

## Senior Recognized as *Outstanding Junior Citizen of the Year*

2/25/15

On February 3rd, Jessica Jaramillo was recognized as the Outstanding Junior Citizen of the year by the West Chester Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes a student who demonstrates exceptional community service and volunteerism as well as academic excellence. She was awarded a scholarship by Lamb McErlane law firm and given a key to the city of West Chester. During the awards banquet Jess mingled with Dr. Scanlon, Dr. Fraser, the Mayor of West Chester, Senators, and a variety of other business people and politicians. Jess did an exceptional job representing herself and West Chester East High School.



## Chocolate Contest Results

2/25/15

Junior Kristen Nicolosi, baker of a chocolate cake with cookies & cream icing, was the winner of the annual EHS Chocolate Contest, held on Friday, February 20th. Other finalists were Kaitlin Lewin and Lauren Corteser (2nd place) and Haley Ingram (3rd place).



## District Debate Results

2/20/15

The debate team competed in the district championships at Harriton High School on Thursday

February 19th. The entire team performed extremely well.

Jessie Wollum debated the merits of a “living wage” and went 3-1 on the night. Her scores were good enough for third place honors and she will be an alternate at the state tournament next month.

Kee Harish and Kevin Diestelow debated the pros and cons of globalization. They won 2 out of 3 rounds. Their scores were good enough for second place honors. They qualified for the state championships at Susquehanna University next month.

This is the best showing our team has ever had at the district tournament.

### **Senior Inducted into American Junior Academy of Science**

2/18/15

Rohit Goyal was inducted into the American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS) as a lifetime fellow this past weekend. He presented his work on Fatigue Detection Using Artificial Intelligence and Computer Vision Algorithms at the AJAS conference in San Jose, CA. The conference was held in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) conference. Rohit was selected as one of three delegates from Pennsylvania to attend these conferences after going through a presentation and interview process. The conferences focused on the latest developments in science research and outreach, convening some of the world's leading professionals, including internet pioneer, Vinton Cerf, and former Nobel Prize Winner, Phillip Sharp.



### **Region Orchestra Success**

2/19/15

The students listed below advanced from the PMEA District 12 Orchestra, to the PMEA Region VI Orchestra level.

The students have an initial audition to get into Districts, back in November, competing against students from high schools throughout Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia counties. Once they make that cut, they have to re-audition for a specific seating/ranking. From this ranking, only the top half are selected to move on to the Region level, where they will then compete against the other half, which is comprised of students from Bucks & Montgomery counties.

Finally, the top third from Regions is selected to move on to the All-State Festival level, which will be hosted in Hershey, this year.

Gavin Bond  
Alex Chen  
Lauryn Cooper  
Matt Hontz  
Ajmain Hossain  
Ben Klucznik

Along with the 3 Henderson & 3 Rustin students, the West Chester Schools were one of the two most represented districts!!

### **Junior Advances to PMEA All-State Wind Ensemble**

2/18/15

Matthew Hontz successfully advanced to this year's PMEA All State Wind Ensemble that will rehearse and perform March 26-28 in Hershey, PA at the PMEA Annual All-State conference.

Additionally, Matt will be representing East High School and the state of Pennsylvania at the National Association for Music Education All-Eastern Division Conference April 9-12 in Providence, RI. He will be performing with the All Eastern Concert Band under the direction of esteemed educator and conductor, Peter Boonshaft.

### **Student Musicians Perform at Kimmel Center**

2/18/15

Two East High School students are members of the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra. This select group of young musicians performed at the Kimmel Center on Sunday. Ajmain Hossain, grade 11, is in the Violin II section. Alexander Chen, grade 11, is in the Violincello section. The students performed Festive Overture, Op. 96 by Shostakovich and Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64 by Tchaikovsky, under the direction of Louis Scaglione.



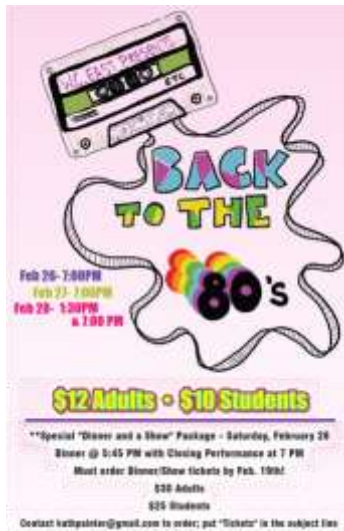
**EHS Musical**

2/12/15

East Theatre Company will present "Back to the 80's! - The Totally Awesome Musical" on February 26, 27, and 28th.

