



Volume 54 Edition I

The Harbor View

Cold Spring Harbor High School

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Meet our new teachers
Senior prank questions
Card-playing ban
Fall film preview

October 5th, 2015



Varsity Football players practicing on the turf.

Varsity Football Ready for Fall Challenges

by: Devin Burdo

One year ago we were the 13th seed. One year ago no one expected anything out of us. One year ago a group of uncommon guys came together to shock the world.

With the new 'Power Points' system instated last year, no one thought it would be possible for Cold Spring Harbor to make the playoffs. Although our campaign ended earlier than we would have liked, we achieved one of our goals, making the playoffs.

Returning Head Coach Ben Zuk emphasizes the expectations of the team for the upcoming season, "After being the 13th seed a year ago, the challenges faced as the 5th seed for this year's varsity football team are many. The relatively small squad will need to come together and live the cliché that 'football is the ultimate team sport.'"

"The small numbers demand that each

member be ready to pick up the rope and contribute to working towards the team's aspirations. We may not be able to promise you wins but we can promise we will leave a piece of ourselves on the field at the end of every competition, as we do our best to represent the Cold Spring Harbor School community."

We are not last year's team, but we are more than up for the challenges that come with being the 5 seed. For the average student, once school ends it is time to sit back, relax, and enjoy their summer. Football players are far from the average students. While everyone is away on vacation we are in the weight room, flipping tires, and running the hill 3 days a week, every week. This is where the core of our brotherhood is formed.

We are pushed to our limits both mentally and physically. A 45 minute workout followed by flipping tires and run-

ning up the main hill is absolutely draining. This same work out also allows kids to work harder and "dig deeper" than they ever thought they could.

Fellow Senior Captain Michael Visconti describes what football means to him, "Football is more than just running around and hitting people. It's staying disciplined when you're tired, it's forming a brotherhood amongst your teammates, but most importantly, it's putting aside your differences to come together and work towards achieving a common goal."

This common goal that Michael speaks of is something we work toward achieving with every ounce of effort we put into football. Senior Alex Kaley, a 2015 Captain and Long Island Player to watch, has put in more effort to reach that goal than any other individual on Long Island. As a humble kid, he lets his work speak for itself. Alex Kaley is the epitome

of an athlete. Playing next to him is an experience that many unfortunately do not have, but rest assured when you ask him to do something, he does it.

When asked if he was ready for the challenges that come along with being the 5 seed, Senior Captain Joe Marasciullo said, "This football season will be the hardest, most competitive, and most epic football season in recent years." If that doesn't get you excited, I don't know what will.

I firmly believe that if we didn't have so

many one sport athletes in the school, we would be a Long Island Championship caliber football team. Some names of great football players to come through our school are Adam Ghitelman and the Peyser brothers, although you may know them from other sports.

John Harbaugh said, "Have you ever met anybody who accomplished playing four years of high school football, and at the end of that run said, 'Man, I wish I wouldn't have played'? It doesn't get said."

Testing Days Change

by: Olivia Genovese

In order to assist students in balancing their workload, faculty members have been asked to follow a general guideline that assigns each department specific testing days on which they may administer full-period examinations. In past years, each department has been assigned a specific day of the week as their "testing day". However, within the past few years, extreme weather and other unexpected events have caused unscheduled cancellations of classes. That, along with the occasional mid-week observance, has resulted in a testing schedule change.

Now, instead of using individual testing days that correspond with days of the week, teachers are being asked to administer tests on the day assigned to their department based on a rotating six-day cycle. The new testing days will correspond with the previously existing six-day cycle being used for scheduling. This new schedule was developed in hopes that it would prevent the overlapping of tests by offering administrators more options of days to schedule tests on and by post-

poning tests missed due to unscheduled cancellations to a time closer to the originally planned date.

If the school is closed for any unscheduled event, such as extreme weather, day codes will be pushed forward to accommodate for however many days are missed. For example, there may be a week when Monday is Day 1, Tuesday is Day 2, and Wednesday is Day 3. If classes were to be cancelled on Tuesday, Day 2 would be moved to Wednesday, and Day 3 would be moved to Thursday.

With the new schedule change, English may test on days 3 and 6. Health may test on days 2 and 5. Math may test on days 2 and 5. Science may test on days 1, 3, 4, and 6. Social Studies may test on days 2 and 5. World Language may test on days 1 and 4. Art and Music may test on odd days, while FACS, Tech, and Physical Education may test on even days.

This schedule applies only to full period tests. It does not apply to quizzes, which are expected to be completed in fewer than 20 minutes under regular testing accommodations.

New Outdoor Lunch Area

by: Shannon Gallagher

On the first day of school, Cold Spring Harbor students were surprised to find that over the summer break an outdoor lunch area had been installed. The new lunch area is located in the courtyard near the great lawn and is now affording students a place to dine and hang out. Students are thrilled with this nice improvement. Cristofer Cafaro, a sophomore, says that he "plans on eating out there every day" and he "cannot believe the school did not have this before."

The outdoor lunch area also provides a nice place for students to sit after school while waiting to be picked up by their parents or awaiting the start of a sporting event. It is a fabulous enhancement and there is no doubt that in the days to come we will be seeing many students



Left to right: Mackenzie Schwertl, Dylan Guarneri, Jeffrey Colon, Paige DeNatale, Claire Tauckus, Abbey Ngai, and Olivia Hotton.

eating out there and enjoying the last rays of warm sunlight before winter.

Mr. Matuk thought the extra seating would provide "a nice addition" to our school and enrich

our campus. He thanks the CFA for funding the tables and umbrellas and looks forward to seeing one additional small table with an extra umbrella to fill out the new area.

School News

New PSAT Changes

by: Sarah Kopp

“At the end of the day I really think they’re trying to do what’s best for the students and give them the best opportunity to be successful.” - Mr. Rosenberg, Director of Guidance

As I’m sure many people have heard lately, America’s education system has been undergoing a makeover. With new curriculums like Common Core being rolled out every year, it feels as if students and teachers can’t catch a break. Whether we like it or not, another big change is occurring: the well-known SATs and PSATs are also getting changed up.

