



A&E

RHS held its annual Celebration of the Arts honoring students' work.

Pg. 9



Sports

Read a recap of the season, including golf and boys' and girls' spring tack.

Pg. 11

Features

See where the senior class is heading next year for college.

Pgs. 6-7

The High Times

SINCE 1933

RIDGEWOOD, JUNE 2013

VOLUME LXXIX No. 8

Senior Prom

A Night Worth Remembering for The Class of 2013

**Bradley Alsop and
Ethan Sapienza**
arts and entertainment editors

Not even the torrential downpours and threat of a tropical storm could put a damper on one of the highlight events of the school year, senior prom. Held at the Atrium in Jersey City for the second time, the venue yet again proved to be a hit with the students who enjoyed the grand hall, great dance floor and spectacular views.

Various "Pre-Proms" were held at different students' homes, where seniors gathered with their dates and friends prior to the event to take pictures and socialize, before taking either their own chartered buses or the transportation offered by the high school to the Atrium.

A cocktail hour was held from 7:30 until approximately 8:45 in which students mingled throughout the venue, talking to their friends and taking pictures to document the special night. There was some dancing before dinner, which was served at

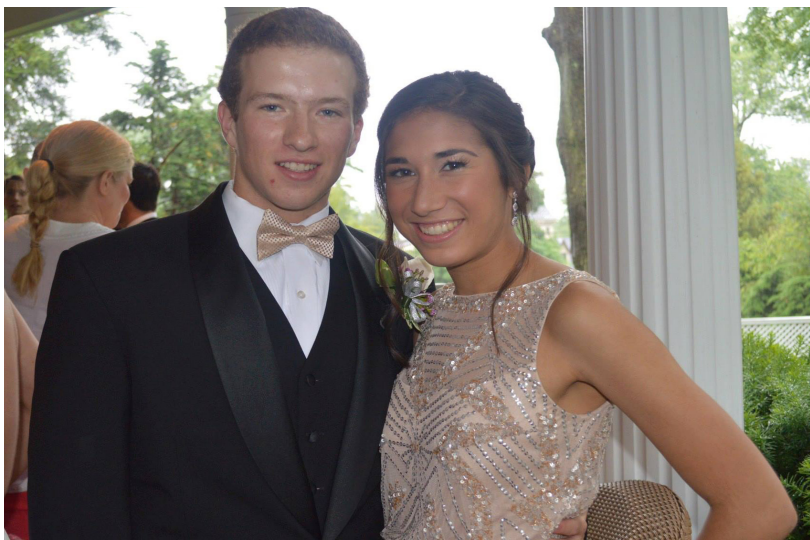
around 9:30, and everyone quickly ate before the dancing started up again.

The highly anticipated announcement of Prom King and Queen came at the end of the night, when the eight boys and eight girls nominated made their way to the front. Brendan Muldoon and Brenna Knight were crowned Prom King and Queen; the couple then excitedly shared the traditional first slow dance as everyone watched on.

The event ended shortly after, as most students tired from the long night made their way home. The whole

event proved to be a special one and it was a great way for the seniors to spend time together as a class before they graduating in a couple weeks.

The Class of 2013 will certainly recall the memory of last Friday's prom with fondness. The underclassmen in attendance were given a treat and reminded what they had to look forward to as seniors. Overall, it was a great time in which over five hundred students had the opportunity to dress up, dance, eat, laugh, and enjoy a formal night together as a class and as friends.



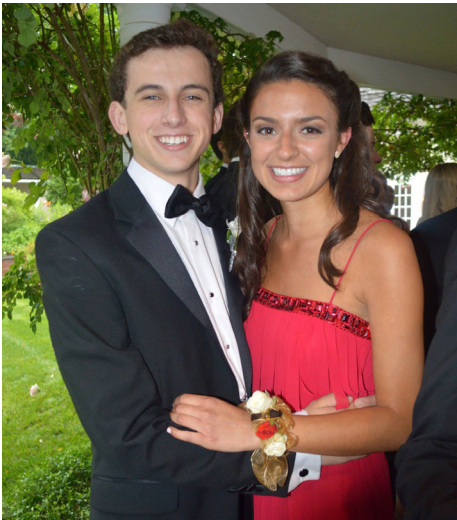
Cooper Holmes and Amanda Muccio at pre-prom.



Grant Olans, Mollie Wodenshek, Cali Bird, and Teddy Wackerman pose for a picture.



Tom Lum and Francesca Felder



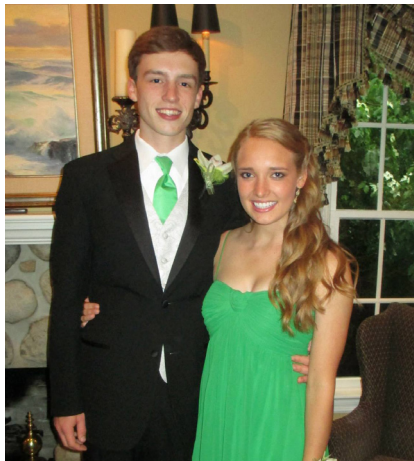
Alec Cohen and Natalie Marcus



Emily Feder, Quinn Morris, Melissa Haworth, Wade Belair, Amanda Dauber, Matt Giancristofaro, Maggie Carver, and Cole Miller



Margaret Ekblom, Amy Rota, Meghan Callaghan, Colleen Dwyer, Alexandra Golabek, Elizabeth Barnard, and Ally Flood



Andrew Bennett and Abby Taylor

News

Memorial Day

Deborah Frank
staff writer

To many Americans, Memorial Day is simply a day to barbeque with neighbors, head to the beach, or swim. However, many students and Ridgewood residents took the time out of their day to come and show their appreciation for all those who have lost their life while serving in the military to protect our country.

Members of Project Interact, the community service club from Ridgewood High School, supplied war veterans and spectators with water and baked goods.

Throughout the event, many spoke about personal experiences in the military and explained the significance of Memorial Day in their own words. Master Sergeant Charles Ernest Hoskin Jr.'s daughters were among the speakers, and Elizabeth Evans and Janice Brazil spoke beautifully about their lost father and how his service in the Vietnam War has impacted them in positive ways, becoming a source of pride. Janice reminded the crowd in her speech that "only in the act of memorializing can we truly value our freedoms".

Of the students who attended the event, Alex Caronna said that "it was an educational experience for both my peers and I. I thoroughly enjoyed all of the speeches and hope to attend next year".

The speakers at the service dis-

“Many students and Ridgewood residents took the time out of their day to come and show their appreciation for all those who have lost their life.”

cussed the Constitution, the values America stands for, and the fine men and women that all Americans are fortunate to have serving and protecting them in the military.

The ceremony also touched upon what the primary motivator is for these devoted people to serve. It is not a desire for a job, but rather a desire to serve the country that they cherish and to have the opportunity to give back to the United States of America. The event, as a whole, served as an effective reminder of this notion for all those who attended.

627 E. Ridgewood Ave. Ridgewood, NJ 07450	
Staff Advisor...	Adam Brunner
Editors-in-Chief...	Elizabeth Kopec Joyce Kwon Curran McSwigan
News Editors...	Sumita Rajpurohit Jackson Stone-Esposito
Opinion Editors...	Sarah Sandler
Features Editors...	Gabby Bonfiglio Steven Lee
Arts and Ent. Editors...	Bradley Alsop Ethan Sapienza
Sports Editor...	Laura Weisberger
Art and Photo Editor...	Theo Hong

Wiffle for Cancer Fundraiser

Jackson Stone-Esposito
news editor

The “Wiffle for Cancer” tournament on Sunday, June 2 marked the ninth annual hosting of the event, and the third that was held on the grounds of Ridgewood High School.

Established in remembrance of former Ridgewood High School student Nick Currey, the tournament aims every year to raise awareness and funds for Ewing Sarcoma, a type of cancer that affects children. In 2005, the disease took the life of Currey, who had already survived a fight with leukemia in his early childhood.

Each team consisted of 3 to 5 players, and this year 7 teams were in attendance for the tournament. The competition features two divisions - a “competitive division,” for those looking to win games, and a “recreational division” for those looking for a more relaxed atmosphere.

In total, the tournament raised almost \$5,000, with roughly \$1,850 coming from the player entrance fees and another \$3000 from sponsor donations.



Students formed teams and paid an entrance fee to raise money to support research to cure Ewing Sarcoma, a form of cancer.

The ten sponsors who donated the most money to the cause had fields named in their honor for the tournament.

New to this year's event were sponsor gifts given to players or teams who made extraordinary plays or who made great efforts on the field. For instance a player who made a particular diving catch, recieved a \$15 gift card given from a local sponsor. Additionally, two “mini awards” were handed out to the team with the best name and to the team with the best shirts. “Taxes @ Work” won this year's award for best shirts, and “A Case of the Wiffles” won for best team name.

The conditions for this year's “Wiffle for Cancer” were anything but optimal, as heavy wind posed a challenge to those on the field. Still, players were able to persevere and make the best out of the tournament. “Despite the windy day, and the fields' losing their shape, all teams who played had a great time and enjoyed supporting awareness of Ewing Sarcoma cancer,” says Karen Mendez, Ridgewood High School teacher and one of the annual event's main organizers.

