

# THE ROCKWOOD PARK NEWS



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**3rd Edition  
May / June 2022**

***I think journalism is a great way to do public service, to have an impact on your community***  
– Bob Schieffer



***Rockwood Park News Staff***



# The Reptile Show!

By: Angelina Caputo





# 8th GRADE RING DAY!



## GREEN TEAM GARDEN BLOOMS!





# P.S/M.S 207 ALUMNI

## **Christine Krowicki**

By: Kayleigh Grant



A graduate from the Class of 85', the talented Mrs. Krowicki loved being a student here so much that she couldn't imagine herself teaching anywhere else! She began her career teaching kindergarten and 6th grade and has been teaching third grade for five years.

Mrs. Krowicki lives in Howard Beach with her husband and two beautiful daughters, Julianna (1st grade) and Angelina (3k). On her free time she enjoys taking tranquil nature walks and baking yummy treats. In the summer, she can be found relaxing in the sand on the beach.

A fun fact some of us might not know is that when she attended 207, it only went up to 6th grade!

## **Christine Danielson**

By: Alexia Kallfa



Born and raised in Howard Beach, Ms. Danielson attended 207 from kindergarten through eighth grade. As a student she made many lifelong friends and was taught by some, "wonderful teachers." Two of her favorite teachers, Ms. Iadanza and Ms. Destefano, who still work here today, inspired her to become a teacher!

"P.S 207 has always been very community based, and it's such a privilege for me to continue being a part of this community as a teacher," says, Ms. Danielson.

When she is not teaching, Ms. Danielson, spend lots of time with her 7 year old daughter, Michaela. They love going hiking, doing mommy and me yoga, taking day trips to the beach, and spending time with family and friends.

## **Eileen Costello**

By: Angelina Caputo and Lilianna Fochetta



Mrs. Costello is a dedicated paraprofessional, who started working at PS 207 15 years ago. A graduate from the FIT, she worked in the textile industry for many years before joining our staff. She enjoys working with both elementary and middle school students. Mrs. Costello has also been working hard in the summer program for several years, "Working at P.S. 207 has been very rewarding," says, Mrs. Costello.

She refers to her children as her greatest achievements. Her daughter is a pharmacist and her son is studying to be a psychologist. During her free time, you can find Mrs. Costello trying new recipes, socializing with neighbors, taking long walks, and hanging out with her dogs Marley and Maddie.



# *A Beautiful Elementary School Leader!*

By: Madison Sassone &  
Lia Graziosi



## *CHRYSANTHI ALIFIERIS*

**Q: What made you want to become an assistant principal?**

*A: I started out as a teacher and loved helping children but realized I could only impact one class at a time. After teaching for 10 years, I decided to return to school to get my 2nd masters to become an Assistant Principal so that I can maximize my impact across an entire school.*

**Q: What do you love doing in your free time when you're not here working?**

*A: I love to spend time with my husband, 3 children, Peter (11), Alexander (8) and Theodore (4) and my family and friends.*

**Q: What is a unique fact about you that not many people know about?**

*A: I speak Greek fluently. We are proud of our culture and respect all others. My children speak Greek and my older children attend Greek school to learn to read and write in Greek as well.*

**Q: How long have you been working in the School PS 207? When did you join?**

*A: This is my 5th year at 207. I feel so lucky to have joined our 207 family in 2017.*

**Q: Where did you grow up? Where were you born and raised?**

*A: I was born and raised in Brooklyn. My husband was born in Queens. We live in the seaside neighborhood of the Rockaways. Queens is a great place to raise a family. We love to head down to the beach all summer.*

**Q: What do you love about being a assistant principal?**

*A: It's an honor watching the entire school of teachers and students learn and grow. I consider myself fortunate to be able to see the progress students make from 3k thru 8th grade.*





By: Gianna  
Riggi and  
Giana  
Tripiccione

# TIMOTHY BLAINE

## A SIT DOWN WITH OUR FEARLESS MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADER

**Q:** How did your teaching experience influence your leadership?

**A:** *I believe that anyone in a leadership position should start as a teacher. To me, there's nothing quite like being in a classroom teaching. The experience gives you the opportunity to see students from a different lens in preparation for helping them from another place.*

**Q:** What motivates you to work hard?

**A:** *Growing up in South Ozone Park, my parents taught me from an early age to work hard because there are always obstacles.*

**Q:** Do you have any children?

**A:** *I have 2 daughters. My oldest Cecilia is 4 and my youngest Clara is 2. Together we live with my wife Jane in Brooklyn.*

**Q:** What was your college newspaper experience like?

**A:** *It was great! I wrote articles for the sports column. I also was an investigative reporter. I wrote a piece about Fordham University and spending money.*

**Q:** What are some unique things about you that people might not know?

**A:** *I play guitar. I have an adopted brother and sister from South Korea. I used to walk around Shea Stadium and sell beverages and food. I'm a sports enthusiast who enjoys watching and participating in competitive sports, anything from baseball to board games.*

**Q:** What is your biggest pet peeve?

**A:** *Not respecting property. Not taking the time to think about what your actions can lead to. We have a responsibility to ourselves and the community.*

