



What's New?

By Kaya Walker

At Pelham, we have a lot of musical activities for students to engage in. There's a orchestra, a chorus, and a band. They perform at school assemblies twice a year, and the chorus often performs in the Pelham Library near Christmas time. But Pelham's musical groups are starting to branch out to performing outside of school. Instead of only school assemblies, the band also performed at the UMASS Renaissance Fair on May 6th. As a member of the band, I can tell you that we have been working very hard for a while now and would love if you could come and watch us play, and enjoy a day of festivities! Our conductor, Bob Castellano, or as we refer to him: Mr. Castellano, encourages everyone to come and watch. "Come and support your band!" Mr. Castellano urges Pelham families.

Speaking of instruments, calling out all trumpet players! We need you! Our little band consists of only 13 people, and the numbers are getting lower! But, as small as it is, we still manage to work, and have fun. Juliette Blais, horn player says, "In band, we talk about ice cream flavors, and stalking Mr. Castellano at his performances!" Oh, and I can assure you that we play music too.

Mr. Shaw Retires this Year

By Claire Lloyd

Mr. Shaw, the fourth grade teacher at Pelham Elementary School, attended Marks Meadow Elementary School. He also attended Amherst Middle and High School. He went to UMass. Mr. Shaw grew up in Massachusetts and lived in New York for 4 years. His hobbies are biking, hiking, running, being outside, and technology. I asked him: "What inspired you to become a teacher?" He said: "I really enjoyed my days as a student and I wanted to recreate that feeling." Mr. Shaw plans on doing part-time jobs with students after he retires this year.

Chief Editors: Marit Gubrium, Craig Hrones, Evan Scott, and Toby York



Evan Scott (Left) about to hit Piet Hartman (Right)

Recess

By Ariana Hall-Rivera

On reasons I think recess should be longer, I got perspectives from Pelham 4th grade students Lily Gubrium, Aliyah Kenney, myself, and Dillon Reid, and parents like Marie Hall. My first reason comes from Lily: "What I like about recess is that I can do what I want to do and I don't get bored." My second reason comes from Dillon Reid and she said: "Why I like recess is because people can scream with friends." Another reason is from Aliyah. She said: "My favorite thing about recess is playing soccer outside with friends." Another person to say what they like about recess is me, and I said: "I get why people don't like recess—because they don't like some of the drama and they get bored." The last reason is from a parent's point of view and Marie said, "Kids need to get exercise and interact with friends and other people helps them to think more and better clear their minds."

Those are all the reasons why I think we should have more recess. A final quote from Lily sums it up: "Don't let the ball stand in your way!"



Never Be in a Boat in a Storm...

By: Tyler Black



Why I Love Rafters

By Dillon Reid

I love Rafters because of their good food, fun games, and most of all, because of their nice waiters, waitresses, and staff. My first reason why I like Rafters is because of their good food, I don't really like fries but these are to die for, and my mom loves the salads with tuna (optional) and the chicken wings. I also love Rafters because of their fun games. My favorite games are the claw machines and the jukebox. In the claw machines there are prizes and to win them you have to grab them with the claw, and at the jukebox you can play your favorite song, and pin-ball you have to hit targets. Finally, why I love Rafters is because of their really nice waiters, waitresses, and staff. My top three people there are probably Tara, Nicole, and Gina. The reason I picked them is because they're usually there when we're there, and they're always so nice to us. In conclusion, I love Rafters because of their good food, fun games, and most of all, because of their nice waiters, waitresses, and staff.



About Orchestra

By Alex Robb

For the first Arts column Ms. O'Mara shares her thoughts about the Pelham Orchestra.

"I started teaching instrument lessons and orchestra at Pelham Elementary in 2012. Most students start taking stringed instrument lessons in third grade, but some start outside of school even earlier than that. I usually invite students to join the Pelham Orchestra during their second year of instrument lessons, so for most students this would be fourth grade," said Ms. O'Mara. "I like orchestra because when you learn an instrument, you actually end up learning a number of very important skills that do not only apply to music. When learning an instrument, you have to learn to manage your time outside of school to make sure you have enough time to practice every day. Everyone is so busy, so finding that little bit of time to work on your instrument each day takes a lot of dedication. When playing in an orchestra, you have to learn how to work together in a group to produce a beautiful piece of music, which can be difficult at first. Most importantly, when you're learning an instrument you have to learn to be patient with yourself, and you have to be willing to put in the work to improve your skills - it doesn't happen overnight!" -

The Pelham Student Council, cont'd.