Senior Awards

Elizabeth Kopec
editor-in-chief



Noah Pounds is recognized at the Senior Awards.

On senior awards night, member of the class of 2013 recieved scholarships and other awards for their work over the past four years. June 11, the night of the ceremony, was just fifteen days before graduaton, where the winners were announced to all those attending.

Teachers, Dr. Gorman, Dr. Fishbein, and other members of the Ridgewood community presented the awards to the winners at senior awards night. Seniors were served cookies and punch after the ceremony.

At this time, the list of winners is not available for publication, but scholarships included the Kurth Scholarship Award, the Kraft Scholarship Award, as well as scholarships awarded from music and sports associations. At least 145 different awards were presented, and many awards were given to multiple students.

Senior Maggie Enright says she is “super excited” about winning an award. She is glad that she “applied for a scholarship” and is “really happy that I am getting one.”

Senior Rose Fionda says that being invited to the ceremony “was kind of unexpected.” She is “excited to be winning an award, hopefully.”

The Daily Treat
where everyone meets
serving: breakfast, lunch, dinner



177 East Ridgewood Avenue

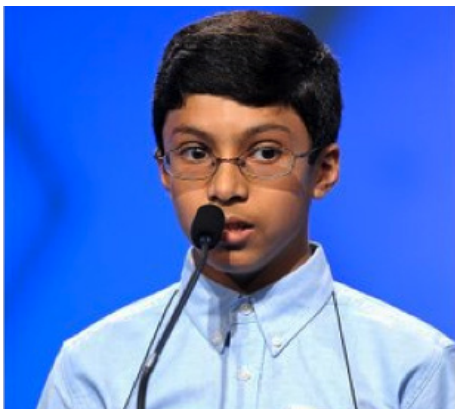
2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee

Krishna Rao
staff writer

Do you know the meaning of “physiognomy”? What about “weissnich-two”? Could you spell either of those words if you heard it pronounced?

Contestants in the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee had to do just that, travelling from all over the globe to Washington, D.C. for the opportunity to win the prestigious first prize.

The Bee began with a school-level competition, and contenders had to be between ages eight and fourteen. Following that were the regional, preliminary, semifinal, and championship competitions.



Aditya Rao placed 19th nationally.

The semifinals and finals were nationally televised, eliminating 41 qualifying spellers to a single champion over the course of sixteen rounds. The students who take the initial qualifying test number in the millions.

The following interview is from contestant Aditya Rao of Phillipsburg, NJ, who placed 19th.

What drew your interest in spelling?

In first grade, my mother sent me to a local spelling bee, and I did it the next year and the next year, and eventually, I started to like the competition and the activities.

How did you prepare for the competition?

I had a coach, and the coach would give me lists to prepare, so I studied those lists. And I had some books that were for spellers, and they had lists of words too, and I would study those. And other than studying lists, I would look up rules for different languages and study roots, and things like that.

Would you like to comment on your experience participating in the Bee?
I was excited, but nervous to be there. I was a little disappointed after I was eliminated, but I was pretty happy

overall, with how I did... even though I was hoping to get into the finals.

What is your favorite word?

I would have to say that my favorite word is Syzygy*, because its spelled S-Y-Z-Y-G-Y, and it looks funny, and it sounds funny.

***syz-y-gy: noun** \ˈsɪ-zə-jē/: the nearly straight-line configuration of three celestial bodies (as the sun, moon, and earth during a solar or lunar eclipse) in a gravitational system.

The winner of the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee was Arvind Mahankali of Bayside Hills, NY. He won in the final round by spelling the word, “Knaidel.”



Arvind Mahankali receives his trophy.

News

RHS Remembers: Outstanding Teachers Retire after Decades of Service

Julia Koski
staff writer

As the school year comes to an end and everyone is worrying about finals and excited for summer to begin, it is important to remember the hundreds of teachers who make this education possible. These are some interviews with each of the teachers who will be retiring this year after decades of hard work and dedication to their students and jobs.

“Ms. Johnson is very inspirational and I feel lucky to have had her as my AP biology teacher this year.”
- Lauren Benton, AP Biology student



through that job I got a teaching certificate, and then soon after I got a call from Ridgewood High School saying they had an opening! I never applied for the job, but it worked out great for I LOVE being in an environment where I can learn and experiment.

What would you say has been your most rewarding experience as a teacher?
When I see a light in a student’s eye and they say they get it or discover something new. It feels amazing as a teacher when you see kids extend themselves beyond the classroom and take a real interest in science. I have had former students be published in Discovery Magazine, put an experiment in space, win an Intel Prize, and win Pasteur prizes for immunology articles. Additionally, three of my former students have become my student teachers!

What has been your favorite aspect of working at Ridgewood High School?
To be a part of the Ridgewood School System is like teaching in heaven. Teachers share ideas, and care about what each student learns. Students want to learn and are eager to discuss and share their work. Patents become involved with the school and join committees to make it possible for the best education for each student.

If you could give one piece of advice to students in general, what would it be?
Go with your passion and never, ever give up on it.

How long have you been teaching at Ridgewood High School?
I have been teaching a total of 40 years in Ridgewood between BF, GW, and RHS.

What subject/ courses do you teach?
I have taught AP, Honors, and regular Biology, Chemistry, and Physical Science as well.

What experience has made you realize that you wanted to pursue education as your career?
I loved studying biology growing up, and I was a Biology major in college. Anything where I could talk about/ work in biology was interesting to me. I got a job as an admissions counselor for southern colleges and absolutely loved it. That job allowed me to travel all across the country. Half a year

“Ms. Johnson is a great bio teacher- her teaching style is unique, fun, and creative. She does a lot to help broaden our knowledge in biology and further our career in science. Every day she has new career or life lesson to share in class. She is one of the most experienced teachers this school has had.”
- Kruthi Kella, AP Biology student

“Mrs. Youngkin possesses the rather unique ability to make calculus a class that students look forward to. Whether it be with a proof or an interesting prop, she never fails to pique the interest of her students. She is energetic and excited each day, not only about her subject but also about her students’ activities and outside lives. It has been a true pleasure to attend her classes.”
- Matthew Drier, AP Calculus AB student



I was influenced to pursue education by two very special teachers in my life. My eighth grade teacher inspired me to become a teacher and my high school math teacher make me feel confident that I could teach math in a high school.

What would you say has been your most rewarding experience as a teacher?
My most rewarding and most memorable experience for me is the gratification and feedback I get from students when they understand and master a math concept we worked on. Their “thank you” is my greatest reward! I also taught Math Prep this year and I am very happy that all my students passed the HSPA and we are graduating together.

What has been your favorite aspect of working at Ridgewood High School?
RHS is a wonderful place to work because the staff and teachers are exceptional. My years at the high school and the relationships I have formed will never be forgotten.

If you could give one piece of advice to students in general, what would it be?
My advice to students is to have a goal and do the best you can to reach that goal. Go the extra mile.

How long have you been teaching at Ridgewood High School?
I have worked at RHS for the past 25 and a half years.

What subject/ courses do you teach?
I provided math support to students with learning disabilities for one-on-one and small group instruction as a Supplemental Teacher.

What experience has made you realize that you wanted to pursue education as your career?

“Ms. Youngkin is a teacher who is extremely passionate about all of her students. She goes the extra mile to make sure that they shine both inside and outside of the classroom.”
- Jaspal Brar, AP Calculus AB student



hood kids, so teaching seemed like the best fit for me. I chose Physical Education first as I loved sports and liked the idea of being able to go outside during the school day. I taught Health & Physical Education for fourteen years before adding Mathematics.

What would you say has been your most rewarding experience as a teacher?
Working with students each day. I get to smile and usually laugh at least once a day! I enjoy the challenge of figuring out how to help students understand the work that they are doing and persevere in becoming more capable.

What has been your favorite aspect of working at Ridgewood High School?
The awesome faculty, the willingness of most students to engage in their education and the many opportunities to attend school events, which makes me realize how diverse and talented our students are.

If you could give one piece of advice to students in general, what would it be?
Become an educated person. Learn for the experience of thinking in ways that you are not able to think on your own. Take advantage of the opportunities to experience things out of your comfort zone or outside the normal range of your activities. Be kind. People around the world tend to respond in positive ways if they feel they are respected or valued.

How long have you been teaching at Ridgewood High School?
Almost 25 years but I have been teaching for 39 years.

What subject/ courses do you teach?
Mathematics- Algebra II, Advanced Algebra & AP Calculus AB

What experience has made you realize that you wanted to pursue education as your career?
When I was young about 50% or less of the students in my high school went to college. Females had primarily three choices for careers- secretary, nurse, or teacher. I used to hold “school” in my garage for my siblings and neighbor-

Opinion

Student’s View of Student Council

Aisling Casey
staff writer

“No offense, but Student Council doesn’t really do anything.” As a class delegate for the last four years, I’ve heard this statement a lot. As it turns out, Student Council does a lot of things, but the student body isn’t always aware of them. It’s time to set the record straight.

