



Drama Club Presents *Carousel*



Thanksgiving Mass- Page 2



Christmas Decorating- Page 5



National Letter of Intent Signing- Page 14

KMHS Gives Thanks in the Eucharist

By James Perrone '16

On Wednesday, November 27, Kellenberg celebrated its Thanksgiving Mass during the annual Alumni Day.

In the Auditorium, Fr. Albert Bertoni, S.M., was the main celebrant of the Mass, where members of the Junior and Senior classes as well as the alumni were joined together. It was a great time for graduates to reminisce about their Kellenberg mass days by being alongside students and fellow teachers.

The gospel was Luke's story about Jesus and the ten lepers in Jerusalem, read during all of the divisional Masses. Jesus, traveling along the border of Samaria and Galilee, hears ten lepers calling out His name, begging for healing. He proceeds to heal the lepers after they follow His orders to go forth and present themselves to priests. Then to Jesus's surprise, only one leper, a Samaritan returns to show gratitude and pure thankfulness for Jesus's blessing. Regardless of religious differences, the man sincerely thanked Jesus for the good he has brought upon him. Jesus then leaves the man saying, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Fr. Albert explained that being grateful is good for one's well-being and one's relationship with others. This gospel, which completely coincides with Fr. Albert's homily, was exemplary of what Thanksgiving is all about.

Fr. Philip Eichner, S.M., led the Thanksgiving Mass for the freshmen and



The Little Sisters of the Poor visit KMHS express their gratitude for God's blessings at the Thanksgiving Mass.

sophomores in the Gymnasium, while Fr. Thomas Cardone, S.M., led the mass for the Latin Schoolers in the Cafeteria. Both celebrants focused on the ideals of being thankful for those in our lives and showing kindness to those who may be less fortunate. The Masses were further spiritually guided through the songs of each divisional choir. In the Auditorium mass, The Gregorian Consortium provided beautifully sung music for the mass and sang many songs of praise and thankfulness. In the Gymnasium, Mrs. Zider led the Jubilee Choir in numerous songs of praise.

The Thanksgiving Mass truly proves that Kellenberg students and faculty always rise to the occasion through the generous donating in the drive. For years, Kellenberg Memorial sponsors a drive for the Queen of Peace nursing home. The Queen of Peace residence is owned and operated by the renowned Little Sisters of the Poor located in Queens, N.Y., whose mission is to care for the elderly who have no family support and are in need of living assistance. Students and faculty were kindly asked to bring in supplies such as shampoos, soaps, wipes, conditioners, lotions, hand sanitizer and

other toiletries. Queen of Peace relies on these donations to continue functioning and remaining committed to serving the elderly.

Towards the end of the mass, home-room representatives were instructed to bring forth the donated supplies into their designated masses. After all of the home-rooms baskets were brought in and placed by the altars, sisters and members from Queen of Peace expressed their gratitude for the overwhelming outcome of the drive. In the Gymnasium, on behalf of Little Sisters of the Poor, Sr. Julie expressed how thankful she and the residents are for the immense outcome. Sr. Julie expressed how much happiness and appreciation students and teachers bring to Queen of Peace every time Kellenberg donates. Along with Sr. Julie was a resident from Queen of Peace who was overcome with appreciation for the donations.

"Yearly we gather as a Kellenberg family to recall all of the good gifts God has given us. Faculty, students and graduates spend a joyous day before celebrating Thanksgiving with our families," said Bro. Michael Gillen, S.M., whose mother resides there. "On that Wednesday before Thanksgiving, we yearly invite the Little Sisters of the Poor to celebrate Mass with the Kellenberg family, as well as to receive the gifts that students have contributed to them. It's truly a wonderful time."

The divisional masses provided students, faculty and alumni with a wonderful day of praise and being thankful for all the good in our lives.

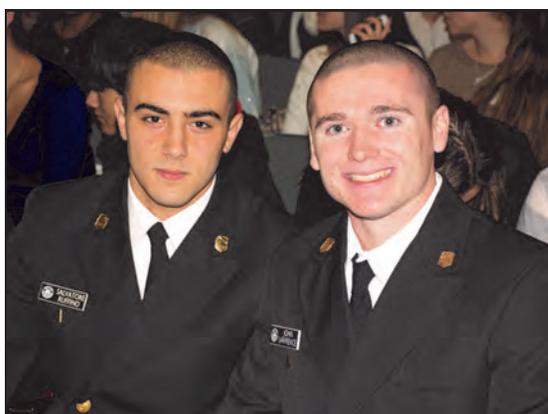
Once a Firebird, Always a Firebird

By Caitlin Gaine '16

On Wednesday, November 26, eager alumni poured through Kellenberg's doors. This Firebird Thanksgiving tradition serves to welcome all former students of KMHS. Reunions of old teachers, students, and friends were common sites in the hallways as the entire Kellenberg community, past and present, reflected on what it means to be a Firebird.

"I am so thrilled to see some of my old teachers," exclaimed Michael Fulop, class of 2014. "It feels like I am returning home." These warm sentiments filled the hearts of many as memories of their high school days ran through the minds of all the returning graduates. Shouts of joy and surprise rang down the hall as the day's festivities commenced.

On the schedule for the special day was a Thanksgiving Day mass as well as an alumni brunch. Students, past and present, listened attentively to a sermon on ten lepers and their reaction to Jesus's healing gift. The message in this homily emphasized the importance of gratefulness, which was certainly applicable to the alumni and



KMHS Class of '14 grads Sal Ruffino and Jack Lawrence proudly don their Merchant Marine best.

their relationship to Kellenberg. Maggie Friel, class of 2014, explained, "Now that I am in college, I realize how much Kellenberg has helped me grow academically as well as spiritually."

Mr. Huggard, Director of Alumni at Kellenberg, expressed his excitement for the ten year old tradition. He described the event as "a great investment for establishing good will with alumni." Another special part of the eventful day was a visit from the Sisters of the Poor, who run the senior citizens home Queen of Peace in Queens, N.Y. The

sister representatives who came to Kellenberg graciously accepted the donations of Kellenberg students. The sisters thanked all of Kellenberg for the great generosity that helps to fuel their worthy institution. It was heartwarming to see the genuine compassion and generosity portrayed by the Firebird family to the Sisters.

The Annual Alumni Day was a roaring success once again. The gradu-

ates of KMHS were thrilled to be able to return to their alma mater and share their success stories on college and experience with current students hoping to follow in their successful footsteps. This day helps to join the entire Firebird family together in order to learn, grow and rejoice with the help of one another. Emphasizing the importance of generosity and thankfulness, Alumni Day exemplifies a very important part of Kellenberg's character. It enforces that once you become a Firebird, you remain one forever.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Editor-in-Chief: | Timothy McKenna |
| Staff Editors | Sarah Ellis, James Hilepo, Katherina Palion, James Perrone, Paul Samson |
| Distribution Editor: | Brenna Toy |
| Faculty Moderators: | Mr. Flood, Mrs. Spiegel, Mr. Cummings |
| Staff Writers: | Max Calleo, Brian Faller, Delia Fernandez, Laura Fewer, Patrick Fitzgerald, Caitlin Gaine, Patrick Graham, Emma Greco, Mary Guardino, Suzanne Hom, Brian Keane, Alex Kideris, Emilia Klapak, Timothy Landers, Cara Lee, Deirdre Lewin, Noelle McManus, Austin Nalaboff, Heather O'Sullivan, Kristen Parmiter, Sam Pellman, Danielle Santevecchi |
| Very Special Thanks: | Bro. Roger Poletti, Digital Graphics Imagery Corp., Photography Club |
| The Phoenix | |

Kellenberg Students “Drive” to Bring Joy to Others

By Danielle Santevecchi '16

The beginning of a new season of thanks marks not only a time of feasting and family but also a time to give back to the community. Kellenberg is not unfamiliar with giving back, with numerous drives and events to help others occurring throughout the entire year.

Most recently, the Latin School food drive and the high school Queen of Peace Basket Project occurred. Latin School C.R.O.S.S. greatly assisted in the collection and distribution of goods donated, as the C.R.O.S.S. club aims to create a spiritual and faith filled atmosphere through service and prayer. The sixth, seventh and eighth grade homerooms participated in a Thanksgiving food drive that lasted from November 17 to November 26. The students were excited to contribute and help their homeroom donate the most, since the homeroom that donated the most would be revealed at the conclusion of the drive over morning announcements.

At the conclusion of the drive, 4,700 items were collected, reflecting the tremendous generosity and selflessness of the Latin School students. Every morning at the finish of homeroom, the collections were assessed and members of Latin School C.R.O.S.S. took time to sort and box the items donated that day, which included various canned and boxed goods such as pasta, soup and vegetables. On Thursday, November 20, following a C.R.O.S.S. meeting during which the goods were sorted and stacked by members, the items were delivered to St. Brigid's Parish in Westbury. More goods were delivered to St. Martha's Parish in Uniondale on Monday, November 24.

Mr. Narell's sodality and other members of C.R.O.S.S. assisted in the deliveries to the parish outreach centers.

Homeroom 7D donated the most goods with a total of over 500 items. Homerooms 7C, 8D and 7E trailed not far behind, collecting over 400 items each. Some students even donated turkeys that



The members of homeroom 7C and their Marianist Mentors eagerly contribute to the food drive.

were brought to the Queen of Peace residence by Bro. Michael Gillen, S.M. In addition to food items, money was also collected from homerooms 6A, 6C and 6D to benefit the Interfaith Nutrition Network. The Interfaith Nutrition Network dedicates its time towards feeding the hungry and homeless of Long Island and feeds over 5,000 people in need each week. The money collected will be used to purchase supplies to make sandwiches for the network.

Homeroom 6C had the largest

amount of canned food donations in the sixth grade and also donated the largest amount of money of all the Latin School.

“All homerooms had very strong support for the drive,” said Miss Korzekwinski, the moderator of Latin School C.R.O.S.S. and Assistant Principal of the Latin School. “Many people helped to make the food drive a huge success.” This year's drive proved to be incredibly helpful to the needy and the kindness of the Latin School students and their families showed how the Kellenberg community never fails to assist the less fortunate.

The Kellenberg High School also showed its generosity and support for the needy this Thanksgiving season through Queen of Peace Residence Thanksgiving Basket Project, which lasted from November 24 to November 26. It involved all of the high school homerooms donating everyday items. The Queen of Peace Residence, located in Queens Village, is a nursing community for the elderly and is managed by the Little Sisters of the Poor. The residence provides both apartment living for the elderly capable of living on their own and nursing care for those who

require it. In addition, the residence provides physical and occupational therapy, beauty and barber shops, and fun activities for the residents.

At the 200 homes located worldwide, no person in need is turned down and Mass is conducted for all of the residents. Due to the selflessness of the community, donations are needed in order to keep up with the basic needs of the residents. The drive asked students to donate hygienic and daily items such as lotion, soap, wipes, shampoo and toothpaste. Each homeroom received a basket to be filled with all of these items.

On Wednesday, November 26, a Thanksgiving alumni mass was celebrated in the morning at Kellenberg. The mass was hosted by Fr. Albert Bertoni, S.M., in the auditorium. During the homily, Fr. Albert spoke of the presence of God in every life and in nature. During the celebration, the baskets filled with donations were brought up to the stage by student representatives from each homeroom. A religious sister and male resident of Queen of Peace attended the mass and were extremely thankful for the tremendous outpouring of generosity by the high school students and their families. The sister spoke of her gratitude for the donations from Kellenberg and expressed that the residents would truly appreciate them.

“It was a fantastic, exciting and generous event,” said Mother Celine Therese, the Mother Superior of the Queen of Peace Residence in Queens Village. “The generosity of the Kellenberg and Chaminade students every year is very much appreciated by the residents of Queen of Peace.” This Thanksgiving truly represented a new time of giving and faith by the Kellenberg community.

Giving Reasons to Give Thanks

By Patrick Fitzgerald '15

Boxes and boxes of toiletries collected at Kellenberg Memorial were delivered to the Queen of Peace Residence in Queens Village on November 26. For the last twenty years, Kellenberg Memorial has been traveling to Queen of Peace and giving thanks to the elderly and assisted living.

All the donations collected over the three days before Thanksgiving were loaded into a bus after the Wednesday mass at Kellenberg. The amount of items needed is staggering. KMHS students were asked to bring in soap, shampoo, lotion, wipes, paper towels, and conditioner. The students tasked with delivering the toiletries completed their work with ease, thrilled to be giving back to the less fortunate.

