



THE DISPATCH

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Issue V, Volume 46

HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

OAKWOOD AND MCKAY ROADS

HUNTINGTON, NY

Graduation



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CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES



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2016-2017
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The Dispatch is Huntington High School's official student publication. Written for over 1200 students attending HHS, *The Dispatch* is distributed to all students, staff and school community members at the school free of charge.

The Editorial Board is the newspaper's decision-making body, organizing and directing its operation. *The Dispatch* staff has adopted the following editorial policy to express the rights, responsibilities and philosophy of the newspaper for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Dispatch of Huntington High School is a public forum, with its student editorial board making all decisions concerning its content. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters are preferred signed, but may be published by request. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, privacy, and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper. Questions, comments, and letters to the editor should be sent electronically to hhsdispatch@gmail.com or submitted to *The Dispatch* mailbox located in the main office.

Opinions in letters are not necessarily those of the staff, nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be construed as the opinion of the administration, unless so attributed.

The Dispatch's goal is to provide readers with interesting content in a wide variety of areas. Such areas include the news coverage of school and community events, as well as features on relevant topics. In addition, *The Dispatch* will provide opinionated editorials on controversial topics, as well as provide previews and reviews for upcoming school and professional sports seasons and other forms of entertainment.

MR. VALEDICTORIAN

BY CRAIG HAAS

From the creation of the duck pond at Jefferson Elementary School to recently being named the Valedictorian of the Huntington High School's class of 2017, Steve Yeh is known for being a notoriously hard worker.

"During snack-

career without stress. Although his parents never looked for or expected amazing grades, Steve always looked for a "wow" or "great job" from his parents and teachers.

One of his many favorite teachers throughout the district has been his

order to get results. Not only does he work more than he's asked to, Steve will question almost anything that comes to mind so that he understands a topic for himself and to help other students who may have trouble in his classes.

Our graduating



Class of 2017 Valedictorian Steve Yeh

time, I would just go on the carpet, pick up a book, and read." You can say it all began there, but it was the carpet at home in which he began his studies. At home, Steve's parents never pushed him to study or punish him for a bad grade. They gave Steve his space which has allowed him to grow and pursue his

AP United States Government and Politics teacher Mr. Kenneth Donovan. Steve proclaims that Mr. Donovan's class allowed him to begin exploring issues in a manner open to numerous perspectives. Steve has always been willing to put as much time and effort into his work as he needs in

class' valedictorian just might be one of the hardest workers you'll ever meet, but let's be clear: Steve is a person, and like all people he isn't perfect.

As Steve looks forward to joining the ranks of the nation's other top graduates at the Ivy League's Cornell University in the fall, Steve wants

you to know that a bad grade won't stop you from reaching your goal of getting into your dream college.

Like all of us, Steve has had his fair share of bad grades and moments where he was unable to answer certain questions. Steve actually appreciates these moments of uncertainty, as they reassure him that there is still more to learn. Steve never complains about a bad grade because he knows it's on him, and that he can--and will--put in more effort the next day.

For freshman, Steve emphasizes the importance of making connections with friends and teachers that will allow you to succeed. For Steve, this was his brother Frank Yeh. Frank not only helped Steve find his way around for his first few weeks, but motivated and reminded Steve that bad grades only come along to teach you that nobody is perfect and that you always need to work

hard for great results, no matter if it's your strongest or weakest topic.

As Steve Yeh is finishing his final months of high school and is preparing for college, he is continuing to have a great time in Huntington. He's enjoyed every minute of it, whether it be meeting new friends, learning new viewpoints, or taking exciting new classes and learning information that he could never have received elsewhere.

Some of his favorite memories actually have very little to do with traditional learning. Ask Steve what his favorite memory is and he'll tell you about playing "wall-ball" on the blacktop or watching the monarch butterflies grow and develop in third or fourth grade. Winning the spelling bee or being a National Merit Finalists isn't everything that symbolizes Steve Yeh or everything he looks to be; our valedictorian would rather be known for his hard

work and his person as a whole, not just an award based off of one test and/or essay on a singular subject.

As Steve is beginning to transition into college, he hopes to be able to stay focused in an area where there is a lot of work, yet a lot of fun. When mentioning the thought of being away from home, his family, and Huntington High School, Steve needed a deep breath just like anyone else would. He knows this transition will be hard and challenging, but just like everything else Steve has done as a scholar, he is willing to take it on!

