

# The Wildcat Roar

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## Welcome to Rocky Hill, Mr. Niper!

By Ronak Tallur  
Assistant Chief-Editor

Recently I had the privilege of interviewing one of the newest members of our staff, Mr. Niper. Mr. Niper is one of our Assistant Principals here at Rocky Hill, and by the smiles on his face when he walks the halls of our great school, it is easy to see that he fits right in! As an assistant principal at Rocky Hill, he works with our administrative team, leadership team, and staff to continue the work of raising the level of achievement for all students. Rocky Hill is a school where we strive to achieve excellence in all areas.

It is great to have an assistant principal who understands our goals and aspiration. "I strongly believe that through positive relationship building and a belief in each student as an individual, every student can be successful and accomplish their set goals," said Mr. Niper. Most teachers and administrators have certain principles that play important roles in how they work with students and their colleagues. Mr. Niper's principles are centered on motivation, dedication, respect, and creative vision. He strives to motivate students to do their very best and supports teachers to help increase student achievement. He made this clear in his bio when he said, "I am dedicated to a strong and well-rounded student, and I look forward to working with your students to develop this." As a student, it is reassuring to know that our administrators and teachers care about our well-being.

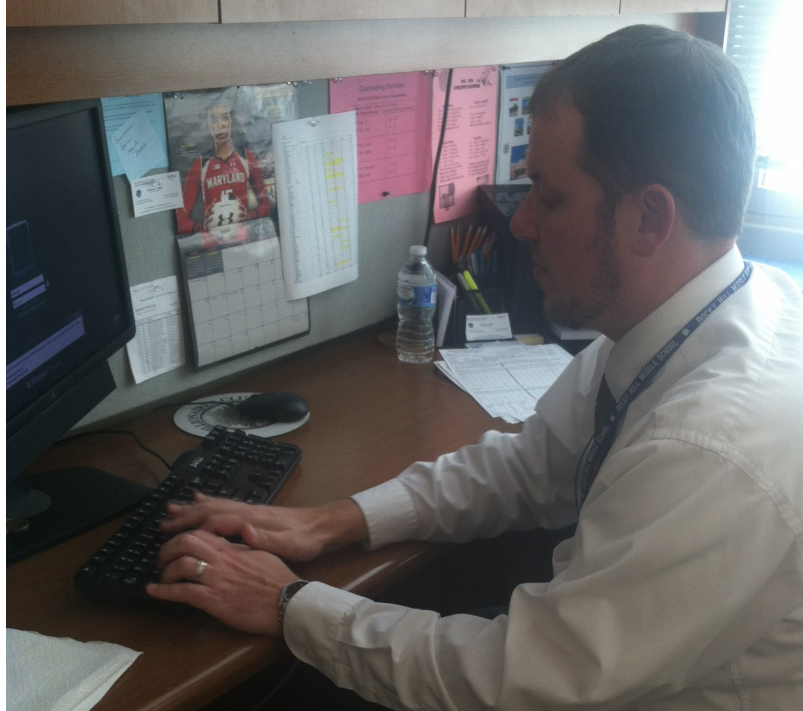
Mr. Niper believes that respect is important to a student and their success. This is an important principle for students and teachers at Rocky Hill because respect is part of our PRIDE program. According to Mr. Niper, "I continuously stress the importance of being respectful and how it makes stronger individuals throughout life."

Mr. Niper really enjoys being a part of community events. It is fascinating to know that he was a DJ for twenty years. According to his bio on the RHMS website, this is Mr. Niper's eighth year as an administrator. He attended the Rocky Hill International Night and met some students and parents. Even though he is new, he seems to fit in quite well. My interview with Mr. Niper left me fascinated and awed by his wealth of experience. I can see why Mr. Niper is a great administrator for our school. If you read on, you will find out a little more about Mr. Niper's background, and a few of those details might just surprise you!

**Ronak:** Who or what inspired you to take up a career in education?

**Mr. Niper:** A good friend of mine who is a teacher at Paint Branch High School. At the time, she asked me to be a long-term sub for her, and from there, I moved on!

**Ronak:** How long have you been teaching?



Mr. Niper at work!

**Mr. Niper:** I was a teacher for five years at Kingsview Middle School, and after that, I was an administrator at Northwest for the past seven years.

**Ronak:** Did you teach before becoming an assistant principal? If so, what subject or subjects did you teach?

**Mr. Niper:** I taught science to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Ronak:** What is it that you do as an administrator?

**Mr. Niper:** In summary, our job is to support instruction, facilitate and build upon relationships between teachers and students, and to make a plan for how the school year will flow. We support the entire school community, everyone from students and teachers, to parents and local businesses. It is a collaborative effort throughout the year.

**Ronak:** What is your favorite part in being an administrator?

**Mr. Niper:** My favorite part is working with the students.

**Ronak:** Is there an important person or role model in your life? Did they play a role in you taking up a career in education?

**Mr. Niper:** My parents instilled in me that I had to work hard and strive to be successful. They were the driving force in supporting my career.

**Ronak:** What have you enjoyed most about Rocky Hill so far?

**Mr. Niper:** What I have enjoyed most is that the whole community has been welcoming and supportive of

me. I look forward to working with the staff and students here at Rocky Hill this year.

**Ronak:** What advice would you give to the students here at Rocky Hill?

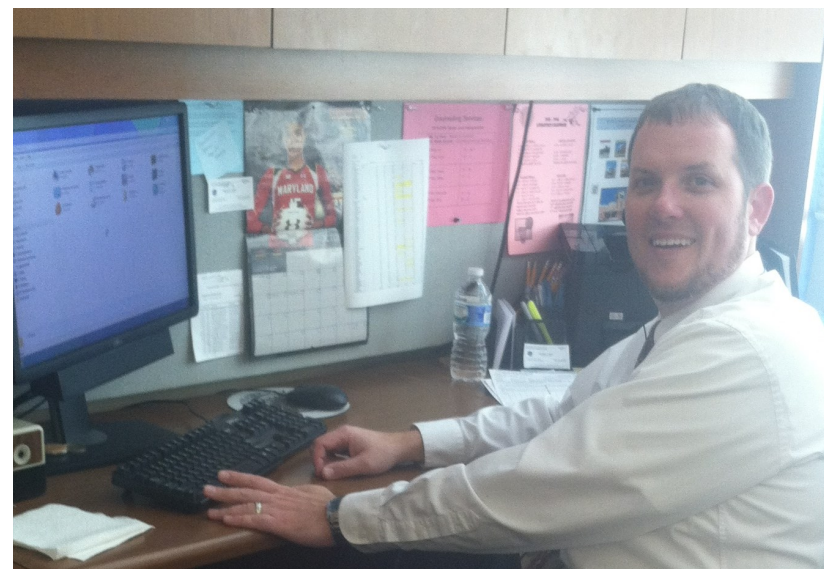
**Mr. Niper:** The advice that I

would give to the students is to work hard, don't give up, and use your resources. If they utilize their tools, they will be successful.

It was quite an amazing experience interviewing Mr. Niper. During this interesting interview, I learned that if you work hard, stay positive, utilize your tools, and strive to be successful, you can be successful. One of the things students like about teachers and administrators is the fact that they are approachable.

Even though it seems that Mr. Niper stands tall and is taller than most of the students here, it is nice to know that he is approachable. It means that it is okay to say hello to him in the hallways. He may not mind a high five or two. Some of us may have to jump high to reach his very "high" five, but it may be worth it. From what we now know about Mr. Niper, he is the kind of administrator you could talk to if you have any problem.

Please join me in welcoming one of the newest members of our staff, Mr. Niper, into this amazing community of ours!



Mr. Niper hard at work. We are so glad to welcome him to our community!

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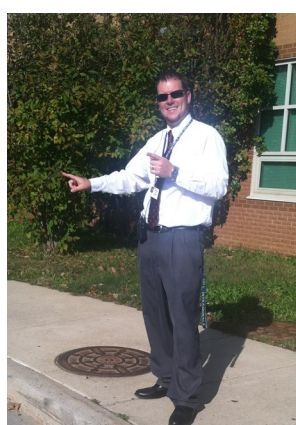
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Mr. Niper

# Editorial Page

## Gun Control is No Child's Play

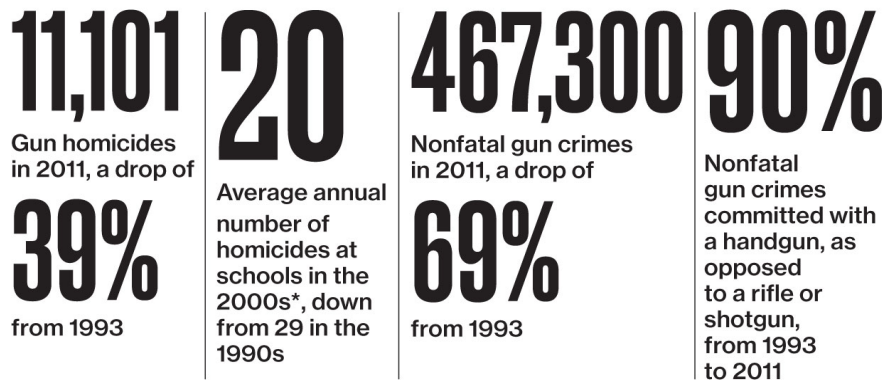
By Aleysha Vargese  
Chief Editor  
Sadvik Gangavarapu  
Tech Editor and  
Ms. Odey

Even though firearms and gun possession is a sensitive subject, as children who are growing into adults, we cannot overlook the fact that guns are used to hurt innocent people across the country. Gun ownership, gun control, right to bear arms etc. are expressions that have become too familiar. The Second Amendment gives people the right to own guns, and we get it, but we deserve the right to feel safe.

Guns used for protection provide a certain level of security when they are used the right way. Law enforcement officers carry guns and use them when necessary to protect citizens. Because of some heroic acts by police officers, lives have been saved, and criminals have been brought to justice. Clearly, police officers and members of the military use guns as a major part of their job to protect and serve. We need to understand that guns are dangerous and should be handled by people who are trained to use them. It does not diminish the fact that there are people who own guns legally have used them properly. It helps to know some citizens have used their guns to save lives. Also, some people use guns for sport. They use guns for hunting. So where is the balance when it comes to gun ownership and how people use guns?

