



High School Model UN

BY: DEIJA R. SMITH

On Tuesday, the 11 of March and Wednesday the 12th of March, 2014, Saint Peter's University hosted its 23rd Annual High School Model United Nations. This conference brought together students and faculty advisors from high schools in New Jersey and New York, and provided them with an opportunity to experience, first-hand, the challenges of international conference diplomacy and negotiation. By assuming the role as U.N. representatives and by actively participating in the resolution of issues of global concern, delegates experienced the workings of the United Nations. During the two-day conference, student delegates at Saint Peter's University High School Model United Nations (SPUHS MUN) 2014 had the opportunity to interact and work together to develop a solid grasp of international relations and consensus building.

Last year, over 200 students from 13 high schools representing 18 delegations participated in the conference. This year Perth Amboy High School was able to participate in this event and give it their all. Throughout the course of two days, topics such as regional security and civil war, chemical and biological weapons, the rights of undocumented migrants, famine, water sanitation, and biodiversity and health was discussed extensively.

By participating in this event, students gained insights into both the substance of international economics, political and social affairs and the skills of personal oral and written communication that is characteristic of international diplomats. In addition to learning about the nations they represent, delegates (including myself) also learned about relations among nations. Delegates also learned the details of important global issues, the politics of U.N. member nations on these issues, the activities and complexities of the U.N. system, and the current state of world affairs.

In the end, members from the debate team; such as Joscandy Nunez, Christopher Ramirez, Travis Medina, and many more represented PAHS very well by taking home numerous awards. If anyone is interested in joining the debate team, it is never to late. See Mr. Fraraccio, Mr. Torres, or Mr. Bouchard.

PAHS MODEL UN





TEACHER SPOTLIGHT !!!

GUNNERY SERGEANT RAMIREZ



BY: JOSE QUISTIAN

Ever since our wonderful high school was founded we have had great outstanding teachers that give their best to ensure we have a good learning environment. Some of them even take care of clubs and do extra work to ensure that we as students can make the most out of our high school years. Even though all of PAHS's staff is great, there's always a shining star that works extra hard.. This year one great teacher mentor and ex-marine that stood out is Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez. He is also known as Gunny to many due to his rank.

Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez trained in the Marine Corps where he served as an infantry during the Gulf War and won several medals for his extraordinary work in battle. He then retired a decorated soldier and decided to continue his career as Naval Science Instructor here in Perth Amboy High school. Ever since we had an increase in people joining more community service activities and also participating in the JROTC program.

Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez (ret) is the instructor for the JROTC here in Perth Amboy High School. He's an outstanding person in our community and deserves the recognition of everyone since he has organized many events for our community. For example he is the one that organized the Veterans' day meeting in Perth Amboy high school where many of our community veterans were recognized and thanked for their services. Another great thing he does for our community is that he runs the JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps) where he trains young men and women on how to be efficient leaders and better citizens overall.

His work as a JROTC instructor is a very strenuous demanding job that requires a great part of his time since he must train the cadets for various competitions that the Navy sets up for the JROTC cadets to participate in. The training for these events is overseen by no other than Gunny himself. He makes sure that his senior cadets are adequate to help in the training of the younger new cadets.

Gunny has shown that respect is earned throughout hard work and good citizenship. Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez encourages his cadets and also regular students to try to participate in community related activities such as the Perth Amboy Christmas Parade, the Jewish Memorial Day in city hall, and also in the community service that will benefit the community overall.

Everyone in the school knows that Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez is an outstanding teacher and great community leader.

I have personally been under his command and have learned much about Navy history and military drill. He has also helped me realize how important it is to be a good citizen and student as he has with many other students. The current C.O. or Commanding Officer William

Alvarez was personally trained by Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez and has shown how good his training was by becoming C.O. last year. He recalls Gunny telling him to work hard and not to give up until he reached his goal.

Gunnery Sergeant Ramirez has shown that one can make a difference to our community and high school by giving their best and striving for the best.





4 Square

1. Album of the Month

BY: CAROLINE CHAVEZ



It's official that there is no other Queen Bey than Beyonce Knowles herself. The release of her album "Beyonce" caused chaotic sell outs and sold out concert tickets in only a matter of weeks. After Beyonce's album 4 released back in 2011 fans all around the world had been waiting for something new from her. Without no promotion, Beyonce put out 14 new songs and 17 new videos. This phenomenal project consisted of different perspectives from Beyonce and a new version as well. The album was like no other since it was a mixture of sleek, erotic, and sultry vocals.

After the release, the album went immediately to No.1 in ninety countries on iTunes' rankings. Not only was Queen Bey part of every song, but iconic artists like Jay Z, Drake, and Frank Ocean participated as well. It wasn't until Christmas that the album hit the stores which included two different cd's. One contained 14 songs and the second one had 17 videos. After two full months Beyonce's songs like "Drunk in Love", "XO", and "Flawless" are repeated constantly on the radio. It's only a matter of time to hear the next eleven songs repeat on the radio and break chart records. If you late Beyonce fans haven't brought or listened to her recent album, then I highly suggest you do.



