of a better future.

Whether competing for prize money, or just to satisfy one's personal "bucket list," the New York City Marathon reaffirmed our collective resilience and was a testament to the endurance of all who ran.

As Dr. Miller claimed, "The NYC Marathon is truly an international event; an indication of tremendous human spirit. After hearing other languages and seeing the décor of various nations throughout the race, it became clear to me that everyone had a story, a struggle, or a personal goal. In my opinion, the NYC Marathon is best event that athletics has to offer."

This race is certain to continue for countless years to come.



Dr. Miller in his marathon-mania. Courtesy of Dr. Miller



# Newtown Will Not Be Forgotten

Allie Coonin

Staff Writer

On December 14, 2013, we will remember the anniversary of the school shooting that killed 20 students and six teachers one year ago. All around the country, schools will be honoring those whose lives were tragically ended that day with a moment of silence. Some will even go so far as reading the names of all the victims of gun-related homicides in the past year.

Many have used this event to advocate for the importance of gun control. For those who believe that inadequate background checks and loose gun laws caused the shooting, the past twelve months have been spent campaigning to the public and meeting with political leaders in hopes of persuading those in power to improve the safety of our nation. This past year, the bill to expand background checks failed in the Sen-

ate; some argue that there was not enough action taken by the state, although New York currently has one of the strictest policies in the nation on gun control. There were rumors of an assault weapon ban, but no such law has been passed. Some Americans are disappointed in the lack of action taken by the federal and state governments, as it seems that the necessity of passing stricter gun laws has become less urgent.

While all Americans were saddened by the tragedy in Newtown, some believe that the problem was not the general availability of guns to the public, but the fact that guns can easily be placed in the wrong hands. This belief began to arise when it became known that the Newtown shooter, Adam Lanza, had Sensory Integration Disorder (a condition where someone may find certain aspects of

their environment unbearable, characterized by an extreme sensitivity to light, sound or physical contact). In most areas of the country, anyone asked about the shooting may have a different opinion.

"I think that the gun just got into the wrong hands," said freshman Brady Lefkowitz. "There are still plenty of responsible gun owners, and this event is just an isolated case."

However, many also believe that firearms are too accessible to the general public, specifically to people with mental illnesses.

As the year mark of the Newtown tragedy arrives, students and teachers all around the high school are taking the opportunity to reflect on their own lives. School boards have had to decide how to react; police officers were positioned in the schools in Harrison's own district for a short

period following the event. Many wondered: should teachers hold guns in order to protect their students?

"Although I feel that action must be taken, I do not believe that teachers holding guns is the answer," said Mrs. Rabuano, a global history teacher.

Decisions regarding school safety are still being made throughout the nation.

Freshman Olivia Ferraro said, "As a result of this, I appreciate the fact that we have a safe school environment here."

All of the students and faculty at Harrison High School can agree with this statement, and on December 14 we will keep the 26 students and teachers lost last year in our hearts and minds.

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## Nevada School Shooting Is Cause For Concern

Alyssa Muto and Steven Vendola

Staff Writers

Recently, school shootings have become more common, but it is a rare occasion when the shooter is a middle school student. In Sparks, Nevada, on October 21, a 12-year-old boy went into his middle school and wounded two students and killed one teacher. This shocking and tragic event has not been getting the news coverage it deserves.

According to USA Today, Jose Reyes allegedly brought a semi-automatic 9-millimeter pistol on campus and shots were fired in the schoolyard. Starting at 7:16 a.m., Reyes shot two fellow students in the shoulder, killed math teacher Michael Landsberry, and shot a second student in the abdomen before fatally shooting himself, all within the span of three minutes. The other two 12-year-old students fortunately had no wounds that were life-threatening.

No one knows why the student did it but a girl said she thought he might have been bullied. According to CNN, the shooter was the kind of kid who would fit the description of a school shooter which is a "nice kid", and a kid who might have been bullied. According to CNN, one kid said, "He was the kind of kid that would make you smile when you were having a bad day."

"It is pretty horrible that 12-year

olds have access to guns and can have the mindset to kill people," said junior Richard Hoffberg.

According to CNN, the two students wounded were friends of the shooter. Police don't know if the shooter was targeting them or if they just happened to be in his way. The teacher killed was Mike Landsberry who had served in the military. He survived fighting and conflict for years in Afghanistan and then was killed by a student. The community deservedly calls him a hero. They think Landsberry was shot because he was either trying to help the two wounded kids or because he was trying to talk to the shooter, attempting to make him stop.

Landsberry was a beloved math teacher, who also coached basketball and soccer. He was known widely across the school for his sense of humor and kindness towards students. Students revealed that Landsberry was always one to help students, whether it be for school-related or personal topics, and had always told his students and his teams that he would do anything for them, even if that meant risking his life.

"After the events of that day, I could only imagine how traumatized students are," said sophomore Catie DiRe. "It must be difficult to walk back into school, attempting to feel safe, af-

ter a teacher's life was taken and students were left wounded after being shot in the abdomen."

The events of this horrific day not only filled the town of Sparks with sadness, but left the school to serve as a reminder of the tragedy that resulted in the loss of a beloved teacher and left students both physically and mentally scarred.

"I think it's extremely upsetting to see so many shootings rapidly erupt in towns all over the world, some resulting in hundreds of deaths, making for heartbroken families and friends," said sophomore Emily Dugoff. "I don't know why people feel it necessary to target schools and harm students, but I do believe in this case, bullying may have played a role in the middle school student's actions."

According to Huffington Post's interviews with the young survivors from Sparks Middle School, the students collectively agreed that Reyes appeared to be happy, and the funniest thing from a troubled soul. It was said that Reyes didn't have a lot of friends, but he did have a small group of friends. They revealed how he always seemed to be smiling or laughing at recess, and seemed to be intelligent and have a bright future ahead of him. If their words are true, then why the sudden attack on his school?

Sources say that Reyes may have been bullied, or left to feel as though he didn't fit into any clique or categorization, due to the fact that some students admitted that they had no idea who Jose Reyes was. Many believe he masked his internal conflict by faking a smile, providing reason as to why no one suspected Reyes to be capable of such an attack.

"I think kids should know right from wrong at that age and they should know not to do that," said junior Scott Nielsen. "I feel badly for the victims and their families and I hope that community can get back on its feet and recover."

This horrid event should not only serve as a reason for sorrow, but students should also take away a deeper lesson from it. Students should realize how deeply their actions can affect a person, and do their best to adopt a more caring attitude toward others. If students came together and made it a point to do something positive, even as small a gesture as a smile in the hallway, any school could become a happier and healthier environment. In that kind of environment, it would seem less likely that such horrible events might occur.

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## Superstorm Sandy: The One-Year Anniversary

Lauren Mehlman

Staff Writer

The Category 3 hurricane named Sandy was the deadliest and most destructive hurricane of the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season. The hurricane left millions of people without electrical service and destroyed thousands of homes, causing tens of billions of dollars in damage in the United States. On October 29, 2012, Sandy hit the Northeast states, including New Jersey, Connecticut, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Maryland. Though Sandy was no longer classified as a hurricane, the post-tropical nor'easter caused extreme damage.

Right after the storm, the govern-

ment put several projects into action, providing billions of dollars in federal aid for Sandy victims. From houses being completely destroyed to fallen trees and power lines, Sandy affected most of the population on the eastern side of the United States in some way. According to a report released by the National Hurricane Center, Sandy is ranked as the second-costliest tropical cyclone on record, after 2005's Hurricane Katrina.

"I lost power for nine days and it was very inconvenient," said Sam Schmaier. "We had to wait on lines for hours to get gas and most of the roads were closed, but I was still re-

ally lucky that I didn't get any actual damage like other people near us."

According to Miranda Leitsinger, writer for NBC News, residents of Breezy Point, New York, were hit very hard by last year's storm. The rebuilding of the area continues. Some residents live in partially repaired homes, while others remain in houses of relatives or in temporary apartments. Most of the issues that remain are due to problems with insurance or government aid in which people are still awaiting necessary resources to rebuild their damaged homes.

"We got a generator after the storm so that we are prepared for oth-

er power outages in the future," said Jack Hochman. "It was so annoying not having electricity for over a week. Now I know I won't have to go through it again."

Although Harrison did not encounter any horrible destruction, almost everyone in the town was negatively affected. Stores suffered from the lack of business, people were unable to work for a while, and closed roads caused many to be stuck in their homes for several days.

Several Harrison residents donated their time and money to charities that assisted those in need after the storm.

# Syrian Search and Destroy Underway

Steven Vendola

Staff Writer

For the better part of the past year, Syria has been involved in a deadly civil war that has claimed lives of many rebels, soldiers, and innocent bystanders. According to Yahoo, the United Nations has estimated that more than 100,000 people have been killed in this civil war. Of that total, chemical weapons killed 1,429 people and 426 of those were children. These numbers will continue to rise, though the world community has stepped in to prevent any further deaths from chemical weapons. As the months advance, we shall see if Syria complies with these international mandates.

