

The RV Buzz

An Official PVRHS Publication

The Buzz | Spring 2023

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2023!



On Thursday, June 22, 2023 the Senior Class overcame a milestone of a lifetime...graduation! Whether attending college, learning a trade, joining the armed forces, or taking time to figure things out, we are equally proud of all of you. Our senior class had an outstanding year - they were accepted into Stevens Institute of Technology, the University of Hartford, NJIT, the University of Southern California, the University of Delaware, and more. These newly-minted graduates had a unique high school career beginning with the Covid-19 pandemic and ending with the smog of Canadian wildfires - their resilience is inspiring! Congratulations and good luck on your next chapter! You are free to leave the hive!

TOP 10 STUDENTS EMBARK ON THE NEXT PHASE OF THEIR ACADEMIC CAREERS



Michael Preziosi and Amanda Rausch are our Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the graduating class of 2023.



Congratulations to the top ten of the Class of 2023, who have achieved academic excellence with their high ranking GPAs. *Back Row:* (9) Sabrina Rabboh - New Jersey Institute of Technology, (8) Mallory Cestone - University of Hartford, (7) Frederick Dell'Aquila - The College of New Jersey, (6) Connor O'Brien - The College of New Jersey, (3) Sean Berrigan - Montclair State University, (1) Michael Preziosi - Stevens Institute of Technology, (2) Amanda Rausch - Abroad at The University of Delaware. *Front Row:* (10) Maria Flores - University of Southern California, (4) Lauren Tucci - The University of Delaware, and (5) Grace Martinez - Montclair State University.

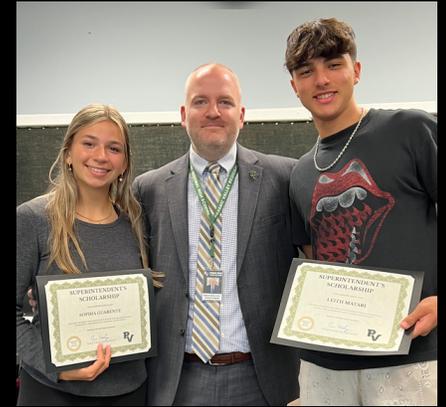
COLLEGE DECISION DAY



CLASS OF 2023



Passaic Valley High School seniors took part in National Decision Day on Monday, May 2, announcing our seniors' post-high school plans to family, friends and the community. This academic signing day is a way for students to feel proud and accomplished about their academic achievements. It also allows all students to be celebrated for choosing to pursue college, military and trade schools. "I'm so proud of this group of seniors. Watching them become excited and ultimately commit to a college was a great thing to witness," said Tara Torres, the Director of School Counseling.



SENIOR AWARDS

On June 7, 2023 Passaic Valley held their annual Senior Awards Night. The evening put a spotlight on student excellence and achievement with scholarships presented by local business, educational, community, and military sponsors. Members of the Class of 2023 received generous scholarships and awards that will profoundly impact their academic futures. Congratulations to all Senior Awards recipients and a special thanks Mrs. Waryas, Mrs. Pasquariello and all of those who made the event a success!

SENIOR SUNSET



Seniors gathered together one last time as a group before graduation under the pink skies of the sunset. The closing of their high school chapter is bittersweet and this was a positive way to send each other off into the world.

SENIOR PROM 2023

On June 8, 2023 Seniors celebrated a strong finish to the school year at their one and only senior prom. This year it was held at Macaluso's in Hawthorne.

The evening was inspired by a Masquerade Ball, exuding sophistication and a strong theatrical ambience. Thank you to Class Advisors Dr. Iobst and Mrs. Feo for organizing a great evening of celebration.

"Senior Prom was awesome! My friends and I literally danced the entire time," said Isabella DeMarco. "I enjoyed everything about the night, including the food, atmosphere, and the place." Everyone in attendance enjoyed a magical evening of dancing and fun with friends.



CELEBRATING CULTURE WITH HENNA ART



The Multicultural Club and National Art Honor Society students collaborated to throw a henna party organized and brought to life by senior Keila Castillo. Students enjoyed learning, giving and receiving henna tattoos and tasting delicious cuisine from around the globe. Mr. Colon started the Multicultural Club last year (2022) to provide a space for members to learn about each other's cultures through games, music, movies, food and literature. "The Multicultural Club brings together people from all over who may or may not share the same interests. We can learn about each other and our cultures while having fun." -Keila Castillo



UNsung HERO 2023

Destiny Walton

Congratulations to Destiny Walton, our nominee for the 2022-23 NJSBA Unsung Hero Award. Destiny is a brilliant student and aspires to be a neuroscientist! She will be attending Sacred Heart University to start studying and working towards her goal. Her strength, resilience, and motivation are an inspiration to her peers, and she allows nothing to stand in the way of her success.