As Steve and I ended up our long and inspiring interview, I ended up getting one very important piece of advice and the answer to a question he's received a numerous amount of times. First off, when looking for advice from the man himself, Steve Yeh wants to be able to inspire everyone to try their best



Mr. Yeh won the Huntington High School's annual spelling bee this past year.

each and every day to reach their goal. He hopes to reach out to everyone and let them know that it is not that one test you should be studying for. Steve tells everyone to "study to *know* the topic everyday to get familiar with it, not just for one test."

Lastly, when asked if he would rather "pursue a career making a lot of money doing something he doesn't like or pursue his

dreams and make just enough to cover his necessities," Steve will without hesitation tell you that he would rather make just enough to cover his necessities to follow his dreams. Steve doesn't see a point in being miserable for a lot of money when he could go to work everyday and enjoy what he does, because after all, "you did put in your best effort to get where you wanted to be."

MY EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE IN HUNTINGTON

BY PETCH

Have you ever thought of visiting another country, or maybe you've considered the idea of traveling abroad to see relatives? These are arguably the most common reasons for international travel. I, however, traveled to the United States for a different reason--to go to another country as an exchange student to study other cul-

tures, gain some experience, and see the world outside of my home country.

My name is Petch, and I'm from Chonburi, Thailand. When I made the decision to get my exchange experience in the United States as an exchange student, I first ended up in Smithtown, but I didn't quite like it there so I decided to move and ended up in Huntington. People here are very nice, friendly and welcom-

ing. I love it here!

I live with the Dempsey host family. They're very friendly, kind, generous, comforting, lovely and welcoming. I have a lot of fun times with them. They treat me really well, and I appreciate and love them so much!

It took me two years of preparation to be an exchange student. I had to fill a lot of paperwork and get my Visa and my new passport. I even had to trav-

el two hours from my house to Bangkok every Sunday to study about the United States. I was like, "why the bloody hell is this so complicated?" It took me 26 hours to fly to the United States! I detest long flights, and was very exhausted.

As can be expected, there are many things in the United States that are different from Thailand--the weather being a big one. I am used to hot and

moist weather in Thailand, but have had to learn to cope and deal with the cold weather here, which I'm not very fond of. I did get to see snow for the first time during my stay here, which has always been one of my biggest dreams. It was magnificent, but I have had enough. No more! Units are something else that I've had to get used to. Your use of pounds for weight,

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LAS PÁGINAS EN ESPAÑOL

TRANSLATIONS BY ARIANA STRIEB

APRENDE DE TUS ERRORES

POR ILSI MARTINEZ E.

¿Cuál fue tu punto de partida y cuál será tu punto de llegada? Aquí te traigo un poco de motivación ya que puedo ver que estás queriendo caer, y no te veo con muchas ganas de levantarte pero se que sí puedes hacerlo, solo que no lo sabes, y a veces solo necesitamos un pequeño empujón para poder levantarnos. Te daré un empujón.

Ya todos sabemos la misma historia de aquel niño tímido que recibió una noticia inesperada que tenía que salir de su país y dejar todo atrás, los berrinches que le hacíamos a mami o a papi por el teléfono reclamandoles el ¿por qué me dejaste? Pero cuando recibimos la noticia que por fin vas a tener una mejor vida al lado de papi o mami que sin tu saberlo te dieron todo lo material mientras

ellos trabajaban por las horas más largas y por el pago más bajo, pero se olvidaron de darte lo más importante. Olvidaron darte amor. Al haber pasado por aquel camino que te lleva a tu querido destino, te das cuenta que las cosas son aun peor, ya no tienes a quien reclamarle nada y ya nada lo tienes a tu alcance, ahora nada es de gratis, ahora no solo pides y se te dará, ya nada es así.

Vienes y te enfrentas con la realidad de ya no más fiestas, no a la mejor ropa de marca, no a la bonita vida que dejaste atrás, ahora tienes a tu mami y papi en el cuarto de a lado, pero siéntes como que no están ¿por qué? y empiezas a debilitarte y empiezas a caer, la respuesta es fácil, estás viendo como tu mami y tu papi trabajan tanto para poder darte la

vida que siempre has querido y ellos tratan y tratan pero simplemente no te dan eso que quieres, no te dan el gusto que quieres y sientes que la vida es dura e injusta contigo lo digo porque yo la he vivido.