As the death toll was rising, along with the fear of a vast amount of chemical weapons being stockpiled, President Obama tried to gain political and national support for some kind of tactical strike against Syria. While the President was trying to get Congressional support for this possible military

intervention, the international community changed the playing field. Russia, a country that supports the Assad Regime, stepped in and called for treaty between Syria and the United States. Over the weekend of September 14-15, U.S. and Syrian officials came to an agreement to stave off any U.S. attack on Syria in exchange for a global watchdog commission to inspect and disarm all of Syria's chemical weapons.

According to Yahoo, President Assad first stated that he could not confirm or deny the existence of chemical weapons. Since then, the "Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons" (OPCW) has confirmed their existence. According to a BBC news report, the 41-member OPCW confirmed last month that it had plans in place to destroy all Syria's declared chemical weapons production facilities, ahead of a No-

vember 1 deadline. Syrian declared chemical weapons facilities will undergo sequenced destruction from December 15 to March 15, according to a risk-based criterion.

The plan provides a clear roadmap to be followed. It sets important milestones to be adhered to by certain dates. The next phase will be the most challenging: the verification and transport of the chemical weapons to a site where they will be destroyed.

A recent 41-member OPCW executive council meeting in The Hague did not detail where the weapons would be destroyed, following Albania's decision this past week to reject the U.S. request for it to host the destruction of the arsenal on its soil. France and Belgium have been named as possible alternative locations for destroying Syria's estimated 1,000 tons of chemical arms. Norway has pledged to send a civilian cargo

ship and a navy frigate to Syrian ports to pick up the weapons and carry them elsewhere for destruction.

"I think it was a good idea to come up with an agreement," said junior Chris Garritano, "because now we don't have to attack them and risk people's lives. We really don't need to get involved in any more conflicts."

A statement on the OPCW website declared that, under the plan, "Syrian chemical weapons will be transported for destruction outside its territory to ensure their destruction in the 'safest and soonest manner', and no later than June 30, 2014."

The conflict in Syria will continue on, but this investigation appears to be doing what it set out to do. For now, citizens of the world are waiting to see what will happen in the months ahead.

## Typhoon Haiyan Destroys Central Philippines

Lauren Mehlman

Staff Writer

Typhoon Haiyan destroyed central Philippines when giant waves and winds of up to 235 miles per hour slammed into the region on Friday, November 8. According to NBC News, The National Disaster Agency had confirmed by Tuesday that there were 1,774 deaths, with 2,784 other people confirmed injured. However, authorities and emergency officials said that there had been no contact with many hard-hit areas, and they estimated that when the final tally is known, 10,000 or more will have died from the typhoon.

After the huge destruction from the typhoon on Friday, a new tropical storm named Zoraida made landfall on Monday, in southeastern Philippines. Although it was much less severe than a typhoon, the storm trav-

eled northeast- through the already devastated islands. The storm added to the damage and left even more citizens without shelter, food, electricity, medical help, and clean water.

Sophomore Katie Murabito says, "I can't imagine what it's like to be in a natural disaster like this. Seeing it on the news makes me sympathize for all the victims of the storm and it makes me thankful for everything I have- from a house to even clean water. You never think that you won't be able to find clean water to drink so we end up taking it for granted."

Thousands of survivors swarmed the airport in Tacloban, the province hardest hit by the typhoon on Tuesday, November 8, trying to flee the country before tropical storm Zoraida added to the previous de-

struction. However, only a few hundred individuals were able to make it out of the devastated country littered with dead bodies and washed away homes.

According to USA Today reporters, Sunshine Lichauco de Leon and Calum MacLeod, Philippine soldiers were distributing food and water in the city of Tacloban. In addition, the U.S. military worked to dispatch food, water, generators and a contingent of Marines to the city, the first outside help in what will soon become a major international relief mission.

Sophomore Sam Gilbert says, "Since the U.S is beginning to help the Philippines, many other countries will probably do the same and assist people to get necessary resources like water, medicine, and food. There will

also be several charities to donate to like when Haiti and Japan faced natural disasters. I remember that during those times, many people in Harrison and much of the U.S donated to help the countries repair all of the damage."

According to USA Today, if the typhoon death toll is confirmed, it would be the deadliest natural catastrophe on record in the Philippines, topping the 5,791 killed after a magnitude-7.9 earthquake triggered a tsunami in the southern Philippines in 1976. Although many efforts are beginning to be made by several countries, it will be very difficult and time consuming to overcome this huge devastation and tragedy.

## Malala inspires girls the world over

Lena Jacobson

Staff Writer

On October 9, 2012, Malala Yousafzai was riding the bus home from her school in the Swat Valley in Pakistan when a Taliban gunman climbed aboard, shot her in the head, and escaped. Doctors fought to save her life, performing many surgeries to remove the bullet from her head and putting in a titanium plate to cover the hole. She was unresponsive for three days following the surgery, but her near-death experience ended in a miraculous recovery. Now, one year later, the 16-year-old advocate for education has been nominated for a possible Nobel Peace Prize. Her new memoir *I am Malala* revisits both the incident and her ensuing global fame, all in the time span of one year.

Malala's goal since her recovery has been to campaign for education and rights for girls in areas where

their religion prevents them from learning. After the Taliban shooting, committed as an act of hate against girls in schools, Malala returned to



Malala Yousafzai.

Courtesy of Parade.com

school to show that Taliban rule would not impact her education. Many Pakistani girls hoped that she would win the Nobel Peace Prize in order to raise awareness of the importance of

female education. With a huge outpouring of support from many world leaders, a charity known as Malala's Fund was even created to help girls all over the world.

Yet despite the good that it has brought, Malala's fame has come with a price. Since her movement toward education rights has begun, she has received numerous death threats from the Pakistani Taliban. In a report on WSTB22, Taliban spokesperson Shahidullah Shahid said she was targeted for her use of propaganda against the Taliban.

"If there is any opportunity we can target, she would be on our hit list again," Shahid said. "The Taliban are not opposed to girls' education, if it's within the ambit of Shariah and Islamic education, but they could not support anti-Islamic agendas and Westernized education systems."

The Taliban itself has destroyed over 170 schools between 2007 and

2009 alone, according to CNN. When asked what would happen if an agent of the Taliban came after her, Malala stated, "I'll tell him how important education is, and that I even want education for your children as well, that's what I want to tell you, now do what you want."

"We remember how the illiterate women in our neighborhood gave their jewelry to the Taliban and sacrificed their sons, brothers and husband to fight against Pakistan's army because all they could understand was that the fight was for Islam," said Purkha Gul, 16, a tenth grader at the Swat Girls Model School. Malala's book and charity have impacted many girls all over the world that are longing for an education. Now the spreading of her story is inspiring these girls to help their own communities.

"It's a miracle and inspiring," said sophomores Sam Schmaier and Emily Dugoff. "We hope she can improve many people's lives."



# opinions & editorials

## In Memoriam: Mr. Keith W. Johnson (1962-2013)

Brittany Wolfe

News Editor

"If you're a teacher, you've gotta make it interesting."

These were the encouraging words of former Harrison High School English teacher Mr. Keith W. Johnson. A man who changed the lives of the students he taught, Mr. Johnson is a teacher who will forever hold a legacy within Harrison High School. An engaging and charismatic teacher, Mr. Johnson taught his classes with enthusiasm and transformed an average classroom setting into a room full of enticing lessons, putting an unexpected twist on an otherwise-typical junior English class.

Mr. Johnson had a way with words; he knew how to make each and every student feel as though he or she had potential, giving them hope whether it was for standardized testing or simple daily assignments. The extent to which he cared and the efforts he made to challenge and en-

courage students were unlike those of many other teachers and instructors.

He was an English teacher not necessarily for the sake of being one, but because he enjoyed seeing his students thrive and retain a thoughtful learning experience.

The "Johnson experience" included a variety of comical and relevant stories about how the content he taught in class related to his own real-world experiences. This allowed students to apply what they learned in class to their own experienc-

es, so they could develop a better understanding of why the things they learned in English were so important in everyday life. Not only was Mr. Johnson devoted to helping students as an English teacher, he also offered his time and words of wisdom in guiding students through other issues, especially with the college application process. Mr. Johnson was the "go-to



Mr. Johnson. Courtesy of Yearbook



Mr. Johnson. Courtesy of Yearbook  
guy" for college essay guidance and SAT/ACT preparation. He eased the fears that many of his students had about the test that would allegedly decide their fate and success in life. He reassured you that there are ways to defeat the monster of a test and to escape its tricky ways.

It was just a few weeks before the test date when I began working with Mr. Johnson in preparation for the June ACT. I frantically entered his classroom before the start of his second period class and asked to set up a time to meet and begin preparing. His warm smile immediately eased my nerves and anxieties; from that moment on, I had high expectations and even higher hopes. Each time we met, he taught me test strategies that not even the notable Princeton Review book could teach me. The month that followed was hectic, meeting each week to discuss yet another grammar rule and strategy for the reading section, but as strange as it sounds, I looked forward to these sessions. I looked forward to hearing his

endless stories of how he'd witnessed students "beating the test," and I was confident that I would be yet another success story.

Mr. Johnson didn't disappoint me. He made the information relevant and simple and instilled in me a sense of hope that gave me the courage that I needed in order to ace the ACT. The nerves that had consumed me when I took those first steps into D-128 just a few weeks prior were quickly alleviated. He did his job and exceeded what I had asked of him. He was more than just an English teacher to his students—he was a friend. D-128 will truly never be the same; there will forever be that void, a sense that something and someone is missing.

