

Chronicle

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Photo Credit: OBP

Fall Show Review

By Harper Savage

This year, the Off Broadway Players club presented *The Witch's Princess* by Don Zolidis as their fall play on the 8th and 9th of November. *The Witch's Princess* is the story of Alessandra, a headstrong young princess whose mother was killed by the infamous bog witch of their kingdom, Artemisia, when she was only four years old. The witch cast a terrible curse stating that no son would be born into the ruling family, so the only way a new king could be appointed is if Alessandra got married and became queen. So, Alessandra decides that the only way to avoid getting married is to assemble a crew of deadly monsters and kill the Bog Witch herself.

The intricate plot was easily understandable after the whole cast and crew did a great job delivering the details of the story. The acting was great overall, and the talents of the entire group of (continued on page 3)

The Concerning Rise of Right Wing Extremism

By Theo Hart

Now that the election results have come in, you may have noticed a change in Donald Trump's rhetoric. The president-elect has morphed from a supposed peaceful dove into a warmonger. Throughout his campaign he was quoted as saying, "I'm going to stop the wars." Now he is threatening close allies. Throughout all of this, and to the dismay of constituents, many liberal politicians have begun accepting Trumpian politics as the status quo. In addition, the Democratic party has blamed their devastating loss on voters failing to support them, when it is in fact their job to create policies for people to vote for. The campaign refused to address many key issues, and capitulated to the right at every turn. For example, Harris (continued on page 4)

The Winter Concert

By Sarah Hurst



On a chilly night this past November, Averill Park students, parents, and community members gathered in the APHS auditorium, eager to see the hard work of our music department come to fruition. The concert began with the Orchestra, whose first three songs were each related to a different holiday. Their fourth song, however, brought a surprising change of events. For those who frequent our High School concerts, you know that Jazz Band often includes unscripted solos into their pieces, but this year, Mr. Blostein decided to extend that opportunity to the Orchestra. As the group collectively played the jazzy "Swing There, Done That" by Norgaard, each student took a turn stepping forward and playing a few seconds of completely improvised music.

After kicking off the concert with such an exciting show of talent, the Orchestra withdrew and the Concert Choir filed onto

the risers. The singing began with two songs performed by the All County students, who processed in from the back of the auditorium as they sang and took their places amongst the choir. The Concert Choir sang four songs together, one of which featured Logan Bloomfield as a soloist, and another which involved complicated body percussion.

Then, following a beautiful performance by the Band, Treble Choir amazed the audience with six stunning pieces, featuring a number of solos and duets. Last but not least, Jazz Band took the stage, and undaunted by the talent preceding them, closed out the concert with their usual cheery vivacity.

The Winter Concert may be over, but the talent and creativity of our music department is far from depleted. So plan to show up on March 4th for another awe-inspiring performance by our favorite music students!

Sports: The Next Chapter

By Spencer Sweet



Many athletes commit to colleges early because it can simplify the recruiting process. This is especially true at Averill Park High School as we have many talented athletes. A handful of these student athletes were interviewed about their experiences and what they hope to do.

Ciara Pogue has committed to SUNY Brockport and will play for their lacrosse team. Ciara is planning to major in nursing there. She started playing lacrosse in fourth grade when she attended some free clinics at the high school. She joined the youth league with Mr. Minkler (Mink) as her coach. Ciara says she chose SUNY Brockport for its location in Rochester: the closeness to her relatives, the beautiful campus, and the welcoming coach. Ciara hopes to bring the perseverance and resilience to do hard things that she's learned from Averill Park basketball. She is most excited to simply keep playing the sport she loves and to meet new friends.



Elizabeth (Liz) Carbone committed to SUNY Old Westbury and will play for their softball team while majoring in criminology. Liz started playing tee-ball when she was five years old. She chose SUNY Old Westbury because it was one of the few colleges that offers criminology as a major, it's near NYC and the ocean, and the softball coach. Liz is most excited to work with a group of girls who are determined and who all want to be there.

