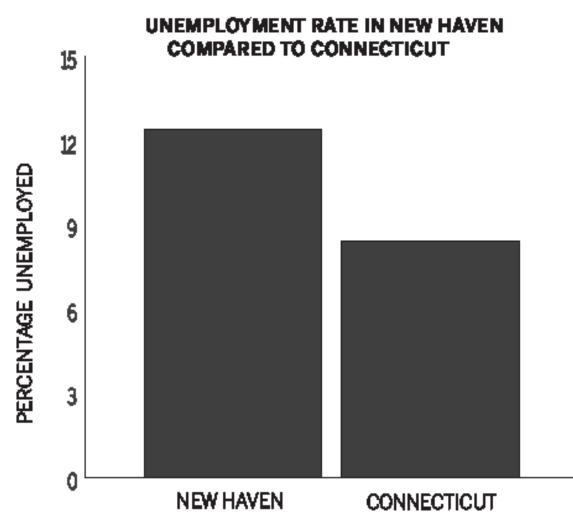
400 CANNER STREET, NEW HAVEN, CT 06511 · FEBRUARY 2012 · VOL. I, NO. 1

New Haven hit harder than state by bad economy



The unemployment rate in New Haven is 4 percent higher than in the state of Connecticut.

BY JAAVON BROWN, SHAMONTE CALDWELL, AND BERKET TEWOLDE CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Connecticut is a rich state, but in New Haven the economy is rough

people need jobs," said Mr. Robert Saunders, who works in the school's bridge room. Mr. Saunders has two jobs and is Haven, it means that 12 out of 100 work-

looking for a third job to support his family and help out his friends. "I know a lot of friends that need jobs."

"I know a lot about the economy and percent in Connecticut. The unemployment rate measures the percentage of people who don't have jobs. In New

ers have lost their jobs and don't have new ones.

In the schools, the rough economy means more students are eligible for free or reduced lunches. In 2002, 67.1 percent of students could get free or reduced lunches in New Haven Public Schools, but in 2010 it was more than 80 percent. In Connecticut overall, only one-third of students need free or reduced lunch.

Students at Celentano are concerned about the economy. Students we interviewed have family members who have lost their jobs or taken a pay cut. When that happens, instead of eating chicken and rice or Chinese food, it can mean having applesauce and crackers.

According to the Celentano Sentinel survey of 141 students, 39 percent know somebody who has lost a job and about half (47 percent) know someone who can't find a job. Twenty-three percent know someone who has taken a pay cut. And 74 percent said they know someone The unemployment rate in the city is who, like Mr. Saunders, has more than 12.4 percent. For comparison, it is 8.4 one job. Mr. Saunders said he feels lucky. "I'm blessed to have two jobs," he said.

> One place affected by the economy is the Community Action Agency of New

See page 8

The secret lives of teachers

BY IYANNA BAUCOM-LEGGETT, JOHNNY BROWN AND ALEXIS COLE

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Teachers love coming to school. But what do they do when they leave?

One 7th and 8th grade teacher does curling with her husband on Thursday nights. Curling is a popular sport in Canada, but not in New Haven. Another teacher at Celentano Museum Academy is a waitress after school and is thinking about going back to college. She is also our school's cheerleading coach.

These are just a few examples of the things teachers do when they're not teaching.

It can be difficult for students to think of teachers having lives outside of school. The results of the Celentano Sentinel survey showed that 48 out of the 141 students who took the survey said it was hard to imagine their teacher as a regular person. If you talked to the teach-

See page 3

Haunted house? Not anymore! (Try fancy apartments)

BY KAITLYNE ANDREWS, JASMINE CARI-PERGEE, HEAVEN-LEE FAILEY, DEANNA CORREA, OMAIRYS CARRASQUILLO AND CHADE WILSON CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

How many times have you looked out the windows at Celentano Museum Academy and seen that house? You know, the one many kids call "the haunted house?"

You might think it's a crummy old house, but it's a house with a history – and a history that is changing! The house was built in 1882 at 477 Prospect Street. It started off as a regular one-family house. Then it was an observatory for Yale. Yale then gave the land around the house to the city to build Celentano. But here's a fact: When Celentano was

built, the house was moved forward 70 feet to make room.

The house has sat empty for many years because it was owned by the city and no one wanted to buy it. Because it had peeling paint and was run-down, many students at Celentano thought it looked haunted. The Celentano Sentinel survey showed that more girls (57 percent) than boys (only 20 percent) thought the house was "scary."

But now, it is being transformed. The house was bought last year by Pike International, a real estate company in New Haven. Pike is renovating the house "We are See page 8

New Celentano band has winning sound



The Celentano band marches down Campbell Avenue on Columbus Day.

BY RUOCHEN WANG

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

On an afternoon last fall, if you were you could have seen something special: That Celentano Museum Academy is a school with it's own band.

The new Celentano School Band at Campbell Avenue in West Haven joined with other marching bands in

See page 7



DO UNIFORMS KEEP THE FOCUS ON SCHOOLWORK?

SEE PAGE 2

GLOBAL WARMING? OR JUST FUNNY WEATHER?

SEE PAGE 5

Q&A WITH **BESTSELLING AUTHOR WALTER DEAN MYERS!**

SEE **PAGE 9**

TROUBLES? WE'VE **GOT ADVICE** SEE PAGE 10 WHY WE NEED MORE **HOMEWORK SEE PAGE 19** PAGE 2 CELENTANO SENTINEL · FEBRUARY 2012

School uniforms: Boring clothes or helpful to learning?

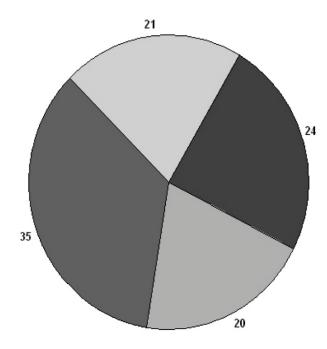
Girls: No

Boys: No

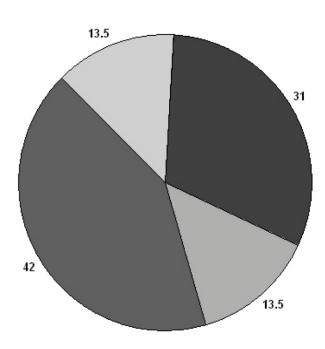
Girls: No

Boys: No

Do Uniforms Help Students Focus on School?



Do You Like School Uniforms?



Results from the Celentano Sentinel survey show that uniforms help students focus on school

WHAT TEACHERS DO OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL SCHOOL UNIFORMS COVERAGE **CLEANER BATHROOMS COMMUNITY NEWS** NEW HAVEN'S TOUGH 1 **ECONOMY** WEIRD WEATHER OR 5 CLIMATE CHANGE? HAUNTED HOUSE TRANSFORMED **FEATURES**

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SENTINEL TASTE TEST

POWER OF DANCE

MUSICIAN PRINCE ROYE

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CARTOONS BALDY McBALDERSON AND 11 CLIMATE CHANGE ADVENTURES OF BALDY **McBALDERSON**

BY GENESIS SANTANA, JAHNE CARI, AND ROSA CURR CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

If you go to Celentano Museum Academy, getting dressed for school is the same old thing almost every day: Navy blue uniform shirt and khaki bottoms.

How do people feel about the uniform and dress code? Teachers we interviewed liked it, but many students do not. Students look forward to "dress down days" when they are not required to wear uniforms to school.

"I think uniforms are good because it seems to increase the attachment to rules," said Ms. Gillian Lewis, Celentano art teacher. She says uniforms also prevent students from being judged because of what they wear.

Mrs. Linda Malkin, 7th and 8th grade science teacher, likes when students wear uniforms because they are washable and when you spill things on them students don't get upset because it's a uniform and its not worth a lot of money.