In a book, A Fighting Chance by Senator Elizabeth Warren, she writes, "We lose eight children and teenagers to gun violence every day. If a mysterious virus suddenly started

### Gun Violence by the Numbers



\*Calculation did not include the Newtown massacre

DATA: BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS

killing eight of our children every day, America would mobilize teams of doctors and public health officials. We would move heaven and earth until we found a way to protect our children. But not with gun violence." With so many innocent children hurt and sometimes killed by guns, how can we be protected? Some people argue that good people should have guns to protect us from the bad guys. It just means more guns, and sometimes those guns purchased legally, by law abiding citizens, end up in the wrong hands.

Incidents of school shootings like Sandy Hook Elementary school hit very close to home. As we try to figure out how and why people would harm innocent children at school, a common explanation has been the idea of playing violent games or watching violent movies. Although there are reasons to believe that violent movies and video games could instigate acts of violence, not everyone who plays violent video games actually goes out and uses guns to hurt people.

Day after day we hear our elected leaders talk about gun owner-

ship, background checks, mental illness and rights, yet nothing has changed. The sad reality is that every mass shooting brings up the topic, and days later, people go back to business as usual. Guns continue to be politicized and sadly, the issue has become an issue of the ruling political party.

Whether or not you agree with the idea of gun control, we know that guns, if not handled properly, can be dangerous and in most cases, deadly. Gun owners should realize that as they exercise their right to own guns, they have the responsibility of ensuring the safety of others. When people get hurt intentionally or accidentally by guns, the owners should assume responsibility. The National Shooting Sports Foundation, NSSF, posted some safety tips for gun owners in their "Firearms Safety" article. Some of the tips are:

Always keep gun pointed in a safe direction.

Unload firearms when not in use  
Be sure of your target and what's beyond it.

If your gun doesn't fire, after pulling the trigger, be ex-

tremely careful with firearm. Learn the Mechanical process of guns before using it.

There are times when firearms are used inappropriately because they somehow got in the wrong hands. Some of those wrong hands are people with some kind of mental illness. Under a federal law enacted in 1968, an individual is prohibited from buying or possessing firearms for life; if they have been "adjudicated as a mental defective" or "committed to a mental institution." This has not stopped people with mental illness from getting guns. On January 8, 2011, U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords and eighteen others were shot in front of a supermarket in Casas Adobes, Arizona. Six people died, including federal District Court Chief Judge John Roll; Gabe Zimmelman, one of Rep. Giffords' staffers; and a nine-year-old girl, Christina-Taylor Green.

To ensure our safety, our school administration conduct safety drills. The goal is to make sure we are prepared, just in case. Words cannot explain how upsetting it is for families to recover from the loss of their loved ones, especially parents who lose their children to gun violence. Firearms are a great assurance of protection, however if not used properly, they can be very harmful and can have deadly consequences. When it comes to gun control, it is an issue that concerns adults as well as children.

### Supervising Editor

Ms. Katie Odey

### Chief Editor

Aleysha Varghese

### Assistant Chief Editor

Ronak Tallur

### Editors

Saatvik Gangavarapu

Mahi Ganatra

Sakshi Narula

Sophia Oprecio

Vikram Jasti

### Staff Writers

Athira Nair

Hannah Kim

Preetam Bhutani

Venassa Jijo

Ishika Naik

Christina Kim

Nicholas Fantle

Riya Suthar

## Pope Francis' US Visit: Religion Vs. Economics

By Hannah Kim  
Staff Writer

Pope Francis, the leader of the largest Christian church, made headlines when he came to the United States. He spoke about a variety of topics, including abortion, climate change, immigration, etc. But what stood out, especially among his various speeches, is his stance on helping the less fortunate.

The common good and poverty has been referenced in his speeches multiple times. He criticized capitalism as "the selfish and boundless thirst for power and material prosperity (that) leads to both the misuse of available natural resources and to the exclusion of the weak and disadvantaged." Ironically, among the crowd of "the faithful" were people who capitalized on the pope's visit and sold various items related to pontiff. There were several items like shirts, pins, holy cards and bubbleheads to commemorate the pope's visit. Most Americans, even non-Catholics, were very excited about the pope's visit. Pope Francis has earned the nickname, "The People's



Pope Francis' Bubblehead

Pope, because of his genuine love for people. It is not surprising people were ready to spend as much as \$23.99 for the pope's bubblehead. Some of the faithful bought T-shirts for as much as \$16.95 and wore them proudly to express their love for Pope Francis.

Besides the pontiff's memorabilia's, some people took advantage of the demands for accommodation, food, and other necessities and made some extra money. If we heard the pope's message, he stressed the idea

of kindness and helping the less fortunate. He emphasized the need to help the poor. It begs the question: how much has been done in these first years of the third millennium to raise people out of extreme poverty?

Pope Francis said, "I know that you share my conviction that much more still needs to be done, and that in times of crisis and economic hardship a spirit of global solidarity must not be lost." Clearly, this pope has made it a priority to recognize the plight of the poor among us. It is surprising that he skipped lunch invitations with the rich and powerful, and chose instead, to serve and eat with member of the Washington homeless community. I would imagine that if he had his way, he probably would ask that profits from merchandise patterning to him be used to care for the poor and homeless. Pope Francis takes his service to humanity seriously, and although he does not shy away from politics, social and economic issues, his message is the same. The rich should care for the poor.

# The Rocky Hill Page

## Rocky Hill's First International Night

By Saatvik Gangavarapu  
Tech Editor

The first International Night at Rocky Hill lived up to its hype. Even with fewer than three hundred in attendance, the program was a great success. Our PTA did a wonderful job organizing this unique program that celebrates diversity here at Rocky Hill. Over the years, Rocky Hill Middle School has seen a steady influx of students from various ethnic backgrounds. The beauty of having such a diverse population is the opportunity to learn about different cultures. We continue to show our pride and celebrate our diversity in various ways. The international night gave us a snapshot of the various ethnic groups represented here. Our Principal, Dr. Eldridge attended the program, and so did some other staff members like our assistant principals Mr. Niper and Mrs. Brazil. The mood at Rocky Hill was festive and definitely worth the time and effort.

There was an array of tasty foods from different countries. One of the most popular foods was called beignets from Cameroon. Beignets are fried balls made from dough. Ms. Chantal was happy to share some interesting facts about the food she brought. There were two wooden carvings on her display table. One was a male and the other was a female. She told us that it was a traditional wedding depicting the first time that the bride and the groom met. Next to the Cameroon table was that of Gambia. There were so many foods that Miss Bassina, brought to show us. One popular item she had were the "Chapatis". They were made with wheat, flour, eggs and sugar. The Jamaican display was very colorful, and the food was spectacular.



Suchismita Ojha and Jeevita Thamarajah at International Night.

India drew some sweet tooth patrons who enjoyed some delicious "Parle G" cookies. These are cookies that people normally eat as a tea time snack! The grilled chicken at the Italy display was awesome. Rudav Kathiravan, a 7th grader said, "the food is really good! I am really glad that I came to the first International Night! I hope this becomes an annual thing!" Although not very many people attended this great event, everyone who came thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Mrs. Bhtuni, one of our parent volunteer was all smiles as she meandered around taking photographs. When asked if she is enjoying the event and if it will be an annual event, she said, "I am definitely enjoying this event, and I think this will become an annual event. I am very happy that Rocky Hill is implementing an event that the elementary schools have organized. Although not many people showed up, I hope more people find out, and make it to the

event next year, and I am really excited for the upcoming performances!" With food in their mouths and a passport designed to encourage students to visit as many displays as possible, students, parents, and visitors made their way to the cafeteria for more celebrations.

The performances were also really amazing! There was a dance performed by Suchismitha. Decked in an elaborate Indian attire, she performed the Basanta-Pallavi dance, moving gracefully to the tone of the music. On her head she wore a Tahiyacrown made from a special kind of form that grows in the water. The dance is special celebration of spring. The audience was captivated by her performance. A Korean drum group performed with drums that had different sounds and distinct beats from each drum. Sai 7th grader at Rocky Hill played an Indian drum, with his fingers. The music was melodious and soft accompanied by his guru's

piano. It was relaxing. Colombian dancers in traditional attire performed a traditional dance, making different formations with each dance move. The dances were spectacular, and we could tell that the dancers put in a lot of hard work into the dances.

The first International Night at Rocky Hill now in the books, was a huge success. Everyone who attended the event learned interesting facts about other countries. They got to try on clothing and eat food. All in all, it was a great event and everyone who attended the event walked out thoroughly satisfied. Special thanks to our PTA president, Mrs. Wilson for organizing this great event. Most of the parents who came were delighted to be part of this diverse population. At the end I hope we learned that what makes us unique also make us relate to one another as we discover how much we have in common. As Cesar Chavez, a renowned labor leader and civil rights activist once said, "We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community - and this nation." Rocky Hill is stronger because we recognize and celebrate our diversity.



Ms. Belman and Suchismita

## Ah-Mazing Teacher

By Aleysha Varghese  
Chief Editor

There are very many talented teachers at Rocky Hill Middle School who put their time and effort into teaching and making sure that each and every one of their students is successful. We are proud to recognize Mrs. Danielle Murray, a mother of one, a hardworking Algebra and Geometry teacher, who extracts her energy in helping all her students. Mrs. Murray was kind enough to take time off of her hectic schedule to answer a few questions from the Wildcat Roar.

**TWR:** How long have you been teaching?

**Mrs. Murray:** This is my 13th year teaching and all have been at Rocky Hill.

**TWR:** How do you feel about being nominated as teacher of the month?

**Mrs. Murray:** I am excited and feel honored to be nominated.

**TWR:** What makes you special?

**Mrs. Murray:** That's a tough question to answer because I don't like talking about myself. I feel



Mrs. Murray  
Math Teacher

that I am special to my students because I can relate to them and help prepare them for high school. I feel that I am special to my family because I can balance my job as a teacher, my job as a coach, and my job as a wife and mom.

**TWR:** What would you like your students to know about you?

**Mrs. Murray:** I would like my students to know that I believe in all of them and that they can all achieve at a high level by putting in the time and effort. I encourage and

push my students to be the best they can be (mathematically, of course)!

**TWR:** What is one lesson that you have learned throughout your career?

**Mrs. Murray:** I have learned to be open-minded and flexible. Teaching is a career that brings new opportunities and challenges each and every day, so it is important to be able to adapt to change.

**TWR:** Why did you become a teacher?

**Mrs. Murray:** I became a math teacher because I love math, and I have always enjoyed helping others understand it. My AP Calculus teacher in 12th grade was my inspiration for wanting to become a teacher.

