

The Scoop



March 2014

Volume 1, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- Try out the Clover Cookie Recipe on page 10—just in time for St. Patrick's Day!
- For fun, try the March crossword puzzle on page 9 or the word-search on page 11 with friends
- Don't forget to wear all the green you can on March 17th for our school spirit day and in support of St. Baldrick's!

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St. Baldrick's Returns to NHMS

By Francesco Spirli

Soon, it will be time for North Haven Middle School's annual St. Baldrick's Event. This is an incredible tradition from North Haven Middle School in which all of North Haven works together to raise money against cancer. The St. Baldrick's foundation itself has been raising money for its cause since 2000. This year it has already raised more than two million dollars that will benefit childhood cancer research throughout 2014. North Haven Middle School

plans to contribute to this total by fundraising throughout February and into early March with the rest of the North Haven community. The fundraiser was an incredible success last year with North Haven Middle School contributing \$11,705 to North Haven's grand total of about \$50,000. Every year this event has attracted more and more participants and not just from North Haven. St. Baldrick's has had 385,351 participants since 2000 and in 2013 North Haven had 332 participants which has

been our town's highest total so far. Joining this year's event is extremely simple and it will certainly be a great experience. To register for the event you can log on to <http://www.stbaldricks.org/be-a-shavee> and get your fundraising started. If we all work together then I can promise you that North Haven Middle School will certainly earn the Top Team fundraising spot for North Haven.

News from World Language Classes

The COLT Poetry Contest will take place this year at Central CT State University on March 17. This is a competition held each year in Connecticut with students from all over the

state reciting poetry in many different world languages other than English. Along with students from North Haven High School, this year six young men and women from North Ha-

ven Middle School will compete and represent out school. We wish them Buona Fortuna, Buena Suerte, and Bonne Chance and hope they take home the gold!

NHMS GIRLS BASKETBALL 2013-2014

The North Haven Middle School Girl's Basketball team concluded their season with a 6 and 4 record. We want to wish the following eighth graders luck next year in their academic and athletic careers as they move onto the high school: Kylie Brandt, Kaya Candido, Claire Fresher, and Kate Tullo. The girl's team ended their season with wins against Walsh Intermedi-

ate of Branford and Betsy Ross of New Haven. The girls were managed by Ana DeLucia, Mia Antonino and Giuliana Ciarleglio. Their coach, Ms. Crismale, is very proud of the success that they worked towards this season and looks forward to next year!

North Haven Middle School

Gr. 8	Brandt, Kylie
Gr. 8	Tullo, Kate
Gr. 8	Fresher, Claire
Gr. 8	Candido, Kaya
Gr. 7	Brown, Carly
Gr. 7	Aiello, Madison
Gr. 7	Fresher, Kelly
Gr. 7	Petrafesa, Emily
Gr. 7	Owens, Catherine
Gr. 7	Owens, Erin
Gr. 7	Uyeki, Anna
Gr. 7	Samantha Burke
Gr. 7	Zeisner, Leah
Gr. 6	Burns, Zoi
Gr. 6	Petrafesa, Laura



The World Says Good-Bye to the “Father of Africa”

By Francesco Sprili

Nelson Mandela, one of South Africa’s most famous leaders passed away in his home on December 5th at age ninety-five. Ninety representatives of foreign states travelled to South Africa to attend memorial events and to celebrate his life. Mandela first started as an anti-apartheid revolutionary of the ANC organization in South Africa. He spoke out against apartheid (segregation specifically in political systems) with non-violent protest until 1962 when he was arrested of conspiracy to overthrow the state and sentenced to life in Robben Island Prison. There he was kept for eighteen years in an eight-foot-by-seven-foot cell. He endured daily labor and was only allowed to send one letter and receive one letter every 6 months. He was then moved to Pollsmoor Prison and Victor Verster Prison where he spent nine more years of his life in what anyone would see

as unbearable conditions. During the years of Mandela’s imprisonment there had been multiple international campaigns that wanted him to be released. At that point in time almost no one in South Africa wanted apartheid and thanks to thousands of people who knew that Mandela had always tried to stop apartheid he was released in 1990 into South Africa’s greatest era of escalating civil strife. Upon his release Mandela joined negotiations with President F. W. de Klerk to begin the abolishment of apartheid and set up multiracial elections in 1994 in which he led the ANC party to victory becoming the first colored president of South Africa. When Mandela was first elected the supporters of apartheid believed that he would use his power as president to punish them for the time that he spent in prison but Mandela had very different plans. He knew that in order to get South Africa back on its feet he would need to for-

give his enemies and embrace them. During his presidency that lasted from 1994 to 1999 he was finally able to end apartheid in South Africa by promoting and creating a new constitution. He was also known for creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission whose purpose was investigate past human rights abuses. Even after his presidency Mandela did not stop helping South Africa and the world. He became an elder statesman, which focused on charitable work in combating poverty and HIV/AIDS through the Nelson Mandela Foundation. In his incredible life Mandela won over 250 honors, the most important ones being the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize and the US Presidential Medal of Freedom. Even though Mandela is no longer with the world we must all continue to carry his undying message of world peace and of forgiveness.



