



# The Dispatch

"A beacon of truth."

Issue 2, Volume 42

Huntington High School

Oakwood and McKay Roads Huntington, NY 11743

June 2013



## news in short

A new Robotics and Engineering Club under the guidance of Ms. Judy Pazienza has officially been approved and has obtained board support, giving Huntington High School students an opportunity to participate in the F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition.

Seniors and Valedictorian/Salutatorian Todd Colvin and Molly Prep respectively were recognized by the Huntington Town Board for academic and athletic achievement.

Huntington High School's Drama Club received recognition at this year's Hunting-Tony Awards, winning the prize of Best Actress in a Musical Role for Junior Monica Owen's performance as Elsa, and Best Costumes for The Sound of Music, their spring musical.

## Farewell to Mrs. Fretz

### HHS says goodbye to our active Director of the Fine and Performing Arts

by EMILY MCGOLDRICK

"I'm going to try to buck the system"—paired with her passion for the arts, this philosophy that transformed the Huntington arts program into one of the strongest on Long Island will continue to serve Director of Fine and Performing Arts Joan Fretz after her retirement this month. After an impressive 26 years in the school district, Mrs. Fretz has become a staple at Huntington High School and will leave big shoes to fill.

Mrs. Fretz discovered her love for teaching in middle school. She wanted to teach a subject she enjoyed by becoming a band teacher, but no such jobs were available, leading Mrs. Fretz to become an elementary school voice teacher in Manhasset. She then became a trainer for the Long Island chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, which led to her being hired by the Huntington school district, and the rest is history.

The foremost reason for the respect that Mrs. Fretz has garnered throughout the district is most certainly her love for her job. When asked about her proudest accomplishment during her tenure, she points to her ability to give information to the community about the importance of arts and its funding. During the past couple of years, as the marching band had to raise money for its budget that had been cut in half, and other clubs had to raise money for teacher's stipends, she

backed them completely, stating that budget problems "don't go away with cuts and bad decisions." She has seen firsthand how



After 26 exciting years at Huntington, Mrs. Joan Fretz will retire this summer.

the arts can change student's lives, starting with a student whom, despite dreading going to school, found bliss when she got to meet First Lady Michelle Obama along with the advanced fashion classes.

Mrs. Fretz has had a few unbelievable memories as Arts Director as well. In 1999, she received a phone call from world-class bassoonist William Waterhouse in London. He explained that his bassoon, worth a whopping \$30,000, had been stolen from his car 43 years earlier and had somehow made its way to the music room at Finley Middle School. Waterhouse graciously performed a

concert for Finley students and, after recovering his own bassoon, donated money to Finley to buy a new one to replace it.

The arts program in Huntington is enviable, most likely due to the collaboration between teachers at different grade levels to establish foundation skills that are built upon as students move up through the school system. Mrs. Fretz will remain busy even after her retirement, as a consultant to school districts promoting a positive school climate. She hopes that students can feel confident in their talents with their teachers, who depending on their teaching style and attitude "can help or hinder a student's desire to learn." Art is an area of learning where there is freedom to create, as opposed to other areas of study, where the pressure to conform to the demands of standardized testing is only increasing.

For those fearful of Mrs. Fretz's departure from Huntington, she advises them to "just keep telling us [the district] what we're doing right and wrong." As for her parting words, she says, "Being in Huntington has been an unbelievable learning experience. Teachers, students, colleagues, and parents have allowed me to be part of areas not in my job description." The pleasure is all ours, Mrs. Fretz.

## Relay for Life Yields a Memorable Celebration

### Huntington students and community members come together to surpass last year's record

by DONOVAN RICHARDSON

This year's Relay for Life was another great success, raising over \$165,000—over \$30,000 more than what was raised last year. Mobilizing the Huntington community against cancer, the event took place on May 17 and 18 at the high school from



An overhead view of part of the track as the participants pour in.

6 PM to 6 AM, culminating the efforts of 66 teams and 718 participants. In addition to high school students, those involved in the event included parents, graduates, and teachers of the Huntington community.

"We raised more money, there were more participants, and there was more to do," says Caitlin Yabroudy, a Team Development Committee member for Relay For Life. This short and sweet statement perfectly summarizes the atmosphere of improvement during this year's fundraising efforts. The publicity that surrounded last year's event made Relay for Life a highly anticipated event this year. At this year's Relay Kick Off, those who participated last year were asked to stand, and at that moment the auditorium was filled with hundreds of standing students and teachers; those who were sitting could hardly see beyond the next row of seats. The overwhelming support for Relay for Life by the Huntington community last year foreshadowed this year's success.

Although Relay for Life typically attracts the enthusiasm of seniors, with them being slightly more mature and more resourceful than younger students in the high school, this year's effort attracted a wide

variety of students in the high school. Jack Mallone, a freshman who participated as an 8th grader in Relay last year, was part of the Raffles Committee that was responsible for managing all of the raffles and obtaining raffle prizes. Although his responsibility was specifically to the raffle committee, Jack explained that he and all the other committee members had the responsibility to work together "no matter what committee [they] are on" to organize Relay for Life. Because of his responsibility to the event, Jack says that he "took [Relay] more seriously" than he did last year.

