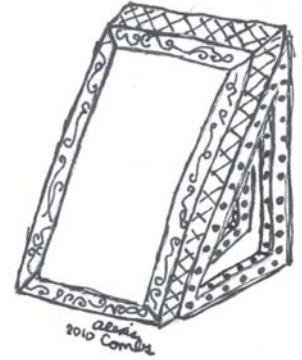


# THE MIRROR

New Paltz Middle School Student Newspaper  
Edition III  
Summer 2011



## SCHOOL NEWS

### The Memorial Day Program

By Nicholas Zaccheo

On Monday, May 23, 2011 in the New Paltz Middle School auditorium, a Memorial Day Program was held to honor people who fought in all the wars.

The program was originally scheduled to be held at the New Paltz Rural Cemetery, but due to bad weather it was held indoors.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade band, under the direction of Mr. Seymour, opened the program by playing the "Star Spangled Banner" and Taps. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade chorus, led by Mr. Anderson, sang "America." Attending this program were Dr. Wiesenthal, the middle school principal, Superintendent Rice, Police Chief Joseph Schneider and Police Officer Christopher Zaccheo. One

of our guest speakers was post commander David Deyo as well as other VFW post 8645 members who

were present including: Terry Meyer, Mary-Alice Meyer, John Fracasse, and Rod Ruger. Two NPMS students, Alexana Gadeleto and Lea Maney, spoke about family members who fought in wars.

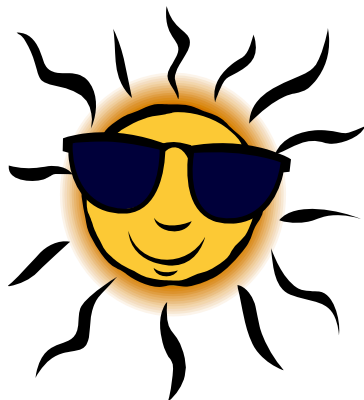
There were a lot of people who helped make the program a success such as Mr.

Seymour, Ms. Dubois, the school nurse, The New Paltz Middle School PTA, its president, Dawn Rich, who donated the wreath, our 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, and New Paltz Town Supervisor Toni Hokanson.

Sixth-graders learned the true meaning of Memorial Day. It is much more than just a three day weekend.



*Trumpet members play Taps*



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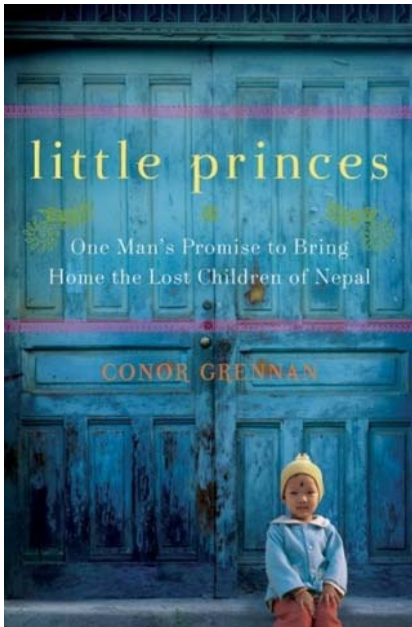
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# The Little Princes

By Eric Lasko

This year a group of 7<sup>th</sup> graders read the book *The Little Princes* by Conor Grennan. They formed a book club and met after school every couple of weeks to discuss the readings. Ms. Rosen offered it as a option for an independent reading project. Students had to read to a certain point each week, and attend two or more meetings.



After they read the book, about 30 people, including the seventh graders, Ms. Rosen, Mr. Constable, and Ms. Lis-Simmons, went to Vassar College, to meet Mr. Grennan. The book is about Mr. Grennan's travels in Nepal, helping orphans. Some of the orphans Mr. Grennan finds get kidnapped and he must once again locate them.

Does he find them? Read the book to find out. There is a copy of the book in the library, for anyone who wants to read it.