Senior Sal Giorlando commented, “I have been doing this since I was a freshman, and each year I look forward to helping out with Queen of Peace. These

people truly do appreciate it and even though all we are bringing them is shampoo and soap, the smiles we bring to the residents and the Little Sisters makes my Thanksgiving season.”

When the bus arrived, students were greeted by Mother Superior Celine Therese. Joyously, the sisters directed students to bring donations up to the third floor of the Queen of Peace Residence. There, three Little Sisters stood in a big room with designated tables for the donations. One of the Little Sisters, overcome with generosity, clapped her hands together and said with a smile, “Thank you for all of your work and look at all the good that you have brought to us. God is truly good to us.”

Audrey, a resident of Queen of Peace, continued this sentiment, “You all don't understand how special each of you are to us. I have been here for a few years and each year I love to watch all of you [students] run through the building and bring all of us here such true joy.”

The donations from Kellenberg help Queen of Peace provide for its residents throughout the year.

When Kellenberg was founded, Fr. Thomas Cardone, S.M. decided to continue the legacy of helping Queen of Peace Residence started at Chaminade, the oth-

er Long Island Marianist High School, by Bro. Michael Gillen, S.M. In 2004, when Bro. Michael moved to Kellenberg, he took over as coordinator of visits to Queen of Peace Residence. Eventually Bro. Michael created the Thanksgiving drive as a way to even more help the Little Sisters and their mission of charity.

Senior Emily O'Hara remarked about

the day, “Watching the faces of the residents light up is truly a blessing. The elderly are an important part of our society and they have done so much for us. It is our duty as Catholics to take care of the elderly, and that is especially important during the Thanksgiving season.”



A Special Night for Mothers and Daughters

By Katherina Palion '16

The annual Magnificat Dinner took place on Friday, December 5, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The dinner is an annual tradition at Kellenberg for girls from all grades to take time out of their hectic schedules before Christmas to spend an evening with their mothers and friends. Together with hundreds of other moms and daughters, guests enjoy food, friends, music, dancing and holiday cheer, as well as a guest speaker.

As guests walked into the cafeteria at the beginning of the night, they were handed seating charts to help find their tables. Mothers and friends reunited, while mothers who met for the first time gladly engaged in pleasant talk. Girls complimented each other's outfits and took pictures or reveled in the festive decorations and array of sweets on display at each corner of the cafeteria.

The event started with a cocktail hour, which allowed those attending to get appetizers and drinks or find friends to chat with. There was Christmas music in the background blending with the chatter of the guests.

All night, the cafeteria buzzed with mothers and excited daughters, posing in between conversations for a quick picture. The festive décor of the cafeteria made the night even more beautiful; snowflakes and ornaments hung from the ceiling, Christmas trees stood in each corner, and the tables were decorated

with green and red tablecloths and napkins. Even the candies and chocolates were red and green to tie together the Christmas theme of the cafeteria. Many guests wore festive, Christmas colored clothes to show their Christmas spirit.

Following the cocktail hour, the guests took their seats to hear Bro. Kenneth Hoagland, S.M., open the evening.

He discussed Mary and how her importance to the church parallels a mother's importance in her daughter's life. Like Mary, who glorified the Lord when she became pregnant, women today should also praise the Lord for the amazing gift of children. This dinner is one of the countless ways for mothers to show their love for their daughters.

Bro. Kenneth then introduced the speaker for the night, Claudy Makelele, who graduated from Kellenberg in 1993.

She discussed her own relationship with her mother as a teenager. She said that as a student, she often struggled through many of the challenges of high school; however, throughout the years, her mother always helped her. Mrs. Makelele suggested making what she and her mother called a 'Future Board,' which they made when she was in high school to give



Freshmen Cachay Mason-Thomas, Christina Faber, and Tori Smith take a break from dancing to pose for a picture.

them both assurance for the future. After Bro. Kenneth led the guests in grace, dinner was served. Mothers and daughters moved to the lobby, where three self-serve buffets were set up by S.A.L.T. volunteers. Nearly seven hundred people were fed food that included chicken with bruschetta,

broiled fish, string beans and rice.

Following dinner, moms and daughters took advantage of the live music, provided by Mr. O'Brien, who is known as "D.J. OB," on the dance floor. The

center of the room transformed from a high school cafeteria into a dance floor, filling with girls from all grades and their mothers, all who gladly danced together. D.J.OB played a mix of new songs, as well as some older songs, many of which were popular when the mothers were younger.

Throughout the night, guests had the opportunity to buy tickets for different raffles. This year, the prizes included baskets from the Kellenberg Emporium, Yankee Candle, Bath and Body Works and Coach, as well as a basket with nearly a dozen gift cards to many popular stores. Those who purchased tickets eagerly listened when numbers were called at the end of the night, hoping to win a prize.

The Magnificat Dinner is a special night that mothers and daughters cherish every year. For some girls, this year was their first time attending, but for others, the Magnificat has become a yearly event to look forward to. Junior Annie Vogel, who has been to every Magnificat Dinner with her mom and sister since sixth grade, commented, "The Magnificat Dinner is always such a nice time for my sister, my mom, and me. The speaker this year was very inspiring. The Marianists and S.A.L.T. members have once again outdone themselves to make it a great night!"

The Magnificat Dinner is a night enjoyed by many girls at Kellenberg; those who do attend always leave with memories that they never forget.

Juniors Retreat to Founders Hollow

By Staff

Bright and early on Sunday, November 16, nearly two dozen select juniors

met in the school lobby with their bags packed in anticipation of the 2014 Junior S.A.L.T. retreat. The moderators for this retreat were Bro. Kenneth Hoagland, S.M., Mr. Karchinski, and Coach Lawrence.

After mass, which was said by Fr. Philip Eichner, S.M., the students loaded onto the bus and drove to Stockbridge, Massachusetts, to the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy, where they had lunch, took a tour of the shrine, prayed the Stations of the Cross and visited the gift shop. After exploring the shrine, they made the four hour trip to Founders Hollow, the Marianist retreat

house in upstate New York.

The theme of the retreat is leadership, the third letter in the S.A.L.T. acronym: Service, Allegiance, Leadership, Teamwork. A major part of junior year is preparing students to assume many of the leadership positions that will be open to them throughout junior and senior year.



Members of Junior S.A.L.T. enjoy a relaxing retreat at Founders Hollow.

"This retreat was a great opportunity for some of the junior members of S.A.L.T. to display their leadership abilities," said junior Elizabeth Killian. "Soon, many of these students will be S.P.I.C.E. (Specialized Personnel in

Culinary Expertise) members, to whom the younger students will look to for guidance and leadership. It's important for them to begin developing leadership skills for when they are the leaders of S.A.L.T. next year."

The retreat ended on Tuesday, November 18, with the group's return to school.

Kellenberg Hosts Financial Aid Workshop

By Brian Keane '15

The College Placement office of Kellenberg Memorial High School hosted a financial aid workshop on the night of December 9, 2014. Its predominant goal was to help parents lower the tuition rates of their college-bound seniors. Mrs. Joanne Graziano, an admissions counselor at Long Island University Post, visited as a guest speaker. She has been committedly serving Kellenberg by visiting the workshop since the program began five years ago.

Parents had received a packet of the respective information one week prior to the event. These papers would prepare parents for Mrs. Graziano's lesson with knowledge beforehand. The packet mainly covered a wide range of criteria for qualifying for financial aid. The labyrinth of financial aid would have been otherwise un navigable without the information provided by Miss Graziano.

The parents and college placement officers assembled in the Kellenberg auditorium for lecture at 7:30 that

night. After finishing her seminar, Mrs. Graziano remained with the parents to answer questions, giving attendees an opportunity to learn information specific to their needs. "She has always stayed after to hear questions," said Miss Ronan, Coordinator of College Placement. According to Miss Ronan, Mrs. Graziano is sensitive and understanding, and willing to make herself available to assuage the concerns of graduating seniors and their parents.

A variety of forms, such as government tax papers and those for FAFSA, were discussed with the parents during the workshop.

Miss Ronan believes parents learn a tremendous load from this workshop, especially those inexperienced in financial aid or have unique family situations. "In particular, a family with a first child going to college, or any family struggling to understand the system will benefit most from Financial Aid Night," she said.

Financial Aid Night clears the fog of the road ahead for parents and students to reduce any burdens students may have otherwise.

Advent Service Sings Common Refrain: Christ is on His Way!

By Austin Nalaboff '15

It's Christmas time at Kellenberg Memorial. That means it's time for door-decorating contests, toy drives, and snowflakes in the cafeteria. More valuable to the Kellenberg Christmas spirit, however is the Advent Prayer Service.

On December 2nd and 3rd Kellenberg students gathered in the auditorium for the annual Advent Prayer Service.

Mr. Basile, Religion department chairperson, stood in front of the audience and presented one of the many themes to the students: How can you fit Christ into your life? The service then commenced when junior AnneMarie Marks walked onto the stage and presented the next theme: God loves us so much that he came down to Earth to save us from our sins. This idea was reinforced



Andrew McPherson and Justin Bell, dressed Christmas icons, proclaimed a counter-cultural Christmas message: "It's about Christ!"

beautifully with a Kellenberg rendition of the famous song "The Lion Sleeps Tonight," presented by Daniel Ruescher '16 and Keon Whyte '17. The rendition, an a cappella production using the iPad app

Looper, was a spiritual cover of the famous song with lyrics such as, "In December, We remember Jesus Christ was born."

The service moved along as the students were presented with another theme: Christ is all you need. This theme was supported with a religious rendition of "All I Want

for Christmas Is You," sung by Natalia Cotto '17. Featuring all of the pop riffs of the Mariah Carey classic, Cotto's beautiful version of the song artistically expressed that Jesus is all Christians need

for a joyful holiday season.

When Marks re-entered the stage, the narrator of the service suggested that everything Christians do during Christmas time should be about Christ, including baking cookies for the poor and putting the lights on Christmas trees. This idea was quickly fortified with an Advent version of a hilarious SNL skit, featuring Mr. Sorkin, Mr. York, Rudley Dorce '15, and Johnny Ryan '16.

After this, Natalie Gallego '15, Justin Bell '15, and Andrew McPherson '15 took the stage and performed a skit that included popular songs, Beyonce's "All the Single Ladies," Meghan Trainor "All About that Bass" and Magic's "Rude" with a religious twist. The skit focused on themes like loving Christ, accepting Christ into our lives and living our faith in Christ everyday.

The service then concluded with a message from Fr. Thomas, S.M., as he blessed the Gregorian Consortium's new CD.

St. Martin Students Enjoy Breakfast with Santa

By Patrick Graham '17

On December 6 Bro. Timothy Driscoll, S.M., Bro. James Conway, S.M., and Mrs. Haller hosted the St. Martin de Porres Breakfast with Santa in the KMHS

The most popular raffles among the kids were the Frozen raffle, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles raffle, and the electric train set. In the arts-n-crafts workshop, ornament design or temporary tattoos were available. Another popular activity was the bean bag toss.

The family spirit of the event was increased by the participation at the stations of the older brothers and sisters of the young children.

KMHS SALT members facilitated the traditional Kellenberg breakfast: pancakes, French toast and the beloved crumb cake. There was no doubt that the families enjoyed the Breakfast prepared for them.

When Santa arrived, all the kids went crazed with excitement. They got the chance to take a family photo, smiles and all. The families received from Santa's helpers a stuffed animal, a book, and a nativity ornament.

Jackie Lindsay '18, working with SALT, said, "The girl Little Critter Christmas were the favorites among the St. Martin's children."

"Skippy John Jones was a close second," remarked her partner Alyssa Brites '18.

As the kids went up to see Santa, they told him what they wish for this Christmas.

"It is important to focus on the family during this Advent season, and I believe this is a great way for St. Martin's to kick off the season," said Mrs. Haller.



Smiles abound when Santa's around.

cafeteria. The event was open to all elementary school students of St. Martin's.

Mrs. Haller, a teacher from St. Martin de Porres said, "The breakfast with Santa, as with any other event, is done to encompass both the child and the parents because the strength of family should be important to him or her."

The three coordinators worked hard to ensure that the event was wonderful for all. Bro. Tim was having friendly conversations with parents; Bro. James was photographing the event; and Mrs. Haller was working at many of the stations.