(continued on page 5)

AP Prepares for Transition from Warriors to Golden Knights

By Morgan Dier

As most of us know by now, Averill Park's long legacy as the Warriors is soon coming to an end. The 2024 - 2025 school year will be our last year with the beloved name. There have been past complications with the school image, resulting in the original (and extremely controversial) Native American mascot being changed to a Native American spear. Now, we are again changing and entering a new era that we hope can live up to the greatness of our past. It's important to remember that although this is a great deal of change, it is not changing our identity as a school, only the name we go by.

As of June 17th, 2024, the Board of Education officially decided to approve the Golden Knights as our new school name. It is yet to be determined whether we will have a mascot or what the official logo will be, but it's been decided that the elementary school mascots will remain the same. Many students were extremely passionate regarding that aspect, and some still feel pride about their elementary school mascot. The school colors are likely to remain blue and gold to prevent any unnecessary complications and stay true to our original heritage.

A group of students and administrators has partnered with BSN Sports to help create a logo and an identity we can be proud of and call our (continued on page 6)

Regents vs. Advanced Placement (AP)

By Naomi Harris and Spencer Sweet

We're already done with a whole semester of the school year, which means we're one semester closer to Regents and AP (Advanced Placement) Exams. However, some people might not know the difference between the two, especially new students to high school.

Regents classes are classes required to graduate high school. This includes Global History I and II, English 9 and 10, Algebra I, and many more. Most of these classes have an honors option or you can take them earlier than normal. Similar to honors and accelerated paths, AP classes are not required. They are harder classes and involve rigorous coursework due to their being taught at a college level. However, these harder classes have many positives. For instance, they can add a boost to your transcript when applying to college, earn you college credit, and they are great opportunities for you to better understand a topic you enjoy.

The Regents Exam is exclusive to New York State. It is designed to measure

the skills, knowledge and understanding that a student has over a particular subject. Regents Exams are similar to state testing taken during elementary and middle school, except passing Regents Exams is mandatory in order to earn a Regents Diploma. Then there is AP testing, which allows students to take higher level classes during high school, ultimately saving them time and money from taking the course in college. There is a fee around \$100 to take an AP Exam.

The scoring is also different with Regents Exams being scored on a 0-100 scale, and AP Exams being scored on a scale of one to five. Usually, scores between three and five can earn you college credit, however, AP Credit varies among different colleges and universities. Unlike Regents Exams, if you fail an AP Exam, by earning a one or two, you don't have to retake it to get a diploma. **(continued on page 9)**



Regents



Fall Show Review (continued from page 1)

involved were very apparent. I imagine that everyone involved had a great experience on and off stage. Logan Bloomfield, who played Jeff the Courier, stated that his favorite part of preparing the show was the size of the cast. Overall, you could tell just by watching the actors that they loved being a part of the show, and that they were all having fun.

The actors on stage weren't the only ones who helped to make this show such a fun watch. Considering the fact that some parts of the story were hard to depict, the crew did a very good job at bringing the whole story to life. They helped to create the set as well as helping with lighting, sound, and more. When asked what she loved about her work on stage, Chava Thiell stated, "For this show, there weren't too many scene changes, so I liked when we got to be active and interact on stage." Without the crew, this show would never have taken flight.

I enjoyed the Off Broadway Players' production of The Witch's Princess by Don Zolidis very much. Both nights, the show seemed to be very **(continued on page 10)**



Photo Credit: OBP



The Concerning Rise of Right Wing Extremism (continued from page 1)

embraced a draconian border policy, following the American right's descent into fascism. An example of a widely popular left wing policy that has been abandoned is free or subsidized healthcare. According to a 2023 Gallup poll, 57% of Americans believe that the government should insure everyone's healthcare, including 72% of Democrats and 13% of Republicans.

A factor that drove many Democratic voters to the polls was abortion rights. With the recent overturning of Roe V. Wade, women's medical safety is under fire. Many states have passed laws that make getting abortions, even in cases of potential death, nearly impossible. In fact, according to The Washington Post, an Oklahoma woman with a non-viable pregnancy had to wait in the parking

lot outside until she began bleeding out before receiving treatment.