An important part of Relay for Life this year was the activities and events that kept Relayers out of their tents. A variety of fundraisers, from glow sticks to smoothies to even an inflatable obstacle course, all raised money for Relay for Life. Singing, a hula-hoop contest, and a showing of Finding Nemo also attracted the interest of many Relayers. Of course throughout the night there were always people walking (or



Cancer survivors from all over the community lead the first lap of the HHS Relay. Among those pictured are Senior Molly Prep and Junior Hector Alvarado, as well as Huntington Alumnus Connor Purcell.

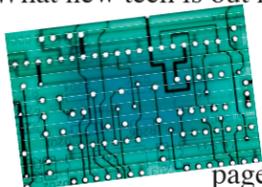
See Relay on page 2

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Graduation Farewell Section Inside!

# Google Officially Announces its Revolutionary “Glass”

## What makes it special, and how it can affect our lives

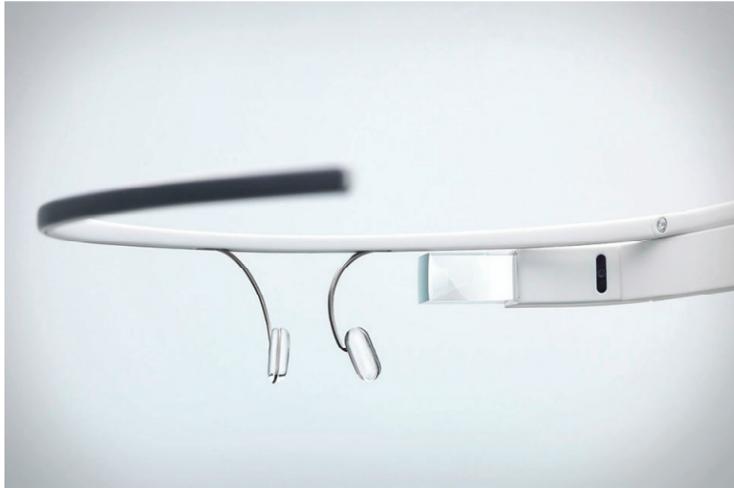
by JOE SAGINAW

Even just a couple years ago, the idea of being able to wear a computer was unheard of, and the idea of having a pair of glasses that could immerse you in augmented reality was even more fantastical. People would be holding their iPod classics, laughing at this idea that seemed like a concept only seen in movies. Google, the search engine giant, and Android, the manufacturer of the number one mobile operating system in the world, have challenged the limits of technology and created such a device. Back in April of 2012, Google publicly unveiled the idea of a head-mounted display (HMD) and wearable computer as “Project Glass,” which was being worked on by Google X, the research and development team within Google that worked on its driverless cars. Up until February, Google kept its research on the project secretive. Then, they launched the #ifihadglass campaign on Twitter and Google+ to give developers and consumers a chance to win an explorer edition of the Google Glass. The 8,000 winners were invited to two conferences in

Los Angeles and New York City where they were informed about the Glass and offered a chance to try out the Explorer Edition of the Google Glass as a way for

16 gigabytes of internal storage, which is as much as your average smartphone, and can store apps, videos, and pictures. It has a five megapixel camera and can

of the Glass is its voice control, and every command you give is started by “Ok, Glass” which is followed by anything from “take a picture” to “search for the nearest coffee shop.” It connects to your phone via Bluetooth, and can display your incoming messages and phone calls, as well as send messages and dial outgoing calls. Google has been working on improvements on the Glass, and Google CEO Eric Schmidt said, “We’ll make some product changes and it’s probably a year-ish away,” meaning that the Glass is not that far in the future. The \$1,500 price tag does scare some people away, but Google hopes to bring that figure down to somewhere between \$200 and \$600 by next year, when they launch the product to everyone. Google has changed the market and introduced a revolutionary product to consumers. However revolutionary they may be though, there are always going to be the people who hate the product, and the people who love it. It’s up to you—will you buy a Glass?



↓ This profound photograph was released by Google to advertise their equally-profound new product.

Google to actually test its product and to generate media attention in the months prior to its full scale launch in late 2013 or early 2014. The Explorers, as they are called by Google, are still in the midst of testing their Glass and developers are currently developing apps for it. Google Glass has

record 720 pixel video which is about the specifications of the average smartphone camera as well. It has a heads-up display, a small screen in the top right or left corner of your eye that displays information you command the Glass to find or display for you. One of the coolest parts

### Relay from Front

running) on the track, symbolizing the never-ending fight against cancer.

This year, Relay for Life was a great success, drawing widespread support and attention, and exciting the Huntington community to fight against cancer. Even though Relay was only a few weeks ago, preparations for next year’s Relay are already beginning. With the recent election of new National Honor Society officers, it is only a matter of time until Relay for Life and all its celebration, remembrance, and fighting back, will be upon everyone’s mind again.



↓ Relayers gather as the Relay Committee carries out the Luminaria ceremony, to honor and remember those who did not win their battle with cancer.

