THE LEWIS LEDGER

NEWSLETTER

January/February |2023 **Issue 3**

The Magic Garden

by: Imani Shivers

On January 30, we visited the Philadelphia Magic Gardens. Located on South Street, it is an indoor/outdoor multi media art environment that is completely covered with mosaics. We were taken on a tour of the work of Isaiah Zagar, and participated in activities. The Gardens took 30 years to complete.

Staff and students had lunch at McDonalds, and took photographs with the cameras used for Mrs. Foley's Art Class.

Bowling at The Big Event

by: Journalism Staff

For the months of January and February, students are able to spend Thursday afternoons at The Big Event.

Students are able to bowl, play in the arcade, and treat themselves to a special lunch.

This trip has become so popular with the students, we have almost 100% school attendance!

These Thursday events give staff and students the opportunity to get out of the classroom and have some fun during these cold winter months.

Wanted: Featured Artists and Authors

The staff of the Lewis Ledger is seeking photographers, featured journalists, artists, and reporters for our fourth issue!

Have a piece of art you want to share with the building? Or a project in one of your classes you think we would be interested in discussing? Bring your ideas to Ms. Colombi or Ms. Shivers by March 31, 2023!



The Philadelphia Auto Show

by: Madison Wooley and Alex Amiri

On February 1st, students and staff traveled to the Philadelphia Auto Show. I rode in an electric Volkswagen (my driver Jimmy was really cool) and a Jeep Renegade on an off road course. I attempted to test drive an electric Mustang, but we had to be 18 to participate.

The car I liked the most was a Toyota Supra. My uncle has one, and I have always liked it.

One feature of the car show is “Custom Alley.” This area is for people who have these amazing customized cars and put them on display. You cannot sit in them or touch them. My favorite customized car was the white Viper. The owner added matte black powder coated wheels, a duck lip carbon fiber spoiler, tinted windows, and was a twin turbo. I also loved the Whipple Supercharged Hellcat.

Celebrities also displayed cars in “Custom Alley.” Meek Mills, Lil Uzi Vert (his custom car was the coolest of all of them...it looked like it came out of a video game), and Stephen Sharer.

Staff Spotlight

Mrs. D'Alessandro

by: Jan Zayas

In January, I interviewed our Italian teacher, Mrs. D'Alessandro. She teaches Italian and French at West all morning, then comes to AHS to teach our class Italian.

Before I interviewed her, I was not aware Mrs. D'Alessandro can speak a total of five languages: English, Italian, French, Spanish,and Sicilian.

Besides living in Italy and the US, she studied at University in Quebec, Canada. When she was in middle school, her family took a tour around Europe. Some places she visited were: England, France, Switzerland, Spain , Austria, and, Lichtenstein (which I didn't even know existed!) Lichtenstein is a small kingdom located next to Germany.

Before becoming a teacher Mrs. D'Alessandro went to college at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. She did her undergraduate work on the Douglas Campus, and her Master's at the Rutgers Graduate School of Education.

Mrs. Foley

by: Sofia Colwell

When she is home, she ẇater-paints and makes things out of clay. When I asked who her favorite artist was and why, she said her Nanny (Grandma). She made cool quilts, and she showed Mrs. Foley how to quilt. She was progressive because of her higher education and work experience. Mrs. Foley is amazingly creative.

Last spring Mrs. Foley and Ms. Giordano collaborated with Perkins to bring an artist to our school. The artist workshopped with our students to learn their type of art. I asked Mrs. Foley to tell us about our next visiting artist. "It's really awesome," she answered. "She's coming next week. She does mosaics, and her name is Kathy." Ms. Kathy will assist students with creating a mosaic to go in the courtyard near room 3. There is a field trip planned with Ms. Kathy to go to The Magic Gardens on South Street in Philadelphia to see mosaics. All of the students going on the trip are super excited to attend! It was really fun interviewing Mrs. Foley.





Ms. Burkett

by: Paul Steets

I first asked Ms. Burkett what got her into the field of science. She said she was always an inquisitive child, loved doing random experiments at home, and always wants to find answers to things.

Then it got interesting....

Ms. Burkett actually taught ENGLISH! A teacher asked her if if she wanted to swap out English for science, and when Ms. Burkett asked what they were working on, the teacher told her the class was dissecting things. "I'm game! I'm in! Let's go!"

Then it got MORE interesting...

Ms. Burkett was actually studying to be a nurse! Unfortunately, she got into a REALLY bad car accident, and was laid up for three months. Because she could not do the heavy lifting required for nursing back then, she met with her Guidance Counselor to discuss other occupations, and her road to becoming a teacher began. "...It was kind of meant to be...life chose (teaching) for me."

Ms. Burkett used to have a farm with goats and chickens (but not horses!). She loves ALL animals, but if she had to pick a favorite, it would be a tie between dogs and goats.

