

THE PURPLE PAW

JUNE 2011



Hydrofracking

Brian Barnes



Hydrofracking is a process where a drill bit is sent down to the earth where it sends chemically enhanced water to break down rocks that hold natural gas. Landowners lease their land so companies can drill for natural gas. But is it safe?

This process is beneficial and can cost you things you love. Mr. and Mrs. Applegate were invited to our school to talk to Team One about hydrofracking. The Applegates said this can cost our water, air and land supply! Worst of all if the gases polluted our aquifer we would never again have fresh, clean tap water. They also showed us the damage it can cause and lives it can take away. There are already many gaswells in New York and there are even some that the oil and gas department have lost not knowing where they are or if they are safe.

This process is dangerous to us and our country but we still agree to do this process just for money. We need to learn we can get sick from this or even die from hydrofracking. If all of our resource are gone were will get them? Will the land be same when you're done and is it worth it?

These are question you people need to think about before you say yes. What do you believe?

Sixth Graders: Tips on how to be a seventh grader next year!

Gabrielle DeFranco

Are you nervous for seventh grade next year? Don't be. You may think that moving up to a bigger school with way more people is scary, but trust me, it is so much fun! Common fears of moving to middle school are the struggles of trying to make friends. There will be so many other seventh graders, so it won't be that difficult. A good way of making friends is joining groups that you are interested in. You will find people that have some of the same interests as you. Another way of making friends is being nice and talking to people. Are you waiting to see what groups there are that you would like? Well, there are so many groups, teams, and activities that you can be a part of. For example, if you like singing, there is chorus and you can also audition for musicals. If you are sporty, there are plenty of sports to play. One last fear of students is getting lost trying to find your classes. The school isn't as big as most people think. You will get a schedule with your classroom numbers on it. Also, there are teachers and signs on the walls that will help you. Anyway, don't worry, you will be fine! You will have such a great and easy time. You will forget why you were ever nervous!