## Talent Show

By Nicole Schofield

On Friday April 8<sup>th</sup> many students preformed at the Talent Show. Around 50 New Paltz students participated. They sang, danced, and played musical instruments.

The director was Mrs. Eriole. The acts were The Star Spangled Banner by Sarah Stamberg; Chattanooga Choo Choo by Dylan Dellay; Break Even by Neve Parker; Jar of Hearts by Caroline Joseph, Alexandra Nicolas, and Halley Lawrence; I'm Yours by Cori Sherrow; Drop It Like It's Hot by Hannah Takacs, and Allie Jacone; Beautiful Ending by Lizzie Eriole; Firework by Ashley Curtis, Ilanna Hinson, and Alexana Gadaletto; Beat Box by Harrison Zrally, Sean Copeland, Todd Mullins, and Liam O'Donnell; Pond du Floor by Alexis Garcia, Gianna Fazio, and Gianna LaMarca; Forget You by Jessica Merten, and Georgina Liucci; Jazz Blues Medley

The Last Stop with Steven Scribani and Elijah McKee; Marry U by Adriana Crimi; Impossible by Nora Oukili, and Shaena Sennett; CrushCrushCrush by Jordan Ackhart; It's So Cool by Katarina Chiarini; Price Tag by Livy Casa, and Alexis Combs; The Climb by Jessica Koch, Beautiful by Livy Cea; Who Dat Girl/Whip My Hair by Karly Giancola, Liv Profaci, Sarah Rubin, Sydney Pece, Ally Pannuto, and Maddie Finnegan; We All Roll Along by Zynab Makki; Le Jazz Hot Victor by Paul Knoth; A Moment Like This by Zippora Rutty; Double Dream Hands by Juna Keehn, Lauren Appuzzo, Aja Lightsey, and Ryan Ludwig; I Dreamed a Dream by Julia Cohen, Jenny Rich, and Ruby Bard; Forever More by Matt Eriole; and Glitter in the Air by Sarah Stamberg, and Dominique Hakim. The stage crew included: Jessica DeJong, who was the Stage Manager, Lauren Torres, Robert Kelly, Tim Otis, Maya Frisina, Lorenzo Mazzuca, and Louis Navarro. The lights were handled by Nathan Thompson, and the sound by Mr. Seymour, and Carla Nazaire.

Ms. Lamb said, "It's amazing how much talent we have at the middle school!" The show was a great success!

## Interview with

Julia Cohen

By Nicole Schofield

**Q.** What do you want to be when you grow up?

**A.** "I want to be a performer. I want to sing, act, and dance."

**Q.** Do you take singing lessons?

**A.** "Yes, I do take voice lessons."

**Q.** How long have you been singing for?

**A.** "I have been singing for my whole life, and I have taken voice lessons for about 7 years."

**Q.** Do you enjoy singing?

**A.** "Yes, I love singing! It's my favorite thing in the world!"





**Q.** Do you sing outside of school?

**A.** “Yes, I do. I have regular singing concerts, I perform at events, I do theater outside of school, and I perform whenever I can!”

**Q.** Do you play a musical instrument?

**A.** “Yes, I play piano.”

**Q.** How many plays have you been in?

**A.** “I have been in full musicals, but I have been in acting classes.”

**Q.** What are some of the plays you have been in?

**A.** “Beauty and the Beast, Guys and Dolls, Annie, from 90 Miles were The Sound of Music, and The Three Musketeers.”

**Q.** What kind of music do you listen to?

**A.** “I am not like most kids..... I listen to show tunes mostly. Sometimes pop, jazz, I like a little bit of everything.

**Q.** What are some of your favorite songs?

**A.** “The Dog Days are Over” by Florence and “The Machine,” “You make My Dreams” by Hall and Oats, “Tiny Dancer” by Elton John, “New Soul” by Yael Naim, and “The Way I Am” by Ingrid Michael Son.”