These stations, cleverly named Rudolf Workshop, Bethlehem Workshop and Toyland Workshop, was a wonderful time for the kids. The raffles, arts-n-crafts, letter writing and games arcade occupied the SMMS kids when they weren't eating or getting a picture with Santa.

The Spirit Decorates at KMHS

By Laura Fewer '16

As the Thanksgiving weekend came to a close, all of the Kellenberg students and faculty began to spread the Christmas spirit on Monday, December 1, as every KMHS homeroom came together to pick out a theme to decorate their classroom door.

Members of homerooms worked together, cutting wrapping paper, decorating the Christmas tree and making snowflakes to hang from the ceiling. While having fun and working together, all homerooms have a goal: to win this year's Christmas door decorating contest.

The door themes ranged from Polar Bears(10P), to the "CandyCrush" iPhone game (12L), to "The Real Housewives of The Bible"(8E). Some homerooms even put props on their doors to put them over the top. Things such as clocks and boots were found on this year's doors. Mr. Wevers, homeroom moderator of 9N, said, "Door decorating gives the students and faculty an opportunity to be creative and use other skills. The teachers assist students in realizing their vision for the

door and help make it a reality."

Some doors had a comedic approach, while others choose more faithful and serious ideas. Homeroom 7D's theme was "I'll be home for Christmas," in honor of the troops that will not be home to celebrate Christmas with their families.

Mr. Kirk, moderator of homeroom 7D, expressed why he loves the tradition of door decorating saying, "It brings out the kid in everybody!"

Although every door was decorated with great effort and creativity, the doors of 2014 had to be judged and winners chosen. For the Latin School, homeroom 7E won first place, followed by 8B and 6A. For the Freshman Division, the winning door was Mr. Wevers' homeroom 9N. Their theme, "The Night Before Christmas," involved an actual 3D-fireplace, with Santa's boots hanging from the bottom! The 2nd and 3rd place went to 9P and 9G. In the sophomore division, the door winners were 10L, 10M and 10E. In the Junior Division, 11F took first place with a "Christmas in London" theme. This door included Big Ben (with an actual working clock) and a double-decker bus with every student's ID picture pasted on as the passengers. 11F was succeeded by 11H and 11C. Lastly, in the Senior Division, the door winners were 12D, 12M and 12J. Kellenberg is a wonderful place in the month of December as we spread our Christmas spirit.



Marianist Mentor Brigid Maelia '15 posts decorations on her freshman homeroom's door.

ADA To Young Drivers:

Pay Attention!

By Suzanne Hom '15

On November 14, 2014, the members of the Junior and Senior classes attended a presentation given by Nassau County Assistant District Attorney Maureen McCormick, who is the chief of the vehicular crimes department. Mrs. McCormick came to Kellenberg to talk in particular to the new drivers about the importance of being aware while driving.

The presentation, entitled Choices and Consequences, detailed specific cases involving vehicular crimes that occurred while the driver's ability was impaired, whether from drugs, alcohol, or texting. The



ADA McCormick's Choices and Consequences presentation was equal part tough and love for KMHS new drivers.

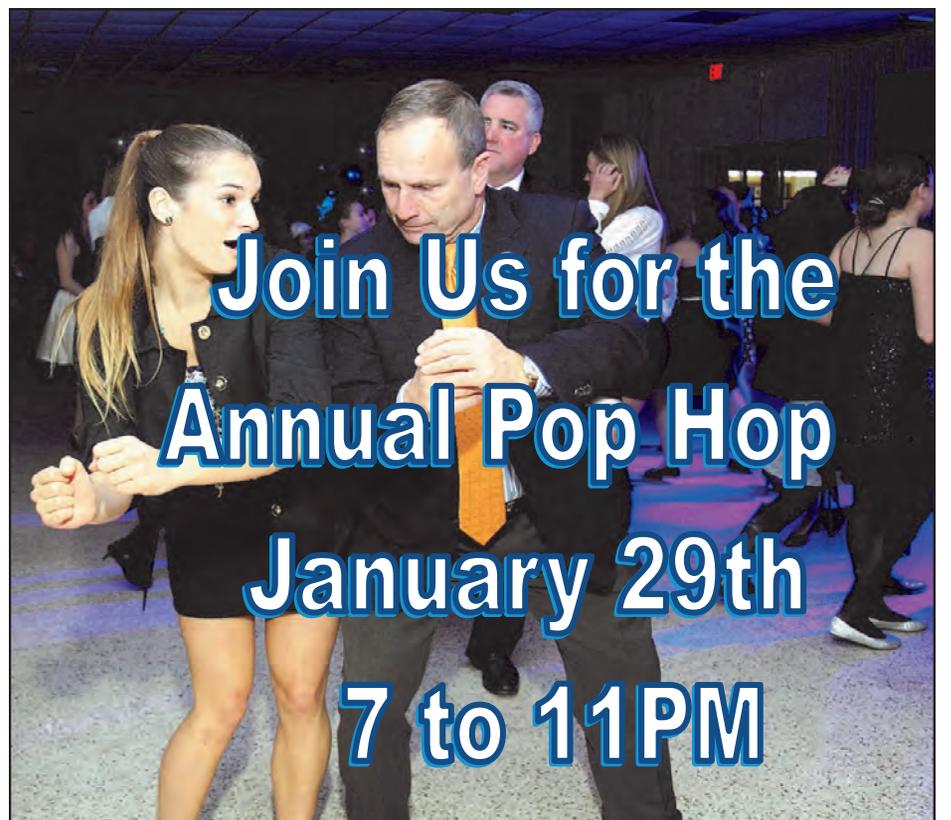
students looked on in horror as images and videos of tragic car wrecks appeared on the screen. Many involved young driv-

ers, making the point resonate that much more clearly for the youthful high school audience.

An officer with the Nassau County Police Department also made an appearance and walked the students through a policeman's role in a field sobriety test. He recounted all the steps, from stopping the driver on the road and performing field sobriety tests to bringing the driver down to the station and finally to the arrest, or "booking process."

A Hofstra student, whom *The Phoenix* will not name, arrested while driving under the influence of alcohol, shared his story with the students.

This firsthand account helped KMHS students realize that they are not immune to drunk driving charges; in fact, quite the opposite is true, since New York State has a zero tolerance policy for underage drinking and



driving.

Overall, Choices and Consequences provided the students a better understanding of the importance of vigilant driving for the safety of both themselves and fellow drivers.

The presentation was organized by Mr. White in conjunction with the Nassau County District Attorney's Office. Mr. White commented about the presentation, "The Choices and Consequences presentation offered by the Nassau County DA's office is both meaningful and engaging. It offers the juniors and seniors a glimpse into what can go wrong when young people make poor decisions behind the

wheel, and how easy it is to prevent these negative behaviors. I would hope that they left the auditorium that day knowing the full effect these behaviors can have, not only for everyone else on the road, but also for themselves."

Indeed, the juniors and seniors were greatly affected by the presentation and will be more careful on the road in the future. Senior Emilia Klapak said, "It had a great impact on me. We always hear about horrible tragedies like these in the news, but this presentation made it more personal. It made me see just how easily something like this could happen to me."

A Drive Toward Safety

By Cara Lee '15

When Kellenberg senior Thomas Ferrall stopped at the stop sign at the corner of Peter's Gate and Peter's Ave, just two blocks east of the entrance to KMHS, he made certain it was safe to continue. Then, a car, speeding towards him, completely ignored its own stop sign and came within inches of crashing into Thomas' car. His quick reflexes prevented the accident as he pressed the brake, bringing the car to a sharp stop as the other car continued speeding down the residential side street. Thomas had done nothing wrong, yet another driver could have killed him in an instant.

At sixteen a teenager can learn how to drive. At seventeen a teenager can earn a license and drive independently. This is a coming of age event – a rite of passage – and, though liberating, it also brings about feelings of nervousness and fear. Senior Kimberly Henry has been driving since September and she and her twin sister drive to school each morning.

"The first time I drove I was excited to have more freedom- but I was also



nervous." Kimberly continues, "Driving is a huge responsibility and it gives you a lot of control. If a driver messes up, it may not only affect them. A simple mistake can hurt anyone in your car along with anyone else who is on the road."

While you can never be 100% safe while driving, you can do many things to make the road a safer place for you and other drivers. Seniors Kimberly Henry, Thomas Ferrall, and Nicolette Keefe have recently begun driving, and they have learned lessons beyond the confines of a Driver's Education class.

Kimberly mentioned that it's a good

idea to make rules with your friends. When they are passengers in your car, you are in charge. "When I drive with my sister or my friends in the car, I can't pay attention to them and the road at the same time, or I put all of us at risk. Everyone in my car has to wear a seatbelt at all times. It's the law and it will also protect them."

Thomas believes in the principle 'practice makes perfect'. "The more you practice driving, the more comfortable you will be. The 50 hours required for Drivers Ed seems like a lot, but it helps and it really does prepare you for driv-

ing alone." He added quickly, "Drivers should also never take unnecessary risks such as driving while tired, texting, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs."

Your life is the most important thing, and you must take every precaution when getting behind the wheel.

Fellow senior Nicolette mentioned that if you ever feel unsafe, park until the danger is past. "A week after I got my license, I was driving in a rainstorm and was really nervous, my car started to hydroplane and I was terrified," she recalled. "I drove as carefully as I could until I found a safe place where I could legally pull over, and then I waited out the storm."

Recent studies show that each year more than 2,650 new drivers die in car accidents and 292,000 teenage drivers are treated for serious injuries. These numbers do not include teenagers with minor injuries or those who escaped from wrecked cars – nor does it include the numberless near misses like Thomas Ferrall's – in which someone's elusive dodge of the statistics does not mean an infraction of road rules did not occur.

The advice from these seniors should be taken to heart: this serious privilege comes with much responsibility, so when you wake up on your seventeenth birthday and look out the window for that shiny new car, remember to always think before you jump behind the wheel.

Middle East Violence Against Christians

By Tim McKenna '15

It was a cold winter night when the police forced the Van Daans from their home. They had little time to take anything before they were forced onto the train to be taken away from the life they knew. The clothes on their backs were all they had, and the vicious, howling wind in the frigid winter air easily sliced

through their thin night-clothes and bit into their skin, freezing them to the bone. The harsh shouts of the guards telling them to get into the boxcar at the train station fell hard upon their ears like the bombs that had fallen on their precious city only months earlier before it was van-

quished by the invaders who were now forcing them to leave. The Van Daans moved slowly and in fear. They knew where they were going and what it would mean for them.

In a small village Sister Hatune Dogan was forced from her home along with her family for fear of what it would mean if they remained. Sister Dogan and her family fled their homeland before the persecution grew and before they became a part of it.

A 17-year-old boy was beaten to death by his classmates for exposing a pendant expressive of his faith.

Religious leaders in the community were kidnapped by local mobs.

A rumor of an interfaith between a young man and woman instigated the burning of multiple houses of worship and the imposition of a curfew on several villages.

Villages were razed. Reports indicated that towns numbering in the thousands were decimated: Dozens of beleaguered survivors remained in squalor and fear.

An advocate of peace and for asylum was murdered in his home.

The Van Daans, of course, are famous for sharing the tiny attic space of an Amsterdam home with Anne Frank and her family, but the story of Sister Dogan and the other victims of persecution are not from Nazi Germany. They are from nearly two thousand miles or more away and they are from the 21st century. Yet they are relatively unknown to most people.

Sister Dogan is a Turkish-born nun and member of the Universal Syrian Or-

thodox Church under the Holy See of Antioch whose family was forced to flee Turkey due to increasing Islamic persecution.

This persecution is rampant in the Middle East and is only getting worse. The "Arab Spring" of 2011 started out as demonstrations, protests, and riots by the people of the Middle East in an attempt to rid their countries of corruption. Un-

fortunately, it also led to the largest persecution of Christians in the Middle East in decades. According to Michael Brendan Dougherty's article concerning Middle Eastern Christian pogroms he tells that in Syria alone, an estimated 450,000 Christians, slightly over a quarter of Syria's 1.75

million Christians, have been forced to flee for their lives or be killed if they refuse to convert.