One of Mr. Johnson's former students, Dan Wolfe, reminisced about his junior year with Mr. Johnson: "He was meant to teach; I never had a teacher more dedicated than he was. He not only taught you the 'curriculum,' he taught you about life. He truly put his students before himself. I didn't know anybody who didn't like him."

Mr. Johnson was an avid fisherman and also a gourmet cook. He was adviser to the "Followers of God" club at the high school. He is survived by his wife, Lauren, and his daughter, Meaghan. Mr. Johnson holds a close place in the hearts of his students and fellow faculty and will forever maintain a strong legacy at Harrison High School.

## Remembering Mrs. O'Neil

Rose Stokoe

Staff Writer

On July 10, Harrison High School suffered a great loss. Mrs. Geraldine O'Neil, long time English teacher at the high school, passed away from cancer after a five year battle.

"Mrs. O'Neil was one of the best teachers I've ever had," said junior Emily DiSilvestro. "She was just nice to everyone."

It seems that everyone comes to that same conclusion when they think of the late Mrs. O'Neil. She was an amazingly kind, caring, generous and nice person. People like that are hard to come across, it seems.

"It must be hard to teach kids," senior P.J. Ferraro said. "Some kids are really awful to teachers, but noth-

ing seemed to faze Mrs. O'Neil. She treated everyone like they were special."

It's great to meet people in life who are like Mrs. O'Neil, people who truly are happy because they get to do what they love. Mrs. O'Neil shared her love of literature with her English and Creative Writing classes for years. Even the students who didn't share Mrs. O'Neil's enthusiasm for English could appreciate her class.

"Creative Writing was the highlight of my day most of the time," said junior Kat Ensign. "She was funny and smart and listening to her tell stories was always the highlight of the class."

Mrs. O'Neil, coming from a large

family of seven sisters, did always have the most interesting stories to share with her classes. Mrs. O'Neil's love for her family was known by anyone who had the pleasure of meeting her. She would tell countless stories about her husband of forty years, Jack, or about the wonderful three children they had together (John, Kelly, and Ryan). It wasn't hard to figure out that Mrs. O'Neil loved her family dearly.

Mrs. O'Neil loved mostly everything, except maybe planes. She loved every student that walked into her class, even the ones who made it difficult and that's something that can't be said about most teachers.



Mrs. O'Neil. Courtesy of Yearbook  
She taught for 26 years in Massachusetts and New York.

Mrs. O'Neil was taken from us far too soon, but her spirit won't be forgotten by students or by her colleagues.

# K OLLLOWEEN









# ARTS & entertainment

## Cafe A-109: A Treat For Us All

Andrew Carton

Staff Writer

Merely a month into the school year, students wander aimlessly through the halls on a typical Thursday, met by the aroma of freshly baked brownies. Just by smelling them, students recognize that a favorite Harrison High School staple continues for yet another year- the weekly tradition of Café A-109 brownies.

Every other Friday morning, as the bell rings for second period, an impenetrable line forms in front of room A-109, down the hall from the Black Box Theater and the HPAC. Although Café A-109 had to be switched from weekly to every other week (in part due to such a high demand), the students and faculty running it churn out a stunning 22 boxes of brownies each café. In this instance, Harrison High School students of all grades and social circles come together for a common cause: to purchase and to enjoy the precious bites of an A-109 brownie.

Armed with passes and single dollar bills, hungry students wait patiently outside room A-109, a few students entering at a time. Once inside, the aroma of freshly baked goods (in particular, brownies of course) is certainly overwhelming. There are two lines for one's purchases in Café A-109: an express line for students purchasing a single brownie and a supplementary line for students pur-



Check out at A-109. *Courtesy of Rula Samad* chasing multiple brownies or other goods such as iced tea or muffins.

From 8 until 10:30, friends, peers, and even teachers beg others to purchase an A-109 brownie for them. Whether in a classroom or in the hallway returning (sometimes late) to a class, eating an A-109 brownie on Fridays remains a constant tradition in a school frequently undergoing change.

When asked about Café A-109 brownies, the entire school is in clear agreement.

Sophomore Jack Witte declares, "They are by far the best brownies around. There is truly something about them, something that I can't

place, that makes them so great."

Beyond the smell and the taste of these A-109 brownies, it is essential to understand the process that goes into organizing this café every other week. Café A-109 is run by the faculty, staff, and students in the FASE program, a program dedicated to assisting special needs students in becoming independent and continuing to develop life skills.

Through the preparation and maintenance of Café A-109, the students in the FASE program immerse themselves in hands-on social activities, reinforcing life skills such as cooking, money-management, organization, socialization, set up, and clean up. Students of the FASE program help in shopping for supplies, preparing the baked goods, running the café, and in coordinating other tasks such as allowing the appropriate number of people to enter at a time. By periodically rotating stations throughout the café, each member of the FASE program is exposed to these various activities, fostering development that the café helps to encourage.

After talking about Café A109 with the faculty of the FASE program, it is clearly evident that this event maintains a much deeper significance for the students in the program.

Ms. McNamara, one of the faculty members of the FASE program,

said, "Throughout the day, our students have countless number of people coming up to them and complimenting them on either the brownies or the café as a whole. This truly serves as an avenue to integrate these kids with the rest of the school (outside of the classroom), providing



Serving up iced tea.

*Courtesy of Rula Samad*

them with a great deal of pride in what they have done."

After covering the cost of ingredients and cooking supplies, proceeds raised by this café go toward providing the FASE students with a pizza party during midterm and final weeks, a much-deserved repayment for their consistently energetic service.

So, next time you go to Café A-109 to purchase a brownie, make sure to recognize and appreciate everyone who works there. It's not just about the brownies.

## 5pMinus Benefit Concert

Ariel Coonin

Editor-in-chief

At Harrison High School, we are a community of dedicated students with a passion for helping others. When there is a good cause at hand, hundreds of dedicated students are always able to band together to lend a hand. There's a new cause at hand and you can get involved.

Every year approximately 50 to 60 children are diagnosed at birth with Cri du Chat, also known as 5pminus Syndrome, and although this statistic seems small, it is very important. Typically when scientists and doctors are dealing with a genetic defect so rare, it seems to fall to the bottom of their priority lists, so fewer study the syndrome and less information is provided through research.

However, it is important that even a rare genetic defect like this one does not fall under the radar. Parents of children that have been diagnosed need to be informed on what they can do to help their children reach their highest

potential in life. With the proper therapy, these children can and will live long and happy lives.

This syndrome hits close to home because one of our very own teachers, Mrs. Moore of the English Language Arts department, has a daughter that was recently diagnosed this past year. She and her husband were shocked to learn that the services available for families affected in Westchester are far greater than those in other parts of the country. It is their goal, and now ours, to raise awareness and funding for all families in need through the Five P Minus Organization.

The Five P Minus Organization was created for the sole purpose of helping to educate and spread information about Cri du Chat. It is a nonprofit organization and this means

that donations are extremely important. This is where you, the students of HHS, come in to help.

We will be holding a benefit concert in our own HPAC on Friday, November 22, 2013, to raise money and spread information about Cri du Chat.

If you're talented, this could be something great with which to get involved.

Even if your talents are not suited for this type of show, you can still get involved. Students will be able to showcase their talents on stage, while other students can help in other ways. One way would be by just attending the event and donating – tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. Others can help by donating food for the performers – they need to keep their energy up for their performances.

There are also going to be \$10 T-shirts being sold – buy one for yourself and a friend because all proceeds go to the foundation. The most important thing you can do is spread awareness!

The benefit concert is a combined event with students from Mamaroneck High School, which is fun because it gives students a chance to mix and mingle with students from another school. However, it is not just limited to high school students. Bring friends and family and anyone else that might enjoy a concert from some of our talented students while assisting a great foundation.

With your help, the concert will be sure to raise a lot of money and draw attention to a small, but important foundation. Just a little help from our school can go a long way; so don't be shy about getting involved. Remember the date is Friday, November 22, 2013 – come support the cause and have fun!



# THE @HHS INTERESTING STUDENT

Ally Platte

Staff Writer

This article is the first in a new recurring *Husky Herald* column, **The Most Interesting Student at Harrison High School**. This inaugural article focuses on freshman **Grant Muller**, who has recently written his first novel.

The *Husky Herald* interviewed him about the happenings in his book and Grant was generous enough to give detailed responses about what will be in the novel.

**Husky Herald (HH): What is the novel about and what's the title?**

**Grant Muller (GM):** The novel is a fantasy take on what happens after we die. It's centered around a seventeen-year-old girl named Peyton that gets into a life-ending car accident and wakes up in a different world that I created and fueled from my imagination. The title has changed several times during the project but the current working title is "Entopia", which is the name of the place where the story occurs.

**HH: How did you get your idea to write this novel?**

**GM:** When I was ten, I would write stories all the time. I usually ended up writing a chapter and then ditching the idea for a new one I came up with. I was eleven when I started working with the concept of death and what happens after it. I really think this idea was inspired by me actually wanting to know the answer. Since there is no proven answer, I decided to combine the concept idea with my love of fantasy, fiction and writing to create the book.

