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THE FOCUS

THE OFFICIAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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BYRAM HILLS BUDGET AND TRUSTEE VOTE

The Byram Hills Budget and Trustee Vote will take place on May 17th at HCC from 6:30 am to 9:00 pm. Please see the video below which highlights the proposed budget, Proposition 1. For Proposition 2, there are seven candidates who are running for the four Board of Education Trustee seats. Each candidate is responsible for their own campaign. Information regarding the budget vote and the names of the candidates for the Board of Education can be found on the District website HERE.

Please take the time to become an informed voter and come out to the polls!

TRIPLE C AWARD RECIPIENTS SAMANTHA GRECH AND OWEN KENNY

Byram Hills High School is pleased to announce **Samantha Grech** and **Owen Kenny** as this year's recipients of the New York State Attorney General's Triple C Award. This award has been presented since 2006 to deserving graduating seniors across New York State in recognition of three primary traits: courage, character, and commitment. The NYS Triple C Award was established to honor seniors whose high school journey included unique circumstances and achievements. Whether overcoming personal obstacles, succeeding in academic pursuits, participating in community service, or displaying leadership skills, these students provide us with hope for a brighter future.

Samantha Grech is an outstanding student, academic researcher, and athlete who is always committed to tackling the next challenge and is no stranger to grit and resilience. In November 2021, Samantha was diagnosed with cancer. Samantha has battled through chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery with remarkable courage and positivity. Her recovery has been an inspiration to her family, friends, and the entire Byram Hills community. Samantha will be attending Boston College in the fall.

Owen Kenny showed exemplary self-discipline and fortitude to excel in the face of challenges. He has become a role model of academic achievement and excellence who inspires others with his dedication and generosity of spirit. Owen will seek a major in science at Siena College in the fall.

CAROLINA BAQUERO AND REBECCA GELLER ACCEPTED TO NORTHERN WESTCHESTER HOSPITAL'S PRESIDENT JUNIOR LEADER COUNCIL

We are proud to announce that **Carolina Baquero** and **Rebecca Geller** were accepted into the Northern Westchester Hospital's President Junior Leader Council (PJLC) for the 2022-2023 school year. The PJLC is a youth leadership program whose mission is to improve the health, safety, and well-being of adolescents and young adults in Northern Westchester County. This is a wonderful development and leadership opportunity exclusive to students in Northern Westchester. PJLC members are considered volunteers of the hospital.

GENOCIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH CONTEST WINNER ARIANNA GARCIA

Arianna Garcia's original artwork, "The Price of Uyghur Labor" was selected by the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center during its Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month Student Contest in April. Her project was recognized for its originality, creativity, and authenticity and a donation in her name will be made to the Afya Foundation which is currently working to support the Ukrainian medical community and refugees seeking aid.

Preview her artist statement in our FLYERS section and view a short video of Arianna speaking about her artwork HERE.

TRI-M MUSIC HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES

We are proud to announce that five seniors were inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society during the spring concert on April 27th. Congratulations to **Edith Bachmann, Amelia Chung, Rebecca Frieden, Nora Lowe,** and **Eleana Morse** on being recognized for their outstanding musicianship, scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Aaron Lockwood, the Byram Hills Orchestra Director and Tri-M adviser, noted that they have been selected to and participated in honors ensembles both at the County and All-State levels, and they've also always been willing to lend a hand or volunteer their time to perform for students at Wampus or H.C. Crittenden. He noted that the students volunteered many weekend hours to help Byram Hills host a New York State School Music Association strings festival in the early spring. "It is yet another example of how truly they understand the importance of community and supporting and inspiring the next generation of musicians," said Mr. Lockwood. CLICK HERE to watch the ceremony.

CODA AWARENESS

Have you heard of CODA? CODA stands for **C**o-**O**ccurring **D**isorders in **A**dolescents Awareness. Co-Occurring Disorders are the combination of one or more mental health challenges and alcohol, marijuana, opioid, or other substance misuse. Those with mental health challenges often misuse substances to try to cope and manage. Believe it or not, over 10 million people have Co-Occurring Disorders, but most have never heard of it!