The new PSAT is officially being released for students to take this October. The new changes brought about to these standardized tests are the biggest changes seen for these exams in thirty years.

The biggest difference between the new PSAT questions and the old PSAT questions is that in the new ones there is a lot more reasoning and conceptual understanding required. There is also more data analysis, graphs, and real world scenarios. The new test is an additional thirty-five minutes longer, making the test a whopping two hours and forty-five minutes.

The new PSAT is scaled between a 320 and 1520. This closely resembles the new SAT scoring which is out of 1600 points.

The new PSAT is supposed to closely resemble the new SAT; therefore the PSAT should still predict the student’s SAT score. Another big change about the PSAT is that students will have to often provide evidence to back up their answers.

However, it isn’t all bad news. In fact, there’s a lot of good changes. For one thing, there are only four choices as opposed to five choices on multiple choice questions. Additionally, the new tests are supposed to follow the current high school curriculum more accurately.

Also, gone are the days of straight up grammar and vocabulary questions; students will now be presented similar questions in form of analyzing a passage and then answering the grammar and vocabulary based on the passage. The best thing about the new tests is the fact that there will no longer be penalties for wrong answers.

Although the new tests have received a lot of negative attention, they were designed to be much more manageable for students who will be taking the SATs and PSATs in the new few years.

Whatever we have heard about them thus far, nothing will be completely known until the students take the first new PSAT exam this October. Until then, it’s really just a waiting game to see what the exams will truly be like.

Why is Card Playing Banned at CSH?

by: Julia Wallace

Recently, the use of playing cards has been prohibited during lunch periods in our school. It allegedly promotes bad habits such as gambling.

Students enjoy their lunch period because it gives them a break from the stresses of the day. Playing cards with friends can help distract students from all the pressure they are under. For all those who say that this activity encourages gambling, they are invited to come in to the Jr. High Library during an innocent game of cards, overseen by a teacher. No one is gambling here.

Card games can

actually benefit students in multiple ways. Our minds are still developing, and games such as Spit and Hearts can teach reflexes and strategy. Also, new friends can be made through common interests; so, why can’t a lighthearted game of cards be one of those connections? Friends can teach each other new games and have fun. How can an activity promoting friendships and thinking be discouraged in a school?

So, think about it. Can a simple game of rummy really hurt anyone? No one who oversees the Jr. High Library would ever allow gambling. Please reconsider and allow us to continue playing cards.

New Seahawks in Town

Ms. Nesta

by: Katie McAuley

Ms. Nesta is a new, friendly face in the halls of our school. Her current roles at Cold Spring Harbor Junior/Senior High School include reading and AIS (Academic Intervention Services).

She intends on improving the reading skills of her students and on helping her fellow colleagues with tasks in which assistance is needed. Ms. Nesta, having such aspiring goals to better the people around her, will experience her first year as a teacher in CSH in the 2015-2016 school year.

Previously Ms. Nesta worked in Connecticut as a Special



Ms. Nesta is a teacher in the Special Education department.

Education teacher. Now at Cold Spring Harbor, she is currently servicing seven students and is a workshop teacher for the Reading and Writing class.

Outside of school Ms. Nesta is, as she describes herself, “a die-hard Yankee fan.” She enjoys

reading in her spare time and has recently acquired interest in sailing this past summer recess. Aside from these activities, she helps with dog rescue, through which she has rescued two dogs.

Ms. Puleo

by: Colleen Curry

The Math Department has made room for their newest faculty addition, Ms. Marissa Puleo. A former Island Trees staff member, she teaches three classes of Geometry and one class of Algebra 2/Trig.

Ms. Puleo expressed that she had always known that she wanted to go into teaching for math. She also shared that, “I had a teacher in eighth grade, and she taught me everything. In fact, I’m still in touch with her. I had a free period 9th when I was in 9th grade, and she told me that she needed a hand, so I



Ms. Puleo is a teacher in the Math Department.

would leave the high school and go over to the middle school and help her out.”

The SUNY Cortland College graduate enjoys spending time at the beach or, “anything beach related,” including fishing and surfing, along with spending time with

her family and friends.

Her first impression of CSH was ultimately positive, stating, “I was super impressed with the students and how unbelievably respectful they are. No matter what happens in class, even if they get a bad grade, they always say ‘thank you.’” Ms. Puleo also expressed that she, “loved when I came to the high school campus. Everyone was outside, and you all seemed to have so much freedom. It was like being at a college campus.”

CSH is looking forward to getting to know Ms. Puleo, whose enthusiasm and approachability will make the perfect addition to our classrooms.

Senior Pranks: To Be or Not to Be?

by: Emily Krusos and Dylan Dukes

Seahawk seniors usually pull daring pranks as an annual ritual. In the past, live chickens have been set loose around the locker rooms and petting zoos have been brought to the school. However, such disruptive practical jokes carried stiff punishment with the prankster being suspended on the spot.

As a result, no pranks were pulled last year for fear of possible expulsion. A class of 2015 student revealed that, “the seniors were going to turn the cafeteria into

a club.” Teachers, parents, and some students were happy that no stunts were pulled. Our security guards were pleased that no injuries were reported.

We all wonder whether there will be senior pranks this year. Senior McLean Carlin believes that, “senior pranks are a tradition that should be upheld as long as they are harmless.” Kenny Leydon, school security guard, says, “I would like to see this year’s senior class behave as well as last year’s seniors.” Only time will tell what our graduating class of 2016 will decide. The question remains:

pranks or no pranks?

Mr. Matuk provides some insight to help answer this question. He cites last year’s seniors as a class with one of the best collective reputations in school history. With regard to pranks, he believes those that result in damage cross the line and that any prank must be humorous to everyone, not just a select few. He says, “No prank is the best prank.” But, should this year’s senior class plan on pulling a prank, students should talk with the administration for some guidance.