**TWR:** What other schools or grades have you taught?

**Mrs. Murray:** I have only taught at Rocky Hill. I teach both 7th and 8th grade, but I have never taught 6th!

Thank you Mrs. Murray for taking your time and effort to answer these questions. Rocky Hill is thankful for having such committed teachers like you, who is willing to share her thoughts and ideas with the Rocky Hill society.

## One Something More

I looked up to the ceiling  
I looked down to the floor  
I smiled at my report card  
Asking for something more

I put my foot on the edge of the step  
With my binder in my hand  
I smiled at a passerby  
But the wall was still bland

I chased that dog out on the road  
With anger in my eyes  
A rock forced under my foot  
That night I did despise

My friend turned her head to me  
Telling all the lies  
I just wanted to yell to her  
That, I would not despise

I turned my pencil in my journal  
I turned to the last page  
Maybe in that section  
I would write like a sage

I looked up at the ceiling  
I looked down at the floor  
I turned my head to all those people  
I just need one something more...

By Kiki Obiho  
Former Tech Editor

# Writer's Corner

## Book Wars: Divergent vs. Hunger Games

By Ronak Tallur  
Assistant Chief-Editor

Over the past few years, there have been many great books series that have released. Two of the best book series have been "The Hunger Games" and "Divergent." It is interesting to compare the two trilogies and see which one is the best book that has been released in the past few years.

First The Hunger Games trilogy: The first book of the series, "The Hunger Games," was a brilliant read that seemed to be loved by anyone who read it. "The Hunger Games," abbreviated THG is told from the point of view of Katniss Everdeen, a sixteen year old girl who volunteers to take her sister's place in the Hunger Games, a competition that serves as a reminder for a war that took place seventy four years ago. This event, sponsored by the Capitol (the dictatorship form of government) brings together twelve males and twelve females to fight to the death on live TV. Katniss and Peeta Mellark are chosen as the two contestants from District 12. Katniss is very good with the bow, while Peeta is quite strong and good at camouflaging himself. This book was a fast-paced adventure that had me at the edge of my seat. Suzanne Collins did a great job of making the reader root for Katniss to win the Hunger Games, and this is why THG was loved by thousands of readers worldwide.

Unfortunately, the second book of the series, "Catching Fire" didn't perform so well. Again, Katniss and Peeta (the "star-crossed lovers" of District 12) are put back into the arena. This time, though, Katniss is in more danger than ever. The antagonist of the series, President Snow, wants Katniss dead, because she has started rebellions



Image from Google Images

Protagonists of "The Hunger Games" and the "Divergent" series face each other.

that have people thinking that they can defy the Capitol and get away with it. I didn't feel like this book made me root for Katniss, enough. Eventually, the book became rather boring, and didn't make me feel like continuing the series.

Boy am I glad that I continued reading the series. "Mockingjay," the final installment in "The Hunger Games" series has the nation of Panem at full scale war against the Capitol. President Snow has become increasingly obsessed in trying to destroy Katniss, and considers anyone who fraternizes with her an enemy. This book is again fast-paced and adventurous. Suzanne Collins did such a great job writing the story that she made the readers feel connections with the characters. For example, she grew the reader's hatred in President Snow, but grew their love for Katniss. This book was a great way to finish off the series, and "The Hunger Games" in my opinion was a success.

Now let's move on to "Divergent." Like "The Hunger Games," the protagonist is a female. The protagonist in this series is Be-

atrice "Tris" Prior. Also, similar to "The Hunger Games," there is a love story involving the main characters. Tris' boyfriend is Tobias Eaton, who is one of the leaders of Dauntless, and is also a Divergent. I loved "Divergent," because Veronica Roth made me root for Tris more than anything. Veronica made me want Tris to survive, and escape from Jeanine Matthews. The plot was brilliant, and I felt like each page had meaning to it.

The second installment of the Divergent series is "Insurgent." "Insurgent" was written similarly to "Divergent," because it made me root for Tris, and want her to survive, even when survival seems impossible. I loved the battle sequences in the story, and the fact that reading it made you feel the fear that Tris was feeling. Veronica Roth literally put you into Tris' shoes and made you feel her pain, her anger, or her frustration. Veronica Roth made "Insurgent" a brilliant sequel to "Divergent."

The final book of the Divergent series is titled "Allegiant." At the beginning of the story, there was mystery, because Veronica Roth made you

wonder what was beyond the walls that protected the city. But eventually, the story became draggy and boring, and I stopped enjoying it. Veronica Roth did a good job of giving the story a detailed plot, but she didn't make you root for Tris as much as I would have liked her to. Also, I did not like how Veronica Roth ended the story. Tris' death delivered a great blow to the series, and really made the pages after her death meaningless. Another thing that I didn't like about "Allegiant" was that Peter took the memory serum and "tried to become a new person." Veronica Roth trying to make Peter a new person ruins the taste of the book, because Peter is just fine the way he is. Trying to change someone who, like Peter, has a bad reputation, is worthless, and a waste of time. This was what made "Allegiant" a series finale that, in my mind, wasn't as good as the rest.

So there you have it. "The Hunger Games" was a brilliant series, which was fast-paced, adventurous, and had fighting as its main theme. "Divergent" was another series that was fast-paced, had lots of fighting, and had adventures. Both series had a love story involved in it, had loved ones dying, and had parts to the story that weren't very good. In my mind, Suzanne Collins and Veronica Roth delivered in making great series. But if I had to choose which series was better, I would choose "Divergent." "Divergent" and "The Hunger Games" were pretty much equal to one another, but the first two books of "Divergent" really set themselves apart from the entire Hunger Games series. I hoped you enjoyed this edition of "Book Wars" and make sure to join us again next time.

## Paper Towns Book Review

Riya Suthar  
Staff Writer

John Green has, yet again, produced a fascinating story. Some may argue that it could be one of the best books for teens this year.

"Paper Towns" is about Quentin Jacobsen, a nerdy young boy who has a not-so-secret love for popular girl Margo Roth Spiegelman. One night, she unexpectedly pops into Quentin's life with a long list of vengeance and pranks to pull on her so-called "friends." As their night long journey comes to an end, Quentin is optimistic about his possible future with Margo. But when he awakes for what seemed like a bright day the next morning, he soon realizes that Margo is missing.

This book is all that the kids are talking about these days, and after reading it, I can definitely understand why. Green explores the wonders of young teen love all while keeping the lovey-dovey-happy-ever-after stuff to a minimum. His writing style explores realistic situations, which is the main reason his books

are so relatable. The characters are ones that everybody can relate to in one way or another.

My favorite part has to be when Margo and Quentin embark on their adventurous plot for revenge. It shows the rebellious side of teens when the two of them vandalize houses and cars with fish, leaving a signature on the walls in spray paint. During this scene, I enjoyed Green's descriptive writing about how Margo and Quentin play their sly tricks. This part allows the reader to imagine an escape from reality. I think people will enjoy this part because everybody has a rebellious side and in one way or another could probably relate to this.

Although the plot does drag out slightly in the middle, the overall mix of mystery and witty humor make this a book worth reading. I would recommend this book to anyone who is looking for a touching but not overly sentimental book. I suggest getting comfy, because you're in for a wild ride!

## Snowflakes

Snowflakes are white.  
They are made of snow but in shape of a flake  
So don't mistake them for corn flakes  
Snowflakes come down to the grass.  
Not so they can play brass  
They fly in the sky  
To say hi not bye.  
Snowflakes melt under the sun  
With snowflakes we have so much fun.

By Venassa Jijo

## Autumn

By: Sakshi Narula

The leaves turn into beautiful colors  
Red, orange, yellow, and brown  
The fascinating scenery blows my mind as I stop to enjoy the refreshing weather  
The quick winds move the leaves and they dance around in the sky  
The sun's glistening glow reflects onto the small puddle beneath me  
As the leaves from the tree drop I take them and put it in a pile  
I move my feet and jump on the ginormous pile  
I take my hand and I feel the crisp leaves as I dance around the colorful mountain  
Then I look up at the bright blue sky and smile  
Because I had an amazing time in the prettiest season ever

# Writer's Corner (Continued)

## Pandas

By Nicholas Fantle  
Staff Writer



Bei Bei

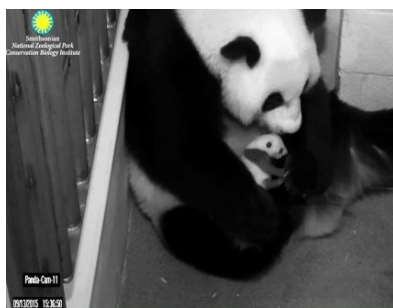
Pandas lived on earth for over three million years. A lot of humans don't think that pandas are important animals. Pandas are one of the top 20, most popular animals in the world. Some people like them because of their black and white spots. But other people like them because of their big eyes. Also you might ask yourself how pandas are still alive. But the answers is...zoos. Zoos save the animals from the wild and take care of them. An average zoo may spend \$7 million a year to feed and take care of all the animals.

Most baby pandas are born during the months of August and September. They leave their mother when they are about 2 years old. When they are born it takes them four years to fully grow up. Pandas are fun and interesting animals, some of the facts are that 99 percent of a panda's diet is bamboo. The rest is made out of other grass and fruit. Most of the day, pandas eat food, rest and look for food. Even if pandas are considered in the bear family, they don't hibernate like bears do. They mostly live up to 20

years in the wild, but in zoos they can live up to 30 years. The oldest panda is a 36 year old male, named Jia Jia who lived in Hong Kong.

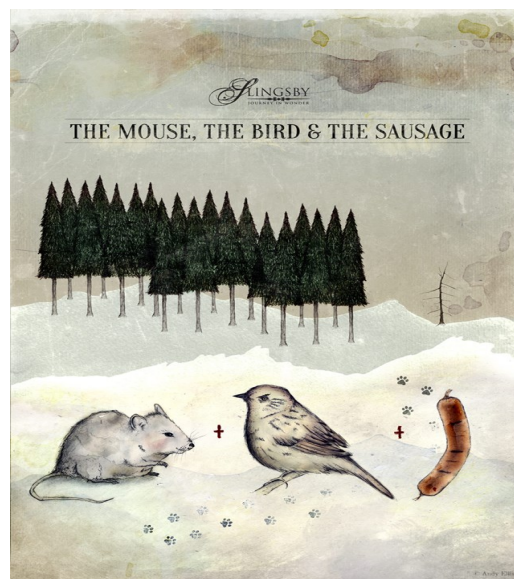
### Pandas in the DC Zoo

Since the giant pandas arrived in the DC's Zoo, people have been obsessed with pandas. But on August 22, 2015, two new male baby pandas were born. They were the babies of a female panda named, Mei Xiang and a male panda named Tian Tian. Then four days later one of the two baby pandas died. On September 25, 2015 the first lady named the baby panda Bei Bei, which means "precious treasure."



