

Hingham High School's Harborlight

Fall 2013

Hope for Peace



Abo Al-Nur Sadk/Agence France-Presse
Syrian rebel fighters helping a comrade reach safety after he was shot in the leg by a sniper during a clash last week in the northern city of Aleppo.

By Davis Goode
Contributing Writer

It has been 54 days since the August 21st attack on eleven sites of Syrian rebel strongholds in Damascus that killed over 1,400 people, including over 400 children (UN report), and the violence does not appear to be abating. On September 10th, President Obama delivered remarks on the situation in Syria, clearly supporting the strategy of a limited strike on Syria's chemical weapons launch sites in order to degrade their abilities to launch attacks and dissuade them and others to use chemical weapons while recognizing the possibility of an international deal. He believes that if the U.S and others do not respond, the situation will worsen and President Bashar Al-Assad's stockpiles will proliferate to terrorist groups and other harsh regimes.

see SYRIA, page 2

A New Era Begins

By Sarah Calnan
Contributing Writer

Whispers of the possibilities flooded school the day the student body learned the fields project had been approved. School pride began a steady climb as this project commenced, making students even more proud to be Harbormen and women.

The debate for approval had been a heated one, with many people opposed to the idea of a lighted turf field. In the end, not only would HHS get a field and lights, but the schools also received approval for a new softball field, a baseball field, a concession stand, and an extension on the junior parking lot with a paved walkway from the far lot to the school. What a deal!

see FIELDS page 4



Photo by Sarah Calnan

Above is a familiar sight from the classroom. Piles of dirt and roaming trucks transformed with each passing day to create the new fields.

NEWS

Syrian Conflict

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The situation, however, is not nearly unprecedented, as Secretary of State John Kerry and President Obama sometimes conveyed to an international audience. Most recently, in 1988 Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein dropped mustard gas and nerve agents on the Kurdish city of Halabja, apparently avenging the fall of the city from Iraq. The attack killed thousands of people, 75% of whom were women or children (BBC). Most disturbingly, the attack came at a time of war between Iran and Iraq, and declassified CIA reports suggest that the U.S, which was ostensibly allied with Hussein at the time, ignored the attacks (Al-Jazeera).

Iraq's chemical weapons stockpile was hardly a secret, and the Reagan administration knew full well that Iraq maintained and sometimes used chemical weapons. However, Washington thought the danger of Iran superseded the danger of any possible Iraqi chemical attack. Iraq even made a statement in 1984 nearly acknowl-

edging their stockpiles and their intent to use those stockpiles. Iraq stated that the Iranian invaders "should know that for every harmful insect, there is an insecticide capable of annihilating it . . . and Iraq possesses this annihilation insecticide." The relationship with Iraq at the time was too important to risk losing it over the attacks (Washington Post). Incidentally, or perhaps not, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and the Bush administration cited Iraq's use of chemical weapons as justification for the invasion 2003 invasion of Iraq.

The Obama administration is hoping to make the argument that this attack is different. President Obama staunchly opposes the idea of another war, but he also believes that a failure to do anything could exacerbate the violence in the region. The Syrian Civil War has claimed over 115,000 lives; many of the lives have been lost in barbaric manners, such as using children as human shields or bombing civilians or using chemical weapons. President Obama needs to

establish credibility considering his comment that the use of Syrian chemical weapons against civilians would be a "red line," but at what cost?

The international community has a checkered record on the issue of military strikes and intervention, and one of America's most important allies, Great Britain, already declared it will not attack Syria in any capacity (CNN). But if the U.S attacks yet another Middle Eastern country, terrorist groups may respond by using the attack as more propaganda that America's foreign policy is thinly veiled imperialism and that the U.S

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NEWS

Syrian Conflict

continued from previous page

itself is a nation of thugs and murderers. There is no better weapon of recruitment to give terrorist groups than more military strikes.

Additionally, Al-Nusra, an Al-Qaeda linked group, is one of the Syrian rebels'™ best group of fighters (Washington Times). In a strike, we will directly help them and possibly aid in the establishment of another Islamic, extremist regime if Al Qaeda fills the power vacuum left by Assad. The Obama administration believes, though, that the Free Syrian Army is not a terrorist group and that the new government could be more friendly towards the U.S and Israel, which is one of the gambles of an attack.