To understand what Student Council does, one must know how it is organized. It is broken up into four grade levels, each composed solely of delegates from that grade, voted in by their peers. All levels come together to form a congress headed by four officers elected by the student body.

The activities of grade delegations revolve around Freshmen and Sophomore Semis, and then Prom in junior and senior year. The greatest portion of these activities is fundraising for these dances. While bake sales always make a profit, delegates must think bigger to collect necessary funds. For instance, The Class of 2013 has found great success in organizing more unique bake sales, such as Macaroni Mondays and legendary Waffle Wednesdays. The organization of the dances also requires a lot of work. Members must choose a theme, music, decorations and food that will please the majority of students. During a class’ senior year, delegates also devote a lot of time to organizing Senior Days, which occur every month leading up to Graduation.

School-wide student council organizes and participates in numerous activities, mainly concerning school spirit and community service. Spirit Weeks and Pep Rallies are by far the

most demanding and rewarding activities. Members must choose themes for each day, decorate the school and gym on Thursday night for the Pep Rally on Friday, organize the Pep Rally events and procure the necessary equipment. The success of these events is almost entirely contingent upon student participation. In the last four years, there have been mixed results, but the process was always enjoyable.

Members participate in a number of annual community service activities. One activity is the Thanksgiving Food Drive, run by the Social Services of Ridgewood, in which members help organize and distribute food collected from local schools to families in need. Another is the NJAA’s Holiday Party for underprivileged children, where delegates entertain hundreds of kids for the day. Profit from the football concession stand, run by delegates, goes toward purchasing gifts for these kids. In early February, Student Council hosts the Valentine’s Day Dance for senior citizens. Members eat, dance, and hear stories about the good old days from the most knowledgeable and sassy people in town.

The success of a Student Council is dependent upon the commitment of its members, how fresh their ideas, are and how strong their work ethic is. If students think that student council doesn’t really do anything, it’s because their delegates aren’t fulfilling their duty. It is then up to students to vote for the people who are most qualified for the job, not just their friends. Student Council does important work, and that work must be given to the people who will handle it the most creatively and successfully.

A New Type of Affirmative Action

Liam Berry
staff writer

The debate over affirmative action has been cracked wide open again this year by a few critical Supreme Court cases, primarily *Fisher v. University of Texas*. Both sides of the aisle have begun to question the efficacy of race-based affirmative action, raising challenging questions: Is it constitutional? Is it fair? Is it effective? However, instead of banning race-based affirmative action, why not compliment it with another program?

tem. This system works not only to have socioeconomic class weighed in the admissions process, but also works to build relationships with disadvantaged neighborhoods and schools. The California system also promises to accept top students from all schools, ensuring disadvantaged neighborhoods spots in their high-quality system.

According to a recent *New York Times* overview of affirmative action by Richard Perez-Pena, the California system is much more effective at integrating disadvantaged students and racially diverse students than states



A reasonable argument against affirmative action is that it’s not fulfilling its purpose of truly increasing diversity; that is diversity in a background sense. Two rich people of different races are far less different in perspective than two class-separated people of the same race. Still, race-based affirmative action has done a good job of securing and continuing *some* racial progression and has helped lift *some* racial minorities out of poverty. However, this is not enough. With growing gaps between the rich and poor in college accessibility, another kind of affirmative action is necessary: real, deliberate *class*-based affirmative action.

The public university system of California has already replaced its race-based affirmative action with an impressively effective class-based sys-

tem that use only race-based affirmative actions, particularly Michigan. In the Michigan system only 16 percent of students come from disadvantaged families (as defined by eligibility for federal Pell grants) and in the California system, over 40 percent of students are coming from disadvantaged families. California also has superior racial diversity. While there are other factors contributing to the statistics, there is certainly something to be said for the California system.

While I don’t believe one should be too quick to ban a historic and valuable program like race-based affirmative action, there’s certainly no harm in investing a little bit more in our poor. Maybe it’ll take a chunk out of the rapidly growing inequality and help preserve the shrinking middle class.

Boston Bombing Reconsidered

Madeline Morsch
staff writer

This week, after meeting with several high-level officials in Russia, one member of a sufficient congressional delegation believes that the Boston terror attacks could have been prevented if our intelligence communities cooperated more closely and with more efficiency. When asked if he thinks measures could have been taken to prevent these bombings, the aforementioned member told MSN-BC, “Yes, it could have been averted. Not just by one mistake made by the United States, or one mistake made over here in Russia, but instead, by making sure that both countries were working together at a much higher level.”

A group of U.S. Congressmen spent the week in Moscow reassessing what could have been done to prevent the bombings and other such incidents from recurring. They also looked into how Tamerlan Tsarnaev and his brother began down their path of destruction.

Most of the media sources have reported that the Boston attacks could have been averted if Russia and the United States worked better together as allies.

However, the Congressmen argued that they aren’t sure the bombing definitely could have been prevented, but if all the dots were joined up, and the security agencies were cooperating, then perhaps, you can imagine a situation where the bombings would not have occurred. Then, the victims who perished would still be alive today. The Congressmen noted that they felt they got a very positive reception with free communication with the Russian security services. They concluded that this was a positive meeting, and everything had gone well. To put it simply, they wanted to get the message across that the Cold War is over and we have to move on. Russia and the United States



Congressmen, Steve Cohen and Dana Rohrabacher lay a wreath at the site of the 2000 terrorist attack in Pushkin Square in downtown Moscow.

are two big countries that share common interests. The most beneficial thing for both our countries is to work together.

The Congressmen also got to the bottom of many questions we were wondering, including when did Tamerlan Tsarnaev buy his ticket to return to the United States? When did this actually happen? Congressman Steve King had this to say on this subject: “What we’ve got, generally, was that Tamerlan left two days after one of his two buddies was killed. And it was, I guess it was July. But they didn’t give us the date. One thing we wanted to find out is when he bought his airplane ticket.”

Although there are still many mysteries of the motives and origins of the Boston Marathon bombing, the team of Congressmen who went to Russia uncovered quite a lot of information. Hopefully, we can use this information to prevent future acts of terror in our country.

Conquering Final Exams:
You’re Almost Done

Daniel Park
staff writer

With two weeks remaining before the end of the school year, everyone is simply itching for the year to end and for the vacation to begin. However, nearly all students, seniors with “A’s” in their classes excluded, must conquer the dreaded final exams. As teachers

may fade over a short period of time. As I prepared and took the final exams for the first time, I recall feeling extreme pressure to perform well, and feeling slightly panicked as I dug out old concepts, reacquainted myself with them, memorized concepts and solved problems, even though I had been preparing ahead of time. The exam and preparations both felt



begin handing out study guides and offering review sessions for the exams, it’s best to begin preparation for the tests now rather than procrastinating until the last minute. Although I’m sure there are several talented people in this world who are very good with memorizing a massive influx of information in a short amount of time, most students, myself included, would find it difficult to recover a semester’s worth of concepts and information for at least five different classes in three or four days. Much of their memories

like a race against the clock- and I found anxiety only impeded progress in organizing my thoughts and finding information that I would need for each question.

Hopefully, this article serves to ease your nerves slightly as we all break into a final sprint to finish the 2012-2013 school year. Just remember, although these final exams are important to your future, it only serves to measure your skill; so utilize as much of your knowledge as possible. If you don’t do as well as you hoped, there’s no pressure.

Opinion

American History Remembered

Liam Berry
staff writer

If the question were asked: “What is the greatest moment in American history?” Nearly every student at Ridgewood High School would be able to recall the trials and triumphs of our collective past- from Washington’s crossing, to the Civil Rights Act, to the moon landing. It is clear that our nation is able to come together and accomplish truly awesome feats of will, justice, and innovation. However, with all the glorification and remembrance of things past, there is a lack of reflection on our lesser moments. We have become so wrapped up in national pride that we have forgotten how to feel national remorse.

It all starts in the classroom. Ridgewood High School happens to be a bastion of comprehensive and thoughtful history education; many of our classes learn to criticize as well as praise the nation’s past. However, many classrooms suffer from a romanticized “glazing-over” of the harsh reality which we have to face: America has made mistakes, terrible mistakes.

While understanding the motivations behind certain deeds is important, we should not try to sugar-coat the truth. There are certain moments for which we have to take responsibility and apologize: When the atomic bombs were dropped it was clear that our nation forgot that wars are fought against armies, not civilians. Just as Germany and Japan have to come to accept that their actions during World War II were unacceptable, so must we. Similarly, Northern Americans often come to accept slavery and racism as institutions strictly of the South, and

Southern students are often taught that their highly principled ancestors were defending their rights against “Northern aggression.” Ideas like these are dangerous because they remove students from cultural culpability, and threaten to distance them from the truth.

Only when we understand the mistakes we have made can we break the cycle of devastating repetition, especially regarding our foreign policy maneuvers.



We as a nation are able to consistently achieve so much because we celebrate and reflect upon our accomplishments. Our politicians are exalted when they invoke the leadership of heroes past. However, when people, especially politicians, criticize the American past, they are ostracized and called un-American. Why is it more patriotic to lie about the past than to try and learn from it? More can be learned from mistakes than from successes.