Todos un día llegamos a un punto donde pensamos que todo nos va mal y renegamos de las cosas y nos preguntamos y le preguntamos a la vida ¿por qué me pasa esto a mi? Y la respuesta que muchas veces no miramos que esas cosas nos pasan para que nos hagamos fuertes, no te conformes con lo que necesitas lucha por lo que te mereces, y que a final de todo aprendamos a dar gracias porque cada día desde el momento que abres los ojos en la mañana, desde ese momento debes de saber y debes de tener en mente que ese día ya tuviste la primera bendición.

Miremos cada día como una oportunidad para invertir en la vida, una oportunidad para compartir nuestra experiencia con alguien más. ¡Solo en la oscuridad podemos ver las estrellas!

En la vida algún día a todos nos toca aprender de todo así que te recomiendo que si no sabes hacer algo ¡APRENDE!

Porque nunca sabemos para cuando lo necesitaremos.

Después de ese cambio que hacemos de tener una vida 'suave' a empezar a tener una vida 'dura', cuando empiezas a trabajar y a estudiar al mismo tiempo cuando antes solo pedías y se te concebían, es duro, claro que sí, no es fácil, es difícil ¿verdad? Es difícil llegar a tener lo que quieres por tu cuenta, claro que sí, pero nada es fácil, para poder llegar al éxito vas a tener que caer y levantarte con fuerzas. Si tu tienes la oportunidad de estudiar, aprovéchala y sacar provecho de esa oportunidad y debes estar preparado echándole ganas, porque es mejor tener la oportunidad y aprovecharla que tener una oportunidad y NO aprovecharla.

¿Cual es tu sueño? ¿Qué piensas hacer de tu vida? Cual sea que sea tu sueño solo no te rindas porque es necesario que lo cumplas, es necesario que vayas por lo que es tuyo y lo tomes, aprovecha la oportunidad que tengas, cual sea que sea aprovéchala, que esa oportunidad te va a llevar a tu sueño, si tu sueño. Tu puedes cumplir tus sueños siempre y cuando trabajes fuerte, es ¡POSI-

BLE! Todo lo que te propongas será ¡POSIBLE! Porque tienes el poder de hacerlo.

Es importante que te hagas una pregunta todos los días ¿estoy haciendo mi sueño posible? ¿estoy sacando provecho de esta oportunidad que tengo en mis manos? Todo es POSIBLE!, si tu no sacaste la nota que querías en el examen, esta es la oportunidad para que apagues la televisión, apagues tu teléfono porque lo que tienes es estudiando para así cumplir lo que quieres, y lograr grandes cosas en tu vida. Ten en mente que nada está terminado hasta que TU no hayas ganado y logrado ese sueño de ser esa persona que quieres.

¿Sabías que un águila sabe cuando una tormenta se acerca mucho antes de que empiece? El águila volará a un sitio alto para esperar los vientos que vendrán! así es como nosotros tenemos que estar preparados con los obstáculos de la vida. Así que levántate y ve en busca de tus sueños que cada día están más cerca de ti, que TU historia no te afecte tu presente, y que tu presente no afecte tu futuro.

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SI TU QUIERES A ESCRIBIR PARA ESTO SECCIÓN, USA EL REMIND PARA EL DISPATCH (TEXTO @HDISP A 81010), VEN A NUESTRO SESIONES MIÉRCOLES DESPUÉS DE ESCUELA, Y EMAIL ARTÍCULOS Y PREGUNTAS A HHSDISPATCH@GMAIL.COM

CROSSING BARRIERS

BY ILSI MARTINEZ E.

When was the moment where you finally decided you had to change? Let me give you a little motivation because I can see that you might fall, and I can see you may not have the will to keep going, but I know that you can do it, just that you do not know it yet. Sometimes we just need a little push to get up. I'll give you that push.

We all know the same story, that a shy child receives an unexpected notice and must leave the country and leave everything behind. With the tantrums you have thrown over the phone at your mom and dad asking "Why did you leave me?" But when you receive the news that finally you will have a better life side by side with your mom and dad, that without your knowing they gave you everything while they worked for long hours, for the lowest pay. They forgot to give you the most important thing of all. They forgot to give you

love. Having passed through that path that leads to one's beloved destination, one realizes that things are even worse. One no longer has anyone to call upon and nothing able to grasp. Now, nothing is free, now you can't ask for something and expect to receive it.

