

Horizons

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow

Volume 5, Issue 24 - February 17, 2023

CLASS OF 2023 VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN, AND 100.0+ GPA STUDENTS ARE ANNOUNCED

High School Principal, Joseph Wieckhorst, is proud to announce the Class of 2023 Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and those students who maintained a 100.0+ GPA through Quarter 2 of this year.

Valedictorian

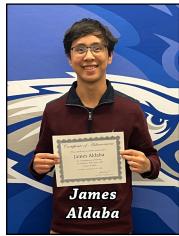


Salutatorian





Class of 2023 100.0+ GPA Students































Class of 2023 Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and 100.0+ GPA Students



Connor Leddy, Valedictorian, and Kaitlin Stephens, Salutatorian, are pictured with the 100.0+ GPA Students and Dr. Donald Murphy, Superintendent; Joseph Wieckhorst, High School Principal; Brigid Siena, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations; Dr. Christopher Smalley, Executive Administrator of Information Technology and Security Initiatives; Kristy Pagliari, Assistant Principal; Joseph Tasman, Deputy Superintendent; Gary Campanelli, Director of Guidance; Andrea Darbee, Assistant Principal

Valedictorian - Connor Leddy Salutatorian - Kaitlin Stephens

100.0+ GPA Students are:

James Aldaba Ryan Capece Karli Connolly Sarah Douglass Anthony Economico Amanda Forgione Nairah Fraser Navya Gautam

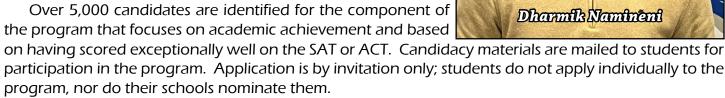
Viraaj Hegde Keertana Madhira Dharmik Namineni Leanna Sheridan Riya Takhar Roop Takhar Emily Wolmetz

National Merit Certificate of Merit - Ryan Capece, Keertana Madhira, Dharmik Namineni U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Candidate - Dharmik Namineni

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR IS SELECTED AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE "UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM"

Congratulations to high school senior, Dharmik Namineni! Dharmik has been selected as a candidate for the "United States Presidential Scholars Program." This program was established in 1964, by Executive Order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our Nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors.

Each year, up to 161 students are named U.S. Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. The Scholars represent excellence in education and the promise of greatness in young people. In honoring U.S. Presidential Scholars, the President of the United States symbolically honors all graduating high school seniors of high potential.



To confirm their interest and assist in the selection process, all candidates complete and submit candidacy materials for review, including essays, self-assessments, secondary school reports and transcripts. A review committee of qualified individuals experienced in secondary and post-secondary education evaluates candidates on their academic achievement, personal characteristics, leadership and service activities, and the quality and content of their essay.

Approximately 600 candidates are named semifinalists, and their names and supporting materials are forwarded to the Commission for further review.

In April, the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars reviews the applications of all semi-finalists, applying the same criteria used by the review committee. The Commission selects up to 161 U.S. Presidential Scholars each year. They are honored for their accomplishments during the National Recognition Program each June and to commemorate their achievement, the Scholars are awarded the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

Congratulations to Dharmik Namineni on being chosen as a semifinalist. We wish him the best as he proceeds in this process.



HONOR ROLL STUDENTS AT EASTERN LONG ISLAND ACADEMY OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY - GARY D. BIXHORN TECHNICAL CENTER ARE ANNOUNCED

Nicole Zergebel, Principal of the Gary D. Bixhorn Technical Center, is pleased to announce that the following students have achieved Honor Roll status:

Todd Cappa - Plumbing and Heating
Deanna Carlino - Animal Science
Julianna Ferrara - Professional Photo/Digital Imaging
Kelsey Hawkins - Dental Chairside Assisting
Emily O'Leary - Law Enforcement 2
Elizabeth O'Leary - Law Enforcement 2
Madison Wurtz - Professional Photo/Digital Imaging

Principal Zergebel said the following about students attaining Honor Roll: "Honor Roll is one of the most significant awards that a student can receive, and defins a student who pays attention in class, takes relevant notes, reviews assignments before submission and engages in improvement, communicates with teachers, has disciplined work habits, creates an assessment calendar in order to plan for and set aside time for studying, maintains a positive attitude and puts forth solid effort each day."