## The Brothers' Grimm: the Mouse, the Bird, and the Sausage

By: Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm  
Reviewed by Kaili Nakanishi



In this story, one message rings true--some things may be right for one person, but that doesn't mean it would be the same for another. This tale involves a Mouse, a Bird, and a Sausage. These companions live in a house together and have individual responsibilities. The Bird has to gather wood. The Mouse has to fetch water, light the fire, and set the table, while the Sausage has to cook.

Another bird came to tell them that they should switch jobs. Now the Bird had to fetch the water, light the fire and set the table. The Mouse had to cook and the Sausage had to gather wood. But when the Sausage went to collect the wood, a dog came along and ate the Sausage. When the Mouse tried to mix the vegetables by rolling on the pan like the Sausage had, she was cooked. When the Bird came to check on the Mouse, he accidentally set fire to the kitchen. The Bird went to fetch water from the well to douse the fire, but the pail was too heavy and the Bird fell into the well and drowned.

Prior to the other bird telling the companions to switch jobs, the Mouse, the Bird and the Sausage were able to make things work, but they each could not handle each other's responsibilities when the circumstances changed.



## Mom + Mad = Something Not Pretty

By Christine Kim and Ishika Naik  
Staff Writers

Mom wanted me to go to bed. But I wanted to go to Sarah's house. For ice cream. Yes, ice cream. But she said no. And not just any "No." She said it like this. "RAIN GRAMATCHEZ OLSEN! YOU WANT TO GO TO SARAH'S HOUSE FOR ICE CREAM? IT'S THE MIDDLE OF WINTER!! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU? NO, NO, AND NO! AND IF I WASN'T CLEAR ENOUGH, NO!"

I tried to protest (of course) and after her long lecture she said, "Well, now you don't have any plans, so you might as well have a reading lesson. I got you a new reading teacher to help you out. Go to your room. And DON'T come out till I say so!" Honestly, I didn't see what the big hubbub was about. I just asked to go to Sarah's house! Granted, I did ask for ice cream, and when she said no I asked if I could have it at Sarah's house. Okay, so I did do my part in riling her up, but it was fun. I have my moments.

A few minutes later, I was sitting in the kitchen with an overly dumpty woman (my sad excuse for a tutor)

breathing down my neck. I stared at the book she wanted me to read while tears of frustration prickled in my eyes. I wanted to read it of course, but the words just swam on the page. Every tutor I had quit. They called me illiterate. They told me that I was just a difficult student, and I didn't try hard enough. Okay, so that may be a teensy-weensy bit true but still. That's just plain rude!

"Rain?" the tutor peeped. "Why aren't you reading? Is it too difficult?"

"No." I snapped. "I just can't see the words properly." I rubbed my eyes and tried again. Ugh. Worse. The words slurred together made a puzzle impossible for me to work out. A look of concern filled my tutor's face. "What do you mean, you can't see properly?" I couldn't see the point in trying to explain. Whenever I tried, even I couldn't understand what I wanted to say.

"Do the words mix together?" she gently pressed. I stared up at her surprised.

"Yes," I heard myself say.

Okay, fine. She's not that bad. Later I listened to her whisper to my mother.

"I'm afraid Rain may have dyslexia," she whispered. My mom gasped.

"I always knew she had a sparkle of intelligence in her. A uniqueness, if you will. I'm not surprised," she whispered back.

They're so silly. "You know I can hear you guys, right?" They looked at me in surprise like they forgot I was there.

Truth be told, I was happy. Now I have a great excuse for getting out of English!!

It'll be like, "Rain? What's wrong?" And then I'll say, "\*Sniff\*...I have dyslexia...\*sniff, sniff.\*" Just kidding. Yeah, sure...even I don't believe that I won't try that at least once. :)

I do have a sparkle of intelligence in me. But evilness also reigns mightily deep inside somewhere. I know it. Now watch me work it...

"Mommy?"

"Yes, Rain?"

"I'm sad. \*Sniff sniff.\*" See what I did there?? Told you I'd try it sometime.

"Oh, honey, it's okay. Why don't we get you some ice cream?"

"But you said no ice cream."

"This is different, sweetie."

"But you said..."

"Sometimes things change, sweetie."

"Well then, I guess it's okay."

Pause for effect...

"Mommy?"

"Yes, Rain?" And right on cue, the puppy dog eyes and pouty lips work their way in, which (if the plan is carried through successfully) should make my mom take pity on me and choose to be nice when I ask this next question. I'm so delightful.

"Is my going to Sarah's house also different?"

Rain's mother's face hardened. Uh-oh.

"Am I THAT unreliable that you think I can't stay true to what I said?"

Do you really think my decision on that matter has changed?" It was then that I said THE WORST THING that I could have possibly said at that moment.

"Yes." What? It's true! Don't look at me like that!

"Yes?"

Oopsie.

# Sports

## NFL is BACK!

By Ronak Tallur  
Assistant Chief-Editor

The wait is over! The NFL season is finally back and fans all over the country (and world) are excited to watch their famous teams clash against one another as they fight for a spot in the playoffs and compete to win Superbowl 50! Since February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, fans have been at the edge of their seats, waiting for the 2015 NFL season to arrive. They followed their teams through the long and strenuous offseason. For some fans, they were desperate for their favorite team to get better and hopefully get to the playoffs. For others, they couldn't wait for their team to continue dominating the NFL. Fans are gearing up for another exciting season, and the weekend tradition of tailgating and watching football is in full swing.

For some fans, football is their life. They follow football 24 hours a day on Sundays, whether it is watching the game live on their television screen at home or following the action on their computer. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, the day that Superbowl 49 took place, almost everybody in the country was glued to their television set, rooting for either the New England Patriots or the Seattle Seahawks to win the match. As the clock ticked down, fans were at the edge of their seats, waiting for the dramatic conclusion. But when the Malcolm Butler made that dramatic interception, preventing the Seahawks from scoring the potentially game-winning touchdown, the fans were desperate for more. For fans, even the most dramatic conclusion isn't enough. In fact, even their team winning the Superbowl isn't enough. Those fans crave the completion and the nail-biting drama of the NFL. If their favorite team wins one Superbowl, all they want is for next season to come so that their team can win another championship. And even though over seven months have passed since the epic finale to the 2014 NFL season, fans remain up to date with everything that has been going on in the NFL.

One of the biggest headlines of the offseason was the scandal known as 'Deflategate.' The scandal occurred on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, in the AFC Championship playoff game between the New England Patriots and the Indianapolis Colts. The Patriots allegedly deflated the game footballs to get a better grip on the ball. This led to the Patriots having an advantage over the Colts and eventually led to the Patriots blowing out the Colts 45-7. By the time January 19<sup>th</sup> had arrived, the entire country knew about the deflated footballs. Who had deflated the footballs was a mystery. Who had known



Red Skins' Chief Zee



Mrs. Rye, her husband Mr. Kent Rye, her brother, Greg and their fellow Ravens Fans.

about the events that occurred or had taken a part in deflating the footballs was also unknown. Patriots head coach, Bill Belichick, said, "When I came in Monday morning, I was shocked to hear about the news reports about the footballs... I had no knowledge of the situation until Monday morning..." He went on to say that the New England Patriots would cooperate fully with the investigation that was going to take place.

Four time Superbowl champion quarterback, Tom Brady, was accused of having knowledge of the deflation of the footballs. He referred to these accusations as "ridiculous" and claimed to have no knowledge of the illicit events that took place. On May 6<sup>th</sup>, the NFL published a 243 page report about the deflation of the footballs and the investigation taking place. When Tom Brady was questioned about the events that took place, he once again denied the accusations. However, when he was asked to turn in his cell phone so that the NFL could go through his text messages and phone calls, he refused. Brady proceeded to destroying his cell phone, the only piece of evidence that Brady could have either taken part or not taken part in the Deflategate scandal.

Five days later, Tom Brady was suspended for the first four games of the NFL season. The Patri-

ots were fined one million dollars and lost their first round draft pick in 2016. Brady immediately filed an appeal against the NFL. The hearing took place on June 23<sup>rd</sup> in front of the NFL commissioner, Roger Goodell. On July 28<sup>th</sup>, a month and five days after the hearing took place, the suspension of Tom Brady was upheld and Roger Goodell, who had lost several cases and hearings in the past year (for example, the Ray Rice domestic violence case), came out victorious.

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, Tom Brady took the decision of the suspension to court, hoping that by law, the court would overturn the suspension. The court declared that Tom Brady had been treated unfairly and that he had no idea of the consequences prior to his involvement in Deflategate since the NFL had not clearly stated the rules. Therefore, Tom Brady's suspension was overturned on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, making him active for Week 1 versus the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Other events that took place in the offseason include the fact that Russell Wilson became the second highest paid quarterback in the NFL. Peyton Manning, future Hall of Fame quarterback, announced that he would not be retiring and would return to the NFL for at least one more season. Star wide receiver of the Baltimore Ravens, Steve Smith, an-

nounced that the 2015 NFL season would be his last in the NFL. Several big trades occurred in the offseason, however. Demarco Murray, now former running back for the Dallas Cowboys, after his incredible 1,845 yard rushing season, was traded to the Philadelphia Eagles. This trade made up for the Eagles offseason losses of franchise quarterback Nick Foles (to the St. Louis Rams) and star wide receiver, Jeremy Maclin (to the Kansas City Chiefs). Frank Gore, former running back for the San Francisco 49ers, was sent away to the Colts, while Andre Johnson was dealt from the Texans to the Colts.

Another big headline that occurred late in the preseason was that former number two overall pick, Robert Griffin III, was demoted from starting quarterback to third string quarterback, in favor of Kirk Cousins. Robert Griffin, nicknamed RG3, suffered yet another injury, a concussion in a preseason game versus the Detroit Lions. After initially being cleared to return a week later, he was ruled out late in the week by a neurologist. Kirk Cousins dazzled in his next preseason start, clearing the way for him to become the starting quarterback. Colt McCoy, who also outperformed RG3, was made the backup quarterback for the team.