One teacher, Ms. Fran Holzbar, a kindergarten teacher, said she thinks if students have to wear uniforms

that teachers should wear them on Fridays, too. "It's good for teachers to wear uniforms on Fridays," she said. Mrs. Malkin agrees. She says that when teachers wear uniforms on Fridays, "it brings the students and Girls: Yes teachers together."

Students generally do not like the Boys: Yes uniform, though. The Celentano Sentinel Survey showed that only 30 percent of girls and 24 percent of boys who answered the survey liked the school uniform. In total, 141 students, 63 girls and 78 boys, took the survey. Even though students did not like the uniform, 40 percent of students said that uniforms "allow students to focus on learning instead of what people are wearing."

Celentano student Felicia Dulmage, a 7th grader, doesn't see why Girls: Yes the school has to have uniforms. Boys: Yes "What does a uniform have to do with learning?" she asked. Seventh grader Ecinavy Rodriguez doesn't like uniforms either. "It is aggravating," she said.

> Celentano Principal Mrs. Keisha Redd-Hannans said that we are a uniform school and we wear a uniform to show pride and respect for our school. It also helps students get along. "With this policy, I never receive complaints about bullying," she said.

> Once a month, Mrs. Redd-Hannans allows a Dress Down Day when students do not have to wear their uniform. Students would like more nouniform days. The survey showed that 136 of the 141 students who took the survey liked Dress Down Days, and 133 students wanted to have more of them.

> "We should have more Dress Down Days, at least once a week," said Deanna Correa, a 7th grader. Ms. Rodriguez suggested having them twice a week.

> Mrs. Redd-Hannans said it would be a problem to have too many dress down days. "Students would get mixed up between which days we have dress down and which days we don't," she said. She said she does not have a problem with students wearing a colored tank top underneath their shirts.

> During an interview, Mrs. Redd-Hannans did share some news: She might change the uniform shirt from blue to allowing polo shirts in different colors.

TWO VIEWS ON UNIFORMS

BY ANADYA LAMBOY CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

On a typical day, Celentano Museum Academy students wear blue polo shirts and khaki pants. Dress Down Days only happen when summer comes or when it is almost a holiday.

I know that on Dress Down Days many students play with their clothes. Uniforms can be good because they show school spirit.

Ithink Celentano should have more Dress Down Days because students feel better in their own clothes instead of being stuck in blue and khaki. It feels more comfortable when you can wear the clothes you choose because you can express the way you are. Students also seem happier when they wear what they want.

DRESS DOWN DAYS ARE FUN - BUT WE HAVE ENOUGH OF

BY ELIJAH CROWELL

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Dress Down Days, when you don't have to wear your uniform to school, are fun. Inmyclass, people are happier on Dress Down Days. You can wear what you like and be yourself.

But we should not have more Dress Down Days. When you wear a uniform, you don't have to worry about what you are wearing, and you don't have to pick out what to wear. It is also good to have a navy blue shirt on because if it gets a stain like grape juice you can't see the stain like you can on a white or yellowshirt.

It's also good to wear school uniforms because it shows school spirit.

S(H()()|, NEW

The secret lives of teachers

Teachers from page 1

ers, then they will be happy to tell you about their outside lives.

You might be used to picturing your teacher standing in front of the classroom, but teachers do interesting things that you wouldn't expect. For example, students who have Ms. Kaitlyn Everson, who teaches 7th and 8th grade, know that she wants you to do well on tests and can be demanding. But at the end of school hours she seems like a very exciting teacher. In addition to working as a waitress and cheerleading coach, she goes out to restaurants herself and also likes the six-time NBA champion Chicago Bulls star, Michael Jordan.

MS. MICHELLE GALARDI LOVES HARRY POTTER WORLD IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA AND LIKES PLAYING MARIO KART.

Galardi, who teaches 2nd grade, is so dedicated that she once came to school with strep throat, the flu, and poison floats, it drops, swish! ivy all at the same time. She really cares and is a very big Harry Potter fan.

She also likes to travel, including to Florida. Another fact about Ms. Gar-She also likes to play the video game, "Mario Kart."

Another teacher, Ms. Kimberly Daniley, who teaches 6th grade, likes to get

Dunkin' Donuts for her students before school. She also likes to go shopping at Staples, and she enjoys grading papers. From all of these things, doesn't it seem like she really loves school? During vacations she likes to travel. In April she will be going to Washington, D.C. and Mississippi. Over long vacations, she says, she misses her students. "I have a very boring life," she said.

Did you know that Mr. Eric Rank, a 3rd grade teacher at Celentano, played basketball in high school for a New York state team? He was really good and played point guard until he got injured. "One day I played a pick-up game with some of my friends and I went for a layup and rolled over my ankle and it was never the same," he said.

Last June at Celentano during a day of fun in the gym, there was a studentversus- teacher basketball game and Mr. Rank joined. During that game, Another teacher, Ms. Michelle you could see Mr. Rank crossing someone over and using a "stepback move" and then he shot for a three-pointer: It

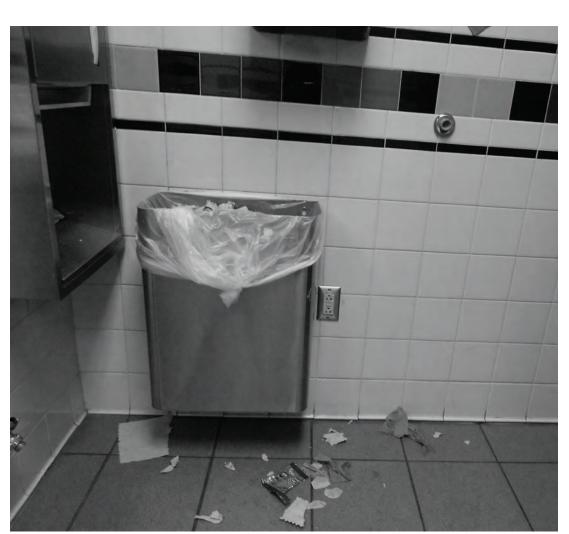
So which teacher curls? "Besides eatabout her students. She also likes going ing and sleeping, something unique I to the movies and going bowling with do is on Tuesdays and Thursdays I curl friends. She plays sports like softball with four teammates," said Ms. Malkin, 7th and 8th grade science teacher. "I love Harry Potter World," she said. Ms. Malkin, a new teacher at Celentano, also thinks about school a lot even when she is not teaching. It's a new career lardi is that she is very competitive. for her. She used to work at a science museum and now wants to teach for 20 years. She even enjoys grading papers until 11 p.m. She really loves her job.





Top: Sixth grade teacher Kim Daniley is always thinking of her students; Bottom: Science teacher Mrs. Linda Malkin spends her free time curling.

Students can help with bathroom breakdown



Overflowing trash on the second floor boys' bathroom floor.

BY MICHAELA WILLIAMS AND DANNY SKINNER

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

If you were in the bathroom, did you notice paper towels on the floor? The trash overflowing? A broken soap dispenser? Broken locks?

ignored. Celentano Museum Academy Principal, Mrs. Keisha Redd-Hannans, said she sent five requests to maintenance supervisors to fix door locks on bathroom stalls. They were fixed in October.

When we interviewed Mrs. Redd-Hannans this fall she was concerned about the problems with the bathrooms that are on the second floor near the office. But she also said that students could help, too - and not just with the bathrooms.

"It would be great if we had a beautification committee led by students," she said. She wants students to take an active role in making the building look nice.

