

CLIFFSIDE CHRONICLE

Cliffside Park Middle School's *The Cliffside Chronicle*

Spring Issue 2019

Join the Junior Police Academy

By: Aiden Lee

Come join the Junior Police Academy! Every summer, the Cliffside Park Police Department hosts a summer camp for children in grades 5th-8th. During the summer camp, children learn about the police academy and perform activities that teach responsibility and endurance. One of the activities they do are real military drills! The police officers also give them lectures and demonstrations. This program is both educational and fun.

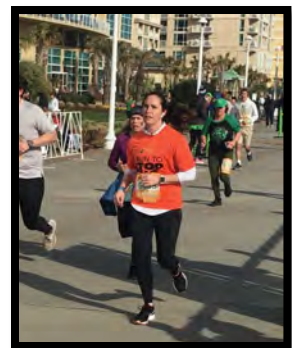
This program starts on July 9th and ends on July 29th. The camp is every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and begins at 12:30 pm until 3:30 pm. On some days, the students that go to police academy will also attend field trips to police facilities, such as Juvenile Detention Centers. If you are looking to keep active in the summer and you are interested in Law Enforcement in the future this is the program for you.

An Inspiration to Us All

By: Everest Saric

Over spring break, Ms. Woyce, our very own Middle School teacher, ran to help raise money and awareness for Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She ran in the 19th segment for MS Run for US which is an organization that is dedicated to raising awareness and funds to support Multiple Sclerosis (MS) research, while also aiding those living with disability due to MS. MS is a neurological disease that affects a person's feeling, mobility, strength, and balance. She started training for this event in October and will continue to train until August. She did lots of cardio including, running, swimming, and the elliptical, but also did some lifting. This might come to a shock to most, but she also had to practice eating. She needed to find out how to eat while running and what foods wouldn't upset her stomach. She needed to eat to regain fuel for her body to have enough strength to complete the miles. She ran seven consecutive days, running about 26 to 30 miles per day, which is about 188 miles in total. She will start running in Sunbury, Pennsylvania, and end in New York City, New York. The relay initially started in California in April, and each week another runner ran the mile across the country.

Ms. Woyce will be running the last segment of the relay in August. She is running in this relay in hopes to find a cure for MS because her sister got diagnosed in her 20's and is now in her 40's living with this horrible disease. Her sister doesn't have feeling in her legs making it difficult to walk and do daily activities. She often has to use a walker, wheelchair, or cane to get around. Ms. Woyce is running so that they can hopefully find a medicine that can help with the symptoms or cure the disease. By joining this organization, she agreed to raise a minimum of \$10,000 and at this point, she has raised around \$12,000 and hopes to get over \$15,000. Amazingly, this is not the only event she has run in before. She has also participated in a Mud Run, and the Polar Bear Plunge, which raises money for Special Olympics. I think what Ms. Woyce is doing is an inspiration to us all. She doesn't do it to benefit herself, but to help others that are not able to do so for themselves. I believe we can all learn from her story. A huge thank you to Ms. Woyce for allowing me to write her story. You are an inspiration to us all!



An Interview with Lois Kim

By: Alisona Le

Today, I am here with Lois Kim. Kim is a seventh grader who is modest and lighthearted. She won second-place in the 2019 Teen Media Contest in the Middle School Division in New Jersey. Her success was well deserved. Other students know her well as a good artist. Seeing her art, it makes sense how she scored so high.

Alisona: What did you achieve second place in?

Lois: A state-wide art contest called the 2019 Teen Media Contest in Middle School Division.

Alisona: What was the theme or the prompt?

Lois: The theme was “When do you need your family the most?”

Alisona: How do you think you executed that? Describe your artwork.

Lois: The landscape is a rainy day. Since family means comfort, compassion, and feeling, I drew an umbrella protecting those emotions.

Alisona: Would you change anything you did? What was your favorite part of the art piece?

Lois: I wouldn't change anything. My favorite was the umbrella and the car.

Alisona: What was your reaction to getting second-place? How about your parents?

Lois: It was normal and mediocre. It wasn't expected. My parents were surprised!

Alisona: Do you think this event will affect your path to becoming an artist?

Lois: Not really.

Alisona: Why?

Lois: I don't want to be an artist. [laughs] I want to be part of the CIA.

Alisona: What was your end-goal while drawing?