Holidays focused on national remorse and, perhaps, service efforts to make up for the mistakes we have made wouldn’t be a bad place to start. Efforts like these could lead to reform in plenty of other places because, as Nobel Prize winning author George Santayana once said, “a country without memory is a country of madmen.”

Bleacher Report: Job Market

Theo Hong
art editor

Every year, like an annual holiday, thousands of fresh college graduates flood the job market in all sectors with bright new ideas, youthful energy, and four years worth of hard earned knowledge. However, unemployment for even college graduates is more morbid than it has been in the past. Reminiscing the days that even having a college degree at all was a guaranteed gateway to a steady job and another step closer towards achieving the American Dream (a la The Great Gatsby), the 21st century is a fast changing world where law school graduates must find work as baristas, moving back into one’s parent’s house is increasingly common, and masters degree holders, even in typically lucrative and stable fields such as STEM or from elite institutions, are sometimes left homeless (seriously-- throw a search to Maurice Johnson).

What can account for this trend? We were always taught that a college degree would be the key to making money and a happy life. However, this is actually part of the problem. So many young Americans are taught, and sometimes even forced, to go to a four year college. This is even taking into account the hundreds and thousands of dollars of loans that many find themselves needing. Coming from a well ranking public high school with aspirations of going to an elite university myself, dare I say that we, as a society, put too much emphasis on education?

Before I get berated, let’s look at this conceptually and realistically. For a society to function, there has to be a balance struck in the roles that each member plays and contributes. After all, everybody is really only paid for what they can contribute to their company and therefore society as a whole. Thus, with so many people encouraged

to go into high-profile fields of academia, business, and law, amongst others, we are seeing a highly over-saturated market for people looking to make big bucks. The number of college graduates per one hundred of population is undeniably increasing. Inversely, however, those going into trade schools or vocational institutions, or taking up trade jobs in general, are gradually and surely on the decline. The negative stigmas we put on trade jobs doesn’t help-- I haven’t heard anyone aspire to be a plumber or industry worker since perhaps the first grade (though a select few have expressed secret dreams of becoming a butcher or blacksmith...). However, the fact of the matter is that workers in these jobs are necessary for a functioning society-- and, as any right-minded left-leaner will tell you, arguably more necessary than Wall Street brokers or the thousands who want to become corporate executives.

In the end, I am by no means discouraging anyone from going to college. I think higher education and intellectual enrichment would be beneficial to all. Additionally, those who generally find a niche in lucrative fields should pursue their goals-- and I think my grades and extracurriculars speak for themselves in saying that I am one of these people. Perhaps the increase in education seekers end up being evened out by those who go into work in different fields. However, perhaps we are a little too money and prestige driven. The key word here is balance. Everybody has a role, but many people seem to put themselves above society. Many strive to achieve personal wealth without throwing a thought towards what they will contribute to society, and that is truly no way to keep things running. As a young child once told me in a stroke of surprising insight (or maybe a coincidental rambling of words); “If it doesn’t make the world a better place, then don’t do it.”

Suns Out, Guns Out

Theo Hong
art editor

With the summer rapidly approaching, many RHS students have begun drafting out their summer to do lists, or perhaps lack thereof. From sports to academics to vacations, I have heard options far and in between of what my peers will be doing this summer. Unfortunately, the answer for many is sometimes just to “relax.” While I wholeheartedly advocate taking a mental breather to prepare for the next school year (I’m already feeling hints of senioritis despite being a junior) I have always felt that the summer vacation, albeit always too short, presents itself in a prime yet undiscovered opportunity. Everybody should truly use their summer wisely and efficiently. Without the pressures of grades and schoolwork, I know that I have always tried to keep my head sharp while I’m out of school. Many high schoolers simply don’t care enough to use their summer wisely. Thus, I would like to provide some inspiration.

One route is to continue academics. Whether it be through popular “pre-college” programs, online courses, or classes at local colleges, there are tons of ways to continue with your studies out of school. Before you start to immediately dismiss this possibility, it is necessary to consider that it isn’t as bad as you would expect. Without the pressure of grades and test scores, you are able to truly focus on learning material. In addition, you can choose subjects that you are passionate about. The range of subjects is surprising: from film classes to philosophy to astronomy, there are tons of interest-

ing classes available through different programs. Debate camps, business programs, and everything in between come to mind. The summer New Players program can fall under this as well-- a fun experience while learning the ropes of theater and production.

Internships and work are another option. Many simply fail to realize the opportunities available to even high schoolers during the summer-- retail stores and local restaurants are always looking to hire, and if you dig deep enough, many businesses in New York City accept high school interns. This is a great way to either earn some money or get relevant experience in a field of interest.

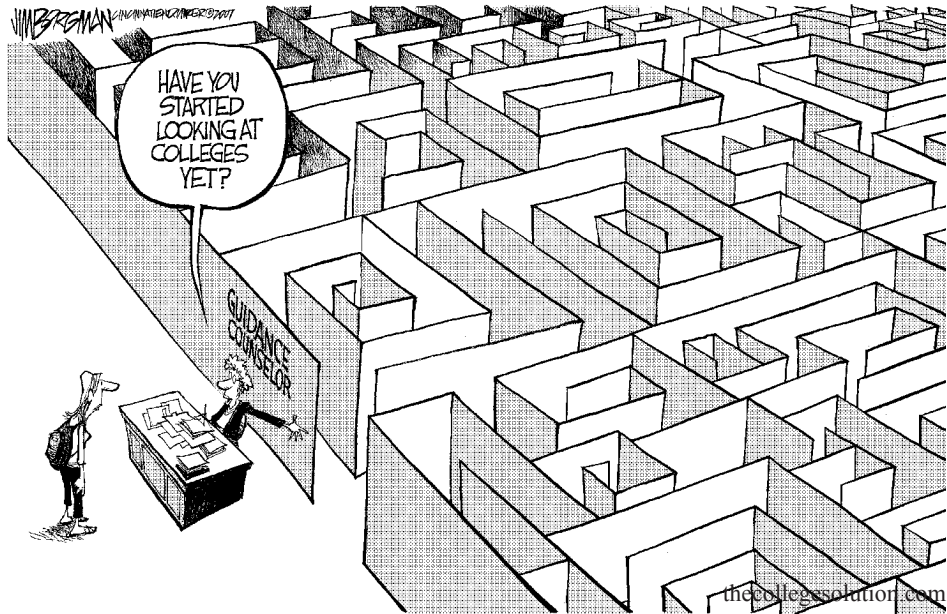
Many, at the athletic-heavy Ridgewood High School, are doing summer sports league programs this year, which is a great way to spend one’s summer, as well. This can greatly help any student who participates, from increasing chances of college recruitment, to simply continuing or even picking up a sport you are interested in. Students often forget that physical development is just as important as academic. In the end, it truly is your own choice on how to spend your summer. Maybe it is the fact that I always have to be doing something, or perhaps it is the pre-college anxiety that causes me to buckle down and beef up on academics and activities.

Nonetheless, I strongly encourage you to spend your summer wisely and productively. Productivity is not mutually exclusive with enjoyment. Don’t let the temptation of lazy days slow down your momentum. “Time enjoyed is not time wasted.” While I agree, this begs the question: why not both?

Juniors Stress about College

Zion Chang
staff writer

On June 26, the seniors of Ridgewood High School will graduate. The summer will be a blank page with little notes on the bottom about getting ready for college. However, the juniors will have a page full of notes. Depending on the colleges the juniors want to go when they graduate, they will need their applications filled out for college as early as November 1 or 15 for early action or early decision, and January 1 or February 1 for regular application.