So, over seven months after Superbowl 49 ended, the 2015 NFL season is ready to kick off again! Fans are exuberant, hoping that their team will be the next to hoist the Vince Lombardi trophy. After an offseason of news headlines, jaw-dropping stories, and plain drama, the NFL is back and ready to go!



Mrs. Rye's brother, Greg!

## Rocky Hill Color Fun Run

By Shelby Wilson  
Former Editor

On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> the PTA hosted the first Rocky Hill Color Fun Run at RHMS. Over 150 participants came out to run, walk, and rock their Wildcat Pride.

It was a lovely fall morning and it was a perfect day for running. The music was playing and everyone was getting pumped up to run. Excitement filled the air and it was a great way to start of the weekend. Then soon it was time to run. Everyone gathered up in the basketball courts and was ready to have a blast!

During the run we were splattered with colors of purple, blue, green, etc. It was a great way to exercise and have an enjoyable time.

Following the run Unique



Dreams thrilled the crowd as they danced with their families. Everyone was having an amazing time. Grandma Kona and Kona ice also joined the party and was here to cool down

the runners and help the school and PTA raise money to fund the activity bus this school year.

The color fun run was a fantastic event that brought families closer together as they supported each other. We look forward to next year when current and former RHMS families come together as the PTA sprinkles us once again with a rainbow of color!



# Sports (Continued)

## Redskins Metamorphosis

By Ronak Tallur  
Assistant Chief-Editor

January 6th, 2013 is special for one reason. RG3. If you entered FedEx Field that day, you would have been stunned at how loud it was. There wasn't a single empty seat in the stadium. Fans were roaring loudly as their hometown Washington Redskins took the field for their first playoff game since 2007, and their first division title since 1999. Not a single fan had anything negative to say about the Redskins star rookie quarterback, Robert Griffin III, who was already in the MVP conversation. RG3 had led the Redskins from a 5-11 record in the previous season, and a 3-6 start to the current season, all the way to a division title. Robert Griffin III, nicknamed RG3, was also a topic of great discussion, since he was dealing with a sprained knee sustained late in the regular season. But when the ball was kicked off and the game got underway, not a single fan was thinking about RG3's knee. All they could think about was the future of the Redskins, and the dynasty that was certainly in the making.

The fans could do nothing but cheer on as the Redskins jumped out to an early 14-0 lead over the Seattle Seahawks, and their rookie quarterback, Russell Wilson. Little did the fans know that within four hours, they would be wondering about the future of RG3. After taking off early in the game, the Redskins didn't score again until September 9th, 2013, exactly 8 months later. Despite the fact that they didn't score, the Redskins were clinging on to a 14-13 lead early in the 4th quarter, when everything changed. Russell Wilson threw a 27 yard touchdown pass to Marshawn Lynch and converted on the two-point conversion, taking a 21-14 lead. When the Redskins got the ball back, RG3 faked deep down the field, but was sacked, causing his knee to bend awkwardly. On the next play, center Will Montgomery snapped the ball way off target. As RG3 tried to get the ball, his foot stuck into the ground and his knee buckled. The Seahawks recovered the football inside the redzone, and RG3 did not get up. He was forced off the field on his own weak power, and the Seahawks ended up winning the game. It was all over. The Redskins great season had come to an end.

It was unbelievable that on the morning on January 6th, 2013, Redskins fans had been envisioning that the Redskins would end up hoisting the Vince Lombardi trophy, as the Super Bowl champions. Less than twelve hours later, the Redskins were walking off the field, dejected and defeated. Three days after that, Robert Griffin III underwent surgery for a



Image from Google Images



Image from Google Images

Kirk Cousins throwing a pass for the Washington Redskins in the 2015 NFL season.

tom ACL that he had suffered in the loss to the Seahawks. That offseason was a tough one for the Redskins. Head coach Mike Shanahan was the source of constant criticism for not removing RG3 from the playoff game even though RG3 had clearly been in pain. However, fans remained firm that the Redskins would return in the 2013 season, better than ever, and win the Super Bowl. On September 9th, 2013, the Redskins took the field for their season opener versus the Philadelphia Eagles. Early in the game, the Redskins got a defensive touchdown, taking a 7-0 lead. By the end of the first quarter, however, the Eagles had jumped out to a 12-7 lead. At halftime, FedEx Field was silent. The Eagles were leading 26-7 and RG3, who was wearing a knee brace to cover up his injury, was constantly taking hard hits. Less than five minutes into the third quarter, Lesean McCoy broke free for a 34 yard touchdown run, giving the Eagles a 33-7 lead. Despite the fact that RG3 slowly regained his rhythm and led the Redskins back to within six points, the Eagles won 33-27 in the season opener.

Three games later, fans seemed gloomier than ever. The Redskins were off to an 0-3 start, and were set to play against the Oakland Raiders, who were doing quite good in the early going of the season. However, the Redskins ended up winning that game 24-14, going into their bye week with a record of 1-3. Two weeks later, the Redskins lost again, this time on Sunday Night Football against their biggest rival, the Dallas Cowboys. With a 1-4 record, the Redskins were going into a week 7 game against the Chicago Bears, who were flying high. However, the Redskins defense managed to get to Jay Cutler (who left the game with an injury) and Josh McCown, the backup quarterback. In the end, the Redskins won the game 45-41, and improved their record to 2-4. Their week 8 game against the 6-1 Denver Broncos, however, was sure to be a challenge. Led by future Hall-of-Fame quarterback, Peyton Manning, the Broncos had the best offense in the NFL.

RG3 led the Redskins to a surprising 21-7 lead. However, the Broncos came roaring back to take a 45-21 lead, and eventually won the game. RG3 sustained another knee injury, and had an emotional postgame press conference. A week later, Griffin III returned to lead the Redskins to a 30-24 overtime win over the Chargers. Unfortunately, that win was the final win for

the Redskins in the season. Eight games later, the Redskins walked into their locker room for the last time, gloomily. The Redskins had finished with a 3-13 record, and Mike Shanahan had ended up benching RG3 in favor of fellow second year quarterback, Kirk Cousins. A day after the week 17 loss to the Giants, Mike Shanahan and his entire staff were fired, paving way into a sure to be painful offseason. However, things began to get brighter when former Bengals offensive coordinator, Jay Gruden, was hired as the Redskins coach. He was sure to turn things around and make RG3 return to MVP form. Trying to turn RG3 into a pocket passer, Jay Gruden entered the regular season with high hopes. Most fans believed that the Redskins would return to 2012 form and return to the playoffs. But after a week 1 loss, RG3 went down with a dislocated ankle. Kirk Cousins led the Redskins to a commanding victory over the Jaguars and performed well in a loss to the Eagles. After that, everything went downhill for Cousins, who began to throw interceptions on a gamely basis. He was benched in favor of the third-string quarterback, Colt McCoy, who led the Redskins to two straight wins. After that, RG3 returned and began struggling. After a week 11 loss to the Buccaneers, RG3 called out his teammates, which led to Jay Gruden snapping, "Robert needs to worry about himself...not about his teammates!" He said that changes would be made to the team if necessary. RG3 ended up being benched after a week 12 loss to the San Francisco 49ers. Colt McCoy returned for two games (both of them were losses) before he suffered a season-ending neck strain. RG3 finished out the season with a 1-2 record, but struggled mightily in a 45-17 loss in week 17. For a second year in a row, the Redskins had finished with less than 5 wins. RG3 began to bear down to the criticism, snapping at his haters on social media, leading to more and more criticism. Jay Gruden was also called out for making RG3 worse than before. Jay Gruden promised to make changes in the 2015 season after the struggles of the 2014 season.

On February 18th, Jay Gruden announced, "Robert is our guy," making it public that RG3 would be the Redskins starter for the 2015 season. After a long offseason of training, RG3 geared up for the preseason opener with the Cleveland Browns. A game later, RG3 went down with a concussion, making Kirk Cousins the Redskins

starter. On August 30th, Gruden announced, "Kirk is our guy," declaring Cousins the opening day starter for the Redskins.

On September 13th, Kirk Cousins made the first week 1 start of his career, throwing a touchdown and two interceptions, in a 17-10 loss to the Dolphins. A week later, Cousins led the Redskins to a 24-10 win over the St. Louis Rams, a team with an extremely strong front seven. Redskins fans were beginning to get very excited when Cousins threw two picks in a Thursday Night loss to the Giants, 32-21. Slowly, fans began getting irritated with Cousins, annoyed that he was continually throwing interceptions and was not improving. Some fans called on Gruden to make RG3 the team's starter. Gruden repeated his statement: "Kirk is our guy," saying that he would stick with Kirk Cousins through his struggles.

Cousins silenced his critics in a week 4 win over the Eagles, 23-20. With time running out, Cousins led a 90 yard touchdown drive to defeat the Eagles. During the week, it was reported that fans and critics believed that Kirk Cousins was the Redskins long-term solution at quarterback. It was also reported that Kirk Cousins and his wife had been treated like royalty at a local Chipotle restaurant. As the week passed, Cousins was praised more and more by critics. It was reported that former Redskins coach, Mike Shanahan, believed that Cousins would soon be a Super Bowl champion, a Pro Bowl quarterback, and would go down as one of the greatest quarterbacks of all time. Though fans reminded Shanahan not to jump to conclusions too fast, not too many fans could deny that Kirk Cousins was the best quarterback on the roster. In an ESPN article, it was reported, "Last season, (Cousins) would have thrown an interception in a clutch situation. Now, he has improved and matured as a quarterback."

Ever since the Redskins heartbreaking loss to the Seahawks, fans haven't had much to cheer about. Now, however, fans have a reason to believe that the Redskins can make it to the playoffs, and maybe even win the Super Bowl. Fans believe that with Cousins (nicknamed Captain Kirk) at quarterback, the Redskins would soon join the elite class of teams in the NFL. And as the Redskins enter a tough stretch of their season, fans believe that the Redskins can get through it, with their top ranked defense, a great running game, and a quarterback, a quarterback who had shrugged off his critics and his struggles, and has joined an elite class of quarterbacks in the NFL.



Jay Gruden, Redskins' Head Coach

# Life on The Hill

## Welcome to Rocky Hill!

By Aleysha Vergese  
Chief Editor

Rocky Hill Middle School is one big family, filled with hardworking teachers, exuberant students, and loving PTA. With a tight knit community like ours, we do our best to welcome new teachers and students. The wildcat Roar does its own part to recognize and welcome our new wildcat.