## MEDIEVAL TIMES

BY LIA NATZLE

This year, on April 14 and May 9, the 6<sup>th</sup> graders took a trip to *Medieval Times*, where we watched a medieval tournament and were served a meal from the middle ages. It was exciting and very entertaining to watch and learn about what life was like in medieval times. We learned about things from tournaments and weapons to clothing and medieval feasts. There was even a story that went along with the show.

In the tournament there were six different knights fighting for their king: the black and white knight, the red and yellow knight, the green knight, the blue knight, the red knight, and the yellow knight. In the end the black and white knight was victorious. While watching the battle, food, such as mutton and potatoes, was brought around to everyone.

Photo by Nick Zaccheo

\This year the black and white knight won the battle



and the sixth graders cheered for the victory.

## The Geo Bee Carnival

By Augie Scoppa

The Geo Bee meets on Thursdays after school with Ms.Naclerio. On one Thursday the Geo Bee had a carnival with a raffle, games, and candy. The dart game had many good questions. The bean bag toss was good but my favorite was the fishing game which was fun. At the end of the carnival, Faith, in 6<sup>th</sup> grade rode her unicycle around the school. “The event was great.” said Eric Lasko. The carnival was a success.

## Nora Raleigh Baskin Comes Home

By Alex Guzman

Nora Raleigh Baskin came to visit the middle



school on June 10, 2011 to tell students a little about the seven books she has written. She presented at two assemblies; one was for sixth graders and the other was for eighth graders. She also did a writing workshop

for sixth graders who had read her books.

Nora had attended this school when she was in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

She spoke about how she actually had a Mr. Thomsen for English who has since retired! Nora told us a little bit about how she had written her books. Nora had said each book took a little piece out of her life. Nora's first book took place in New Paltz, and her last took place on Mohonk (even though it says Mohawk) She had to change the name, since she made up some parts.

Many of the plots in her books are mostly from her own life, like her mother dying when Nora was three years old and Nora felt alone and isolated when she was in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Many people can relate to her stories because many kids in school also might feel isolated, ignored, or not wanted. And when Nora writes she feels that it is a way to communicate.

Nora had said the hardest problem in writing a fiction is finding imagination and having empathy. And she gave advice to those writers in the crowd who are having trouble: "Give the characters a need to want something." In one of her books Jason is suffering from autism and he wants a girlfriend. Something inspiring that Nora Raleigh Baskin says is, "We are more alike, than different." She gave a lot of information on her inspiration and it definitely helped. It was an amazing experience. I personally loved her visit.

## New Paltz Middle School goes Green

By Nicholas Zaccheo

At the New Paltz Middle School, a new garden



is being put in at the playground. The people who inspired the garden were Ms. Osborn and Mr. O'Dowd. They asked for student feedback at an assembly. It will grow all kinds of vegetables and someday might be used in the cafeteria for healthier and more wholesome food!

All kinds of people are going to help care for

the garden, including Mr. oDowd, Ms. Osborne Ms. Ibrahim, Ms. Bryant, Mr. Pizzarello and students! Mr.Pizzarello, our technology teacher, worked with his seventh and eighth grade students for one day to build the raised garden beds. The garden will contain vegetables and a place where butterflies can come. One of the garden's goals is to use it as a learning tool for language arts, math, and science classes. Another goal was to have the garden completed by June. The garden will

be continued next year and it will be even better.

## Student Recognition Breakfast



By Nicole Schofield

On June 9<sup>th</sup> the Student Recognition Breakfast was held. The awards were handed out by Dr. Wiesen-thal, the guest speaker was Mr. Seymour, and the closing comments were made by Ms. Magarity.