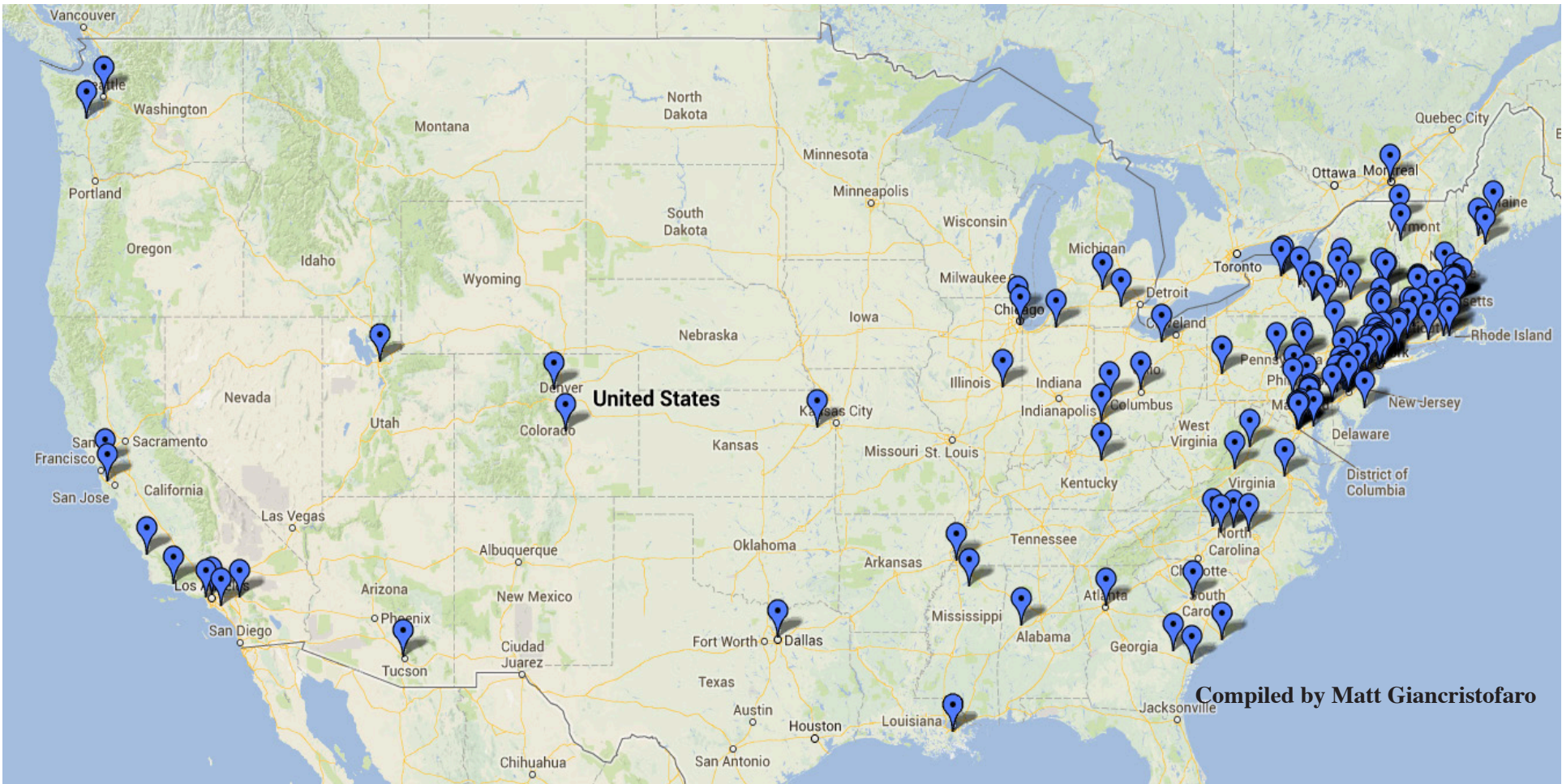


This means that the juniors must have a full list of standardized test scores by this time. Some students finish these tests earlier, but most juniors wait until the fall of senior year to take them before the deadline for college applications. As each student is evaluated primarily on scores and grades, one might get stressed about raising the scores and grades to an unlikely goal. Setting one’s goal high is a good tool for motivation.

leges and see what they require you to do. Specific goals developed while looking at these colleges will lead one through the days of getting the application finished and ready to send.

Lastly, a student should never hesitate to talk to his or her teachers and guidance counselors about getting ready for college. They know a lot more than the average students does about colleges and can provide various suggestions.

College Destinations



This map shows where the graduating students of RHS will be attending colleges and universities throughout the country, according to the data provided on the Facebook group “Class of 2013 Destinations,” and may not represent every member of the graduating class.

The University of Alabama-2	University of Colorado, Boulder-1	Hampshire College-1	University of Massachusetts, Amherst-2	Institute-1	SUNY New Paltz-1
American University-3	Colorado College-1	Hartwick College-1	Amherst-2	University of Rhode Island-4	Susquehanna University-3
Amherst College-1	Colby College-3	Haverford College-1	McGill University-1	Rhodes College-1	The College of New Jersey-9
The University of Arizona-1	Columbia University-2	High Point University-2	Merrimack College-1	University of Richmond-3	Townson University-2
The University of the Arts-1	Connecticut College-1	Hobart and William Smith Colleges-1	The University of Michigan-4	University of Rochester-1	Trinity College-2
Bard College-1	The University of Connecticut-Storrs-3	College of the Holy Cross-1	Michigan State University-1	Rochester Institute of Technology-1	Tufts University-3
Barnard College-1	Cornell University-4	University of Illinois-1	Middlebury College-1	Roger Williams University-1	Tulane University-4
Bates College-2	The University of Dayton-1	Ithaca College-3	The University of Mississippi-1	Rutgers University-13	Union College-2
Bergen Community College-3	The University of Delaware-6	James Madison University-1	New York University-8	Sacred Heart University-2	University of California Berkeley-1
Binghamton University-2	Dickinson College-3	Johns Hopkins University-1	Northeastern University-2	Saint Anselm College-1	University of California LA-2
Boston College-2	Drew University-1	Johnson & Wales University-1	Northwestern University-2	St. John’s University-2	Ursinus College-1
Boston Conservatory-1	Drexel University-3	The University of Kansas-1	University of Notre Dame-2	St. Joseph’s University-2	University of Utah-1
Boston University-2	Duke University-2	The University of Kentucky-1	Oberlin College-1	Salve Regina University-1	Vassar College-2
Bowdoin College-1	Elon University-4	Lafayette College-3	Occidental College-1	Savannah College of Art & Design-1	Villanova University-4
Brandeis University-1	Emerson College-1	Lehigh University-4	The Ohio State University-1	School of Visual Arts-1	United States Naval Academy-2
Brown University-1	Emory University-1	Lesley University-1	Pace University-1	University of Scranton-3	University of Vermont-4
Bryn Mawr College-1	Endicott College-1	Laboratore Institute of Merchandising-2	Pennsylvania State University-3	Seton Hall University-3	Wake Forest University-1
Bucknell University-6	Evergreen State College-1	Loyola University of Maryland-3	University of Pennsylvania-3	Siena College-1	University of Washington-1
California Polytechnic State University-1	Fairfield University-3	Manhattan School of Music-1	University of Pittsburgh-4	University of South Carolina-2	Washington & Lee University-1
Chapman University- 1	Fordham University-5	Marist College-6	Pratt Institute-1	Southern Methodist University-1	West Chester University-1
College of Charleston-1	George Washington University-7	The University of Maryland-4	Providence College-2	Stevens Institute of Technology-2	Westmont College-1
The University of Chicago-1	Georgia Southern University-1	Maryland Institute College of Art-1	Quinnipiac University-4	Stockton College-1	York College of Pennsylvania-2
The University of Cincinnati-1	Georgetown University-1		Ramapo College of New Jersey-3	Stonehill College-1	
The Catholic College of America-1	Gettysburg College-5		University of Redlands-1		
Colgate University-3	Hamilton College-2		Rensselaer Polytechnic		

End-of-the-Year Statistics

Students attending a 4-year college:
86.7% (346 Students)

Students attending an Ivy League college:
2.4% (10 Students)

Students attending a public college:
41% (153 Students)

Students attending a 2-year college:
5.8% (23 Students)

Students attending a
fifth year of prep-school:
2.8% (11 Students)

Features

The Faces of the Class of 2013

College Athlete: Cormac McCooe

Colin Azzopardi
Staff Writer

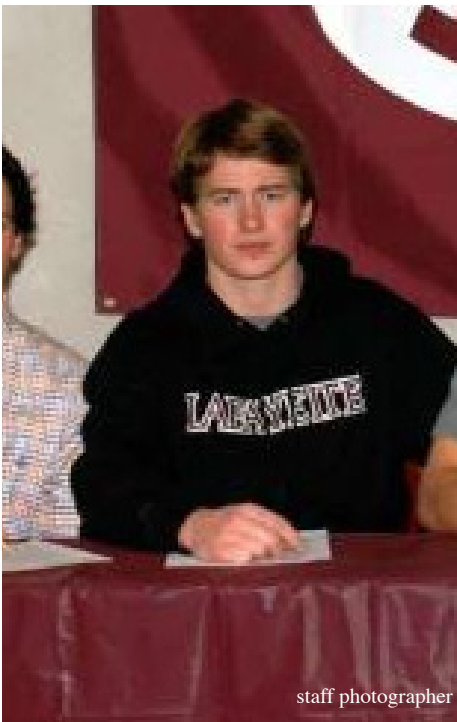
One characteristic that distinguishes the Village of Ridgewood is its ability to produce outstanding lacrosse players. Adding to its impressive ranks this year is Charles McCooe, also known as Cormac. The 6 foot 4, 200 pound senior is taking his talents to Pennsylvania next year to attend Division 1 Lafayette University, after turning down several Division 3 offers. Cormac received a lacrosse scholarship for his phenomenal defense and protection of the Maroons' All-American goalie Noah Pounds.

McCooe's teammate and close friend Billy Maltz will also be attending Lafayette University next year. McCooe and Maltz led the lacrosse team to back to back Group 3 Championships, and both are at the top of Lafayette's new coach Jim Rogalski's recruiting class, coming off a shaky 3-10 season. The Leopards hope to have the two Ridgewood stars turn their team around, after losing eight out of their last nine games. Cormac said, "It's going to be fun, it's going to be really nice having someone I already know really well on the team."