A Closed Book



FOR THE VALLEY GREEN YEARBOOK STAFF

Ms. Joseph's Editing and Publishing Course introduces students to the world of content design - students are responsible for developing, writing and producing the current year's Valley Green Yearbook. This year's yearbook staff was the first to work with our new production partner, *Herff Jones*. Together Ms. Joseph and her staff overcame the challenge of learning a new program, *EDesign*, and sending their publication off to print within a given timeline. We are so proud of the hard work these students put in this year - they covered events, edited photos, created page layouts, and carefully crafted every article. Their creativity and diligence has definitely paid off! Congratulations to all on the beautiful publication inspired by Dr. Healy's motto to #SwarmUp. These graduates will carry these memories with them forever.



PV WINS 1ST PLACE AT THE PASSAIC COUNTY FILM FESTIVAL!

PVTV students won first place at the Passaic County Film Festival with their Mental Health PSA, highlighting the importance of being around people you can trust when you are feeling lonely and struggling mentally. The award winning creators are; Julianna Cestone, Alexa DeLuccia, Kacey DiPasquale, Rachel Harraka, Billy Phillips, Hailey Shafer and Abigail Kosch. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!



TOP CHEF 2023

Haifa Mustafa and Dan Batukh won Top Chef 2023 with their own version of chicken tacos (with the tortilla shell & chips made from scratch!) and a creamy, salted caramel dessert shooter topped with a biscotti cookie!

This is the twelfth year Passaic Valley culinary classes have competed in a Top Chef-style competition.

This two day event encourages students to think, problem-solve, and be creative. It also gives them the opportunity to use the knowledge they have and apply it by counting, measuring, following a sequence, following directions, and exploring cause and effect. Our culinary program is tailored specifically for our learners to enjoy the art of cooking in a productive learning environment. Thank you Ms. Geleta for keeping this tradition strong, and congratulations to all the students involved in this scrumptious event!



MINECRAFT

SUPER MARIO BROS.



RUBE GOLDBERG

The AP Physics classes are closing out the school year with their annual Rube Goldberg projects. The groups displayed their intricate designs to crowds of students and staff in the Physics Room on June 12th and 13th.

The Rube Goldberg projects are a 15 year tradition passed down from Ms. Shtraks, now led by Mr. Haimowitz and Mrs. Feo (who is on maternity leave and was missed very much this year.) The 2023 Team captains were Michael Preziosi and Beck Youngberg with the theme of Super Mario Brothers, and Connor O'Brien and Amanda Rausch with the theme of Minecraft. The craftsmanship and artistry included in the machine designs this year were exquisite! We are so proud of all of these students.

Rube Goldberg projects were named after the political cartoonist of the same name. Goldberg drew satirical cartoons depicting complicated chain reactions that achieved a simple goal as a way to comment on the politics of his time. When he eventually turned these devices into sculptures, it inspired a wave of sculptors and engineers to follow suit, leading to what are now known as "Rube Goldberg Machines."

THE PV SUPERINTENDENT AMBASSADORS FUNDRAISE FOR FAMILIES



Dr. Healy created the Superintendent Ambassadors program to connect with the student body on a different level. Monthly meetings allow students to address challenges and concerns, and stay up to date with the leadership team on current events and district happenings. The team of students in the 2022-2023 Superintendent Ambassadors program organized their second annual fundraiser - this year, they hosted a corn hole tournament. In addition to generating extra funds for PV families in need, they worked together to organize the event and connect and involve the community. A big thank you to the students and community members who got involved, played and donated!

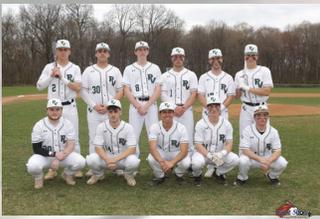
ART SHOW

The Passaic Valley Art Department presented their annual Art Exhibition on May 24, 2023. High school art students showcased their pieces from a wide variety of media including drawing, painting, 3D Sculpture, 2D printmaking, digital media and photography. Over 100 students were represented in the exhibit. Thank you to all the artists that shared their work with our community at the 2023 Art Exhibition. Your art tells stories and inspires us to think and relate in new ways. Thank you to the community for supporting our young artists and contributing to a beautiful event.