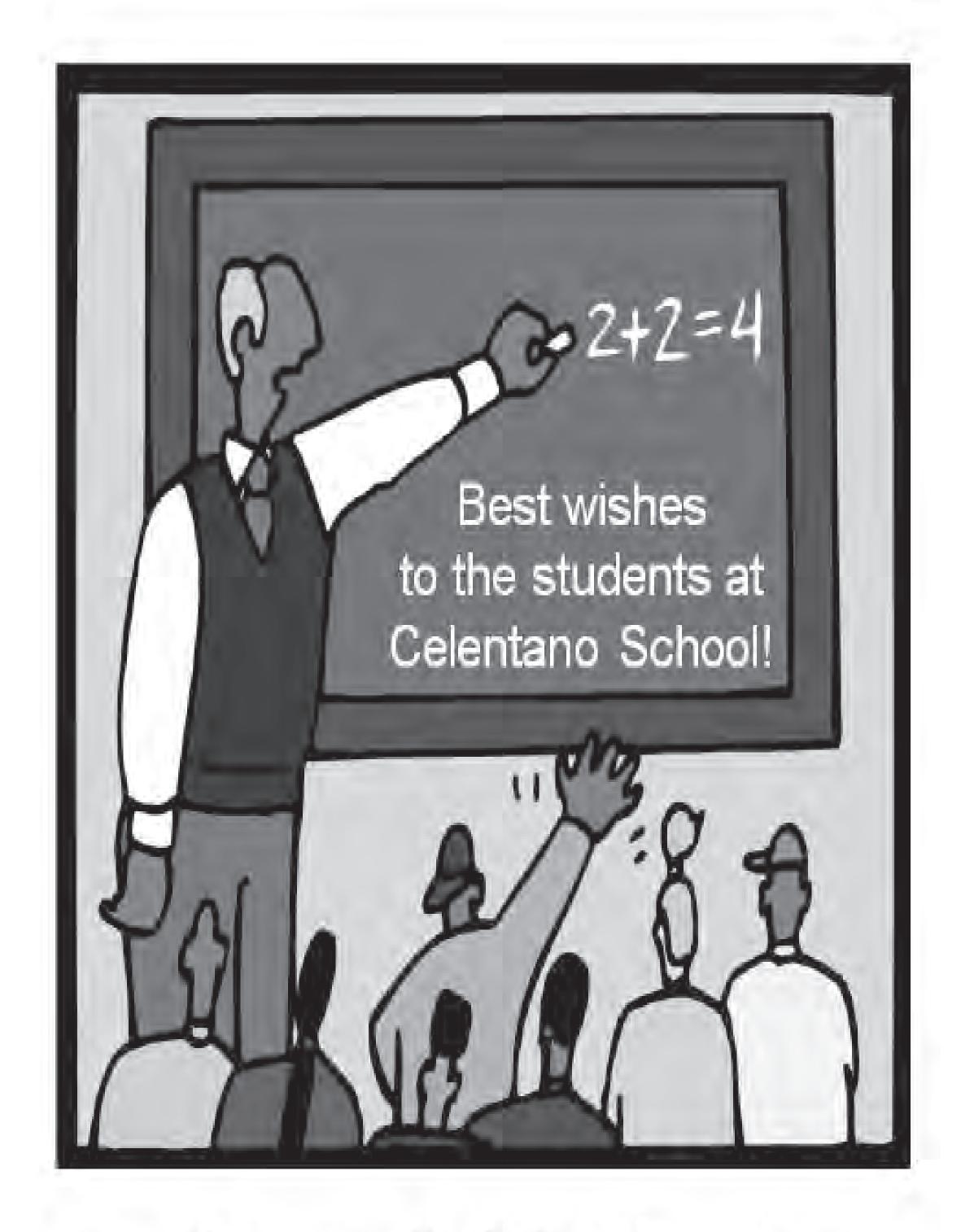
Getting the bathrooms and the whole These problems have not been school to look great will require hard work from both the school staff and students. One student we interviewed, Vany Vera, suggested "telling kids to pick up things that they drop."

> IT WOULD BE GREAT IF WE HAD A BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE LED BY STUDENTS.

MRS. KEISHA REDD-HANNANS

Making the extra effort will make it nicer for students, too. "I like it when the bathroom is clean," said Iyana Baucom-Leggett.

CELENTANO SENTINEL · FEBRUARY 2012



Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. 781 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515



781 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515 203-387-7700 www.caanh.net

Weatherfluke or climate change?

BY KIARA MAURIELLO, DANNY SKINNER, AND MICHAELA WILLIAMS

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

How crazy was it to have snow on Halloween? Warm temperatures at Christmas and all that snow that wouldn't stop last year? Is this just strange weather or is it climate change?

"It is my opinion that we are seeing climate change right in front of our eyes," said Steve MacLaughlin, a meteorologist who works for News 8 TV, WTNH in New Haven.

We really need to start changing our careless ways and help the earth. If we don't change our ways, he said, "New Haven can expect warmer and wetter than average conditions." Mr. MacLaughlin said that the warm fall, Hurricane Irene, or last winter's heavy snow "do not prove climate change" alone, but if you also look at the winter two years ago, record heat around the world, "recordsetting severe weather," and "record-breaking drought," it points to climate change.

Climate change is a serious issue, he said. People need to cut down on "carbon emissions," which comes from car gases and smoke from factories. Methane is another chemical that comes from cow poop that should also be reduced from entering the air, said Mr. MacLaughlin. As long as the population keeps growing and using resources including eating meat from cows, it will affect the environment and the climate. "Can you tell I'm a vegan?" he said.

Climate change may be a serious problem, but some students at Celentano have not



paid attention to it. The Celentano Sentinel survey of 141 students showed 74 percent do not think the earth is growing warmer. Students tend to only think about climate change sometimes. "When it's cold people complain," said Johnny Joyner. Another student, Hannah James, said that students don't consider climate change. "Not often!" she said.

It's important to know it is possible to reverse climate change.

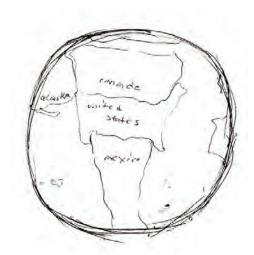
There are several things we students can do to help. Students can encourage their parents to change incandescent light bulbs to florescent bulbs, helping reduce gas emissions.

do more often. The more we recycle the less garbage trucks will be needed which will

cause less gas to be released into the atmosphere. People should want to reduce chemicals in the air because it causes air pollution. In fact, air pollution can cause people to get sick.

Most importantly, students should know that Mr. MacLaughlin said New Haven can expect "more frequent coastal flooding" because of the changing climate.

If we each take small steps to reduce climate change we wont have to fear floods, or warmer than average weather conditions in the future. The best way to reduce climate change is to notify people about its effects. Recycling is another thing students should As you can see it's like a chain reaction. If one student helps it influences others to help too. It starts with you.



NewHaven

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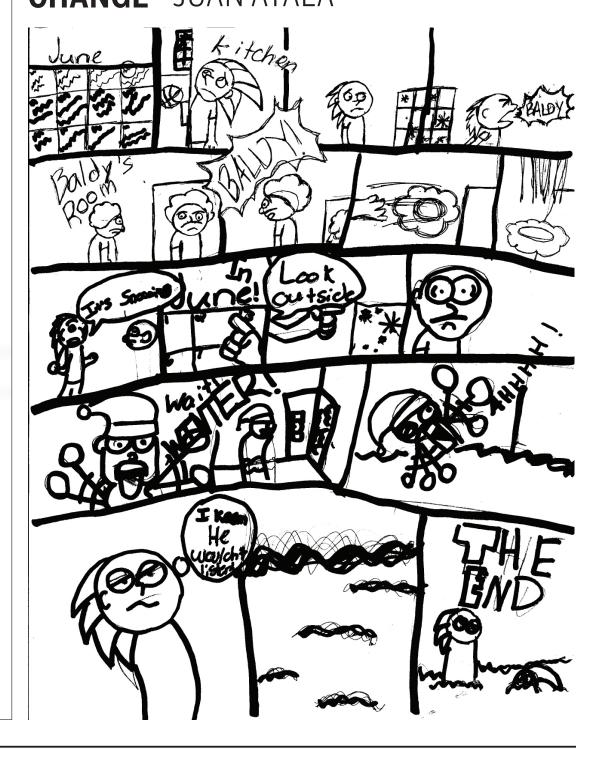
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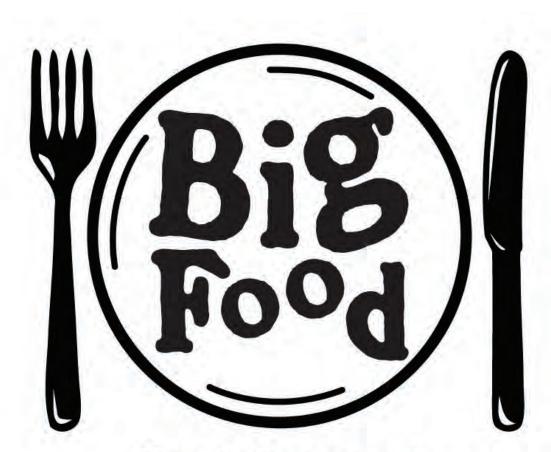
BALDY McBALDERSON AND CLIMATE CHANGE JUAN AYALA