These Honor Roll students have maintained a quarterly average of ninety or above with fewer than five absences.

We congratulate these students on their hard work and success and look forward to celebrating their future accomplishments throughout the school year.



MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY

By: Courtney Autino
Middle School English Teacher

This week, students at the middle school participated in "Black History Week" in their advisory classes. Teachers Stacey Louis and Melissa McParland brought HMS students together to create educational content for their peers. During each day of advisory, students learned about Black history by watching videos that featured their fellow classmates. After watching these videos, students participated in important conversations and engaging activities about Black history.

The week kicked off with students speaking about the importance of celebrating Black history. Yashvi Shah explained, "The contributions of every culture are important to our country. Black history is our history and needs to be acknowledged and celebrated." This video also featured Skyler Fernandez speaking about the life of Medgar Evers, and Dakota Eleazer-Daniels introducing another video about Beyoncé Knowles.



Tuesday's message was one of unity. Star Stewart explained the importance of continuing our school's work with "P.S. I Love You Week" by spreading "love and not hate as a school." Elle Mallenbranche reminded her classmates that "we can practice kindness everywhere we go." This video ended with Corina Mazzuca discussing the day's spotlight on Alicia Keys and introducing further content about Michelle Obama.



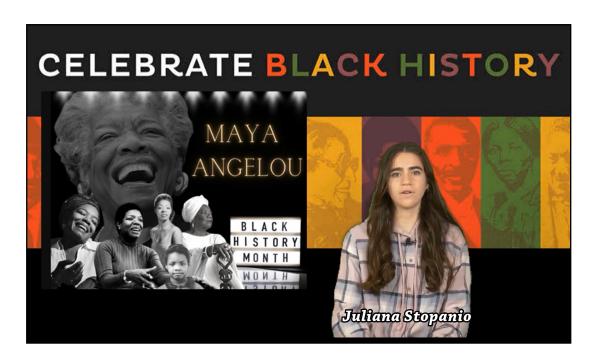


Middle School - Celebrating Black History

The celebration continued on Wednesday's "Crafty Craft Day." Students were given the silhouettes of famous Black athletes and artists of the era. These images were paired with inspiring quotes, which students decorated for display. Ailani Pierre explained the directions for the craft in her video message, and Jeniah Jeffrey went on to discuss Dwane Johnson and Kobe Bryant. Additionally, Augustina Rech spoke about Tyler Perry and the day's spotlight figure, Ruth Carter.



Juliana Stopanio and Kalealani Holmes took the reins on Thursday with their piece for "Maya Angelou Day." Inspiration was provided by Holmes who recited one of Maya Angelou's most well known quotes: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."



Middle School - Celebrating Black History

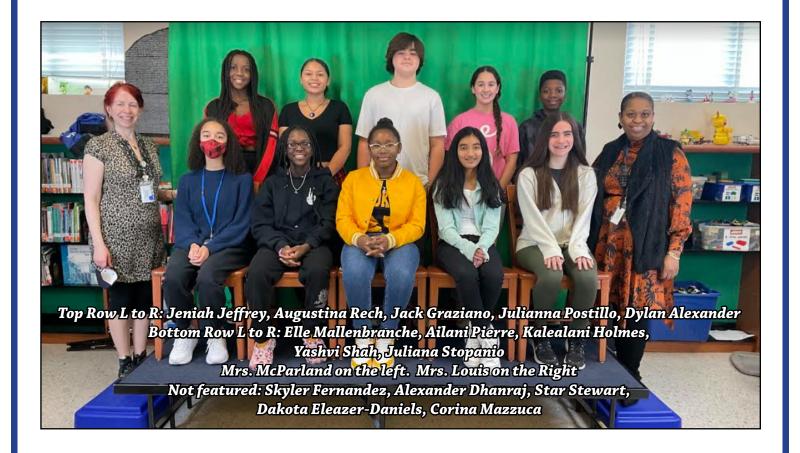
The week culminated in a "choose your own adventure" activity, which was introduced by Alexander Dhanraj and Julianna Postilio. They directed students to links that they could follow to learn about famous African American athletes. Jack Graziano then provided the voiceover work for the final spotlight of the week on NBA star Steph Curry.