On Thursday, September 26, the U.S and Russia reached a deal on Syria agreeing that if Syria handed over its chemical weapons stockpiles to the international community, an attack would be avoided, but failure to comply would lead to immediate international repercussions (Christian Science Monitor). The deal would avoid U.S intervention and would be legal under international and U.N laws. Russia is the Syrian regime's top ally, and Syria agreed to the deal immediately. This support from Syria possibly suggests a breakthrough, but the deal gives time to Assad to scatter or hide his chemical weapons if he so desires. The deal places much responsibility in the hands of Assad to destroy his weapons, which is dangerous considering his history.

Russia, arguably is complicit in Assad's use of chemical weapons considering their monetary and military support of him, but the deal is quite hopeful. The international outcry and controversy will dissuade future attacks using chemical weapons. The deal is a peaceful solution which could spark a change in the perception that the U.S is imperialist or puts military ahead of diplomacy. The deal does not

directly embolden the Syrian opposition, which eliminates the fear of aiding Al-Qaeda, and the deal prevents more U.S foreign entanglements while implementing safeguards to ensure Assad adheres to the deal.

Considering the vitriolic situation in Syria, the ambivalence of the international community and the nature of the attack itself, the deal demonstrates a condemnation of chemical weapons without adding fuel to the Syrian Civil War's fire. If President Bashar Al-Assad holistically complies with all dictates of the deal, this will be a watershed event in history that illustrates the power of diplomacy and international cohesion.

SNAPSHOTS

Best of Luck Class of 2013







PHOTOGRAPHY BY SUSAN HAGSTROM
WWW.SNAPSHOTSBYUSAN.COM
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NEWS

Fields Project Nears Completion

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The planning was set for the project to be fully completed by November, with the field being ready for the homecoming games. Many worried if the timeline could be met. On the first day back to school, students were somewhat disconcerted by the still unfinished field project. Sitting in the classrooms on that side of the school, the construction work absorbed students' attention as the teachers tried to focus class on academics.

Despite Hingham High School's step towards a new era of athletics, the seemingly slow rate of progress was somewhat discouraging. At many fall sports meetings, Ms. Conaty was often asked some form of the question, "Aren't you tearing your hair out?" Her confidence was admirable as she gave an unwavering smile and said that this project would be one for the books. She was right!

The field looked priceless on Saturday for the girls' field hockey, girls' and boys' soccer, and boys' football game. Even though it may not have been a day filled with sunshine, the fields sure brightened the mood! One of the best comments heard in the stands was an observer saying that "the field looks like it could hold its own if it was compared to a college stadium."

Although the football team did not come out on top in the game, the school earned a win with the enormous community support. The field not only raised school pride, but the improved aesthetics seemed to heighten also our sense of community.

Although seniors may not be around HHS too much longer to use the new facilities, I am sure they can agree that the new walkway from the far parking lot is an added bonus in the project. No more wet dirt and grass. Walking by that field every morning with the bleachers reaching high into the sky should cause all upperclassmen to smile at how lucky they are to go to Hingham High.

Keep your eye out as the new baseball and softball fields enter their finishing stages, and hopefully the next football game will be an even nicer day so that more people can come and appreciate the field.

Thank you Ms. Conaty and thank you to everyone who helped make this project happen!

Homecoming Pictures

By **Lizzie McNeill**

Contributing Photographer

Girls' Soccer Against Plymouth South Win: 5-1



more pictures next page

Homecoming

Homecoming Pictures

By Lizzie McNeill
Contributing Photographer

**Boys' Soccer Against Middleborough
Win: 9-1**

**Girls' Field Hockey against Pembroke
Win:4-2**



**HHS Football Against Silver Lake
Loss: 31-28**



Teacher Feature

Who is that Guy? Meeting the New Staff

By Lily McCarthy
Managing Editor

General Questions

- (1) How long are you have been teaching/doing what you have been doing?
- (2) What is your favorite part of teaching?
- (3) What is your favorite movie?
- (4) What do you like to do in your spare time?

Mrs. Holler
Athletics Director
Administrative
Assistant



- (1) Been here since February, but has been an Administrator Assistant for 15 years.
- (2) Working with the Students
- (3) *Sound of Music*
- (4) She enjoys boating with her family.

Mr. Abrams
Music Teacher



- (1) 5 years now.
- (2) Getting to watch student growth at all ages from the elementary school children to the High Schoolers with chorus.
- (3) Either *Good Will Hunting* or *21*.

Mr. Manning
Career Planning Coordinator



- (1) This is his second year teaching.
- (2) Probably talking to kids about the future. He finds it exciting to see kids learn and plan for the future.
- (3) There are too many! Either *Shawshank Redemption* or *the Godfather*.