*Brainstorm with
friends how you
can carry on
Mandela’s message
of world peace and
forgiveness.*

The Scoop

NHMS Celebrates Read Across America

The idea for Read Across America was born on March 2nd, 1998. It was developed by the National Education Association to create awareness and promote motivation to read. All across the country, schools, libraries, bookstores and more celebrate this day. Here at North Haven Middle School, students, teachers, parents, and community members all take part in this special day. This year Read Across America was celebrated on

February 28th and included many guest speakers such as First Selectman Mike Freda, the town's assistant Fire Chief, police officers and members of the Board of Education. Special thanks to Mrs. Schwartz and Mrs. Monteith for organizing this successful event!



Congratulations to the following students who performed in the Southern Region Music Festival Concert this past weekend in Waterbury. They were among over 450 students from 47 middle schools in Southern Connecticut. They did a great job and represented North Haven Middle School proudly.

In the 6th Grade:

Gillian Regan

Matt Wabunoha

Tim Yan

In the 7th Grade:

Mark Caiafa

Jack Opramolla

In the 8th Grade:

Ben Baumgartner

Charlotte Cecarelli

Ryan Griffiths

Riley Powell

Sam Preschell

Rajani Subramanian



NHMS January Student of the Month

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Standing left to right: Luke Doraz, Matthew Wabunoha, Sierrah Rich, Brandan Ziaks, Sean Quinn, Matthew Soloman, and Kevin Hlavaty
Seated left to right: Harrison Callahan, Agnes Keefe, Mark Caiafa, Jonathan Opramolla, Olivia Manning and Annie Uyeki

*Thanks to all
the world
language
teachers for
brightening our
halls!*

NHMS Celebrates World Language Week

World Language Week is from March 3-7. The theme for National World Language Week is : “Don’t let learning a Language slip through your fingers” Each day students will say announcements in different languages and music will be played in the language the announcements are made in. Also, the cafeteria will be serving ethnic

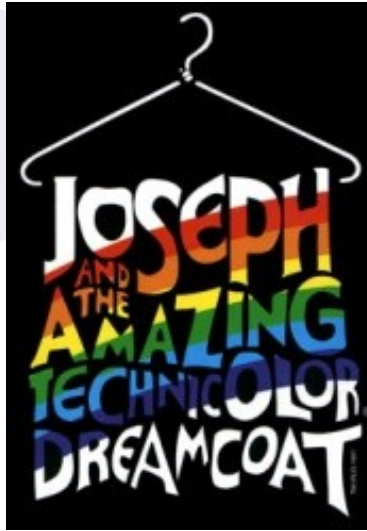
cuisine throughout the week. Students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade are creating posters in school for a school wide competition based on the theme. Prizes will be given for first, second, and third place.



Balloons fill D hall in celebration of World Language Week. Students drew country flags to represent their background.

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT CAST LIST

Narrators	Ariana Capriglione, Alexa Mantovani, Madeline Valdez
Joseph	Spenser Long
Jacob**	Jenna Grasso
Reuben <i>One More Angel in Heaven</i>	Jackson Tubis
Simeon <i>Those Canaan Days</i>	Samantha Dorsi
Levi	Jacqui Weaver
Naphtali	Katie Fitzgerald
Issachar	Michaela Felipe
Asher	Ashleigh Zapanta
Dan	Jessica Thomas
Zebulon	Alexis Porto
Gad	Lucas Esponda
Benjamin	Nick Cristante
Judah <i>Benjamin Calypso</i>	Kemi Balogun
Wives/Dancers	Grace D'Amico, Abigail Haggerty, Sam Ajello, Katie Rogers, Dale De-Crescenzo, Megan Harkins, Kylie Desorbo, Jordan Wentworth, Tessa Serfillippi, Sophia Aquaro
Mr. and Mrs. Potiphar**	Zach Munzner and Julia Wentworth
Adoring Girls (Stone the Crows)**	Sydney DeMartino, Sarah Bouffard, Jamie Fredericks
Butler**	Matt Cordova
Baker**	Tyler Karasinski
Pharaoh**	Dhillon Roy
Rainbow Choir	Arianna DiPaola, Sarah Hudson, Luke Barrett, Kayleigh Meehan, Anna Wootton, Elizabeth DeVaux, Sarah Wittig, Michaela Salzo, Sophia Raposo, Diego Esponda, Gillian Benowitz, Abby Kirtland
Townpeople Choir	Colleen Doyle, Isabella Johnson, Julie Mappa, Alison Genovese, Delaney Curr, Lauren Andrews, Samantha Helwig, Michael Brodie, Sarah Joven, Rajani Subramanian, Tinisha Narain, Janhavi Narain, Madison Sinoway, Laratee Van Nieuwenhuyze, Skyla Ross, Sydney Santoemma, Luke Maruca, Colleen Lucey, Aletha Torres, Emily Carchic, Jenna Mahmoud, Victoria Porto