# A New Generation of Video Game Consoles is Unveiled

## Microsoft, Nintendo, and Sony begin an early contest for supremacy over the next few years of console gaming

by MEELOD WAFAJOW

Lately, information about next-generation systems with new performance boosts has surfaced. Two of the top contenders in the console market, Microsoft and Sony, are launching the new Xbox One and PlayStation 4 around the end of this year. These consoles promise games that look much better than previous ones and contain many features that gamers have been looking forward to. Although these are the more well-known systems, Nintendo’s new console the Wii U has also been recently introduced and should not be underestimated. All of these systems offer a wide range of abilities that will be sure to please the customers.

Microsoft’s newest system the Xbox One holds great promise for consumers. Although not much has been revealed about the actual gaming experience due to E3, an upcoming gaming event, Microsoft has discussed its abilities with some consumers. With the Xbox One, you can connect to your cable box and switch between the console and your cable with a voice command. You can also turn it on with a voice command because its complimentary Kinect function is always on. Users will be able to set up a fantasy football team on it that will be tracked by the system as games progress, so you won’t necessarily have to watch each game to be updated. Customers can even Skype call their friends into parties rather than Xbox Live parties. Although all of this may sound promising, the Xbox One has come under fire for some shortcomings. The system being online at all times is not necessarily good for people who have a bad internet connection, and some may face a constant lag because of this. Also, the Kinect has the ability to track whether people have or haven’t purchased a game, and fine them if they haven’t. This results in one of consumers’ main issues with the Xbox One. Whereas before you could simply lend a game to a friend to borrow, players must now pay fines for games they do not own so Mi-

crosoft can make more money. We will have to wait and see what else Microsoft has to say at E3 to make a final judgment about this console.

The other big gaming console around the corner is the PS4 by Sony. Sony has promised great things to its customers. First, they will not make players pay fines for using games that they don’t own, which is why Sony had

Even though both of these systems seem extremely desirable, there is one more console that people may desire: the Wii U. Nintendo’s production of the Wii U has promised backwards compatibility, something that both Sony and Microsoft did not. Backwards compatibility is the ability to play games meant for older consoles. Both Microsoft and Sony clearly said that backwards

compatibility is out of the question. The Wii U offers many more games for the more nostalgic player. They have created games that we’ve known for years, such as Super Mario and The Legend of Zelda, and their takes on such games have proven to be hits. The Wii U’s controller is much different than the Xbox and PS4’s though, as it is a tablet-like controller. People have viewed this as either innovative or just plain bulky. The touch-screen integration has been viewed, for the most part, as a good feature. Although this all sounds great, the Wii U has generally not met consumers’ expectations and therefore has become much cheaper. So if you’re a diehard Nintendo fan that’s low on cash, this is the time to buy a Wii U. The games they have made are for the most part not the ones that gamers were highly anticipating. But soon, their releases of titles from the “Super Smash Bros.” franchise and “Pikmin” will prove that Nintendo does listen to its players.

These facts may seem overwhelming, since it’s a lot to hear about all of your favorite systems. You may be a fan of Microsoft but suddenly want to switch to the Sony side, or vice versa. Whatever your choice may be, all of these systems promise to make whoever buys them as satisfied as possible. We will just have to wait and see what happens at E3 to find out who is really the king of the consoles. Will Sony beat Microsoft, Microsoft trump Sony, or will Nintendo trump them both?

BRIAN J. MCCONNELL



↓ Convergent evolution? Though separated by distinct differences, the new consoles are appearing to be more and more similar.

gained a lot of popularity. In their system reveal, they focused more on the gaming aspect than on overall entertainment, which is what Microsoft has failed to do so far. The PS4 also promises to not be online all the time because they feel that it annoys their users. Even though they revealed more on the gaming aspect of the PS4, they did not show the actual console, so people have to yet to find out whether it looks nice or not. Last time, their original PS3 looked rather unprofessional and they had to remarket it later on as something more respectable.



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June 2013



## Congratulations Class of 2013! The Dispatch wishes Huntington's graduating seniors well in all of their future endeavors

A list of members of the Graduating Class of 2013 and the next stop on their scholastic adventure:

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>A</b> <b>Micheal Albini</b><br/>SUNY at Farmingdale</p> <p><b>Lucas Alexander</b><br/>New York Institute of Technology - Old Westbury</p> <p><b>Maria Alfaro-Perez</b><br/>Suffolk County Community College - Ammerman</p> <p><b>Rebecca Alligood</b><br/>Hagerstown Community College</p> <p><b>Ershad Amin</b><br/>Hofstra University</p> <p><b>Olivia Ammirati</b><br/>SUNY at New Paltz</p> <p><b>Matthew Angeliadis</b><br/>University of Connecticut</p> <p><b>Ashley Angstadt</b><br/>University of Scranton</p> <p><b>Jesse Annunziata</b><br/>SUNY at Farmingdale</p> <p><b>Shaina Arnoux</b><br/>Nassau Community College</p> <p><b>Kelly Askerberg</b><br/>University of Mississippi</p> <p><b>Maggie Askerberg</b><br/>University of Arizona</p> <p><b>Wilmarie Aviles</b><br/>Full Sail University</p> <p><b>B</b> <b>Jessica Baik</b><br/>New York University</p> <p><b>Erin Ball</b><br/>SUNY at Albany</p> <p><b>Scarlet Bardales</b><br/>St. Joseph's College - Suffolk Campus</p> | <p><b>Christina Barreau</b><br/>Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus</p> <p><b>Claire Beach</b><br/>Fordham University</p> <p><b>Matthew Beeby</b><br/>Ithaca College</p> <p><b>Brianne Bennett</b><br/>SUNY at Potsdam - Crane School of Music</p> <p><b>Lauren Bialkowski</b><br/>Baruch College of the CUNY - Macaulay Honors College</p> <p><b>Connor Birchard</b><br/>Mercyhurst University</p> <p><b>Thomas Boisclair</b><br/>University of Massachusetts - Amherst</p> <p><b>Claudia Bonilla</b><br/>Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus</p> <p><b>Rachel Bosco</b><br/>Pennsylvania University - University Park</p> <p><b>Charlotte Brohel</b><br/>Nassau Community College</p> <p><b>Jamie Brown</b><br/>Providence College</p> <p><b>Hannah Burnett</b><br/>University of Florida</p> <p><b>Nicole Burton</b><br/>University of Massachusetts - Amherst</p> <p><b>Conor Byrne</b><br/>American University</p> <p><b>James Byrnes</b><br/>Long Island University - C. W. Post Campus</p> | <p><b>C</b> <b>Maia Cadle-Hinton</b><br/>Cheyney University of Pennsylvania</p> <p><b>Christian Campos</b><br/>Nassau Community College</p> <p><b>Melvin Canales-Canales</b><br/>Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus</p> <p><b>Nicole Caputo</b><br/>SUNY Maritime College</p> <p><b>Monica Casabona</b><br/>Pace University - New York City</p> <p><b>Megan Cassar</b><br/>University of Connecticut</p> <p><b>Andrea Cerini</b><br/>Stony Brook University</p> <p><b>Taylor Choy</b><br/>Loyola University - Chicago</p> <p><b>John Cimetta</b><br/>SUNY Maritime College</p> <p><b>Del-Carme Clerveaux</b><br/>SUNY at Farmingdale</p> <p><b>Caroline Coffey</b><br/>SUNY College at Cortland</p> <p><b>Jonathan Cogan</b><br/>SUNY College at Potsdam</p> <p><b>Melissa Cohen</b><br/>Flagler College</p> <p><b>Emily Coleman</b><br/>Bloomberg University of Pennsylvania</p> <p><b>Todd Colvin</b><br/>University of Virginia</p> <p><b>Jacqueline Contino</b><br/>University of Delaware</p> | <p><b>Justin Cook</b><br/>SUNY at Farmingdale</p> <p><b>Joseph Corcoran</b><br/>SUNY at Albany</p> <p><b>Matthew Corcoran</b><br/>SUNY at Farmingdale</p> <p><b>Jennifer Cordes</b><br/>Plymouth State University</p> <p><b>Kymberly Corley</b><br/>Pace University - New York City</p> <p><b>Matthias Baxter Corwin</b><br/>St. John's University - Queens Campus</p> <p><b>Evert Coto</b><br/>Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus</p> <p><b>Fabian Cubides</b><br/>SUNY at Farmingdale</p> <p><b>Mark Curley</b><br/>North Carolina State University</p> <p><b>D</b> <b>Christian Defeo</b><br/>University of Massachusetts - Amherst</p> <p><b>Allegra DePasquale</b><br/>Brooklyn College of the CUNY - Macaulay Honors College</p> <p><b>Katia DeSimone</b><br/>Roanoke College</p> <p><b>Samantha Dever</b><br/>Fairfield University</p> <p><b>Connor Dineen</b><br/>Nassau Community College</p> <p><b>Shannon Doherty</b><br/>Nassau Community College</p> |
|---|---|---|--|

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SUNY at Delhi

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Sacred Heart University

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Manhattan College

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**Nolan Johnston**  
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**K Emily Kata**  
Quinnipiac University

**Holdern Kata**  
University of Delaware

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University of Delaware

**Pauline McGlone**  
Muhlenberg College

**Kiernan McGovern**  
SUNY at Farmingdale

**Allison Mehring**  
University of Rhode Island

**Aasad Miller**  
Monroe College

**Melena Mills**  
Massachusetts College of  
Pharmacy & Health  
Sciences

## Farewell To Our Retiring Teachers

by BRIAN J. McCONNELL

**Andrew Mollitor**

Nassau Community College

**Tiara Moore**

Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus

**Leslie Morales**

Adventist University of Health Sciences

**Joshua Morris**

Tufts University

**Ari Moskowitz**

Northwestern University

**Jaime Moskowitz**

University of Vermont

**Daniel Moya**

University of Southern California

**N Andy Navarro**

Dutchess Community College

**Devon Nelson**

Nichols College

**Anne Nugent**

SUNY College at Geneseo

**O Christine O'Grady**

The College of Wooster

**Samara O'Neil**

Nassau Community College

**Lourdes Oliva**

Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus

**William Ortez**

Nassau Community College

**Ana Ortiz**

Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus

**P Cynthia Pacas**

Eastern Nazarene College

**Rebecca Palladino**

Loyola University - Maryland

**Taylor Palmer**

SUNY College at Geneseo

**Soyeon Park**

Fashion Institute of Technology

**Marisa Pashkin**

University of Pittsburgh

**Michelle Pechar**

Massachusetts College of Art and Design

**Gloria Perez-Argueta**

Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus

As the 2013 school year comes to a close, we at Huntington High School say farewell to members of our staff who will be retiring at the end of the year. Teachers Rosanne Brienza, Kim Damore, Stephen Henry, and Eliana Oranges all will be finishing their employment at HHS, however we at The Dispatch decided to ask these educators to look back on their careers; to see how they arrived in Huntington and where they will go next.