Fun Fact: Played College Football with Mr. Struzziero at Tufts University!·

Mrs. White
Computer Tech Specialist



- (1) First year teaching. Was a paraprofessional in Weymouth before here.
 - (2) She is in IS, she likes working with the computers and the kids.
 - (3) *My Best Friend's Wedding!*
 - (4) She enjoys hanging around her twin boys
-

- (4) Performing and playing music. He also enjoys watching the Red Sox and hanging out with friends.

Teacher Feature

Meet Mr. Doerr

By Matt Dwyer
Contributing Writer

Mr. Doerr, a new history teacher, teaches ninth, tenth and eleventh grade classes including, Humanities, World History and American Studies.



Before coming to Hingham High, Mr. Doerr taught ninth and tenth grade history at Silver Lake Regional High School in Kingston and was also involved with their track program. His favorite time in history to study and teach is the Cold War because many of its themes can be applied to the present day. He believes this helps students understand and relate to what they are learning.

Although currently he would like to focus on teaching, Mr. Doerr plans on becoming involved with spring track, specifically sprinting.

In his spare time, Mr. Doerr likes to read about history, exercise, watch football and maintain a fantasy football team. His favorite team is the Patriots.

Also, he is a Game of Thrones enthusiast, and avidly watches the popular TV show and has read the lengthy books multiple times. His interest derives from the books' historical aspects that derive from medieval history, and he says they are almost like reading historical fiction.

Hingham High welcomes Mr. Doerr to his new school community.

Harborlight Staff Members Include:

Senior Staff

Lily McCarthy
Matt Rosso

Advisor

Ms. Fennelly

Contributing Writers and Photographers

Isabel Allen
Sarah Calnan
Matt Dwyer
Davis Goode

Jack Hern
Laura Lynch
Erica Pesci
Kristin Saleski
Addy Stupin

Q&A with Ms. Sweeney

By Laura Lynch
Contributing Writer



What are your first impressions of Hingham High School?

Counselor

My first impressions of Hingham High School are that it is a great school with a lot of school spirit, and the students and faculty have been very welcoming.

What are your goals for this year?

My goal is to meet with all my students and build positive relationships with them.

Do you have any previous teaching experience?

Yes, I was a counselor at Brookline High School and Needham High School.

What is your favorite/ main hobby outside of school?

I coach ice hockey.

Do you have a favorite movie, tv show, or music?

My favorite movie is Miracle, my favorite TV show is Revenge, and I enjoy all types of music, so I don't really have a favorite.

Where did you attend high school and college? I attended Dedham High School, I graduated from Bridgewater State, and I received my Masters at UMASS Boston.

Do you have any advice for the students?

Enjoy every aspect of High School, because it will fly by! Don't dwell too much on the small things.

Features

A Greener Goal

By Jack Hern
Contributing Writer

Since the school year commenced on September 3rd, both the Hingham High School Green Committee, run by Mr. Swanson, and the Student Council Green Committee have worked together to help make the school a greener place.

This year, HHS is trying to achieve the status of a Green Ribbon School. The Green Ribbon is an exclusive award given to the most environmentally-friendly schools around the nation. In order to achieve this honor, HHS has been changing several of its ways. One new idea is the creation of an HHS greenhouse. A few years ago, we received a grant that allowed us to start this greenhouse, and hopefully, it will be completed and ready for use next month. The greenhouse uses a hydroponic system that allows plants to grow without soil and enables the vegetation to grow throughout the year.

Secondly, the “Slash the Trash” program has been a major component in increasing the compost in our school. Every Friday, a team or club helps with the compost during lunch, assuring that all waste is properly disposed. Then, after the each season, the most complete team with the post and the amount of points, which are given for recyclable items in the trash, wins a team luncheon. This competition gets everyone excited about becoming more environmentally friendly.

Finally, HHS is currently researching the installation of hand-dryers in the bathroom. This will significantly decrease the paper towel waste every day, and it is yet another idea that can help HHS become a green ribbon school. So everybody should keep the earth clean, and go green.



Gear Up for the Sport and Ski Sale

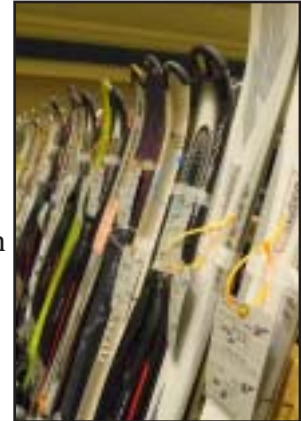
By Erica Pesci
Contributing Writer

On Saturday November 16th 2013, come and support the Hingham PTO at the 26th annual sport and ski sale. The sale will be held at Hingham high school’s cafeteria from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. The PTO will be accepting all donations and consignments on Friday, the day before the sale from 3:00 to 8:00 pm. Proceeds from the items sold on consignments will have 50% going to the PTO and 50% going to the seller.