Catch one of their three performances this month:

Thursday March 27 –

6:30 PM

Friday March 28 –

7:00 PM

Saturday March 29 –

7:00 PM

Tickets are now on sale during lunch waves.

Tickets are \$12 each

** Asterisks on page 8 cast list denote students who are also in Townspeople Choir

Don't Raise the Roof...Just Fix It!

An Opinion Piece

By James Brennan

On February 26, 2014, I got my breakfast and started on my way to my locker, but today I saw a tarp above it. When I looked at the tarp, I noticed it was only held up by duct tape. Then I realized that the only thing keeping water off of me was a thin sheet of plastic and a few pieces of tape. I thought at any moment the tarp might give way; I, my smoothie, and egg and cheese sandwich would be covered with dirty green rain water. What a nasty thought! I find it kind of funny that every hall but “A” hall has a tarp to catch the rain water and guide it into a bucket.

One day, I saw a teacher with a yard stick pushing the tarp up; so that nasty water will flow into the bucket. This does not stop us from questions that keep running through our heads. Do we really feel safe in school? What if the tarp gives way, will me and my classmates get wet? Can anyone get injured from rigging these tarps to guide the water? May be even sick? Is this causing mold for in our school? How much will the tax payers have to pay for the repairs to the roof, let a long for the renovations to our school? We have been promised that the roof will be fixed.

My Heart is Breaking! by James Brennan

Have you ever had your heart break in a million pieces and not know what to do about it? Well that is how I am feeling right now. My aunt Rosie is dying of cancer and on February 28, 2014 she was admitted to hospice. My way of dealing with being upset is to write about it and share my story with the North Haven Middle School. I hope that this story will help and educate people not to smoke and smoking is deadly in many ways!

Let me explain what my aunt has been going through. My aunt Rosie was a smoker for many years, she smoked Winston cigarettes. Her diagnosis was throat cancer about 2 years ago. Instead of having a Laryngectomy, she decided to try chemotherapy and radiation. Unfortunately, the chemo and radiation did not work. It only shrank the tumor a little. A few months ago, my aunt had trouble breathing and was rushed to the hospital. They discovered that the tumor was blocking her airway and she needed to have a Tracheotomy. The surgery consists of putting a hole in her windpipe in order for her to breathe. That scared her enough to finally have the Laryngectomy surgery in October. They removed her voice box; during her surgery they realized that the radiation had damaged her esophagus. At that time they were unable to go in and correct the problem. They needed the help from a plastic surgeon so she was transferred to Smilow. They finally obtained a

plastic surgeon and back to surgery she went. They took a muscle from her chest to repair the hole in her esophagus. Then they removed skin from her thigh to be used on her neck. At this point in time, I was still not allowed to visit her, my mom said. So, I waited patiently and asked about her.

Once she was transferred to Gaylord Hospital, I was allowed to visit her on weekends. It was sad because she had to spend her birthday in the hospital. We were lucky enough to have a birthday party there for her. Then once again, she was transferred to Montowese Rehabilitation Center. I would visit her every day after school and on weekends. One time, I even went there to play bingo with her, my cousin Nicky, my brothers, and my mom. My aunt was so happy we were there. My aunt spent Thanksgiving there, and I made a Turkey for my family in a cast iron dutch oven. With the leftovers, my grandma made Turkey soup. That was the only way my aunt was able to taste my turkey, is by drinking the turkey broth. She loved it! As Christmas came closer, we found out that my aunt was going to be there for Christmas. I took some money I earned and asked my mom to take me to the store. I bought her a fake small Christmas tree and I decorated it. The next day, I couldn't wait to bring it up to her, to decorate her room. I made my aunt smile! A few days before Christmas, I went to see her dressed up as an elf. I couldn't

believe how big her smile was when she saw me!