Michael Curtis states in his article "Christians Are Disappearing in the Middle East" that since the Islamic State began its conquest of the Middle East in the name of Islam "...Christians in Mosul once numbered 130,000; now fewer than 2,000 are left. Those few may be forced to convert, accept inferior status, or be killed." The number remaining means that over 98% of Christians have left or been killed due to widespread hatred.

Everyday there are beatings, mob violence, rapes, murders, stabbings, drive-by shootings, assassinations of priests and bishops, suicide bombings, acid attacks, public executions, kidnappings, abductions, torture, beheadings, and many other unspeakable acts committed against Christians. This discrimination that all non-Muslims are a threat to Islam and must be exterminated or converted follows, in its most basic form, the discrimination employed in Nazi Germany: all non-Aryans are a threat to Germany and must be exterminated or removed.

In "Hatred: Islam's War On Christianity," author Michael Coren states this type of aggression toward Christians is not typical of all Muslims, only radical Islamists who have turned the Arab Spring from a reform movement into a movement filled with hatred and violence towards Christians.

The violent persecution of Christians is not relegated to the Middle East. It is also happening in Africa, Indonesia, and many other places. This worldwide

slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Christians is a tragedy.

Pope Francis condemned the "barbaric violence" perpetrated against Christians and other minorities in Syria and Iraq during his visit to Turkey, a country on the front-line of the war against Islamist extremism. "In reaffirming that it is licit, while always respecting international law, to stop an unjust aggressor, I wish to reiterate, moreover, that the problem cannot be resolved solely through a military response," said the Holy Father. In agreement with Pope Francis' solution, Bro. Roger Polletti, S.M., said, "I agree that war against violence is not the best answer. Other methods have to be sought out first. How many young people do we have to sacri-

fice to stop this? We can't force our will on others diplomatically, so we go to war over it."

There is an old adage that says, "Those who forget the mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them." If this is true, then why does this persecution continue? Have we forgotten the Holocaust? No, we have not, which makes this persecution all the more despicable because it means that the world's leaders are turning a blind eye to the daily massacres. The Islamic war on Christianity is far from over, and it will not end until powerful leaders are willing to intervene and stop this war.

Have we forgotten the Holocaust? No, we have not, which makes this persecution all the more despicable because it means that the world's leaders are turning a blind eye to the daily massacres.

Art Portfolio Views St. John's Bible at Molloy

By Sarah Ellis '16

On Friday, November 21, Miss Panasci gathered together her class of sixteen students in Art Portfolio Prep and jumped into a bus headed for Molloy College. Upon arrival they were warmly welcomed by the Molloy family and provided with breakfast before their exciting day of art and leisure began.

Not much information had been relayed about what was to happen on the trip, but three words had the KMHS students hooked, St. John's Bible. Kellenberg had been invited, along with other Catholic high schools on Long Island, to Molloy to observe these manuscripts and understand the work and commitment and technique used in creating something of this stature. Everyone was thrilled to catch sight of this breathtaking work of art.

During the day, students attended a lecture and saw a film, but nothing could compare to the main event. The St. John's Bible. The Benedictine Monks of St. John's College in Collegeville, Minnesota, created this Bible and the project was headed by Queen Elizabeth II's personal calligrapher. This team of artists and calligraphers, who after eight million dollars in donations and fifteen years of hard work, reproduced a gorgeous, hand written Bible complete with detailed il-

lustration depicting many different biblical scenes. It was about two feet by three feet in size and created with quills and ink magnifying the beauty and authenticity of the piece.

This work is on display at Molloy for a limited time, so the Kellenberg students were not the only ones in attendance; there was quite an audience. Researchers, Molloy students, Newsday, outside viewers and more all gathered and gawked at the Bible. Molloy then treated their guests to a buffet lunch in the gym further demonstrating their immense generosity.

This trip went much further than anyone had anticipated it to, and Miss Panasci recalled, "Everyone, including myself, really enjoyed the trip. Molloy really influenced our upcoming projects at Kellenberg!" She mentioned

how after returning to school, the students asked if they could complete their own piece of calligraphy and detailed art. "We will be practicing our own calligraphy with Bro. Tim, our very own calligraphy expert!"

Trips like these help to inspire students and spark their creativity to further their own experiences while bringing them closer to God, because as Saint Irenaeus said, "The glory of God is man fully alive," and this project certainly brings these students to life.



Senior Kelly A'Hearn views the illustrated Bible in amazement.

By Christopher Merola '16

KMHS *Carousel* "Turns" Heads

Kellenberg's fall play, Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*, was not to be missed during its premiere at Kellenberg on Friday, November 21 and its subsequent showings on November 22 and 23. A traditional musical with some drama, *Carousel* recounts story of the volatile but charming Billy Bigelow (Austin Nalaboff '15) and his complex



Austin Nalaboff '15, Matt Kelly '15, and Matthew Stiuso '16 perform the boy's number in the fall musical.

help. Joe Reiter '16 of the Sound Department expressed, "This has been the most enjoyable play I've done so far."

The satisfaction and pride in behind-the-scenes work extends to the stage crew. Talia Chiariello '16 noted, "The stage crew has put together one of the most detailed sets I've ever seen."

One hundred and eight yards of fabric were sown by Katherina Palion '16 and Maggie Drogalis '17 for what Mrs. Farrell said was the drama club's most impressive backdrop ever. However, the carousel itself, though physically less impressive than the backdrop, mechanically proved to be the stage's most intriguing design. Using six 4x8 foot sheets of plywood, freshman Sasha Chacó hand drew the silhouettes of three carousel horses. The silhouettes were then reinforced by 2x4's, beautifully dressed in metallic-sheened silks of various colors, and finally saddled to accommodate the weight of three performers. Adding layers of engineering, the carousel was built upon two wooden-framed trapezoids, allowing the design to move in the iconic carousel fashion.

Equally impressive is the orchestra, which establishes the tone and musical setting of the play. The production of *Carousel* was blessed to have a successfully orchestrated premiere, according to euphonium player Donato Moneta '16.

"I'm in my fifth year of pit band, and this has been the smoothest Friday I've ever had," he remarked.

This rendition of *Carousel* also had an all-star cast of experienced upperclassmen, including Courtney O'Shea '16 and Austin Nalaboff, along with Hannah Pipa '15, Maureen Archbold '15, Daniel Ruescher '16, and Matthew Stiuso '16, to thank for its success.

Nalaboff explains, "Understanding our characters is critical. I play Billy Bi-

gelow. I would say he's a very complex character and hard to bring to life. On the outside he puts up a front, but on the inside I think he's a really nice guy and that's the magic of his character."

One of the major facets in the narrative of the play was the charming relationship of Mr. Enoch Snow, played by Daniel Ruescher, and Carrie Pipperidge, played by Hannah Pipa. The chemistry between the two players shone on stage.

"Dan is amazing, it's like working with a professional," Hannah remarked, "We have great chemistry on stage, so the scenes where we're together are some of my favorites."

The World Behind the Curtains

By Max Calleo '17

From the seats in the theater, we all know what to expect. The lights dim, the pit tunes and the "voice" from above reminds us to silence our phones. The students take the stage for another thrilling performance.

What everyone may not be aware of is what occurs behind the scenes and before the curtain is drawn, as the actors and actresses eagerly wait for their cues to take the stage. It is an intricate part of any production – like honey bees each doing their respective and crucial dance steps, communicating integral information to the hive – the moving parts of a Drama Club are, behind the curtains, performing in every way as much as they might upon the stage.

Cast and crew are running around in preparation for the upcoming show. At every performance of this year's play, *Carousel*, arrival times are assigned for all who are involved in the play. This is followed by a cast call, costume change, microphone checks, and prop arrangement. Lines and choreography are busily rehearsed, costumes adjusted or changed, hasty "Pardon me's" and "Excuse me's" are shouted, mumbled – and in the hastiest of cases – even omitted. Controlled chaos? To some, but to the Drama Club and all its dancing

Daniel added, "Hannah and I have been working a lot together, and we can have complete trust in each other and what we do."

The cast of the play was also complimented by its group of underclassmen talent. The work of players Anthony Pugliese '17, Mary Donnelly '17, Christopher Draghi '18, Sean Crosby '17, and many more actors was integral to the play's overall experience.

The students of Kellenberg Memorial were impressed with the performance of their peers. "I thought the play was fantastic, Courtney was amazing," exclaimed Regina Lacsca '16.

The energy of the gifted cast, perseverance of the stage and technical crews, and the expert musical performance done

bees, it is a masterful process of production.

The cast waits anxiously in their dressing rooms, searching for calm.

The calm is found in the tradition of the nightly group prayer. The group prayer is a ritual that has taken place behind the scenes of Kellenberg Memorial High School plays for many years. Twice each night, everyone involved in the play forms a giant prayer circle in the Kellenberg Gym. The cast, light crew, sound crew, stage crew and all come together to work on the play. During intermission the alumni of the Kellenberg Drama Club are also invited to join a second group prayer.

Senior Maureen Archbold and Drama Club veteran said, "I think the main difference that sets Kellenberg's performances apart from most performances is a spirit of faith in preparation for the performance by praying in a group to and before God."

Austin Nalaboff, a senior in the lead role of Billy Bigelow, stated, "Backstage before the show is a lot like a rehearsal process. Many people don't understand how hard it is to put a show together. There are a lot of moving parts and this is reflected in everybody getting ready before the shows."

So consider, the next time you view a KMHS Dram Club production, the iceberg that is the performance – only the visible tip gets the awe-filled response, but the massive foundation of equal or greater "awesomeness" is floating silently unseen – behind the curtain.

KMHS AQB "LIFT" the Standards

By Emilia Klapak '15

On Saturday, November 22, Kellenberg Memorial High School hosted its 14th annual Academic Quiz Bowl Long Island Fall Tournament.

LIFT is a yearly quiz bowl tournament hosted at Kellenberg in which a wide variety of schools comes to compete for academic prowess.

Teams began to arrive early Saturday morning for the day-long competition, which took over the school's entire second floor. Competing were 48 teams of different skill levels from 26 schools. Locales for these schools ranged from upstate New York to

Florida. Most schools were yearly regulars like North Babylon High School and Livingston High School from New Jersey; others were relatively new to LIFT such as Regis High School from New York City.

The event was organized by Academic Quiz Bowl moderator, Bro. Nigel Pratt, S.M., with the tremendous assistance of the AQB team members, National Honor Society students, alumni, Kellenberg faculty and parents. Said NHS member Maria Lombardo '15, "I really enjoyed helping out at LIFT. I got to experience a new event that I didn't know anything about and learned a lot in the process."

The preliminary part of the day consisted of five rounds. The tournament

used challenging questions from National Academic Quiz Tournaments, LLC (NAQT). After these rounds, teams had a lunch break while the teams who would move into the "playoffs" were determined. Teams that did not qualify to advance would move to the consolation rounds.

The playoffs were a series of seven more rounds after which the more exceptional teams moved into rounds that would determine place.

The Charter School of Wilmington's "A" team from Delaware took home the coveted first place. Second place was awarded to Ransom Everglades School's "A" team from Florida. Third went to St. Joseph High School's "A" team, while William A. Shine Great Neck South High

School's "A" team came in fourth.

Overall, the 14th annual Long Island Fall Tournament ran smoothly. This was largely due to the cooperation and patience of all those volunteering to make the tournament possible.

AQB Captain Joseph Levano '15 remarked, "I was so happy to see everyone working together. The cooperation of our Kellenberg volunteers and that of the competing schools was really what made the tournament successful; and as someone who had to read questions all day, I was glad everyone was good humored and friendly."

The team is excitedly looking forward to next year's Long Island Fall Tournament.

The Early Bird Newsletter... Catches the Word



Cadet Trip to Wickham's Farm
By Gianna Romanelli '21

On Friday, October 10, the sixth grade went to Wickham's Fruit Farm. They went apple picking, pumpkin picking, and learned all about the life of bees. Have you ever eaten an apple right off the tree? If not, you don't know what you're missing! Biting into a freshly picked apple is like drinking extra fresh apple juice! Picking pumpkins was just as much fun, even though they were small this year. Orange, white, green, and more! Surrounding the farm were not only apples and pumpkins, but also the buzzing of bees. We learned that female bees gather pollen and make honey while male bees eat and sleep. Overall, the trip was fun and amazing!