Trans people were also under threat this election. This demographic is under such intense scrutiny that trans Congresswoman-elect Sarah McBride will be forced to use the bathroom of her gender assigned at birth rather than her preferred presentation with little to no defense from her supposed party allies.

The group under the most scrutiny from both parties recently has been immigrants. Deportations have been on the rise since 2016, and the president-elect's campaign has come back reinvigorated. Trump has advocated for mass deportations, the removal of birthright citizenship, and even the denaturalization of some

who have lived their whole lives as American citizens. Many of us here in Averill Park know trans and undocumented people, and at the end of the day, they're our neighbors, friends and classmates before anything else, and don't deserve the removal of their rights.

In the New York State legislature a Democratic supermajority has been reached. This likely means that more liberal policies, including the protection of women's and LGBTQ+ rights, are more likely to be passed. The 21st district, though, has re-elected Republican Elise Stefanik as their representative, who has also been chosen as Trump's UN ambassador. Stefanik is a staunch Zionist and (continued on page 7)

Kash Patel: The Future of Journalism and Investigation

By Catherine Hughes

"We're going to go after the people in the media who lied about American citizens, who helped Joe Biden rig presidential elections. We're going to come after you, whether it's criminally or civilly. We'll figure that out. But yeah, we're putting you all on notice."

"I'd shut down the FBI Hoover Building on day one and reopen it the next day as a museum of the 'deep state.' Then, I'd take the 7,000 employees that work in that building and send them across America to chase down criminals. Go be cops. You're cops -- go be cops."

- Kash Patel

Kash Patel's appointment to President-elect Donald Trump's cabinet as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation will have detrimental effects on both journalism and investigation in the next four years. Patel has been a Trump loyalist for a long time, and most recently was part of the felon's support group during his New York criminal trial, telling reporters it was an "unconstitutional circus." This diverges from the standard upheld by past FBI directors: keeping a safe distance from the presidents they serve under. During Trump's first term, James Comey served as director, and after refusing



to pledge loyalty to an individual rather than his country, was fired in May of 2017. Christopher Wray, the current director and Comey's replacement, has opposed the elected president on important issues and served as director throughout the investigations that led to Trump's indictment.

When a governing body is composed of loyalists, things are bound to go awry. Looking back to Trump's last administration, the January sixth insurrection was backed by loyal supporters in and out of the White House. The reelection of (continued on page 8)

Sports: The Next Chapter (continued from page 2)

Cecilia (Ceci) Rifenburg committed to SUNY Oneonta and will play for their softball team and major in biochemistry with a minor in criminology. Ceci was inspired by her dad to start playing softball because he played baseball. She decided to commit to SUNY Oneonta because of the kind staff and other girls on the team, and the beautiful view from the softball field. Ceci says an important thing she's learned from AP is "your attitude and actions toward adversity speaks more than words." She believes that the way you handle yourself is most important even when going through hardships. Ceci is most excited to meet new friends, play softball at a higher level, and mentor a new generation of softball players.

Maeve Clements will be attending Russell Sage and will play for their lacrosse team while majoring in early childhood education. When Maeve was in seventh grade her teacher, Mr. Cavotta, encouraged her to try lacrosse. Maeve practiced Taekwondo with her instructor, Jill Grebert, who was the athletics director at Russell Sage and a **(continued on page 9)**

*Join
Journalism
Club!
We meet on
the first
Wednesday of
each month
from 2:15 -
3:00 in room
159!*