Members of the Youth 2 Youth (Y2Y) Club helped spread the message about Co-Occurring Disorders during the last week of April. To help educate our school community, daily announcements were made, posters were hung throughout the building, and an activity in the cafeteria was organized to raise awareness about this important topic

Please know that there is help available. Reach out to someone you trust. Together we can save lives and improve outcomes.

Bernice Pagan, LMSW
Student Assistance Counselor, Room 100B

The Student Assistance Program and Y2Y enhance the emotional and mental health of students by helping them make healthy decisions and remain substance-free. See Mrs. Pagan for more information or if you are interested in joining Y2Y.

Contact Mrs. Pagan at bpagan@byramhills.net or 273-9200 ext 4943.

AUTHENTIC SCIENCE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

On Wednesday, June 1st at 6:30 pm, Byram Hills High School will be hosting the 33rd Annual Authentic Science Research Symposium honoring our graduating class of 2022. The Authentic Science Research Program is a three-year course that encourages students to pursue excellence in areas of original research. The symposium will showcase 41 senior presentations and a poster session where our juniors and sophomores will present their work.

This year, a keynote address will be delivered by Sarah Crucilla, a former ASR student from the class of 2016 who is currently studying the origin of life at Harvard University. Academic conference attire is preferred, and refreshments will be served. All incoming Freshmen Science Research students are required to attend.

FOL-DE-ROL STUDENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Armonk Lions Club is looking for student volunteers for this year's Fol-De-Rol, which is held at the Wampus Community Park in June. The Fol-De-Rol (French for foolishness) has been an annual fun-filled weekend of rides, pet and car parade, games, craft and food vendors, continuous entertainment, animals, and much more. The Lions Club is looking for students to help set up, clean up, and photograph the weekend event. If you are interested, please contact Kelly Starra: ksfarra@optonline.net or head to armonklions.org/fol-de-rol-festival-and-crafts-in-the-park.html.

ATHLETIC ADVISORY COUNCIL PARENT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Athletic Advisory Council is looking for parent members! The Council meets five times per year and focuses on the entire athletic program, grades 7-12. Upon selection, the parent will meet with coaches, students, teachers, administrators, and Board of Education members to collaborate on athletic program continuous improvement. All meetings are scheduled for 30 minutes and take place in the high school dance studio unless otherwise posted. Please note that new parental membership will be extremely limited.

If you are interested in being considered for membership, please complete THIS APPLICATION by May 31st, 2022.

Meeting dates and times:
Dates are TBA
Start times 7:45 AM

CHALLENGE SUCCESS - DIGITAL MEDIA TIPS

The use of technology has greatly increased in all facets of life over the last few years. At times, access to media can feel all-consuming. Our partners at Challenge Success have created five tips for a well-balanced approach to digital media. The most important aspect for healthy digital use is open communication between parents and their children.

- Create device-free spaces for family time
- Ensure that devices don't interfere with sleep
- Determine appropriate digital limits and rules of conduct as a family
- Model and practice good digital boundaries and self-regulation
- Be curious

To learn more about these tips, please visit Challenge Success Digital Media Tips & Resources.

NYS INTERNET SURVEY

New York State is working to identify disparities in broadband – ensuring everyone has equal access to high-speed internet. Consequently, the State is sending around this speed test & survey HERE. If you have a moment, please complete this survey.

MAY SOFT SKILL

Self Advocacy. It is very important to be able to articulate ones own needs to improve the quality of life, affect personal change, or correct inequalities. A great way to build self-advocacy skills is to practice and role-play potentially difficult conversations with your child in advance. Helping students articulate positive outcomes is extremely beneficial when promoting self advocacy skills.

