

# 83's Barking Barking News



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## Select Students Visit New-York Historical Society To Learn About Cultural Immigration

by Dawoud Chaudhary 6-308

PS 83 is taking part in the Cultural Immigration Initiative with the partnership of the Center for Educational Innovation's Project BOOST. This program is located at the New-York Historical Society. The initiative is giving students the opportunity to learn about civics, immigration, and citizenship throughout American History as well as the use of digital tools to create their presentations. There will be a final exit project at the end using both of these resources.

Ms. Linda Collins, an ELA Staff Developer and Ms. Susan Barrett, a seventh-grade teacher, are taking select sixth and seventh grade to the museum located at 170 Central Park Ave, in New York City for eight visits. The students will be traveling from a bus at PS 83 to the New-York Historical Society, the oldest museum in New York City. Students will gather in the lobby at around 1:20 PM and wait for the bus. The duration of each trip is roughly 1:20 to 5:30 however the actual session will be about one hour and forty minutes long starting at around three o'clock.

The first date was January 2 with the session of studying objects, works of art, documents, and the use of 3D modeling. The second session is January 9 with the session of the American Story and building an adventure story on a software called "Twine". The third session is on January 16 when the students will be observing paintings of early America as well as designing a website. The fourth session will take place on February 6 and is about slavery in New York and learning about audio production. The fifth session is on February 13 and is about studying immigration from 1609 through the twentieth century, as well as development on the final project. The sixth session which is about women artists and activists and more development on the project will be on February 27. The seventh session is on March 4 and is about the many ways citizen activists affected change throughout American history. The eighth and final session is on March 11 and is a day to showcase the projects on the historical knowledge the students obtained and their digital literacy about using the tools stated above.

Twenty-eight students have begun the program. Nineteen students are coming from the sixth grade from Classes 6-410 and 6-308. The seventh grade has nine students from Classes 7-409, 7-415, and 7-417.

The participants are excited for what is to come with this new program. They hope this will be a step forward into more special opportunities!



## Throw Your Fears Away And Be "Fearlessly Girl"

by Yusra Alamari 8-508

According to the website <https://heartofleadership.org/statistics/>, "74% Of Girls Under Pressure To Please Everyone 92% Want To Change The Way They Look!." Looking at these statistics, PS 83 thought of teaching young girls in the fourth grade how to be confident in themselves. Teaching girls at a young age to have self-esteem will help them in the future in many ways. For example, they'll care less about other people's opinions and wouldn't have to please everyone. Studies reveal that girls take hours every morning trying to find something to wear. Many girls are overly concerned about what others think of them. Girls need to open their eyes to the world and realize that they are strong, beautiful, and enough. PS 83 invited Ms. Kate Whitfield, the creator of a program called **FearlesslyGirl** which is found in 2011, to help girls realize they don't have to act differently because they want to fit in, instead being themselves is what makes them beautiful and special. Currently the organization comprises over 200 chapters running in twenty-seven states, seven provinces, and seven countries around the world. It is an internationally recognized organization that through innovative school assembly programs, classroom curriculum, and on-campus clubs inspire confidence and empower young women to be kinder to themselves and each other.

(cont'd. on pg. 3, col. 1)



## PS 83 Student Council Developing Leadership And Providing Service

by Maysoon Reda 7-409

Student Council is a place for all students to participate in activities to help them develop leadership and organize service projects in and outside of school. Here at PS 83, students are given opportunities to contribute to decisions that may affect their lives in school. Ideas in Student Council are brought up by students and teachers, voted on and confirmed by the Student Body President, Ms. Ashley Falcon, and our principal, Mr. Brandon Muccino. Ms. Stacey Bondi, the Student Council faculty advisor, meets with Student Council members once a week for one hour from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. They get together and think about things to talk to Mr. Muccino about.

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## Our Staff

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## Venice, A City of Beauty Threatened By Extreme Flooding

by Aaron Dreshaj 8-509



Venice, Italy, one of the most beautiful tourist attractions in the world is being flooded. “Acqua Alta”, the term used in Italy, is used to describe exceptional tide peaks that occur periodically in the Adriatic Sea. Recently, Venice has begun to experience very high flooding. Tides have reached up to 4.5 feet. The people of Venice have engaged in protests against Mr. Luigi Brugnaro, the mayor of Venice. They believe that he is not doing enough to stop the increase of global warming.

Several factors have been considered as the cause of this flooding. As said before, the townspeople and even the mayor believe that global warming is causing this. The townspeople want to set an initiative to stop pollution. Other factors are steady digging of the canals for bigger ships. This is allowing more water in the city. Venice will not be able to handle the influx of water if the canals are being dug more.

The mayor has asked for the help of the Italian government. The government has sent many resources but it is still not enough. Even some United States soldiers have come to Venice to help the townspeople evacuate. Since 2003, Italy has been building a plan called MOSE. Plans were made after the 1966 flooding in Venice. But, people are still skeptical about whether this plan could work. They think that the plan is obsolete and will not work to stop this flooding.

Currently, Venice is still in a period of “acqua alta”. The St. Mark’s Basilica has been completely flooded. Millions of old artifacts are being submerged under the water. The townspeople are evacuating and the place is lifeless. Italian officials have warned tourists about the recent flooding in Venice.

In 2017, I went to Venice and it was one of the most beautiful places in the world. When you enter the city, you are basically on an island. To the left and right of you is water flowing. My parents and I went on a speed boat and it was awesome exploring Venice. The St. Mark’s Basilica was full of tourists and it was one of the most architecturally beautiful places I have seen. It is truly sad that Venice is being flooded. But, people have to have hope that it will be restored to its once glorious state.