**HH: How long did it take you**

**to write this novel?**

**GM:** I started when I was eleven, so a little over three years.

**HH: What is the message you are trying to express in this novel?**

**GM:** A big underlying theme in the story is to never take things for granted in life because everything can be taken away at any moment. After the main character Peyton dies, she reflects a lot on things from her life that she took for granted. Realizing she could never even experience the smallest things she loved helps her appreciate the idea that every moment is precious; you shouldn't take anything for granted.

**HH: What was the biggest struggle that stood in your way?**

**GM:** Definitely writer's block. Most people don't understand it because it's impossible to know about if you have only written a maximum of a few pages. I knew how I wanted it to begin and end but other than that I had no plan or outline when I wrote it. I just wrote what I thought of in that moment. It was definitely hard. At times, I had no ideas and at other times I couldn't find the words to express them. That's the main reason it took so long—well, that and the fact that I had to develop my writer's craft.

**HH: Do you think you will write a sequel or another novel?**

**GM:** This book is the first of a trilogy.

**HH: Was it difficult to juggle school work and this novel all together?**

**GM:** It was difficult but not that difficult because I wrote the majority of it



Novelist Grant in his garden.

Courtesy of Grant Muller

during middle school, when things weren't that hard. It was still a little difficult; I had to juggle a lot of things. It forced me to learn how to manage my time properly and helped with my organization skills.

**HH: What audience will read your novel?**

**GM:** The intended audience for this book is anyone from ages ten to 110.

**HH: Where is this novel going to be sold?**

**GM:** It will first be sold online and how well it does from there will affect where else it can go.

**HH: When is the novel coming out?**

**GM:** The Kickstarter campaign is being launched soon and after that finishes, the book will come out a little bit after.

**HH: For those who don't know, what is Kickstarter?**

**GM:** Kickstarter is a crowdfunding platform where people can put their projects, products and ideas to raise money. People give money to projects they want to support and see happen in return for rewards/contributions. It starts as small as one dollar and goes up from there, so anyone can their support.

**HH: When is the Kickstarter going up and what will the money be used for?**

**GM:** It's going up soon. The video is made and we just have to put a few last finishing touches on it. As for the money, it will be used for marketing, a book cover, print copies and a number of other technologies and fees that go along with publication.

Grant shared that the novel will be coming out for purchase very soon so be sure to look for it!

## Sophomore Wins Sweepstakes

Caroline DeCarlo

Staff Writer

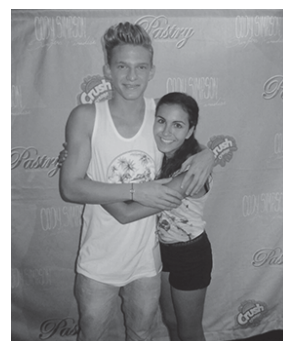
For as long as people have been exposed to marketing, lavish sweepstakes and contests have been a way of drawing attention to a business. Thousands of people are announced as the winners of these sweepstakes and contests every day, but most wonder who those people are and why they haven't met one. Wonder no more. On October 28, 2013, Isabella Caltabiano, a sophomore here at HHS, became one of those lucky people.

Cody Simpson is a 16-year old Australian musician, dancer, singer, and author. He began his career at 12-years old by posting his original songs and covers, like "I'm Yours" by Jason Mraz, on YouTube. Shawn Campbell, a famous record producer who has signed names such as

Jay-Z, found Cody's videos and became set to record his debut single, "iYiYiY" which featured the famous rapper Flo Rida. Simpson went on to release three extended play albums, and two studio albums. He has since headlined four tours and was featured in Justin Bieber's recent world tour. Cody's sister, Alli Simpson, is also a model and a teen icon, well known for her modeling for the shoe brand, 'Pastry.'

Seventeen Magazine recently offered a sweepstakes to promote the shoe brand Pastry, which features Cody Simpson and his sister, Alli, as two of their spokespeople. The winner of the sweepstakes was set to receive \$20,000 worth of prizes, all of which was paid for by the hosts of the sweepstakes. On November 24-De-

cember 1, the winner will embark on a paid flight to the Gold Coast of Aus-



Caltabiano with Cody Simpson.

Courtesy of Isabella Caltabiano

tralia, Simpson's hometown, with Alli Simpson personally calling them before the flight. Once there, the winner will receive spending money, tickets to one of Cody's shows, and an opportunity to meet him backstage at that show.

To enter the contest, fans were required to answer the question, "Why do you love Cody Simpson?" in 100 characters or less. Isabella has been a dedicated fan of Cody for several years, already having met him some 15 times prior to winning the contest.

Lindsey Goldberg, a sophomore here at HHS said, "I'm happy a real fan won the contest and not just a random person who entered. She deserves it."

# 90-Second Interviews



"90 Second Interviews" is a feature where we sit down with two teachers and see how many random questions they can answer in just ninety seconds. This issue we sat down with Spanish teachers, Señor Schenker and Señora DeFalco.

Interviews conducted by Sarah Camillone and Carol Ann Albanese.

Schenker



**Vanilla or Chocolate?** Chocolate  
**Secret Obsession?** Crossfit  
**Siblings?** 3  
**Midnight Snack?** Ice cream  
**Favorite book?** *The Great Gatsby*  
**Favorite holiday?** Thanksgiving  
**Least favorite subject?** Math  
**Best part of being a teacher?** Kids  
**Worst part of being a teacher?** Getting up early  
**Hidden talent?** I used to work in a deli and I was quick.  
**Desired super power?** Flying  
**Catch phrase?** Don't have one  
**Favorite color?** Green  
**Lucky Number?** 27  
**Favorite vacation spot?** Ibiza  
**Favorite animal?** Lion  
**Favorite season?** Fall  
**Do you like rollercoasters?** No  
**Waffles or pancakes?** Waffles  
**Favorite day of the week?** Saturday  
**Teacher BFF?** The LOTE Department  
**Birthday month?** June  
**Favorite band/musician?** El sueño de la Muñequita  
**Something your students wouldn't know about you?** I like to cook

DeFalco



**Vanilla or Chocolate?** Vanilla  
**Secret Obsession?** Shoes!  
**Siblings?** One brother – he's a math teacher.  
**Midnight Snack?** Vanilla Ice Cream  
**Favorite book?** *Don Quixote*  
**Favorite holiday?** Christmas  
**Least favorite subject?** I think school is great all-around!  
**Best part of being a teacher?** Students  
**Worst part of being a teacher?** Waking up when it's still dark outside  
**Hidden talent?** Baking  
**Desired super power?** Flying  
**Catch phrase?** "Don't hate, participate!"  
**Favorite color?** Purple but also red.  
**Lucky Number?** 7  
**Favorite vacation spot?** Costa Rica  
**Favorite animal?** Llama  
**Favorite season?** Winter  
**Do you like rollercoasters?** Yes! I went on Kingda Ka twice in a row.  
**Waffles or pancakes?** Pancakes  
**Favorite day of the week?** Friday  
**Teacher BFF?** My LOTE peeps  
**Birthday month?** June  
**Favorite band/musician?** Bruce Springsteen  
**Something your students wouldn't know about you?** I'm a really big hockey fan



# Breaking Bad Comes To An End

Rob Sperduto

Entertainment Editor

Every so often, there comes a television show that completely captures an audience and doesn't let go until the very end. Before its premier, a certain series that emerged onto the scene five years ago initially came off as a carbon copy of Showtime's *Weeds*. However, as more and more episodes hit the air, it became clear that this television show was unique, dark, witty, and emotional to its core. This show was AMC's hit *Breaking Bad*—and on September 29, 2013, the show came to its compelling conclusion.

*Breaking Bad* starred Bryan Cranston as Walter White, a high school chemistry teacher turned power-hungry meth dealer who resorted to selling drugs to provide for his family after he was diagnosed with cancer. Alongside Cranston starred Aaron Paul as Jesse Pinkman, a young burn-out and Walt's partner; Anna Gunn as Skyler White, Walt's heavily conflicted wife; and Dean Norris, DEA agent and Walt's brother-in-law. Initially an innocent man, Walt truly was disgusted by his actions and only wanted to provide support for his family; however, the longer he stayed in the game, the darker he became.

When asked about *Breaking*

*Bad* as a whole, senior Matt Bruzzone said, "*Breaking Bad* started off as a great show and only got better. It became more and more intense as each season progressed, and it's funny to go back to the beginning to see how different Walt's problems and conflicts were."

What truly made *Breaking Bad* so special was its ability to create such strong character development. Throughout its five intricately-woven seasons, no character remains the same person that they once were: the most important change is that of the dynamic between Walter and Jesse. Jesse, a broken individual looking for a father figure, sought out paternal qualities in Walter but time

and time again Walt exploited Jesse for his own personal gain. As painful as it was to watch Jesse constantly used like that, there were always hints of Walt's actual approval and care for

Jesse planted throughout the series. They showed the audience that although Walt's monstrous actions could never be redeemed, somewhere deep down he had at least some humanity left. The pair's relationship remained one of the most interesting and emotional aspects of *Breaking Bad*, which made it all the more satisfying when their drama was resolved in the



Heisenberg. Illustration by Amna Haider

end.