PURPLE PAW IDEAS

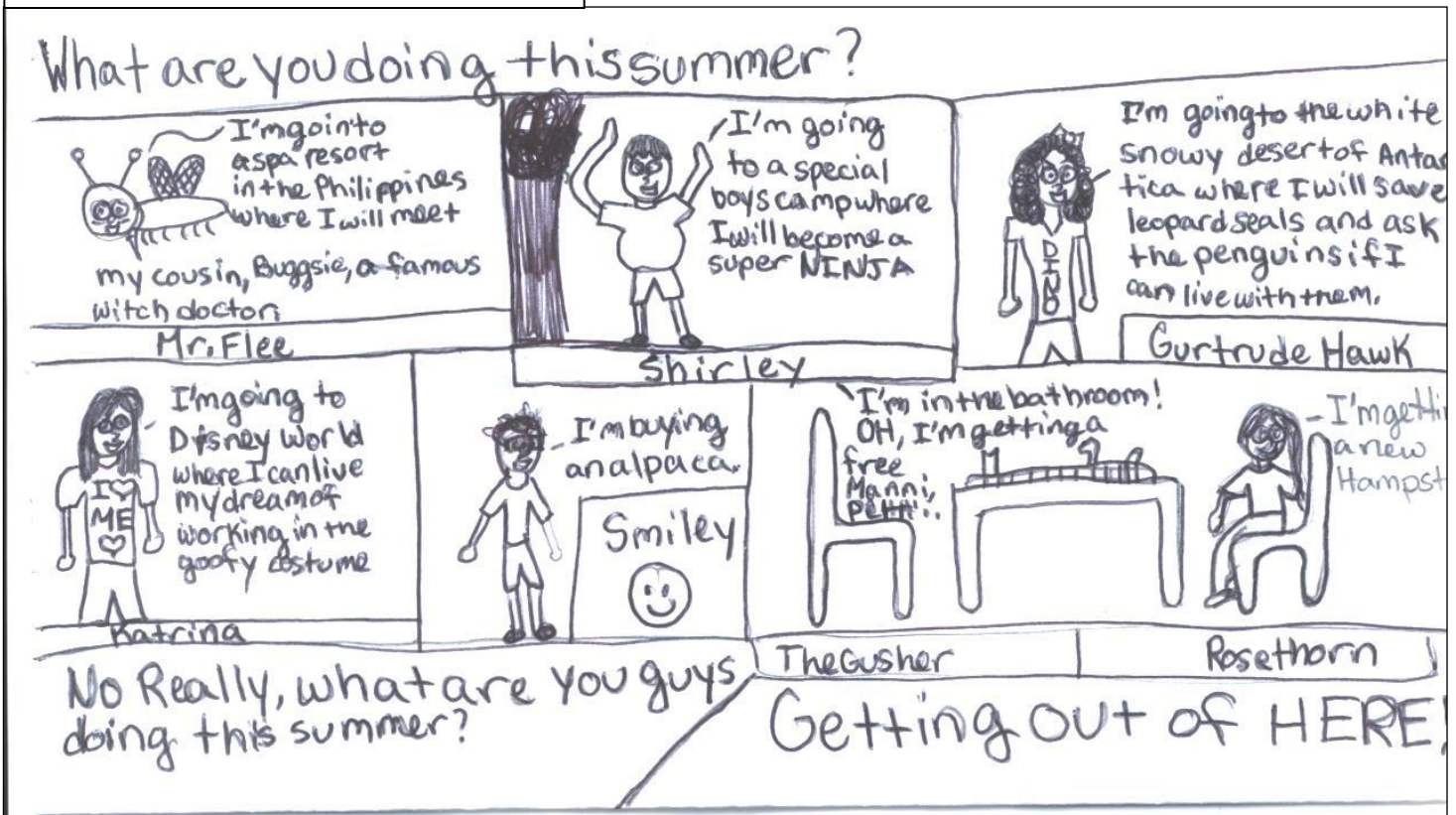
We want to hear from you!

Cassidy Halpin

Here at the *Purple Paw* we want to know what fellow readers want us to print. If you have ideas, contact the staff. Also sixth graders this is a great opportunity for you to express your opinions, have fun with friends, and learn about our school. Listen for announcements and look for a table at lunch. So join us in the paw and unveil the truth in our school



Stupefied Shirley by Muse



Why Do We Have To Take State Tests?

Ezra Engst-Mansilla

Do you like state testing? I don't. It is very stressful and you can't study for what you don't know about. Many people in our grades don't see why we have to take state tests.

State testing is stressful on both teachers and students because, teachers are judged on how their students do on the tests and students can be put in an extra class if they do poorly on these tests. I feel state tests are just a bunch of crazy tests made up by rich high class people looking for a way to make more money. Also schools are rated by these test scores and that is not fair because some students don't try to do well on the tests. Another foolish thing about state tests is that students can't study for them because they don't know what will be on the test. Have you ever been able to study for something that you don't know about? I sure haven't. The only thing I know state tests are useful for is giving people help in classes that they can't do well in on their own. I know many people who dislike state tests a lot and with very good reason

Jr. High School Clubs

Brian Barnes

For you 6th graders who want get involved with our school here are some clubs or groups you can join next year.

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| CVC Video club | Theater |
| Sports Teams | Home Work Club |
| Purple Paw News Paper | Art Club |
| Student Senate | General Music |
| Hip Hop Club | One-Act Festival |

7th grade is a time to get involved with our school and have fun with your friends. Here are some ways you can enjoy time after school with friends. If you want to join a club or group join it and have fun. Look for advertisement of clubs when school begins in September 2011.