## Mr. Muccino’s Corner

**Attending Specialized High School  
 SHSAT, School Work, Attendance**

by Ketevan Zhgenti 7-409



For this article, I interviewed Mr. Muccino to learn his views about specialized high schools and the Specialized High School Administrative Test (SHSAT). This is the exam that gets students into the best high schools in New York City. When graduating, colleges have eyes like hawks looking for those students who graduate from these specialized high schools. Of course, it depends on the college itself but it is well-known that these students have an advantage when applying to college because of the more rigorous education that these high schools provide.

Some people like Mayor Bill DeBlasio believe the SHSAT should be eliminated. They think that the test is discriminatory and want a standardized form that allows everyone to apply. In their opinion, the exam favors those students whose parents can pay for test prep.

PS 83 gives a great deal of access to students who want to take this test. It provides free help for those who want it. Here the number of students that have taken this test used to be thirty and increased to currently over sixty. The level of education here has increased immensely along with students’ confidence.

Of course, it is well known that the seventh grade is the most crucial because every score received in this grade goes to the schools that they apply for. Even the smallest quiz grades get sent. The kids that get accepted into these schools must be consistently on the top.

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## Student Council Leading and Serving (cont’d. from pg. 1, col. 2)

They do many things around the school that contribute to the service in their community. They are running PS 83’s food drive, as well as Bulldog Stores and are working on a candy cane project. The council members also go to meetings with Mr. Muccino and discuss new ideas and projects. Mrs. Bondi states that, “Student Council is a place for smart and talented fifth to eighth graders that try their best to do things that make a nice environment for students.” Student Council provides a chance for students to voice their opinions and make a change in ideas brought up for the school or add ideas to this that can help the school benefit and improve in many ways. The students share their ideas and take action to help our school and our community become a better place.

Student Council students have already been chosen but there is a chance next year for anyone who would like to join, represent his/her class, and make a difference. Everyone is more than welcome to join and participate in Student Council. As Leart Brahimaj from Class 7- 409 presently in the Student Council states, “It is fun to be part of a group that contributes and helps our environment in school and to be part of the decision making to do this.”

If you wish to express your opinion in response to anything you read in The Barking News, write an email to Ms. Collins (lcollins@ps83.org). Include your name and class and be respectful, thank you.

## Fearlessly Girl (cont'd. from pg. 1, col. 2)

Then, the school picked twelve girls in the eighth grade from Classes 8-509 and 8-508 to be group leaders and guide the fourth graders by sharing experiences and being open about the things that bothered them at the same age.

Ms. Whitfield started the meeting with a sixty-minute peer leader training, which demonstrated and went over what the eighth graders would do in groups with six to eight girls from the fourth grade. After meeting the fourth graders, the founder began with a short story of how the **FearlesslyGirl** began. She mentioned how it started in elementary school when she felt unworthy and useless as if everyone could climb a tree and move forward with improvements but she stayed in her spot not making any progress. It took her until high school to open her heart to her parents and classmates. When she found the key to open her heart she realized that she opened other girl's hearts during the lunch conversation. That's when the idea of FearlesslyGirl started. Most of the eighth graders related to her story and understood how she felt.

During the opening, Ms. Whitfield also mentioned the idea of a PERFECT GIRL that all the girls want to be but, in reality, this perfect girl doesn't exist. The program itself began with a full-group activity, which was standing in a large circle and as Kate read statements like "I feel pressure to be perfect", "I have been bullied", "I feel like I've been judged unfairly", "I feel pressure to act or dress a certain way in order to fit in" ... etc. teachers, eighth-graders and fourth-graders girls took a step forward if they related to the statement. Based on my observation many girls took a step boldly revealing that they related to the statement. Finally, Kate handed in the fourth-grade girls to the leaders and put them in small groups to start the other activities. Some of the activities included discussing questions, moments in life were they experienced things like (bullying or pressure to look different or try fit in) and sharing what they learned from their experiences... "Girl Talk!".

All girls in the group participated and talked even though some were shy or scared to speak, the leader's mission was to make the fourth-grade girls feel comfortable and relaxed and it seemed to work. One of the tips Kate shared with the leaders was to "be ready to jump in and answer the question if the girls get stuck when it's their turn to answer first".

The final activity involved using "Fearlessly Me Cards" Two cards were provided to all members in the groups and the leaders. One was pink which was supply to write to other girls something they wanted them to know. The other card was green on which the participants wrote something they fear. Last but not least Kate gathered all the girls together and told them to rip the green card into small pieces.

**Fearlessly Girl (cont'd. on pg. 3, col. 2)**

## Devastating Earthquake Shakes Survivors' Lives In Central Albania

by Jon Bucaj 6-308



Two days before Albanian Independence Day, there was a horrible earthquake in Durres and Tirana destroying more than 11,000 buildings. The earthquake had a 6.4 magnitude, and multiple destructive after-shocks. Many schools were closed. The quake could be felt the most by the people in neighboring countries such as Kosovo and Montenegro. The earthquake was colossal. It was even felt in Bulgaria, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovania, Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, and Italy. Military forces from Kosovo and fighter jets from Turkey came to help people in need.

As of late December, there were at least 2,000 injured and 4,000 homeless. The Prime Minister of Albania stated that 900 buildings in Durres, and 1,465 buildings in the capital, Tirana, were severely damaged. He has vowed that all homeless people will live in stronger homes by 2020. There were more than 2,000 rescuers going to help those in need. Families were in tents. Authorities were working on sending the homeless to spare hotel rooms.

Albania is a dangerous place now because of the aftershocks. It used to be a giant tourist destination, but now it looks like a war zone. This earthquake ruined the lives of most of the people in Durres. The Albanian earthquake was really horrible for the country, Albania being one of the poorest countries of Europe was not just hit physically on land but with the economy, they will need to clean up the ruins, then rebuild.