Cormac is especially looking forward to playing Lafayette's biggest rival, Lehigh University, where Cormac's good friend and former teammate, Trip Telesco, attends. "I'm really excited for Lehigh-Lafayette, especially because Tripp will be playing and it would be a satisfying victory," Cormac said. He is also excited to work with the Leopards' new coach Jim Rogal-

ski. Cormac compared Rogalski and Ridgewood's head coach, Michael Pounds. "Obviously Coach Pounds is all about working hard, and working as hard as you can, and it seems like Rogalski is going to be the same way," Cormac told us, seeming excited and considering himself well prepared for the jump from high school to college lacrosse.

Cormac is not just a star lacrosse player, but also a model student. He is a part of a well-established family, and, along with the rest of the town, his family members are very proud of their talented son.



staff photographer

Student Body President: John Byon

Gabby Bonfiglio
Section Editor

The RHS community was excited to hear that its student body president this year, John Byon, will be attending the University of Pennsylvania this fall. John applied to Penn as his early decision school because he wanted to participate in its excellent business program- its undergraduate business school, Wharton. Penn is one of the most prestigious schools in the country, and John was ecstatic to hear he was accepted.

John has lots to say about this excitement, including that "Penn provides students with so many opportunities. I also really like the campus and its environment. I know that I will find a lot of like-minded people there, and that is so exciting."

At Penn, John is most looking forward to his ventures within Wharton itself. His areas of interest include "management, finance, entrepreneurship, innovation, aerospace engineering, and public policy." He plans on blending these interests by declaring at least a major and a minor, if not a double major.

John has had an excellent experience at RHS and has much to show for his time here, as he was elected class president in his freshman, sophomore and junior years and then Student Body President as a senior. "My experience at RHS has been awesome," he says. Although he believes the competitive environment and high expectations of the students at RHS can be stressful at times, "the teachers are outstanding

and it is a great place to learn." Overall, he reminisces, "I had a ton of fun."

Even outside of school and student government, John enjoyed his time at Ridgewood High School on the football team. "I will miss playing football the most," he says. "Spending a few hours with Coach J may not sound fun to the average student, but it was by far the best part of my high school life."

Ridgewood will sure be absent one fantastic leader next year, but the community looks forward to seeing John use his leadership abilities to succeed both on and off of campus.



student photographer

Performing Arts Major: Allie Seibold

Seung Ho Lee
Section Editor

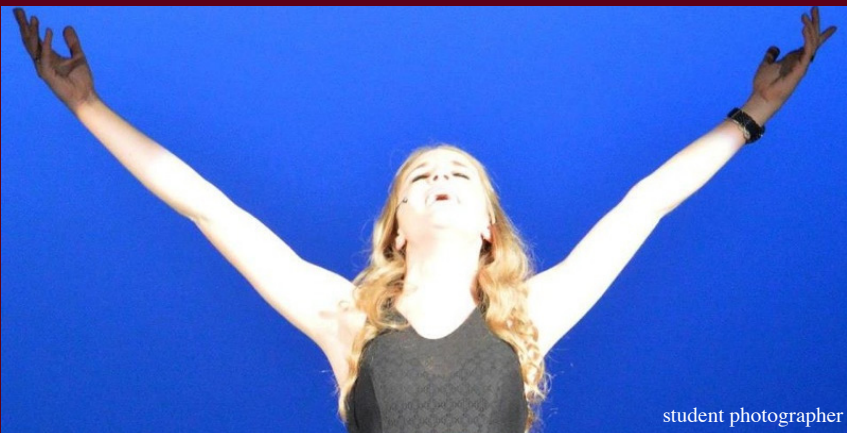
Ridgewood High School has always boasted a talented theater program, and this year, the members of the Class of 2013 are no exception.

One of the two students whom RHS is proud to have attending a school for performing arts is the talented Allie Seibold. She will be attending the Boston Conservatory next year. The Conservatory (also known as BoCo) is one of the most prestigious performing art schools in the country; in fact, the World Ranking Guide labeled Boston Conservatory (BoCo) as one of the best music schools in the US. Although it started as an inclusive community school, the Conservatory is now a major contributor and innovator in the field of performance. In addition, to its prestigious values and talented community, the Boston Conservatory aspires to create leaders in the fields of dance and theatre. Ridgewood's own Allie Seibold will, no doubt, be one of them.

Allie has been singing and per-

forming since she was five years old, and continued her career by participating and excelling in the RHS New Players Company. She was actually admitted to theater programs at several different schools, but chose to attend BoCo because it offers one of the top programs in the country for her desired major, musical theater. Allie feels confident in the training she will receive at BoCo, and looks forward to learning "the ins and outs of musical theater," as well as being able to grow as a performer.

At the same time, Allie is sentimental about leaving RHS. She says that her experience here has been "super awesome, and it really hasn't hit me yet that I have to leave so soon." She's going to miss the close relationships she has formed with her friends and her teachers here. Both the New Players Company and the school community at large are going to be sad to lose Allie's energetic character next year, but look forward to seeing her perform at larger venues in the future. Allie's dream is to be on Broadway, and many of her friends and peers have expressed faith in her getting there.



student photographer

Track Star: Storm Dublirer

Gabby Bonfiglio
Section Editor

Storm Dublirer has become sort of a legend at Ridgewood High School, not only for his superior track record (literally) but also for his recent acceptance to the University of Pennsylvania. As an Ivy League school holding the current ranking of fifth in the nation, Penn is a highly selective school. Dublirer knows this, as he has reflected upon Penn's "academically rigorous" schedule.

However, not only is Dublirer excited about this academic challenge, but he is also enthusiastic about Penn because it offers plenty of opportunities not only to learn but also to have fun. He cites Penn's nickname "the social ivy," as support, and says he's looking forward to becoming part of the "cool" atmosphere present on the urban Philadelphia campus.

Dublirer is especially excited about running for Penn's track team and continuing to hone his athletic capabilities. Already familiar with some members of the team, Dublirer describes them as a bunch of "really good guys" whom he is excited to get to know. In terms of his athletic abilities, Dublirer, one of the fastest runners on the track team for the majority of his time at RHS and remains particularly renowned for his times in the 800 meter race, looks forward to "working his way up the ranks again." Perhaps he will meet greater challenges on the Penn team than he did at this year's New Jersey State Meet of Champions.

On his experience at RHS, Dublirer reflects, "It's been fun. I've done some cool things and met some cool people." What he's going to miss most, in fact, is the presence of the people in

the school. He says "so many people in Ridgewood are so friendly to each other," and that he has "had some amazing teachers, and of course had the most fantastic friends." Dublirer is grateful for his experience at RHS, and the school is definitely going to miss his athletic and intellectual contributions next year. However, he remains both ready and excited to meet the academic and athletic challenges that await him at Penn.



berecruited.com

Arts and Entertainment

Music for Memorial Day

Brittany Chung
staff writer

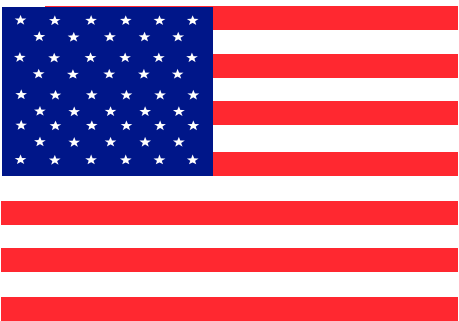
On May 27, many Ridgewood residents commemorated Memorial Day by attending the ninety-fourth consecutive Ridgewood Memorial Day Service at Van Neste Square. The service, conducted by Post 53 of the American Legion, honored Ridgewood’s service men and women who sacrificed their lives for their nation. The ceremony emphasized the true meaning of Memorial Day and urged residents to remember the fallen soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice in order to preserve American freedom.

Many students from Ridgewood High School participated in the Memorial Day ceremony. The Ridgewood High School Wind Ensemble and the Maroon Men performed musical renditions of patriotic classics throughout the ceremony. Lockie Nidds, a member of the Maroon Men, says that “it was a great experience to sing the national anthem for those who the song is meant to honor. We tried to exemplify our respect for our troops as well as we could and the ceremony was very touching.”

The members of the Ridgewood High School Wind Ensemble also served as readers for the roll call of the Ridgewood military service members who died during service.

Natasha Brodsky, a Ridgewood High School Senior, read her essay, “What Americanism Means to Me,” as a part of the Memorial Day Address. Along with Natasha, other noteworthy members of the community, such as Deputy Mayor Albert Pucciarelli, Legionnaire Bob Paoli, and Legionnaire Arthur Cody, spoke during the ceremony. Legionnaire Arthur Cody, the guest speaker, shared his recent experience serving overseas and spoke about his fellow service men and women.

The service reminded everyone to always keep the true meaning of Memorial Day at heart. Instead of viewing Memorial Day weekend as a three day weekend to be spent at the beach or as an unofficial kickoff to a season of barbecues and summertime activities, we should take the opportunity to remember the over one million Americans who have lost their lives protecting the freedoms that we hold so dear.