Mr. Tom Evans

Mr. Evans is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Digital Literacy and English teacher, we are delighted to have him here at Rocky Hill.

**TWR: Where were you before you came to Rocky Hill?**

Mr. Tom: I came to Rocky Hill from Tilden Middle School where I was a teacher for the past 7 years.

**TWR: What do you like about Rocky Hill?**

Mr. Evans: The Kids! I love how students take PRIDE in their education and help each other in class and in the hallways

**TWR: What do you teach?**

Mr. Evans: Literacy and English 6 this year, but I have also taught reading, journalism, creative writing in high school

**TWR: How do you like being here so far?**

Mr. Evans: I love working at Rocky Hill! The kids and staff are amazing! The rotating blocks is a big adjustment from the seven period day, but I really like having longer class periods.

**TWR: Would you like to share a bit about yourself or a special message to RHMS?**

Mr. Evans: I love reading, hiking, learning about new technology and spending time with family. My favorite part of teaching sixth grade is getting to go to Outdoor ED every year.



Mrs. Williams

Mrs. Williams is the head of the Special Education department.

**TWR: Where were you before you came to Rocky Hill?**

Mrs. Williams: Before I came to Rocky Hill, I taught math at RICA for six years. Before that I taught in Texas and Philadelphia for ten years.

**TWR: What do you like about Rocky Hill?**

Mrs. Williams: I love the sense of community at Rocky Hill, especially since two of my daughters go to school here.

**TWR: What do you teach?**

Mrs. Williams: I am the head of the Learning and Academic Disabilities program.

**TWR: How do you like being here so far?**

Mrs. Williams: I've really enjoyed being at Rocky Hill so far. Being brand new to this job, I've had a lot to learn but I'm getting the hang of it!

**TWR: Would you like to share a bit about yourself or a special message to RHMS?**

Mrs. Williams: I am passionate about helping students being successful!



Mrs. Zettes Coley

Mrs. Zettes Coley is one the 7<sup>th</sup> grade special education teachers.

**TWR: Where you were before came to Rocky Hill?**

Mrs. Zettes Coley: Gaithersburg High School for six years as a para educator and Special Education teacher

**TWR: What do you like about Rocky Hill?**

Mrs. Zettes Coley: How nice everyone is! Students and teachers alike are respectful, caring, and welcoming!

**TWR: What do you teach?**

Mrs. Zettes Coley: I'm a Special Education teacher who teaches one Resource class for 7th graders and co-teaches four 7th grade English classes.

**TWR: How do you like being here so far?**

Mrs. Zettes Coley: I LOVE it. I've never been happier.

**TWR: Would you like to share a bit about yourself?**

Mrs. Zettes Coley: I love helping students tell their own stories through their writing.

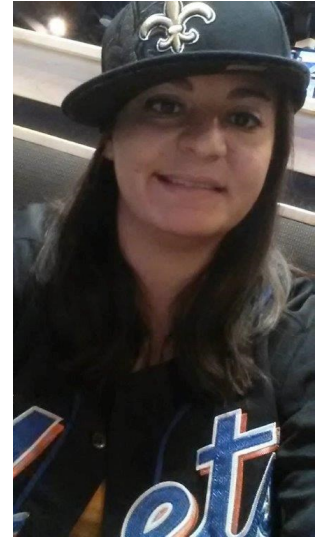
**Ms. Manzione:**

Ms. Manzione is one of the special education teachers.

**TWR: Where were you before you came to Rocky Hill?**

Ms. Manzione: I have had quite the journey before I landed here at Rocky Hill. I am from New Jersey which is where the amazing accent and attitude are from. From there I moved to Delaware for college and ended up staying there for three years where I became a Special Education Teacher. When I graduated graduate school I moved to Indiana to become a school counselor.

I loved the job but not Indiana. I moved here with my boyfriend to be closer to home and family.



Ms. Manzione

**TWR: What do you like about Rocky Hill?**

Ms. Manzione: I love that Rocky Hill is so welcoming of new faces. Being new is hard but all the staff are so nice and helpful!

**TWR: What do you teach?**

Ms. Manzione: I teach Special Education

**TWR: How do you like being here so far?**

Ms. Manzione: I love being back on the east coast where I belong. I get to see the sun again because it did not shine in Indiana crazy right.

**TWR: Would you like to share a bit about yourself or a special message to RHMS?**

Ms. Manzione: There is so much about me that I can't even begin to list. I LOVE the beach that is where I feel at peace and I will live there one day! My favorite thing to do is go to the gym. I love to lift and one day I hope to compete in powerlifting competitions. I am told I could compete right now but I need a little more confidence first. My favorite color is green and my favorite baseball team is the New York Mets!!

We are glad that the Rocky Hill community will get to know you better. Hope you enjoy teaching at RHMS!

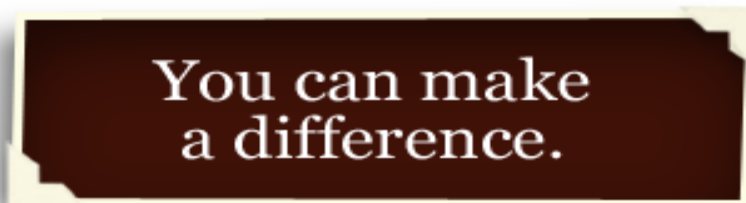
## Rocky Hill Makes a Difference

Rocky Hill Middle School continues to make a difference in our community. It is a tradition that is as old as the school itself. The charity basketball game has raised money for the Susan G. Komen foundation. After losing a beloved teacher, Mrs. Holmberg to pancreatic cancer and a wonderful student, Sam Moore, the charity basketball game has taken on a new meaning. Under the direction of Ms. Tippet and some other staff members, the school has organized blood drives to save lives and toy drives for Children's Hospital. The Leo's Club has continued to make a difference through the annual coat drive.

"Leo's club is a community service club where students give back to their community," said Mr. Stevenson, the sponsor of the club. As the

sponsor, Mr. Stevenson decides on the projects they participate in and who they donate to. The Leo's club objective is, "To provide the youth of the world with an opportunity for development and contribution, individually and collectively, as responsible members of the local, national, and international community." Students in the club brainstorm ideas

about people who could benefit from donations. Although Leo's club is not a place for students to hang out, play, and have fun, it has given them a sense of purpose, and that in itself is fulfilling. Providing service or giving of oneself can be a rewarding experience. We commend students in the Leo's club for choosing to make a difference. Our school community is



Make A Difference.

grateful for their services. As we start the second quarter with the holidays on our minds, we hope we continue our tradition of reaching out to others who are less fortunate. Together we can make a greater impact. There will be opportunities throughout the school year to make a difference.

Our school PTA has great initiatives to get us involved in making a difference in our community. Under the leadership of Mrs. Alicia Wilson, the PTA has introduced the Wildcat Care program to support families in our area in need of care. To learn more about our PTA program, checkout the RHMS website.



# Special Features

## Mrs. Rye and Ms. Odey's Adventures

By Ms. Odey

Mrs. Rye and Mrs. Odey turned fifty years old last August! They could not wait to embark on an adventure of a lifetime! First, they figured out that they belong to the elite group, the Red Hat Society (RHS).



Brownie Cookie Dough Blizzard-Yum!

This society welcomes women who are 50 years old and enjoy having fun. Knowing Mrs. Rye and Ms. Odey, they couldn't wait to join. Shannon M. Nass, a freelance writer, wrote an article about the Red Hat Society in the Pittsburg Post Gazette titled "Red Hat Society Goal: Change attitudes on aging women." Nass wrote about women in their fifties who want to have fun and enjoy life



How do we look?



Ms. Odey and Mrs. Rye posing for a selfie at JCPenny

at 50. "The Red Hat Society was formed April 25, 1998, when Mrs. Cooper, of Fullerton, Calif., and a group of five friends met for tea wearing purple clothes and red hats," said Nass.



Trying out purple shirts at Macy's

It is amazing what you discover as you get older. The Red Hat Society has become a worldwide phenomenon featuring groups of middle aged women who deliberately decide to face life with humor, amusement, and energy. It is fair to say this organization was made for Mrs. Rye and Ms.

Odey! To celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> birthdays, Mrs. Rye and Ms. Odey went to Lake Forest Mall, making their first stop at Dairy Queen where they indulged in a Brownie Cookie Dough Blizzard. In their quest for red hats and purple outfits, they went to stores like JC Penny and Macy's, trying on as many red hats, scarves, and purple shirts as they could find.

Most of the people who en-



Red Hats!

countered them at the mall that day knew those two were on a mission. Some store owners, like the one at the

children's bounce store had to break the rules to accommodate Mrs. Rye and Ms. Odey.



At Zbounce

Although they got tired after more than two hours of roaming major stores in Lake Forest Mall, they made one more stop at a children's bounce store. They slumped into a bounce chair that is designed for kids, and there was nothing the store owner could do but take a photograph. What a 50<sup>th</sup> adventure those two exuberant teachers had!



Can't stop us!

## TWR Advice Column

### The Doctor is In!

Welcome to the new feature in the Wildcat Roar! This year we hope to tackle some issues that middle-schoolers face on a daily basis. This year, our school focuses on being unique and being proud of who you are. We are all different, but that's not a bad thing. We should embrace our differences. Being unique also means that we have unique challenges, and sometimes it helps to get some advice, which is why Dr. Right is here! Feel free to anonymously write to the Wildcat Roar with some issues that you need advice for, and Dr. Right will be here!

Dear Dr. Right,  
How do I deal with peer pressure?

First of all, you shouldn't be forced to do anything you don't want to do. No matter what you're being pressured to do, whether it's joining in on bullying, stealing, or doing drugs, peer pressure is never right. I know it's not easy, but you have to say no. Saying no and staying true to your values is better than doing something you don't want to do and know isn't right. Think about it this way: let's say a "cool" kid encourages you to lie to your parents and go to a party with some older kids who



Image from Google Images

have a bad reputation. Would you rather break your parents trust or go to the party to be "cool?"

Dear Dr. Right,  
I told myself that I wouldn't let what other people say get to me, but lately some people that I used to be friends with are starting rumors about me, and it's really getting to my head.

Everyone has a different tolerance of what people think. Some people can take more and some can't take it at all. I just depends on you, but it's not your fault that these people are saying bad things about you, or that you care about what these people think. But no matter what these people say, they're wrong. After all, they were friends with you for

a reason, right? Whatever people who don't like you say, you're AMAZING!! People love you and want to be around you, regardless of what anyone else says.