This was one of the worst disasters that has ever happened to Albania. This earthquake shook the lives of survivors. In early December, Ms. Ursula von der Leyen, the President of the European Commission donated fifteen million Euros to help Albanians in need. It is hoped that this is just the beginning of help that will be sent to help this devastating situation. Hopefully, the country will recover from this devastating natural phenomenon and come back stronger than ever.

## Fearlessly Girl (cont'd. from pg. 3, col. 1)

And in the end, when she counted to three, all the girls threw the small pieces of fear in the air, realizing that this fear that is holding them back is dead and in small pieces flying in the air and onto the floor.

The **FearlesslyGirl** event wrapped up with a picture of all the participants. As a leader, I felt mixed emotions after know what girls younger than me thought of themselves, and the pressure they go through at a young age. I hope this small program helps them because it helped me become more confident in myself and I used the last activity to face my fears if I can be confident so can you! Visit <https://www.fearlesslygirl.com/> to be part of this community of Fearlessly GIRLS.





## Taking Winter Weekends To The Next Level

by Siobhan Rice 7-409

Many people waste their winters cooped up inside playing on their computers or watching television. But that's no way to spend this great season. You could help out others. By donating clothes, giving gifts to others, and doing simple chores, you're helping out someone in need much more than you know. There's so much to do, too! Baking, attending events, or even holding them yourself are also some great ways to pass the time.

Amazing events are held throughout the city all year long, but the winter events are extra-special. No matter where you live, there's always something interesting to attend. Places like Sourced Adventures and NYC Snow Bus offer lessons for skiing, snowboarding, and other winter activities, as well as areas for advanced athletes. Indoor Ski USA provides a skiing opportunity without the added cold from being in the snowy mountains.

Now, what if you're not an athletic person? It could be that you like music. That's good, too! Many, many musical events take place in the city during winter. From January 9 to January 11, 2020, Midtown Manhattan is proud to hold the New York City Jazzfest. Even if you aren't into festivals of that kind, Broadway always has plenty of great musicals for every kind of person.

New York City is known as a melting pot city. With all of the cultures around us constantly, there's bound to be something new to try, particularly, at food-themed events. There are festivals, tastings, classes, shows, walks, and even food, history, and culture tours. Whatever culture you are, you'll find some family favorites, cultural specials, and, of course, new things to try.

Being in New York means a lot of crazy weather. And crazy weather means blizzards, snowstorms, hurricanes, and, occasionally, being snowed in. But hold on, don't worry, there's still things you can do even when you can't go anywhere. Sometimes, our families (especially if someone in our family is an aspiring chef) have extra food in our kitchens, pantries, cabinets, and fridges. All of this food can be used. Maybe try finding some recipes online. Supercook is a great website for this. Just by typing or clicking the ingredients you already have, it'll tell you recipes that you can make. Then it'll send you right to the recipe. And the best parts about it are that it's available on mobile devices as well as on computers, and it's completely free!

Maybe you're not a cooking or baking person. You could be crafty, artsy, creative, or someone who just enjoys arts and crafts. You can build, engineer, create, craft, experiment, or just explore. Crafts and projects can be made with almost anything. Model volcanoes only need a couple of ingredients, and you can make an entire popsicle stick village with only popsicle sticks and some paint. You can use paper plates and construction paper to make little animals, like turtles or lions, or you can use the same materials, and just add some string to make a cool and unique dream catcher.

No matter where you are or what the weather is, you can always do things to pass the time during the winter. You're only limited by your choices.



## Who's In? Who Wins? College Football Playoffs Begin!

by Ethan Peiris 8-509

The National Championship matchup for college football has been set. On December 28, both Clemson and Louisiana State University (LSU) punched their tickets to the National Championship game. LSU beat Oklahoma in the Peach Bowl and Clemson beat Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl. Now, with the matchup set, the only question that remains is who will win it all.

LSU beat Oklahoma in convincing fashion. Quarterback Joe Burrow and the LSU offense accounted for sixty-three points against Oklahoma. This was the most points scored by a team during the college football playoffs. Most of this success was the result of Joe Burrow. He threw for 493 yards, seven touchdowns, and ended the game with a QBR of 99.1. Oklahoma could just not stop LSU which scored 90% of the time they had the ball. On the other hand, LSU defense played very well. They held a great offense to only twenty-eight points. Also, they only allowed sixteen first downs and held Oklahoma to half the yards the LSU offense got.

On the other hand, Clemson beat Ohio State in a game that came to the wire. However, Clemson didn't play well to start. Half way through the second quarter, they were trailing by sixteen. This deficit didn't affect them as they would go on to score three touchdowns to regain the lead. Even after an Ohio State touchdown, Clemson still found a way to score another touchdown with a minute and forty nine seconds left. Their defense also held up at the end. They made the most important play of the game. With thirty-nine seconds left, Nolan Turner intercepted Justin Felids icing the game for the Tigers. All in all, this game showed Clemson's grit and capability to fight and come back from a deficit.

Now the stage is set for No. 1 LSU vs No. 3 Clemson. These teams fought hard to get the opportunity to play in this game, beating hard competition. LSU has home field advantage playing the National Championship in their home state.

This will be a very interesting game. I think at least each team will score four touchdowns each. However, I think LSU will take the national championship home this year. They will be playing in a stadium filled with proud Louisiana fans cheering them on outweighing the Clemson fans. So it will be noisy and feel like a road game for Clemson. All in all, I believe LSU will outscore and stop Clemson enough to win the national championship. LSU will drive eighty miles back to their campus with their fourth national title.



## A Hollywood Guide To “Honoring” the Dead New CGI James Dean Film Sparks Outcry

by Christopher Santiago 8-509

On September 30, 1955, beloved actor and “rebel without a cause” James Dean, was driving his brand-new Porsche 550 Spyder to an auto rally in Salinas, California. Tragically, Dean was involved in a head-on collision with a 1950 Ford Tudor and never made it to the rally. Already on his way to stardom, the crash cemented Dean as a legend. At the time, the twenty-seven-year-old had only released his first movie, East of Eden, his other two films, Rebel Without a Cause and Giant were released shortly after his death.