You come face to face with the reality that you can't party anymore, or buy the most expensive clothes, or have the beautiful life that you have left behind. You have your mom and dad, and they're in the next room over, but it feels as if they are not there. "Why?" Then you begin to deliberate and begin to fall. The answer is easy. You are beginning to see how hard your mom and dad worked to give you the life you always wanted. They try and try, but sometimes they can't give you what you want. Sometimes you feel as if life is hard and unfair. I am telling you this because I have lived it.

One day, we all get to the point

where we think to ourselves, "Everything is wrong." We complain about things and we ask ourselves and ask life "Why does this happen to me?" And many times the answer is we do not realize that these things occur to make us stronger.

Don't settle for less, fight for what you deserve. At the end of the day we learn to be thankful for everything because everyday we wake up in the morning. In that moment, we must maintain this mentality because we just had our first blessing.

We must look at each day like an opportunity to invest in life, an opportunity to share new experiences with someone else. Only in the darkness can you see the stars!

In life, someday we all will have to learn a little bit of everything. If you do not know how to do something, LEARN IT! Because you never know when you will need it.

After this change from having a "smooth" life to a "difficult" one, you begin to work and study at the same time. You used to ask and were given whatever you wanted. Now it is hard, difficult. It's not easy. It's hard to achieve what you



want by your own means, of course, yet nothing is easy. In order to achieve success you will have to fall and get back up with strength. If you have the opportunity to study, take advantage of the opportunity and put everything you have in it because it is better to take full advantage of the opportunity than letting it go to waste.

What is your dream? What do you want to do with your life? Whatever your dream is, do not give up because it is necessary to achieve it. It is necessary to go after what is yours and take it. Take advantage of every opportunity that is offered to you because this opportunity could get you closer to your dream. You will be able to achieve your dreams, and when you work hard, it is POSSIBLE! Anything is POSSIBLE! Because you have the power to do it. It is important that you ask yourself everyday, "Am I doing everything possible to help achieve my dream?" "Am I taking advantage of this opportunity that's in my hands?"

Everything is POSSIBLE!. If you did not get the grade that you want on the test, then is the time you turn off the television, turn off your cell phone, because what you should be doing is study so you can achieve your dreams and get what you want in your life. Keep in mind that nothing is finished until YOU have won and achieved that dream of being that person you want.

Did you know that an eagle knows when a storm is approaching long before it begins? The eagle will fly to a high place to wait for the winds that will come! We must do the same when preparing for obstacles in our life. You must get up and go and search for your dreams, which are getting closer to you everyday. Do not let your past affect your present, and do not let your present affect your future.

• • •

THIS ARTICLE IS THE TRANSLATION OF THE ARTICLE APPEARING ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE.



OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

A	AGUIRRE, Evan.....	Northeastern University	ANNUNZIATA, Jenna M.....	Adelphi University
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	ANASTOS, Emanuel.....	Carleton College	ARCIPRETE, Olivia R.....	The University of Tampa
	ANDERSON, Kayla E	Nassau Community College	ARDELL, Anna E.....	George Mason University
	ANGSTADT, Max	The University of Scranton	ARLEO, Allyson P.....	La Salle University
B	BAILEY, Alyssa Darlene-Paige	Suffolk County Community College	AYLER, Amara.....	SUNY College at Potsdam
	BALDANZA, Olivia.....	University of Delaware	BIENER, Jordan.....	University of South Carolina
	BAPTISTE, Hannah	SUNY College at Geneseo	BONILLA, Vanessa	Suffolk County Community College
	BARTLEY, Gabriella	State University of New York at Albany	BONILLA, William.....	Pace University, NYC
	BELLISTRI, Abigail	University of St Andrews	BREITBARTH, Emma.....	The University of Arizona
C	BENITES, Jessica	Suffolk County Community College	BRESKIN, Stefan	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
	BEREJKA, Elizabeth S	Fordham University	BROWNE, Daniel.....	Syracuse University
	BIBLOW, Samuel C	SUNY College at Oneonta	BURKE, Brianna.....	Fairfield University
	CABALLERO, Rebecca...	University of New Haven	BURTON, Christopher.....	State University of New York at Buffalo
	CANAS, Jonathan	Nassau Community College	COLLINS, Daniel.....	Bucknell Community College
D	CALLAHAN, Andrew.....	Xavier University	CONFORTI, Tyler	New York Institute of Technology
	CALLAHAN, Timothy ..	SUNY College at Geneseo	CORDEIRO, Christopher.. ..	New York Institute of Technology
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	CARNESI, Michaela.....	Muhlenberg College	COSTABILE, Nicholas.....	SUNY Fredonia
E	CASSAR, Alexa.....	Drexel University	CUADRA, Manyara.....	SUNY College at Old Westbury
	CHEMERISOV, Sonia.....	Farmingdale State College	CUASCUT, Elena.....	SUNY College at Geneseo
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Note: Only seniors who granted permission on their Senior Survey have their names listed here