For sellers and consigners, all goods must be in clean and adequate condition. Country Ski and Sport store will be at the sale selling both used and new equipment as well as clothing. Ski bindings over five years old will not be accepted. This year the athletic teams are offered to come sell their ware at this sale. In addition there will be a raffle!

The PTO sponsors many events such as Senior Day, Senior Night, Freshmen Orientation, Hospitality, Fine Arts and more. The PTO also offers mini grants to teachers as well as scholarships to students. The sport and ski sale is one the two fundraisers for the PTO, and it’s success is a crucial element for future events.

Volunteers from both parents and students, would be greatly appreciated. For students, it is a great opportunity to earn community service hours. Students can sign up through student council. Spread the word or stop by yourself, all are welcome. For more information contact mjcktburns@gmail.com or Trisha Nowicki at nowickifamily4@gmail.com.



Features

Extended Weather Forecast of 2013 – 2014

By Isabel Allen
Contributing Writer

According to the Farmer's Almanac, this winter is expected to be milder than normal for New England, with less harsh storms but more precipitation. Although we experienced some enjoyable warm weather in the beginning of October, temperatures are starting to drop and will stay around 55oF for a few weeks.


November is predicted to be cold and dry, with rainstorms approaching near Thanksgiving. The first snowstorm will most likely be around November 10th, which is much earlier than usual. December will be snowy this year, and there will be long, cold periods towards the

end of January and February. This freezing weather will take a while to leave since the time from March until May is expected to have a colder average temperature than normal.

The weather will take a drastic turn in June, as heat waves will move in. The transition to summer weather will be quick, with a prediction of low precipitation and very high temperatures. So get ready to bundle up for a long winter and hang your jacket up in June for a hot summer!

**Answer the call
for education.**



**Hingham
Education
Foundation** 

HEF Phonathon October 20th & 27th.

The Hingham Education Foundation will be having its annual Phonathon on October 20th & 27th from 5-9pm. Dozens of Hingham High School students will be calling residents to raise money to support our foundation.

Coldwell Banker and William Raveis have generously given us the use of their offices for HEF's 2013 Phonathon! So, when your caller ID says Coldwell Banker (781) 749-4300 or William Raveis (781) 749-3007...

please answer the call for education!

Features

Gravity-Worth a View

By **Kristin Saleski**
Contributing Writer



Gravity directed by Alfonso Cuarón is an extremely captivating movie. The film runs one hour and thirty-one minutes. It is currently playing at the Patriot Cinemas in the Hingham Shipyard at 1:00 pm, 3:15 pm, 5:30 pm, and 7:40 pm.

In this film, Sandra Bullock plays the brilliant medical engineer Dr. Ryan Stone who is on her first shuttle mission with George Clooney's character, astronaut Matt Kowalsky, a veteran on his last mission before retirement. While they are completing their last task, disaster strikes. Rouge space-debris hits and destroys their ship, leaving them stranded in outer space without any means of communicating to help on earth.

Running low on oxygen and left with a single jet pack, their only hope of survival is traveling to the nearest space center and using one of their escape pods before the debris orbits back around. Sandra Bullock successfully demonstrates the trauma and severity of the situation, while George Clooney provides a little bit of relief with his more relaxed vibe. They play as foils of each other in a way.

The movie took many unexpected turns, which heightened the tension and added to the complexity of the plot. The cinematography was amazing. The director utilized a first person perspective where it felt like you, the viewer, were in Sandra Bullock's position. This technique helps the audience sympathize with the protagonist's struggles.

The quality of the film is spectacular. When George Clooney says "you can't beat the view from up here" you can't help but agree because the movie features stunning, realistic shots of the earth from outer space.

In general *Gravity* was a spectacular film.

Rick Yancey's *The Monstrumologist* A Book Review

By **Addy Stupin**
Contributing Writer



I chose this book, *The Monstrumologist* by Rick Yancey, not because of the intriguing title or cover artwork but because it received the Michael L Printz Honor Award. Two other favorite books of mine, *I Am the Messenger* and *The Book Thief*, both by Markus Zusak and both equally fantastic, also received this award.