However, after sixty-five years and several documentaries, Director Anton Ernst has come up with a new way to put Dean back on the big screen. Ernst envisioned James Dean playing a role in his Vietnam era action-drama Finding Jack. The idea being far fetched, was pushed away until after auditions when Ernst released Dean was perfect for the role. So, after obtaining rights from Dean’s family to use his image, it was decided that a CGI (Computer Generated Imagery) Dean was to play the character Rogan, a secondary role in the film. Ernst expressed his gratitude for the opportunity by saying, “We searched high and low for the perfect character to portray the role of Rogan, which has some extreme complex character arcs, and after months of research, we decided on James Dean... We feel very honored that his family supports us and will take every precaution to ensure that his legacy as one of the most epic film stars to date is kept firmly intact. The family views this as his fourth movie, a movie he never got to make. We do not intend to let his fans down”. It is to be done using “full body” CGI, actual footage and pictures along with a voice actor to voice Dean. And so Ernst’s dream was slowly becoming a reality, with full rights and a team by his side, he was sure the people were going to love it! Or so he thought...

Naturally, after going public on the topic, the idea received massive amounts of backlash from the community and some of Hollywood’s biggest stars. Marvel actor Chris Evans tweeted, “I’m sure he’d be thrilled, This is awful, Maybe we can get a computer to paint us a new Picasso. Or write a couple of new John Lennon tunes. The complete lack of understanding here is shameful.” Lord of the Rings actor, Elijah Woods tweeted, “NOPE. This shouldn’t be a thing”. Robin Williams’ daughter, Zelda Williams, tweeted “I have talked to friends about this for YEARS and no one ever believed me that the industry would stoop this low once tech got better. Publicity stunt or not, this is puppeteering the dead for their ‘clout’ alone and it sets such an awful precedent for the future of performance.” Thousands of others have voiced their opinions on the matter on twitter by tweeting “This is so dumb” or “This is actually very insulting”.

Ernst was surprised at the backlash, and he told THR, “We don’t really understand it. We never intended for this to be a marketing gimmick.”

With Finding Jack set to hit theaters Veteran’s Day 2020, it is unlikely that the Internet will forgive Mr. Ernst, and with the movie starring merely a robot, it is unlikely that the film will turn out well as he hopes.



## Here Comes Heroic Harriet Tubman! Eighth Graders View Inspiring Movie

by Madison Ravenell 8-509

A few months ago on the first day of November, the movie Harriet was released. The basic idea surrounding this movie is to follow the life of abolitionist Harriet Tubman, as she went through the journey of freeing hundreds of slaves in 1849. In the past, the topic of Harriet Tubman and her actions have been discussed in Social Studies classes throughout the year. Because of this, the whole eighth grade went to see this movie a few weeks later on November 19, 2019, at the AMC Bay Plaza.

Not only was this a good movie because of the idea of it, but also because of the people who came together to make it. The producers, who oversaw the movie (writing scripts, editing, and budgets), such as Gregory Allen Howard, Debra Martin Chase, and Daniela Taplin Lundberg made the movie Harriet an idea in the first place. Directed by Kasi Lemmons, the story of Harriet definitely came to life on the big screen. Actors such as Cynthia Erivo, who played Harriet Tubman, and Janelle Monáe, who played Marie, are the real reason why this movie has been portrayed so well by viewers.

As mentioned before, this movie was about the brave work of Harriet Tubman. During the movie, Harriet ran away from slavery, traveling through several safe houses along the way. When she reached her destination, she changed her name and stayed in a building dedicated to runaway slaves. What makes Harriet so brave is not just the fact that she did this, but the fact that she kept going back to free more and more slaves, even when people tried to discourage her. The overall message of this movie is to always keep going and never let fear stop you from saving others.

Because of the effects of the themes of Harriet, I believe that this is a good movie. Believe it or not, there are a lot of people who don’t know who Harriet Tubman was, or even what she did. After them seeing this movie, not only would they know a little more about her, but they would learn the importance of what she did.

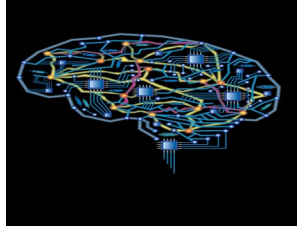
Personally, my favorite theme of this movie is to not let fear get the best of you. If Harriet was scared and never ran away the first time, not only would she have been enslaved, but also everyone else she’d freed at the time. The thought of that being the case is very weird, as history would be very different.

All in all, the trip to see Harriet was a very good experience. The movie opened the eyes of some and enlightened others. Because of the combined work of the cast, the movie came to the big screen with a powerful message. If you haven’t seen it yet, I definitely recommend this movie!



## Computer Intelligence What Will No Longer Be On The Table?

by Delaney Caamano 6-308



Finding a job can be a life changing decision and also a hard one. It determines what people will be doing for the rest of their lives after they get their education. This decision depends on different factors like what the location is and how many resources are available. Some jobs however, are soon in the coming years are going to be completely replaced by machinery and will no longer be jobs. Examples of occupations that might be off the list are cashier registers, proofreaders for books, printers and publishers, and maybe even librarians.

To start off with printers and publishers, almost everything in the informative field is now online. People usually get their news from a television channel or from a blog or other places that don't include newspapers or books. To print out these newspapers might be considered pointless if no one will read them in paper form. Automation can be a very useful tool in getting news to the public quickly, but this could also be the reason companies get shut down.

Another job mentioned earlier was cashiers. There are many self checkouts and recently, there was a store that used to have four cashiers and two self checkouts. Eventually, two people got fired since they weren't needed as much since most people opted for the self checkouts.