During our Christmas vacation, she was finally allowed to go home. I was so excited for she was able to be home for New Years. At her last doctor's appointment, they advised her, she now has lung cancer. This really made me upset, about a week ago, my aunt fell and hit her head in her house. She was rushed to the emergency room by ambulance and admitted. They discovered that her cancer has spread through her blood into her bones, liver, and kidneys. They transported her to hospice last Friday. I went to visit her on Friday night and again on Sunday. My grandma said she is being put on a morphine pump and that I no longer can go visit her. This breaks my heart to know that I may never see her again! She can pass away at anytime. L

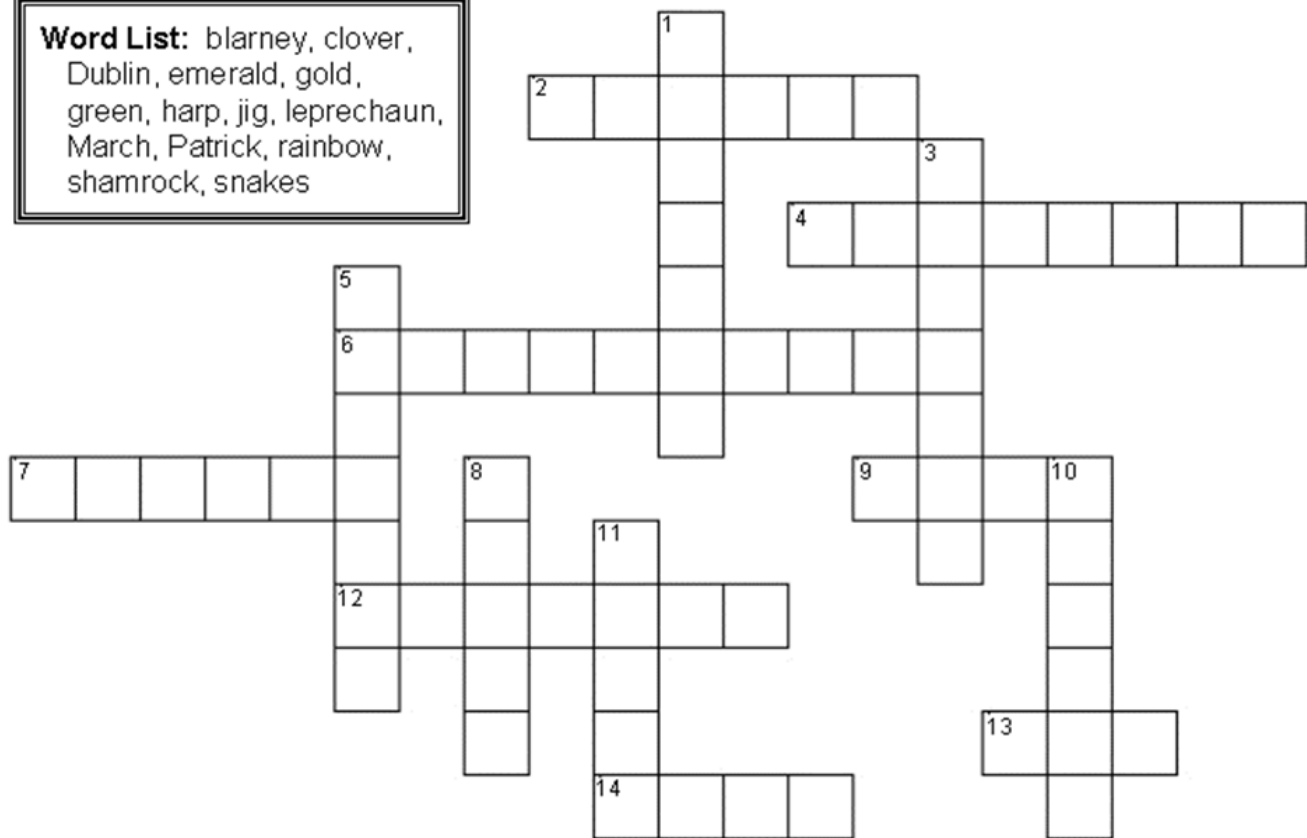
I hope that after reading this article, people think twice about smoking, and hopefully never have to go through with my aunt has gone through. I would like to also encourage everyone to donate money or participate in St. Baldrick's. It's about time they found a cure for cancer!