**The Latin School
Fall Sports Pep Rally**
By Catherine Dotzler '19

As ninth period ended on October 3, the Latin School made its way down to Matthew Field to attend the Fall Sports Pep Rally. The students enjoyed popular music as they waited for their classmates to sit down on the bleachers with them and the athletes on the field



to begin the competitions. The girls' teams were on fire from the very beginning, crushing the boys' teams in games such as "Hula-Hoop Leap Frog", obstacle courses, and a ring toss. The stands were anxiously competing for the candy being tossed at them. One such bag missed the bleachers entirely and tumbled into the bushes behind them. The students spectating also found other ways to participate, doing the "wave" and rhythmically chanting for their favorite team.

Even the sixth graders, who aren't allowed on sports' teams, had a few picked out of their group to participate in an event. Girls' Soccer came out



victorious overall, beating Football, Volleyball, Cross-Country, Cheerleading, and Boys' soccer one at a time. This pep rally was certainly one to remember.

**"Bee" a Part of It! The Latin School
Spelling Bee**
By James Mooney '20

On October 8, a circle of thirty contestants from grades 6, 7 and 8 competed in the annual Spelling Bee. The competitor selection began in each English class through a mini spelling bee, with a single word elimination process. Each English class entered two contenders to rival their classmates for a grand total of 12 rounds of competition! Words became increasingly difficult beginning with words such as "bugle" and "typhoon", then advancing on to more challenging words like "rhinoceros," and "silhouette." Congratulations go to our winner Christian Morales, and our runner-up Catherine Dotzler, both in Grade 8. Many

thanks to our Spelling Bee coordinator Mrs. Villani, and to our assistant coordinators Mrs. Agulles, Mrs. Mannion, and Mrs. Page. Another great year for The Latin School Spelling Bee!

Academic Awards Assembly
By Maya Tadross '19

On October 14, while the Band was playing, our proud students came marching into the auditorium for the annual Awards Assembly. They were very excited and happy to receive their awards. First, Bro. Kenneth and Miss Korzekwinski awarded the students in the Honor Society. Then, Mrs. Howe awarded the new members who were joining the National Junior Honor Society. Finally, they awarded those students with perfect attendance records. After the awards assembly, the students wore their pins as an honor for their academic achievements.

**Halloween Party
2014**
By Elizabeth Collins '19

Looming in the halls on October 24 were Latin School students who transformed into various and unique Halloween costumes! Many sixth, seventh, and eighth graders assembled in the gym and cafeteria for the Halloween Party. Looking great in their costumes, the students showed off their creativity by dressing up as princesses, cats, monsters, football players, horses, and some even came in morph suits. The Marianist Mentors came dressed up in costumes too! The Latin School teachers and the Marianist Mentors assisted everyone in having a good time. Snacks and soda were enjoyed in the cafeteria. Prizes were given out for the many outstanding costumes. Students enjoyed and participated in several contests such as hitting the piñata, pie eating, pin the nose on the pumpkin, and guessing the number of candy corn candies and chocolates in the pumpkin heads. Mr. O'Brien, the D.J., kept everyone dancing to the



beat of the music. Perhaps the Latin School students should start thinking about their costumes for next year's Halloween Party!

C.R.O.S.S
By Ava Morena '21

On October 9, Kellenberg C.R.O.S.S students gathered at 3:15 in Room 131 for our first meeting of the school year. We made wreaths expressing the meaning and ideas of The Rosary. We were split into groups, and worked together to create this special project. The Rosary is a very special prayer that is part of the Church. As Catholics, we can show our respect and gratitude by using the Rosary beads in prayer. Throughout the meeting, we had the opportunity of learning more about our Catholic Faith. All the students in C.R.O.S.S had a fun time creating this unique wreath. When we left this past meeting, we all felt a joyful connection, and will now remember the importance of the Rosary.



Nassau County Museum of Art Boasts World Class Collections and Exhibits

Part 3 of The Phoenix Series on LI's Hidden Museums

By Emma Greco '15

After a long but leisurely walk through the grounds, filled with sculptures old and new, around a bend in the narrow road, a mansion, encircled by the sprawling green of 145 acres of land, comes into view. Built in 1900 by Lloyd Stephens Bryce, editor of *The North American Review*, the manor proves a threshold, transporting visitors from the waiting world of busy streets just beyond the property to the memory of the quiet beauty and regality of the estate at the dawn of the last century.

Within the sumptuous structure at One Museum Drive is the Nassau County Museum of Art in Roslyn, a window into the world of art both ancient and modern. Currently, the museum houses both thousand year old art from China and abstract works by contemporary artists, many of the pieces on loan from places like the Frick Museum and Columbia University's collections.

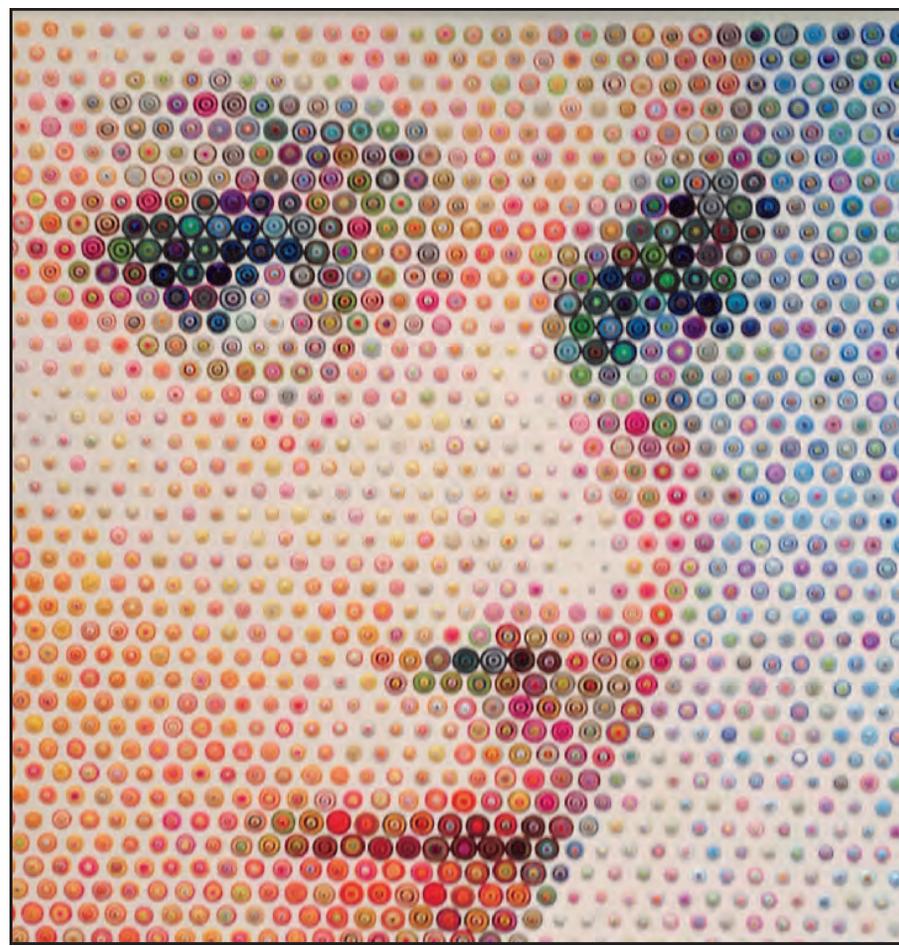
The first gallery waits on the left, promising a vision of ancient China. It does not disappoint. The welcoming figure of the collection is the "Standing Bodhisattva," from the Northern Zhou rule of 557-581. Its neighbor, another Bodhisattva, or saintly Buddhist figure, is the limestone "Head of a Bodhisattva," coming from the time of the Northern Qi dynasty around the year 550. It's difficult to not find yourself feeling a bit humbled by the seemingly omniscient gazes of the age-old, revered figures, or by the display next to them.

The sixth century Buddhist cave grottoes at Xiangtangshan contain artwork reminiscent of early Native American work, with cave wall paintings depicting life in the ancient Chinese world. Though the caves have been sacked many times throughout the centuries, the dispersed paintings are being rediscovered the caves themselves excavated by archaeologists curious to learn more of the old Chinese Buddhist ways so beautifully demonstrated at Xiangtangshan.

Across the gallery lies the crouching monster of the Qi dynasty, a horror told of in stories and designed so carefully. Beside it rests the mortuary tablet representative of the tablets that were placed at the tombs of high-ranking members of elite Chinese society. The tablet proudly shows a portrayal of the deceased's guardians in an idealistic vision of the afterlife.

The blue and white painted China follows, all porcelain collections. A central display, on loan from the Frick Museum, features a plate from the Qing dynasty of 1644-1912, depicting figures surrounding the main female, who is called "Long Eliza."

The porcelain gallery opens to the curved hallway that leads to the wing dedicated to the works of the Beijing-based modern artist Liu Dan, born in 1953. He spent much time exploring the



Artist Gavin Rain's Audrey Hepburn portrait. Don't see it? Take Mr. Rain's advice and step back.

Buddhist caves at Dunhuang, a place that was once a hub of the ancient world owing to its strategic location at the eastern edge of the Silk Road. All of the works in Liu Dan's section of the museum feature his skill with ink on paper, particularly his "Mingsha Diabolo," based on his exploration of the Buddhist caves. A room on the upper floor of the mansion constantly replays a fascinating video on the techniques used by Liu Dan and other Chinese artists.

Up the thickly carpeted, winding staircase awaits the second floor. The most intriguing piece of art in the entire museum lies at the top of the staircase and appears at first unappealing and downright strange to the naked eye. The occasional lucky visitor, however, is approached by a security guard who divulges how to unlock the secret of the white canvas covered in white thread. To take a step back is the answer, and to look through a camera, cell phone or otherwise. The seemingly bizarre work is revealed to be a digital photo on canvas, strategically surround by thread, barely visible without a camera to those who don't know of its presence already. The wonderful piece of crafty genius by female artist Lin Tianmiao, born in 1961, is a commentary on the social issues faced by women in China. The woman in the photograph worked into the canvas is covered in white thread, which is used symbolically to represent women's restrictions in the country even in this day and age.

This is placed opposite a collection of bronze vases from centuries passed in

China as well as two spinach jade bowls created during the Qing dynasty in the 18th century. The bowls are paired with a canton enameled dish also from the Qing dynasty era that portrays an image of a Daoist paradise, different from other scenes in the museum demonstrating Buddhist versions of paradise.

From the second floor's walls hang fabric decorated with excerpts from the *Ode to Country Retreat* in the format of eight leaves. Zhang Ruitu, who lived from 1570 to 1641, inked the excerpts in a most unconventional calligraphic style on the silk, a style not then particularly popular in the time of the Ming dynasty of 1368-1644.

In direct contrast to the timeworn silk calligraphy are the sculptures of Sui Jianguo, contemporary artist born in 1956. The red-painted sculptures of his on display, "Torso and Dinosaur" from 2006, are the works in the Chinese exhibit perhaps most modernized, showing no distinctly Chinese element, unlike any of the other pieces. Rather, the human torso and the dinosaur are new as well as almost comical and satirical. Just check the "Made in China" carved on the underbelly of the dinosaur.

The end of the exhibition of Chinese art flows into the gallery filled with the paintings of Gavin Rain, artist born in Cape Town, South Africa in 1971 who adopted the style of neo-pointillism in 2004. Influenced by Georges Seurat, 1900s era Russian avant-garde art, and certain forms of architecture, Rain developed his style of painting with small concentric dots using innumerable different

colors of acrylic paint to produce his desired effect.

"Stuff is interesting from close up," said Rain when explaining his paintings. "Our lives have a lot of texture/noise. Then we step back, and we see the influence of people and things in our lives – the things that shaped us. Everyone has to get my message – which is to step back."

Indeed Rain very nearly forces the viewers of his artwork to take a step back – and also to pull out a camera to see things from a different perspective. From close up, his paintings look vaguely like faces painted in multicolored dots, with an eye there and a chin there. But with a step backwards and a different lens, the portraits of famous figures become glaringly obvious.

Oh, yes, of course that was Audrey Hepburn and across from her? Nelson Mandela. How could I have missed it?

The answer, according to Rain, is that I was scrutinizing it from up too close to actually see anything at all. Rain proves that art is not only around to look pretty or even to make statements, but to teach powerful life lessons to those open to receiving them.

