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HAUPPAUGE SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS VISIT ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY AS THEY GET A PEEK INTO THEIR COLLEGE FUTURE

On Friday, January 11th, 7th grade students took a field trip to St. John's University in Queens, New York. The purpose of the trip was to give our Middle School students a first-hand college experience and to ignite their interest in college.

This is the second year that our 7th graders have gone to visit St. John's. The entire 7th grade went on this trip and there were seven busloads of students!

The students took a tour of the campus and got to see the main buildings (library, dining hall, student center, arena & academic buildings). This year our tours were extra special because they were led by Hauppauge graduates who now attend St. John's! The students also attended a St. John's University Women's Basketball game in the Carnessecca Arena and a couple of our alumni tour guides joined them for the game. All students got to visit the campus bookstore.



Dr. Carolyn Probst, Assistant to the Superintendent for Educational Services and Student Outcomes is working to help create a college-going culture here at Hauppauge Schools by scheduling "College Awareness" trips beginning in Middle School or earlier. Dr. Probst said, "The trip to St. John's is very exciting because it serves as a great kickoff to our early college awareness efforts. Our goal for this trip is to spark students' excitement about college opportunities. For many young students, college seems distant and abstract. Visiting a campus and taking in an NCAA Division I sporting event are experiences that make the concept of college much more real."

The students had a very informative and fun trip! Please see the following page for more pictures!



"TEACHER SPOTLIGHT"

Christina DeRosa

Grade 4

Forest Brook Elementary Math Specialist



Why did you want to become a teacher?

To work with children and help them learn and grow.

Where did you go to college?

I graduated University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA.

What did you like about college?

I liked the independence, exploration, new friends and college life.

What is the best part of your job?

Playing a part in student growth.

How long have you been teaching?

Since 1990....you do the math!

Do you have any traditions or superstitions regarding the first day of school?

Everyone has first-day jitters so I like to share funny read aloud books on the first day of school. Students also enjoy activities that incorporate movement and learning about their new classmates.

What makes a good day at school for you?

A great day is when I see students take risks and grow.

What accomplishment fills you with pride so far this year?

I have completed a good amount of professional development recently so I'm pleased that I got it done.

How does technology make teaching more simple or difficult?

Technology can be very engaging and enjoyable for students. It can make math more fun if that is even possible!

If you could sit in on another teachers class for a day, who would it be and why?

I am very fortunate because I've been in Hauppauge for a good amount of time and I've worked in two of the three elementary buildings. The push-in portion of my program gives me the opportunity to visit classrooms. I am always impressed with the dynamic teaching I see and I always learn from my colleagues. I would say that mathematics lends itself well to team teaching and collaboration because there are many ways to approach a math problem and it is fun for teachers and students to share their strategies.

Is there a piece of wisdom you would pass on to your students?

Never give up! With every failure comes an opportunity for growth. When I was a college student I studied John Dewey, the Father of Education. He was the ultimate Growth Mindset thinker! He and Carol Dweck would be best friends!

If you could take your students on a field trip anywhere in the world, where would it be?

I recently went to Italy and visited some of the most amazing works of art. I double majored in Education and Italian Studies so I have a great appreciation for Italian art. The Uffizi Gallery in Florence is a must see!

What is one of your best memories of being a student?

Surprisingly, I didn't fall in love with math until high school. I had an amazing math teacher in 9th grade who inspired me and everything just clicked. Thank you Mr. Elliot Klein.

Do you have a favorite thing about your classroom?

Everyone loves my red rug. You feel like math royalty when you walk across it!

What advice would you give to new teachers?

Always remember your first practical experience and the moment you decided you wanted to become a teacher. It's about the kids.

What would students be surprised to find out about you?

Math was not always my favorite subject, so remain open because we all have undiscovered talents.

What word would describe you best when you were a student?

Hard working.

Do you have any favorite books you would recommend to students to read?

I love Jan Brett books. She is an amazing story teller and her illustrations are so intricate. I loved searching for the hedgehog on every page. Plus, I met her in Washington D.C. when I used to teach in Virginia. She is lovely and passionate about her craft.

Why did you choose Hauppauge Schools?

Hauppauge seemed like a natural fit after my demo lesson and meeting with some of the teachers and administrators. I did my demo lesson in the Pines and the children were enthusiastic and receptive. Then, I met a group of administrators who made me feel so welcome. I am glad that I returned to Long Island and found a home in Hauppauge.

Thank you, Ms. DeRosa for a wonderful interview!