Imagine a Female President, It's Easy If You Try

By Veronica Cardillo

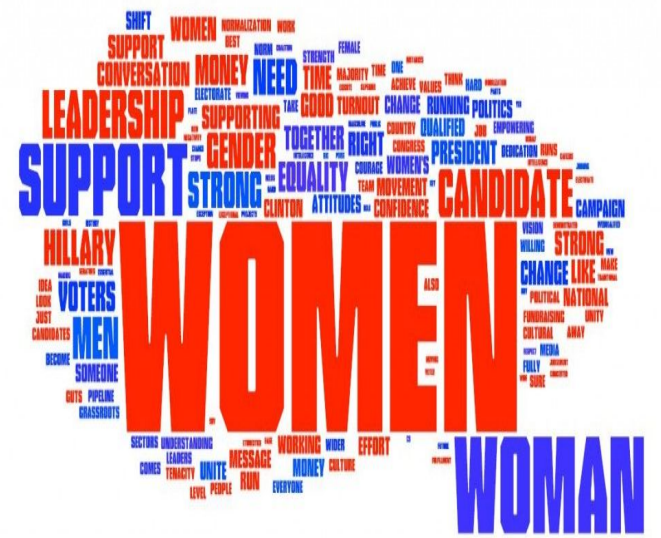
Over the years, the United States has recorded a few revolutionary moments regarding women in politics. A bit over a century ago in 1920, women gained the right to vote with the passage of the nineteenth amendment. The first woman to serve on the Supreme Court was Sandra Day O'Connor in 1981. The United States had its first female Vice President from 2021-2025 with Kamala Harris. New York elected its first female Governor just over two years ago with Governor Kathy Hochul. Although these are cherished moments, they are bittersweet—let the dates sink in.

According to the 2020 United States Census, the ratio of males to females in the country showed women in the majority, with males making up 49.1% of the population and females 50.9%. With this data landing women in the majority, it doesn't feel as though women are properly represented in politics, for we have yet to have a female president. Instead, we've had quite the linear line of 47 male presidencies. Now,

who is voted into office should not be based merely off of one's gender or sex, but one must admit that it is rather odd that amongst all the terms and presidents, there hasn't been a singular female in office. However, just because a woman hasn't been elected president doesn't mean that women haven't tried—as seen with this year's election and others.

Picture it. It's the Presidential Election of 1872. The candidates were Victoria Woodhull, Ulysses S. Grant, and Horace Greeley. This was an election that would prove revolutionary for women. It was this election that the first woman—Victoria Woodhull—ran for President of the United States. Even though Woodhull lost the election to Grant, the act of running for president as a woman (and during a time when women didn't even have the right to vote) is inspirational. Woodhull broke many gender barriers during her time, from becoming the

(continued on page 10)



AP Prepares for Transition from Warriors to Golden Knights (continued from page 2)



own. The Warrior Rebranding committee will fill out a questionnaire for BSN, essentially telling them what we'd like to see in our logo. As BSN sends us concepts for approval, this group will make any and all necessary adjustments until we are happy with every last detail.

It is expected that we will be fully recognized as the Golden Knights by July 1st, as is state mandated. Of course, we won't have everything on campus by that date, but we will be known as the Golden Knights by then. The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has banned the use of any Native American mascots to discourage any discrimination within districts and create a safe environment for all students. This has affected many other districts other than just ours, many of which have complied. The NYSED has stated that any districts that violate this will receive penalties that include the

removal of state aid. Students have been surprisingly quiet about the name change with the exception of the students on the Warrior Renaming Committee. A small percentage of students are entirely opposed to the name change, but it is a necessary step for our school that can't be avoided. Instead of seeing this as a bad thing, we should be encouraged by this opportunity. Past students may have won awards and competitions, but we have had the chance to make a decision that will affect our district for generations. This year's students are the ones who will define and set the precedent for the future.

Mr. Quiles shared his thoughtful opinion regarding the name change that I'd never considered before speaking with him. "This is an opportunity for today's students to decide who they want to be and will affect the next 20 years so I think it's an important decision we're making. You guys are creating the future."

Girls' Wrestling at Averill Park High School By Vivian Savage

A new team sport and opportunity for women has recently been introduced to Averill Park High School: girls' wrestling. The varsity girls' wrestling team debuted on the mat for the first time in early December of 2024 with their wrestling against Niskayuna/Schenectady. So far the team has competed in their first tournament; the Holiday Headlocks Girls Wrestling Tournament. Four girls won gold and one girl won silver, and some on the team just started wrestling this year! Just a year prior, Mia Banker and Vika Grovenger made history as the first female wrestlers from APHS to compete in an all-girls tournament, placing first and second.