Lois: I didn't even expect to win in the top three. I thought my idea was simple and boring.

Alisona: How come?

Lois: Well, a rainy day and a family under an umbrella could possibly be too cliché. I didn't think too thoroughly about it. The idea kind of just popped in my head. I was like, “You know what? Let's do this.”

Alisona: Well, great job! Cliffside Park Middle School is very proud of you!

Student Council Updates

By: Alisona Le

Since September, Mrs. Bonomo and the Student Council heavily impacted the student body with the variety of events they had. Money was being raised for all student-events for grades 7th and 8th. To achieve their goal, weekly meetings were held.

A new season brings a new mood and so many fresh ideas! The student council is no longer selling candy canes or Valentine's Day Grams. Currently, the student council is preparing for the end of the year events. Through bake sales, fundraisers, and events, the student council works extremely hard to raise money. In the first few weeks of April, highlighters for Violet were sold for two dollars a piece. The money raised went to Violet, a five-year-old girl who attended School 4, suffering from cancer. Also, the students sold puzzle pieces for a \$1 donating all money to Autism Awareness. Cliffside Park Middle School shirts are also being sold in the end of April and beginning of May for \$10. Bake sales are held often to raise money. This money is going to the planning of the 8th-grade dinner dance and other events. The student council is also debating of holding a dance for the 7th graders. If you weren't involved in Student Council this year, make sure to join in on the fun next year!



Congratulations to Mrs. Matesic and Mr. Taalu's second period class for raising the most money for Autism Awareness.

What a Game!

By: Pasquale Vicchio

The Cliffside Park Middle School Baseball team beat Fairview 9-4 after Ryan Rojas scored the last run by stealing home base on April 29th. Fairview was leading in the beginning of the game due to a few slip-ups. Then, Cliffside started to rebound with more hits and runs throughout the middle and end of the game. This lead let them snowball throughout the whole game which gave them the win. A few players who made a difference in the game were Marcos Garcia with two runs, Marco Rinaldi with three runs (the most runs in the game), Achilles Guerrero with one run, Ryan Rojas with two runs and the last point, Jonathan Viton scored one point, and Luke Baldwin with one run, a double, and two RBI (Run batted in). The baseball coach, Mr. Brunelli, told the players before the game to "Keep your head in the game and try your hardest." This motivated the players to play their heart out and win. Go Cliffside!!!

Reading is Awesome

By: James Ramundo

Annually, the Ms. Mangiacapra and the Freedom Writers class creates Nonfiction Children's books that they read to the Elementary students. Freedom Writers is a special writing class that the students who make it into Pre-Algebra take. This year, everyone picked a topic to write about and wrote a 30 page book to read to the students. We tried to pick interesting topics that would educate and engage the children. As one of the authors myself, I can say we worked hard for a few weeks on the books and it payed off.

Most importantly, all the students in the elementary classes loved it. Many classes related to the books and had a good discussion about the information that was shared. Some books were about topics that the students already learned, or were learning now. It was really awesome to be able to interact with the students and share our thoughts with them too. Reading is awesome, especially when your sharing your interest with others!



Ms. Mangiacapra's Freedom Writers on their last day of reading for the elementary students!

Middle School Band in the Little League Parade

By: Brianna Fuentes

The Little League Parade was an extremely memorable experience for all CP Little League players, as well as the Cliffside Park Middle School Band. The Middle School Band was honored to perform for all of our community. The marching band practice that was supposed to be worked on outdoors (a day prior) to get a full experience, was unfortunately cancelled due to rain. However, the band pulled through and did an absolutely amazing job. This parade is a very large event that all of the town takes part in. To get the opportunity to entertain such a large crowd of people was a huge honor to our band students. With everyone watching and taking pictures of the students, the feeling was described as a slightly intimidating feeling by many of our students. However, every single one of them also said it was a great experience and that they ended up truly enjoying the experience aside from any nerves

Many students also described it as good experience with more recent songs performed that they felt needed practicing for our upcoming Spring Concert on May 15th. Delisio has done an outstanding job with his band students, especially when considering all of their growth. He has been training his students since the fifth grade when they had absolutely no idea how to use an instrument. Now these old fifth grade band players are greatly entertaining our community in such large town events. The Cliffside Park Middle School Band truly does deserve a round of applause!



Mr. Delisio leads his middle school band in their performance for the Annual Little League Parade.