

A PAWS FOR HISTORY: The Story Behind the Purple PAW by Abigail Whelan

The Purple Paw is the junior high newspaper. Let's go over a little about the history behind it. The junior high paper has been in existence for years, but there was a large gap of about a decade where there was no publication. That's when Mr. Winchell decided it was time to get it going again. "I started the Purple Paw in 2008," says Mr. Winchell. "I called it The Purple PAW, which stands for *Print And Web*, so people would know it was available on paper and online. I wanted it to be digital because the world is moving away from news print and toward online news media. It was a good way not only for students and teachers to know what was going on in the school, but for people outside the school as well." Those two years went well, according to Winchell, but when he learned he was having his first child, he knew his time needed to be redirected toward family.

So Winchell turned to Mr. Lee, who along with Mrs. Rice, took over the PAW. "I started helping out with the Purple PAW in 2011. We produced it in paper copy, and posted it on the web." Lee and Rice turned out two years worth of issues, all of which are still linked to the [Purple PAW web page](#). Winchell's issues are no longer available because they were housed on a web program that the school no longer uses. "I hate that we can't see those old issues," says Winchell, "since they were so much fun to put together, and read." However, the multimedia portion of Winchell's issues are still available on the [Multimedia](#) web page, which also gives an abbreviated version of the stories.

So why start it back up? As Mr. Lee explains, "I think the kids enjoy the interactions and sharing of ideas with others." And so it continues...PAW is back on! Enjoy!



STUDENT DRUMMERS ROCK TC3 by Mathew Yacavone

Mrs. Rafferty led her general music classes to TC3 on October 16, 2013, to perform for the crowds at the TC3 women's soccer game. "It went awesomely," said Mrs. Rafferty. "We played well, represented CHS in a good way, and had lots of fun."

The drummers were asked to play because the soccer team had heard how great CHS's drumming program was. Mrs. Rafferty was flattered to be asked. "We were asked to go, so I said quickly, 'Absolutely!'"

Jordan Stanford, a Team Two student, said the experience was "exciting because we were able to go to a college and perform for students and adults." Josiah Thompson told about how students not only drummed but "danced, ate candy, and ate more candy."

Students were able to perform two different times. Hopefully, a tradition has been started. Watch [HERE](#).





RELAY FOR LIFE by Mackenzie Brackett

Why join Relay for Life? We asked members of the club during one of their weekly meetings on Thursday to tell us what Relay meant to them. They told us it was an honor to be a part of something that benefitted so many people. The fact that some of the money raised went directly to families within our community was very special to the group members. Many said how much fun they have at the fundraisers and events. "...Raise as much money as possible while have a blast!" As two year member Courtney Phillips put it. The club raises money all year long while promoting cancer awareness; all leading up to the Relay for Life event in June. It lasts a whole day, and teams from all over the city come to walk laps for cancer. There are games and booths to buy from that all give their proceeds to the American Cancer Foundation and other smaller organizations. This is what the team loved the most. Many had lost family to cancer, and to be there honoring them and those who passed, survived, or were battling cancer was a powerful reminder of why they had joined the club in the first place: to make a difference and try to defeat cancer.

Join the Relay for Life family. Make a difference.

WE TAKE MANHATTAN!

by Mackenzie Brackett



A special crop of eighth graders went on a trip to New York City on Saturday, November 2nd, 2013. Unfortunately, the buses arrived late throwing the trip a bit off schedule. The group of around one hundred students departed from the school around 6:15 am. They planned to visit Liberty Island, the 9/11 Memorial, eat lunch at Planet Hollywood in Time Square, and go to Rockefeller Center and the Top of the Rock viewing platform. Due to the delays, they were unable to visit Lady Liberty, but docked at Ellis Island. They then walked to the 9/11 Memorial from Battery Park and paid respect to the souls of the lost at the Memorial. The buses met them there and they went to what would become dinner – rather than lunch - at Planet Hollywood. They were too late to visit Rockefeller Center but were able to shop in Bryant Park. They got back to school around 10:55 pm.