*Breaking Bad* showed the world what very little television series suc-

ceed in doing: it provided a fitting ending that gave closure to many of the show's most important plot points. Of course some people will find dissatisfaction with the ending to the series, but rarely will one come across a *Breaking Bad* viewer who wouldn't recommend the show. In an industry that thrives on drawing out successful shows for monetary reasons (most recently Showtime's *Dexter*), Vince Gilligan and the staff of writers came to the intelligent decision to end the show on a high note after five seasons. In years to come *Breaking Bad* will retain a strong legacy rather than be remembered as a series that should've ended four seasons ago.

"I'm sad to see one of my favorite television shows end. Shows like *Breaking Bad* only come every once in a while," said senior Zack Rian.

Although we're all mourning the loss of one of television's greatest series, this isn't the end of the *Breaking Bad* universe. In the years to come, expect to see a spin-off starring none other than the snarky, devious lawyer, Saul Goodman. Details are yet to be revealed as it's in its very early stages of development, but one can only hope that it will maintain the legacy of *Breaking Bad*.

## Hunger Games Sequel Is *Catching Fire*

Jasmine Tucker

Staff Writer

This November *Catching Fire*, the sequel to *The Hunger Games* movie, is expected to hit theaters. This movie has been hotly anticipated since the premier of *The Hunger Games* in 2012. *The Hunger Games* originated as a novel by Suzanne Collins that instantly made millions of readers fall in love. The novel follows protagonists Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark on their quest to win the Hunger Games after they are chosen to participate in the annual event, held in their nation of Panem.

On its opening weekend, the

week of March 23, *The Hunger Games* brought in \$155 million dollars—a non-sequel record. It also stood as the third highest selling movie opening of all time, reported collidier.com. This year, the *Catching Fire* movie has already showed similar promise. The tickets went on presale October 1 and, according to *Business Insider*, after only one week 52% had already been sold.

Teens and adults alike are looking forward to the November premier of *The Hunger Games* sequel.

"*The Hunger Games* was one of

my favorite movies!" said sophomore Lauren Mehlman. "I can't wait to see if *Catching Fire* can compare!"

Less than two years have passed since the release of the first movie, which inspired crowds of thousands to wait outside of theatres on opening day, desperate to be amongst the first to view it. People across the nation even jeopardized their sleep by staying up until midnight for the premiere of the phenomenon, which stars teen sensations Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth. Audiences are looking forward to see-

ing if the trio's next appearance on the big screen will be as successful as its first.

"I'm so excited to see all three actors again in the new movie," said sophomore Alyssa Muto. "I think that they make a great team and did such a good job on the last movie."

*Catching Fire* has big shoes to fill following the first movie in the trilogy. After the success of the first movie many are anxious to see what *Catching Fire* has in store for them, but only time can tell how the new movie will do.

## Netflix: *The Future of Television*

Sydney Woolf

Staff Writer

The future of television is coming sooner than expected. With Netflix adding more and more shows and movies to their instant website, watching actual television is becoming a thing of the past. Netflix is available for streaming on iPhones, iPads, laptops, and almost any other piece of technology you can think of.

"Netflix is probably one of the most amazing inventions ever created. I can watch any show almost anywhere I want," says sophomore Jasmine Tucker.

This allows Netflix to take watching movies and shows to a whole new level. Wifi isn't even needed to use the Netflix app on smartphones, so

your 3G can handle it anywhere you go.

By now, you might be asking: what is all the hype is about these Netflix shows and movies? Considering Netflix has shows and movies for all ages, it's no wonder this company has been so successful. By showing the classics like *The Breakfast Club* and *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*, older people are able to relive their glory days and enjoy Netflix as much as the younger crowd.

"I use Netflix all of the time. It's a great place for me to catch up on TV shows or watch some that I didn't watch when they were on TV," says sophomore Alyssa Muto. Some popu-

lar shows for teens are *One Tree Hill*, which follows a group of adolescents through their trials and tribulations of life, and *Friday Night Lights*, a show about competitive football and teenage drama in Texas.

While Netflix has some awesome perks, there are also plenty of downsides, which can make people frustrated with the system. There are tons of movies and shows to watch, but most aren't really that popular.

"Netflix is great, but it's missing some classic shows and movies that I'm sure most people would love to watch," says sophomore Chris Hicks. Some common shows that people want include *Boy Meets World* and

*Drake and Josh*. Also, there are some shows that are Netflix-only, such as *House of Cards* and *Orange Is the New Black*. A lot of people that don't have Netflix are pretty frustrated with missing out on shows like these, considering *House of Cards* is a three-time Emmy winner.

Overall, Netflix is definitely worth the \$7.99 a month. There are plenty of shows to watch, as well as tons of movies. The quality is great and who wouldn't want to be able to binge on entertainment right at the palm of their hand? Even if what you want isn't on there, you'll definitely find something worth watching.



### Ben: Winging It

Since the conception of my career as a foodie, I have learned to seek out places that make one specialty, and make it well. Sure, restaurants that offer the whole kitchen sink may suit the needs of some picky eaters, but it is without doubt that such great selection is created at the cost of food quality and tradition. In a previous review of a favorite Mexican joint, "Coyote Flaco," I praised the ability of the restaurant to stay true to the roots of their cooking. Furthermore, I expressed my disdain for the commercialization of traditionally cultural dishes such as the modernization of the burrito with the Chipotle restaurant chain. My philosophy on culinary exploration is quite simple: I want the real deal, not some chain restaurant phony.

Among foods that have been taken over by predatory commercial firms is the famed chicken wing. Sure, a sporting event at Buffalo Wild Wings can serve as a reasonable way to spend a weekend night. However, I find it insulting that many consider their wings to be delicious or even worse, authentic. Come on people, please realize how outlandish such a claim is. When I want wings, there is only one place I can get myself to go: JT Straws.

The term "hole in the wall" is too often used to describe any restaurant that isn't owned by a large corporate restaurant chain. However, the backstreet, windowless location of JT Straws makes it all too easy to miss on a drive-by. Make no mistake: this place makes wings and they make them well. Although the menu extends beyond their masterpiece wings, anybody would be crazy to go and not order them. With over fifty sauce options, I challenge anybody to not find

a flavor that suits their palate.

I, however, have my favorites.

Of course at the top of my list goes the famed "Thai Chili" wing sauce. Call me a fair weather fan for choosing the most popular wing sauce, but this magical chicken coating is truly incredible. Both sweet and spicy, this sauce hits upon several distinct flavors all at once. Though not your typical buffalo sauce, I challenge any wing connoisseur to argue the excellence of the Thai Chili sauce at JT Straws.

For the lover of the traditional buffalo sauce, try the "Nashville Boggs" flavor. The owner's take on the tradition buffalo sauce features added sweetness, proving that old dogs can learn new tricks. It is perfect for those looking for the classic buffalo taste, while at the same time wanting to experience the specialty of JT Straws.

Want to try something truly "out there?" Go for the RazzHab, a raspberry based sauce that makes you question whether wings belong under entrees or desserts. And of course, what good would a raspberry jelly sauce be without a peanut sauce to complement it? Have no fear, JT Straws has it covered with their "Thai Peanut" sauce. The list goes on and on.

So next time you feel the craving for chicken wings, don't let the popular appeal of Buffalo Wild Wings drag you in. A trip to JT Straws will not only satisfy your need for the spicy crunch of a wing, but will reshape how you look at the bar and grill classic.

In "The Sweet Life of Ben and Coby," food-loving seniors Ben Adler and Coby Lefkowitz invite you to join them as they sample the best fare the tri-state area has to offer! To bring in the new school year, Ben and Coby decided to go back to exploring the culinary offerings in Port Chester. Ben serves up a review on JT Straws, a chicken wing paradise, while Coby provides a taste of Brazil at Copacabana.



Value: **|||||**

Ambiance: **||**

Taste: **|||||**

### Coby: Copa

Located in the heart of Port Chester, Copacabana could be characterized more as an experience than a regular dinner. If you were planning on chicken fingers, fries, and maybe a coke or two, this is not the place for you! (Go to Buffalo Wild Wings, Ben and I won't hold it against you.)

To start, expect a little bit of a wait, especially on the weekend. This is to be expected when going on a culinary voyage such as this one. Once you are seated, the salad bar is a must. Carnivores, don't worry: this salad bar is unjustly titled in that it truly is a meat bar, a perfect set-up for the rest of the meal. After the warm-ups are devoured, it's time for the main event.

This is the part of the meal where things get interesting, and undoubtedly tastier. Ditch the old way of ordering via confusing menus, and go straight to the colors. It's simple: green means go, and red means stop. If your pass to heaven is green, servers will hunt your table down, carrying meter-stick long racks of beef, chicken, pork, turkey, sausage and many other Brazilian delicacies.

This may seem overwhelming at first, but it quickly becomes the most fun game ever created. What food is going to come around next? How much will I have? These are questions that to this day remain unanswered by the most educated, but in a magical way, it's irrelevant. The greatest part of this guessing game is that no mat-

ter what food lands on your plate, two truths will always accompany it: 1) It will be exploding with flavor, and 2) it will be limitless. That's right, limitless. As long as the green side of your card is facing up, prepare yourself for as much food as you can eat! Personally, my favorites of the "Meat Parade" were the Turkey-wrapped Bacon (lombo de boi enrolado em bacon), Brazilian Sausage (Linguica) and the Barbeque Chicken (Frango na Brasa).