SPORTS REPORT

#SWARMUP



Track

Spring Track had another great year, placing 2nd in all 3 major meets this season. The Hornets finished top 2 in the League, Passaic County, and in the NJSIAA Sectional Championships. The team continuously shatters school records. PVHS Track sent a combined 20 athletes to the Group 2 Meet, setting another school record. The Hornets were very proud to send 2 student athletes to the prestigious NJSIAA Meet of Champions. Mackenzie Beazley and Karim Elsaadany were our qualifiers that earned a spot amongst the best NJ has to offer in track and field.



Boys Lacrosse

collected 3 wins on the season. This group did not have any seniors on the team, so the entire team returns next year looking to improve in a major way. The PV Boys Lax team was led by Damian Kribs and Jayden Amico. Each of these players collected milestone goals and points. Kribs Scored his 200th point and 100th goal of his career this season, while Amico scored his 100th point. Both student athletes are back for their senior season next year in what should be one of PV Lacrosse's best seasons of record.



Girls Lacrosse

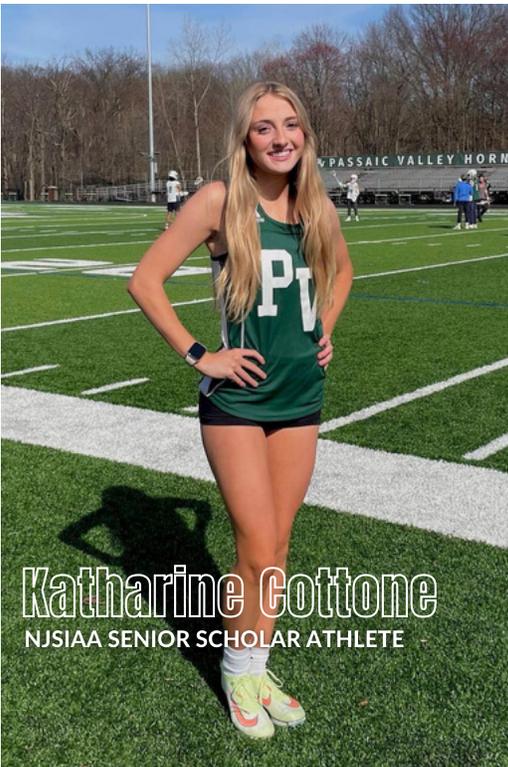
had a great comeback season earning 5 victories this year. The team returns a large number of varsity players and should steadily keep climbing as a program. Lilly Kalokitis led the team in goals with 25 this season. Mia Levin led the team with 17 assists. Olivia Ormsby led the team with 48 ground balls.

Baseball

collected 12 wins this season. The Hornets Baseball squad made it to the semi-finals of the Passaic County Tournament. PV Baseball also won their 1st NJSIAA State Playoff game in over a decade. Johnny Bucher was named 1st Team All League, 1st Team All County and 1st Team All State Group 2.

Softball

had 18 wins this season and were undefeated in all league games (10-0.) The team earned another Big North League Championship Title. PV Softball took 2nd in the Passaic County Tournament. This team also won 2 playoff games, making it to the semi-finals of the NJSIAA State Tournament. Sophia Guarente was named 1st Team All County, 1st Team All League, and 1st Team All North Jersey. She was also nominated by North Jersey Sports Varsity Aces as a finalist as North Jersey Softball Player of the Year.



COACH HILL

LEAGUE COACH OF THE YEAR

Head Softball Coach Kathy Hill has guided Passaic Valley to some outstanding seasons! In 2018, she was named the Big North Conference and Passaic County Coach of the Year, and this year she was named 2023's League Coach of the Year. We are looking forward to seeing what her and her Varsity Hornets accomplish together next year!

FROM PLASTIC TO GOLD

AT THE STUDENT THEATER FESTIVAL AT BUCKS COUNTY

On April 26, 2023, PV Theater Arts Students won multiple awards at the Student Theater Festival at Bucks County. *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* - Outstanding ensemble Cast and Crew, Hailey Shafer - Spotlight Award for Comedic Performance, Emma Giron - Spotlight award for Featured Vocalist. *Mean Girls*, Sarah Zampella Showstopper Award, Kira Giron - Spotlight Award for Featured Vocalist. Congratulations to Pia Surace as the director of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* and Jenn Shue as the director of *Mean Girls*, as well as the entire cast and crew of both productions. Outstanding job by all! Passaic Valley is very proud to promote excellence in the study and teaching of Communication and Theatre Arts.



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Passaic Valley Regional High School

100 East Main Street, Little Falls NJ 07424

(973) 890-2500 www.pvrhs.org