LOVE'S ALWAYS IN THE AIR WITH THE P.S. WE LOVE YOU CLUB

by Mackenzie Brackett & Julia Birdsall

You've seen the posters hanging in the halls. You've heard the announcements every Friday. You've witnessed passes being handed out to your classmates during homeroom. But, one question still remains for some: What exactly is the *P.S. We Love You Club*, and what is its purpose?

On February 8th of 2013, CJSHS participated in Cortland's first annual P.S. I Love You Day. This day was created by a Long Island high school senior named Brooke DiPalma, who has made it her mission to ensure that nobody is ever alone. DiPalma merely wants to let everybody know that they are loved and supported, and that everybody has a support network here for them, regardless of the group they are part of in school. After losing her father to suicide in 2010, Brooke took the last words she shared with her father and tried to turn this devastating event into a campaign to help others. Her message started virally with a [YouTube video](#) (today it has over 63,000 views), and the event is now celebrated as far away as England. In order to participate in this day, Brooke simply asks everyone to wear purple to represent standing up against bullying. Her hope is that together we can "save a life with love" by helping end depression, bullying, and preventing suicide. If you want to find out more about *P.S. I Love You Day*, click [HERE](#).

Last year the *P.S. We Love You Club* sold T-shirts and will do the same this year, along with other kindness initiatives to prepare us for this day. Since so many people participated in this day last year, it was evident that Cortland needed a group to help spread the message of tolerance and respect every day. Hence *P.S. I Love You Day* turned into the *P.S. WE Love You Club*, which meets weekly in Miss Tooley's room (266). The club is always accepting new members. While a large part of their efforts are centered on planning school wide activities for this year's *P.S. I Love You Day* (February 14th), they also devote time to activities that help spread kindness throughout the district. Just a few things that are in the plans for this year include pen pals, presentations to elementary students on bullying, a dance, a bake sale, a Syracuse Crunch assembly, and participating in the CJSHS Craft Fair (see article on page 4).

And always remember: P.S. I Love You <3

Teodora Buzea's CRAFTY CORNER

Leaf Print Tote Bag

For this project you are going to need the following supplies: canvas tote bag (white or cream), acrylic paint (I chose fall colors for my bag), a paintbrush, a cardboard or hard plastic surface (for painting the leaves onto), paper towels or a fabric towel, a mini paint roller, and a large piece of cardboard or a plastic placemat.



To see the steps, literally, just watch the helpful tutorial we've arranged by clicking [HERE](#). Have fun, and see you next time in the Crafty Corner!

FAIR PLAY

by Teodora Buzea

You have probably heard about the CJSHS Craft Fair, which is an annual event that took place on November 9th this year in the Commons area and the upstairs gymnasium. This year, there was plenty to be seen and purchased: pottery, homemade soap, quilts, professional photos, and other works of art. Some new crafts this year included jewelry and woodwork. The fair also offered food and refreshments. Most importantly, proceeds from the sales help the senior class fund their events and activities for the school year, and also go toward some other school events and organizations.

So how did the CJSHS Craft Fair get started? Well, it began as a way to earn money for the senior class, without selling items from catalogs. Mrs. Bottle, an English teacher involved with the CJSHS Craft Fair, explains that her favorite part of the fair is, "Seeing students work with the public."

If you missed it this year's event, look for next year's CJSHS Craft Fair around the same time of year.



NOVEMBER MYSTERY PERSON

by Julia Birdsall

As a monthly feature, we're allowing *you* to play along with the mystery segment, in which we supply clues (in this case a staff member here at CJSHS) and ask you to submit your best guess. Then, in the next issue we will tell you how many of you got it right. So, here are the random facts about our mystery staff member, and click [HERE](#) to see a few pictures from his/her room. Then submit your guess by clicking [HERE](#).