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Y	YEH, Steve.....Cornell University	Z	ZULIJANI, Amber...Pennsylvania State University

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YOUR NAME A MOVIE REVIEW

BY JACOB FULLER



“Kimi no Na wa”, or *Your Name*, is a Japanese animated film produced in 2016 by acclaimed director Makoto Shinkai. I have always remained cautious of reviewing anime films due to the notable problems with the genre such as perpetuating incestuous art styles, pandering to a certain demographic of hardcore “otaku,” and largely existing to sell the attached anime/manga/figure/soulless JPop idol. But regardless of my negative precon-

ceptions, the quality of *Your Name* shattered them all, and, on one occasion, moved this cynical, hateful movie reviewer to genuine tears. It is currently the highest grossing anime film of all time, out classing even the Miyazaki films.

Plot: *Your Name* is at first a typical body-switching story, set in Japan. The characters are a likable duo of a farm girl, and a city boy--you can't get more cliché than that. But what the film does best is

breaking these tired conventions. Now I'm not going to get into any spoilers, because I think that this movie is best watched blind, so you're going to need to take my word for that one.

Animation/Cinematography: The film's animation, while stylistically similar to others on the market (Kyoto Animation, Gainax, Production IG), excels in its broad use of color, breathtaking backgrounds, as well as fantastic cinematography. Makoto Shinkai has been known for his fantastic backgrounds in all of his films, and *Your Name* is no different in his beautifully capturing of the ambient, quite nature of rural Japan, and the high energy-urban look of modern day

Tokyo. Additionally, the film cleverly uses mirror shots to convey the characters' sense of being on the outside looking in when switching bodies. But *Your Name* doesn't just rest on being well shot, it also incorporates inventive imagery that needs to be seen to be understood. One of my favorite scenes entails the view of a comet reflected into a girl's eye, expanding and reforming as a boy falls endlessly, with colors forming and un-forming around him, cells dividing and multiplying, as both he and the comet continue their timeless descent.

Sound Design: The film's score, while exceptional, can be slightly overused during the ending scenes, but not to

the point of being annoying. Contrarily, what the film truly excels at is its use of silence. There were points during my viewing where the silence became deafening, where not even the audience in the theatre dared to breathe. I appreciate this rather unconventional, subdued approach, and look forward to seeing it implemented in other works.

To sum of my review, I'd say that *Your Name* contains solid animation, masterful breaks of conventions, and is an overall fantastic film that fails to disappoint even the most jaded of viewers.

Final Rating:
94/100.



“MY EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE IN HUNTINGTON” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3.