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CARE: Community Alliance for Research and Engagement

Proud to partner with New Haven Public Schools and the city of New Haven to prevent chronic diseases through Health Heroes, Physical Activity and Wellness, Health and Achievement research and much more ...



Health, Culture and the Evolution of Eating

Why am I hungry?

How does the body store food and energy?

Do your family, friends and neighborhood influence what you eat?

What does it mean to say "yes" to that supersized meal?

A hands-on, multimedia, family-friendly exhibit at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History February 11 - December 2, 2012

Big Food is a collaboration between Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, CARE: Community Alliance for Research and Engagement at the Yale School of Public Health, Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity.

Presenting Sponsor: Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation.

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CARE.yale.edu

Sentinel taste test finds juicy fruit and yummy (low fat) crackers

BY KAITLYNE ANDREWS CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

The Celentano Sentinel

Taste Team decided!

It may seem weird, but when reporters held a taste test to compare different citrus fruits and different types of crackers, the team preferred healthy crackers to unhealthy crackers!

Our taste test results showed that even though regular Ritz Crackers ranked at the top, that the other top choices were reduced fat and whole grain crackers. And for citrus, clementines were the favorite.

We held our taste test on a Tuesday afternoon. The entire newspaper staff was hungry and anxious to eat the maybe delicious crackers and fruit. Without knowing the brand or type, we tasted nine types

rus fruit: Grapefruits, tanclementines. It was surprising how much the Celentano reporters talked about how sour the grapefruit tasted. Some people said that before they tasted, it reminded them

"of the beach and sunsets." It looked pretty, but several people said it tasted like "poison!" (There is a little tip that other people use to eat grapefruit and that is to put some sugar on it to get rid of the aftertaste.)

The reaction to the Florida oranges was very different from the grapefruit. Reporters thought the outside was really dark and soft. Someone on the taste team said the Florida oranges actually tasted just results showed that citrus like Florida. Some said the oranges were juicy and strong but others felt the "flavor was holding back." The tangerine surprised everyone by how juicy and sweet it was (but also very sticky).

Overall, the clementines were the crowd favorite. They are sweet just like apples!

The cracker taste results of crackers and four types of were very surprising because many of the healthier crack-We started with the cit- ers beat out the less healthy crackers. Isn't that amazgerines, Florida oranges, and ing? Although the original Ritz crackers were everyone's favorite (because they were salty, crispy, soft and sweet), our second favorite was Reduced Fat Ritz. People said they were buttery and crispy.

We also liked the Reduced Fat Wheat Thins, which people said tasted sweet like Honey Nut Cheerios.

Although some people had different opinions about the crackers, by the end of our taste test, we were very full. As Montrevious Brownlee said, "I liked it because I was hungry!" By the end, our taste team decided they "were tired of chewing."

We ate a lot of food, but our can be a fun treat to have in the winter because it reminds us of Florida. And our taste team showed us that sometimes healthier choices taste better than less healthy food choices!



TOP CITRUS Clementine

2. Ritz Cracker, reduced fat 3. Wheat Thins, reduced fat 4. Stop & Shop Classic,

5. Wheat Thins, multigrain UNRANKED

Stop & Shop Classic, reduced Ritz Cracker, whole wheat Stoned Wheat Thins

Wheat Thins, original





Celentano Sentinel reporters conduct taste test of citrus and crackers.

New Celentano band is a hit



Celentano Band director Mrs. Donna Johnson practices with band members before a Celentano basketball game.

New band from page 1

the Columbus Day Parade. The parade was also a competition. The Celentano Band earned third place out of eight bands that participated.

"There is a very excellent Celentano Band. They were awesome," said Mrs. Tania Lawrence, a 4th grade teacher, who saw the parade.

The Celentano Band, which is new this year, has 34 members and is lead by Mrs. Donna Johnson. The band has woodwinds, brass and percussion, including eight drums. Many Celentano students were excited to join the band, which practices after school on the stage in the cafeteria.

Jaavon Brown, a 6th grader, said he played the baritone horn for a few weeks before he switched to the trombone. He missed a few weeks when he was playing football. "My family suggested to me that I play an instrument and I took their advice and I feel happy for choosing it," he said.

"I play trumpet in the band," said Alexis Cole, an 8th grader. "It's easy because there's only three keys."

Montrevious Brownlee, a 7th grader, plays the drum. "I think the guys who play the drum are so cool," he said.

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Haunted mansion renovated, reimagined



Haunted Mansion from page 1

anticipating five one-bedroom apartments," said Carol Lopez-Smith, the director of operations at Pike International. Ms. Lopez Smith said the apartments will rent for between \$1,400 and \$1,995 per month.

Before renovations began, Celentano Sentinel reporters met with Ms. Lopez-Smith, with design manager Fernando Pastor, and with Brian Foley, assistant design manager. They took us on a tour of the house and talked about the plans to renovate it into apartments. The house is built in the Queen Anne style architecture, named after the Queen of England. It was a reddish orange color on the outside with white stripes. It has four floors and designs on the tops of the windows. The porch is long but has no stairs (when we took the tour, we had to climb a ladder to get inside!).

destruction that time has done to it. The house smelled bad because raccoons found cycle." ways to go in an out. There was a trail of

raccoon poop on the floor. The walls were cracked and peeling. Nobody would want to live in a house like that. But Pike is fixing it up and making it into a brand new house.

Mr. Pastor said that two of the apartments "will have references to the historical period in the bathrooms and kitchens." The other three "will be contemporary" style. He said they kept the "original doors and trims."

Even though the house was orange when we visited it, Mr. Pastor said they found out that "orange was not the original color of the house." They decided to paint it grey to match the roof shingles.

Ms. Lopez-Smith says she hopes the house will add to the neighborhood. "We are hoping that we will rent the apartments to single people or couples," she says, adding that they may attract graduate stu-The outside of the house looked bad dents or teachers. Mr. Pastor said that after enough, but inside tells the story of the being around for 130 years, the renovation "will provide the noble structure a new life





Pike International design manager Fernando Pastor gives Celentano Sentinel reporters a tour of the renovation project next to the school.

Bad economy affects New Haven more

0

Economy from page 1

Haven. CAANH helps people pay for heating, helps with weatherization, food, financial education and computer and adult education programs. The organization's annual budget is \$15 to \$16 million and right now it gives away \$12 million to help people.

WHEN FAMILIES LOSE JOBS. INSTEAD OF EATING CHICKEN AND RICE OR CHINESE FOOD, IT CAN MEAN HAVING APPLESAUCE AND CRACKERS FOR DINNER.

Isadora Del Vecchio, who is in charge of business development at CAANH, said in a meeting with Celentano Sentinel reporters that more people need help, but they have less money than last year.

She said the food pantry at CAANH served 36 percent more families last year than the year

before. "From my perspective of offering these services, there are a lot of new people," said Ms. Del Vec-

She said federal money for energy help was cut by 10 percent this year so the amount of money they can give people to pay for heating went down from \$865 to \$225.