Dear Dr. Right,  
I've been doubting myself lately, how do I deal with low self-esteem?

Society pulls us straight from the womb and teaches us our first words, "skinny, pretty, smart, strong, PERFECT." We always use these words, but do we know the real meaning to them? Just because there's a girl who you think is pretty doesn't mean that you're not. You shouldn't look at someone and let their looks or anything about them bring you down. You know how peo-

ple always say "you can be anything you want to be?" If you want to be perfect then BAM. You're already perfect. Your flaws are flawless, but you shouldn't let them define you. Stay yourself, and stay super cool rad awesome legit amazing beautiful and perfect :)

Dear Dr. Right,

I hear a lot about bullying, and I am scared of becoming a victim. How do I know that I am safe when I'm at school?

Be assured that your administrators and teachers here at Rocky Hill care about every student's welfare. We are lucky to be in a school where teachers work very closely with parents to make sure we have what we need to succeed. If you ever encounter any situation with bullying the first thing to do is to talk to an adult. Any of the teachers around will be willing to help you. More importantly, talk to your counselor or any of the counselors. One thing you'd likely hear them tell you is to be assertive. It means that you should be a fraid to stand up to a bully and say, NO!

# Today's Technology

## Windows 10

By: Athira Nair and Venassa Jijo  
Staff Writers

Microsoft made its big hit with its new development, Windows 10. With its built in, easy access start menu, computerized assistant, and store, this OS may make your life glamorous! Many people believe that Windows 10 is an amazing Operating system in the Microsoft Company.

Microsoft has made one of its most advanced and greatest OS's in their time. Windows 10 is a free installment if you have Windows 7 or 8.1. Windows 10 has a lot of similarities with Windows 8.1, including the start menu. It is also a more reliable OS, with built in protection, faster network, and has familiar feel to it. Along with Windows 10 is the new Microsoft Edge. This the default browser for Windows 10 and is a fast and updated version of Internet Explorer. Microsoft has also included the a personal computerized assistant known as Cortana who can help find things on the web, the news, and even old files. The Play Store is also another extra in the Windows 10 OS; it includes all of the top rated games on the market that can be easily downloaded or bought with the touch of a button. Microsoft is definitely hitting the market, big time.

Windows 10 has a fantastic start menu. The start menu may not fill the whole screen, but it is definitely useful. The start menu is located on the bottom left corner, or you can press on the windows key found on your keyboard. It has all the games and apps that a Windows 8 or 8.1 start menu would have. The start menu has many different apps such as weather, calendar, photos, Cortana, and much more. There is also a shortcut icon that takes you directly to the Play store and any apps or games you have downloaded will appear on the start menu. Along with all of the icons on the start menu, there is a search bar for Cortana to help find any documents or files you may have lost. The start menu shows all of your interests up to date. All of your data can follow you onto any of your devices at home. So all the things you do on your laptop or computer, can show up on your phone, tablet and any other electronic. The start menu changes everything!

Cortana is an intelligent computerized personal assistant. Located on the start menu or bottom left hand corner, Cortana can make things simpler and easier to find and use as well as keep you up to date on things that matter to you. Like Siri on your Apple products, she can be customized to fit your personal needs, such as programming her to remember her name and if you want, you can even disable her. Cortana can react to different commands to help do different things. She is able to give you the shortest route to get you to your destination as well. Cortana can record your history to easily access past applications. She can keep you company by chatting with you and she can remind you of any reminders. Still not convinced of Cortana's abilities? Well there's more! Cortana is also available in the 8.1 version of windows on your phone. So now you can carry her with you wherever you go. Cortana is an excellent assistant in the Windows 10 OS.



Image from Google Images

The new Windows 10 update has reached great heights, very quickly!

With the new Windows 10 you can download and buy the newest and most popular games from the Play Store. Such as Minecraft, Candy Crush, and Crossy Road. There also virtual and realistic sporting games, including NFL, FIFA, and ESPN. Some of the newest movies, TV shows, music, and albums can be bought and enjoyed right on your PC. You can also use the apps you know and depend on every day like Office, OneDrive, Skype, and more. With all these apps and more you can get your work done in a faster and simpler way. There's more, on your very own PC you can have the full Xbox one experience, with amazing visuals and outstanding graphics. You can stream your Xbox one games onto any of your electronics. Windows 10 has the best gaming experience.

Welcome to the latest way to surf the web! Microsoft Edge is the newer updated default browser for Windows 10. Microsoft Edge gives you new ways to find what you are looking for, read and write on the web, plus help from Cortana where and when you need it. Unlike Internet Explorer, this browser is easier and more efficient to use. Microsoft Edge is also the only browser that lets you take notes, write, doodle, and highlight directly on web pages that you can send and show your friends. Then you can save and share your handiwork in all the usual ways. Make notes on recipes, send your family and friends "subtle hints" about birthday gifts, or just draw mustaches on celebrities—the web is your canvas. Take your reading with you on Microsoft Edge. This browser allows to add and save your favorite articles and stories online on favorites or the reading list. You can also easily return to websites you often go to, on your favorites. If you want a clean, simple layout, free of ads and other distraction you can select the Reading View in address bar. This enables to show only the text you want to read.

The Windows 10 isn't only used for home uses; it also can be used for work. Windows 10 Pro gives you and your business great things. It works in all of your devices so you can stay comfortable. It has upgraded security to make sure that your business data isn't lost or stolen. It can be managed with a light touch without heavy IT investment. Above all, it provides a familiar and productive

experience—so your sole focus can be on doing great things. By putting devices on the current branch for business, businesses will be able to receive feature updates after their quality and application unity has been tested in the consumer market, while continuing to receive security updates on a regular basis. Windows Update for business can help businesses reduce management costs, provide control over update deployments, offer quicker access to security updates, and provide access to the latest additions from Microsoft. The Windows 10 is one of the best updates for your business.

We also have some reviews from our very own Mr. Sprites who has Windows 10 as well.

**TWR:** How do you feel about it?

**Mr. Sprites:** Windows 8.1. Cortana is nice to have to ask to do

things. Her name is based off of the computer in Halo, a major XBOX game which Microsoft bought from Bungie software. I like it and it has some new layers. You can ask her to open programs, schedule things and even what the weather is going to be like. Much like Siri from Apple.

**TWR:** What is the benefit of having it?

**Mr. Sprites:** Microsoft worked out some dislikes of Windows 8.1 with Windows 10. You have a whole new browser. It is called Edge. It does not use as many resources as Internet Explorer did/does. It has different desktops that you can use. Such as work, play, home etc. with different icons and preferences. In addition, security is better with Windows 10 as a whole. Plus it is a free upgrade to everyone running Windows 7 up. This is the first time a new operating system has been free.

**TWR:** How has it changed the way we use windows?

**Mr. Sprites:** Not really, just a little getting used to, but not much. It has the feel of Windows 8.1 for the most part.

As you now know, Microsoft has really blown us away with its new OS. Windows 10 comes completely installed with the start menu, Cortana, Play store, Microsoft Edge, business updates, and much more. With all of these new updates, you can have more fun on your PC than ever before. A simple and high tech way to keep your life smooth. I would get it now if I were you.

## Dangers of Social Media

By Ali Tyma  
Former Staff Writer



As you flip through an old yearbook you come across a picture of a smiling boy, now suffering from depression. You pause and wonder how could someone go from happy to sad in just a few years? You wonder, could I have influenced his depression? Maybe, just maybe if I hadn't posted those mean comments he would still be happy.

About 4.7% of adolescents suffer from depression, mostly influenced by social media. Although this number seems small, depression is actually pretty common in middle and high school and is probably happening in your school right now. Kids are always on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc., and typically will do anything from posting a mean comment to posting an even meaner video just to impress their peers and/or bring someone down. The only thing kids know is that they're hurting someone. What they don't know is that they're permanently hurting someone. Or they don't know that they're hurting someone. At this age, kids don't think before they act. And although you may regret hurting someone, once you post something on the internet, there is no way to remove it. Depression is a serious thing and once

you hurt someone it's hard to fix the break. Kids need to learn to be more respectful, and understand the dangers of social media. Social media can be a fun, yet dangerous. If not handled properly, social media abuse can lead to depression, and in some cases, death. ABC Family helped aware the dangers of social media by producing a original movie called Cyber-bully, starring Emily Osment. Based off a true story, Cyber-bully was a way to encourage depressed teens to reach out for help.

Depression is a serious, and sometimes fatal condition. If you know anyone who suffers from depression, encourage them to reach out for help, and if they already are, help them. So next time you want to hurt someone or impress a peer on a social think twice.

# Today's Technology Cont.

## iPhone6 vs. Galaxy S6 Edge Plus

By Saatvik Gangavarapu  
Tech Editor

Every year there is a battle among us. No it's not between humans, but between two devices, both containing artificial intelligence. In the past years the battle always emerged between Apple's iPhones, and Samsung's Galaxy phones. And this year, the battle is raging as strong as ever.

iPhone 6s: With a new tagline, "The only thing that's new is everything" Apple raised expectations tremendously. Some of the new features the iPhone 6 boasted were tremendous as usual.

The original iPhone introduced the world to Multi-Touch, forever changing the way people experience technology. "With 3D Touch, you can do things that were never possible before." This really sets the bar high! It senses how deeply you press the display, letting you do all kinds of essential things quicker and much simpler. It also gives you real-time feedback in the form of subtle taps from the all-new High Speed Engine.

Also the world's most popular camera is more advanced than ever. The 12-megapixel iSight camera captures sharp, detailed photos. It takes brilliant 4K video, up to four times the resolution of 1080p HD video. iPhone 6s also takes selfies worthy of a self-portrait with the new 5-megapixel FaceTime HD camera. Also, it introduces Live Photos, a



Image from Google Images

new way to relive your favorite memories. It captures the moments just before and after your picture and sets it in motion with just the press of a finger. A new software is all that's missing, oh wait! That's covered.

"iPhone 6s is powered by the custom-designed 64-bit A9 chip. It delivers performance once found only in desktop computers. You'll experience up to 70 percent faster CPU performance, and up to 90 percent faster GPU performance for all your favorite graphics-intensive games and apps. In the past the iPhone 6 and 6Plus had a problem of getting bent, so now they upgraded the phone's cover. Look a little closer at iPhone 6s and you'll find it's been fundamentally improved. The enclosure is made from a new alloy of 7000 Series aluminum — the same grade used in the aerospace industry. The cover glass is the strongest, most durable glass used in any smartphone. And a new rose gold finish joins space

gray, silver, and gold." Wow that's a strong phone! This phone has everything you could possibly ask for! Now let's take a look at the Galaxy S6 Edge Plus.