7th Grade Awards

Kali Oaks

Team 2 Awards took place on Friday May 27, 2011. A bunch of proud parents arrived to show their support for their award-winning teens. The awards were: Top Academic, Citizenship, Perseverance, Science Award, Clarkson Award, Meta Green Award, Chorus Awards, Highest Average Awards (Spanish Preston), Perfect Scores Awards (Spanish Preston), and Best Participation (Spanish Preston). Also Commendable Attendance and French and German Awards. This was a wonderful experience and I thank the Team 2 teachers for allowing me to come. I think many of the students well deserved these awards.

The Team 1 awards were held on June 6, 2011. The awards imitated the Oscars, with the kids running the show all of the kids were asked to “dress for success” The announcers were picked by Mr. Lee and practiced for their role as an Oscar award announcer. The MC’s were Katie Musci and Gigi Marks. The nominees are obviously the kids and rumors were buzzing about only days before the big awards ceremony. The show took place after lunch in the auditorium and all parents were invited to come. Some examples of the awards were: Team subject awards, Foreign Language Awards, Music Awards, P.E. Awards, Team Helper Awards, Theater awards, Spelling Bee awards and Top 20 Awards. Everyone was excited about the awards. The awards ceremony was followed by the 2011 Team 1 slideshow. It was a great success!!

“Dressed for Success”



Jr-Sr High Shows of 2011-2012:

Jason Q.E. Wright

Next year’s musical productions are guaranteed to be a fun experience for all participants. **Anyone** can audition for shows and I hope to see some new faces this coming year.

Mirror Image: Jr-High

Description from pioneerdrama.com:

In the fairy tale world, princes are charming and stepsisters are wicked. But the Woodsman dreams of being more than an incidental character without a name. He wants to be the hero. When Cinderella’s stepsisters find a portal to another world, they get zapped into a very real high school. The Woodsman jumps at the chance to rescue them, but the stepsisters have no intention of returning to the fantasy realm. After all, in the “real” world, mean girls are popular!



Seussical The Musical: Sr-High

Description from mtishows.com

The story centers around Horton the Elephant, who finds himself faced with a double challenge--not only must he protect his tiny friend Jojo (and all the invisible Whos) from a world of naysayers and dangers, but he must guard an abandoned egg, left to his care by the irresponsible Mayzie La Bird. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger, kidnapping and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him, the only one who recognizes "his kind and his powerful heart." Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant, in a story that makes you laugh and cry.

Mirror Image and Seussical will make next year one of the best for everyone involved in The Cortland Theater Program.





MESSAGE FROM MR. CAFARARO

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians:

The 2010-2011 is drawing to a close. The nice weather makes us wish we were outside and free of school responsibilities and obligations, but we must keep our priorities in order.

Students are reminded to stay focused for year-end testing. There are final exams and culminating projects that have to be completed. The fourth quarter can help to make or break us as far as promotion is concerned. Therefore, work hard for the next two weeks to guarantee that transition to the next grade level.

Seventh graders will soon become eighth graders. While still part of the junior high, more responsibility and independence is expected. Eighth graders will become ninth graders where the security of being on a team is eliminated, and even greater independence is expected.

Speaking of transition, sixth graders will become part of the Cortland Junior Senior High School family. To help with this transition, there will be a 7th grade orientation for all incoming sixth graders June 16 from 9:30am to 11:50am. Sixth graders will meet their homeroom teachers and meet some important staff members from CJSHS. The orientation will be followed by lunch. Also, on September 6, all incoming 7th graders are invited to an additional orientation from 12:30pm-2:30pm. On this afternoon, there will be a guest speaker, students will have an opportunity to acclimate themselves with their schedules, and they will be able to try their lockers so they are ready to go on opening day. While there is no formal orientation program planned for this summer for incoming seventh graders, the seventh grade team teachers plan spending a good portion of the first three days of school solely on transition.

With that being said, I wish everyone a successful ending to the school year, a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and I am looking forward to the 2011-2012 school year.

If parents or guardians have any questions regarding the end of the school year or the upcoming school year, please feel free to contact me at 758-4190 or by email at kcafararo@cortlandschools.org.

Sincerely,
Kevin M. Cafararo
7-9 Principal



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