UPCOMING SENIOR EVENTS

Wednesday, May 25th
- *Awards Ceremony*
7 PM

Tuesday, June 14th
- *Senior Night* - 6:30 PM
- *BHEF Movie* - 8:00 PM

Wednesday, June 15th
- *Graduation Rehearsal*
9:30 AM at BHHS

Thursday, June 16th
- *Prom*

- **Tickets $170 can be purchased between May 16th and May 27th in the Main Office - checks made out to "Byram Hills High School"**
- **5 - 6 PM - Community Reception/Red Carpet at BHHS**
- **7 - 11 PM - Glen Island Harbour Club**
- **Tickets can be purchased after watching the Pre-Prom video and completing the attestation which will be sent out on May 9th**
- **Non-BHHS guests must be approved by Ms. Sautner/Ms. O'Connor**

Tuesday, June 21st
- *Graduation*
5 PM at BHHS

Rain Date - Wednesday, June 22nd at 5PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 16
- Vox Summit
- Jazz on the Lawn

Tuesday, May 17
- Principal's Coffee 9 am
- Community Concert @ HCC 3 - 6 pm
- Board of Ed. Budget/Trustee Vote @ HCC 6:30 am - 9 pm
- Board of Ed. Mtg. @ HCC

Thursday, May 19
- BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. @ DO 7 pm
- C.H.I.L.D. Evening Event 7 pm
- Varley Players present Tripp Down Memory Lane 7pm

Friday, May 20
- Varley Players present Tripp Down Memory Lane 7pm

Wednesday, May 25
- Awards Ceremony 7 pm

Monday, May 30
- Memorial Day
- Schools & Offices Closed
- Regular Athletic Schedule

Tuesday, May 31
- PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

QUALITY CONTENT

May 2022 - Focus

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Last Day of Ramadan	2-6 Senior Internship Begins AP Exams	3-7 AP Exams Teacher Appreciation Day PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am Board of Ed. Mtg. & Budget Hearing V, 7:30 pm **Eid al-Fitr**	4-8 AP Exams	5-1 AP Exams PTSA Staff Appreciation Luncheon Registration Deadline for 6/4 SAT	6-2 AP Exams Registration Deadline for 6/11 ACT	7 SAT Test
8	9-3 AP Exams	10-4 AP Exams	11-5 AP Exams	12-6 AP Exams	13-7 AP Exams	14
15	16-8 Jazz on the Lawn	17-1 Principal's Coffee 9 am PTSA Exec Mtg. @ DO 9:30 am Community Concert @ HCC 3 - 6 pm Board of Ed. Budget/Trustee Vote @ HCC 6:30 am - 9 pm Board of Ed. Mtg. @ HCC	18-2	19-3 The Varley Players Performance 7 pm BHEF Board of Directors Mtg. @ DO 7 pm	20-4 The Varley Players Performance 7 pm	21
22	23-5	24-6	25-7 Awards Ceremony 7 pm	26-8	27 -1	28
29	30 Regular Athletic Schedule **Memorial Day** **Schools & Offices Closed**	31-2 PTSA Exec Mtg @ DO 9:30 am				