Random Access Memories Delivers

John Ricatto
staff writer

With their 2001 album *Discovery*, French House duo Daft Punk reinvented modern pop music. If one were to turn on any pop station, they would hear the influence of that album in the heavy synthesizers and bass that dominate today’s hit songs. Although Daft Punk became famous crafting their incredible brand of pop music, this new record, *Random Access Memories*, finds the duo expanding their music pallet to include disco and rock influences. Relying on live musicians as opposed to electronic samples, the album at once sounds like an ode to the past glory of pop-music as well as an innovative step forward.

The album often finds inspiration from 1970’s disco and progressive rock. On songs like “Get Lucky” and “Lose Yourself to Dance,” the music is driven by rhythmic, shuffling disco guitar riffs and catchy falsetto vocals that are reminiscent of funk and disco groups such as Chic and Earth Wind and Fire. On other tracks such as the eight-minute long epic “Touch,” the listener feels as though they are listening to something off of Pink Floyd’s 1973 progressive rock classic “Dark Side of The Moon.”

One of the album’s greatest successes is its ability to add a modern

edge to classic genres of music. The albums best tracks incorporate aspects of old and new, such as the opener “Give Life Back to Music.” On this track, the duo cleverly backs modern, auto-tune drenched vocals with a funky disco guitar line performed by legendary producer Nile Rogers. One of the standout tracks on the album, “Fragments of Time”, sounds like it could have been straight off of a Steely Dan or Fleetwood Mac album, but is performed using modern electronic instrumentation.

Overall, Daft Punk’s *Random Access Memories* is one of the most interesting and enjoyable releases of the year. The group clearly has stepped out their comfort zone to create a diverse and experimental piece that can be enjoyed by lovers of all kinds of music.



Cover of Random Access Memories.

Preview One Acts

Michael McGinley
staff writer

This month the New Players Company will be presenting an afternoon and evening of student written and directed One Acts. There are eight student-written, one-act plays that cover a wide variety of subject matter. Students interested in writing a one-act applied for the playwriting program in the beginning of the year with a rough draft. Throughout the year they have worked on creating a finalized version that will be directed by and performed by their peers on the Little Theater stage.

One of the things that makes the playwriting program so special is a field trip that the students take to New York City to see their plays read by professional actors. The playwrights not only get the chance to see their plays read professionally, but also see their friends and peers react to their plays. After the readings, the New Players enjoyed an afternoon and lunch in Times Square.

Delving into the synopses of the One-Acts on the slate for performance, one can start with “Jump,” a drama written by Mansheej Paul and directed by Maddie Wade. The play is about a young woman contemplating suicide on the ledge of an office-building roof. She is encountered by an employee on a smoke break who tries to talk her out

of it. “My Name is...” written by Hana Butler and directed by Colby Byrne and is a comedy about a man who is consistently taunted about his ridiculous and comical name. He is finally pushed over the edge when he has an appointment with a high school bully from his past. Next is a comedy by Neil Macky Schoff, entitled “We’d Love.” Directed by Tomoya Ishizuka, the play follows the story of an ordinary man who is suddenly confronted with the idea of

marriage, offered up by his long-term girlfriend. He anxiously begins questioning his sexuality, and turns to his deadbeat, pot-smoking friend for advice. “The Pregnant Diaries,” written by Colby Byrne and directed by Mickey McGinley, is a comedy about a pregnant teenager who is trying to write in her diary at her school library but is distracted by an assortment of extremely different students and teachers.

Senior Youngbin Yoon is the writer



Students rehearse for “Pregnant Diaries,” a piece in One Acts, written by Colby Byrne and directed by Mickey McGinley.

of two plays that will be performed this year. He is the writer of “Calendar Boy,” a play about the challenges of a pregnant teenager, which will be directed by Riley Clark, and “Seagulls,” a story about ex-lovers who meet by chance to sort out their complex history, which is also a revival from last year’s one-acts. Along with writing “Seagulls,” Yoon will also be directing it.

Junior Mark Hernandez wrote two plays this year. “Be Back Soon,” directed by Regina Kendrick, is about a date gone wrong between a man with Multiple Personality Disorder and his girlfriend. His second play, which he will also direct, is titled “Cupid.” It tells the story of a man who finds himself at the gates of heaven, but must play the role of Cupid and put one hundred couples together before he is admitted.

Every year the plays serve as powerful mediums of student expression. The plays always cover a wide variety of genres and subjects. They are a good opportunity for students who do not typically participate in theater to get a chance to do so. Being student directed, the one-acts have a history of uncovering new acting talents in the school and serve as a gateway for students to get involved with the New Players program. The plays will be performed on June 15 at 2 and 8 PM in the Little Theater, and there will be many new faces gracing the Little Theater stage.

New Players Company Produces The University of Life

Victoria Seremitis
staff writer

The New Players Company performed the original musical, *The University of Life*, a play with no script and all musical numbers, on June 1 and 2. *University* was written by Luciano Salvatore, a friend of the New Players Company and the piano player for the Ridgewood High School a cappella group, the Crazy Pitches. The show brings the audience through an average day in a high school, showcasing all different walks of life. The idea for *University* originated from a writing activity for Mr. Salvatore’s class, which was to write down the things that meant most to each of the students. Mr. Salvatore then took these

writings and developed songs with them, creating *The University of Life*.

Most characters sang one song each and acted in a group fashion in the background for the other numbers. The characters are not specific people, but rather archetypes, making the play relatable to just about anyone. “We thought it was really important to show that these people could be anyone in any school and focus on the bigger picture,” says senior director Rebecca Lampiasi. The play also consisted of a small set with a minimal cast, in order to make it more intimate for the audience. The show is narrated by “The Boy,” played by Peter Yoon, and “The Girl,” played by Julie Peacock.

The show was a great success. According to audience member Kyla

Perlman, “I really enjoyed the musical as a whole. It was interesting because it focused on people around our age and their lives. It included many relatable scenarios such as being the new kid, having a crush, and struggles in school. The music was very original and appealing.”

Cast members also loved working on the play and seeing it’s final product become a success. Some actors, like sophomore Daniel Brennan, had their favorite moments in the production: “My favorite song would be ‘If I Believe.’ It sounds really good, and it’s about what the person thinks about life as a whole.”

University was directed by RHS seniors Allie Seibold and Rebecca Lampiasi. This was their first time directing

a play at Ridgewood High School, and it was, according to Seibold, “a huge learning experience.” The two directors learned a lot about the production side of theater, which they believe is integral to the success of a production. Choreography, light design, and sound were all performed by RHS students.

Seibold delivered a heartfelt dedication to the people who made this possible after the show. She gave thanks to “Ms. Luisi and Dr. Schaefer for giving me this opportunity, and obviously to the cast and crew for doing such a great job. Last but not least, Luciano Salvatore for creating such a beautiful show.” As a whole, *University of Life* turned out to be a musical that many enjoyed, as well an impressive achievement for the New Players Company.

Arts and Entertainment

Students Showcase Talent at Annual Celebration of the Arts Event

Megumi Fujii
staff writer

Celebration of the Arts took place at Ridgewood High School on the night of May 30 and during school on May 31. Artistic students presented all types of art, plays, music and dance performances at the entire school.

I went to the night performance, which started at around 6:30. In the Campus Center, there were many works displayed from various art classes, such as Digital Painting, Architecture, Watercolors, and more. On the stage, dancers

performed a modern dance while a screen showed a video traced out the dancers' movements as they performed.

At 7:00, there were Symphonic and Concert Orchestra performances in the Little Theatre. After that, I walked around the school and looked at some more pieces of art in the hallway.

In the art room, Ms. Conforth allowed people to try out the digital drawing, and she let students use the tablet, which is used to draw with the computer.

I asked Ms. Conforth what the theme of this Celebration of the Arts is this year, and she replied that the theme

is reflection. She said she wanted the audience to think about the deeper meaning of the artwork on display and not just how it looks on the surface. In the hallway, there were many questions on the walls, asking people to consider questions such as "What do you like?" She said that the purpose of this was to make people think about themselves more deeply. Everyone in the audience, not just the artists can think more about their personality and selves.

At 8:00, the dance class performed in the dance studio. Each dance was fairly short, but they were

very stylistic and modern, and gave had a great impact on the audience.

At 8:30, the Chamber Orchestra held a concert in the Little Theatre. Two students performed solos, and Senior members of the String Orchestra performed as well.

Celebration of the Arts ended after their performances, but the art had a lasting impact on people's thoughts. The event was about 3 hours in total, but it went so fast that I couldn't believe I was there for such a long time. The performances and art works were very high quality, and fascinate the audience.