That's not just a big cut, that's a huge one.

It can cost a lot to heat a house, especially for a family of five to eight people. Some families are trying to save money by doubling up. "Families need to move in with other families to keep warm," said Ms. Del Vec-

Even Ms. Del Vecchio is nervous about the economy affecting her family. She is a single mother and is worried that she could lose her job if there are more cuts to the grants they get from the federal and state governments.

CELENTANO SENTINEL SURVEY ON JOBS

STUDENTS WHO KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS MORE THAN ONE JOB

STUDENTS WHO KNOW SOMEONE

WHO HAS TAKEN A PAY CUT

STUDENTS WHO KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN'T FIND A JOB

STUDENTS WHO KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS LOST THEIR JOB

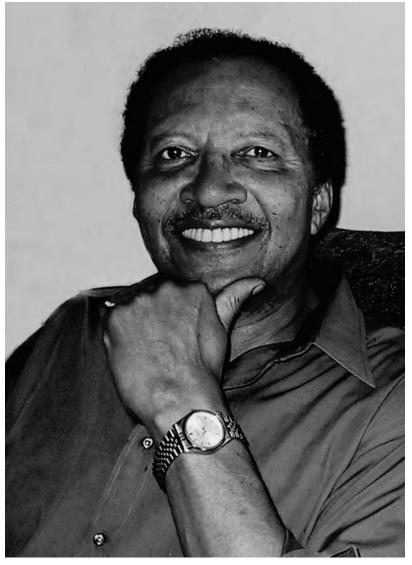
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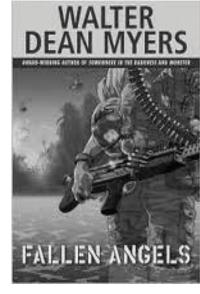
CAANH representative, Isadora Del Vecchio talks economics with Celentano Sentinel reporters.

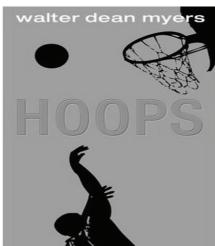
ROOKS

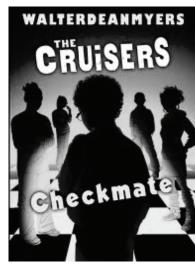
Q&A with author Walter Dean Myers, new Library of Congress Ambassador











Author Walter Dean Myers and four of his more than 100 books. Myers was just named National Ambassador for Young People's Literature by the Library of Congress..

BY GERELL NORMAN, GIANNI BETHEA, ALEXIS COLE, AND JASMINE CARI-PERGEE CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Walter Dean Myers is a great and bestselling author. He has written more than 100 five Coretta Scott King Awards. His new book is The Cruisers, Book 2: Checkmate. Last month, he was named the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. He will serve for two years, in 2012 and 2013. We conducted this interview with Mr. Myers by e-mail.

If you had made it to the N.B.A. would youhavegone?

:Inaheartbeat! Ilove all sports and Ilove competing in anything!

What made you decide on writing as a eareer?

: Not only did I not decide on writing as a career, I didn't even know there was such a thing. I loved writing and thought it would always be just a hobby. Even when I discovered that you could make money writing I books, and won two Newbury Honors and didn't think I would ever make enough to leave myregular job.

: What other career choices did you con-

:There was a time that I considered law as a career. That hope was dashed when I was told that I didn't speak clearly enough to be an attorney.

Why did you decide to join the Army at age 17? How long did you serve?

: I had a number of problems. My family was in disarray. My dad was deeply depressed, my mom was an alcoholic, and we were desperately poor. I couldn't afford to go to college so I needed some escape valve. I spent three years in the Army.

: Did you major in writing in college? : I didn't go to college until late in life and no, I didn't take writing courses.

Of all the books you have written, which is your favorite?

:I'm most involved in the latest book so This book is the one which is my "favorite." Idolike "Brown Angels" alot because Ilike the photographs in the book. I have a very large collection of photographs which I enjoy collecting and organizing.

: How did you feel when three of your books, Fallen Angels, Hoops, and Monster were banned in some places?

: Books are banned for a variety of reasons, some legitimate (age appropriate being the major reason) and some just to assert local power. It doesn't bother me. People are entitled to their opinions and thoughts. That's part of existing in a democracy.

What was your goal for Stephanie's character in your new book, Checkmate? : Most of my characters are drawn from young people I know or have known. Stephanie was the smartest girl I have ever met. Once, when I was thirteen, we tried to steal abus from the depot which was across the street from the school. We (my friends from the SP class) were caught before we got the bus off the city lot. The cops who caught us told us that they would pick us up in the afternoon to take us to jail and that we HAD BETTER be in class. The five boys involved sat squirming all afternoon. We had told the girls what happened and they were watching the door to see if the cops would be soon entering. At a quarter to two, when the boys had thought the cops weren't going to come, Stephanie said she had to go to the bathroom. She walked out of the room and then reentered moments late to announce, in a loud voice, "Here they are officer!" Needless to say, all of the boys involved nearly died on the spot. There were no cops, and Stephanie had merely scared us to death. But, as I said, she was a brilliant student.

What would your advice be to someone who wants to be a writer?

: Read as much as you can. This builds **l**iterary "muscle." Then, learn structure. Every story has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Then, remember the two golden rules of writing. 1. Most writers fail because they don't complete books, not because they are written badly. 2. Make writing a habit, not the result of amoment's inspiration.

Need to find a good book? Here's some help!

BY LAYLA BROWN AND IYANNA BAUCOM-LEGGETT

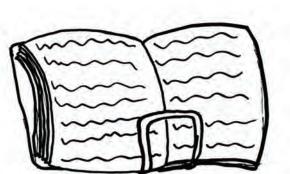
CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

with Kirsten met Levinsohn, executive director of New Haven Reads. She says she "loves" working there. New Haven Reads tutors over 500 students each week and has 220 students on the waiting list. New Haven Reads also has a book through Friday, and 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturday.

We spoke with Ms. Levinsohn about how to choose a book:

- Think about what you like. Do you like books about girls your age? Funny books? Sports books? Ms. Levinsohn likes The Color Purple by Alice Walker because the young bank at 45 Bristol Street, where women are very strong and don't students may get free books. It put up with nonsense. She also is open 1p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday loves reading Harry Potter.
- What reading level are you at? Ms. Levinsohn says to open any book and start reading. If you understand it, then it may be the right level.
 - 3. If you find an author you really like, then stick with him or her and see what else the author has written that you may want to read.
 - Sometimes you might think you don't like a book, but don't give up too soon!





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AMBERLINA SAYS "DON'T WORRY" ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

BY FELICIA DULMAGE

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

know if somebody likes you?

likes you, you would be able mess with you a lot or they'll get shy around you.

Dear Amberlina, Why do boys us seriously?

: Boys don't take girls seri- What do I do? ously because they don't get attached to girls as much as girls get attached to them. At this age, they feel. See if it changes her point of just want attention from every girl view. If not, you should just move on in the world because they don't care because you don't need someone like about girls' feelings. Don't worry that in your life. A true friend is there about relationships right now and through thick and thin. try not to fall for that boy too hard.

Truth is, that boy probably doesn't think anything about you even if you Dear Amberlina, How do you think you are in love – that is "young love." He might not be feeling the : If you want to know if a boy same and might be faking just so he can have a girlfriend. You should not to tell by how they act around you. worry too much because boys can Usually if they like you, they will distract you from doing what you want to do with your life.

Dear Amberlina, My friend just told me that she can't be my play us like a game and not take friend anymore because I don't have the same level of faith as she does.

> : You should go up to your friend and tell her how you

WHAT TO DO WITH BEST FRIENDS AND **BOYFRIENDS: ASK TRINIDAD**

BY MAYA BERRIOS

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

boyfriend. What should I do?