Recognition is in order for Mrs. Louis and Mrs. McParland for bringing these lessons to our middle schoolers. We thank you for your work in writing scripts, filming students, editing film, and creating follow up activities. Mrs. McParland reflected on her role as "a wonderful experience." She explained, "Students were able to express themselves... I feel like it gave them an opportunity to contribute to our HMS school culture in a positive new way." Mrs. Louis echoed her sentiments in saying, "Overall, this experience was phenomenal! I truly enjoyed working with the students and watching them blossom in front of the camera. They were happy to learn and share the information we showcased on each of the videos."

Thank you to all who participated in bringing this important work to our advisories!



HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR IS A WINNER ON THE ICE

High school senior, Jenna Marino, is a figure skating champion after winning first place recently at the Empire State Winter Games! That competition was held in Lake Placid and she took first place in the Senior Women's Excel Level.

Jenna started skating at The Rinx Preschool at the age of four. She has been competing for ten years and skates for The Skating Club of New York out of the Clark Gillies Arena in Dix Hills. She is a United States Figure Skating Association (USFSA) double-gold medalist. Jenna coaches young skaters at Superior Ice Rink and is looking forward to continuing her skating career after graduation at college.

Here are some beautiful photos of Jenna at the Empire State Games!











BOYS VARSITY SWIMMING AND DIVING TEAM FINISHES THEIR TREMENDOUS SEASON

The Smithtown-Hauppauge Boys' Varsity Swimming & Diving team finished their League 1 season 6-1. On February 1st, they won the League 1 Tournament by defeating Connetquot-East Islip in an epic battle with Connetquot-East Islip 325-307.5. This was Hauppauge's 8th League Championship in the last 11 years. Smithtown-Hauppauge won 6 of the 12 events. Pacing their way to victory was Colin Buscarino who won Diving and Noah Hutzler who took points in the 200 yard Individual Medley and the 100 yard backstroke. Noah also swam in the 2nd place 400 Freestyle Relay.

On February 9th, junior Colin Buscarino won the 2023 Suffolk County Diving Championships with a score of 455.15. This qualified Colin for the NYSPHSAA Swimming & Diving Championships at Ithaca College on March 3-4. Colin and the other 3 Smithtown-Hauppauge divers captured 61 points for the team prior to the start of swimming on February 11th. Smithtown-Hauppauge captured the team championship. It was the 1st Suffolk County Championship for both Smithtown and Hauppauge in boys swimming individually and as a combined team.

The boys joined the girls Hauppauge-Smithtown swim team as Suffolk County Champions in the same academic year! Congratulations again boys on a fine season.

Freshman Noah Hutzler, took 7th in the 200 yard Individual Medley with a time of 2:07.43 and took 9th in the 100 yard backstroke with a time of 55.35. Both will compete at Ithaca College in the NYSPHSAA Swimming & Diving Championships on March 3-4. Congratulations to both Colin and Noah and good luck at states!









CHESS CLUB! CHESS CLUB! CHESS CLUB!: MIDDLE SCHOOLERS MAKE THEIR MARK

The Suffolk County High School Chess Tournament took place on Saturday, February 11, 2023. The tournament is the culminating event of the chess season. The following high schools participated in the tournament: Hauppauge, Half Hollow Hills East, Half Hollow Hills West, Sachem East, The Stony Brook School, Northport, and Bayshore.

What is most notable from the middle school perspective is the middle school students who participate on the Varsity Chess Team at the high school. Each week, Jace Cardamone, Harry Gang and Olalekan Ogunsakin, all in eighth grade, cross the street to attend the High School Chess Club with High School teacher and advisor, Mr. Reiff. Not only do these boys practice their moves at weekly chess club meetings, but also are always found sitting behind a chess board during lunch. Jace Cardamone says: "It's fun and it's great brain exercise." While Olalekan Ogunsakin stated: "Chess teaches you problem solving skills."

Olalekan Ogunsakin won top score for the regular season, with 4 wins and 1 draw. He also won the tournament, winning all five of his matches. The Stony Brook School won the team prize for the regular season and tournament. Although Hauppauge chess didn't capture the title this year, the future for the Hauppauge Eagle Chess Team is bright with such a young core of talented players still not yet in high school. Congratulations to Hauppauge Chess and our middle school students who are proving they've got moves! Go Eagles!







BRETTON WOODS FIRST-GRADERS CELEBRATE THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

Bretton Woods first-graders were so excited to celebrate the 100th day of school! They dressed up as if they were 100 years old and participated in fun learning activities. Happy 100 days of school!