After teaching in many districts, Mrs. Rosanne Brienza will be finishing her career as a wonderful biology teacher at our school. Having always loved biology and all science on account of excellent professors, Mrs. Brienza graduated Brooklyn

HUFSD



Mrs. Rosanne Brienza

College with a BS in Biology and went on to Adelphi University for her Masters, which she earned in Secondary Education. She originally was interested in research, but outstanding math and science teachers combined with great satisfaction from helping others learn led Mrs. Brienza to continue her education through college and graduate school, with the goal of being a teacher. Before arriving at Huntington High, Mrs. Brienza obtained her first teaching position at St. Pius X School in Rosedale, later moving to Long Island and teaching for the Diocese of Rockville Centre at St. Mary's School in East Islip. Following the birth of her daughters, Mrs. Brienza began teaching at St. Martin of Tours School in Amityville, and then a year at Baldwin Senior High School for a part time position, before reaching Huntington to be a full time Bio teacher. Her most entertaining memory of her time at the high school was when she was able to travel to New Orleans for a few days with Mr. Gilmor, Mr. McKee, and 12 students in the Habitat for Humanity Club to build a home, as she enjoyed that the teachers and students were working side by side, dedicated to helping those who suffered losses in Hurricane Katrina. When asked what moments best describe our high school, Mrs. Brienza believes that Relay for Life at HHS fits the bill, as for two years in a row Huntington's finest students, dedicated to helping others, came out and did an outstanding job for a most worthwhile cause. Mrs. Brienza has big plans for her retirement, looking forward to spending more time on her golf game, traveling abroad, cooking, gardening, practicing yoga, and continuing her fitness programs. Already a Eucharistic Minister and secretary of the Rosary Society at her local parish, Maria Regina, Mrs. Brienza hopes to get more involved in her parish activities to further serve her community, as well as volunteer at the Life Center with the National Right to Life Committee. The advice that Mrs. Brienza would like to give to future students is that "Every day is a gift to enjoy and appreciate all the beauty found in our natural world. Make sure you do everything you can to preserve this beauty for generations."

Well known as the headmaster of Huntington's school

spirit, Ms. Kim Damore will be leaving Huntington after 26 exciting years as a physical education teacher. Ms. Damore graduated from East Stroudsburg State University, and particularly enjoyed the sciences and learning the skills of sport while she was a student. Ms. Damore knew she wanted to be a teacher in high school when she taught a girl how to do a cartwheel and saw how proud the girl was of herself. According to Ms. Damore, the feeling of teaching something that the girl thought she could never do felt wonderful. Before coming to the high school, Mrs. Damore was able to teach at

HUFSD



Ms. Kim Damore

Flower Hill Primary School. The most entertaining of Mrs. Damore's memories of Huntington High School came when she tied a Studebaker knot on Mrs. Graber. She mentioned that Huntington students should know what this looks like, but for those who have not taken Project Adventure at HHS, this particular knot forms a harness that is notoriously tied around the waist, upper thighs, and pelvis, akin to the shape of men's brief underwear. The twower closer than most colleagues typically find themselves, and Mr. Graber humorously asked Ms. Damore if he should buy her dinner first. In her opinion, Mrs. Damore believes that the Pep Rally characterizes our school best, stating that we do have spirit; it's just hidden. Mrs. Damore does not have any plans for her retirement, as she does not make plans anymore. What Ms. Damore would like to tell future students is to "Play fair, play hard, play safe."

A favorite teacher of many a Huntingtonian, Mr. Stephen Henry will be wrapping up his 41 years of teaching this summer. A graduate of nearby Walt Whitman High School, Mr. Henry graduated from Yankton College in South Dakota in 1972. While physical education was his main field, he was able to student teach in Earth Science along the way. When he was a student, Mr. Henry had the goal of being a teacher someday, but he also aspired to be a professional baseball player. When he was unable to pursue baseball any further, Mr. Henry was able to fulfill his dream of becoming a teacher, as he had always enjoyed working with kids from his days as a camp counselor. Interestingly, for all forty-one of his years teaching, Mr. Henry has only taught at Huntington High School. Throughout these years, he has acquired so many memories that it is difficult to choose his one favorite, but Mr. Henry feels that the lasting friendships he has made with other teachers and coaches and the students who come back to work with him to be very special. To best describe Huntington High School, Mr. Henry would choose the word "family," as he believes that members of our school community will look out for one another in time of trial or difficulties. In his retirement, Mr. Henry has simple goals, which are to enjoy each day as it comes, see his grandsons more, play golf, and spend more time with his wife, though not necessarily in that order. To students whom he may not get to teach, Mr. Henry would like to say, "Follow your dreams and realize that there are many paths that lead to doors in our lives. One door may close but you never know when another will open, so you have to always be prepared and alert along your journey of life."