: You should speak to could get closer. your best friend and tell her that he is your boyfriend. She should calm down around him otherwise your friendship is going to tear apart.

: Dear Trinidad, My best just came up to me in a busy because your boyfriend and hallway and hugged me out of she might be best friends. Just the blue while I was talking. I go up to her and tell her how like him, but I don't know if I you feel because your friendlike him that way.

: Tell him how you feel. And tell him to tell you : Dear Trinidad, My best next time how he feels and friend is flirting with my to be real with you. Probably in the future your friendship

> : My best friend keeps talking to my boyfriend and whenever I am around they whisper or cover their mouths. Could he be cheating on me?

: Don't think your friend friend since pre-school 🔼 is doing something wrong ship will stay true and strong.

Bored? We've go ou covered

BY OMAIRYS CARRASQUILLO AND JAAVON BROWN

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

If you think you're bored, think again. There is almost always something you can do. So we have put together a list. We're calling it "What a student can do when bored."

- Read a book 1.
- Do missing work
- Go outside and play
- Play sports
- 5. Play video games
- 6. Use the computer to find out

information and research

- Watch a movie
- 8. Go jogging or do other exercises
- 9. Write about something interesting that

happened to you

- 10. Catch up on sleep
- 11. Call your friends
- 12. Study for upcoming tests
- 13. Go to math.com or coolmath.com
- 14. Go to freerice.com
- 15. Teach a younger sibling something you know
- 16. Tell your mother what happened in your day
- 17. Read about people in history
- 18. Think about what you want to major in in college
- 19. Play games with friends and family
- 20. Help your mom with laundry
- 21. Eat!
- 22. Play The Washing Game see who can wash the most plates.

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RIS & ADVICH

Dancing builds strength (and courage)

BY BRIANA ATKINSON CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Dancing is one of my favordance!

ITAKE BALLET. HIP-HOP AND AFRICAN DANCE, HIP-HOP IS MY FAVORITE.

I even go to a dance school on State Street. I take ballet, hip-hop, and African dance. Hip-hop is my favorite one because I've known how to do hip-hop for a very long time and I'm very good at it.

Ballet helps me with my flexibility and helps me so that when I go to the gym and the gym teacher tells me to stretch, I already know what to do because I do it at my dance school.

African dance also helps

JUAN AYALA

Based or Duem Ayabe Buldy No Balderson

me improve my flexibil- leggings. In a typical dance ity. I think most little boys class the instructor plays and girls should take dance the music. It is very soft ite things to do. I just love to classes to improve their and calm. Kids who are 11 money by dancing or show- harder positions than us, but ing other students how to when we do a show, we put it dance because I'm very good all together. at it.

> Hip-Hop is my favorite because I like fast songs and we dance to fast songs in hip-hop. When I'm with my friends I dance, and when I'm by myself I dance too. Hip-hop is very easy for me because I've taken it since I was four.

> Ballet really hurts because we have to stretch and you have to wear ballet shoes (mine are white). You have to wear a black leotard and

flexibility and their regular or younger are in one class, dancing skills. I think that while kids 12 or up are in one day I can make a lot of another. The bigger kids do

> WHEN I DANCE, I HAVE TO SHOW WHO I AM TO MY PEERS AND I HAVE TO STAND TALL.

Dancing takes a lot of practice, but dancing makes you stronger and more confident because you have to perform in front of an audience. When I dance, I have to show who I am to my peers and I have to stand tall.

Give listen

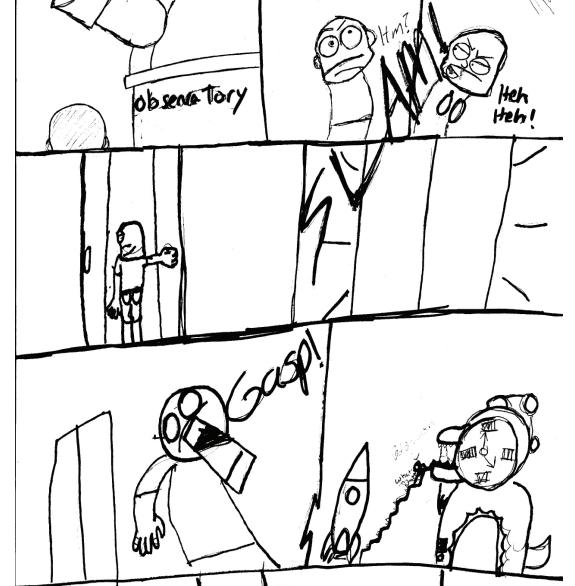
BY ANADYA LAMBOY CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

If you haven't heard, you should listen to Prince Royce. I usually listen to Prince Royce when I am cleaning my house with my family.

The rhythm is upbeat and you can dance to it. His songs are usually about love. One song I like a lot is called, "Stand By Me." It talks about wanting his love to never leave his side.

I like Prince Royce's voice because it can go high and low. The instruments sound so peaceful. They sound like ocean waves.

ADVENTURES OF BALDY McBALDERSON





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SPUK15

At Celentano, Everybody (it seems) got game





Celentano Museum Academy Principal, Keisha Redd-Hannans played basketball for Hillhouse High School in New Haven. She still enjoys basketball and roots for the team!

BY TYANNA DUPREE, BRIANA ATKINSON, AND TATIANA KIRBY

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Dribbling. Passing. Shooting. Dunk.

Basketball is fantastic. Students and grownups at Celentano Museum Academy like to play the teacher, and Mr. Matt Presser, who game. They are often in the gym basketball so much? It's a fun game and many people play.

On December 23, the whole together as a team," she said. school gathered in the gym for the student-teacher basketball game. is our principal, Mrs. Keisha Redd-There was a lot of cheering, excitement, and enthusiasm. The students put up a good fight, but they

lost. Everyone was happy for the ketball, "she said. teachers, but sad that the students lost.

Lay-ups. Three-pointers. Slam teachers that they aren't good at including one against Hamden everything," said Vartaysha Reed.

were Mr. Mike Piscitelli, P.E. wore a helmet and knee pads just time." after school shooting baskets and to be safe. First grade teacher Ms. the teachers need to practice more

> One person who likes basketball Hannans. She played basketball at Hillhouse High School. Her brother also played basketball. "I love bas-

She also likes to go to the Celentano basketball games. The team "Students should be able to show has won many games including, Middle School and are eager for students do, too. Highlights on the teacher team a great season. If the team loses, though, Mrs. Hannans is not upset and believes they will "Get 'em next

Another person at Celentano who playing. Why does everyone like Alexa Mineo was in the audience likes basketball is Mr. Anthony cheering for the students. "I think Hill. He coaches the team at Wilbur Cross High School. He has 15 ketball is Jaquan Toles. He plays players and many members of the team want to play basketball professionally. He is especially excited I never stop practicing." If he loses, to have his team play against Hillhouse High School.

"They are rivals," said Mr. Hill. brother all play basketball, too.

Even though he wants to beat Hillhouse, Mr. Hill said that he is friends with the coach, Mr. Renard Sutton. "We are very close."

Not only teachers like basketball,

KING ROBINSON AND CELENTANO WILL PLAY EACH OTHER ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH AT WILBUR CROSS HIGH SCHOOL.

One 8th grade boy who likes bason the basketball team at Celentano. He says basketball is "fun and he says he's mad and when he wins he's happy. His mother, dad and

Two girls with love for the game

BY CYAN STANFORD AND TIANA BROWN

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Boys get lots of attention for playing basketball, but this year, afterschool has two girls who are playing, Vartaysha Reed and ketball (so maybe if he's good, Deshonda Grimes.

NO MATTER WHAT, I'M HAVING FUN PLAYING THIS SPORT **VARTAYSHA REED**

girls playing in afterschool, the two girls decided to be part of a best that I can be," she said.

sport they love.

grade, felt calm about joining. "No matter what, I'm having fun playing this sport," she said. Ms. Reed said her dad also plays basshe's good too). If she needs any help, she can count on him. While Ms. Reed looks up to her father as a player, she also looks up to Kobe Bryant.