Artwork



By Chris Autera



By Hailey Smith



By Cindy Kim



By Narih Lee

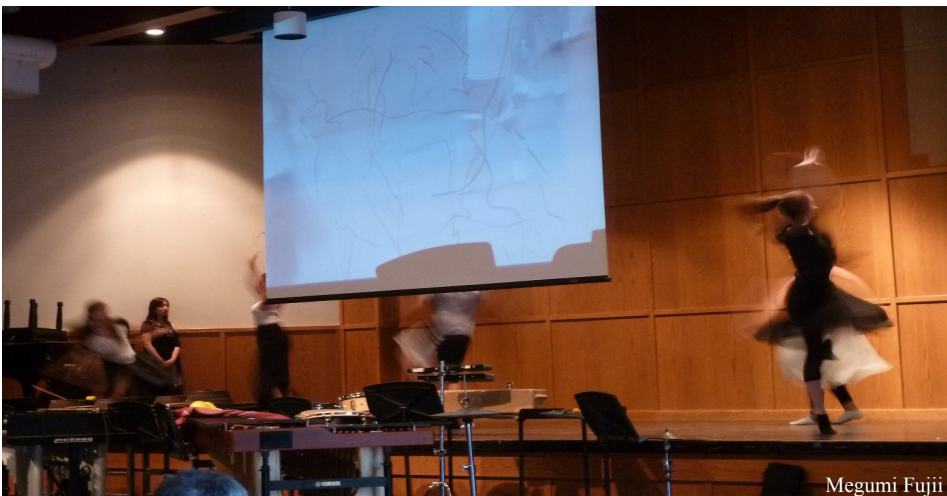


By Isabelle Foster.

Performances



Chamber Orchestra performs a piece for an audience in The Little Theater.



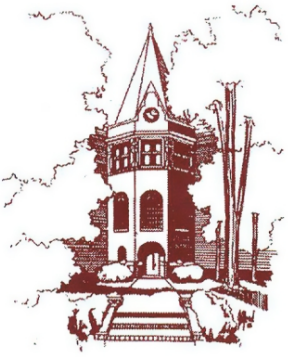
Students in Mrs. Landa's Advanced Dance class perform their dance "Secrets" in the Campus Center.



Concert Orchestra stands after finishing a piece in The Little Theater.



Mr. Haas conducts the RHS Jazz Lab as Bradley Bitzer stands up for a solo.



Join Us

Exclusive College Shopping Event

Celebrating the Ridgewood High School

Graduating Class of 2013

at

BED BATH &
BEYOND®

Wednesday, July 10th 5:00pm – 9:00pm

At our Paramus Location

Save 20% Off Your Entire Purchase*

Everything You Need to Equip Your Space



Visit our Paramus Location

Route 17 North and Ridgewood Avenue

(201) 444-8880

Health & Beauty products available at this location

Our expanded personal care department carries everything from deodorant and toothpaste to skin care, beauty and hair care, *and more!*



CAMPUS&

BEYOND™



* Good only on purchases made at this event. May not be combined with any other offer. Gift Cards Excluded. Show your High School ID or College Acceptance Letter to receive the discount

Sports

Boys Track Team Makes History

Laura Weisberger
sports editor

This season for boys track boasted one of the most successful teams to date in the program’s long history. The team won multiple championships, including County Relays, Leagues, County Individuals, and State Sectionals. This is the first time in RHS history this has been accomplished. The team won the State Sectional title for the fourth year in a row. It’s the first time in the fifty-five year history of the State Sectional meet that a Boys Group 4 school has won four straight titles. Coach Joshua Saladino called it a “great season” and named some of the top varsity contributors this year. Seniors include James Barnett, who scored the most points in the field events in shot put, discus, and javelin, Kevin Chung, who got All County recognition in the 100 meter high hurdles

and is one of the team’s top sprinters, Dylan Downing, who received All County honors in the pole vault, and Neil Schoff, a sprinter. Seniors on the distance team include Storm Dublirer, who placed All County in the 800 meters and is heading to University of Pennsylvania in the fall, and Nick Salamone, who is running next year at Marist College. The class of 2014 also boasts some great runners, including Brian Collins, a mid-distance specialist, Luke Dublirer and David Fre-ring who run distance, Doohee Han, a sprinter, Nick Higgins, who competes in the javelin, Jamal Locke, who is both a sprinter and throws javelin, and Jake Sabatini. Jake received All County honors in the 200 meter and Coach Saladino said “Jake could potentially be the best sprinter in RHS history.” The season proved RHS has a strong team with much depth, even though they lost great distance runners Levi Jennings and Travis Spicer last year.



Kevin Chung hands off the baton to Jake Sabatini in the 4x100m relay at the Group 4 meet in Egg Harbor, New Jersey.

Athlete of the Month:
Timber Erskine

Timber Erskine is a junior on the RHS varsity tennis team.

How long have you been playing tennis?

I’ve been playing ever since I could walk. My parents both play tennis, so I got into it at a really young age.

What is your position on the team and how long have you been on varsity?

I play second singles and I have been on varsity since freshman year.

Why do you like tennis?

It’s a lot of fun and I love my teammates. Tennis season is my favorite time of the year.

How did this season go for you?

It went well. We got finalists at Counties, which was one of my goals for the season from the beginning.

What were some of your other goals?

Basically just to win as much as possible and make it as far as we could in championship matches.

What is your favorite memory on the tennis team?

Probably winning Counties last year.

Who is your favorite professional tennis player?

I don’t really watch professional tennis that much, but probably Novak Djokovic.

Are you planning on playing tennis in college?

Yes, I hope so.



Timber sets up for a serve.

Golf Reflection By Coach Quirk



(From left to right): Kiley Chmiel, Jessica Chang, Julia Sullivan, Taryn Carroll, Annie Thurston, and Kelsie McKenna

The girls golf team repeated as Co-Champions of Division I of the Big North Conference (tied with Bergen Tech) with a 13-4 record. The team placed a solid third in the Bergen County Tournament (behind Bergen Tech and Tenaflly) and again qualified for the State North Sectional. The team also won the FDU Invitational Tournament besting rivals IHA & Holy Angels in the process. The depth of our team was again our strong point and speaks to the quality, caliber and strength of our program here at RHS. Two players, Senior Taryn Carroll and Sophomore Jessica Chang were named 1st team All-Division within the Big North and earned 2nd Team All Bergen County.

A third player, Junior Julia Sullivan was also 1st Team All-Division, and 3rd Team All County. Juniors Joyce Kwon, and Kelsie McKenna earned 2nd Team All-Division to round out our individual awards. We lose three seniors, aforementioned Taryn Carroll, Caitlin Goodman & Hannah Lee who made significant impacts on team in each their own ways, as skilled players, supportive teammates and senior leaders, but we return a team loaded with quality playing experience that is hungry to achieve even more lofty team goals including qualifying for the State Team Championship which we’ve fell short of each of the past three seasons.

Girls Track Season Overview

Laura Weisberger
sports editor

This season for the girls track and field team proved to be successful and lived up to its prestigious reputation. After placing first at the Bergen County Relays, placing third at the Big North Division 3 League meet, and placing second at the Bergen A Champs, the team placed second at Sectionals, which means that all the athletes who placed top 6 in their events move on to Groups, as well as any Ridgewood competitor who placed top 12. The addition of the 4x800 relay to Sectionals and Groups meant more athletes were able to compete in Groups. In the Bergen County Meet of Champions, in which only some athletes competed, Micaela McPadden took first place in the 400 hurdles, and senior Mimi Devita placed first in the pole vault with a height of 10 feet, 10 inches. Sophie Montgomery placed third in the high jump, and the 4x400m relay team of seniors Micaela McPadden, Sirai Ramirez, Anna Caffrey, and sophomore Lauren Monnerat placed third with a personal best time of 4:02. In the Bergen Freshman Champs Meet, hosted at Benjamin Franklin middle school, the freshmen girls competed well and placed sec-

ond to Old Tappan, with notable performances by Vanessa Reis and Sam Halverson, who will come back to be important contributors to the cross country team despite their youth. For groups, The team took a bus ride down to Egg Harbor for the meet against all the other teams in Group 4, and stayed in a hotel Friday night for the two day long meet on May 30 and June 1. Three athletes qualified for the State Meet of Champions at South Plainfield High School, sophomore Catherine Pagano qualified with a second place finish in both the 1600m and 3200m, sophomore Sophie Montgomery qualified in the high jump, and senior Micaela McPadden qualified with a fourth place finish in the 400m hurdles. Senior Storm Dublirer qualified in the 800m on the boys’ side At SMOC, Micaela set a new school record in the 400m hurdles and placed a phenomenal forth in the entire state with a time of 61.36, which is also third place on the all time Bergen county list. Catherine and Sophie competed to the best of their abilities and represented Ridgewood well. New Balance Nationals on June 14-16 in North Carolina bring the season to a close. Coach Jacob Brown will now begin his preparations for the next season of coaching in cross country.



Amanda Muccio handing off the baton to Micaela McPadden in the 4x400 meter relay in Egg Harbor, New Jersey for the Group 4 meet.

Art and Photography



Colby is currently a junior at RHS. He is enrolled in Studio Art AP II and the AHLISA program. After taking various classes and having many years of practice, Colby continues his work in primarily visual art. He dabbles in all mediums, as well as even getting involved in theater and music.

Colby Byrne



“Art gives you a little freedom from worries and anxieties and allows you to just create. It’s great how everyone has different styles, showing our differing perspectives; and one’s art shows these.” -Colby Byrne