Librarians were also mentioned earlier. They organize and manage the new books that are ordered and help see what readers want. Librarians can help newcomers and . Many libraries now have computers that you can just go on and check out a book. As more and they organize and manage the new books that are ordered more libraries have this technology, people who have a passion for books will no longer have a suitable for it. People cannot carry out their dream if computers are able to just do it for them.

Though computers and other technologies advancing are usually considered a good thing, the jobs that people have had will soon be gone. These computers are so advanced that the math and science that a person has learned can just be replaced. Nowadays, a person must become smarter than the artificial intelligence. However, computers have also made issues and have created more occupations. A new job that technology has offered are known as computer techs. Also, people who operate heavy machinery for construction have also been vital to building structures. And, in the coming years new jobs are sure to surface.

**Specialized HS (cont'd. from pg. 2, col. 2)**

The standardized test isn't the only thing that should be on students' minds. It is important to pay attention to every test, every quiz, every worksheet, and every do-now. Middle school is looked on as the primary indicator, but some believe students should start driving for those high grades as early as kindergarten and first grade.

As the discussion continued, it was noted that Common Core should not be removed because there has to be a way to assess students in every city in America.

**Specialized HS (cont'd. on pg. 6, col. 2)**

## Stressed Is Desserts Spelled Backward The Lure of Sweets In Today's World

by Jaida Ortiz 8-508



Stress. Something almost all students have experienced. It can either because of an upcoming test, a project, or homework. Dealing with it is something most of them have trouble doing. A few things a person could do is rest, meditate, or even sometimes, eat. When a person is hungry, he or she might not be able to focus well and a tiny snack won't hurt. After all, Ms. Loretta LaRoche, a stress expert, states that "Stressed is desserts spelled backwards."

Located at 725 Van Nest, a bakery called Jaida's Sweet Stop is open seven days a week and always has treats to sell, from muffins to cookies, and even fruit cake baskets. It sells slices of chocolate and lemon cake along with mini cheesecakes with toppings such as strawberry and cherry swirl. Everything is made from scratch and is handled with lots of care. The bakery's phone number where people could call and place orders is 718-518-1118. It receives positive feedback on almost every item sold and never fails to satisfy a customer's sweet tooth. There are even Pupcakes and Meowffins to sell which are desserts for dogs and cats.

Jaida's Sweet Stop is owned by Mr. Richard Santiago Jr. and will soon be given to the reporter for her to run. Mr. Santiago has been baking for more than half his life and relishes being able to make small treats that people can enjoy at any moment of the day. He stated, "Baking is something I absolutely love doing. Being able to brighten someone else's day with a pastry always makes me happy." His step-daughter Jaida is the beneficiary of the store and looks forward to the day when she becomes the owner. When she finally becomes the owner of the business, her goal is to open one shop in every borough and maybe even expand larger and open them in different states. She also has ideas about being a musician along with the job of owning the Sweet Stop.

The idea for the bakery started off when this reporter wanted to open a lemonade stand about three years ago. Her mother and step father thought it would be better to add a twist to the lemonade stand and sell desserts too. They created a small stand and set up inside their garage and set off from there. It became popular almost immediately and they were able to raise a lot of money by doing this. From there, they began expanding until it became their own business to run.

If you're ever feeling stressed, come by and enjoy a sweet treat. It may just brighten your day!

**Specialized HS (cont'd. from pg. 6, col. 1)**

Every child should have the opportunity to learn.

Attendance is also crucial for success at PS 83 too. The school strives to at least 97% attendance every year. Last year, the attendance percentage was 95.9%.

Standardized tests are very similar to diets. People don't know if they are working until they measure a while later and compare results. Here at PS 83, teachers and staff give students the tools they need to be successful. It's up to the students to take advantage of the chance.

## KyoAni Rises From The Ashes With The Announced Violet Evergarden Movie Release

by Sophia Verdeflor 7-409

Over the summer on July 18, 2019, the Japanese Animation studio, Kyoto Animations, suffered an arson attack. Many people on major social media such as Youtube, Twitter, and Instagram are speaking up to help support the studio by buying merchandise and spreading the word using the hashtag, #PrayForKyoAni. Now, releasing this coming January is a movie sequel to their previous series, Violet Evergarden.

For those who haven't watched the Netflix original, Violet Evergarden is the story of a young war veteran who struggles to understand her own, and other people's feelings. After she loses both her arms by being crushed under debris in the war and is put out of service for the military, she works under a mailing company with prosthetic arms as an Auto Memories Doll (described as someone who assists others by writing for them on a typewriter) to understand what the major's last words to her, "I love you" means. She was finally able to decipher feelings, even her own, in her journey, and became a well-known Doll along the way.

The last episode of the series leaves many viewers confused when the camera pans to her face and she pauses in the middle of greeting her client and smiles without showing the face of the person who hired her. Many speculate she finally found the major, but the scene ends and announces the coming of a movie for the series in 2020. Now that the trailer is released, fans are anticipating the release of the upcoming film after the release of the spin-off, Eternity and Auto Memory Doll, for the continuation of the cliffhanger the series left them on and more Violet Evergarden content.

Other series that fans are awaiting is the second season of the Promised Neverland, coming out in March, and the brand-new series Toilet-Bound Hanako. Other brand-new releases that are expected to air in 2020 is Weathering With You, from the well-known animator, Makoto Shinkai. Japan is promising release after release in 2020, and social media teeming with excitement to watch the new content.

ヴァイオレット・エヴァーガーデン  
VIOLET EVERGARDEN

## Wait... WHO Could've Beaten Thanos in Endgame?!

by Leilani Sanchez 8-509



Scarlet Witch, her real name, Wanda Maximoff, born in Wundagore Mountain, Transia is a Marvel comic superheroine. She is known as having unnatural abilities including warping time, matter transmutation, and much more. She first debuted in the Marvel movie franchise in 2015 with the movie Avengers: Age of Ultron along with her twin brother, Pietro Maximoff, or Quicksilver.