The winners are selected by the other students. Every 5th or 6th grade student votes for multiple candidates, and the top 6 win. This year, there are 7 members because there was a tie for 6th place. One of our current projects is the "Paw"ket Change Fundraiser for Rainbow Rescues, a non-profit organization in Chicopee. We are also working on the "Kids Sunshine Club," which definitely needs some work! The gist of the "Kids Sunshine Club" is to cheer up upset kids in the school. We will try to keep you posted and tell you a bit more about these projects as they move along!

D & D Opening at Pelham Library

By Holden Castenson



Imagine you're in a long hallway and there's a locked door you need to get through. Is one of the members of your group a rogue? Why not ask them to help lockpick it? Or is there an armored dragonborn swinging his flail at you? Would you dodge or do a backflip over his head to avoid it? This is the kind of decision you make in the world of Dungeons & Dragons (D&D).

I started playing D&D in a comic store called Modern Myths in Northampton. The bad news is it's closing for good so you won't be able to go there. The good news is D&D will be happening in the Pelham Library and you should do it when it does. You can bring your old character, if you have one, or there's always the option to make a new one for first timers. The dungeon master will explain how. Anyone can play, even if you haven't played before. There are a lot of rules, although you don't use them all at the same time. The dungeon master will explain when you need to use them.

I think that it's a great opportunity and you should do it if it happens, because if you learn how to play you can teach your friends and get a lifelong enjoyment from it. That's a really good thing in my opinion. Another great thing about joining is that you can have something to look forward to after school. If you're interested in doing it, share a document with castensonh@arps.org and I'll keep you posted.



The Pelham Student Council

By Indigo Halasz

Hello! Many of you may not be familiar with the Student Council. Well, the student council is made up of 5th and 6th graders who are interested in helping to make decisions for the school. This year, the seven members of the student council are: Tyler Black, Indigo Halasz, Sienna Zephyr, Zoey Candito, Ava Zimmermann, Tychon Tkachenko Coggeshall-Burr, and Nipuni Dayarathne. Each year, different members are elected. Everyone interested creates a presentation and presents for the 5th and 6th grade classes. **Continued on page 4.**

Potato Chips Break Old Technology

By Vlad Kenney

Never say "potato chips" into an old device made before 1997, because it will break. Let me explain. So what happened is my YouTube partner, Evan Scott, was over at my YouTube recording studio, and we were trying to play a Nintendo 64, and it was not working. We kept fidgeting with the TV cords, and restarting the video upscaler, hoping it would display on the TV. Finally it started working and we could see everything on the TV. But then, Evan picked up the microphone hooked up to the upscaler and said "Potato Chips" into the microphone. A second later, The TV screamed "POTATO CHIPS!!!" Then the game crashes, so the TV goes blank.

We tried doing the same things again to get the Nintendo to work, but we failed. So we went outside for a while. When we came back into the house an hour later, we turned it on, and it was doing everything perfectly. We finally then got to play *Mario Kart 64*.

For Foodies

By Cristina Hayes-Mendez

All you Foodies out there. "The school lunch has never been our strong-suit at Pelham," 6th grader, Kaya Walker, says. "I'm not saying it's bad, it's just not amazing." Kaya gets school lunch once a week, on pizza day, also known as Friday. At our Pelham School, we have lunch, but I have interviewed people and when I ask them about the food, it has consistently come down to where the food comes from, especially the pizza.

Evan Scott, a student of the Pelham School 6th grade, says that our food comes from quote, "A nuclear power plant disaster." He says he was kidding, but we want to know where the school lunch really comes from. Before Ms. Walker knew where the lunch came from, she commented, "The food is coming from China, to Fort River, back to China, then to a nuclear power plant disaster, then to us." Now, to reveal where the lunch really comes from, our principal, Lisa Desjarlais, has informed me that the school lunch comes from... the Fort River School.

The school lunch consists of many options. Indigo Halasz, a fifth grader at the Pelham Elementary School, says, "The best (lunch) is the rock hard pancakes, like they are made of rubber." The lunch is not the same things every week, except for the pizza. Another favorite food is the hotdogs, says Vlad Kenney. "They are fun because they bounce." But every week, on Friday, we are served pizza. But, for example, our lunch can have hamburgers, sandwiches, nachos, Fun Lunch, etc. Also, we occasionally have Breakfast for Lunch. This means we are served pancakes or french toast. We have many tasty options as our school lunch. Or, if nothing on the menu interests you, you can just bring your own lunch. Very recently, we had a Lasagna Dinner on May 18, 2018 in the school gymnasium, and we had a bake sale during the Pelham Town Meeting on May 12, 2018. These events were fundraisers for the sixth graders to go on a field trip to Camp Massasoit at Springfield College, for team building and ropes course, and activities. The trip cost about \$600, and we raised... \$656.05 from the Lasagna Dinner, and an additional \$166 from the bake sale, for a total amount raised of \$822.05!! Eat, eat, eat!!!