As a teacher who has taught all over the world, Sra. Eliana Oranges will be ending her teaching career at our little school on the big map. Mrs. Oranges attended school in Santiago, Chile, and graduated from college there as well. While a student, Sra. Oranges loved social studies and foreign languages; fortunately she was required to take two languages for six years. She had never thought about being a teacher until one of her high school teachers inspired her, and now Sra. Oranges has used her passion to teach in Chile, Brazil, and the U.S., from elementary to adult classes. Sra. Oranges says that every moment of teaching a class is entertaining, but an especially entertaining memory comes from her first year as class advisor, when she got to help build a float for the first time. A moment that Sra. Oranges believes best describes Huntington High School happened in a study hall, when a student did not have enough money to buy a ticket for a dance. Another student, who was not even a friend, reached out and helped the student in need. When she retires, Sra. Oranges hopes to do all of the things she never had time to do. Her advice to future students is to "Learn a foreign language well, feel good about it, and practice, practice, practice. You will be able to use it as the world gets smaller and you get older."

Mrs. Brienza, Ms. Damore, Mr. Henry, and Sra. Oranges, we wish you well in your retirement. Thank you for all of your hard work at Huntington High School, and good luck in your futures, each of you has left a profound mark on Huntington's schools and community.

HUFSD



Mr. Stephen Henry

**Kathryn Petrozzo**  
Binghamton University

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SUNY College at Geneseo

**Kylie Phelan**  
College of Charleston

**Hannah Pipolo**  
James Madison University

**Jennifer Polster**  
Northeastern University

**Brooke Popovitch**  
Nassau Community College

**Katelyn Postiglione**  
Pace University - New York City

**Christine Powers**  
Elmira College

**Molly Prep**  
New York University

**Riley Pufahl**  
Nassau Community College

**R Stephanie Rafuse**  
SUNY College at Oneonta

**Angeline Ramos**  
SUNY at Farmingdale

**Patrick Reilly**  
Furman University

**Alexandra Reinertsen**  
University of Rhode Island

**Tiffany Reyes**  
Suffolk County Community College - Ammerman

**Ashley Rice**  
Suffolk County Community College - Western Campus

**Tori Richards**  
Nassau Community College

**Collin Richardson**  
Stony Brook University

**Joseph Rizzi**  
Pennsylvania State University - York

**Jacob Roday**  
Stony Brook University

**Keyri Rodriguez**  
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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 2012-2013 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.

The Dispatch accepts advertisements from local businesses and student organizations. The basic rate for advertisements can be provided on request to any interested organization. Requests for specific pricing, and examples of past advertising may be requested via e-mail through hhsdispatch@gmail.com. The Editorial Board reserves the right to refuse any advertisement deemed inappropriate, specifically those that reference illegal or controlled substances, products, services and/or paraphernalia.

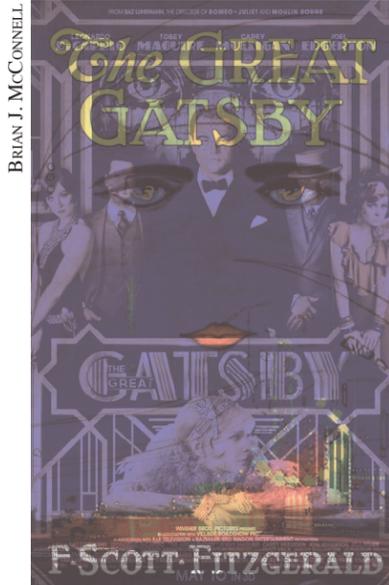
Does the new Gatsby film do the classic book justice?

by KATIE DUVAL

Baz Luhrmann's version of The Great Gatsby is not terrible, but it certainly is not good. The movie hangs somewhere in between without even coming close to the tone of the novel. This rendition, like so many other Baz Luhrmann films, features intense visuals, over-the-top, anachronistic music, and a faint gleam that makes everything seem unreal. The movie is absolutely beautiful and everything that Carey Mulligan wears looks ethereal and lovely, but the greatness of the scenery only highlights how shallow the story has been made to be.

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald is one of those novels where every word in every sentence fits together like a puzzle piece. The characters are mesmerizing because we as readers can empathize with them; they all have layers and complexities. But when translated to the screen, especially a screen taken up by the flamboyant imagination of Luhrmann, the prose loses its magic and the characters are reduced to only shadows of what they're meant to be. Gatsby is only a social climber, Daisy is only beautiful, Nick is only a conduit, and Tom is only an adulterer. The movie doesn't grasp the complete loneliness of every character or the extreme decadence of their lives. They exist only as paper cut outs to be placed alongside fireworks and champagne bottles and money. Gatsby's mission to get Daisy back is treated carelessly so that he ap-

pears to be a greedy, money-hungry stalker. Nick's total transition into cynicism and disillusion is not truly felt or explained. In fact, the movie is so lazy in its storytelling that Luhrmann introduces Nick Carraway's character as a patient in a sanitarium, leading to the incredibly



annoying element of the film where Toby Maguire narrates everything that's happening because the filmmakers don't trust the viewers to use their eyes or brains.