The coach, Hana Askren, has incredible qualifications and a lot of knowledge to impart onto our female wrestlers. She won a gold medal and was named outstanding female wrestler at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport Wrestling National Championships in 2007. Later that year, she competed in the world championships in Azerbaijan, wrestling for team Israel. Coach Askren's expertise will most definitely build a new tradition and lead AP to victory in the years to come!

I recently saw a match in January that was incredibly action-packed and exciting. Our girls wrestled against Guilderland's girls' team and took the win with four out of the seven matches. It was a match filled with memorable moments. Every single wrestler fought and put their heart and soul out there on that mat. Show your school spirit and go support the girls wrestling team!



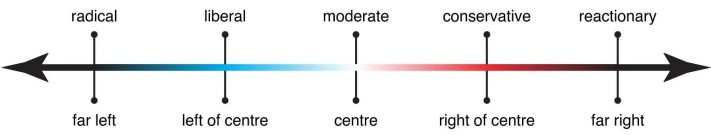
The Concerning Rise of Right Wing Extremism

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supporter of Trump, defending both Trump and the raiders of the Capitol on Jan. 6. She has called pro-Palestinian protesters chanting phrases such as “[f]rom the river to the sea” (referring to the Jordan River and Mediterranean Sea) genocidal and anti-Semitic. In Rensselaer County, Republican Scott Bendett has been reelected as our representative. He is an advocate for lower taxes, strong unions, and

supports organizations such as Best Buddies. Bendett has also helped numerous Boy Scouts achieve their Eagle award, involving a public service project. Bendett’s opponent was Chloe Pierce, who advocated for investment in education, rural resources, and the environment. Although many of these revelations may seem bleak, it’s no excuse to lay back and accept it all. Getting out into our communities

and organizing movements, regardless of perceived party affiliation, is important. At the local level, party affiliation is not as important, with many people simply following their parents' lead. So, research candidates, educate family and friends, and get out and exercise your right to free speech and eventually vote!



Work! Work! Work! But, Why?

By Veronica Cardillo

Why do we do what we do? What fuels our passions? These are questions that follow us throughout our lives. We make decisions every day, but what fuels those decisions? Why did you join this club? What made you play said sport? Why did you choose the career path that you did? That last question is what this article is going to focus on. More specifically, why our teachers decided to teach. In this article we will hear the journeys of Dr. Reddy, Mr. Blostein, and Ms. Bailey, and how they got to become our beloved teachers.

To start off, I interviewed Dr. Reddy, who is one of our science teachers. The interview started off with the golden question: “Why did you decide to teach?” In response, Dr. Reddy recounted a memory he had from his mom and dad, in which they realized that when he learned something, he had to show it. He also retold his days of undergrad, where he said he developed the habits of reading and tutoring physics. He said the act of tutoring others helped him, too. The novelty of learning something and testing if he knew it amazed him—it made him happy to know. With this he said that he likes to teach his classes in this manner.

Another question I asked was, “What is one of your favorite memories of teaching thus far?” To this, he said that he has a couple of memories, but his favorite one is being hired at Averill Park. He really likes it here. The next question was, “What is something that you know now about teaching that you wish you knew when you started teaching?” Dr. Reddy responded with saying that in the beginning, he had underappreciated the importance of personality. Now, he finds that after students graduate, they won’t remember exactly what they were taught. What they will remember is who taught it.

Toward the end of the interview, I asked, “Why did you decide to teach science?” To this, Dr. Reddy noted how science

is based on how people think, saying that human brains are problem solving and people like to problem solve. When teaching science, we are hijacking a process that’s already there— how amazing is that! Closing off the interview, Dr. Reddy said that teaching is a pleasure, and it doesn’t feel like a job - “being able to work with you guys is amazing, a true joy.” (continued on page 8)

Trivia!