THE HUMAN-ANIMAL BOND IS A WONDERFUL THING AS “THERAPY DOGS” VISIT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Hauppauge High School Social Awareness Club recently invited students to stop down at their latest event. They welcomed back the therapy dogs! Colleen Ruffini and Shannon Griffin, High School Social Workers, are the club's advisors. Ms. Ruffini said, “We bring the therapy dogs in for a visit twice a year before mid-term and final exams. The purpose of the visit is to help students and staff reduce their anxiety during some particularly stressful times of the school year. We brought in the therapy dogs for the first time last year in January and they were a HUGE hit with both students and staff. That’s why we brought them back this past June and will continue this program for the future. We’ve received a lot of positive feedback on its benefits.”

The therapy dogs are provided by PRAAT (Patchogue Rotary Assisted Animal Therapy). This is a community service project of the Patchogue Rotary Club. PRAAT was founded by veterinarian Dr. Roy Hensen with the belief in the therapeutic potential of dogs.

PRAAT screens, trains and evaluates all dog-handler teams (the volunteer and their dog). Upon successful completion



of the PRAAT dog-handler team training, teams become eligible to make visits at over 150 of their contracted and insured facilities across Long Island. With over 75 active dog-handler teams, a minimum of 120 pet therapy visits are provided each month. Their vision statement is “A world where all peoples lives are enhanced through the power of the human-animal bond.”

The dogs that came to today’s visit are Molly and Cory. Molly belongs to Harvey and Janet Gerstel. Molly started out with training as a guide dog, but transitioned over instead to be a therapy dog. Molly remains the Guide Dog Ambassador for the Guide Dog Foundation. Mr. Gerstel and his wife attend approximately 100 events each year with Molly, between the Guide Dog Foundation and PRAAT. They enjoy attending this Hauppauge event especially because they have a granddaughter in the high school.

Cory attended today with Bill from PRAAT. Cory has a wonderful temperament and enjoyed all of the affection from the students who came to see him.

The Social Awareness/SADD club is two-fold. First, Social Awareness is about addressing issues that affect our students. These could include school-wide, community, national or international issues. Ms. Ruffini said, “We seek to educate our students about issues and hold events to make an impact on them.” SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) is closely related and gets involved in events or campaigns to help encourage our students to make healthy choices socially, behaviorally and emotionally. Ms. Ruffini said, “The students have a big say in what issues they would like the club to tackle.”

Some events that Ms. Ruffini said the club has run include the following:

- Collaboration with Smithtown Youth Bureau on a few events such as 'Parents are the Key', which is a driving-safety campaign for teens as well as putting together a PSA on the negative consequences of vaping.

- Red Ribbon Campaign: The club has partnered with MADD to encourage students not to drive while under the influence or get into a car with a driver under the influence. They sign a pledge and receive a red ribbon. They have also displayed the red ribbons along Lincoln Blvd with signs explaining the campaign during the month of December.

- Participation in fundraising walks such as 'Walk Like MADD' (to support MADD) and 'March for Babies' (to support the March of Dimes foundation)

- During Safe Halloween, the club does a Teal Pumpkin project to educate the community on food allergies for children. They also provide non-candy alternatives for activities and prizes at the event.

- DUI buggies: The club has partnered with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department to educate teens on the dangers of driving (and even walking) under the influence, by providing them with 'alcohol-vision glasses' and having them navigate obstacle courses by foot and/or go-cart.



Ms. Ruffini also said that the club makes and displays signs around the school with positive mental health messages.

The staff and students were enthralled with this visit by the therapy dogs! Mrs. Ruffini said, "We can't wait to have them come back for another visit!"