Ms. Reed is happy to play at Even though there are not many Celentano's afterschool program. "It's important that I could be the

Ms. Grimes said she liked play-Ms. Reed, who is 11 and in sixth ing, but wants to improve her shooting. "It's good to try," she said. She pushes herself even though she is not as good as she

> THIS IS WHAT I KNOW HOW TO PLAY BEST AND IT'S FUN

VARTAYSHA REED

wants to be, and it struck me because usually when you think you're not good at something, you give up. She is working at being better. Ms. Grimes said it wasn't strange to be a girl among mostly boys. "It's the same," she

During a recent day of practice, walking into the gym it sounded like everyone was energetic about the sport of basketball. Players were shooting the ball at the hoop and having little side games. You could hear the shouting of teamwork. Ms. Reed was stretching to make sure she was loose for practice. The energy was high and the players were ready to work. "This is what I know how to play best and it's fun," says Mr. Reed.

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SPUKIS

Celentano Sentinel talks with Coach Johnson

BY CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Basketball gets students at hard at school.

CELENTANO BOYS BASKETBALL IS AN EXPERIENCE FOR THE PLAYERS TO PREPARE THEMSELVES TO BE STUDENT-ATHLETES AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

COACH GREG JOHNSON

"Celentano Boys Basketball is an experience for the leaders in the classroom." players to prepare themselves to be student-athletes at the wants players to "show a level winners are in the classrooms." of commitment to themselves

and the team."

The team has a winning sea-Celentano Museum Academy son so far, recently beating fired up, but Greg Johnson, Bailey Middle School in West coach of the Boys Basketball Haven on Tuesday Jan. 24, by a Team says players need to work score of 49 to 44. Parents, students, and teachers crowded into the gym to watch the game, which was held during afterschool.

> Even though the game was very close, Mr. Johnson said he doesn't "get mad about plays on the court because with hard work and hustle we can get that back." What upsets him? "When my players aren't being

He likes to see his team win and play well. "But I often high school level," he said. He remind my players that the real



During a timeout, Coach Greg Johnson offers some wisdom to inspire his players to keep up their lead during the second half of their game against West Haven's Bailey Middle School.

Mr. Diah: Life of Soccer

BY GERELL NORMAN AND GIANNI BETHEA CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

It probably won't surprise people to know that Mr. David Diah has played soccer all his life. The former coach of the Celentano basketball team is finally involved in soccer again - but this time as a coach.

Most students know Mr. Diah as a math teacher, an awesome soccer coach, and a good person. The Celentano Tigers finished the season with four wins and one loss under Mr. Diah. The only loss was to Edgewood Magnet School.

Mr. Diah first played soccer as a kid in Jamaica. It was then he fell in love with the game.

"I always wanted to be a professional soccer player. I wanted to be like Edson Arantes and Diego Maradona, both great professionals," he said.

Mr. Diah's dream almost ended in high school when he injured his knee. But he still continued playing soccer. He played soccer at the University of Jamaica. When he came to America he played at Southern Connecticut State University.

I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A PROFESSIONAL SOCCER PLAYER. I WANTED TO BE LIKE EDSON ARANTES AND DIEGO MARADONA, BOTH GREAT **PROFESSIONALS**

COACH DAVID DIAH

Mr. Diah believes playing soccer takes hard work, determination, and motivation. He passes those lessons onto his players. "Soccer teaches teamwork, discipline, and working together to achieve one goal," he said.

"Mr. Diah doesn't care if we win or loose as long as we have fun," said Berket Tewolde, one of Mr. Diah's soccer players on the team.

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before



after



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SPORTS

Breaking it down: the mental (and physical) play by play





Celentano's boys' basketball team battles West Haven's Bailey Middle School in the Celentano gym.

BY JOHNNY JOYNER
CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Basketball is a pretty physical sport. Imagine going up for a rebound and getting hit while you are in the air. Diving on the floor, you get bruised and bloody.

When the fourth quarter comes, I love it. It's crunch time. You have to do everything right. You can't fool around. There is no time for just playing. You have to put your game face on. When you are playing, you try to fake players out, you jump for every rebound. You are always ready to shoot. You are never lazy.

Before the game, when I get ready and I put on my shoes, I look in the mirror, put on my headphones. I go out onto the floor and get warmed up, doing layups. I'm getting pumped for the game, getting ready to dominate.

In the first quarter, you get ready for the tip-off. You play smooth, you're not playing so rough. In the first quarter I make a couple of baskets so my teammates can trust me with having the ball in my hands.

In the second quarter, you always

want to win the first half because you want to keep the lead in the game. If you don't, the game can go either way. You always want your best players to sub out because you don't want them to get too tired.

During half-time our coach talks to us about what we are doing wrong or what we are doing right. Then we go back on the floor so we can warm up.

The third quarter is when you get your game face on because it's close to the fourth quarter. You can't lose your lead, you can't get out of control, and you can't lose your confidence. If you do, you risk losing the game. I play well under pressure because I know how to push myself and be calm.

When the fourth quarter comes, you've got to do your thing. You can't lose. There's no joking around. You've got to have your game face on. You've got to get mad at the other players. You have to take a lot of risks. You've got to run fast, but you can't get tired. You've got to take a lot of three-pointers. The crowd screams your name! Teammates are jumping on you.

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If you're interested, mail the below application to: 28 Lincoln Way, New Haven, CT 06510; fax it to: 203-785-0082 or email it to: info@newhavenpromise.org. Questions? Call 203-776-6473.

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SPORTS

Soccer is in my blood

BY MICHAEL ONIVOGUI

People in my family have been playing soccer for generations. My family came from Guinea when I was five. They came for a better education. We did find it - and we also came to become better soccer players.

When my brother used to play soccer for a school (I don't remember which school), I used to say, "You're good, but I'll be better." My whole family pushes me to do my best in whatever activity I do, but in soccer, I am pushed to my limits everyday because they want me to do the best I can.

I'm especially motivated by my brother-in-law, Abraham, who says to me, "Michael, you're good, but the other teams are better. You're fast, but they're faster. You're strong, but they're stronger - but that doesn't matter as long as you don't quit." That's my motivation.

SOCCER IS MORE THAN A SPORT --IT IS A LIFESTYLE -- AND ALL OF MY FAMILY MEMBERS PLAY. SOCCER IS NOT HARD FOR ME BECAUSE IT IS IN MY BLOOD.

MICHAEL ONIVOGUI

When I play, it doesn't matter if I win or lose because I'm not a sore loser. Even if I am mad that we lost a game, I won't have a temper. I'll say, "Good game" and head on home. I'm not a showboater and I won't jump up and scream "yesss!" unless it's a really important game



like the finals.

Soccer is not an emotional game for me because even though it is important to my family it wouldn't really affect us if soccer was cancelled. Sure, we would be mad for like a week, but we would get over it quickly.

To me, soccer is a fun and great sport. I always play with my big brother. It's a competition but he's like a role model (I also like Cristiano Ronaldo). I have been learning about soccer since I was three. I learned to juggle a ball, trying to balance it at the tip of my shin and the top of my leg.

Soccer is more than a sport - it is a lifestyle - and all of my family members play. Soccer is not hard for me because it is in my blood.



Seventh grader Shamonte Caldwell knocks the ball toward the goal in a Saturday game against Amistad Academy

Cheerleading more than waving pom-poms

BY KIARA MAURIELLO, ROSA CURR,

AND GENESIS SANTANA CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Cheerleading isn't just dressing up or cheering on boys. We do it because we want to represent our school by showing our spirit.

Most people think that cheerleaders sit on the sidelines and cheer for the team. People also think cheerleading is easy, a waste of time, and that it's not a real sport. Some people think we shouldn't even have cheerleaders.