- 1) For whom is Averill Park Named?
- 2) How many Burden Lakes are there?
- 3) What does Poestenkill mean?
- 4) Which APHS grad has competed in 3 Summer Olympic Games?
- 5) Which former Poestenkill principal was named 2013 Educator of the Year (SAANYs) and is now an author and educational consultant?
- 6) What APCSD administrator speaks Spanish fluently?
- 7) Where were both 2020 APHS graduation ceremonies held?
- 8) In what two locations can someone get ice at APHS?
- 9) When did APHS begin using the block schedule?
- 10) How many teachers are there at APHS?

answers on page 11!

Kash Patel: The Future of Journalism and Investigation

(continued from page 4)

the man responsible for this democracy-threatening event and his cabinet picks will give his administration the power to potentially block media coverage and government investigations of any future events similar to this. The Supreme Court's recent ruling on presidential immunity in *Trump v. United States* does not help in this matter, as it forgoes crucial checks on the American executive's power, and further illustrates the 47th president's ability to coerce.

As FBI Director, Kash Patel would have the power to change leadership throughout the bureau, shut down investigations, influence information publicity, and implement the president's will in the Department of Justice's actions. Patel's fears of the "deep state," a government made of secretive and unauthorized powers in pursuit of their own goals, could become a reality under his leadership. Ironical, right?



Work! Work! Work! But, Why?

(continued from page 7)

The next teacher I interviewed was Mr. Blostein, who is one of our music teachers. The first question I asked was "Why did you decide to teach?" To this, Mr. Blostein said "I'll remember." He said that in high school, he really liked the opportunities that music offered. He also added that though he enjoyed doing, he enjoyed learning more. Another question asked was, "What is one of your favorite memories of teaching thus far?" In response, he said that he enjoys seeing a student struggle and then suddenly get it – that it's an elation you can't duplicate. The next question I asked was, "What is something you know about teaching that you wish you knew when you started?" Mr. Blostein responded by saying that you can't teach and then just go home. Within the day there are emails and questions, and a lot of paperwork [this interviewer is glad their email was answered - thank you].

Toward the end of the interview, I asked the question, "Why did you decide to teach music?" To this, he said that he had originally debated taking the path of music or math. He said that his dad advocated for math, but ultimately, he decided on music. As a music teacher he said that no two days are the same. Every student is different, so he never knows what the challenge (which he enjoys!) is going to be and that he needs to know how to react in the moment. Wrapping up the interview, he added that teaching has changed a lot over the last twenty-five years. Through all the changes, he still enjoys the job.

The last teacher I interviewed was Ms. Bailey, who is one of our art teachers. Starting off the interview, I asked "Why did you decide to teach?" To this, Ms. Bailey recounted her days at Buffalo State with graphic design. She noted how one of her professors suggested that she be a teacher, and how she would be good at it because she liked to laugh. From her own personal outlook on teaching, she finds it to be a good fit for her because she loves people and she loves ceramics. She loves Averill Park. Another question I asked was, "What is one of your favorite

memories of teaching thus far?" In response, Ms. Bailey said that she enjoys the yearbook, chaperoning events like dances and trips, being involved in the scenery of sets, and the day to day of teaching. Nearing the end of the interview, I asked "What is something you know about teaching that you wish you knew when you started?" To this, Ms. Bailey said the knowing that every year is completely different with each year having changes. Adding to this, she says how she likes the cycle of the school year with there being an end and a fresh start, with new students and experiences. To close off the interview, I asked the question, "Why did you decide to teach art?" Ms. Bailey said that her sister pursued art, and that had inspired her. Adding to this, she said that she always loved art, with art classes, as well as language classes, being her favorite ones.

Hearing all the different paths that our teachers took to get to where they are today made me truly realize how we each have our own path in life. And with high school coming to an end in a couple of months for my fellow seniors and me, it's comforting to see how we all have our own unique journey, and that there is meaning in where we land.