Set in the USA, Back to the 80's tells the story of the senior class of William Ocean High School that graduated in the 1980's, as remembered and seen through the eyes of Corey Palmer, who is now 30-something. Throw in a Star Wars dream sequence, high energy dance routines, the obligatory 80's party scene, copious amounts of blue eye-shadow, twenty cans of hairspray, as well as some of the most popular songs ever written, and the result is a musical that will delight and amuse an audience of any age. There is also an on-stage appearance by one of East's very own staff members!

Come out and join us for the fun!! Tickets are available at the door for all performances.



## Varsity Academic Team Advances to Finals

2/12/15

The Varsity Academic Team won both rounds of the semi-final matches today to advance to the finals! They beat Rustin, TCHS, PALCS, and Kennett to earn the advancement to the finals!

Please mark **March 17th at 7 pm** on your calendar to come out and root East onto victory! They will face tough competition in Unionville and Downingtown East high schools. It will be an exciting match!

## Best Buddies win PA Video Competition

2/12/15

Best Buddies Pennsylvania announced today that West Chester East HS' Best Buddies chapter has won the 1st Best Buddies Pennsylvania Video Competition!

In winning the competition, our chapter's video has been posted on the Best Buddies Pennsylvania website and Facebook page, the video will be shown at the annual High School ~ Best Buddies Ball, and our chapter is excused from paying the leadership dues for next school-year.

Within the video, our chapter needed to express the following: 'Why is Best Buddies important to you, How has Best Buddies changed your life, What would you say to someone in order to have them join the chapter'

Our chapter's video can be seen through the following link ~ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBkXVsP1tgA>

### **Student Wins 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Writing Competition**

2/11/15

Anna Steinmetz, grade 10, won first place in the 9th Annual Girls on Art High School Writing Competition. Anna received a check for \$300, and her entry will be published in the spring newsletter for Regional Center for Women in the Arts.

### **DECA Happenings**

2/11/15

#### **What is DECA Workshop for Fugett 8th graders**

East DECA officers and students facilitated an after school workshop for prospective Fugett 8th graders. Thirty Fugett students were in attendance. The students had pizza and drinks after school then moved to room 107 for presentations by East DECA students and officers in grades 10-12. The DECA students presented workshops on Hospitality, Finance, Management and Marketing.

### **National Business Honor Society**

The West Chester National Business Honors Society recognizes Henderson, East and Rustin students who excel in academic preparation and are planning for a career in the business world. In order to succeed in business leadership, students need to be well prepared in academics, career skills and leadership development. Click [here](#) to read about membership qualifications and to download an application.

### **Guest Speaker from Pattison Sports Group**

Jeff Long visited the Marketing Honors class as part of the guest speaker project. He shared his career story in sports marketing which took him from the Atlantic 10, to the Eagles to owning his own company. Pattison Sports Group produces the Healthy Kids Running Series as well as Victory Events, a large lacrosse tournament event company.

### **Student Builds Custom Shelving for Horizon House**

2/4/15

The Community Crossroads Peer Recovery Center at Horizon House recently received a gift of new custom shelving units from 11th grade student Noah Hertzler.

Noah started the project a year ago to complete one of his GIEP goals. Before beginning construction, he designed the shelves using CAD modeling software. Using equipment in Mr. Moore's Wood Materials class, Noah processed the wood at school last spring, assembled and painted the units at home over the summer, and installed them on site.

"This project was an opportunity to use the skills I learned in school to do something important and make a difference in the community," he said.

Great work, Noah – we're proud of you!



### **News from the Health & PE Department**

2/4/15

Since February is American Heart Month some of the 9th grade health fitness students are discovering the ins and outs of preventing heart disease. Students have been creating pamphlets and posters on the risks of heart disease, conditions and procedures associated and ways in which they can lower their own risks. In addition, all 9th grade students are being trained in CPR for adult, child, and infant as well as what to do if someone is choking. Even though students will not be CPR certified many have developed skills to be confident in helping in a cardiac or choking emergency. Students are encourage to sign up for CPR certification courses following the classroom training.