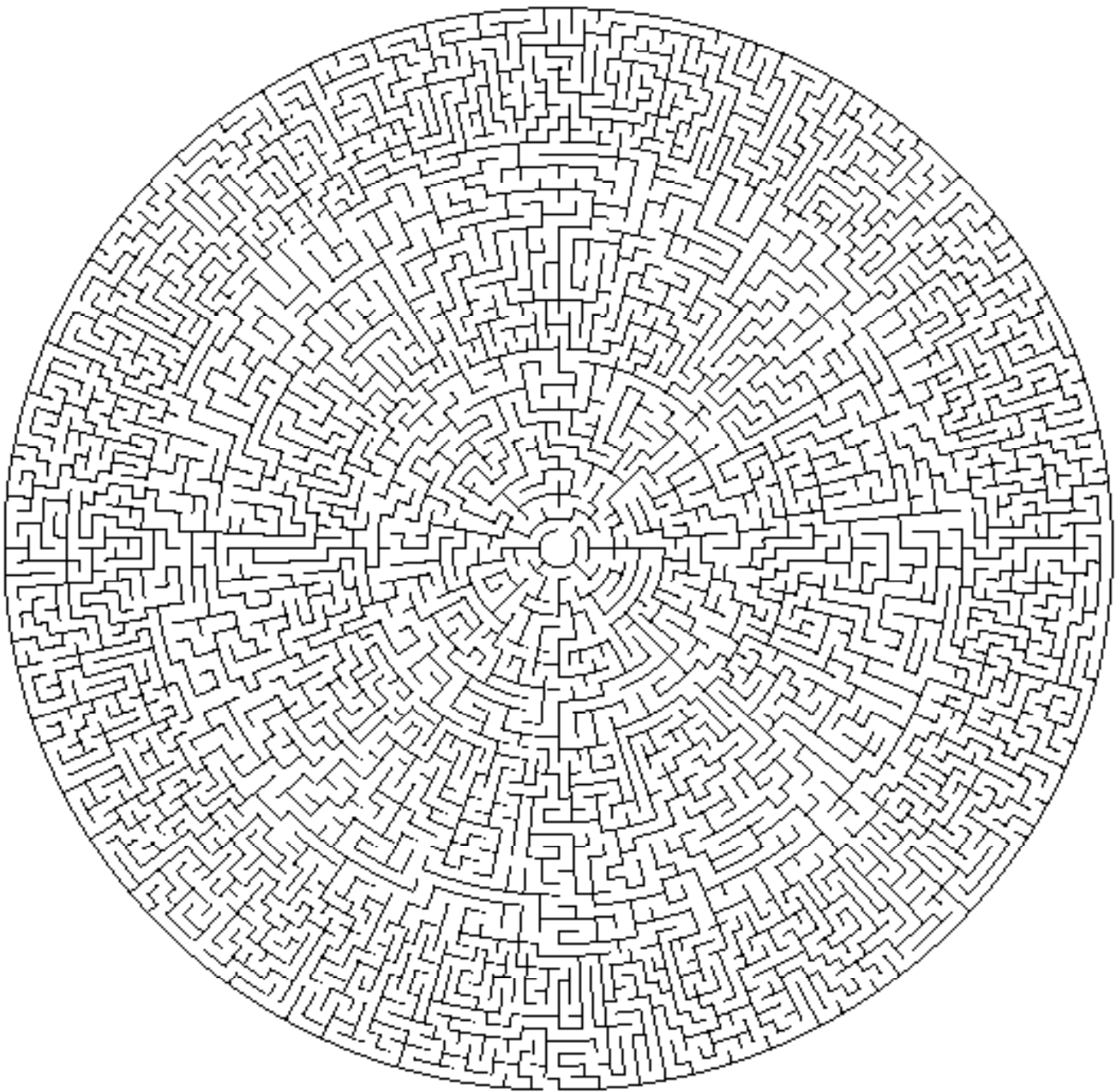
feet and inches for height, dollars for currency and Fahrenheit for temperature is all just a blur. The biggest difference is between the schools in Thailand and the United States. Schools in Thailand start from 8 o'clock in the morning and end at around 4:30 p.m. Additionally, I never had to make my own schedule before. I came to the United States used to fixed schedules in Thailand and would sit in same classroom and wait

for teachers to come into class. Here, however, I have to walk from one classroom to another classroom for my next period. People in Huntington High school are very friendly and welcoming--some are actually quite crazy. For the most part they're very nice. Teachers in this school are very friendly and cool, and make it very easy to study. In Thailand, studies and schools are very difficult. When it comes to my classes, as can be ex-