School News

Google Chromebooks

by: Dominique Giuffrida

The Cold Spring Harbor Jr./Sr. High School has added 200 touch-screen Google Chromebooks to its existing laptop collection this year. The school previously owned between 60 and 70 non-touch Chromebooks. 90 of the new Chromebooks were generously donated by the Cold Spring Harbor Education Foundation.



Some Google Chromebook carts are kept in the Drop-In Lab next to the Social Studies office.

The Chromebooks start up quickly and are easy to operate. Students are able to access the “VMware” application to log onto their regular school accounts. The Chromebooks are kept in carts which are scattered across the school in different department offices. Each of these carts has an active printer that students can directly print to.

Assistant Principal, Mr. Monastero remarks, “The Chromebooks need to be simple and to work efficiently. We want to know if they aren’t working; we are al-

ways open to suggestions.”

Students will no longer need to leave study hall, which is held in Cafeteria B, to use computers – there will be Chromebooks available for students to sign out right in Cafeteria B during periods 1-3, 8, and 9. Teachers are also able to sign out carts of Chromebooks for their classes.

The high school chose Chromebooks specifically because they have both an interactive touch-screen feature and a keyboard, which is necessary for typing. They were relatively inexpensive compared to the iPads that the

elementary schools have.

Mr. Monastero explains, “We are hoping to continue to expand and get more Chromebooks.” The school currently has 550 computers and laptops in the building; the student to computer ratio is 1:2

Chromebooks were an economical choice as they cost \$320 per unit, which is less than a third of the cost of a single iPad. The touch-screen Chromebooks cost only \$20 more per unit than the non-touch ones, and Mr. Monastero notes that the additional cost was “well-worth it.”

Transition to the Junior High

by: Luisa DuMaurier

The transition from sixth to seventh grade for the Class of 2021 was easy for some students, although it was difficult for others. Some students were faced with the challenge of learning an entirely new building.

When asked about her transition into the Junior High School, seventh grader Audra Kobus commented, “Opening my locker was easy. It’s going well switching classes.”

Liette Dussol add-

ed, “I thought the transition would be hard, but you get to go [to the school] over the summer to go through your schedule and test your locker. It was really helpful. After the first week of school you memorize your locker combination and your schedule.”

Sarah Lynch has mixed feelings about the transition. She says, “I like the freedom. However, the responsibility is something I’m getting used to. I had difficulties making sure I wasn’t late

to class and that I was prepared with my binders.”

Mrs. Kearnes, a seventh grade English teacher, remarks, “Many kids transitioned well. As a teacher, I am always checking in on the new entrants to the district because I know that many of the other students have known each other for a long time. At this point, it appears that the students who were new to the school are finding a group of friends that they connect with and I think is really important.”

Divided Opinion On Music in the Halls

by: Colleen Curry

In an effort to uplift spirits, the Be the Change team embarked on a journey to try to encourage friendlier relationships among students. The club focused on trying to find a way to diffuse the stress that school places on students. After careful consideration, it was decided that music should be played through the intercom during the breaks between classes.

The goal was to give students a temporary distraction, by grabbing their attention through music. The playlist was filled with inspirational, catchy tunes such as, “Brave” by Sara Bareilles, “Shake It Off” by Taylor Swift, and “Hakuna Matata” from The Lion King soundtrack.

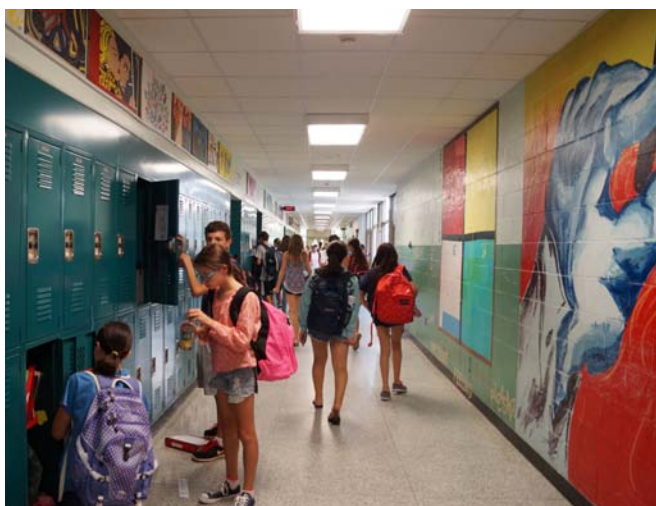
In order to receive accurate results as to how students felt about music in the halls, a survey was distributed to most homeroom classes. 67% of students surveyed reported that they enjoyed hearing music in the halls, while 33% said that they did not like it. In total, 11 classes out of 15 reported that they ultimately had positive feelings about the music, some even expressing how much they enjoyed it in the comments section. One teacher said that, “[The students] like it. It wakes them up and makes them happy.”

However, not everyone felt so strongly about the change. Teachers expressed their own

opinions about this issue in the comments section. One teacher had a negative outlook on the experiment, saying “[the music] would be great if it were only in the hallways. Students have a few double period classes and it was hard to concentrate when working through the bell.” Another teacher also voiced his opinion on the matter, claiming that, “I think the teachers found it annoying.” Although staff members that teach a double period class may be bothered by it, not all teachers agreed with this statement. A different teacher enthusiastically shared her opinion with words of encouragement and a heart around the comment: “We love it-bring it back!”

The school was divided: eighth and ninth on one side, and tenth, eleventh, twelfth, and most teachers on the other. Out of the fifteen classes that responded, ten of them were made up of lowerclassmen, nine of which expressed positive reactions to the music. The upperclassmen seemed to find the music disruptive and bothersome, evidenced by the fact that 52% of the upperclassmen did not like the music, whereas 95% of the lowerclassmen liked it.

Clearly, there is not a unanimous opinion on the matter. The students and teachers all expressed their own thoughts, which varied greatly between classes and grades, leaving the results inconclusive.



Junior High students on their way to class.