Everyone can take steps to lower their own risk of heart disease. The following are suggestions from the American Heart Association:

1. Monitor your blood pressure
2. Have your cholesterol checked
3. Eat a healthy diet

4. Exercise regularly
5. Maintain a healthy weight
6. Don't smoke or work towards quitting

Ask yourself... What is the best thing that you have done for your heart lately?

### **Fit for Life**

Check out the Daily Local on Wednesdays or Fridays for the newest student article on being "Fit for Life." 7 East High School freshman have had their thoughts on the topic published in the paper.

### **Junior Class President is a Featured Chesmont Athlete**

2/3/15

Justin Cooper has been selected as a featured athlete by the Chesmont sports website. Click the link below to read the article about Justin's leadership as an athlete, class president and DECA participant.

<http://chesmontsports.com/west-chester-easts-justin-cooper-provides-leadership-off-mat/>

### **Students Interact with Shakespeare's *The Tempest***

2/3/15

Mr. Mitchell's 10th grade honors classes are reading Shakespeare's *The Tempest* on Genius.com. Through Genius, students can make annotations to the text and annotate each other's thoughts along with answering Mr. Mitchell's questions while they are reading the text on the internet for homework. In late January, the developer of Genius, Dr. Jeremy Dean, sent 90 t-shirts to our students for their efforts. On Thursday, February 5th, all of Mr. Mitchell's sophomore classes will wear their PoetryGenius t-shirts to school to show their "Genius Pride!"





### **Student a Finalist in Wendy's HS Heisman Competition**

2/2/15

Please congratulate Eric Diestelow, who was selected as one of the PA state finalists in the Wendy's High School Heisman competition. He received his letter, a gift card and medal last week.

Students are judged based on their academic achievements, athletic accomplishments, community-leadership, and involvement in various extracurricular activities during grades 9 through 11.

### **Student Receives Distinguished Honor**

1/30/15

Congratulations are in order to **Jonathan McKellar** for being selected as a candidate to the United States Presidential Scholars Program. This is a program from the Department of Education that recognizes the academic achievements of distinguished US citizens graduating high school. It is described as one of the nation's highest honors for high school students. There is a process for Jonathan to be considered as a semifinalist, but the nomination itself is an amazing honor!

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/psp/index.html>

### **ELLs Create Mindful Eyes in PTO-Sponsored Workshop**

1/30/15

On the day before the winter break, ELLs practiced reading directions, and created "Mindful Eyes." Mindful Eyes are a modern-day interpretation of handmade crafts which have their origins in the Americas. Long ago, tribes made similar crafts to mark the birth of a baby, a new home, or other significant event. In conjunction with their handiwork, ELLs discussed the ideas presented in a recent workshop about stress reducing strategies, sponsored by the P.T.O. The Mindful Eyes were made as a reminder to take a deep breath if one is feeling stressed. Student's creations were as varied as their personalities, and they were able to take home a work of art and a practical reminder to take care of themselves.





### **Students Raise Money through Marketing Plan Project**

1/22/15

This fall the three Marketing Honors classes at East High School participated in a Marketing Plan project marketing and selling items purchased from Oriental Trading. The student group with the top sales was declared the winner, all of the groups chose to donate their profits to four charities totaling \$225! The four charities are: Susan G. Komen Foundation, Jimmy V Foundation, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Autism Cares. The Marketing Honors classes are a part of the East DECA program, if you have any questions about any business courses or East DECA contact Carol Lill at [clill@wcasd.net](mailto:clill@wcasd.net).



### **BSU Students Participate in MLK Day of Service**

1/20/15

On MLK Day, Americans across the country come together for a day of service, picking up the baton handed to us by past generations and carrying forward their efforts. As one people, we show that when ordinary citizens come together to participate in the democracy we love, justice will not be denied.

BSU students Andrew Henry, Imani Luckey, Brittani Canty, Shyda Thomas, Sulayman Wagay, and graduate Aiza McCullum, participated in Martin Luther King's Day of service along with

students from Henderson and Rustin. They spent the morning putting together bags containing hygiene items to be distributed at homeless shelters in Chester County. Thanks to our high schools, we were able to put 200 toiletry kits together for local homeless shelters!