The Monstrumologist chronicles the apprenticeship between Will Henry, a young orphaned twelve year old boy, and a mysterious and moody "mostrumologist" called Dr. Pellinore Warthrop. This book features the horrifying Anthropophagus, a hideous headless race of monsters, with rows of razor sharp teeth in their stomachs, who happen to be very fond of human flesh.

Will Henry, Dr. Warthrop and a slew of other characters, including the tortured Malachi Stinnet, wary Constable Robert Morgan, and charismatic and manipulative Dr. John Kearns, must defend the town, New Jerusalem, and the East coast from these deadly creatures. They must do this in secret, not alerting anyone of their existence, except for a select few, so as not to cause panic. In addition the Warthrop family has a history with the Anthropophagi, adding conflict and dimension to the story.

Initially I thought this book would be too childish because it centers on a twelve year old

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The characters and plot were well developed and the cinematography was well thought out. The only down side was that the film was a bit slow in some parts.

What Are You Reading?

She Said

continued from previous page

character. This fear was completely unfounded as *The Monstrumologist* is one of the most gory, morbid, horrific, gruesome, graphic books I've ever had the pleasure of reading. The descriptions of the monsters' appearances and bloody carnages feature some of the most graphically interesting imagery I've ever experienced.

I personally feel imagery can easily be overdone and, although it may have been overdone at times during this book, it was ultimately very successful. The raw descriptions, articulate and advanced writing style, dimensional characters, absolutely gory and grisly nature, and melancholy undertones earn this book a solid four out of five stars.

When picking this book up I was unaware it was part of a series, but will most definitely be continuing with the following companion novels. I recommend it to anyone, but would caution a prospective reader of the extreme gore.

She Said:
***Harborlight* columnist**
Addy Stupin
gives it 4/5 stars.



He Said
***Harborlight* columnist**
Matt Dwyer
also gives it 4/5 stars.



He Said

By Matt Dwyer

Contributing Writer

The Monstrumologist by Rich Yancey is about a twelve year old named Will Henry apprenticed to a monster scientist after the tragic death of his parents in the late 1800s. His new guardian Pellinmore Warthrop involves him in late-night investigations and experiments where they dissect monsters and investigate strange appearances around their New England town.

The novel starts out with a grave robber delivering the corpse of a monster he discovered while excavating a grave in the middle of the night. This leads Pellinmore and Will to believe that more of the man-eating monsters lurk in the shadows, eventually prompting an effort to hunt down the remaining beasts. As the story accelerates the graphic and detailed imagery, the constant threat of danger and the sense of mystery intensify the plot.

The author includes detailed imagery into every element of the story, often personifying inanimate objects in their description to assign them a new meaning or provide a different perspective to look at them. Also, the author graphically describes encounters with the man-eating monsters, including details about the demise of the victims and how their bodies are destroyed by the ravenous beasts.

Intense imagery of the five senses is also included in flashbacks, providing a crisp picture of what the characters experienced. An impending feeling of danger was inserted to the plot with the constant threat of attack by the monsters, causing a perpetual accumulation of suspense. Also, how the population of monsters came to America from their native Africa is unclear throughout the book, causing a mystery that lasts throughout the novel.

The imagery intensifies the suspense and mystery of the plot that build up to a climax that ultimately defines the main character. Overall, this book earns four out of five stars.

Features

Diana Nyad's Inspirational Feat

By Jack Forbes

Contributing Writer

Perseverance, hard work, and dedication, are all things we hear over and over again. Who better to exemplify these traits than Diana Nyad, the endurance swimmer who recently completed the first unassisted swim from Cuba to Key West?

As we all enjoyed our last day of summer September 2nd, Diana finished her grueling 110 mile swim, battling lethal Box jellyfish, five foot ocean swells and extreme discomfort from her specialized swimming mask. She also had to worry about shark attacks. The swim took a total of 53 hours of which she was not allowed to hold onto the boat for rest. She was fed mostly a high calorie liquid diet by her boat crew.

This wasn't Diana's first attempt at swimming from Cuba to Florida. In 1978, when she was 28, she made her first attempt but failed. She then tried 3 more times unsuccessfully because of east flowing currents, lightning, and lethal Box jellyfish stings which some say are more dangerous than sharks attacks.

Finally ,on the fifth try with the aid of a swift southern current, she completed her life-long goal at the age of 64. As she staggered out of the water on Smathers Beach in Key West, saying only, "Never give up, you are never too old to follow your dreams, and this looks like a solitary sport but it is really a team effort". Great advice for everyone.



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Senior Portraits

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Black Thumb Rep application is available on our website!
Deadline: June 15, 2012