Spirit Week Schedule

Friday, October 9th: **America Day**

Tuesday, October 13th: **Pajama Day**

Wednesday, October 14th: **Sports Jersey Day**

Thursday, October 15th: **Prep Day**

Friday, October 16th: **Color Day**

Arts and Entertainment

HS Fall Drama: 'These Shining Lives'

by: Brittany McGowan

The fall drama this year, directed by chorus teacher Ms. Galeno, is 'These Shining Lives' by Melanie Marnich. The play, written for 6 actors, but expanded to 18, takes place in Chicago in the midst of the Roaring 20's.

It begins with a nervous Catherine Donohue and her husband, Tom, before Catherine's first day at work at the Radium Dial factory. She is tasked with painting watches alongside Charlotte, Pearl, and Frances. When Catherine questions the radium in the paint, and if it's okay that the

paintbrush is supposed to touch her mouth, Dr. Rowntree only boasts the positive effects of radium.

Later on in the play, Catherine grows close with the girls at work, and Tom expects her to quit her job. Catherine goes to complain that the job is wearing her down.

When the stage goes dark, her skin is glowing due to the accumulation of radium. Dr. Rowntree told her, as well as all the other girls, to take an Aspirin. Catherine's boss, Mr. Reed, senses something might be bothering the girls.

Going on, the girls travel to Chicago to find

a doctor, Dr. Dalitsch, that could tell them what is wrong with them, which turns out to be radium poisoning. The girls throughout the rest of the play grow incredibly close, and the love between Tom and Catherine grows even stronger.

With an incredible, unexpected ending, *These Shining Lives* is going to be a must-see. The cast list is posted on the box-office window by the PAC. The show dates are Friday, November 20th at 7:00 pm, Saturday, November 21st at 7:00 pm, and Sunday, November 22nd, at 2:00 pm.

Fall TV and Film Preview

by: Brittany McGowan

As we enter the new season, we enter quite a few new seasons as well. I'm talking about television. We have new seasons of *South Park*, *Doctor Who*, *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*, *The Big Bang Theory*, *Gotham*, *The Voice*, *Modern Family*, *Bob's Burgers*, *MARVEL's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*, and many, many more. The list continues.

Some exciting new shows like *The Muppets* (featuring the one and only Muppets), coming to ABC, and *Grandfathered*, with Josh Peck and John Stamos coming to FOX, are definitely worth the watch, with great reviews for both.

Some new films coming out in the next few months include *Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials*, *The Intern*, *The Martian*, *Pan*, *Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension* (yes,

you read that right. Another *Paranormal Activity...*), *The Peanuts Movie*, *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2*, and of course, *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* in December.

Fall is always a busy season for the television and film industry. Make sure to check up on your favorites and other new shows for premier dates and updates. Happy watching!

Not the Atticus You Remember: Lee's 'Go Set a Watchman'

by: Peter Markotsis

'To Kill a Mockingbird' is a book well known by most Americans. We read it in ninth grade in our own school district. This book has affected the lives of many Americans, influencing many to become lawyers.

'Go Set a Watchman' stunned many who read it. Drastically different from the original book written by Harper Lee, 'Go Set a Watchman' offers a new perspective to many of the beloved characters from 'To Kill a Mockingbird'.

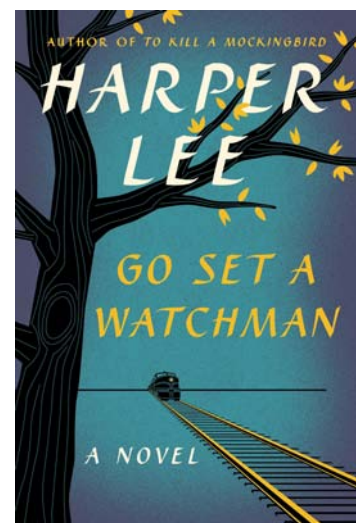
Before we judge the characters, we must look into the history behind the new book. 'Go Set a Watchman' was actually written before 'To Kill a Mockingbird'. Harper Lee went to a publisher but was told that the book could be greatly improved if it focused more on Scout's childhood. Harper Lee revised it, altered most of the story, and created a significantly different book, which is 'To Kill a Mockingbird'.

The two books, while having many of the same characters and similarities, are not meant to be a series. Each book is

its own separate entity. One could think of it as two variations of the same story. The first book is one variation and the second book is another. In 'Go Set a Watchman', Scout is a 26 years old living in New York and back in Maycomb to visit her ailing father, Atticus. Atticus is vastly different from the Atticus of 'To Kill a Mockingbird'. This newly published book will have you questioning what you once believed about Atticus. His values are not what they seem to be.

All in all, if you are interested in Harper Lee's creative writing process, 'Go Set a Watchman' is a great read. It is not meant as a sequel to 'To Kill a Mockingbird', which is important to keep in mind while reading it. It is simply the original draft of the famed book we all will read in school in ninth grade.

'Go Set a Watchman' is a wonderfully written book with diverse and dynamic characters who really give you a lot to think about when compared to the revised characters, as well as being an intriguing story about Scout's coming of age and the challenges it presents.



Letter Policy

The Harbor View editors want to know the opinion of their readers; therefore, all responsible spokespersons are encouraged to contribute their thoughts. However, we reserve the right not to publish anonymous or unsigned letters; names may be withheld upon request. In addition, letters may be edited for grammatical and/or spatial considerations.

Letters can be emailed to:
cshharborview@gmail.com



The Harbor View Staff

Editors

Matti Gellman, Dominique Giuffrida, Emily Krusos, Owen Toomey

Associate Editors

Colleen Curry, Brittany McGowan

Contributing Staff

Tamanna Bhatia, Cailey Brogan, Devin Burdo, Dylan Dukes, Luisa DuMaurier, Shannon Gallagher, Olivia Genovese, Alec Israeli, Caroline Kiernan, Sarah Kopp, Alison Krusos, Katie McAuley, Peter Markotsis, Gigi Nappi, Lauren Paolano, Caroline Reilly, Julia Wallace, Christopher Wilcox

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The Harbor View Editors would like to thank Mr. Borland for his guidance and assistance on the first edition of this year's school paper.