St. Anthony is my aunt's favorite saint and I now wear his medal in memory of her. Rosie passed away on March 8th, before the paper went to publication. This article is in memory of her. **I love you Auntie Rosie!**



St. Patrick's Day Crossword

Word List: blarney, clover, Dublin, emerald, gold, green, harp, jig, leprechaun, March, Patrick, rainbow, shamrock, snakes

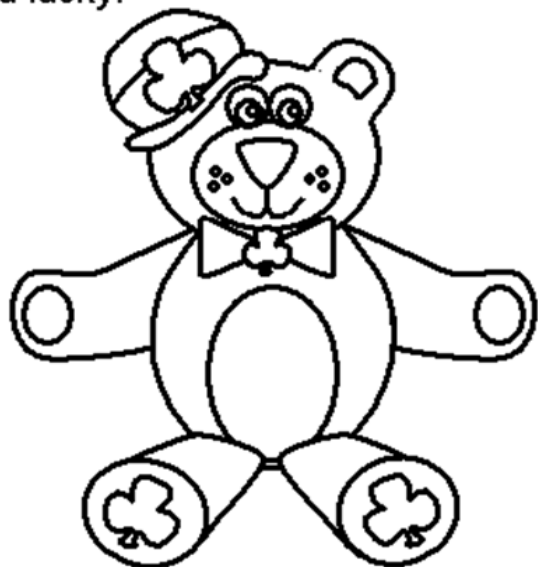


Across

2. Fable claims Saint Patrick drove these out of Ireland.
4. Three leafed clover and symbol of Ireland.
6. The Gaelic translation for this word is shoemaker.
7. Four leafed versions of these are considered lucky.
9. Contents of a leprechaun's pot.
12. A colour of green and also a gemstone.
13. Irish dance
14. Traditional Irish musical instrument.

Down

1. Patron saint of Ireland.
3. Colorful arch in the sky.
5. People kiss this stone for luck.
8. Saint Patrick's Day colour.
10. Capital city of Ireland.
11. Saint Patrick's Day month.



The Scoop

For St. Patrick's Day (March 17), or any day you feel like you need a little extra luck, bake up a batch of these cheerful green shamrock cookies. Give some to your friends and classmates, so they will be lucky, too.

* wording and recipe from spoonful.com

Recipe Section

Clover Cookies

What you'll need

- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup butter at room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tbsp. vanilla extract
- Green food coloring



How to make it

Measure the flour, baking soda and salt into a medium-sized bowl. Stir well and set aside.

In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar with an electric mixer for about 1 minute. Add the egg and vanilla extract and mix until well combined.

Gradually add the flour mixture to the butter and sugar, mixing well after each addition. The dough should be stiff.

Add several drops of green food coloring. Knead the dough until the color is evenly distributed. (Make sure children wash their hands immediately after kneading--food coloring can be messy.)

Gather the dough into two balls, flatten into disks beginning at the edge of the dough and working toward the center. Cover with plastic and chill for at least 2 hours or overnight.

After the dough has chilled, place one half on a large piece of plastic wrap, cover with another piece of plastic wrap and then roll until it is 1/4-inch thick. Lift off the top sheet of plastic wrap and cut out shamrocks, beginning at the edge of the dough and working toward the center.

Place each shamrock on an ungreased baking sheet. Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Bake for 8 minutes or until the edges begin to lightly brown. Remove to a rack to cool. For particularly festive shamrocks, decorate them with green candies or frosting.

Makes about 34.

Saint Patrick's Day Word Search

V G D H V C T Z K Q W P V A R
X Z L U S I F O S Y O C Q D Q
Y C E Q B P A N O T B N B R Z
L E P E H L A H O Q N J V A K
N L R U K K I F S E I X C C O
A T E J E C G N E I A M I L I
N I C S X O I R P Y R R T U D
F C H M L N G R V R T I N A S
A A A D J S I H E A H E I N N
N T U X Z M D F P M W P A V L
N D N E G E L W N B I U S U P
N T J W W K L Q U C H L Y U P
J B Q A P F Z O K U N Q O J X
I W I N B I R E L A N D G S Y
J D C K C O R M A H S Y B Z X



CELTIC	DUBLIN	GREEN
IRELAND	IRISH	LEGEND
LEPRECHAUN	LIMERICK	PATRICK
POTOFGOLD	RAINBOW	SAINT
SHAMROCK	SNAKES	



The Scoop
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WE'RE ON THE WEB:

HTTP://
NORTHAVENMIDDLES.CT.
NHM.SCHOOLINSITES.COM



Pictures from the Southern Regional Music Festival