However, there are tastes for all! In addition to the never-ending meats, there are also never-ending sides. Rice and Beans are Brazilian staples that must accompany the meal, but it is the fried bananas that steal the show. I will not lie, I did have more than five servings, but how much more will have to remain a Ben and Coby secret!

At just under \$40.00, this meal could either be a steal, or quite expensive. This depends though on how much you are ready to eat in one sitting. I ate my way through at least two "Meat Parades" and was satisfied, receiving great value.

If the meat you've just devoured is not enough to satisfy your cravings, the dessert one-ups the Rodizio ("Meat Parade"). With authentic Brazilian sweets, even the pickiest eater can be kept happy! When it is finally time to turn your card red, do so with a smile, knowing that a meal like this is not had often!

Overall, Copacabana receives

Value **|||||**

Ambiance **|||||**

Taste **|||||**

Head over to Port Chester and flip your card green now!

## Ninja Serves Up Unique Experience

Kendall Lefkowitz

Staff Writer

Hidden in the streets of the West Village is the restaurant Ninja, a thrilling dining experience with a surprise waiting around every corner. When you first enter the restaurant, you only see a hostess and an elevator. She then sends you on your way. When you step in, you don't know if you are going up or down. When you finally get out, you are greeted by none other than a ninja. This ninja sends you off on your own to navigate through a dark maze. As you do, you don't know whether a Ninja is going to pop out or not, until the very end. It's a

dead end, with no exit in sight, but then a ninja jumps out to scare you, and then guide you to your table.

Throughout your meal, you experience all types of ninja shenanigans, including swords coming through a grate in the wall, ninjas jumping into the room behind you, and even a ninja magician that comes to your table while you await your food. The food itself arrives with a show, from being set on fire to being presented a mystery box appetizer. It seems ordinary, until glowing lights surround it, and steam starts rolling

out. When opened, it presents edamame. The whole atmosphere of the restaurant is great, from the décor of a feeling that you are underground, hidden in rock, to the amazing presentation of the food.

The food is pretty good. They give you a hearty meal that you might be unable to finish (but get it wrapped and take it home). There is a huge variety of choices, from steak to sushi to chicken and everything in-between. Since it is a Japanese restaurant, you can also order any traditional Japanese dishes. They also have a very

cool dessert menu, ranging from a ninja star dessert to just plain old ice cream. The Ninja star dessert transforms a real ninja star into a chocolate cake in the shape of a star.

With a surprise around every corner, Ninja is sure to be a great dining experience, one you won't soon forget. If you come for a birthday, they will give you a Japanese water balloon on a string or, if you're lucky, a plastic ninja star!

# SPORTS

## Getting to See the New A.D.

Kyle Lefkowitz and Caitlyn Brown

Staff Writers

With freshmen entering the school for the first time this fall, there are many fresh faces in the high school. One of the freshest faces to Harrison belongs to the new Athletic Director, who hopes to make the year in athletics a memorable one.

Meet Mr. Stewart Hanson, a dedicated and passionate sports fan who will replace Mrs. Seligman as the A.D. this year. After working at Walter Panas High School for 36 years, Mr. Hanson is now ready to take his talents to Harrison. Mr. Hanson, who has loved sports ever since he was a young child, is ready to embrace all of the awesome sports that Harrison has to offer. While Mr. Hanson's love of baseball was an integral part of his athletic experience as a child and teenager, don't expect him to only be glued to the bleachers next to the baseball fields; he cannot wait to cheer on all of the Huskies teams! The Husky Herald was fortunate enough to sit down with Mr. Hanson for a couple of minutes, and listen to his plans for the Harrison High School athletic program for the future.

**HH: How does Harrison compare to other districts at which you've worked?**

**Mr. Hanson:** Coming from the

Lakeland school district, I've been thrilled as to how warmly I've been received at Harrison by the facility and community. I am extremely happy to be at Harrison, and cannot wait to enjoy all of Harrison's many different sports.

**HH: What is an interesting sports fact that you don't think many people realize?**

**Mr. Hanson:** Although it is not yet considered a sanctioned varsity sport in New York State, cheerleading is one of the more competitive and challenging sports out there. It is a coming of age sport in which the cheerleaders are working tirelessly for hours upon hours, only to have a few minutes to nail a routine each competition time, which is very

special compared to other sports.

**HH: Why do you enjoy being an athletic director?**

**Mr. Hanson:** To me, this is the

best job in the world; because I get to watch young athletes succeed and grow throughout the season. Being a part of any team requires a certain amount of skill in communication, persistence, and the ability to work together in



The new A.D.

Courtesy of HCSD

order to make the team successful. After an application of up to 14 years for each sport for athletes who've been constantly learning and improving, I get to share in the growth and successes of the many accomplished athletes and teams.

**HH: How big are your expectations for the Harrison sports programs this year?**

**Mr. Hanson:** I hope and expect for each and every team in Harrison to be very successful this year! I especially hoped that we would get a win in the Harrison/Rye football game at home in front of our fans. Go Huskies!

Mr. Hanson has been a valuable member to the Harrison High School community, and the students are already taking notice. JV Cheerleading Captain sophomore Micaela Gomez said, "When I first saw him he looked kind of scary and very strict, but now I noticed he comes to some of our practices and realized he's nice and friendly and more interactive than the old athletic director." Freshman Brianne Pittelli and sophomore Joanna Oppedisano agreed, saying, "Mr. Hanson is very supportive and no big changes have happened so far. We haven't heard anything bad about him thus far."

Mr. Hanson has been an incredibly popular addition to the staff, and hopefully Harrison's sports teams will be as successful as he has been during his short time thus far at the high school.

## Cross Country's "Hot and Dangerous" Season

Kyle Lefkowitz

Staff Writer

Running. Just running. Members of the Cross Country team realize that running for "fun" is torturous for most, but under the leadership of Mr. Bennett and Ms. Janssen, Harrison's program is dispelling the notion that running is pure evil. Having to run hundreds of miles during a season is certainly very challenging, but Harrison XC is able to keep going by keeping things positive: its two mottos are "Hot and Dangerous" and "Gotta Burn to Learn." Unlike most sports, cross-country is all about individual performance. This makes it all the more challenging, and more rewarding for the athletes.

This year's team is relatively young, with 11 freshmen on the 30 member team. Although some might see this as a detriment due to lack of experience, Coach Bennett sees it differently. "The greatest benefit of having a young team is being involved in their long term growth as athletes

and people. As the coach, I have an opportunity to encourage a solid work ethic and healthy mindset among the athletes."

Cross country is incredibly different than most sports at the school, being that you are truly competing against yourself. Coach Janssen loves the individual aspect of the sport because, "it requires every member of the team to have their own individual drive to be better, and it goes beyond 'winning'. I don't think that sort of mindset exists in any other sport". While cross country runners may only see teammates cheering them on once or twice during a race, it is the encouragement and support from their peers that allows each runner to finish the races.

Both the boys' and girls' varsity teams had very successful fall seasons. Led by captains Ben Adler and Ian Vela, the boys' came in 4th place at leagues and have consistently been

pushing each other to the next level of success. The varsity team consists of seven runners, but what makes Harrison's team unique is that those members change every week depending on which seven athletes have the fastest times. This system gives runners the chance to have a great race and make varsity, and motivates them to make sure they never have any off days. The seven member team only makes the team very successful because many different athletes have "made the team" throughout the season, and the internal competition the system causes makes the whole team stronger.

Although the JV and Varsity boys' teams have always been known to be fierce competitors, the Varsity girls team also placed fourth at Leagues and is emerging as a force to be reckoned with. Led by junior Catherine Rocchi, and senior Kyle Lefkowitz, the girls' team may be lack-

ing in members, (with only 8 girls) but they are certainly not lacking in talent. Almost every race has brought a new first place finisher within the team, meaning that the girls have used their teammates as motivation to make themselves run faster. Almost 50% of the team will graduate at the end of this year (three girls), but the legacy they have left behind will motivate the returning runners to achieve even more than previously imagined.

With sectionals coming up on November 1st, the team will look to capitalize on its determination and hard work to end the season on a high note. If they bring the same positive attitude and competitiveness that has helped them throughout the season, there is no doubt that the Cross Country team will end the season "Hot and Dangerously."



# Girls' Soccer Kicks It Up A Notch

Zack Smolev

Staff Writer

The Harrison High School girls' varsity soccer team entered the season with aspirations for a league championship and a section title. The combination of a solid core of returning players and a new group of talented freshmen made these goals very realistic. Senior captains Paige Brabant, Rula Samad, Evann Specht, and Sarah Mazza have all been members of the team since they were underclassmen, giving them the chemistry and experience necessary to lead the team. According to the captains, "We all have a wealth of experience when it comes to varsity soccer. For years we've been playing together—we just have to play more as a team this year and focus on our goals for the season."