2. Book Of The Month

BY: ANDREA ZERPA



I Am the Messenger by Markus Zusak

"You never know, I tell myself. One day there might be a few select people who'll say, 'Yes, Dylan was on the brink of stardom when he was nineteen. Dali was well on his way to being a genius, and Joan of Arc was burned at the stake for being the most important woman in history. And at nineteen, Ed Kennedy found that first card in the mail."

Many may have already heard of Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*, which was adapted into a film that premiered in theaters November 2013. The Australian born author has written five other acclaimed works; one which I recently picked up was 2002's *I Am the Messenger*. The story plunges into action from the first lines as the main character, Ed Kennedy lays on the floor of a bank with a gun pointed to his head. He ends up stopping the robbery and becomes his blighted town's hero, but the reader soon learns this is the only heroic act Ed has ever done.

Ed is the epitome of mediocrity. He is 19, working illegally as a taxi driver. He lives in a shack with a putrid-smelling dog named Doorman. He reads literature and plays cards with his three best friends a few nights a week, pinning for the closest of his friends, unattainable Audrey.

Soon after the bank incident Ed begins receiving mysterious playing cards in the mail. They contain cryptic clues that lead him to different people and families. Ed discovers he has been chosen to deliver a unique message to each of them. Ordinary Ed finds purpose, and the ability to do extraordinary things for others.

I loved reading this novel. I grew to love all the characters and their stories while going on each new adventure with Ed. Markus Zusak gives Ed a unique voice that's funny and relatable although tragic and melancholy at times. At the end of it all, I realized that Ed isn't just an individual, he represents humanity: you and me. If Ed was able to stand up and do all he did, then maybe we can all live beyond what we think we're capable of. Ed isn't the messenger, he *IS* the message. So go out and read greatness.

3. Fashion Craze

BY: CYNTHIA CAPELLAN



The search has begun, prom 2014 is just a few more months away. But have you settled down on a dress or are you still confused on what to choose? Many teens have been on the search to find the perfect dress, and if you haven't it's time to do so. This year's fashion contains different color and fabric. Some hot trends for 2014 prom is bling and lace. Some of the looks from last year are still in trend today such as the "fit and flare" which is fitted on the hips and then it flares out. Color also takes a big part in the dress trends of 2014. The biggest colors for 2014 are soft pink, purple, coral, and shades of green and blue like mint, pistachio, turquoise and sapphire.

For more ideas and tips on your decision for prom visit this website:
http://www.seventeen.com/parties/prom/prom_gallery



4. MOVIE TIME

BY: DEIJA R. SMITH



Divergent

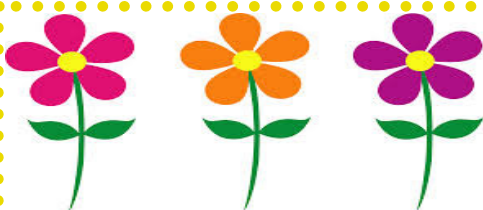
Based on the first novel in Veronica Roth's best-selling trilogy, "Divergent" indeed is Hollywood's latest adaptation of a post-apocalyptic female-centered young adult book series. "Divergent" is a thrilling action-adventure film set in a world where people are divided into distinct factions based on human virtues. Tris Prior is warned she is Divergent and will never fit into any one group. When she discovers a conspiracy by a faction leader to destroy all Divergents, Tris must learn to trust in the mysterious Four and together they must find out what makes being Divergent so dangerous before it's too late. For me, "Divergent" was a surprisingly gripping film and I found the film faithful to the story.

Additionally, "Divergent" is a film that didn't feel ponderous and overindulgent to watch even though it has a 143-minute runtime. Furthermore, the performances—namely from stars Shailene Woodley and Theo James and Kate Winslet in a juicy supporting role—made the movie so enjoyable. So for those "Divergent" book fans and the crazed fanatics for a thriller and action packed film look no further. Go watch "Divergent" and bring a friend.



Coming up.....

Look out for the next newspaper- PROM EDITION





The Comedy Corner...

BY: JENNIFER SOTO

Jokes.....

1. What do you call a rabbit with fleas? Bugs Bunny
2. Why are people so tired when April 1st comes around? Because they just finished a 31 day March.
3. What season is it when you are on a trampoline? Spring-time!
4. Why did the lazy man want a job in a bakery? So he could loaf around!
5. What is a rabbits favorite type of music genre? Hip Hop
6. What is a tornado? Mother nature doing the twist!

DID YOU KNOW.....