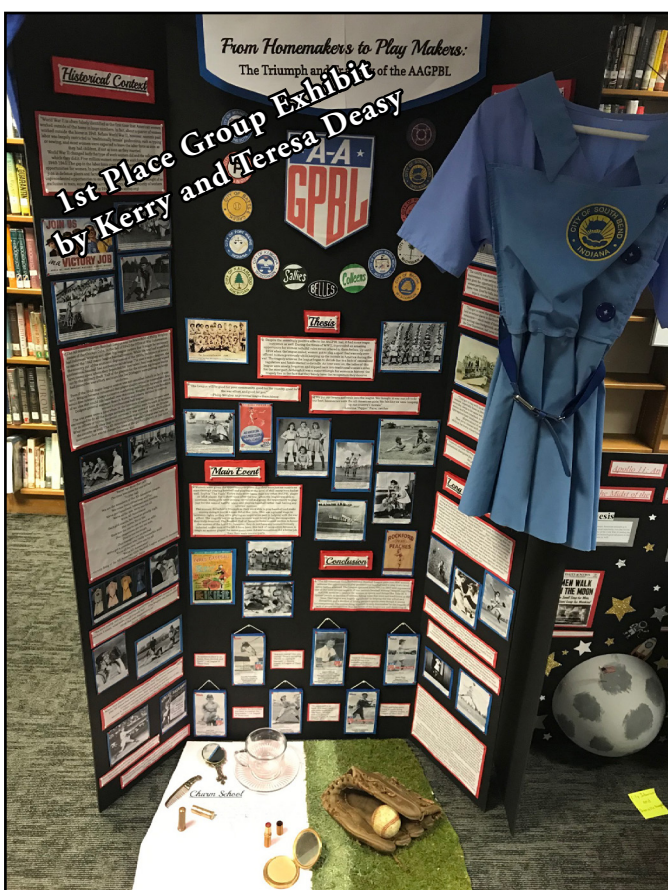
“TRAGEDY AND TRIUMPH” AT THE HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL HISTORY FAIR

Last night, Hauppauge High and Middle School held their History Fair. Students researched and created topics on the theme of Tragedy and Triumph in History. Teachers have worked with the students since September on their projects. In the high school, all students in grades 9-11 and select students in 12th grade completed this project.

The following students placed in their respective categories and in most cases the top 3 will be moving onto Long Island History Day (LIHD) at Hofstra University in March. Congratulations to all students and teachers!



High School History Fair Winners



Hauppauge High School Senior Division

Individual Exhibit

First Place: Emma Claps, “The Newsboys of 1899: The Tragedy to Triumph on the Streets of New York”, E. Robbins

Second Place: Keith Bauer “The Berlin Wall-Victory of Freedom vs. Oppression,” E. Robbins

Third Place: Amanda Epstein, “Triumph and Tragedy at the Top of the World - Disaster on Everest 1996,” A. Aiello

Honorable Mention: Erin Gutzeit, “Jane Goodall: Triumph and Tragedy Surrounding the Chimpanzees I Love,” A. DiTroia

Bayden Bruck, “D-Day: Turning the Tide of WWII,” L. McManus

Amber Rudden, “The Polio Disease.” J. Procaccini and S. Richard

Group Exhibit

First Place: Kerry Deasy and Teresa Deasy, “From Homemakers to Play Makers: The Triumph and Tragedy of the AAGPBL,” F. Cono and D.Reiff

Second Place: Dale Console and Grace Murphy, “The Terrorist Attacks of 9/11: Tragedy and Triumph,” A. DiTroia

Individual Documentary

First Place: Lucas Cavanagh, "Ryan White: The Tragic Life of an AIDS Patient," https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_51mphkUIU&feature=youtu.be, H. Shehigian

Second Place: Emma Thaler, "GMO: It's What For Dinner?" E. Robbins

Third Place: Aidan Ilnitzki, "The Triumph and Tragedy of Rap Music in America," A. Stebbins

Group Documentary – Not going to LIHD

First Place: L.J. Romito, Jamie Devine, and Ava Kimmerer, "A Baseball Legend We Lost Too Soon," A. Zimmerman

Historical Paper

First Place: Emma Vasilakopoulos, "Engendering Progress: How the Rwandan Genocide Furthered Women's Rights," F. Cono

Second Place: Caroline Fortmeyer, "Triumph in the Wake of Tragedy: The Work of the Love Canal Homeowners Association in the Face of an Environmental Disaster and Government Incompetence," E. Robbins

Third Place: Emily Kelly, "Tragedy of the Six Day War: Disaster Unleashed in the Middle East," F. Cono

Honorable Mention: Vivian Chen, "Triumph and Tragedy: The Great Fire of London of 1666," F. Cono
Chiara Henselder, "Helen Keller's Tragedy of Losing her Hearing and Vision and Triumph of overcoming her Disabilities," S. Lasurdo

Nicole Petrocelli, "Joseph Stalin's Tragic Purge of the Soviet Union," F. Cono

Individual Website

First Place: Danielle Liu, "The HIV-AIDS Crisis in Sub-Saharan Africa," <http://76828347.nhd.weebly.com/>, F. Cono

Second Place: Kyla Drum, "Visit Beautiful Love Canal" F. Cono, <http://73431074.nhd.weebly.com>, E. Robbins

