



Volume 2, Issue 2

**ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL** 

**April 2018** 



#### Walkout - Students Take a Stand

On March 14, 2018 many students, teachers and parents nationwide took part in a Walk Out. At 10:00 a.m., every student and teacher walked out towards the field and walked the track for a mile. That day marked the 1 month anniversary of the mass shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School. 15 students and 2 adults were killed, and many were injured and everyone was left traumatized.

Even here in Yonkers, a thousand miles away, people were deeply affected by this incident. One woman stopped her car and walked towards our gate in tears thanking us for what we were doing.

A total of 17 people are gone because of this incident. Now it's up to us to speak up for those who no longer have a voice. It's our turn to express how we feel and try our best to put a stop to this together.

by Natasha Mairena

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# MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

Washington D.C.-

Demonstrators flooded streets across the country in public protests on Saturday, March 24th, calling for action against gun violence. Nearly a half million people attended the march in Washington.

Many survivors of mass shootings, including the recent one in Florida, attended the march and shared their thoughts and feelings. At one point, a birthday song was sung in remembrance of one victim who would've turned 18 on the day of the march. Each speaker stepped up with more emotion than the last, with passion and desire that really hit home

With each speaker, the crowd yelled, "Never again!!" to show their unity on the topic of mass shootings and gun violence. This unity was displayed by many in holding hands, wearing the color orange (the official color of a gun control advocacy group and anti-bullying), and chanting.

For many students, the idea of losing the ones you care about in a mass shooting is seen as unrealistic. The victims of the Florida shooting thought, "This isn't going to happen to me." but unfortunately, it did happen to them. As young adults we need to learn from these events and attempt to change them in our upcoming elections by voting for politicians who will keep our streets and schools as safe as possible.

by Leonard Prenga

#### Junior Announcements from Guidance

- Sign up for the Saturday, June 2, SAT by May 3rd. Registration is not complete until a photo is uploaded.
- Resumes are due to Ms. Heron by the April
- Begin to visit colleges and select at least 5 colleges to apply to by the end of junior year.
- Continue to work on College essay.
- Continue to accumulate community service
- Attend regents review classes to prepare for June regents.



Black Panther may be the biggest movie of 2018. The infamous Marvel film premiered in theaters on February 16th, 2018. Black Panther tells the story of T'Challa as he returns home to the African nation of Wakanda to take his rightful place as king. Upon his return. T'Challa is drawn into a conflict that puts the fate of Wakanda and the entire world at risk. Faced with treachery and danger, the young king must rally his allies and release the full power of Black Panther to defeat his rivals and secure the safety of his people. If you have yet to watch the movie, you must go, for the Kingdom of Wakanda calls your name! Everyone has their own opinion about the movie, but here are some facts:

- Black Panther made a whopping \$500 million worldwide in its first week in theaters. Box-office reports indicate that Black Panther will have the biggest debut in Marvel history.
- The movie was filmed in Atlanta, Georgia, and Busan. South Korea. The aerial shots of Wakanda are from South Africa, Zambia, Uganda, and even Argentina.
- Wakanda's advanced technology was inspired by actual technology conferences that the director, Ryan Coogler and others had attended.

by Pamela Kuffour



## **Black History Month Performance**

What does Freedom mean to you?

How about the word Culture?

When you hear these words, a billion different things may come to mind, but in the 28 days of February, those words have a huge impact on African Americans.

Black History month is a time when we celebrate African Americans' accomplishments before and after slavery ended. President Lincoln's Emancipation in 1863 ended slavery, but it did not end the struggles of blacks. Over the last 200 years, blacks have suffered with Jim Crow laws, segregation, and civil rights issues. Racism did not end with segregation, but we powered through. We celebrate icons such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, and more who took a stand for black rights.

Roosevelt High School participated in a Black History Performance where there were many acts of black culture and pride. Students from the sophomore class performed poetry they wrote in their english classes. A senior, Sherman Bray, performed a rap about the struggles of being Black. Kiara Phillips and Mr. Hassle performed Lift Every Voice and Sing. Ms.Kaira, Teresa (Senior), and Rain (Freshman) played a crowd engaging song on the drums. Lastly, our very own Gateway African Dance Team performed two wonderful dances that kept the crowd energized.