Harbor Views

High Pressure, High Profits: The Pressure of Standardized Testing

by: Alec Israeli

“Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.” This adage, often attributed to Albert Einstein, demonstrates an inherent flaw in the concept of standardized testing. By creating a single standard with which to judge students, these tests fail to consider the varying skillsets among students. Taking this into account, it seems foolish to think that they can all be judged by uniform criteria.

The purpose of standardized tests is not to test one’s academic knowledge. Rather, the SAT tests one’s ability to succeed on the SAT, while the ACT does the same for itself. The self-fulfilling existence of these tests is absurd. It relates back to the idea of varying student skillsets: a student will fail a test that their brain is simply not wired to take, especially when considering the self-fulfilling specificity of the SAT or ACT. Furthermore, this quality points towards a serious conflict of interest regarding the administration of these tests.

The SAT and ACT are both administered by independent, nonprofit organizations, the College Board and ACT Incorporated, respectively. Yes, the “nonprofit” label might make it seem like these organizations have pure intentions. However, nonprofit status merely means that any revenue won’t be used to the benefit of any owners or shareholders. This does not mean the organization does not mean to make a profit for its own benefit, and really, there still are top executives that have a vested interest in its revenue and performance. In 2009, nineteen College Board executives received over \$300,000 each in income. College Board President Gaston Caperton received \$1.3 million that same year, with his executive compensation having tripled since he assumed his position in 1999. With leaders making six and seven figure salaries, it is dif-

ficult to believe that these nonprofit organizations are actually nonprofit. As an added bonus, nonprofit organizations are tax-exempt. That means they really get the most bang for their buck in their operation. “Nonprofit” in this case really is just a label.

While these organizations’ mission statements might include saccharine statements about the value of education and its power to create change, their purpose is to make money, just like any other large business. This goal is made obvious by a visit to the website of the College Board, for example. SAT review books cost upwards of twenty dollars. These are books that are sold to teach test taking skills specifically for a self-fulfilling test produced by an entity separate from the public school system. They teach nothing else: they are sold to make money. If it is not clear yet that the College Board cares more about money than education, the test fees point towards no other possibility. The fee for the SAT is \$54, though there is a fee waiver for those who cannot pay. The AP (which is also a College Board test) fee is the real kicker: \$92. Yes, there is a fee waiver for this too, but keep in mind: ninety two dollars. That is a lot of money for a test that is *required* by the school if a student chooses to take an AP course.

The morality here is highly questionable. The College Board is putting a high price on a piece of education that is entwined with public school courses, which are by nature meant to be free. Even if a student can pay the fee, the very fact that there even is a fee should be infuriating. Public education is being tainted by profit. Some fault does lie with the schools themselves. Students are being forced to pay for a difficult test as what seems like punishment for choosing to take academically challenging courses. These tests don’t even have any effect on grade point averages, yet students are required to take them anyway. Then why are they

required? Competition. It looks quite good for a school to have high AP enrollment and scores, and that means higher placement in national high school rankings. This is not the only form of competition that is problematic in standardized testing.

We live in an increasingly competitive, hyper-capitalistic society, with a cutthroat job market, poorly paid lower and middle classes, and wealth extremely concentrated in the hands of an elite few. Wealth, not societal welfare, not kindness, not equality, is our highest value. When we reach adulthood, we are expected to fight our way through the competition and end up on top with a good job and as much money as possible. For many, this is not only an outside expectation, but also a personal desire. So, how do we satisfy this desire to make a lot of money? We need a good, well-paying job. How do we get this job? We need to go to a good college. How do we get into this college? *By scoring well on our standardized tests.* Standardized tests both feed into and prime us for the hyper-capitalistic mindset that envelopes our society. Standardized tests, which are fittingly produced by money-seeking business, force us into the conformity of competition, where our worth is determined by standard task performance and then further reduced to a number. In the world of tests, this number is called a score. In the real world, it is called a salary.

These tests also perpetuate income inequality. Wealthy students can afford the tutors and books necessary to do well on the tests, allowing them to go to college and make more money as adults. Poorer students are left behind, picking up the scraps in the rat race of life.

Driven by profit and engrained in our education, it is clear standardized testing is a systemic issue that will take years to fix.

No Longer Transparent

by: Matti Gellman

Whether it is through the highly publicized birth of Caitlyn Jenner, the appearance of Laverne Cox; star of *Orange is The New Black*, as the first openly trans woman to grace the cover of *Times Magazine*, Raffi Freedman-Gurspan as the first openly trans White House Staff Member, President Barack Obama when he became the first sitting president to say the word in a State of the Union Speech, or Chaz Bono; many of you have heard the word transgender.

One of the lesser known communities in the LGBT, the transgender community is made up of individuals who, unlike others, do not conform to a specific sexuality. A man who is transgender may have the physical appearance of a man, but identify as a woman. This can be a difficult concept to grasp, especially in a society consumed with being politically correct. I met and interviewed two college juniors, Matt and Chris, willing to explain the misconceptions and idiosyncrasies surrounding this world.

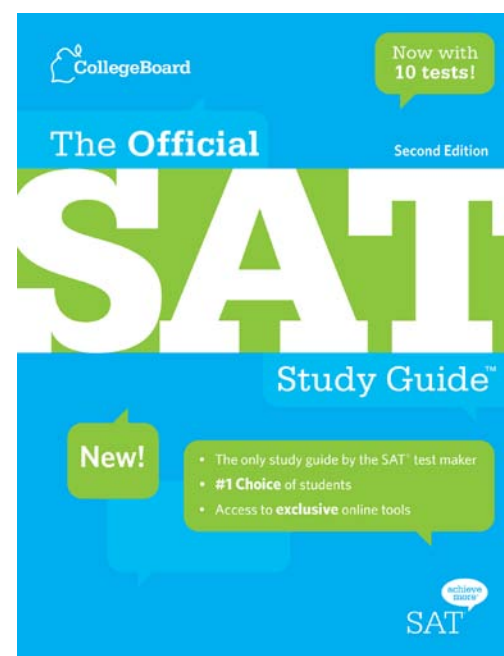
“We do not identify as gay; we look at sexual orientation as something that is so different from gender identity,” stated Matt. “I was born a female, I’m transitioning to be a male; once I’m done transitioning I’m going to live my life as the straight man that I am and that I’ve always felt like.”