Third Place: Melody Zhu, "Cold War on Ice: The Hockey Game that brought Democracy and Communism to a Head," <http://61073507.nhd.weebly.com/>, S. Lasurdo

Honorable Mention: Melody Cheng, "The Rise of Machine and the Fall of Man: Alan Turing and the Enigma," <http://48225506.nhd.weebly.com/>, F. Cono

Varsha Saravanan, "Joan of Arc: A Peasant girl destined to be a spiritual visionary and martyr," <http://47226343.nhd.weebly.com/>, S. Lasurdo

Liam Maggio, "Bobby Sands and the Northern Ireland Hunger Strikem," <http://82114710.nhd.weebly.com/>, A. Aiello

Skylar Sattanino, "Triumph and Tragedy of the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain," <http://78797738.nhd.weebly.com/>, S. Richard

Group Website

First Place: Alex Vasilakopoulos and Jalaj Mehta, "The Price of HeLa's Immortality: Ethics vs. Knowledge" <http://46107750.nhd.weebly.com/>, F. Cono

Second Place: Chloe Shea & Elyse Ostrove "Alan Turing's Triumph & Tragedy" <http://19743200.nhd.weebly.com> E. Robbins

Third Place: Aaryan Chandra and Pritham Katla "Achievement Through Tribulation" <http://48225506.nhd.weebly.com/>, F. Cono

Group Performance

First Place: Rose Reece, Peter Proscia, Katie Dolce, Michael Seda, Vincent Gerardi "Behind the Scenes of Beauty: The Triumph & Tragedy of Audrey Munson," E. Robbins, A. DiTroia, and F. Cono

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS EARN THEIR WAY INTO “RHO KAPPA” THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

Last night, Hauppauge High School inducted their first group of students into Rho Kappa. Rho Kappa is the National Honor Society for Social Studies. These students not only had excellent grades in social studies and on the Global History and Geography Regents but, they also exhibited community service.

Doreen Gordon, Director of Social Studies and Business, and Ellen Robbins, high school Social Studies teacher, are the advisors for Rho Kappa. Eligible students have earned minimum grades of 87 in AP World History I and II or 92 in Global History I and II and achieved mastery on the NYS Global History and Geography Regents.

The name Rho Kappa symbolizes the belief that knowledge without service is useless. The basic principles of Rho Kappa include:

Truth - The idea of truth which is untarnished by prejudice or bias. It is the search that leads to greater understanding of the world and humanities place in it.

Knowledge - You have the distinction of being one who seeks knowledge in your youth and you are, therefore, building upon your understanding of the past in order to create a future of your own and that of the world in which we live.

Wisdom - It is the tool we use to discern what is true and how to value that truth.

Service - True civic engagement in school or community service lies not within what you do but why you do it.

HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL RHO KAPPA INDUCTEES

Kaitlyn Abtey	Ivona Cracana	Jade Kirdahy	Peter Proscia
Keith Bauer	Grace Daddio	Jessica Krause	Rose Recce
Andrew Bryan	Brandon Diaz	Haylee Lanfranco	Catherine Sheridan
Sean Budke	Anthony DiBartolo	Devin Lopez	Jessica Spiers
Molly Cain	Kyla Drum	Jake Mooney	Michael Steinberg
Devin Capece	Sophie Epstein	Sai Munagavalasa	Ryan Steinhart
Danielle Cipri	Kieran Fine	Matthew Oliver	Michael Tyrrell
Emma Claps	Caroline Fortmeyer	Daniel Panaro	Lucia Vilchez
Benjamin Coiro	Steven Jensen	Allison Piritsch	Tyler Xu



Doreen Gordon said, “The Social Studies Department is proud of their accomplishments!”

VARSITY GIRLS TRACK TEAM IMPRESSES AT LEAGUE 4 RELAY MEET

The Varsity Girls Track Team had their "League 4 Relay Meet" last week at Suffolk County Community College. The 4 x 800 and 4 x 400 Relay Teams of Abby Clarke, Teresa Gatti, Rebecca Clackett and Shannon Moleti took first and second place.

Julia Abbate and Amarys John won the Long Jump Relay while Emalie Pennant and Alanna Berkel took second in the Shot Put Relay.

Ciara Johnson and Amanda Fisch took third place in the 1500 meter Racewalk Relay and Lily O'Brien ran an outstanding 800 meter race.

Congratulations to the entire Varsity Girls Track Team!