The novel, which was built on subtleties and was a complete character study of the wealthy in the 1920s, is forgotten amid the colors and costumes and music. The characters portrayed in the novel, though deeply unlikeable, were interesting and had something to say. Here,

they are presented to be completely average except for accidents of birth. It's possible that the movie actively chose to present them that way so that the viewers would be able to see that money doesn't equal strength of character or personality, but that would be giving them credit that they do not deserve. We are told over and over again about Gatsby's optimism and how he's the only truly hopeful person Nick Carraway has ever met, but we never see it. If the background of the novel wasn't there, everyone in the movie would be completely forgettable.

Finally, the film is egregiously long without anything ever happening. They go from party to party and have drink after drink, but it all feels hollow. Nothing is presented to be significant, and there are no stakes for any of the characters that we should care about. I was bored for two and a half hours, and when the climactic hotel scene finally came, I breathed a sigh of relief that it would be over soon. But no, still another half hour to go.

The novel by Fitzgerald is remembered because of its depth. This movie, which barely scratches the surface of what Fitzgerald intended to convey, will be forgotten in a few months.

This movie gets one and a half out of five stars for its set design and props. In the end, the part of the movie that everyone knows is fake appeared to be the most real part of all.

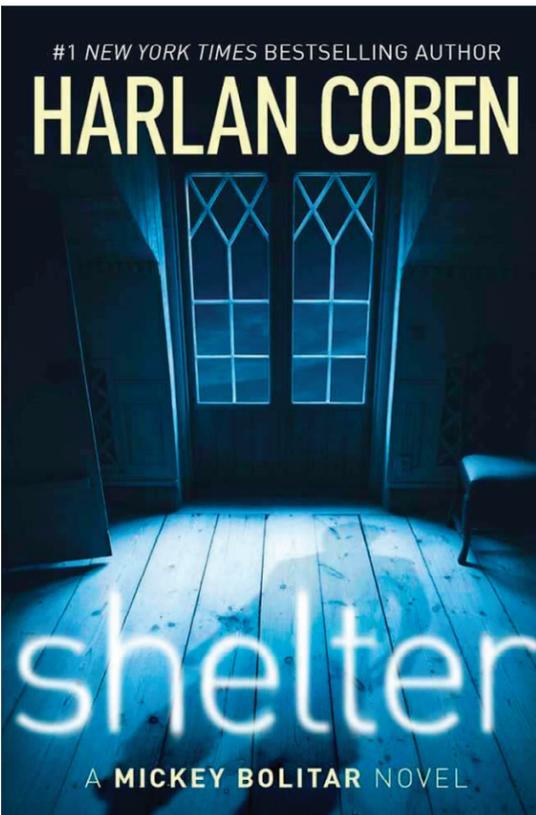
Book Review: Shelter by Harlan Coben

by ASAR NADI

Think back to when you were younger. Were you ever scared that the boogiemanager was going to get you? Now, go forward a couple of years. When you realized that the boogiemanager was just a story to get you scared, were you still terrified of the dark? Did you want that shelter that your parents were able to provide you with during those times? Just for a moment, did you ever wonder what it would be like if you were Sherlock Holmes? If any of these questions have occurred in your mind, Harlan Coben's mystery novel might interest you.

In many great horror novels, someone is always found dead or missing. There is sometimes that predictable plot twist at the end of the novel and most of the time, it's disappointing.

However, Shelter is different. Not knowing what is going



to happen makes it more suspenseful and unusual. It's unusual because horror in a teenager's life always comes with a price. Wanting to

know the truth is difficult, especially when it is comedic

at the same time. Horror combined with comedy can end up two different ways. Either it's genius and the writer knows how to man-

age both, or it just doesn't work out. Coben, in a genius

way, makes both work and allows the reader to get sucked in by his writing. By giving the characters a teenager life and putting them in mor-

tal danger, Coben is able to keep the plot twisting and still have the reader expect the unexpected.

In most cases, writers are not able to capture the teenage life, but Coben is able to write out of the mind of a teenage boy and describe accurately how he would feel in particular situations and how most teenagers may react during those situations. No part of the story is boring; in fact, as the pages keep turning and turning, Shelter just keeps getting more and more suspenseful, exciting, and hilarious. Dave Barry described Coben as, "A master of mystery, mounting tension and head-snapping plot twists." In order for a reader to be sucked into this novel, they must enjoy the combination of mystery and comedy.



# SPORTS

## The Hottest Thing This Summer is Kan Jam

The outdoor game that anyone can play is popping up all around Huntington

by MARC FELDMAN

As summer approaches and temperatures rise, new warm weather leisure activities are needed. Be it wearing shorts that are “too short,” going to the beach, or something else, fun warm-weather activities are in high demand. One such activity is playing Kan Jam, a game featuring two teams of two competing head to head. Originally a party game, Kan Jam has progressed into a popular game to relieve



Junior Molly Brambil lightly guides the Frisbee into the can to earn herself a bucket, without even moving much at all.

boredom garnered from a newfound excess of free time.