**Q:** What's your favorite vacation spot?

**A:** *Sonoma, California. It's an awesome place to visit.*

**Q:** What are the qualities one needs to become a leader?

**A:** *To start with, you need to have a vision of what you want and the goal you want to achieve. Through determination and work ethic, you can succeed in carrying out that vision.*





In May, our 7th and 8th graders composed and recited poems. A special **KUDOS** to **Mrs. Madden and Mrs. Brandt**, who along with faculty and parents celebrated the student's hard work with a **POETRY SLAM!**



**802**  
**Best Poem** Ava Conter  
**Best Literary Device** Antonio Castillo  
**801**  
**Best Poem** Anthony Rao  
**Best Literary Device** Maylin Hall  
**Student Choice**  
**801** - John Brown  
**802** - Sayen Rendon

**Best Poem Best** Abigail Inzerillo  
**Best Literary Device** Ava Rush  
**702**  
**Best Poem** Catherine Edison  
**Best Literary Device** Mia Monesteoca  
**Best Performance**  
**702** - Alicia Jara & Mia Dezago

## Final Destination

Scared of the new normal  
 Away from all your family and friends  
 You start to panic a soul stuck on earth  
 That can't be seen nor heard  
 Missing your past and wishing it could have last  
 Slowly adjusting to something you have never  
 imagined happening to you  
 You hesitate in fear of what might happen next  
 Feeling lost with no idea of where to go or what to  
 do you freeze  
 Then wonder what now, gaining the fear of  
 loneliness you start to feel down  
 Realizing that things will never go back to normal  
 And this is where it all ends.

By Catherine Edison

## -Little Broken Pieces of Glass-

We all have someone we trust in our life  
 But sometimes the person you  
 Trust and cherish the most  
 Turns their back on you  
 Turning into a snake  
 The feelings that we had felt for that  
 person  
 Are gone  
 You don't know who to trust anymore  
 You and your feelings are shattered  
 Like broken little pieces of glass on the  
 floor

By: Mia Montesdeoca

## Trippy Hippies By Kylie Wleworka

Oh, the amount of fun she had in the  
 sun  
 How fast did she run? Like running  
 from none  
 Up and down, all around  
 Hide and seek, lost then found  
 The hippies stood out, sitting on the  
 roundabout  
 They spun in circles, popped in purple  
 She was amazed, had a beautiful gaze  
 What a glorious day for her plans to  
 change

So she hopped in the hippie truck  
 It was free. Not a penny, not a buck  
 "Hey little one! Hippie life is very fun!"  
 Tinted windows, driving past cornrows  
 A million miles an hour

The sun rolled down, which lit the small  
 town  
 The ambiance was vibrant, like those  
 hippies  
 I soon reside in a faraway land  
 With only a change of plans  
 I walk through the busy street, holding the  
 hippies hand





## P.S 207's Field Day Is Back!

A wonderful day was had by all of our students at our field day. Mrs. Destefano, Ms. Zink and their student teacher, Ms. Marino organized a variety of fun activities such as basketball, ring toss, cup stacking, tic tac toe, and cone flipping.

Students were split into two groups:  
Blue and Gold.

The first two days of the games took place in our very own school yard with kindergarteners through 7th graders competing to see which team would accumulate the most points. By the end of the second day the Gold Team was in the lead.

Our seniors ended the competition with more fun activities and some great competition at Charles Park. It was up to them to decide who would win.

In the end, the Blue Team worked together as a team and came up from behind with a win!



**Congrats  
Blue Team!**





# SPRING CARNIVAL

By: Isabella Rufrano



A special thanks to our amazing PTA for bringing back the Spring Carnival! It's great to see the event back in full swing!

The fun filled day took place in our schoolyard on Monday, May 23rd. Grades 3k through 8 participated in this extravaganza. It was great to see the little ones to finally experience this!

Some highlights of the day were jumping in the bouncy house, eating sticky cotton candy and sailing in a pirates boat.





# **Virtue Of The Month** **Integrity!**

**INTEGRITY**—Is the practice of being honest and showing a consistent and uncompromising adherence to strong moral and ethical principles and values.

## **Ways To Show Integrity For Others**

- **Admit when you are wrong**
- **Return found items without expectations of receiving a reward**
- **Follow through on promises you make**
- **Remain honest with the people you know**
- **Tell the truth when you know you did something wrong**