Flash forward to 2018 in Avengers: Infinity War, Scarlet Witch is seen again but this time without her brother who passed in Avengers: Age of Ultron. Instead, she is with the Vision. Vision eventually meets his passing because Thanos, the main villain, wants to collect the Mind stone embedded in the Vision's forehead. You know the rest. Thanos gets the stones, snaps his fingers, half the population on Earth goes poof. However, what Mr. Kevin Feige, president of Marvel Studios, said sometime in August of this year, is that in Avengers: Endgame if Thanos didn't call in his army for backup, Scarlet Witch could've killed him.

In Avengers: Infinity War, Scarlet Witch is part of the half of the population who dissolves but when she returns in Avengers: Endgame she's ready to fight. When she and Thanos go head to head, Scarlet Witch is furious and uses the full force of her power in the battle. Mr. Feige told ComicBook.com "I contend she would have taken down Thanos if he hadn't called the [army], It was done." This is due to the fact that Scarlet Witch wasn't holding back.

However, this is just Feige's opinion. In a ranking of Marvel Avengers, Scarlet Witch is not the strongest. She's ranked number twenty-two on a list of twenty-seven characters. In fact, the strongest Avenger is Thor. So how could she have been able to beat Thanos? This is because compared to her fellow Avengers, the Scarlet Witch, "is probably near the upper echelons of power" meaning that the Scarlet Witch is very powerful, according to Mr. Feige.

Yet, the MCU tends to diminish their characters' powers from comic to movie. According to Marvel.com, the Scarlet Witch is described as, "One of the most powerful magic-wielders on the planet...". This probably means that comic book Scarlet Witch could've killed Thanos faster than he could say "infinity stones". Yet this could be wrong and perhaps MCU movie Scarlet Witch is just as powerful as her comic self.

What will Marvel do next now that everything Marvel will be on Disney +? Who knows but I can't wait to find out.

## The Dog Bowl Woof Woof! Please Adopt Me!

by Ema Redzematovic 8-508



“The bond with a dog is as lasting as the ties of this earth can ever be”, according to Konrad Lorenz, a famous zoologist.

Many people love dogs because they are loving and loyal creatures that will stay by their side until the end. The Dog Bowl, formerly known as the Puppy Bowl, is an unusual annual television program that is featured on Animal Planet. It is a new show where older dogs mimic playing American Football. This show will air on Super Bowl Sunday on February 3, 2020.

It's not called the Puppy Bowl this year because the point of the show is to showcase dogs that need a permanent home. It seems that it is easier to get puppies adopted. Therefore, there are many older dogs that without owner and the organizers of the program are trying to find them great homes. So this year the program is called the Dog Bowl. Watching this show might make viewers want to own these dogs, and it may change their perspective about adopting an older animal.

A third grade teacher in the PS 83 Annex, Ms. Rachel LaTerza, wanted to adopt a seven-year-old pit bull named George from the Paws Crossed Animal Rescue Shelter in Elmsford, New York. She stated that some people believe that pit bulls are aggressive, but, in her opinion, it's not the dog that loses control, it's usually the caretaker of the dog not being responsible. Once she chose George, she found out that he had been picked to participate in the 2020 Dog Bowl. The teams made up of the dogs from the shelter were the Oldies and the Goodies, and the studio was in Manhattan. The stage that the dogs were playing on was extremely small, but it looked huge on the screen. She enjoyed taking him to this spectacular event because she thought that “it was very organized and neat”. Ms. LaTerza had to formally adopt him right after the taping of the show because other people were also interested in owning George.

After the Dog Bowl takes place, if there are any dogs that don't get adopted, then they have to be put down. This means that because they are unwanted and are killed. This breaks every dog lover's heart because no animal should face such cruelty. Instead, every one of them should be provided with a safe and loving home.

The organizers of the program are trying to show how amazing older dogs are because everyone usually adopts puppies instead. They believe older dogs are better with children, have more experience, and are well-tempered. Bonnie Wilcox, the author of the book Old Friends - Enjoying Your Older Dog, which covers topics of concern to owners of aging dogs, probably says it best, “Old dogs, like old shoes, are comfortable. They might be a bit out of shape and a little worn around the edges, but they still fit well.”

## Which Makes A Better Pet A Cat Or A Dog?

by Jocelin Juarez 6-308



When people are thinking about getting a pet, the question most people ask is a cat or a dog? Many people that want a new pet ask this question because most people don't want exotic pets or boring pets like a fish. Indecisive people tend to ask this because they are always unsure of what to choose because dogs and cats can be very different. Dogs can be very sweet and affectionate but they can also be very aggressive towards people. Cats can also be very cuddly and friendly on the other hand, they can be very hostile to humans and even other cats. Cats and dogs can be unique in their own ways. This makes it more difficult to choose.

Dogs can be very enjoyable and caring. I know this because in the article “25 Reasons Dogs Are the Best Things on Earth” says, “they keep your bed warm for you when it gets cold at night.” Also, it says, “dogs are the best because unlike people they love you unconditionally” This shows that dogs will usually be loyal to and you will always have fun with them. I did a survey. I asked fifty people at the PS 83 if they like dogs or cats better to have. Thirty-five people said they like dogs better than cats. They said it was because dogs are very lovable and funny animals to play with.

Dogs are not always great. I know this because in the article “21 Things Dogs Do That Drive Us Nuts” it says, “chew on anything and everything- shoes, carpet, your toes, you name it.” This shows even if they can be loyal they are not loyal to your things. In the article, it also says, “their obsession over small animals- squirrels, chipmunks, birds.” This says that dogs will chase anything even when there is nothing there.