Galaxy S6 Edge Plus: After a series of phones that consumers were disappointed with The Galaxy S6 ended Samsung's misery run. Now they are taking a second swing at success with their new Galaxy S6 Edge Plus. Let's see what they have come up with:

Not long ago the S6 Edge released without high expectations, but it turned out to be the best smartphone in a long time. The new S6 Edge plus they basically just changed a few things. The first thing that's changed is the size. iPhone's 6 Plus was lauded by one and all, so now Samsung has decided to take that under their wing to produce a more powerful, existing phone. With the same design, the S6 Edge plus, now has a 5.7

inch screen, which is point 2 inches bigger than the iPhone 6plus. Go big or go home, must have been the motto the Samsung used while creating this phone!

They tweaked their camera just a little bit. With a 5MP front-facing, wide-angle camera, Samsung now proved themselves worthy competitors of the iPhone. Through this it's like there is fun in every shot, and for taking videos, they took care of that too. With a 16MP rear-facing camera and 1080p full HD video recording, 720p playback, they did the feat that was never before done. All I have to say is, "Shoot like a pro!"

Though this phone doesn't have too many upgrades from the previous phone in the Galaxy franchise, this phone is definitely a worthy contender.

Although both of these phones have terrible battery, both phones have something different to offer. iPhone offers simplicity, through its features. Samsung is a bit more complex, but has a ton of features that no one can deny. So getting a phone all depends on your needs, don't go depending on price because both of these phones cost the same amount of money, depending on your carrier. Test both phones out, see which features suit you the best, and then buy the phone!

## Current Issues

### Asian-ness

By Sophia Oprechio  
Editor

Many young Asian children in America were taught that Eurocentric features are the epitome of beauty. This causes themselves condemning their non-white features or their dark skin. Often this self-deprecation ends up causing serious mental illnesses. Representation of Asian characters needs to be seen soon.

Many times, when we believe we are to be given representation, Asian roles are played by white people. For example, the movie "Aloha". There was a character of Hawaiian and Asian descent in the movie, only to be played by white actress, Emma Stone. Although she is an accomplished actress, this role should've at least been considered to be played by an actress of Hawaiian and Asian descent. Not only that, the movie took place in Hawaii, where the population of Asians and Pacific Islanders surpass the number of white people by far. We find that many important figures in the entertainment industry underestimate how important it is to a growing Asian child that they get rep-

resentation. Asian children won't dare think that they could be on T.V. if they don't grow up seeing people similar to them on the big screen. This is more of an issue than putting one minor Asian actor in the background of a show to fill a diversity quota. This is a matter of needing representation of well-developed Asian characters who have a major role in a film. How much more work, how much more effort will be needed until we can see people like us represented regularly?

Another example of poor and stereotypes representation can be seen in the popular book and movie series, *Harry Potter*. Cho Chang is a character from *Harry Potter*. Cho and Chang are both Korean last names. The character is supposed to be Chinese. When

both the author and editor did not even bother to research a proper name for a Chinese girl, then you know something is wrong. It's asinine and an insult to not only the Korean and Chinese community, but to all the Asian fans you are asking for support from. This is not the only example. This history of not being represented properly, even to the name, needs to be stopped. If the name issue wasn't enough, there was also a problem with Cho Chang's character. She did not have complex feelings, a developed back-story, or a breath-taking action scene. She was in Ravenclaw, the "nerdy house". She was, to say bluntly, useless to the plot.

After his breakout performances in the summer blockbuster movies, *The Fault in Our Stars* and

*Paper Towns* written by John Green, Nat Wolff has made recent headlines about his star role in Adam Wingard's adaptation of *Death Note*. *Death Note* is a Japanese manga/anime series written by the highly respected Tsugumi Ohba and illustrated by Takeshi Obata. The casting call for the main character stated explicitly that they were not searching for an Asian actor to play the Asian main character. "This is the equivalent telling Asian people that they like everything about the story and character, except for our race," stated by rising Asian actor Edward Zo.

Other times when we see Asians in films, they are highly portrayed as math magicians and or science "geeks". They are injected with the role of hardworking lab assistants who respectfully fulfill his/her duties without fail. We are not human robots! From personal experience it has become a burden to walk around knowing that if I get a poor grade on a test, I am immediately cast-aside from my "Asian-ness" according to my fellow classmates who are of a different ethnicity.

# Entertainment

## Duck on The Hill

Ms. Katie Odey  
Supervising Editor

The 2014-2015 school has seen an increase in the number of students at Rocky Hill. Teachers and students across Montgomery County Public Schools are finding ways to adjust. Last October, October 12, to be exact, a brave young duck found its way to Rocky Hill. Mrs. Kinderdine said it's a male duck, but there is no veterinarian around here to confirm that. She also named him Lucky Ducky. When Mother Goose wrote a rhyme about the lamb at school, she said that the children laughed and played when they saw a lamb at school, but she would never have imagined what they would do if they saw a duck at school.

This duck was friendly, and so are the staff and students of Rocky Hill Middle School. One thing we can be proud of is that of all the schools in the county, this scholarly duck chose Rocky Hill. Lucky Ducky arrived at Rocky Hill shortly after 9 AM on Columbus Day. The front entrance was locked when he arrived. Lucky Ducky decided to go to the portable classrooms without a fuss. Portable classrooms are common in most schools, and they provide a realistic picture of our overcrowded schools. Teachers were warned about large class sizes and the need to make necessary adjustments to accommodate all their students.

At Rocky Hill, students are learning to show PRIDE and are doing the best they can to get along with students as they move through crowded hallways. This year we have 5 lunches, and our administrators do their best to control the crowds in the cafeteria. At the end of the day, students go home with tons of homework and projects, while teachers do what they do best. Grade papers. For most Wildcats on The Hill, it is all about surviving, and it includes surviving homework, PE mile-runs, and surviving those huge backpacks with those unforgiving science and social



Lucky Ducky heading to Mr. Lucas' Social Studies class

studies textbooks. This begs the question, why would a duck choose to come here? More importantly, what teacher would want to have another student, especially one with feathers? Some teachers barely have enough space to fit in all the desks they need for their students.

Mary has kept a very low profile these days and has not been seen with her lamb at school. We can speculate that she understands the drill and must have advised her lamb to stay home. The lamb is smart enough to stay away from all the homework and projects teachers pile on students each day. When it comes to surviving, there is no living creature that does not understand the importance of thriving and doing whatever it takes to make it through each day. The fact that Lucky Ducky came to school on his own is the reason we acknowledge his aspiration and applaud him for his bravery. One has to wonder what elementary school this



Lucky Ducky on The Hill

ingenious duck attended and if Rocky Hill is the right school for him. MCPS may have to investigate the real residence of this duck. However, we feel a great sense of pride in knowing that Lucky Ducky chose Rocky Hill.

When Mr. Lucas saw Lucky Ducky, he thought that the duck wanted to join his class to learn about Ancient Mesopotamia and the Culture of Sumer. It would have been a good idea to hear what the duck thought about joining Mr. Lucas' class, however, by all accounts, he did not have any problem fitting in. "Our class thought about dressing him up as a village scribe, but Lucky Ducky's language might have been hard to decipher."

Language is the key to learning, and it would be advisable for teachers to be trained to understand Quakese since they never know who or what might show up to learn. There is no doubt that Lucky Ducky learned a thing or two about Ancient Mesopotamia, but we will never know because of the language barrier. While Lucky Ducky wobbled around the portables, some students wanted to feed it and give him water, and Mr. Anderson obliged. With a few crackers and a bowl of water, Lucky Ducky was dancing to the song 'Down Town' by Macklemore &

Ryan Lewis. One thing to remember is that the duck stayed away from Ms. Tippet and all the PE teachers. Can you imagine that poor duck running a mile in PE after all that dancing? "The Duck was very friendly and not afraid of all the students walking by," said Mr. Anderson. The fact that Lucky Ducky felt comfortable among our students is testament to the kindness of Wildcats on the hill.

The generosity of staff and students at Rocky Hill may be the real reason Lucky chose our school. At the end of the day, when most of the students and teachers got ready to go home, Lucky Ducky did not hop on the bus like most of his classmates. Instead, he wandered around the school premises. Clearly the duck did not have a home! Mrs. Kinderdine could not bear to see a smart duck like Lucky, wandering around without home, so she decided to help. She gladly adopted Lucky Ducky and gave him a home at The Kinderdine Bird Sanctuary.

Lucky Ducky could not be reached for a comment on how he is doing, but Mrs. Kinderdine said, "Lucky Ducky is enjoying his new friends at the Kinderdine Bird Sanctuary." That duck has not been spotted at Rocky Hill since Mrs. Kinderdine took him home. At least he will not have to worry about heavy backpacks, homework, and PE.

*If Lucky Ducky belongs to you or someone you know, please contact Rocky Hill Middle School to get in touch with Mrs. Kinderdine.*



Lucky Ducky hanging out with his new friends

## Cotton Candy Grapes

By Mahi Ganatra  
Editor

Imagine the fluffy, pink cloud, entering your mouth, melting quickly on your tongue, serenading your taste buds with soft sweetness. Delicious, right? Now imagine the same taste, in the form of a grape. It's almost too good to be true. The new craze born from a crossbreeding of different species of grapes: cotton candy grapes.

These unbelievable grapes are raised without additives, infusions, and GMO. The makers of this grape, Grapery® came across this fruity confection after years of growing flavorful, juicy all-natural hybrid grapes, and stumbling across one sweet, revolutionary accident. "We weren't trying to make Cotton Candy, we were just trying to develop new grapes that taste great," says Jim Beagle, CEO of Grapery. "That they turned out to taste like cotton candy was just luck." These grapes sell at an extravagant \$6 per



pound, but many have claimed for them to be worth every penny. Grapery® is in the process of conducting more experiments to bring you more exciting varieties of grapes.

So far, their varieties include: Flavor Promise®, Witch Fingers®, Gum Drops®, Moon Drops®, Flavor Pops®, and of course, the famous Cotton Candy® grapes. Be sure to check out these grapes next time they're in season at your local Wegmans®!

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Created by Anusha Chintalapake, former editor