Each season begins with a team trip to Lake George, so that the players can bond and get to know each other better. These couple of days also serves as their preseason;

the team finally gets to compete after a grueling summer that includes "two-a-days" and conditioning practices. Despite their senior leadership, the Huskies started their season with a disappointing 0-4 record. Their opening game resulted in a 1-0 loss against Albertus Magnus due to a lack of communication and readiness. A team member admitted, "The first game of the season is always rough because we never have enough time to schedule games during the preseason. While we're not unprepared, we're not mentally ready." The camaraderie amongst the players was not the problem, and neither was a lack of preparation. The problem, according to junior Marielle Sheck, was a lack of intensity. She said "We're just playing sloppily and presenting ourselves in a way that makes us seem unimimidating and unaggressive."

As the season progressed, the Huskies started piling on the wins.

Even though their unfortunate start was not representative of the team's talent, better play became evident over their next five games. The team reached a 4-7 record, with key wins over Port Chester, New Rochelle, and White Plains. "It was important to finally get those first few wins under our belt," said captain Evann Specht. "We knew that if we got some momentum then we'd be able to win some games and prove to ourselves that we are a good team."

While these games were integral to the success of their season, the team's main goal was to get to sectionals and win a section title. The Huskies knew that they were headed to the playoffs because they had won the obligatory four games; however, they were not sure if they would play a weak team or a strong one. Wins against Blind Brook and Rye Neck helped increase the Huskies' chances of receiving a high seed, but since

seeds 12-22 were packed so closely together they were given the 21st seed and forced to play a play-in game against Nyack. A valiant effort resulted in a 2-0 Huskies victory with goals scored by Erin Nelson and Erica LaManna.

While they displayed great heart, hustle and perseverance, the Harrison High School Girls Soccer team ended their season with a 3-1 loss to Panas High School. Although the 2013-2014 season is over, there is great hope for the 2014-2015 season. Even with the loss of seven graduating seniors, the remaining core group of sophomores and juniors will be ready to take on the task of overcoming the challenges next season will bring, focusing on the perpetual goal of bringing a sectional title back to Harrison.

## Improvements for Varsity Volleyball

Rose Stokoe

Staff Writer

As soon as last season ended, the Harrison Varsity volleyball team was eager for this one to begin. Last year was disappointing for everyone involved with the team, having suffered fourteen crushing losses and only two wins. None of the girls were eager to repeat these results this year, so when open gym started up in March the team was ready to improve.

The team came into this year with some huge looming questions. Who was going to be the libero? Who was going to play on the right side of the court? And most importantly, who was going to be the setter?

This reporter volunteered to move from middle blocker to setter for this year's team. During tryouts, Husky newcomer Miho Iwasa was the clear choice to become second setter, as she had an amazing serve and clear natural setting talent.

This year sophomore Valerie Serna moved up to the varsity team to become the libero: the team's defensive specialist. Although Serna is small in stature, other teams have quickly realized she is not only a great passer but also a very intimidating back row attacker. Demi Spanos became the first 8th grader to ever make the varsity team this year. Spanos is learning on the job, and quickly becoming a force to be reckoned with on the court. Seniors captains Zoe Rheingold and Maddie Bilbrey had been practicing in a potpourri of positions in the early stages of the season, and have found their respective spots as right side hitter and defensive specialist.

This season started off with a bang, with big wins against Scarsdale B and Byram Hills. Senior Maddie Bilbrey saw the victory against Byram Hills as a particularly important one.

"The Byram game was one of the best games we have played together. Byram Hills is a great team and a win against them made people really take notice."

Although the team started the game off strong in the non-conference schedule, their first league game was filled with controversy; The Horace Greeley team had two boys that were members of the team. "Playing against the boys was not only scary but dangerous," Sophomore Valerie Sprovieri says. "I was so afraid of getting hurt I couldn't play my game." After Harrison easily took the first two games of the match, the Greeley coach brought the testosterone in to play. Despite the opposition's clear advantage, the Hus-

kies pulled out their fourth win on the season in the hard-fought game.

The Huskies' regular season ended with a huge four set win against Fox Lane in the team's "Dig Laverder" game, an event which raised money for rare cancer research. This win brought the team's record to 9-8, and although they would lose in the Sectionals to Yonkers, 9-9 was still a vast improvement from last year's disappointing 2-14 record. The volleyball team hopes to capitalize on this year's improvements, and hopefully it will carry its success into next year!



A much improved volleyball squad.

Courtesy of HCSD

## Girls' Tennis Causes a Racket

Sydney Mueller

Staff Writer

This year the Girls' Varsity Tennis Team has undergone two serious changes to its program: the installment of new coach Justin Loeb and the filling of six open spots. These factors have forced the players to learn completely new strategies as a team, and also helped them grow individually. Although transition years can be difficult on a team, the tennis squad took no time at all to get acclimated to each other, and their team chemistry is through the roof!

Senior captains Amanda Friedman and Charlotte Breslin have taken on leadership roles this year, stepping up to teach the younger girls on the team how to build confidence while also playing and establishing team spirit. When a rough start to the season dampened the girls' spirits, Aman-

da and Charlotte took it upon themselves to raise the group's morale. By constantly making jokes and giving each girl on the team an honorary nickname, the co-captains successfully alleviate much of the pressure that is associated with playing a varsity sport. Breslin, who is grateful for her position as team captain this year, remarked, "being captain has been an amazing experience. Being a doubles player, I am used to motivating my partner, so I was able to easily translate that skill to the rest of the team whenever we were down."

Creating a sense of unity amongst the girls was somewhat difficult due to the fact that team members range in age from eighth graders to high school seniors. Elisa Pettinato, a freshman that has been on varsity

since eighth grade, says, "It has been a unique but exciting experience playing with upperclassmen on the team these past two years. The relationships I have made with the girls are incredible and unforgettable." Such "unforgettable" relationships are common across the entire team, whose members are all comfortable with each other.

The junior varsity coach for the past two years, Coach Loeb's prior relationship with the freshmen players has allowed him to create a strong bond with the team. His vast knowledge of tennis has been a great addition to the team this year; being around tennis his entire life has exposed Coach Loeb to a wide range of strategies and tactics which he has shared with the team. These tech-

niques, including the "I" formation, the "Australian" strategy, and "poaching", can be used to throw off the opposing player's mentality during a match.

Even though the team got off to a slow start, they pulled off a victory against Rye Neck a few matches into the season and, propelled by that winning attitude, proceeded to triumph over Pleasantville. "It took a while for the team to get comfortable playing against some of the hardest teams in the state, but now that we have a steady momentum our victories will become consistent," says Friedman. With the team conference tournament and sectionals in the near future, the team will have to step up their game and incorporate Coach Loeb's new strategies if they wish to make it far.

# New Field Hockey Stars Shine

Jasmine Tucker

Staff Writer

The 2013 field hockey season began with big expectations for everybody involved with the team. In mid-August, over 30 "flocky" athletes came back to school early to try out for the team. After a week, the teams were split and members were determined. With only three returning varsity team members, nobody was sure how well the team would perform. Practices were very intense, and each player had very expectations for themselves.

At the beginning of the season, the girls were focused on being as successful as possible while having fun at the same time. "Field hockey has been very fun so far this year," said attacker Emily Coash. "We have the opportunity to challenge ourselves in new ways to reach our athletic goals. Everyone is working really hard and I think that our efforts will pay off."

Going into their first game, the Varsity players defeated the always talented Byram Hills squad by a score of 5-3. The girls played with great intensity and finally came together as a team. Defenders Julie Robertson, Elisa Arcara, Taylor Kelly and Emma LaBarbara worked cohesively and

made goalie Christina DeCarlo's job much easier. DeCarlo, a sophomore, proved that when the ball does get past the defense, she will do anything in her power not to let in into the goal. The midfielders and offenders worked together to move the ball down the

The first game for the JV team was on Tuesday, September 17. They played an intense game against Valhalla, and defended their turf by winning 1-0. This result was very impressive, considering that the team had only been together on the field in a



HHS' field hockey finest.

Courtesy of HCSD

field and scored many goals for the Huskies. Senior Michele DeLeo, who tended the net last year for the team, returned this year as an offensive player. Although picking up a new position is always difficult, DeLeo proved that she is incredibly valuable to the team, no matter what position she is playing.

game setting once before.

On the field, each player showed the great lengths they will go to win. Defenders Jess Petrucci, Izzy Dario, Jasmine Tucker and Catie DiRe started strong, helping lead the team and making the lives of the offenders easier by always having their backs. Sophie Mittman, a freshman attack-

er, did a great job of sending the ball down the field and shooting on goal with the help of the other offenders, Sam Gilbert and Bella Tosto. Midfielders Sammi O'Reilly, Ryann Fitzgerald and Adriana Iolascon helped control the flow of the game, acting as mediators between the defenders and attackers. Freshman goalie Miwa Goble is new at her position, but has showed some incredible skills early in the season. She only let in one goal in the first five games!

"I love field hockey and all of the people playing this year!" said sophomore player, Gabby Garcia. The girls created an incredibly strong bond with each other early in the year, a bond that only grew stronger as the season progressed. This bond also helped foster the success of the team, which was able to pick up a number 9 seed in the Sectional tournament.

Unfortunately, the team was defeated by Brewster 3-0 in the first round of the playoffs, thus ending their season. Although this season is over, the combination of varsity players returning and the promising JV team moving up to varsity will bring even more success to next year's team.