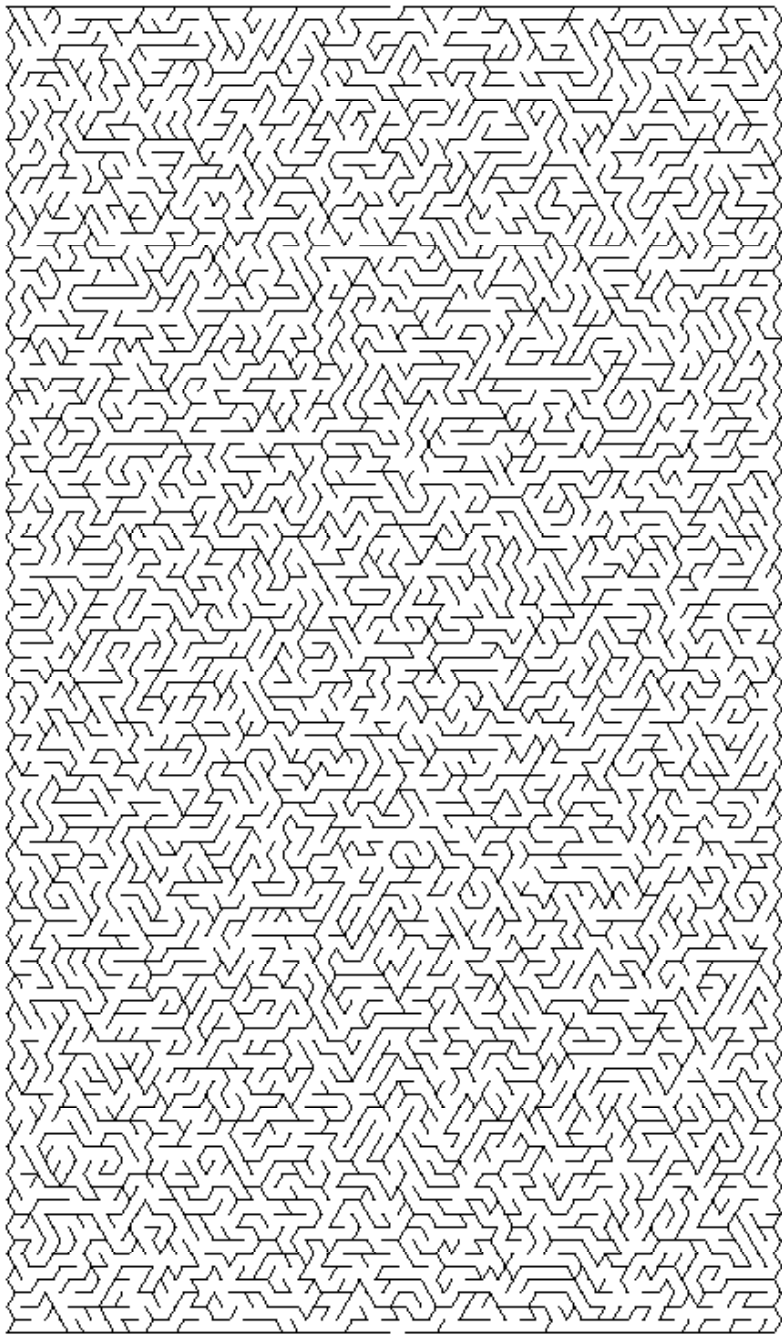
pected, I'd easily say that English is the most difficult for me. Why? I'm not used to fancy languages--the vocabulary is difficult and english grammar is hard to learn. Most others subjects are fine for me, though. When it all comes down to it, I really like it here. I love many things about the United States, such as my host family, Huntington High School, the American people, my new friends, my teachers and all of the pretty girls (though I suppose

that's irrelevant). I'm going to miss everything I've mentioned here, and all of the fantastic people that I've met. I will never forget this experience and the memories. I cherish all of great times and everything we have had together. I love all of you.