On the other hand, cats are adorable. Even in the article “Top 10 Reasons Cats Are Awesome” it says “Cats help keep your house bug and rodent free. They'll help keep the bugs and mice at bay in your home.” This helps people that are scared of bugs and mice not see any in their house. Of the fifteen people I asked the reason they liked cats better than dogs. They said so because cats are cuddly and you don't have to clean their poop.

Cats are not as good as you think. Just like in the article “5 Bad Things About Sharing Your Life With Cats”, they said, “they like you one day and hate you the next”. This shows cats are really moody and frustrating. They also state, “you cannot wear ANYTHING black because all the cats fur will stick to the black clothes.” This is not good for people that really like black. People can't wear black because cats will roll over them and they will have so much hair on you. So cats are not always the best pets to have.

In my opinion, I think dogs are better pets than cats because they always want to play and have fun. Also they don't shed as much hair as cats do. Overall, a person can get either a cat or a dog or get both! This can be an interesting life if one has both.



## The Republic of Georgia: Hidden Paradise

by Ketevan Zhgenti 7-409



The country of Georgia is located in the furthest part of eastern Europe, and the countries that border it are Armenia, Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Russia. Although Georgia may be but small, there are many things that the majority of people around the world might find very interesting to know.

Everyone knows about the state of Georgia, and how it's located in the United States, but how many people know where the country of Georgia really is, or rather if it exists at all? The capital of Georgia is Tbilisi. Other major cities are Samtredia, Batumi, Mtskheta, and Borjomi. Georgia has many indifferent foods, its own dialect, a wide variety of landforms, and a rich history. It has been proven by archeologists that Georgians were the first ones who actually used and created wine. There was an academy in 1106 called the Gelati Academy. It was similar to a college. During this time, when Europe was experiencing a time period known as the Dark Ages because of the mass destruction of civilization and culture, Georgia had many excellent writers who preserved scholarship for future eras. Mr. Ekvtime Tayaishvili, a modern-day historian made their impact well known to the outside world.

Georgia has many tourist attractions such as Uplistsikhe which are ruins of a rock-cut Iron Age town. Another one is Jvari Monastery which is a sixth-century mountaintop monastery. There is Svetitskhoveli Cathedral, which was built in the eleventh century, and the Bagrati Cathedral which was also built in the eleventh century. The Prometheus Cave Natural Monument is a cave, canyon, monastery, and nature reserve. The Georgia Aquarium is home to over 120,000 animals. Everyone knows that the longest wall is in China, but people might be surprised to learn that Georgia has the second longest wall in the world called Signagi.

Food may not always be the most interesting topic, but Georgia has eight different kinds of the same food. There is Imeruli Khachapuri, Lobiani, Acharuli, Mingrelia, Penovani, Osseti, Guria, and Svanuri. Khachapuri is considered one of Georgia's national comfort food dishes. Acharuli Khachapuri is shaped like a boat because it represents a sailor's wife baking it like that to represent the boat and putting a raw egg in the middle to represent the sun. They put a knob of butter and it is mixed with the cheese. Khinkali is another food that is dough shaped like a dumpling and meat and/or cheese is inside it. Gozinayi is a dessert that consists of chopped walnuts and honey. Traditionally, it is only made on New Years Day. To Georgians, December 25 is not a special day. Presents are displayed before New Years, and are opened at 12:00 am. January 7, which Orthodox Christians believe is Jesus' birthday, is another day presents are given and received. Some people do both and some do only one. Badrijani is eggplant with garlic and walnut spread. These dishes are so good that there is no doubt there won't be leftovers.

When it comes to dance, it can be hard to be creative, but Georgians bring creativity to a higher level. The dances vary from war dances to celebrative dances. (cont'd. on pg. 9, col. 2)

## Chinese New Year The Chinese Holiday Everyone Can Enjoy

by Jun Qiang Lian 6-308



Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival is coming soon! It lasts for seven days. People will be eating and having fun. This year, the Chinese New Year begins on January 25, 2020. It is also the Year of the Rat. The rat in the Chinese Zodiac is the first in the twelve-year cycle. There is one myth about the rat. The myth starts with the Jade Emperor deciding that the order of the zodiacs will be the order in which arrive to his party. The rat was the first one animal to arrive at the Emperor's party because he was sneaky. He used the ox to get over the river and then ran ahead of the ox to be first.

The first Chinese New Year celebration was believed to have started nearly 4,000 years ago. It is the most important holiday in China. On Chinese New Year, people greet by saying “新年快乐”, which means Happy New Year. Also, it is a time to bring families together for feasting. The calendars in China included the twelve of the zodiac animals which included rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, and pig. If you were born in the year of the rat, then you are very industrious (hard-working) and thrifty (careful with money), diligent (active) and positive (certain).

On Chinese New Year, people wear brand new clothes from head to toe. Some other family wear traditional clothing called the “Qipao”. Some Chinese people go to the temple to worship ancestors and welcome the new year. The Chinese also give red envelopes (which is filled with money) to children. Another thing that the Chinese do on Chinese New Year is play a tile-based four-player game called “Mahjong”.

(cont'd. on pg. 10, col. 2)

### Georgia: Hidden Paradise (cont'd. from pg. 9, col. 1)

Some of these dances are Acharuli, Narnari, Khorumi, Kartuli (This is also the word for Georgian in Georgian), Partsa, Yazbekuri, Khanjluri, Samaia, Jeirani, Davluri, Daisi, Parikaoba, Savnuri, and Mkhedruli. There are a few studios in Brooklyn that teach these dances. Acharuli is also a dance it's known as the happiest out of all the dances. Smiling just comes from the music. Kartuli is a very difficult dance. Generally, it is a romantic dance. In this dance, only one male and one female can participate. During the dance, the man is not allowed to touch the female and must maintain a certain distance. The man's upper body must be motionless throughout the entire dance. It represents that even in love, men must control their feelings. The man can NEVER take his eyes off the girl. The woman on the other hand, keeps her eyes downcast at all times and glides on the rough floor as a swan on the smooth surface of a lake. There have only been a few great performers of Kartuli including Nino Ramishvili, Iliko Sukhishvili, Iamze Dolaberidze, and Pridon Sulaberidze.