## Boys' Soccer Builds on Last Year's Success

Trent Lefkowitz

Sports Editor

After a surprising run to the Sectional playoffs last year, the Harrison Boys Varsity Soccer team came back this year looking to build upon such a promising result. However, after losing both senior captains from last year's team, this year's squad faced a difficult time duplicating the success. Although the Huskies struggled through the year with a 4-12 record, those four wins were still enough to guarantee a spot in the Sectional playoffs. Sadly, the late-season improvements were not enough for the Huskies, and they

fell to Sleepy Hollow by a score of 2-0 in their out-bracket Sectional game.

According to senior captain Zack Rian, this season was particularly difficult for the soccer program. "We graduated eight starters and 16 team members overall from last year's team, so the beginning of this year was incredibly difficult for us." Any team would be decimated by losing almost 90% of its team members, but it was borderline catastrophic for soccer. Soccer is a sport where the players must anticipate the motion of

their teammates in order to move the ball down the field, so it took a long time for the team to chemistry come together. However, once the younger players began recognizing their roles and began playing together as a team, everybody became more successful. Rian echoed these sentiments, saying, "our youth and lack of varsity experience hurt in the beginning of the season, but by the end our underclassmen began showing flashes of brilliance."

Although this year did not bring

the success the soccer team had hoped for, next year is looking promising for the Huskies. Sophomores Alex Heinrichs, Kent Takada, and Jonathan Crozier had great amounts of success during the season, and juniors Christian Saavedra, Luis Guimares, and Matt Druckman will be called upon to lead the team. Hopefully, the team will be able to reach their high potential, and bring back the strong tradition of Harrison soccer.

## Cheerleading Gets Ready for Winter Season

Alexis Puccio

Staff Writer

A new year means new varsity cheerleaders, and lots of questions to be answered.

Lauren Ryan, sophomore varsity cheerleader, was asked if the cheer camp had helped the team improve.

"Cheer camp helps us bond as a team, because we spend every minute together, even when we're not doing cheerleading," she said.

"I still have time for my friends and family, but it's a big part of my life," said freshman Serena Girardi, "and I enjoy doing it."

Still, many worry that cheerleading can take up most of one's social life.

Junior Jillian Roos took part in the summer practice program.

"Practice in the summer was somewhat irritating because of the lack of people who came, due to the frequent vaca-

tions people take during the summer," Jillian said. "But practicing during the summer for football season is much needed."

Some students at the high school still don't realize that cheerleading is a sport. It is, and it requires a lot of time and hard work.

"It's very offensive when people say cheerleading isn't a sport because everyone on the teams works

really hard and puts in a lot of dedication," said sophomore Victoria Golino. "Besides, you can get serious injuries in cheer. It's upsetting to be told that everything we work for is basically considered a joke by some people."

Last year's seniors are now in college, and there are new members on the team. Juniors Jillian Roos and Gabriella Barile are two new varsity cheerleaders. Both Roos and Barile

recognize that they will need to replace some incredibly talented cheerleaders from last year's team, but they are up to the task.

"Every alumnus from last year left a very positive impression on the team," said Gabriella Barile. "It has motivated us to fill their shoes. Their leadership has pushed us and inspired us to work hard this year and to go into this year's season with confidence. I think both of our coaches, Rosa and tumbling coach Kamisi, do a great job of providing advice. We'll try something and they're always so eager to give us feedback on what to fix. Their advice is very helpful and provides us with the ability to be the most successful."

This year's squad is looking forward to competing and having great success.



The varsity cheerleaders smile for the camera.

Courtesy of Victoria Golino



# Long Season for the Huskies

Trent Lefkowitz

Sports Editor

Beat Rye. Go to States. Win States. These are always the objectives that the football team strives to meet and this year was no different. Although the Huskies ultimately fell short in achieving these goals, they worked the hardest that they could and still managed to tally a winning 4-3 record at the end of the season.

This season the Huskies started out of the gates slowly, but were able to recover and win their first three games.

After failing to capture a lead in the first half against Brewster and Pearl River, Harrison came back in the second half of both of these games to win, and ended up winning their first three games—against Brewster, Pearl River, and Tappan Zee—by a combined 53 points.

The next three games were a struggle for the Huskies, whose win against Saunders was sandwiched by losses to Horace Greeley and Yorktown. The 28-7 loss at the hands of the Yorktown Huskers stung particularly hard for the Huskies, as it eliminated them from playoff contention. For any other team this would have been

more than enough reason to give up and settle for a lackluster end to the season. But the Huskies still had their most important battle of the season to look forward to: the Rye Game.

Although the Huskies were obviously disappointed that their dreams of winning all the way through to the state tournament in Syracuse had

been dashed by a loss the previous week, that loss actually made them more motivated to play well against the hated Rye Garnets. Senior defensive end Brandon Merlucio said, "Since we knew we weren't in the playoffs all we had left that could define our season was the Rye game. There have been years when Harrison has gone to the state championship game, but were considered un-

successful because they lost to Rye." This motivation, coupled with the passing of Coach Troilo's father and former athletic director Art Troilo Sr. in September, set the stage for a classic showdown—and the teams did not disappoint.

The Huskies started strong in the first half, driving the ball consis-

tently down the field against the vaunted Rye defense and neutralizing Rye star junior quarterback Andrew Livingston's impressive skills. Although Harrison was clearly outplaying their bitter enemies, they were unable to capitalize off of good field position, and the game was still scoreless by halftime.

After performances from the bands and cheerleaders of both

schools, the Huskies returned to the field. The third quarter also ended scoreless, but the Huskies were driving down the field and looking to put up the first points of the game. A goal-line fumble negated their opportunity to score six, but Jake Marino's sack of Andrew Livingston in the end zone two plays later gave Harrison the

first two

points of

the game.

Sadly the

Huskies

could not

hold onto

their lead, and

a 7-yard

touchdown

run by Rye

running

back

Conor

Murphy

put the

Garnets

up for

good,

making



The 2013 varsity football team.

Courtesy of HCSJ

the final score 8-2.

Although the Huskies did not win the Rye game or reach the playoffs this year, a 6-3 record is not too bad for a team that played such a difficult schedule. Hopefully the team can come back from this year's struggles to become stronger than ever next year, returning to the powerhouse it has been in the past few years.

# Harrison Loses A Legend

Steven Vendola

Staff Writer

It is incredibly tough when a community loses a hometown hero that has had a huge impact on the youth and people of the town, while asking for nothing back in return. Only a special kind of person can fit this remarkable description of a community hero; Arthur Troilo Sr. was that kind of person.

Arthur Troilo Sr. played football at Harrison from 1947-1950. As a tough-nosed freshman he wanted to play center, and was given the number 99 for his jersey. Later on Troilo switched to playing tailback and fullback, positions in which he thrived and would go on to play in college. Though he is remembered for his football prowess in particular, Troilo Sr. was a five sport athlete in high school: along with football he also played baseball, basketball, track, and golf. In fact, according to his son Arthur Troilo Jr., one of the most memorable records that Troilo Sr. set was in track: "While competing in track, he set the school record for long jump. He held it for about 59 years until Claudio Delli Carpini broke it just a couple of years ago."

After playing throughout high school, Troilo continued his football career as a part of the Syracuse Orange. He played tailback and defense and also punted the ball; during his

sophomore year he even got to play in the Orange Bowl. He also played with Jim Brown, a member of the Football Hall of Fame.

Alongside his very successful career as a football player, Troilo also had an outstanding career as a coach at Harrison High School. As a coach, his record was 66-23-3. One of his most memorable seasons as a coach was the season of 1973. In 1973, the teachers' union went on strike just as the football season was about to begin, meaning there would be no football. Although they had already practiced for three weeks in the summer, the players' season was about to end before it even started. Luckily for them, however, one man stepped up and decided to go against the strike. That man was Arthur Troilo Sr. He took the season on despite being the only coach on the team, which some

alumni helped him to lead. The Huskies went 9-0 that season. They didn't lose a single game, even though the odds were against them even playing



Courtesy of the Troilo Family

a full season. That perfect season almost did not occur, but Troilo Sr. cared enough to take action so that the kids on that team would be able to play. He went against his union and coached football while everyone else was on strike, giving his team a season that they would remember for the rest of their lives.

Arthur Troilo Sr. was devoted to making his community better and did that through his career as a coach and athletic director at Harrison High School. Though he is mostly remembered for his amazing careers both playing and coaching football, he was not just devoted to sports. Troilo was also devoted to our country, which he protected by serving in the Navy. When asked what kind of person his father was, Arthur Troilo Jr. said, "He was a gentleman."

Sadly on September 2nd, 2013, Arthur Troilo Sr. passed away at eighty one years old. As a football player, serviceman, athletic director and father, Troilo Sr. accomplished so much in his life. He was a father not only to his kids, but to all of his players. Harrison didn't just lose a coach; it lost a father who cared so much about his community and the people in it. When asked why his father would be remembered, Arthur Troilo Jr. said, "As an athlete, he played three sports in the spring which included baseball, golf and track. People usually didn't play three sports then but he did. He wanted to compete but even as he was competing he treated everyone with respect and dignity."