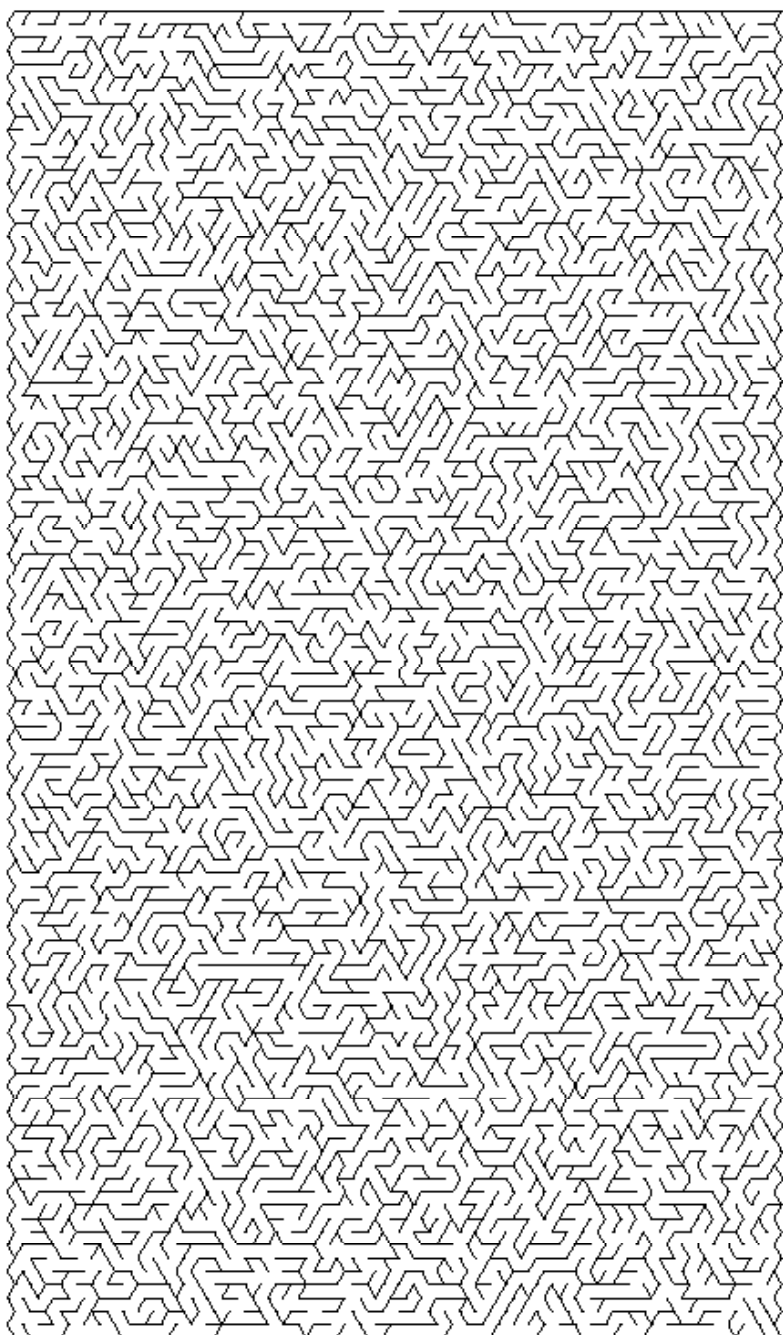
Thank you Everyone
I Love You All
-Chanon Asanatham
AKA
Petch <3
• • •



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HARD



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AWOD VISITS WOODHULL INTERMEDIATE

BY ALYSSA BEFUMO

AWOD stands for A World of Difference; it's a club that emphasizes anti-bias and tolerance training for our community. On May 26th, members of AWOD traveled to Woodhull Intermediate School for their annual fifth-grade training.

Each year, AWOD members participate in two trainings—one in autumn and one in the spring—in preparation for their future trip to Woodhull. The primary focus of these trainings is to raise awareness about current societal issues regarding inequality and discrimination. Monthly meetings and bake sales similarly assist in the process of preparing old and new members alike for their visit to

Woodhull. Trained AWOD members worked closely with club advisors Mrs. Biagi and Mrs. Decannio to craft an age-appropriate, effective training method addressing the most prominent problems affecting fifth-grade students. The club's frequent contact with Woodhull's assistant principal, Mr. Jarred Stein, has been hugely beneficial in the tailoring of the

It's a club that emphasizes anti-bias and tolerance training for our community.

training around specific concerns raised by the younger students.

On the day of the training, AWOD members were assigned two 5th



The group of AWOD members who recently visited Woodhull Intermediate School.

grade classes each period. The schedule included establishing the club's rules through the acronym ROPES, displaying the similarities between classmates with the game Cross the Line, gathering feedback from students using "Graffiti Boards," and demonstrating, through role-plays, the proper methods to handling tough

situations.

Each activity is designed to allow the young students to share insights into their daily experiences at both school and home.

This year's training focused on cyber bullying, self-image issues, cultural discrimination, and social media use. Each group of students showed unparalleled enthusiasm and eagerness to express their ideas on how to prevent bullying within their school. At the end of the day, the club met with Mr. Stein to debrief on the receptiveness of the students during the training, along with any advice as to where the program could improve.

Huntington junior Nicole Arenth, the Secretary of AWOD, expressed that "it's very rewarding to have the

ability to teach the fifth graders tolerance and to have a positive impact on their lives." This quote encapsulates the goal of AWOD: to promote a more accepting, tolerant

Each group of students showed unparalleled enthusiasm and eagerness to express their ideas.

environment within Huntington's community. By working with some of the district's youngest students, the club aims to provide them with the proper tools to succeed in social interactions at all ages. The club's motto is that "the power of one can make a difference." With the practice of acceptance and understanding in their daily lives, every member of the club



An AWOD training session from in progress.