Kan Jam is an incredibly simple game – the peripherals needed are few in number – two barrels and a Frisbee. Despite this, the makers of Kan Jam feel justified in asking borderline abusive prices for what is essentially three pieces of plastic. However, the game can be fun, so if you feel like playing this game and not spending an incredibly unnecessary amount of money, feel free to find a Frisbee, two small plastic barrels and cut a reasonably sized rectangular hole into each of these barrels.

The rules of Kan Jam are easy enough to understand, involving partners knocking their teammate’s Frisbee throws into the top of the barrel or into the side of the barrel itself, for three or one point(s) respectively. Hit the barrel with the Frisbee without any assistance and you’ve earned yourself two points, or throw the Frisbee into the slit for an immediate, uncontested victory. The latter of these options is surprisingly difficult, though, so games are typically played until one duo reaches 21 points.

The simplicity of Kan Jam is probably what has made it so popular – popularity which has been demonstrated at events such as Relay for Life, during which upwards of five games occurred simultaneously. The game requires a marginally slim amount of athleticism, although Frisbee throwing can be annoyingly difficult. Playing Kan Jam, one



Freshman Kevin McConnell demonstrates good form in scoring a bucket: three points for smacking the Frisbee inside the can.

would find it hard to sweat, but nonetheless it is an effective game in removing some element of boredom from a typical summer day.

Words of advice to those who play Kan Jam – realize it’s just a game and is meant to be played for fun more than for its element of competition. Junior Morgan Mars had this to say of Kan Jam; “I’m better than my friends at Kan

Jam, it’s an uncontested fact. But I try to ignore this and have fun, no matter how difficult that may be.” So use Morgan as an example and enjoy yourself with this simplistic-yet-pleasant game – available at stores like Value Drugs in Huntington (or even better, through a minute amount of handiwork).

## A Closer Look at this year’s NBA Championship

by GABE SMITH

It’s that time of year again, June. Not only is school winding down, but so is the NBA season. While the school year concludes with students taking finals and Regents, the basketball season wraps up with the long-awaited NBA Finals. sixteen teams entered the NBA playoffs with a shot at the title, but after three rounds of elimination only two teams remain with the Championship Series that began last Thursday night. Let’s remember how we got to this point . . .

The playoffs begin with a total of 16 teams, eight from the Western Conference and eight from the East. They get seeded 1 through 8 based on the win-loss record that they attained during the regular season. The Miami Heat grabbed the East’s number one seed with ease, and the Oklahoma City Thunder did the same in the West. The Knicks got the number two seed after barely getting a better record than the third seeded Indiana Pacers.

The first round of the Eastern Conference playoffs was an interesting one. The Miami

Heat swept the Milwaukee Bucks in four games, doing so almost unopposed. The Brook-



**MIAMI HEAT**

lyn Nets lost a thrilling series against the Chicago Bulls, which went the full distance to a do-or-die game seven in which the Bulls prevailed. Meanwhile, the Knicks dispatched the Celtics with relative ease despite victories in Games 4 and 5 by Boston’s veteran squad. Lastly, the Indiana Pacers beat the Atlanta Hawks in six games to advance to play the Knicks in the Eastern Conference semifinals. The other

semifinals matchup pitted the rivals Bulls and Heat against each other. With the Bulls missing superstar point guard Derrick Rose and other significant injuries, Miami won in a short five game series. The Knicks and Pacers played a back and forth series, but in the end the Pacers won in six games. The Knicks’ shooting and defense let them down in crunch time. The Pacers moved on to face the Miami Heat in the Eastern Conference finals. The



two teams had exchanged blows for six games, but resolved nothing in the process. This meant that the series would go to a decisive winner-take-all Game 7. The Heat sent the Pacers packing with no problem behind stellar

performances from the “Big 3” of Dwyane Wade, Chris Bosh and LeBron James.

Over in the West, the 2013 playoffs have been equally interesting and exciting. The Thunder moved past the Houston Rockets in six games. The most important part of the series was when their star point guard Russell Westbrook went down with a season-ending knee injury. In the semis, the Memphis Grizzlies took care of the Los Angeles

high-flying Denver Nuggets. In the conference semifinals, the Grizzlies sent the depleted Thunder packing in just five games. Meanwhile, the Spurs-Warriors



series was up for grabs until the Spurs took control in games five and six to proceed to the Conference Finals. In a highly anticipated series, the Spurs swept the Grizzlies away in four games despite a spirited fight to earn a spot in the NBA Finals.

The Spurs will meet the Heat in the Finals with everything on the line. I’m picking the Heat to win in six games, but the Spurs won’t go down without a fight; that’s for sure. The combo of Wade, James and Bosh will be too much for the Spurs’ own aging “Big 3” of Manu Ginobili, Tony Parker and Tim Duncan. I wouldn’t count the wily old veterans of San Antonio out though, this will be interesting . . .