I thought the interview was great! I am enjoyed my time talking with Ms. Burkett. Everything we talked about was basically new for me, except for the goats and the farm.

Newspaper Staff: Sofia Colwell, Paul Steets, Arkin Wilson, Jan Zayas
Contributing Writers: Madison Wooley, Alex Amiri
Newspaper Advisors: Ms. Colombi + Ms. Imani

Getting to know...Mrs. Giordano

by: Arkin Wilson

I interviewed Mrs. Giordano, the principal of AHS, for my last issue of the Lewis Ledger. I met Mrs. Giordano in her office and asked her some questions to get to know her better.

I made an appointment to sit down and talk with her on January 11, 2023.

I asked Mrs. Giordano how long she had been the principal of the Alternative HS, for almost two full school years, but actually started in February of 2021. I did now know we had "starting a new school half way through the school year" in common. When I asked Mrs. Giordano why she became a principal, she told me that she started in Cherry Hill when she was in Kindergarten through twelfth grade, then taught here after graduating from college for 10-11 years, then became a Director of Special Services. She said she spent her day planning for kids, but did not spend any time with them. (sic) "When schools closed for Covid, I would drive meals to kids in my school, and got to know kids and families, and missed working with kids and parents. Someone told me this job was open, and I would be perfect for it, so I applied. I don't think that there is a better career choice that I've ever made in my life than deciding to come here to be the principal...I absolutely love every kid here; I think they are the best kids in the district; they teach me so much...I get to interact with you and your families everyday. It really gives me a sense of pride." At this point I thought she was pretty cool, because she is devoted to the school and the kids.

Next I asked Mrs. Giordano about things happening in the building. I asked her when the new outdoor basketball courts will be ready, and she said the area had been cleared, and part of the bond referendum included repaving work. It should be done sometime in the Spring. I asked if there was anything else they were building. She is going down the hallway to renovate the classrooms at the end of the hallway. She wants to make them more like learning labs, and not traditional classrooms.

I wanted to ask Mrs. Giordano about herself, not just about her job as our principal. I really didn't know anything about her before, so I learned a lot. I learned that she went to Rutgers for college, and her current favorite subject is Phys Ed. Her favorite sports team is the Phillies, it is her favorite sport to watch and attend. Her dream vacation would be going to the Maldives in the Indian Ocean, because she wants to be surrounded by water and sea life in a hut over the water. Her favorite game is 500 Rummy, because it brings back family memories. Her favorite color is Earth green...definitely not lime green.

I learned a lot of new things about her, and it was fun to do the interview. I want to thank her for being a good principal.



Holocaust Remembrance Day

by: Mrs. Foley

We created butterflies in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27. Two students interviewed with Dr. Meloche to talk about their projects. The butterflies are in honor of the 1.5 million children killed during the holocaust. An art display full of butterflies in the Lewis Administration building is a reminder for courage, justice, remembrance, and hope.

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Super Sleuth: Word Hunt

See how many words, three letters or more, you can create using the word...

SNOWFLAKE

The Journalism Class came up with 48. Can you find more? The first student to find more than 20 words by Friday, March 24, 2023, will earn 100 PBIS POINTS! Turn in your results to Room 8!



Mrs. D'Alessandro



Holocaust Remembrance Day

Here Ye, Here Ye... The History Behind The Indian King Tavern

by: Ms. Colombi

The Indian King Tavern Museum is more than a 200-year-old facility nestled on Kings Highway — the main street in historic Haddonfield, NJ. It is New Jersey's first state-owned historic site (acquired in 1903) and it is where New Jersey completed its transition from colony to state. Here, on the second-floor meeting room, laws that revised election procedures, created township governments and set up state courts were passed. Measures imposing martial law, strengthening the militia, regulating a war economy and providing emergency support to the Continental Army were taken. All this led to the freedom and democracy we now take for granted in these United States of America.



New in the Kitchen: Breakfast Sandwiches

by: Ms. Colombi

With the new year came new additions to creations from the kitchen: made to order breakfast sandwiches! We also have French toast sticks, hash browns and hot chocolate. We still have make fresh muffins, and personal pizzas, too! And, of course, a school specialty: organic dog treats!

We want to thank all the people who work in the Lewis Administration Building for being so kind to us and buying our entrees.

Important Dates

JANUARY

- 1/1 | New Year's Day
- 1/6 | SCHOOLS CLOSED - Three Kings Day
- 1/16 | SCHOOLS CLOSED - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 01/21 I Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday
- 1/22 | Lunar New Year

FEBRUARY: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

- 02/02 I Groundhog's Day
- 02/10 I Indian King Tavern Trip
- 02/12 I SUPERBOWL (GO BIRDS)
- 2/14 | Valentine's Day
- 2/17 | SCHOOLS CLOSED - Teacher In-Service
- 2/17 | Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 2/20 | SCHOOLS CLOSED - President's Day

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