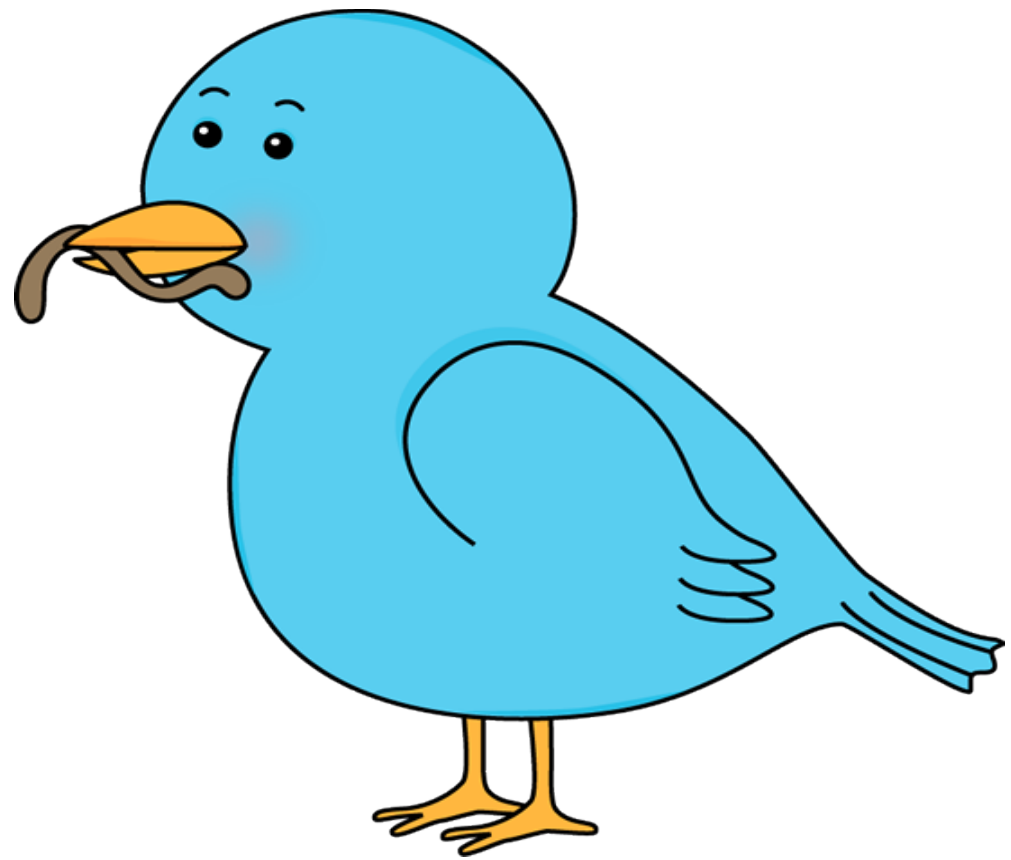
1. If you stand at the equator on the first day of spring, you will see the sun pass directly over head. This is only true two times a year; the first day of spring and the first day of Autumn.

2. Hurricane season begins in late spring.

3. Birds fly back northward to settle and have their families. Approximately 1800 of the world's 10,000 bird species are long-distance migrants.

4. Flooding becomes more common in spring due to snow melt and spring rains.

<http://www.holiday-haven.com/2012/01/20-spring-fun-facts.html>



Teen PEP Advice Column

Dear Teen PEP,

I am a 15 year old freshman with an older girlfriend. We have been together since school started. Lately, she's been talking a lot about sex. I'm worried. What if she gets pregnant? My cousin just had a baby at 16. My parents have been saying terrible things about her at home, like how she's ruined her life, she's never going to be able to go to college, and how it was her parent's fault. I definitely don't want to be in that situation. I don't know that much about birth control and I've never put on a condom. I know I'm supposed to be the man in the relationship, but I don't know how to take control of this situation. Do I have sex with her or what? Will she laugh at me and tell all her friends? I'm feeling lost and need some help.

Dear Feeling Lost,

The first thing you need to do is have an open and honest conversation with your girlfriend about how you are feeling. You both need to understand that there are many consequences in having sex when you are not ready. You might get an STI (sexually transmitted infection), or end up with an unwanted pregnancy. We do understand, however, that some teens are sexually active. So listen up!!! You and your partner need to get accurate information. You can start by doing an internet search, going to the local clinic, confiding in a trusted adult, or reach out to a Teen PEP Peer Leader. If and when, you and your partner decide that you want to become sexually active, you must use a reliable method of birth control CORRECTLY and EVERYTIME you have sex. Remember, ABSTINENCE IS THE ONLY 100% EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT STI'S AND AN UNWANTED PREGNANCY. What does ABSTINENCE mean? It means NOT having anal, oral, or vaginal sex. We hope this information can help you and your partner make the right decision.

Teen Pep Advisor: Jackie Leon-Adler

EDITORIAL

STAFF

2013-2014

Editor-in-Chief
School News Editor
Advisor

Deija Smith
Kayla Leiton
Mrs. Acquavella

Anyone interested in writing for the paper, see Mrs. Acquavella in Room 218. If you have a story idea or would like to write for Paw Prints - please email chrisseyacquavella@gmail.com.

Opinions expressed in the paper are not the consensus opinion of the staff and do not reflect the views of the adviser or school administration.