To say the least, this year's Black History Month performances went above and beyond the expectations of the students. Hopefully, Roosevelt will continue this tradition of celebrating black achievements.

by Kiara Phillips

#### **Virtual Enterprise**

Entrepreneurship is a manifestation of the American dream. Many people look up to multi-billionaires like Mark Zuckerberg and Richard Branson who have built empires from scratch, but most of us don't fully realize the amount of effort that goes into it.

Virtual Enterprise is a high school program that goes more in depth into the process, making it as realistic as possible by simulating all the functions of a real business. It has a CEO and different departments like accounting, marketing, and human resources. Each VE firm pushes students to reach their full potential as business professionals by bringing the workplace into the classroom.

This program has been so successful that it is now in about 500 high schools nationwide. The first VE Summit was held this February at Yonkers High School. It brought together competing high schools from the District to present their business plans to a panel of judges. In the end, Yonkers High School won first place with their business concept, Blutivity, that aspires to update and enhance the modern consumer's Bluetooth experience. Yonkers Montessori was awarded second place with their anonymous gift giving service, More Than Words. Roosevelt High School took third place with their media and communications company, The Vision, where they provide marketing productions for other VE firms. This first summit was a great opportunity for our students to experience real-world business challenges. Roosevelt students are already gearing up for next year's summit, where we hope to win first place. by Kiara Disla



## A Shark In The Spotlight

Lyrell Walker, a senior here at Roosevelt High School, was recently featured in the publication, *Yonkers Rising*, for her success on both the basketball court and in the classroom. She is deserving of this recognition, being that she has excelled in both areas, maintaining a constant place on the honor roll, and scoring over 1300 points in her basketball career. She should also be acknowledged for her commitment and dedication to her community. She spends many hours volunteering her time helping students of all ages within Roosevelt and all over the city of Yonkers. She is well aware that she is not only a key player in the future of this city, but can have a lasting impact on generations of Yonkers' youth.



Pictured left, Lyrell works with students from School 31 on their sock puppets. The students reenacted scenes from the American classic Old Yeller.

by Mr. Meade

#### **Math Department**

Saturday school sessions start soon! Don't miss out on the chance to raise your grade. Each subject will have additional academic support. Check with your math teacher for days and times.

Our own Ms. George put together another wonderful career day for March 23rd. For next year, please let her know if you have a friend or family member that would take the time to share their work life experience with our students. Pay it forward!

Attention graduating seniors – make sure you have all of your math credits. Kudos to those striving for an Advanced Regents Diploma. Make sure you passed the Algebra, Geometry and Algebra II Regents. *by Ms. Mercadante* 

## Physical Education Department

This month we tried implementing cooperative activities that related to black history month. In the pictures below, the class is shown after completing a relay race in which they had to sprint and grab a piece of a puzzle. The final puzzle was the Martin Luther King Jr "I have a dream" speech. The objective was that all students of different races, gender and beliefs all worked together to solve the task.

by Mr. Calabro



#### **History Department**

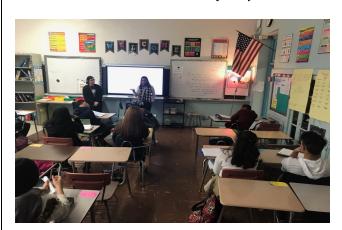
On February 14th, Eco/Gov classes went to a JA Finance Park trip. On the trip, students learned skills related to managing their finances. Many students who attended the trip said they appreciated learning about budgeting, saving, and staying out of debt. Kai Thomas, a student who attended the trip, wrote that the most important thing he learned on the trip was to prioritize his needs over his wants. As students who will be attending college soon, they all feel that the trip will impact their future financial decisions.

By: Ashley Almonte



## **International Academy**

An Immigration Lawyer and graduate of Roosevelt High School, Elsie Vasquez, class of '95, came in to speak to Ms. Piccinnini's class. Ms. Vasquez engaged the students in a discussion revolving around culture and law. She focused on the importance of action when desiring to influence positive change. She also shared her journey from Roosevelt student to successful lawyer. *by Mr. Ricart* 



## **Science Department: Student Reflections**

Cartyn Navarro:

In Ms. Presto's Environmental Studies Class, we're currently learning about GMOs, how they are made, explaining how they work and how they impact our bodies and our lives. Genetic engineering is the process of manually adding new DNA to an organism. After learning about GMOs, I've been more aware of what I eat and drink and how GMOs affect me everyday.