Rain's gallery, however, is not the final stop on the journey through the museum. The Louis Comfort Tiffany Gallery is the museum's one permanent gallery. An artist who painted during the late 1800s and early 1900s, Louis Comfort Tiffany contributed many of his watercolor paintings to the permanent collection, most depicting classical landscapes and other images typical to the artistic time period in which he worked.

A home once filled with children, especially after Lloyd Stephens Bryce sold his estate to Henry Clay Frick as a gift for the newly married Childs and Frances Frick, the museum features grounds easily desirable to any child. Dog statues here, a maze there, a gazebo over there, and the lake somewhere beyond, it's not difficult to see the draw of the acres of land for the children then, or for the children who take delight in exploring the ins and outs of the greenery. The museum counts its land's many interesting natural features as the result of the glacier, whose icy cover of the northern half of Long Island receded almost 10,000 years ago, a fact that makes the gorgeous grounds even more compelling.

In 1989, the museum opened its sculpture park, filling the grounds with a diverse and incredibly interesting mixture of sculptures brought in from all over the world. Only here can a man in a tuxedo be found riding his sculpted horse beside a standing mummy.

The Nassau County Museum of Art brings to Long Island the culture of an every-changing yet harmonious combination of contemporary and old-fashioned art, with its features changing every few months. Better hurry to Roslyn soon – the exhibit on China closes on March 8th.

The NYC Armory: MSG Might be Mecca, But Armory is CATHEDRAL

By Deirdre Lewin '16

As the Kellenberg bus nears Fort Washington Avenue in Washington Heights, excitement fills the air. There is a rush of nervousness and energy.

The Armory, complete with a six lane banked track, is a coveted competition center for all serious track runners. This Neoclassical 20th century-built building is one of the most prestigious indoor track and field centers in the nation. Along with the track, the Armory contains two large runways, a sand pit, a pole vault pit and a throwing cage. This pristine arena, however, was not always what it seems to be.

In the 19th century, the Armory was home to the 22nd Regiment of the Army Corps of Engineers and was used as a space to give licensing exams to those who wished to become architects, engineers or nurses. After this, an unconventional track was put in place.

Mr. Brown, the Lady Firebird track and field coach, ran for Archbishop Molloy High School his freshman year. He often ran at the Armory and described it saying, "The track was made of old fashioned boardwalk wood. The upperclassmen would tell us to make sure we stayed on our feet... if you fall, you will be picking out the splinters all day!" Mr. Brown also noted, "The races were exciting; the cacophony of the noise was charismatic, and the competition was always keen."

After his freshman year, Coach Brown transferred to Garden City High School, but unfortunately, his team did not have the privilege of attending many meets at the Armory, given the large distance from his school. Instead, he had to compete on flat, slower tracks such as that of Nassau Community College or even gymnasium floors. Mr. Brown knew that if he competed at the Armory, there



The expansive Armory has worn many hats, but the dearest to the hearts of young runners everywhere is its state of the art Track and Field facility and Hall of Fame exhibition.

would be better competition. When he finally got the privilege of running a mile at the Armory, he broke his school's record by three seconds.

In the early 1980s, the Armory became a homeless shelter. Meets were going on while men lay in beds in the infield. In 1986, the last track meet was held at the Armory before it was turned entirely into a homeless shelter.

In 1990, New York City marathon

champion and running legend Dr. Norbert Sander revealed that he was on a mission to bring back the Armory for the sole use of New York area high school track athletes. Only two years later, then-New York City mayor David Dinkins approved a grant for the renovation of the Armory and said that the homeless men would be moving out to a cleaner, safer shelter.

In 1993, the Armory reopened

with the running of the annual Bishop Loughlin Memorial Games with a shellacked wooden surface on the track. A year later, a new surface was imported from Italy, and banks were added, which helped maximize speed.

Senior runner Joe Panico offered, "It's the laws of physics. Banked surfaces enhance speed."

Today, the Armory hosts many high school, collegiate and professional meets. Competitive meets such as the High School New Balance Championships are run at this incredible arena.

The Armory is a place where hard work translates to track and field glory. Kellenberg athletes covet the opportunity to compete at this stadium. Not only is the track fast, but the entire environment motivates the athlete. Stands with cheering crowds circle the upper floor of the Armory.

The atmosphere is intense, yet at the same time amazing.

Mr. York, who is one of the head coaches of the Boys Track and Field team, said that Kellenberg has been competing at the Armory ever since the school switched from Maria Regina to Kellenberg. He remembers running at the Armory when he was just a freshman in high school. The track was not banked his first year, but it was eventually resurfaced and banked.

Coach York has very high hopes for his team this year. He noted, "We look forward to very strong team performances this winter. We are very excited about the new freshmen boys, who will be making their debut at the Armory."

Coach Brown stated, "On the 40th anniversary of my breaking my school's mile record at the Armory, the Kellenberg Girls Track and Field team won their first ever CHSAA Intersectional Championship team title. Four decades ago, I had enjoyed my most special memory as a high school athlete there, and now I was enjoying my most precious moment as a coach. This year, I can envision more special things happening at a very iconic New York landmark. I can see my athletes running to glory, the kind I dreamed of, the kind I realized, the kind that can only happen at a special place like this one."

So very American in its grandiose multifariousness, a place like the New York Track and Field Center—The Armory an athletic complex of historic importance.



Like various multi-costumed tribes at a track and field pow-wow, young track runners by the thousands gather at The Armory for a camaraderie and sportsmanship found in few other venues.

Grapplers Get Going

By Paul Samson '15

The boy's divisions of wrestling, though only in the early moments of the season, have already fought into full swing for the winter season of 2014. Recent competitions, combined with hours of practice and discipline have proven the teams worthy competitors in the CHSAA league in the near future. The divisions, being Junior Varsity and Varsity, are preparing with great dedication for the upcoming meets, each time only furthering the assets and expectations for the individuals and for the teams as a whole. Thus far, however, the teams together have proven through both victories and defeats that the upcoming season will not go down without a good fight.

The Junior Varsity team, led by Mr. Alfalla, has so far only had one major event at the JV Baldwin Tournament on November 29. This event gave the team the hopeful and positive start for which they sought, as numerous team members emerged victorious at the close of the matches. John Cascio '18 went an outstanding 4-0 for his day's matches, while Sean Coakley '18 contributed to the team score, wrestling an impressive 3-1. In addition, team members Jordan Paladino '18, Mark Roder '18, TJ Catapano '18, Brett Galvin '18, and Brandon Hickey '18 performed well in their tournaments to contribute to the team effort.

With their early season tournaments off to a good start, the JV team looks forward to their next major event, the CHSAA JV Takedown Tournament, which will take place December 23 and will be hosted by KMHS.

The Varsity team, led by coaches Mr. Meisse and Mr. Fiore, strives for improvement and victory this season through their wholehearted efforts and perseverance.

This year's team will be led by captains Joseph Moscato '15, Josh Newman '16 and Jason Javier '16. Javier returns for a promising year after his championship 2013-2014 season. He is excited to now lead the varsity team in their endeavors. An abundance of underclass-

men also provides great hopes for the coming events of the team. Mr. Fiore noted, "We have a large amount of freshmen this year. Hopefully, they will provide a bright future for the Kellenberg

wrestling team." Fellow captain Jason Javier '16 assumed 5th place, weighing in at 113 pounds, while Joe Moscato '15 placed 5th as well at 138 pounds. Team member John Ryan also wrestled an outstanding

says Coach Meisse. "That way, we can test ourselves and get an idea of what we need to do to reach our goals for the end of the season."

Essentially, the early stages of the season are as crucial to the outcome as are the meets leading up to the greater tournaments, such as Sectionals, Leagues or even states. "Wrestling season is all about building up to the end of the year CHSAA League Tournament, CHSAA Sectional Tournament, and ultimately the Public Federation State Tournament," continued Mr. Meisse.

This year's state tournament will take place in Albany from February 27-28; however, before looking towards states, wrestlers must look towards the nearer future in hopes of baby-stepping towards the ultimate state tournament. As a result, the varsity captains, as well as Max Tricolla '16, Will Coleman '15, and Anthony Bartolotta '17, all look to qualify for the CHSAA Sectional Title after a season's worth of hard work. The coaches' ultimate goal, however, is to get as many Kellenberg competitors in the state tournament as possible. "We're trying to get the best out of each other through hard work and hours of discipline through our practices," said Tom Sieban '17, in hopes that the team's goals will be accomplished.

The divisions of the wrestling teams will persist greatly in the coming season in order to increase their abilities not only in their athletic abilities, but also in their aspect of teamwork. The JV and Varsity teams look toward the upcoming events with great diligence and eagerness to attain victory – only, however, through the unending dedication of all the team members.

One senior team member remarked, "Having been on wrestling for three years now, I can say with confidence that we are the hardest working sport in the school. With all our heads in the right place, we can only continue to work towards our goals and be the best team we can possibly be."



The Kellenberg wrestlers' daily workouts result in fine tuned athletes who hope to dominate the mat.

wrestling team."

So far, the varsity members have competed in two events: a dual meet against Bellmore John F Kennedy High School and the notorious Long Beach "Battle at the Beach" Tournament. Although the team lost to Bellmore's JFK by a fair score of 39-31, no defeat can discourage the commitment and will to triumph, which is so prominent through the team members.

The Battle of the Beach Tournament is infamously known as the most difficult tournament throughout Nassau County. The meet featured over 30 Nassau County ranked wrestlers, 4 New York State ranked wrestlers, and several nationally-ranked wrestlers. The immense competition, however, was no hindrance on the performances of the wrestlers, as four of our own Kellenberg wrestlers impressively placed during this meet. Josh Newman '16 placed a praiseworthy 4th place, weighing in at 126

performance, placing 6th with a weight of 220 pounds.

Noteworthy performances were also given by Martin Jensen and Mike Cannon, who both fell just one match short of placing in this tournament.

The Kellenberg Varsity team will continue on to some of the fiercest competitors throughout Long Island in the coming months. Upcoming dual meets against Kings Park High School and MacArthur High School of Levittown are anticipated to be quite difficult as these are potentially the best teams on Long Island. Top teams will also be featured at the Huntington Tournament, East Meadow Holiday Tournament, and the East Islip Tournament.

The great rivalries to be encountered early on in the season, however, are only hopes of pushing the team to work even harder for the remaining season. "We try and wrestle the toughest competition we can find in the first half of the season,"

By Tim Landers '15

The KMHS bowling teams recently began a new season, and both are hungry for success.

The first match, on November 24 against St. Dominic's High School, unfortunately ended in a loss for both teams. This loss however, did great things for the team. During the second match of the season, against the Cougars of St. John the Baptist High School, the Lady Firebirds dominated the lane with a final score of 7-2. After losing the first match of the season, it should have been difficult to bring the girls back to a place where they could really display their talent; however, the win was almost flawless. The girls

rallied to bring home a solid victory.

The boy's team, captained by Dylan Sandas '15 and Cole Uganiza '16, worked relentlessly against SJB and it came down to the wire; only one pin left. The alley was still and everything stopped. In the end they did not walk away with the victory, but were a stronger team than before. With only two returning players, it is difficult to pass the torch of a winning season on to new comrades, but the past successes of the team will soon propel your current Firebirds into victory.

Last season for the boys came to an end with great success as three seniors,

Kellenberg Bowlers Ready to Strike

who are now alumni, qualified for the New York State Catholic League Individual Championships. This was the first time in KMHS history that three players have received this accolade, in addition to averaging over 200 for the season. This year's group of greenhorn bowlers will have the opportunity to take up this tremendous legacy and carry it forward through greater success in the alleys.

Miss Frisina, coach of Girls Bowling, shares her thoughts and plans for the upcoming season, "Do well, have fun, and make it to the playoffs!" The third item on the agenda, according to Coach

Frisina, is quite important for the team. Continuing on into playoffs would be a marked improvement on previous years, and an indicator of progress for the team. The girls, captained by senior Laura Ingenito and junior Victoria Loucks, have worked so hard and have truly come together by putting their best into every single match, the kind of effort that explicitly expresses the bonds of family created among the teammates.

The boys have another 9 games on their schedule, the girls another 6, in which they plan to improve their record and create some fun and exciting contests. Both teams have already made unbelievable headway and are inspired to put in the work and come out with a victory.

Girls BBall Has States in Mind

The Girls Varsity basketball team have been tirelessly working to be on the top of their game. They have also put in abundant time building team unity in order to become one well-oiled machine of domination. Another clear advantage of this year's team is their stellar line up compromising of bountiful all-star players.