- Has been teaching for 18 years exclusively at Cortland
- Favorite vacation was the Bahamas
- Has one son
- Favorite color is red
- Favorite season is fall
- One cat called named after article of clothing
- Favorite material possession is son's photographs
- Favorite thing to do is to spend time with son
- Huge 80's music fan
- Totally loves Bon Jovi
- Chows down on cereal whenever possible
- Has traveled to four countries



SEVENTH GRADE: TEAM ONE SCOOP

by Abigail Whelan

Do you ever wonder what seventh graders are learning these days? If so, this article will suit your pleasure. There's a lot going on in Team One classrooms.

In Mr. Chambers' math class, students are learning about rational numbers. Addition, subtraction, multiplying and dividing are all used in rational numbers. Students also might be able to play with food during the Rational Numbers unit. After that, students will be learning about percentage and decimals. In this unit students will figure out change of clothing items.

In Ms. Rhinehart's social studies class, students have been learning about the Meso Americans. Also, the "Roof over Your Head" is an upcoming project about the different types of shelters Native Americans have used over time.

In Ms. Olshan's science class, classes are involved in a unit using microscopes and models to look at plant and animal cells and are comparing and contrasting them. Additionally, students just finished up a comic book hero project, where they made up a comic book hero based on a cell part.

In home and careers with Mrs. Drake, the topics of discussion have been friendship, peer pressure, and family. The good qualities of a friend, negative peer pressure, and addictions have all been in focus. Students are involved in a Personal Care Unit, learning about hygiene and grooming.

SEVENTH GRADE: TEAM TWO TALK

by Josiah Thompson

Reward days come at the end of each marking period, so Team Two teachers wanted to share what the requirements are in order to "earn" the reward. Any student who completes all work and is caught up will be rewarded by spending the last day of the marking period doing fun activities, like watching a movie. However, the students that don't have their work done or aren't caught up will be spending the end of the marking period making up their work in the designated work room. The teachers' message to students: GET IT DONE!

STUDENT SENATE UPDATE

by Mackenzie Brackett

Movie Under the Stars

- Over 50 people enjoyed *Monsters Inc.* in the West Commons at Cortland High School on Friday October 4th, 2013
- There was popcorn, soda, cookies and cupcakes
- **Look for another showing or two this year**

8th Grade Fundraiser

- Raises money for each 8th graders' individual spring class trip cost (\$100 or less)
- Trip to take place Friday, May 16th (location to be determined)
- First fundraiser was wrapped in late October
- **Look for a Survey Monkey next issue once the three possible locations are determined! (must be within 3-4 hours)**

NYC Trip on November 2nd (see article, page 1)

What's to Come...

- Harvest Dance
- Holiday activity
- Community project

Have questions? Ask Mrs. Connelly or your Student Senate reps and officers: Cooper Swartwort (President), Kathleen Starr (Vice President), Courtney Phillips (Secretary), Sophie Reingoudt (Treasurer).



GAME ZONE

by Jordan Stanford

This month, I decided to give readers an informed opinion about three video games: Battlefield 4, Pokémon X and Y, and Call of Duty Ghost.

Battlefield 4 is a competitive game. You have to go head-to-head with other people around the world. You get different weapon load-outs during the game.

Pokémon X and Y is an exciting game; it helps you figure out a path to your adventure. You will make new friends on the journey and you can have a fun time with your new friends. Pokémon X and Y are the same game, but have different legendary Pokémon.

In Call of Duty Ghost, you can find and try a different experience in the weaponry department. You can find new ways to hide from your enemies. If you want to go tactical (tactical means-showing skillful planning in order to accomplish something), you should try the SMG section (SMG means Sub Machine Gun, and it helps you get your objectives quicker). SMG is a pretty balanced weapon. The SMG will allow you to take your targets out without a trace.

In my opinion, all three of these games are a perfect choice for serious gamers.



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Thank you,

Purple PAW Staff



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