***Thank you Dr. Reddy, Mr. Blostein, and Ms. Bailey for sharing your stories with us!

**If you are interested in writing
for The Chronicle, please
contact Mr. Brown, Catherine
Hughes, or Chava Thiell!**

Regents vs. Advanced Placement (AP) (continued from page 3)

However, if you want to retake it you have to wait until the following spring of the next year, whereas failing a Regents Exam in June affects your ability to earn a Regents Diploma. However, there are make-up exams in August and January that give you the opportunity to improve your grade, even if you didn't fail it.

It is completely fine if you don't think AP classes are for you, but just know it can be an extra boost towards colleges. At Averill Park, we offer a variety of AP classes: AP Studio Art I and II, AP Ceramics, AP Painting and Drawing, AP Literature and Composition, AP Language and Composition, AP Calculus, AP Biology, AP Physics, AP U.S. History, AP U.S. Government and Politics. Generally, if you can, and believe you are capable of it, you should consider taking an AP class. It is a great experience and looks good on your transcript.

Sports: The Next Chapter (continued from page 5)



coworker of Maeve. Jill Grebert often encouraged her to go to Russell Sage. Maeve says that it is most important to just have fun playing the game and not get too stressed out. She is excited to bond with her future teammates.

Kayleigh Ahern has committed to Dominican University and where she'll play for their basketball team. Kayleigh will be majoring in business. Kayleigh's parents introduced her to basketball and she began playing in first grade. Kayleigh has a genuine love for basketball and won't be giving it up just because she's going to college. Averill Park has academically helped Kayleigh start college off strong with many college credits already. Along with academics, Coach Organ taught her life lessons that make her the person she is today. Kayleigh is excited to meet her new teammates and play (and win!) at a collegiate level.

These athletes are all destined for greatness! There are many others who have committed here at AP. Make sure to wish them congratulations and good luck!

APHS Hears from Governor a Day Before State of the State Address By Chava Thiell



On Monday, January 13th, a group of students from the Capital Region, including those from Averill Park High School, met at Hudson Valley Community College to hear from the governor, just a day before delivering her "State of the State" address. The event, which was advertised as a "fireside chat," culminated in a "question and answer" type of format moderated by a student from Guilderland High School. The event was only open to 12th grade students, specifically those within the county. Other government leaders were in attendance, as well as the president of the SUNY system and high-ranking officials.

About ten APHS students jumped on the offer to go on the trip. The opportunity was initially open to the senior class officers and students taking AP Government and Politics, and then it was extended to any interested 12th grade students. Mr. Smith, who teaches AP Government and Politics, chaperoned the trip, accompanied by Dr. Franchini. (continued on page 10)



Photo Credit: Mike Groll

Imagine a Female President, It's Easy If You Try (continued from page 5)

first female stockbroker on Wall Street; to establishing a newspaper with her sister; to being the first woman to run for president; to arguing that women had the right to vote under the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments. Even though she didn't become president, she certainly made her mark in history. Victoria Woodhull is a trailblazer for women.

History's limitations often repeat themselves, but they don't have to. As individuals, we have the power to create incredible changes for the better. Simply, we need more women representing us on the presidential stage and in the White House. It's due time.



Fall Show Review (continued from page 3)

well-received by the audience. The play was very entertaining, especially since every character was uniquely hilarious. Now obviously, there are things that I think could've been improved. Once in a while it was hard to understand what a character was saying, and there were a few technical difficulties. However, the show was still amusing, and I enjoyed seeing all the talents of the young cast and crew members. Thank you OBP for the great fall and winter shows!



Photo Credit: OBP

APHS Hears from Governor a Day Before State of the State Address (continued from page 9)

Prior to the event, students were given an opportunity to ask questions for the governor. As the event progressed, questions ranged from a variety of topics including climate change, political turmoil, and job creation. The governor spoke passionately about climate change, to which she was insistent that it was an urgent issue and especially relevant to the younger generations, who were grappling with its effects.