It is not only the quantity of players that this team has but the quality that makes them a force to be reckoned with. The exceptional seniors returning to the team have a renewed spirit and determination to make their last season here memorable. The team is also receiving eager juniors who are ready to prove themselves and make their mark. These agile juniors are coming off their previous two junior varsity titles and are resolute to keep the winning streak alive and well. This truly outstanding team is led by two equally outstanding co-captains. One captain is senior guard Lindsey Ehrhardt. The other captain is senior forward Caitlin Staab.

The team really came together during their retreat at Founder's Hallow. The theme of this retreat was "Building Trust through US". One of the players commented, "I think that this retreat really brought us together as a whole. We worked on being able to trust each other not only on but also off the court. I think the friendships that we built here will be the key to our success because as long as we work together no team will be able to stop us from winning." Furthermore, Coach Kirk stated, "If we are able to buy into that concept, the team will do very well this year." It is evident that this team has a winning philosophy. If they keep up this unstoppable spirit no team will be able to halt them in their quest for victory.

The team has its eyes set on winning states. Last year, the varsity team reached State A Finals which is an accomplishment in and of itself. They were unfortunately unable to bring home the title after their disappointing loss. Therefore, this year they are more unyielding than ever to get back to states and this time bring back the title. Another, goal of the team is to win league championships. They are ready to make a point in their league and prove that they are one of the top teams on Long Island. Coach Kirk admits, "We know it is going to be hard but the team is willing to put the time in now so that we can see the results we want in March."

The team will start league play on December 19th. They will start off their league play versus Our Lady of Mercy. Junior Lauren Mastrianni says, "We have faced tough competition in pre-season so I think we will be well prepared for the season. I look forward to starting league play soon."



St. Mary's at home.

Frosh Find Foundation for Hoops, Life

By Staff

On Saturday, December 6, 2014, the Boys Freshman Basketball team rebounded from a humbling loss against Uniondale with an impressive win over Curtis High School by the score of 55-50. The team looks to improve as they begin their ten day preparation prior to the opening of the league season against

The team possesses a strong core of players that will work together to hone their skills. While the focus remains on this season, one cannot help but be excited about the team's potential. The talent that will be on display this year will give the Kellenberg faithful a glimpse into the basketball future. The chemistry that will bring the squad success over the next four years will have its roots in this season.

Coach Masiulis believes in the teaching coach.

"These young men are some great athletes. But I feel like I am here to teach them the nuances of team ball. Passing, helping out on D, trapping, pick and rolls are all elements of the game that can be lost on young players."

Freshman Derek Nwaobi attests, "Playing on the high school level is different than playing at the playground or on the grade school teams. The competition is tougher, and we have to play as a team more than I ever thought. Coach tells us it's not just basketball, but for everything we do."

The KMHS teams stress competitive athleticism, team spirit, sportsmanship, and hard work.

Learning these elements at the freshman level is crucial to the Kellenberg Memorial athlete's successful experience on the court, field, track or mat.

Freshmen Derek Nwaobi and Paul Christopher run through post and defense drills for the freshman basketball team.

Okunpolor and Torre Lead Varsity B-Ballers

By Sam Pellman '16

The Boys' Varsity Basketball team has kicked off its season with a great start. Training hard since October, the team has become a strong and hopefully unbeatable unit.

Coach McCutcheon, in his 9th year coaching the varsity team, is ready for another great season. The goal of the team, McCutcheon says, is to get the players to play to the best of their individual and team abilities.

Last year's outstanding performances of seniors Mike Torre, the 6'4" Forward, and Derrick Okunpolor, the 6'5" Forward have earned them the co-captain positions. As returning seniors and captains, Torre and Okunpolor are in command of

the court and locker room and will establish a winning mentality amongst their teammates. The center position is filled by senior Stephon Bryan and the backcourt consists of juniors Steven Torre and Kyle DeVerna. These valuable players are being counted on to lead the team to victory.

The CHSAA is an extremely competitive league, as rivalries abound and each team poses a new challenge. The Firebirds are the number five ranked squad on Long Island. The opening game of the season against Uniondale High School was a good sign of things to come. The Uniondale Knights were ranked just below Kellenberg Memorial at number six on Long Island. The Firebirds dominated the opponent for most of the game and won 76-56.

The team's schedule includes many

different tournaments throughout the year. One of the more recently successful tournaments for the Firebirds is the upcoming Southside Holiday Festival. The team has won the last two years and hopes to 3-peat.

The Birds will be participating in a few special games this season as well, such as the Tom Crotty Classic at Kellenberg Memorial on January 24 against Regis High School, and the Tom Emma Classic on Martin Luther King Jr. Day against Long Beach. Other important team events include visiting the Salvation Army to offer help and the three day retreat at Founder's Hollow, where the team spends time bonding and hopefully strengthens their team chemistry.

Coach McCutcheon excitedly said of this year's potential, "Every year we strive to get the most out of our players

both on and off the court. The team is like a family. Not only are we looking to strive for the best on the court, but in the community. The number of events we have as a team has them bond together and create lifelong friendships."

The team also appreciates the support from the Bird's Nest, the cheering section of students and teachers. They know they have a great 6th man behind them and they enjoy playing for a full audience game in and game out. Come out to the Gymnasium to support the firebirds as they take on the following teams at home: Saturday, January 3rd against St. Dominic's HS; Tuesday, January 20th against Holy trinity; Monday, January 26th against St. Anthony's HS; Tuesday, February 10th against Chaminade HS; and Friday, February 13th against St. Mary's HS.

KMHHS Athletes Sign Letters of Intent

By Staff

On Wednesday, November 19, five student athletes were honored for their successes on the athletic fields, as well as in the classroom. These athletes, along with parents and grandparents, gathered together to take the next step in their lives by committing to attend and participate in college level athletics.

This commitment is an honor. Students are selected by these colleges not only for their incredible athletic capabilities, but also for their classroom and after school achievements as well. These athletes are all hard-working and relentless in their efforts at perfection, and even athletic director, Mr. Fechtmann is impressed. "This is every athlete's dream, and very seldom does it happen. Each of these students was selected for his or her hard work and dedication to the sport," he smiled and continued, "This will be a different experience, including: late night and early morning workouts, having to keep up with the work of collegiate courses, participating in community service with the teams, and constantly being under the microscope for athletic performance."



Seniors Lindsey Ehrhardt, Nicole DiGregorio, Liam Monarchio, Alexis Morales and Lindsay Montgomery signed Letters of Intent on November 19.

Knowing full well what they were getting themselves into, seniors Lindsay Ehrhardt and Liam Monarchio could not be happier about their decisions. "College lacrosse is the best of the best lacrosse players where everyone is

extremely skilled," said Ehrhardt. "It's a huge commitment with lots of time dedicated to practice and improvement, however, Coach Sluka and Coach Masiulis have pushed me to become a better player and helped further my knowledge of

the game. Monarchio added, "Lacrosse isn't only allowing me to go to school for the next four years, but it is allowing me to attend a great school in order to pursue the job of my dreams, accounting." Thinking even further into the future, he continued, "It will be nice to graduate with a degree and to be debt free, knowing I played the game I love along the way."

For these young people to understand the significance of their decisions and to make the decision anyway displays an understanding that far surpasses that of a normal 17 or 18 year old. These kids, children, students, are taking their futures into their own hands, taking on the responsibility of maintaining their grades and health, and taking the idea from Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me," to the next level. Mr. Fechtmann has known these students since their introduction to high school sports, four years ago as freshmen, and it is no surprise to him that they have been honored so early.

"The first week of November is the first available day colleges can sign students, and we had five on the 19th. As long as they stay positive and work hard, their talent will take them the rest of the way."

Guys and Gals Warming Up for Strong Winter Track & Field Season

By Delia Fernandez '16 and Heather O'Sullivan '16

Although the season has only just begun for the Kellenberg Winter Track and Field team, the coaches seem to already have positive feelings about how they will perform this season.

So far, the boys have proved a team-first mentality lead by Senior captains Andrew McPherson, Joseph Panico, and Jonathan Rega and Junior Will Golder.

The boys' season began with the St. Anthony's Annual Developmental meet the weekend of December 6-7 at the Friar's indoor track and field complex. The development meets are used by coaches to see what each athlete can bring to the table and how well they can perform in their particular event outside of practice.

The team members, on the other hand, use the developmental meets to implement everything they have learned at practice. Athletes show off their abilities under pressure in a more competitive atmosphere. It is also beneficial in helping to set goal times for the following meets.

Though the meet only counts as a timed trial, it is just as important, as it helps set the pace for the season and scout out competition on other teams to aid in capturing the essence of the threats brought by other schools.

Coaches Mr. York and Mr. Estrella were impressed by several satisfying early performances by the team members. These stellar performances included Senior Joseph Panico in the

hurdles, and Juniors Will Golder and Robert Weissheier throwing great distances in the shot put. Distance runners Matt Impelli '15 and Ricardo Lopez '17 ran to strong times in the mile, and junior Alexander Basile ran a strong 600 m to open the season.

Senior Captain Jonathan Rega stated, "The track team has a lot of potential this season. With the addition of three new coaches and over two dozen freshmen, I'm excited to see us grow together as a team. This season we aspire to greatness; to run faster, jump higher, and to throw farther."

Says Coach York, "The sky is the limit for a hungry Firebird team ready to take flight in the Catholic League."

The team is looking forward to the Molloy Stanner Games in January at the well-known Armory indoor track and field complex in the Bronx.

Girls Winter Track, with captains Kathryn Elnick, Becca Katz, KeryAnn Ladouceur, Neo Douyon, and Bridget McNierney, has sprinted into action. While giving thanks over the Thanksgiving break, two Lady Firebird runners were busy winning in their respective turkey races. Junior Aislinn Keely won the young female division at the West Islip 4K Thanksgiving Race, and junior Ellie Serrano took third in Syosset's "Rob's Run 5K." Congratulations girls!

On Saturday, December 6, 2014, led by three juniors and a senior on a comeback mission, the Lady Firebird Track and Field team stormed into the meet season in a most impressive manner. Sara Newman won the 600 in an all time De-

cember best for a Kellenberg runner. Deirdre Lewin led from start to finish, winning the 1000 meters. Gabby Schreiber took silver in the high hurdles, and Kerryann Ladouceur scintillated in the 300 meter sprint. Sara Wood, Anika Samuels

and Neo Douyon fared extremely well in the sprints and Raquel Lopez and Emily O'Hara showed good early season form in the 1000 meters while Brooke Baldasare placed well in the grueling 3000 meters.

Boys Swimming

By Mary Guardino '15

A buzzer sounds, and the swimmers rush into action. They catapult off of the diving blocks and into the pool with a splash. After a brief period under water, suddenly, they emerge, cutting through the water with quick, sure strokes. The sight is beautiful, a miracle of strength and physics.

As Kellenberg swimmers rush into their final lap, the crowd cheers. The win is celebrated in the company of teammates.

The camaraderie of the Boys Swim Team manifests in a dedication to their sport and strong loyalty to each other. Coach Gilmartin espouses this brand of team unity, saying, "I love team sports and coaching these young men reminds me of the bond and athleticism that can only be found in such an environment as this."

In the three meets the boys have had so far, losses came after a hard fight. With tough opponents such as Saint Anthony's, Chaminade, and Fordham Prep, the Kellenberg team pushed themselves

to the limit, swimming excellent times. The team certainly looks promising as the season ramps up.

The members of Kellenberg's Boys Varsity Swim team exert their best efforts in the name of improvement. This year they are building up strength with dryland weight and endurance training, in addition to their regular pool workouts. This added training will help to round out the team's skill set.

Many swimmers are optimistic about achieving some personal records and team victories.

Coach Gilmartin agrees, "Despite how early in the season we are, we've already had a number of the swimmers improve their best times. By the end of the season, I expect to see big improvements in the whole team."

Senior Daniel Reidy notes, "I am really excited for what the rest of the 2014 season has to offer. We've been training really diligently, and we're hopeful that we'll have some great dual meets. We'll only get better as the season continues."

With upcoming meets against Stepinac, Saint Francis, and Saint John the Baptist high schools, the 2014 Boys Swim Team is looking forward to putting their training to the test.