Here are some fun photos of the fun! Thank you, Denise Murphy, for the photos!















Bretton Woods - 100 Days of School

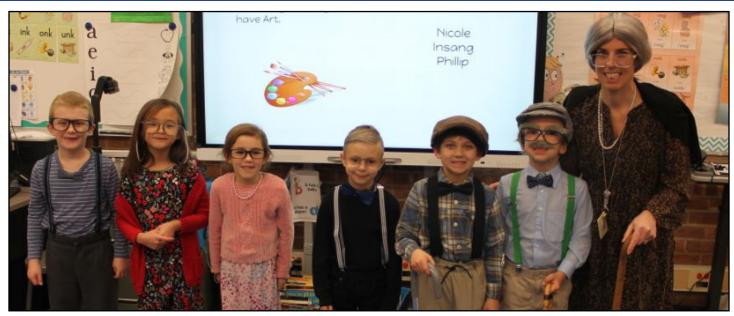








Bretton Woods - 100 Days of School







FOREST BROOK FIRST-GRADERS CELEBRATE THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

Here are some photos of our Forest Brook first-graders celebrating their 100th day of school.



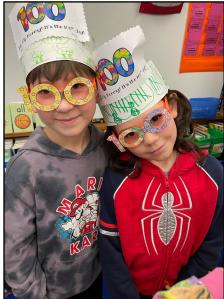






Forest Brook - 100 Days of School

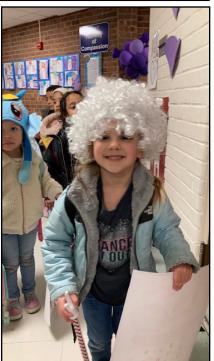


















PINES KINDERGARTNERS CELEBRATE THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

On Thursday, February 9th, many centurions were seen in the kindergarten classrooms at Pines Elementary School. Pines kindergarten students celebrated the 100th day of school by dressing up as 100 year old people and partaking in activities such as stringing 100 beads, and making 100 gumballs in a gumball machine using Dot Markers. Students also counted by 1's, 5's and 10's to 100 and filled in "I am 100 days smarter because I can...". Books were read such as Jake's 100th Day of School and 100th Day Worries. In 100 seconds students counted how many times they could hop on one foot, clap their hands and write their name.

Enjoy these adorable photos of our students!











Pines - 100 Days of School













HAUPPAUGE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE "P.S. I LOVE YOU DAY

All of our District schools celebrated "P.S. I Love You Day" on Friday, February 10th. This year's theme was "Love All Your Chapters." This theme reminds us that "each moment in life creates our story. Cherish each moment because these moments are what makes you stronger. Always remember: the next chapter is blank. You have the power to make it YOURS."

"P.S. I Love You Day" is held every second Friday of February and everyone is asked to wear purple to stand up against bullying, help end depression, and ultimately prevent suicide. The hope is to spread positive messages that make you feel special, loved, and remind you that you are never alone.

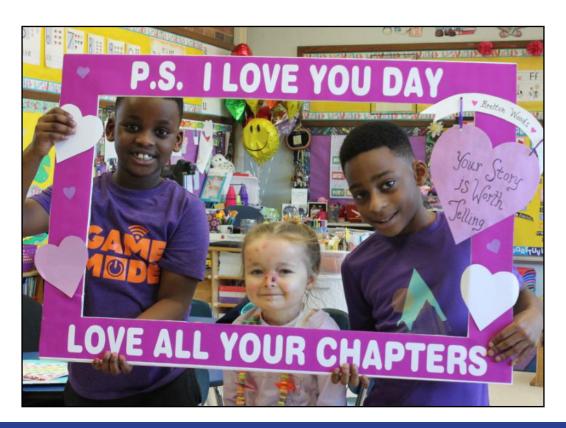
"PS I Love You Day" began twelve years ago in nearby West Islip. It was started by student, Brook DiPalma. Here is her story:

On April 23rd, 2010, just one week after her fourteenth birthday, the DiPalma family experienced a tragedy. On that beautiful Friday morning, Brooke was dropped off at middle school by her father, Joseph DiPalma. Joey was a man who was always smiling, laughing, and was very involved in the community. On her way out of the car, her father said, "I Love You" and she said, "I Love You" back. Little did she know, only hours later, she would be taken out of school and told that her father died by suicide. Brought home to a scene nobody should ever see, she felt let down, lost, and unsure of where to turn.