The governor also talked about her plans to support New York State citizens, particularly youth dealing with mental health issues. Governor Hochul discussed the effects of COVID-19 on young children, and how it severely affected students' ability to socialize and mature. She briefly touched on her plans for the economy, including use of expanding technology to increase job creation and help New Yorkers affected by unemployment get back on their feet.

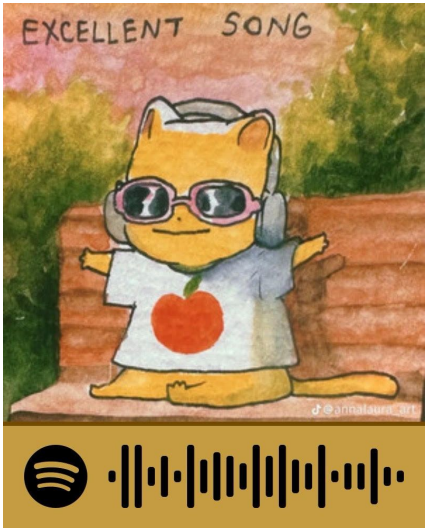
Governor Hochul also addressed the current political turmoil within the country, especially as it pertained to the changes in presidential administrations. When asked how she planned to navigate agenda differences with the Trump administration,

Governor Hochul was adamant that she would be unwilling to compromise on many issues and would "fight like hell" for New York State citizens.

The event was hosted a day before the governor's annual "State of the State" address, in which she addressed New Yorkers with a more in-depth look at how her administration plans to proceed in the coming year. The fireside chat was, many students felt, more of an attempt by the governor's administration to make headlines and earn free press. The event was about thirty minutes long in total, and students were able to meet and take a picture with the governor after the panel portion ended. It is unclear if this will become an annual event, but ultimately it was a chance for the governor to engage with students in the Capital Region, while giving those who are interested in government and politics a firsthand opportunity to speak with local leaders.

Music of the Month

By Eva Santacroce



Top Albums of the Month

CHROMAKOPIA - Tyler, The Creator

CHROMAKOPIA is a unique album with incredible lyrics, Tyler is honest and talks about things that he never has before in this album. The song “Like Him,” for example, is about his dad who left. The song begins and ends with a woman speaking; that woman is his mother. CHROMAKOPIA is about the life lessons he learned from her, and is a deep album with an incredible background.

Stick Season - Noah Kahan

Stick Season is an emotionally charged album with a folk feel that is hard to describe. Noah’s lyrics are often very emotional and vulnerable with hard hitting themes, but are still relatable. Noah Kahan’s guitar playing is incredible, and has the feel of country mixed with original folk. “No Complaints” is probably one of the best songs on the album, it has such a rich sound to it and the lyrics are definitely very emotional. His writing style is like he’s telling a story and this album feels like a story book.

Preacher’s Daughter - Ethel Cain

Preacher’s daughter is a different kind of album: a concept album. It tells the story of a made up character, Ethel Cain, and her life. Her father is a preacher in a town in the Midwest, and the album follows her first love, her running away, hitchhiking, and her tragic end. It is a dark album that tells a broad story with only music.

Eva’s top songs this month

1. These Boots Are Made For Walkin’ - Nancy Sinatra
2. Mojo Pin - Jeff Buckley
3. Valerie (feat. Amy Winehouse) - Mark Ronson, Amy Winehouse
4. No Complaints - Noah Kahan
5. Don’t Delete The Kisses - Wolf Alice

Trivia Answers!

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| 1) | The Averill Family, probably after Horatio (The Averill Park Post Office name became official in 1882) | 2) | One (although people often refer to the first, second, and third Burden Lakes) | 3) | Foaming Creek | 4) | Rudy Winkler (Hammer Throw) | 5) | Peter Dewitt | 6) | Mr. Quiles | 7) | APHS front parking lot, Jericho Drive-In movie theater | 8) | Ms. Brown – trainer, Mrs. Miller – nurse | 9) | 2001 | 10) | 99 |
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We hope you enjoy our newest column, look for Eva’s music in each issue this year!