The Achilles of Our Day: Our Wonderfully Flawed Sports Heroes

By James Hilepo '16

Nearly everyone is familiar with the stories of classic figures such as Achilles, Oedipus, and Beowulf. These were all characters thought capable of amazing feats and were portrayed as "superhuman," literally or figuratively. What these characters also had in common was that each had a tragic flaw which led to his downfall. This imperfection usually comes in the form of hubris, or excessive pride. Egotism of such magnitude often results in a lack of good judgment and misguided decision-making.

When writers like Shakespeare and Sophocles wrote these stories, they were commenting on the society in which they lived, but implicitly on the human experience at large. They used tales of fictional larger than life figures to point out the moral problems and failures of the real larger than life figures.

In many ways, our sports heroes today live the lives of the troubled characters and literary heroes of centuries and millennia ago. Their accomplishments on the playing field and their subsequent apotheoses made clear that there was no one else in the world who could do what they did. These were the best athletes ever seen. They were idolized by those who saw them.

Since the first Olympic Games in Ancient Greece, there have been players viewed as "superhumans." They were probably not too different than our own idols. Orsippus of Megara – of the 15th Olympics in 720 B.C., the athlete who provided the image of the naked ancient runner. Or Milo of Croton – the great grappler famous for his 67th Olympics in 512 B.C.

We idolize them and then, in an instant, this entire fantasy comes crashing down with a police report or a news story. That player who was revered in the public eye just moments ago is now sitting in a jail cell, has a problem with addiction, or has even abandoned those fans who loved him most. The perception of that athlete changes in a matter of seconds, all because they felt that their abilities entitled them to do whatever they want. Like Theagenes – the pugilist and runner of the 75th Olympiad in 480 B.C. infamous for tearing a statue of a god from the ground. Might he be the first idolized athlete to fall into disrepute?

Examples of these tragic heroes abound in contemporary times. The stories of these athletes have circulated so much that it's nearly impossible to have a conversation about them without their personal struggles being brought up for discussion.

Likely the most famous of the athletic tragic heroes is LeBron James. James has been lionized since his days playing basketball at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron, Ohio. He possessed talents never before seen in someone that young. Of course, the story only grew in superhero status when he was drafted by his hometown Cleveland Cavaliers with the first overall pick in the 2003 NBA

Draft. He then led the Cavaliers to the seven most prosperous years in team history as they made the playoffs five straight times from 2005-2010. They reached, but lost, the NBA Finals in 2007.

Throughout this time, the love for James never wavered among Cavaliers fans. He was still their hometown kid. He was still "The Chosen One" who would lead the franchise to its first championship in its 40-year history.

That all changed on July 8, 2010



when James not so discreetly announced that he would be leaving his home in Cleveland to join the Miami Heat. Overnight, he became the most hated man in Cleveland sports history as the rest of the basketball world watched Cavaliers fans burn their '23' jerseys on live television. It was as if James wasn't just leaving a basketball team behind, he was leaving a city behind.

The criticism for James' choice was not limited to Ohio. He was viewed as a traitor by sports fans everywhere and was greeted with boos in every arena that he visited during his four years in Miami. It is quite possible that James' decision to leave the Cavaliers caused him to become the most scrutinized athlete in sports history.

Though their depravity would be of starkly different degrees, the degree of their notoriety might be debatably alike. Mike Tyson. Tyson's time in the spotlight began when he was very young as he emerged on the boxing scene and won all fifteen of his fights during the first year of his professional career. This start immediately set enormously high expectations for his future. He would not disappoint. He went on to become the youngest heavyweight champion in boxing history when he defeated Trevor Berbick by second round technical-knockout in November of 1986. The victory in this bout earned him the World Boxing Council heavyweight championship. Over the

next year, Tyson won the International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Association heavyweight titles to become the undisputed heavyweight champion. He was the first heavyweight to hold all three belts at once.

Tyson was now feared around the boxing world. There couldn't possibly be any scarier proposition than having a punch from Iron Mike headed your way. In the public mind, Tyson was probably the strongest man in the world. His strength was his superpower and "The



Baddest Man on the Planet" was definitely more than human. He even had his own video game, *Mike Tyson's Punch Out!!*

However, as Tyson's career progressed, his personal life deteriorated. His marriage was moving toward divorce, and he soon parted with his manager, Bill Cayton, and trainer, Kevin Rooney. Though he denied it, Tyson was reported to be taking less care of his body, training less, and changing his stance and strategy. The effect of this on his mental state manifested in his fights and in the personal turmoil that would follow. After 37 straight wins to begin his career, Tyson was defeated by James "Buster" Douglas on February 11, 1990.

Though he followed his first loss with a string of four wins, the largest downfall of his life and career came in July 1991, when Tyson was arrested for the alleged rape of 18 year old Desiree Washington. He was convicted and sentenced to six years in prison. He was released after only three years.

Tyson had completely fallen off the pedestal that he once stood on. He committed an atrocious crime. His hubris clouded his judgment, prevented him from showing any remorse, and led to his downfall. No one would view Tyson in the same way again.

One of the more recent tragic heroes of the sports world is Michael Vick. During his six years as quarterback of the

Atlanta Falcons, there was no more electrifying player in the NFL. His ability as a running quarterback was unparalleled in the history of the game. There had been scrambling quarterbacks in the league before, but none had ever had the speed and agility that Vick possessed. He was the main influence on the fast, athletic, running quarterbacks that are prominent in the NFL today. Commonly heralded as one of the most unstoppable players in EA's *Madden Football* video game franchise, fans all around the league were well aware of the special talent they were witnessing.

The stories of tragic heroes continue with the likes of Michael Vick and his felony dog-fighting case, Tiger Woods and his extra-marital womanizing, Ray Lewis and his alleged murder implications, Mickey Mantle and his raging (and, unfathomably, destructive) alcoholism, Ty Cobb and his unadulterated racism..

The stories are the same. Outrageous strength and adulation with a proportionate demise.

Consistent in most of the tales of the tragic heroes in sports is that there is usually some sort of "comeback story".

Following the 2013-14 NBA season, LeBron James chose to return to the Cleveland Cavaliers. *This* decision not only shook the sports world but caused a frenzy of joy throughout the state of Ohio. Questions will likely always remain about James' decision to leave Cleveland in 2010 but all seems to be forgiven among Cavaliers fans.

Upon his release from prison, Mike Tyson returned to the ring and regained his WBC belt by defeating Frank Bruno. He also regained the WBA title by defeating Bruce Seldon, whom many accuse of losing to Tyson on purpose. Even moreso, Tyson's defeat of alcoholism and drug abuse, his emergence from paralyzing debt, and his emergence as cameo-actor and one-man show star have proven to be his triumphant encore.

After being freed in 2009, Michael Vick signed with the Philadelphia Eagles and led the team to a division title in 2010-11. Vick set career highs in almost every major category that season and was named NFL Comeback Player of the Year. He was released after the 2013-14 season and signed with the New York Jets. Though his success has not followed him there, this might be more a testament of the NYJ than the convicted dog killer. In any case, Vick has discovered a new role with the Jets – that of a wizened vet – that few would have imagined he might achieve.

Like Oedipus at Colonus, they each have had their atonements.

The writers of epics and tragedies – Homer, Sophocles, Shakespeare – could not have been so short-sighted. They wrote for the universe, not for their time or place.

Modern tragic heroes are athletes whose physical abilities place them in the limelight and, because of some character flaw, they plummet from the perch of their superhuman expectations.

KMHS Sports

Cheerleaders Cheer for a Cure

By Noelle McManus '17

October, as many know, is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a month filled with fundraisers to raise money for breast cancer research.

According to the American Cancer Society, three percent of women will die from breast cancer. Currently, there are almost three million survivors in the US, and many organizations work to keep the number of survivors up. On October 19, freshman, junior varsity, and varsity Kellenberg cheerleaders were privileged to do a small part in raising money for research.

The girls arrived at Jones Beach at 7:00 in the morning to participate in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer (MSABC), an event that thousands of people from over three hundred communities participate in nationwide. This walk supported the American Cancer Society, a world-famous organization that has helped cancer victims since 1952. The official slogan of the organization is, "The official sponsor of birthdays."

Hundreds of such walks occur each year, and every walk ranges from three to five miles long. Both children and adults are able to participate. This year, at Jones Beach, nearly two million dollars were raised by 11,854 participants. Across the United States, one million participants were able to raise more than 68 million dollars. Since 1993, MSABC has accumulated over 528 million dollars, used specifically for helping people to take steps to reduce breast cancer risk, investing in research, providing mammogram access, and offering victims free information and services such as transportation, shelter, support, financial aid, and wigs. Participants are able to give money at the walk, donate online, or mail contributions to local American Cancer Society offices. All donations are greatly appreciated. Each Kellenberg cheerleader gave at least the minimum donation to walk the five miles. Filled with inspiration from those around them, they gladly walked as the event progressed.

"It is a very rewarding experience," said Miss Vigario, Varsity cheerleading coach. "Taking all high school levels of the program lets all of the girls get a chance to see how big of an impact breast cancer makes on so many lives. They walk among survi-

vors, people battling cancer, and people remembering those they've lost."

Despite the deep sadness felt by both victims and those close to them, the walk is anything but somber.



The cheerleaders perform one of their various stunts in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Miss Vigario also commented on the motivating atmosphere. "The walk is uplifting with signs and expressions of hope surrounding all that attend. People are cheering for each other and encouraging each other as they go."

Those affected by breast cancer have managed to remain strong, even when faced with such difficulties and loss. They support each other in the fight against the often deadly disease. Although there are many survivors, some are not so fortunate. The memory of the deceased motivates walkers even more, giving them the drive to continue and donate as much as they can so that others will not have to battle the hardships of cancer that both women, men, and even some children are dealing with today.

"It's a positive experience for the girls," explained Varsity Cheerleading Coach Hellemeier. "They're raising money for something prominent in Long Island. And the survivors being there – it hits home walking next to people who

have dealt with breast cancer. We've been participating in this walk for over fifteen years. Some years, the weather has been good, and some years it hasn't. We go through rain or shine."

Society's only fundraiser. Many people know about the Relay for Life, which has the support of over four million people in twenty countries. This event, founded in Washington in the 1980s by Dr. Gordy Klatt, raises money for victims of all kinds of cancer. It is a 24-hour event, beginning with the Survivor Lap in which survivors are invited to walk around the track together, moving onto the Luminaria Ceremony wherein candles are lit in sand-filled bags decorated with names and sentiments for people lost to cancer, and ending with the Fight Back Ceremony where participants vow to make personal commitments in the fight against cancer. The American Cancer Society holds golf tournaments, national meetings, galas, and more, all in an effort to end cancer once and for all. These are annual events that anyone can – and is encouraged to – participate in. Event schedules are easily found on the American Cancer Society website, and they occur at different times throughout the year, making it easy for people to clear their schedules for a day and walk for an amazing cause.

Although it was early and cold, the cheerleaders were eager to enter Jones Beach's MSABC. They pursued through the conditions because they knew they could help, and they wanted to do all they could.

"It was a fun day," said JV cheerleader Victoria Jordan. "I could support the breast cancer cause with my teammates."

Not only do these girls train and compete as a team, but they actively help their community together. Although they are only one group, they are making a difference in the lives of many. Perhaps this was the motivation for them to continue on. It may have been their driving force as they looked around at survivors and family members. Whatever the reason they walked, they made an impact on the lives of many others, and felt rewarded in doing so. They were not paid any compensation, nor were they offered praise and recognition. The Kellenberg Freshman, Junior Varsity, and Varsity cheerleaders walked in Making Strides Against Breast cancer because they wanted to, knowing very well that one day, events such as these would lead us towards a cure and a brighter future ahead.

Although fifteen years is a long time, Kellenberg cheerleaders are new to MSABC in comparison to those who have been there since the beginning. The fundraiser was started by cancer survivor Margery 'Margie' Gould Rath in 1984. Calling it a "move-along-a-thon," she organized it with volunteers and other survivors in Boston. This first walkathon attracted 200 walkers and later became an annual tradition. The event was given its name in 1993, when it was finally referred to as the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. That year, it was held in both Boston and New Hampshire, gaining 4,000 participants. Of course, today, the number of walkers has gone into the millions. Margie Gould Rath's charity event became known all over the country, even before her unfortunate death in 2001. Although she was unable to beat cancer, her walkathon is still helping countless people win their own battles.

MSABC is not the American Cancer