Just one month and a day before the DiPalma family lost the glue that bonded their family, West Islip lost a high school senior to suicide also. Both these suicides brought the town together and made each person realize just how truly precious life is. However, "Tragedy should not be the force for togetherness; Togetherness should be the force that ends tragedies."

Seven months later, as Brooke was thinking about what she had faced, she remembered the last three words her father said to her, "I Love You." Brooke took those three words and with the help of her high school's class club and family, she created "P.S. I Love You Day."

Here are some photos from the schools in our District as they participated in this special day. As the theme said: "Always remember the next chapter is blank. You have the power to make it YOURS."



Bretton Woods - P.S. I Love You Day





















Bretton Woods - P.S. I Love You Day











Bretton Woods - P.S. I Love You Day











High School - P.S. I Love You Day











Forest Brook - P.S. I Love You Day





























PINES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES P.S. I LOVE YOU WEEK IN A BIG WAY!

By: Dr. Claudine Di Muzio Principal

Our celebration of P.S. I Love You Day started last week, when Ms. Blunt, grade four co-teacher, organized spelling out "PS I LOVE YOU" on the fence in front of the school. A wonderful display was created with the efforts of her helpers: Jack Riccio, Donna Moran, Mary Lewkovich, Mike Preite, Kristin Simone, Josephine Kunzig, and Cristina Barbieri. Their hard work and determination to finish faster than the falling temperatures was GREATLY appreciated!!!

Mrs. Aimee Barshay and Mrs. Carmela Quinn were instrumental in carrying this theme into our hallways with beautiful purple P.S. I Love You displays, which included numerous purple balloons, original artwork, P.S. I Love You flags all along each hallways (Thanks Mr. Burke!) and student artwork that contained messages of kindness and love. Our hallways were truly a sight to behold!!



The following week, we officially launched our celebration of P.S. I Love You Day through a week of building-based activities and celebrations. The purpose of this day was to share positive messages throughout our school community that made us feel special, loved, and remind everyone that we are never alone. As educators we collaborated with the founders of this day to bring awareness to the importance of mental health and decrease bullying. We strongly believe that by educating students earlier about mental health, the conversation will be easier to discuss and students will be able to recognize when they or others around them need help.

All classes kicked off this week by reading aloud Peace, Bugs, and Understanding, by Gail Silver, our February Book of the Month. We supported Healthcare Heroes by having students make Valentine's Day cards with special messages that say "Hauppauge Hearts Healthcare Heroes."

On Wednesday, our very own Brielle Dougherty, a second grade student from Ms. Mann's class shared a video that she created with our entire school community to inspire kindness throughout our school. Brielle's dancing and singing truly were an inspiration of kindness and hope for all of our Pines community.

On Thursday, all students and staff members received a special collection of mementos that conveyed the messages that they are special, loved, and remind us all to Love All of Your Chapters! Thank you to our Pines PTA for all of their support with these purchases and to Mrs. Downs and Ms. Dorman for their support in turning these items into beautiful packages of love for our school community.

Mrs. Bernstein collaborated with Brooke DiPalma, the co-founder of P.S. I Love You Day, to arrange a visit with our students in grades three, four, and five. Brooke shared her messages connected to the importance of sharing everyday kindnesses with the people in our lives, as well as ways to connect with others that communicates to them how important they are to you. A big thank you to both ladies for making this happen for our students!!

On Friday, P.S. I Love You Day, all students and staff were encouraged to wear purple to support mental health awareness month. Each student received a kindness gram from his/her classroom teacher describing why she loves each student. Students were able to wear their kindness grams and bring them home as a special keepsake.

"As I reflect back on this past week, and all of the many generous people who volunteered their time and support, I am so grateful to work in a school community that embodies the values of teamwork, kindness, and creativity. Witnessing these tremendous acts makes me extremely #PinesProud!!" Dr. DiMuzio emphatically stated.