We've researched topics like what it would be like to work on a farm, how GMOs are made and why some people feel they are necessary and others do not. We've also debated the ethical and moral arguments surrounding GMOs. I find it to be very interesting and realize that GMOs are found just about everywhere and I never even knew it

Domonique Thompson & Denise Castillo: In Ms. Presto's Chemical Studies Class, we're currently learning about atoms, elements, the periodic table and how they connect to our lives. We see chemistry in our everyday lives, like when rock salt melts the ice and snow on the roads. We have also researched famous chemists that have had an impact on our lives because of their influence on chemistry.. Did you know that when you go to the dentist and get X-rays, they put on a lead covering that protects your body from the radiation which can cause cancer and other deadly diseases? Marie Curie first discovered radium and polonium and coined the word "radioactivity".

We have been assigned projects that include research, presentations, creating posters, powerpoints, prezis, and short PSAs. I feel that presenting our work has helped me to learn and practice some of the skills that I need when we apply for college and jobs. We get to critique each other's work and give corrective criticisms that help improve our understanding of how to be successful. "Never trust an atom, they make up everything."

#### **Language Department**

Carnevale di Venezia, Italia Y Carnaval de países hispanohablantes - The students of Ms. Adorno's Italian classes and Dr. D'Ugo's Spanish classes learned about Carnevale di Venezia (Carnival of Venice) and Carnaval de países hispanohablantes (Carnival of Spanish-speaking countries) respectively, took place on February 13. Students learned about the culture, traditions, customs and history of the festival through the use of authentic resources. Students created their own Carnival masks and floats along with their own thinking maps that analyzed the traditions, history and costumes of the festival. Students in Dr. D'Ugo's College Link course also facilitated formal PowerPoint presentations with videos on Carnival in Spain, the Dominican Republic, Colombia, and El Salvador. By Ms. Adorno and Dr. D'Ugo



#### **Mardi Gras Dance**

On Friday March 16, 2018, in the lower gym, Roosevelt held its second annual Mardi Gras dance. There were a lot of wacky decorations that consisted of the colors black, green, purple, and gold. The lower gym was decorated to look like the traditional set up for a Mardi gras festival. Food was also being sold at the dance; frankly I heard no complaints about any of the dishes being served. The homemade empanadas, pastelitos, and baked ziti were so delicious the kids keep purchasing, but what was mainly targeted were the brownies and cupcakes. Yes there was a lot of great food but the teens were focused on dancing, although there were complaints about there not being a lot of diversity or rhythm in the music, the teens keep dancing and having a good time. There weren't as many difficulties and we reached our goal in the fundraiser, so overall I believe this year's dance was a success. by Kriscia Vasquez

## Black Panther Movie:

Word Search

E K A R

#### Words

MARVEL KLAW KING
AFRICA BLACKPANTHER POWER
WAKANDA TCHALLA VIBRANIUM

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## **Health - Whole Foods Trip**

On February 9th, approximately 20 Roosevelt High School students took a trip to whole foods in Ridge Hill to experience all they have to offer.

Students received a tour of the facility and learned the many benefits of eating healthy. Whole Foods offered a variety of fruits, cheeses and smoothies for the students to sample and explore. Also, it happened to be national pizza day, so students received free pizza and some complimentary healthy choices.

by Mrs. Famularo

## Mama D - Student Advice Column

1) With the recent school shootings in Florida and Maryland, along with Roosevelt's own shooting threat, How can schools ensure my safety?

Schools can ensure safety by making sure that they go over emergency protocol with students as well as doing safety searches in the morning before students go to class. Roosevelt consists of a strong staff that stresses safety, so there should be no need to worry.

2) Do you think the video game Fortnite is detrimental for relationships?

A video game should never dictate a relationship. Time management is key when trying to balance your hobbies and relationship. You can have your video game time for maybe a hour and then take time to take your significant other on a date or to the movies.

Congratulations to our Baby Sharks/New Additions to the Roosevelt/ECS Family:

Mrs. Seale, Mrs. Asencio, Mrs. Presto, Mr. Cerasuolo, & soon to be: Mr. & Mrs. Lopez