The students also participated in random acts of kindness at the court house. The students made January 19th a "Day On" by participating in a tangible need in their community to empower individuals and bridge barriers.





### **Student's Equestrian Endeavors**

1/16/15

Junior Emily Von Urff rode in a split Junior division in 2014, riding at both Junior 3'3 and 3'6 feet. Within the state, PHSA ( PA Horse Show Association) for 2014 she placed **Reserved Champion** in Junior 3'3. In Zone 2 (USEF) in the country , she placed 3rd in Junior 3'3 and 13th in Junior 3'6.

### **Student Qualifies for Region Band**

1/13/15

Congratulations to junior Matt Hontz for advancing to the PMEA Region VI band festival that will take place at Upper Merion HS February 12-14th. Way to go, Matt!

### **Teens for Jeans Charity Drive**

1/8/15

Do you have any old pairs of jeans just sitting in your closet? Rather than throwing them away, they can be donated to help some of the one million teenagers experiencing homelessness in the U.S. Our Student Council is participating in the 2015 Teens for Jeans charity jeans drive. From January 12th until February 15th, gently used jeans can be dropped off in the EHS main lobby. By donating just one old pair of jeans, you are providing an essential clothing item to a kid or teen in need. Please stop by with your jeans during this time and help us help the homeless.

### **Student Published Daily Local's *Fit for Life* Series**

12/15/14

Click [here](#) to read ninth grader Timothy Becker's article about fitness.

### **Salvation Army Angels**

12/15/14

KARE has done it again! Every year, around Christmas time, East's student service club, KARE, works to spread the love and get the student body in the spirit of giving. Last year, East was generous enough to donate over 180 presents to those in need through the Salvation Army. This year the club officers, Jen Pastorino, Jessica Jaramillo, Alicia Monaco and Lauren Scheuer, decided to take on 60 more angels and successfully donated a total of 240 presents. When Jessica walked into the Salvation Army drop off and told them East had arrived with their sleighs fully packed, the volunteers' faces lit up. They were overjoyed to here East was back again, making yet another generous contribution.

### **East Choral Program Featured on WCHE**

12/12/14

Several students from the East Choral Program were invited to West Chester's WCHE radio station on Thursday, December 11th. The students were interviewed by Tracey Dukert, the Digital Communications Coordinator for the WCASD, as to how and why they are involved in the school's choral program. The students also performed four holiday selections on the air that will be included in the upcoming Winter Concert on Monday night. Congratulations to (from left to right)...Mikala Hardie, Nickey Siegerman, Carter Persson, Louis Fillman, Caroline Bruce, Tommy Iacono and Alexa Ellis. On the far right is Mrs. Werner, the Choir Director.



### **Viking with Pride Award Winners**

12/5/14

The students pictured below received the “*Viking with Pride*” award, sponsored by the PTO, for “demonstrating the ideals of character and commitment that exemplify the “*spirit*” of West Chester East High School”.

Congratulations to (from L-R): Emily Bohannon, Andrew Henry, Noah Hertzler, Jessica Jaramillo, Jake Carroll, Keerthi Harish, Edward (Jake) Gorman and George Samuel.



### **Student to Perform in NAFME All-Eastern Honors Ensemble**

12/3/14

Congratulations to Junior French horn player, **Matthew Hontz**, for successfully auditioning and being accepted to perform in the National Association for Music Educators (NAfME) All-Eastern Band, April 9-12 in Providence, RI. Matt is a member of the West Chester East HS band program and takes private lessons with Dr. Elizabeth Pfaffle, professor of horn at West Chester University.

### **The Redesigned SAT**

12/2/14

The new SAT will be launched in the Spring of 2016 – this change will impact current

sophomores. When students open their test books in spring 2016, they'll find questions asking them to support their answers with evidence, vocabulary they'll use long after they've taken the exam, an essay prompt asking them to analyze a writer's argument, and multistep problems requiring them to apply math in real-world contexts.

The PSAT/NMSQT will change together with the SAT and is planned to launch in October 2015. This schedule will allow students to take the redesigned PSAT/NMSQT before the redesigned SAT. College Board is working closely with the National Merit Scholarship Corporation to release an assessment and scholarship resource that ensures students are recognized for and take advantage of the opportunities they have earned.

For more information please go to <https://www.collegeboard.org/delivering-opportunity/sat/redesign/compare-tests>

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