Pines - P.S. I Love You Day

















Pines - P.S. I Love You Day













Pines - P.S. I Love You Day













BRETTON WOODS STUDENTS CELEBRATE "RESPECT FOR ALL WEEK"

From February 6th through 10th, Bretton Woods students celebrated "Respect for All Week" which fosters a school-wide environment of respect, responsibility and compassion through heightened awareness of how individual actions, thoughts and behaviors not only affect oneself, but others. During this week, students also participated in "P.S. I Love You Day" on Friday, February 10th.

During the week, some of the activities were:

<u>Monday</u> - "Your Story is Worth Telling" - Students were asked to put messages on a book dis play in the hall.

<u>Tuesday</u> - A Performance By the "Great & Powerful Dave" who took students on a hunt, not for treasure, but for the treasure of good character, emphasizing persistence, respect, respon sibility, trustworthiness, kindness, and good citizenship.

<u>Wednesday</u> - Teachers shared with students the book "A Friend Like You" which celebrates all the marvelous ways to be a good friend.

<u>Thursday</u> - "I Can. You Can. Be a Good Friend!" - Students and staff were asked to bring in canned food donations to help a local food pantry.

Friday - "P.S. I Love You Day"

Here are some photos from the events of the week.







Bretton Woods - "Respect for All Week"







Bretton Woods - "Respect for All Week"















Bretton Woods - "Respect for All Week"







HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STAFF ENJOY VALENTINES DAY

Our high school students and staff enjoyed a heart-filled Valentines Day! Here are some photos of the great day they had!













Valentines Day at the High School







Valentines Day at the High School















Valentines Day at the High School















FOREST BROOK KINDERGARTENERS CELEBRATE VALENTINES DAY WITH A VALENTINE BALL

On February 14th, Valentine's Day, Forest Brook's Kindergarten celebrated their Valentine Ball. They performed songs for their parents and then danced the waltz with partners. They also had the opportunity to dance the waltz with their own special parent valentines. The students did an amazing job! Mrs. Kelly, Ms. Kessler, Dr. Vogel, and Mrs. Fiorini are so proud! Thank you Frank Bayer for the beautiful photos!











Forest Brook Valentine Ball











MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM VS. CANDLEWOOD

The Middle School Boys Volleyball Team recently played a match with Candlewood Middle School. Here are some photos of the boys in action! Thank you to Frank Bayer of Frank Bayer Photography for sharing these photos with us!











Middle School Boys Volleyball









HAUPPAUGE WRESTLERS HAVE GREAT SHOWING AT SUFFOLK COUNTY WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Hauppauge Wrestling Team recently competed in the Suffolk County Wrestling Championships at Stony Brook University. Although only entering five wrestlers, the Eagles stepped up and finished with two Champions and one runner-up in the tournament.

Hauppauge had the most wrestlers in the finals for the tournament. In addition the team finished in 6th place overall. Sophomore Connor Sheridan at 102lbs, and Senior Frankie Volpe, 152lbs, both won their weight classes. Sophomore Gino Manta placed second at 102lbs to Sheridan. Jason Difrietus, Sophomore, at 110lbs, won two matches getting to the quarterfinals before losing. The last wrestler who qualified was Matt West at 160lbs.

Hauppauge will be sending three wrestlers to the NYS Tournament in two weeks. We wish them the best of luck in this competition! GO EAGLES!





Clothing Drive FUNDRAISER



ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT



Drop off

Saturday, March 18th 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Hauppauge HS
500 Lincoln Blvd., Hauppauge, 11788
(back of building/security office)
*Not affiliated or endorsed by Hauppauge School District

All new and gently used clothing, shoes, jackets, hats, handbags, etc., are accepted.



@gogreenclothingrecycling_l.i

For earlier pickup/delivery, please contact Sandy 516-314-7301





Hauppauge Strong Islanders Raffle! Saturday March 25th 5:00 pm at UBS Arena

NY ISLANDERS VS BUFFALO SABERS





2 Seats in Section 112... Islanders Shoot 2x!

\$10 per raffle or 3 for \$25

*All proceeds

in venmo memo *Winner drawn March 19th

*Please include name, phone & email

Collette Marchese @Collette-Marchese



venmo

Not endorsed by or affliated with the Hauppauge School District

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donated to

Leukemia &

Lymphoma Society

Spirit Night

Monday, February 20, 2023 5:00pm - 8:00pm



Join us for food and fun. Come support Leukemia and Lymphoma society's "Student Visionaries of the Year Campaign" and 20% of tonight's sales will be donated accordingly.

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