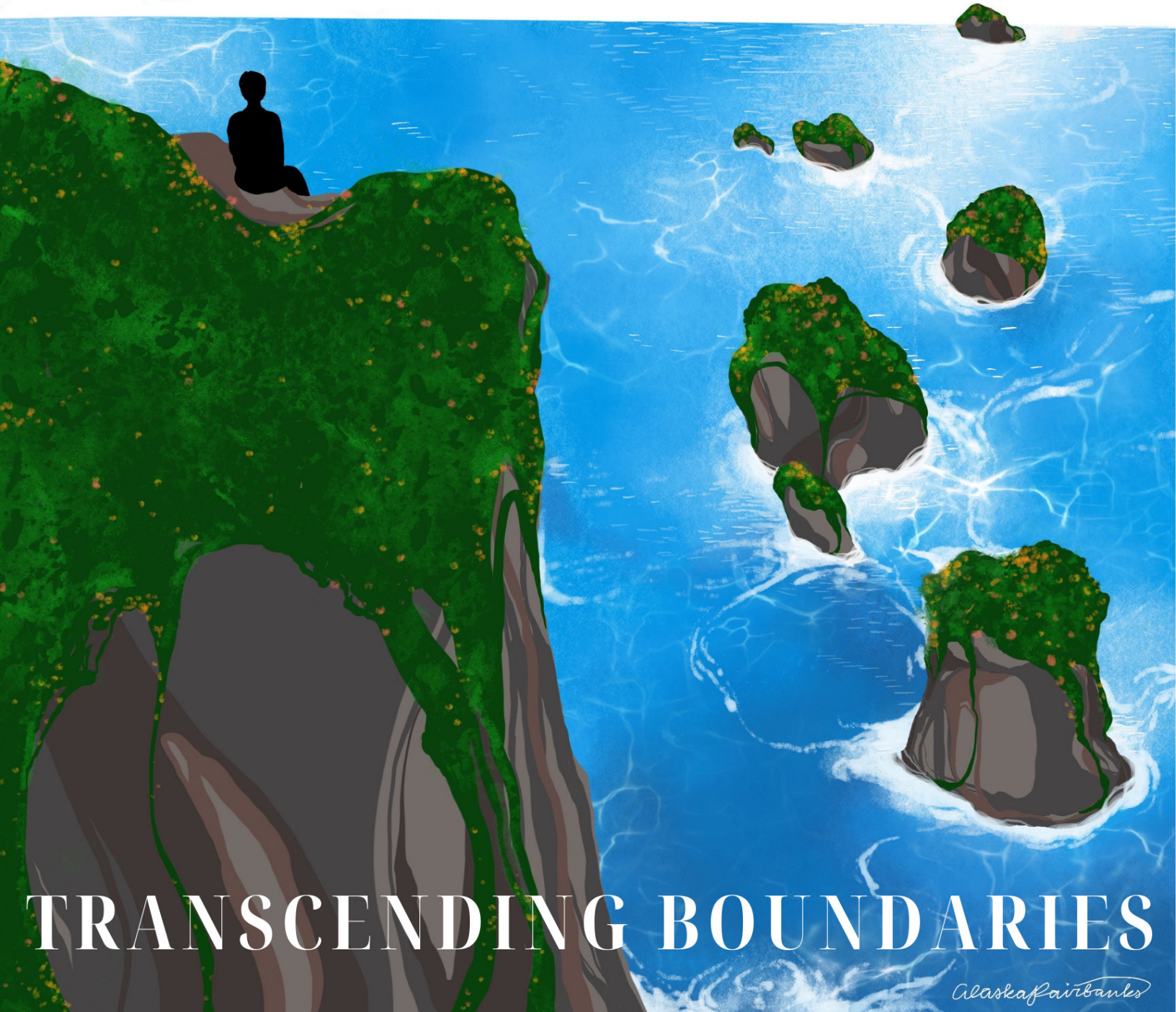
The Price of Uighur Labor
By Arianna Garcia
Fabric/Sculpture on Cardboard

This art piece was created to spread awareness on the issue of the genocide occuring in China on Uighur Muslims and to show what these people are forced to do in the concentration camps they were forced into. After researching multiple organizations, one particular one called End Uyghur Forced Labor stood out to me. They had a focus on what kind of labor the Uighurs were forced to do and to where it was going. With all of the suggested articles located on their page, I realized that they were forced to make clothing, and the majority of it went to Zara, a well-known clothing store that I had shopped at before.

Zara is commonly known for its amazing jeans, which I have purchased myself in the past. Many people see their jeans as a huge symbol of this accomplished brand; this is where my idea came in. On various social media platforms, I have seen Uighurs wearing a mask, protesting against the genocide. Printed on the mask is the Uighur flag, so to make sure people understood what my project was, I knew I had to incorporate the flag along with the Zara jeans somehow.

I then realized that it would make sense to create the Uighur flag out of the old Zara jeans because forced labor hugely represents the Uighurs at the moment. I thought that it would be creative to create the crescent moon and star out of the Zara tags but add a twist to it by replacing the "Made in Spain" to "Made by Uighurs in deadly conditions" to truly unravel the truth behind the company. Lastly, I felt that the larger tags that have the pricing and sizing on them should have also emphasized the use of Uighur labor, so instead of just writing size small, I made the "S" stand for slave labor certified. The title of my project, as stated before, is very small and practically hidden at the bottom, showing that this problem is often overlooked and minimized by most people. I hope that someone will view my work and think twice next time they buy something without knowing where it comes from because it can truly cost a life.

33rd ANNUAL BYRAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL
AUTHENTIC SCIENCE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Showcasing original research from **94 students**
Wednesday, June 1st, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Keynote Speaker: **Sarah Crucilla, Class of 2016**