**By Victoria Imbriano**

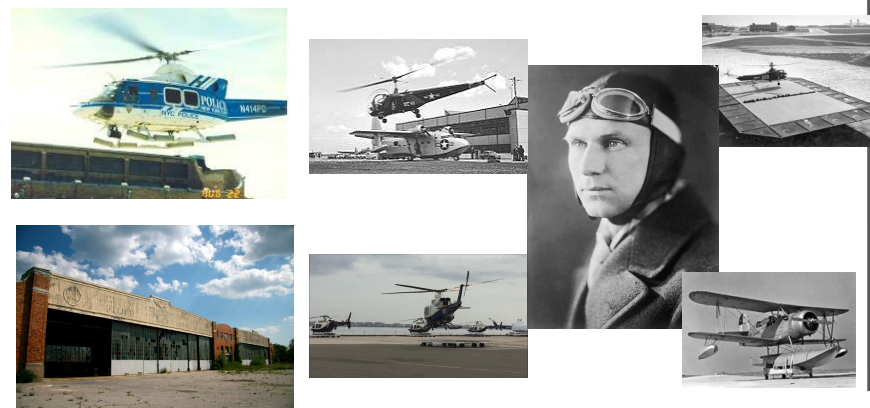




## HISTORY IN MAY

By: Anthony Gulluscio

May is another month with a lot of history. Have you heard of Floyd Bennett Field? It was an Air Force base in the early to mid 1900s. Now, it is part of Gateway National Recreation area only a 15 minute drive from Howard Beach. It is used as a recreation center. Most importantly, it is used as a airport for the NYPD Aviation Unit. All their helicopters are stationed there. They are used to patrol and protect the city. But you may wonder, what does this have to do with history? Well, this field was named after Floyd Bennett, the first person to fly a airplane successfully over the North Pole, on May 9, 1926. Here are some pictures from the airfield.



## HISTORY In June

President Bill Clinton was the first American president to declare June to be Pride Month in 1999. Since then, Pride Month has grown into an annual commemoration marked by residents and groups across the country and around the world to remember LGBTQ+ pioneers and dreamers who battled for equality via art, culture, civic action, community service, and other means.

## D-DAY

June 6, 1944



Remember & Honor

On June 6, 1944 the Allies launched a massive invasion of Normandy during WWII. This day is known as "D - Day."

The Germans controlled the French coast, and in order to retake Europe, the Allies had to first reclaim the French coast.

Early in the morning, more than 150,000 British, Canadian, and American soldiers were brought over the English Channel. Beaches with the code names Omaha and Utah were attacked by the Americans. The Germans were bracing themselves for an attack from the east. The Allies had taken the beaches and secured them by night fall. The invasion cost some 2,500 Allied men their lives, but it was a military triumph. It was the beginning of the end of WWII.

# CINCO DE MAYO FUN FACTS

By **NICOLETTE CACACE**



Did you know that Cinco de Mayo commemorates the anniversary of the Battle of Puebla? We celebrate it on May 5th, to honor Mexico's military victory in 1862 over the French forces of Napoleon III.



Chilli Peppers and Salsa with Chips- traditional foods



Sombrero- traditional hat





By: Isabella Rufrano

## WHAT IS IT?

**Juneteenth** is a federal holiday that celebrates the freedom of enslaved people in the U.S after the ending of the Civil War.

## WHEN and WHERE IS IT?

We celebrate every year on June 19th. The holiday was first celebrated in Texas, where on that date in 1865, the slaves were declared free under the terms of the 1862 Emancipation Proclamation.

## Our New School Logo



VS



By: Kayleigh Grant

The Student Council led a school wide vote to find out 207's feelings regarding the possibility of rolling out a new school logo and mascot. In order to be fair, council members visited every classroom to explain the options and collect votes. After tallying the votes **OUR NEW SCHOOL LOGO AND MASCOT IS... DRUM ROLL PLEASE ... THE LION**

You are probably wondering if you'll need to rush out and get a new uniform. Don't worry! Students can wear their bulldog uniform for the remainder of this year. However, next year we will slowly phase out The Bulldogs and introduce our new mascot, **The Lion.**

**WE ARE BRAVE! WE ARE STRONG! WE ARE THE LIONS!**

**P.S./M.S. 207 PRIDE!**



# Hello June!

**2** 8th grade trip to Club Getaway  
**6** Grades 4 and 8 State Science Test  
**8** 8th Grade Luncheon  
**9** Brooklyn Queens Day! No School

**13** 3k and 4k Graduations!  
**16** Algebra I Regents. Kindergarten Graduation!  
**17** 8th Grade Graduation!  
**20** Juneteenth Observed No School

**23** Arts Festival!  
**24** 5th Grade Fun Day!  
**27** Last Day Of School!





# Meet the Staff



*Lia Graziosi*



**Victoria Imbriano**



**Giana Tripiccione**



Angelina Caputo



Isabella Rufrano



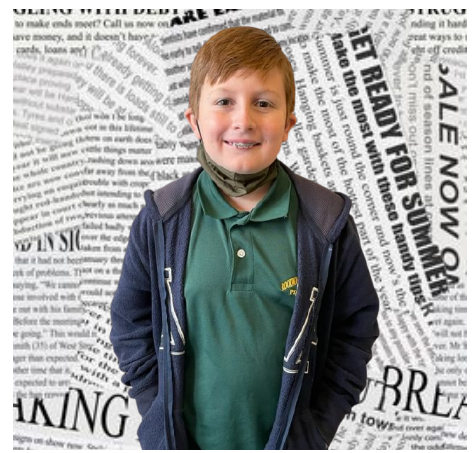
**ALEXIA KALLFA**



Gianna Riggi



**Madison Sassone**



**ANTHONY GULLUSCIO**



# Meet the Staff



Nicolette Cacace



Kayleigh Grant



Lilianna Fochetta