The concept that your appearance may

not match your identity perception is not new to teenagers. Most of us feel misunderstood. But what Matt, Chris and others in the transgender community endure is beyond basic feelings of being misunderstood. Matt explained what it was like growing up in high school and having to decide which bathroom to use, all the while enduring some teachers’ public accusations that he was attempting to skip class due to the added amount of time it would take for him to make the trek to the non-gender specific nurse’s bathroom.

“There’s going to be bigoted people everywhere you go,” Matt continued while describing his experience at college. He had applied for housing in the male dorms before being forced to relocate to a room with a female roommate. There, he was harassed and ostracized due to his gender identity. Matt said that although he wrote numerous complaints and requests for relocation, the rooming board failed to recognize his needs.

The haze surrounding this community has only just begun to dissipate. When I wrote the first draft of this article, just a year ago, I began it with “Many of you have not heard of the term transgender, or if you have, have only heard it in passing.” I can no longer use that as an opening line. A community that has spent the majority of its life span transparent to the public, now is becoming opaque.



Spotlight

FLAG Shakes Things Up At CSH

by: Sarah Kopp

A new club has been added to Cold Spring Harbor High School, and by now many people have heard of it. The new club, called FLAG, was founded by now senior Emily Kopp and now junior Amanda Burkett. FLAG, which stands for Fight Like A Girl, is a club with the objective to educate people and discuss gender equality.

Burkett was the one who had the idea for a gender equality club, which was, according to her, “inspired by recent events in the media and witnessing gender unequal events in Cold Spring Harbor.” The name Fight Like A Girl was chosen because the phrase usually has a derogatory meaning towards both genders, and Burkett and Kopp wanted to turn the

phrase into something with a “a positive and uplifting” meaning. According to Kopp, the club was needed for many reasons, including “the way girls negatively talk about themselves and others.” FLAG is a club where people need to “feel good about themselves” and support each other.

Burkett and Kopp want to make sure that people understand what gender inequality is and why a change needs to occur. The main goal of the club is to educate students and staff and make people question the “gender norms”. FLAG, which took only two months to create due to its popularity among students and administrators, has caused a stir in CSHHS. There was a widespread and immediate conversation started in the high school. Burkett and Kopp had been work-

ing with the club’s supervisors, Ms. Waters and Mrs. Glynn, for a few weeks prior to FLAG’s first meeting.

At the first FLAG meeting on March 18 of last year, Kopp said they were “only expecting a few teachers and students to show up”. The task of the first meeting was to state the goals and ambitions of FLAG. It was much to everyone’s surprise when 2:35 rolled around and the classroom was packed. Students were sitting on desks, on the floor, on their friend’s laps. It was apparent that the club FLAG was something that was missing from Cold Spring Harbor; something that was important to many people.

Something that seemed to raise some attention was the fact that out of all the people who showed up to

FLAG, there were only two male students who attended. Burkett and Kopp made it very clear that all genders were invited and accepted. Kopp even reiterated that “coming to FLAG will only benefit you”. There was an entire conversation at the first FLAG meeting just purely on how males in society don’t have gender equality. A common misconception about feminism is that it is only for the benefit of women, when really it is the movement for the equality of both genders.

Burkett and Kopp would like to thank now junior Amanda Lauro for creating the FLAG logo and acknowledge now senior Kiara Tighe and now junior

Gigi Nappi for assisting in the creation of FLAG. “It was really a team effort that made it possible for FLAG to become a club so quickly,” said Burkett. The next FLAG meetings are on Thursday October 1 and Wednesday October 21. Big things are in FLAG’s future, including a possible trip to the Brooklyn Museum to see an exhibit on how art portrays women and additionally there may be some guest speakers. “Just come to FLAG,” said Kopp. “FLAG is an all-inclusive, positive club that will help change peoples’ views to make CSHHS a more welcoming environment for all genders,” reiterates Kopp. At the end of the day, who doesn’t want equality?

In Search of Tournament Speech Members

by: Tamanna Bhatia

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS: Please join the tournament speech team! Practice your piece for one of several categories and perform at the

local level for a chance to compete at the State Tournament, which is at Hofstra University this year. All students—beginners to advanced—are invited. Have fun while working on your public speaking skills!

You will never be afraid to speak up again! It looks great on college applications! See club advisors Mrs. Glynn, Ms. Schmieler, or Tamanna Bhatia for more information.

Wanted: Locks for Locks of Love

by: Dominique Giuffrida and Cailey Brogan

Locks of Love needs your hair! The biggest year had 50 haircuts, two years ago had 20 haircuts, while last year not a single person cut their hair. This year the club already has generous volunteers to donate their hair. If anyone would like to cut their hair this year, see Señora Fristensky in room J-37. The haircut this year will take place on November 12, 2015. Participants in the haircut do not need to be members of the club, although new members are always welcome. Also, members are not obligated to cut their hair.

Locks of Love is a non-profit organization that provides the highest quality hair prosthetics to financially disadvantaged children with medical hair loss. Most recipients have lost their hair due to Alopecia Areata, severe

burns, radiation treatment, or any number of dermatological conditions resulting in long term or permanent hair loss.

The organization provides children under 18 years old suffering from hair loss with custom-made wigs. People donate at least ten inches of their hair to the makings of these wigs. Six to ten ponytails of the same hair type, texture, and color are needed to make a single hairpiece. The retail cost of each hairpiece ranges from \$5,000 to \$7,000. Locks of Love strives to raise as much money as possible to help contribute to the makings of these expensive hairpieces. During Locks of Love’s years at Cold Spring Harbor, the club has raised an incredible total of over \$90,000 for Alopecia Areata.