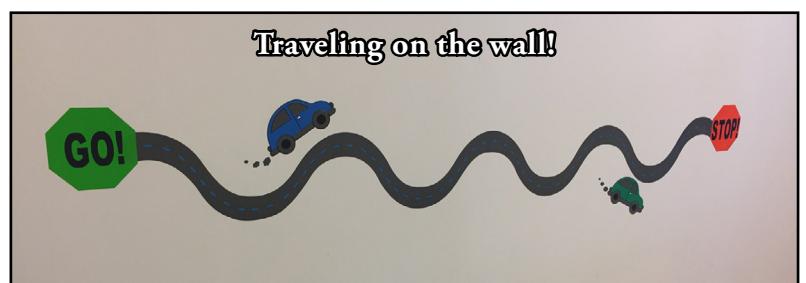


FOREST BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INCORPORATES A UNIQUE LEARNING TOOL

Forest Brook Elementary School recently incorporated a very unique learning tool in their building. This is their new sensory path!

The purpose of the sensory path is to provide a break for students and to allow them to complete a series of movements in order to allow the body and brain to refocus.

Staff and students are very happy with this new addition to Forest Brook Elementary and are sure to make good use of it in order to help students learn better.



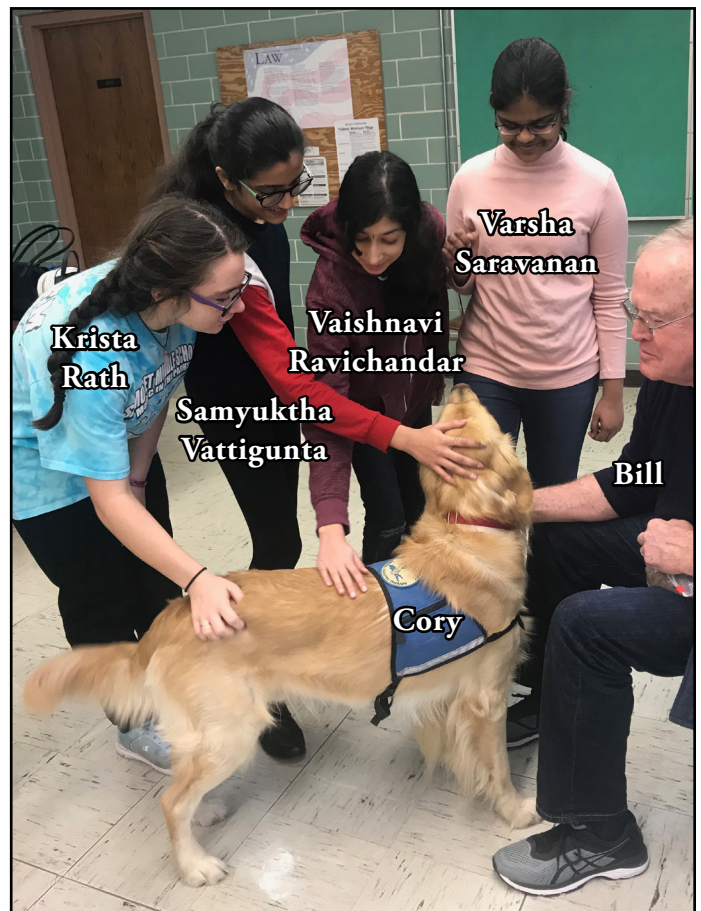
HAUPPAUGE VARSITY WRESTLERS ADVANCE TO THE SECTION XI DUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SEMIS

Congratulations to the Hauppauge Wrestling Team on their thrilling 40-39 win over Lindenhurst Wednesday night! Hauppauge Wrestlers now advance to the Section XI Dual Championship Semis at Bay Shore this Saturday, January 19th at 12 noon. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets online. GO EAGLES!

Also, this past weekend the Hauppauge Wrestling Team competed in the Annual Eastern States Wrestling Tournament. With 174 teams competing, Hauppauge placed in the top ten with five wrestlers competing. Danny Mauriello placed second at 152 lbs and Luke Smith placed fourth at 113 lbs. Andrew Maiorini, Chris Boudreau and Mike Tyrrell were one win away from placing in the tournament.

Contratulations also to Freshman Julia Mullane on becoming the first girl to win a junior varsity Wrestling Tournament in Hauppauge School History! Julia won three matches at 120 lbs in the Long Island Lutheran Sorensen Wrestling Tournament! Congratulations to all our Wrestlers!

WE CAN'T RESIST! JUST A FEW MORE PHOTOS WITH OUR STUDENTS AND THE DOGS!



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