Even though it's not a traditional way of exercising, it's still really good. Cheerleading is actually really difficult. It involves a lot of skills. We have learned how to keep our arms stiff, how to do stunts, and how to scream from your stomach.

Cheerleading is also a big team sport. We depend on each other and we have to get along with our teammates to work together. It's nerve wracking doing it in front of people, but when we're together, it's O.K. Also you have to be committed to doing it.

Cheerleading is a sport because you sweat. We invite anyone to try to do our cheers to see how hard it really



Celentano cheerleaders show off their new blue-and-white pom-poms.

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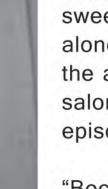
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AOL Media Party



A look featured on AOL's "Hot in My Salon."

Stylist.com says Karma Salon's reds are "a great mix of sweet and sexy." We couldn't agree more. And we're not alone. Karma Salon, home to hip hair styling and state of the art color in Greater New Haven, is one of the only three salons in the tri-state area to be featured on upcoming episodes of AOL's online "Hot in My Salon" series.

"Because clients rate salons by the personal service, experience and talent they receive," Be Magazine says, "we stand up for the salons that couldn't get press, but nevertheless, did a fabulous job everyday serving their clients with first class attention and care." Because of that, Be Magazone debuted Karma as #76 on their list of the best indie salons nationwide, and most sought after salon in New Haven.



Cheryl, owner of Karma, styles a model at NYC Fashion Week.



Stylist.com says

Karma Salon's

reds are

"a great mix of
sweet and sexy"

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H))|'()|R||A||.

A LETTER FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL



PRINCIPAL KEISHA D.R. HANNANS

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am excited about the launch of The Celentano Sentinel!!! The Sentinel provides a vehicle for our students' thoughts and ideas to be heard by all stakeholders. The articles were written by our students and edited with the help of students from The Cooperative High School in New Haven, leaders from the COOP Center for Creativity, the Yale Daily News, seventh grade Celentano teacher Mr. Matthew Presser, and Laura Pappano, a nationally known journalist and author, as a part of the New Haven Student Journalism Project.

It is my goal to have our students become critical thinkers and improve their writing skills as they venture into the world of journalism. Our children have invested a substantial amount of time researching, interviewing, and writing these articles during the 21st Century After School Program in the fall. I hope that you enjoy them as much as I do!

All children in grades 2 – 8 are eligible to write for the Sentinel if they are enrolled in the After School Program. So, parents please encourage your child to be a writer for The Celentano Sentinel. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE REPORTERS FOR A JOB WELL DONE. I AM TRULY PROUD OF ALL OF YOU!!!

Sincerely,

Keisha D. R. Hannans, Principal

THANK YOU!

The staff of The Celentano Sentinel would like to thank the following people for their help and support:

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Molly Lynch Laura Pappano

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THE CELENTANO SENTINEL

THE CELENTANO MUSEUM ACADEMY 400 Canner Street, New Haven, CT 06511 DESIGN BY CHRISTIAN VAZQUEZ, YALE DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL WRITERS: MONTREVIOUS BROWNLEE, HANNAH JAMES, RUOCHEN WANG CARTOONIST: JUAN AYALA

EDUCATION IS ONE ANSWER TO TOUGH ECONOMY

BY MONTREVIOUS BROWNLEE CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

The bad economy makes it hard for people. It's been difficult for people to get jobs. Gas bills are rising higher. It takes a lot of money to pay for food, clothes, and rent. The economy has affected a lot of people in New Haven. Kids may not be able to change the economy, but if we get a good education we might be able to get good jobs and change our lives.

"HAUNTED" HOUSE LONG PAST AND NEW FUTURE

BY HANNAH JAMES
CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Since coming to the Celentano Museum Academy in fifth grade, I have been staring at this old, beat-down house outside the school windows. Questions run through my head. "What happened to it?" And "Is it haunted?" No one knew. But now all those questions have been answered. It wasn't haunted, even though it looked abandoned. Today this old beat-down house has been made into fancy apartments. Now we have a nice building to look at, but I wonder what it's future holds.

Chinese and U.S. schools differ, but kids more alike than you think



BY RUOCHEN WANG

CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

I just came to America from China in the middle of August. There are so many things that are different between Chinese schools and American schools.

First, in China, we don't have a phone in every classroom to call the main office if someonegets introuble. In China, not too many students get in trouble. In China if a student gets in trouble, it is expected that the teachers take care of it and not the principal.

Second, in China there are more students in one class than there are in an American class. We usually have above 50 students in a class and one grade is supposed to have at least 10 classes.

Third, in China, teachers do not care what you like or dislike. They just teach you a lot of things in one day. They assign a lot of homework they want you to do. Most of the homework is about memorizing things, memorizing the formula for things or memorizing the text.

Finally, Chinese schools are bigger than American schools. We have a big playground outside the classroom. We can play with it when there is a break between two periods.

Educationisimportant. If there is more work there will be no time for playing. But if there's less work, we'll learn nothing. I think we need to combine both so we can have a happier time andlearnmore.

We have English lessons in China, too. I came here because my mom wants me to practice my English. I think there are similar things between my Chinese classmates and my American classmates.

Even though people think Chinese students must not be like American students, we are all stillkids. Westilljoke around. Westillplay with our pencils or pens. Some of us even have the same sort of nature.

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OPINION

TOO MANY GUNS, NOT ENOUGH RESPONSIBILITY

BY TIANA BROWN AND CYAN STANFORD
CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

What would you tell another 7th grader in New Haven who just lost a friend to a shooting? We would say that we feel your pain.

There is too much violence. It needs to stop.

It is time for grown ups to be responsible. Parents should not let their children be outside after 10 o'clock at night.

Older kids need to set better examples for younger kids. They should not have weapons. We all see weapons. We see kids with guns and knives. We see weapons and we hear about them when crimes happen.

When you see a gun, you try not to panic or act like you would tell because you don't want the person with the weapon to do something. It happens unexpectedly and your face gets red and you feel afraid.

Why do stores sell guns? There should be better laws. For someone to have a gun they should be over 20 and they should know how to use it – and they should not use it on people. We know people who are shot and killed by guns. If we don't control this, then New Haven will have more and more crime.

We have plans for the future. We both want to go to college. One of us (Cyan) wants to be a pediatrician and one of us (Tiana) wants to be a fashion designer.

We all have lives to live. We deserve to live them without anybody getting killed or worrying about crime -- or anything that takes our minds off our goals.

GAME PLAN: WHY WE NEED MORE HOMEWORK

BY JAAVON BROWN CELENTANO SENTINEL STAFF

Students should get more homework because if you want to become a college football player, you have to keep up your GPA (Grade Point Average) to be allowed to play and make it to the National Football League. If you have big dreams, the NFL wants you to be a good student. More homework could improve your skills and help you get your grades up.

Even people not planning to become a professional athlete msut well still work hard in school. If you don't you'll most likely not know how to pay a bill or use a credit/debit card. Before you pay a bill, you need to get a job. It has to be a job useful enough so that you don't worry about your children

following any bad habits.

A Celentano Sentinel survey showed that 60 percent of girls said they were scared before getting their report card; 32 percent said they were not scared (and some didn't answer). Sixty-three percent of boys said they were scared before getting their report cards; 37 percent said they were not.

The reason people were scared of getting their report cards was because even though they might have been achieving on the state tests, what about the rest of school? People may think we get a lot of homework, but it is to help you get through your freshman to senior year in high school and in college – and become someone in life.

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If they had to tell us once, they had to tell us five times.

In its 2011 edition of America's Best Children's Hospitals, *U.S.News & World Report* cited Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital as a national leader in no fewer than five categories, including 7th overall for the care of diabetes and endocrine disease. We're the only hospital between New York and Boston so frequently honored. That's a tribute to the doctors, nurses and staff who have put us at the forefront of pediatric research and treatment. And its great news for you. Now you know which children's hospital to turn to for your child's health care needs.



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