The Locks of Love Club was introduced to

Cold Spring Harbor High School in 2004. They have had over 200 participants donate their charitable years. Both boys and girls have partaken in these haircutting events. Locks of Love goes beyond superficial beauty. The hair pieces help children rebuild their self-esteem and get back to the normalcy in their everyday lives that the rest of us take for granted. Cold Spring Harbor’s dedicated Locks of Love members wake up early on Tuesday mornings and are at school by seven in the morning to make this a reality.

Several club members have cut their hair numerous times. The Locks of Love Club Advisor, Señora Fristensky, has generously donated her hair six times and intends to donate her hair for the seventh time this year.



Flyer for the FLAG kickoff meeting

SWATT and SADD

by: Brittany McGowan

Students Waging War Against Tobacco (SWWAT) is entering its 19th year of action. The club teaches about the dangers of smoking and tobacco use. Last year’s membership totaled about 160 students, 60 of which were new seventh graders. On the field trips to Lloyd Harbor and West Side Schools, SWWAT members educate 5th and 6th graders on the damaging effects tobacco can have on both your body and social life. The elementary students are always interested and willing

to participate, and are able to connect well with personal stories. Members of the club agree, “Being able to educate the young kids is really a great experience.”

SWWAT recently teamed up with SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and had its first meeting on September 22nd in J-21 (Mr. Homer’s room). SWWAT holds meetings the first Tuesday of every month for half an hour. If you have any questions, please see Mr. Homer or Mrs. Innella. Hope to see you all at SWWAT/SADD!

Sports

New Sanctioned Sport



Varsity Cheerleading cheering at a football game.

by: Gigi Nappi

With football season in full swing, everyone comes together as a school to support the varsity football players. This year the Varsity Cheerleading team

has been working devotedly to spread school spirit and to keep the Seahawks motivated. The girls have been training every day with the help of their senior captains, Nicole Marchese and Sabrina Bergsten.

Practice is held five days a week and consists of full body workouts and stretches to prepare the girls for difficult stunts, lifts, jumps, and high energy dance routines. With the help of the new coaches, Ms. Whitney and Señorita Sihksnel, the cheer team has stepped up their game this year.

According to Cold Spring Harbor Athletic Director, Michael Bongino, "Adopted in 2014, Varsity Cheerleading will be recognized as a sanctioned varsity sport with two distinct sport seasons (fall and winter) commencing in the fall of 2015". Varsity Cheerleading is governed by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association

(NYSPHSAA) just like the other varsity sport teams here at Cold Spring Harbor High School.

Since cheerleading has officially become recognized as a varsity sport in New York State, the team has a greater level of expectation from fans and fellow Seahawks this year. The team has

been enthusiastically preparing a new dance to perform at each home game during halftime, along with challenging stunts and new cheers. The cheerleaders look forward to seeing lots of Seahawks fans, both students and family members, fill the stands to support the football team!



Varsity Cheerleading showing their support for the football team.

Moving up the Ranks

by: Caroline Reilly

The Girls' Varsity Tennis team has moved from Division 1 to Division 2 this season. The girls are hoping to have a much more successful year than the last as they currently hold a 2-1 winning record going into their fourth match.

The team has had three matches against Great Neck North, North Shore, and Oyster Bay. The girls tried their best and put up a good fight against Great Neck, but ultimately lost 4-5; they were only one game short of winning. Af-

ter a long weekend rest, the team came back and beat North Shore 5-2. The following day, the team was once again successful when they beat Oyster Bay 5-4.

This year the team has several new players added to the roster, including two new singles players who are both USTA ranked. An 8th grader, Mary Kelly is playing 1st singles for the team and is ecstatic to be playing at the varsity level. She promises she will "do her very best to help the team." In New York, Mary is ranked 4th in the class of 2020 and

is ranked #59th nationally.

Madeline Richmond, another new player, is currently playing 2nd singles and is ranked 30th in New York. She is very excited about the team's upcoming matches and hopes that the girls can work together to finish the season with a winning record at the top of their division.

A senior, Jillian Butta will be playing 3rd singles and is looking forward to playing her 4th year on the team with spirit and determination. Playing 1st doubles are Katherine Faria and Dylan Beder, 2nd doubles are Julia Amoruso and Collette Vanson, 3rd doubles are Caroline Reilly and Brooke Martin, and 4th doubles are Molly Bechand and Caitlyn Morris. All of these pairings have been extremely successful and have only been defeated two times all together. The team hopes you can come to one of its games soon to help support and cheer the girls on in their matches!

by: Owen Toomey

Boys' Varsity tennis is one of the most under-appreciated teams in our high school. The team has consistently ranked highly on Long Island. Up until last year, the Seahawks had won seven County Championships in a row.

The boys, coached by Ben Marx, went undefeated last season, not losing a single match until the County Championships. However, although the team lost Counties last year, it is feeling confident about the upcoming season.

"Looking at the squad we have now plus the kids that'll be coming up from JV, the team's looking pretty good," says junior Anand Subudhi.

The team normally consists of three singles players and four doubles pairs. There are also alternates that play in if someone is injured or the

coach wants to change up the roster. This way, everyone on the team gets to play in matches.

Last year, now senior Sean Mullins and now junior Patrick Hannity advanced to the doubles State Championships. They were seeded second in the tournament and managed to win an impressive second place finish. Congratulations to Sean and Patrick!

With their combined power and the other talented players in the line-up, many hopeful people believe the team will regain the County title.

"Although Syosset took the championship from us last year, I'm sure we'll fight hard and get it back this year," says junior Nick Goldman. "I'm confident."

Let's wish the team luck in having a successful season and reclaiming the County Championship!



Tennis players during practice.

Seniors Taking Charge

by: Lauren Paolano

The Cold Spring Harbor girls' field hockey team is looking forward to a successful 2015 season. With a class of 14 seniors, the team has stepped up and assigned full leadership responsibilities to captains

Samantha DeBellis, Courtney Kennedy, Shannon Logan, and Lauren Paolano. The four captains each play different positions on the field and communicate well with their teammates.