Georgia is not some boring country that is just in the world. Over many centuries, Georgians have made history, and Georgian writers are in history books next to people like William Shakespeare and Agatha Christie. There are several regions like Achara, Abkhazia, Samegrelo, Racha, Guria, Imereti, Mtskheta, Kakheti, and Kartli. Each one has its own completely different dialect. Going to vacation in Georgia will never be a bore no matter how long someone stays.

## A Day in the Neighborhood of Mister Rogers: The Values and Legacy Live On

by Anatoli Velikov 8-509



On February 27, 2003, the beloved television personality, Fred Rogers, passed away from stomach cancer. He left behind a show that defined the childhood of various people and altered the way one looks at his/her own life.

Prior to the show, Mr. Rogers pursued a career in the then-nascent television industry, getting a job at NBC in 1951. Unhappy with the network's reliance on sponsorship and advertising, he moved to WQED in Pittsburgh, a public station where he'd eventually oversee the United States launch of his self-titled show in 1968. With this new show, Mr. Rogers intended to revolutionize how the viewers of the show thought, as well as television itself. As Mr. Rogers said in an interview with "I went into television because I hated it so... I thought there was some way of using this fabulous instrument to be of nurture to those who would watch and listen." In television, Mr. Rogers saw an instrument with amazing, or terrible, potential. It was a form of mass communication unlike any other, one that would have particular potency with young, impressionable viewers with a weaker grasp of the lines between fiction and reality. As someone who had considered working in the church, Mr. Rogers understood better than most the value of a pulpit; he was thus all the more horrified by the way television was mostly used to sell, rather than teach, things.

With this, the program's first week of episodes alluded to the Vietnam War, playing the conflict out through an allegory involving the show's puppet characters (including the bossy King Friday, who builds a barbed-wire barrier around his castle). The character Officer Clemmons (played by the actor and singer François Clemmons) was one of the first African-Americans to have a regular role on children's television, and Rogers would include pointed scenes, like one where the two washed their feet in a tub together as a way of challenging segregated swimming pools.

Mr. Rogers may have presented such weighty topics, but it's not the topics he presented it was the method in which he allowed for the audience to develop the feelings he intended to convey. Anyone who watched "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" would know that the host considered all feelings natural — including the dark ones — and believed they don't need fixing. Mr. Rogers believed that variations of the "sticks-and-stones" adages intended to get kids to "shake it off" are stifling. They abandon children to their pain instead of teaching them how to process it. In contrast, Mr. Rogers encouraged children to face their dark feelings. Not a trained philosopher, Mr. Rogers would likely attribute his education in the emotional landscape of children to the psychologist Margaret McFarland at the University of Pittsburgh, with whom he collaborated for 30 years. The belief that all children (and adults) get sad, mad, lonely, anxious and frustrated and he used television to model what to do with these difficult and often strong emotions. He wanted to counter the harmful message kids typically receive, some version of the ever-unhelpful you shouldn't feel that way.

In one episode, when he couldn't get a flashlight to work, Mister Rogers expressed frustration in front of the camera: He admitted feeling disappointed at the fact that the trick that he had wanted to show his viewers didn't work. In doing so, he validated his disappointment and showed his audience that talking about it helps.

(cont'd on pg. 4, col. 2)

One of Mr. Rogers' core beliefs was "what's mentionable is manageable," and he considered an urgent lesson for kids to learn to name their pain. Mr. Rogers believed that if children were encouraged to talk about feelings instead of being shamed for them, they could get to work finding appropriate outlets. One of Mr. Rogers' recurrent lessons was on anger. Inspired by a child who asked him a question about anger, he wrote a song about it:

*What do you do with the mad that you feel  
When you feel so mad you could bite?  
When the whole wide world seems oh, so wrong ...  
And nothing you do seems very right?*

This song was Mr. Rogers' way of teaching kids how to be angry, instead of how not to be angry. The first step is for the child to recognize their anger as well as their temptation to bite, hit, kick. The second step the song suggests is to find appropriate outlets for that anger:

*What do you do? Do you punch a bag?  
Do you pound some clay or some dough?  
Do you round up friends for a game of tag?  
Or see how fast you go?*

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" was purportedly a show for children. Today, many of the children raised watching the program are now parents, and I think Mr. Rogers also meant it for adults. We'd be better off if we'd stop negating children's dark emotions with stifling commands like "Don't cry," "Calm down," "Be quiet." If we are convinced by Mr. Rogers' claim that feelings are not wrong and that "what's mentionable is manageable," we should begin mentioning our own sad, lonely and disappointed feelings. In doing so, we would show children — and our grown-up selves — how to appropriately manage them.

A new appreciation for Fred Rogers has blossomed thanks to the 2018 documentary Won't You Be My Neighbor? and the new feature film It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood starring Tom Hanks as Fred Rogers. Today, the philosophy of Mr. Rogers about how to deal with difficult emotions stands a chance of being heard and heeded.



(cont'd. from pg. 9, col. 2)

The Chinese also have some superstitions about Chinese New Year. One of them is don't say anything with negative connotations. The reason behind this is because you can jinx yourself or risk putting any of your loved ones in misfortune. Another superstition is don't sweep or clean during the celebration. The reason behind this is because there is a cleaning day before Chinese New Year and that takes all the bad luck away, but if you sweep or clean during the actual celebration, you might take the good luck away instead.

Every single year, every child is excited to get his/her money and the adults enjoy getting together to celebrate. Chinese New Year is a great time for families to get together.

It is also a time when people can be happy. Just remember, you don't have to be Chinese to celebrate Chinese New Year.