The team had a great 2014 season and made it to the County

Championship with a 10-5 record. Senior goalie, Kylie Tsotsos, made over 80 saves last season and she is a promising player for the Seahawks. Junior defender, Mikaela Hawkinson, is a key player in the defensive end. Seniors Samantha DeBellis and Shannon Logan

control the middle of the field and are very valuable. Courtney Kennedy, senior center forward, is relentless in the circle and has a knack for scoring.

The field hockey team has 3 home night games, including September 18th at 7:00pm, Breast

Cancer Awareness Game on October 14th at 7:30pm, and Senior Day Game on October 16th at 7:00pm. All games will be on the lower turf at CSH. Bring your friends and come support the girls' field hockey team!

Sports



Head Coach Gary Renart motivates swimmers during a meet against Hempstead.

Diving Into the Fall Season

by: Emily Krusos and Alison Krusos

Girls' Varsity Swimming and Diving is a small group, but it's a team with big heart and spirit. The roster has seventeen swimmers and one diver, consisting of one seventh grader, three freshmen, four sophomores, seven juniors, and three seniors. While the squad misses its seven graduated seniors (Victoria Buri, Christie Collins, Holly Logan, Gabrielle McLymont,

Kirsten Morgan, Siena Toscano, and Keara Walford), the Seahawks are in good hands with their three senior captains: Emily Krusos, Kaitlyn Coughlin and Maya Zaatari. With a combined nine-year experience on varsity swimming, they are ready to lead the team in its 2015 season.

The swimmers compete in Nassau County's Section VIII Division A, Conference 3 league and have seven dual meets

followed by Divisional and County Championships. Head Coach Mr. Gary Renart has high hopes for the team, saying that he is "looking forward to a fun, competitive season with our veteran swimmers reaching individually set goals and new varsity swimmers who possess various backgrounds in athletics being able to contribute to the team." Joining Mr. Renart as diving coach is Jennifer Scott, who replaces the retired

Mrs. Kimberly Cuomo. Coach Jen is optimistic, "We are looking forward to another great season with a lot of improved times. This year we have a bunch of new swimmers and I can't wait to see how much they will progress as we move through the season."

The team is hoping that you will support them by attending one of their upcoming meets. Noon on October 10th they will be competing at Eisenhower Park's Nassau County

Aquatics Center against the East Meadow Jets. At 5:00pm on October 19th they will face Bethpage High School against the Blue and Gold Eagles. Although the Seahawks have lost some of their top swimming talent, the girls are hopeful to have a successful season. You should look to our new diver from Ohio, Camille Roberts, and last year's County-qualifier Alison Krusos to lead our season point total.



Boys Varsity Soccer players during practice.

Determined to Win

by: Christopher Wilcox

The Cold Spring Harbor Boys Varsity Soccer team has completely changed its culture following its disappointing season last year. The players met for twice the amount of time over the summer than they have in previous years for organized practices. They also have had numerous get-togethers devoted to building team chemistry.

The boys started off the season with two wins in two days, including a 2-1 win against Plainedge, a team that defeated Cold Spring Harbor 3-0 last year. Senior defender Matt Amendola exclaims, "I love playing

with these boys. There's nothing better than celebrating a win in the locker room with my teammates."

Later the next week, the boys kicked off league play with a 5-0 win against Malverne. Captains Chris Wilcox, Aidan Coffey, and Jamie Schubauer disclose, "Our goal is to continue getting better and to continue winning. We're excited for our future."

The team is off to a great start and is looking forward to continuing their success. Junior striker Jack Gatto reveals, "I love playing in home games. Especially when the girls' soccer teams come to support us. They are great fans."

by: Caroline Kiernan

The Girls' Varsity Soccer team is ready to take the field this fall with six new players added to the returning roster of 16. With ten seniors, Caroline Kiernan, Katie Hudson, Lauren Spinnato, Nikki Lebedin, Sarah Lastig, Laurel Mallardi, Dani Fazio, Kiki Carmi, Cami Nichols, and Bethany Hodgson, the squad is looking toward upperclassmen to lead them to victory.

The team's newest addition, freshman Sophia Taglich is the starting goal keeper. Senior Laurel Mallardi marvels, "It is like her and the ball have a magnetic bond." Anchoring the defense is Senior Captain Nikki Lebedin, who is helped by juniors Caitlin Hooks and Natalia Simmons and

freshman Emily Weld.

Katie Hudson, Senior Captain and five year varsity starter, will be controlling the center midfield along with Senior Captain Caroline Kiernan. On the outside, senior Sarah Lastig and junior Jillian Futter will be hustling to create plays that lead to goals.

On top for the Lady Seahawks are Senior Captain Lauren Spinnato and freshman Nikki Mormile. Both players have outstanding foot skills and

have no problem finishing.

This year the team is seeking revenge for the Class B County Champions title. Coach Steve Caccioppo explains, "We are taking it one day at a time, but our goal is to win our league this season." Alongside Coach Ryan Towers, they have selected the team of 22 girls to continue the legacy of Girls Varsity Soccer this fall and to hopefully clinch a title! Good luck Seahawks!



Varsity Cross Country working hard at practice.

Ready to Kick it Up



Girls Varsity Soccer practicing on the James Amen Jr. field.

Off and Running

by: Peter Markotsis

This year, the cross country team has begun the season with a running start. Having done so well last year, there is hope for an even better season this year.

According to Coach Aurigemma, "This season should be a very good season. Building off our 2014 season and returning all seven of our varsity boys' team, we should improve greatly and hopefully

have our most successful season ever." Their ultimate goal is to make a run at qualifying for the State Championships.

The team includes the seven varsity boys from last year who qualified for the first time in the school's history in the Nassau County State Qualifier meet, as well as Daniela LoCastro, who leads the girls' team with a staggering time of 18:54.67 in their five kilometer

meets. The leading time of the boy's varsity team is 18:56.75, which was run by Albert Kirchner.

The team will be taking two trips this year to participate in high level races. The first trip is to Queensbury, New York on Saturday September 26th. The second trip is on Saturday October 17th to Saratoga, New York where Daniela LoCastro is the reigning Division 2 meet champion.