The students who received awards were the following: Klaire Branche, Olivia Casa, Ben Cuppett, Taylor Digilio, Gianna Fazio, Nolan Ferro, Madeline Finnegan, Madison Giuliani, Tyler Green, Alegandra Guzman, Elena Ingenio, Alexa Kane, Mohammed Khan, Matthew LaGoy, Meaghan McElroy, Nathan McPherson, Patrick Palcic, Bradon Phillips, Mitchell Rigano, Jason Rober, Dylan Scribani, Georjon Tanzi, Nathan Thompson, Nicholas Thompson, William Thompsen, Patrick Varuzza, Kelly Vinett, and Brendan Woolsey.

The quote "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail," by Harold R. McAlindon, was in the program. This quote connects to the award event because you don't just follow what others do; you do what is right and even take it a step further. All of these students did



# Student Thoughts

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## *The Royal Wedding*

*By Alexis Garcia*

On April 29, 2011, Prince William of England and Catharine Middleton (Kate) shared their vows and became husband and wife. Kate and William have been together since college. They split, got back together, split, and got back together.

Prince William proposed to Kate in Kenya with a beautiful sapphire ring that was outlined with diamonds. This ring used to be Princess Diana's when she was engaged to Prince Charles. Prince William said that this was his way of "keeping her close."

Many people attended the wedding. Guests such as, Queen Elizabeth II, Sir

Elton John, Pippa (Kate's sister) and many more. Of course his father and brother came. Princess Diana (Prince William's mother) was not able to attend because of the unfortunate car crash on August 31, 1997, which killed her.

About 2.6 billion people were watching the wedding. All the outfits were stunning! (Especially the hats) Queen Elizabeth was



wearing a spring, yellow dress and a yellow hat to match. Her dress and the overcoat were designed by Angela Kelly. Pippa arrived in a white, winter dress.

"Miss

Philippa Middleton's dress was designed and created by Sarah Burton at Alexander McQueen. It is of a heavy, ivory satin-based crepe, with a cowl front and with the same button detail and lace trims as the Bride's dress." Said the Huffington Post. Kate arrived in a beautiful, white, lace dress.

To think, she went from a regular commoner to the Duchess of Cambridge.

## Face of Fire (part 3)

By Eric Lasko

Over the past couple of months, The Stranger, Ozrigoth and the Monsters, have banded together to find a contract that the Fairies and humans signed to banish the Dragon Warrior, Necriniyae to another dimension. Now it is time to summon Necriniyae!

The cold voice of Nerigoth echoed in the Darkness of the cave of Khnum who is the form of the Sun God Ra, during night time. He spoke to his humans, words to enrage them for the coming battle against the monsters. When his speech was over, he said some words in another language. (Those words translated to: Now the time is here, for Shade to spread fear! I summon the god of fear to do my bidding!) When he finished the room turned pitch black. Two blue lights appeared in the darkness. They were eyes!

“I AM SHADE! I WILL DO YOUR BIDDING, NERIGOTH!”

“Very good. Now, bring me the Face of Fire!”

“AS YOU WISH, MASTER!” When he finished that sentence he disappeared. The humans left the cave and returned to their shack in the woods.

The monsters gathered around the Dragon Altar. The very thing that sent Necriniyae away shall return him to the world of Narlos. Ozrigoth created a ball of silver fire and used it to light the ceremonial fire on the Altar. They threw the contract into the fire and in a flash of light Necriniyae appeared, fully dressed in his famed Draconian armor, carrying his Twin sabers, the shadows of Fire.

“Master, Ozrigoth. It is good to be back.”

“I can imagine so, Necriniyae. We have much to do, to prepare for the human onslaught.” Ozrigoth stated with joy, for seeing his old friend again.

“Troops! We must defend the Face of Fire at all costs! We cannot allow the Humans to capture it.”

Two hours later, the Humans attacked the palace. Necriniyae and the troops pushed back several waves of humans. Salaman, the troll wielded his Twin sickles against the humans. Ozrigoth speared a Knight with his axe. Necriniyae slayed several of the vile humans with the shadows of fire. Necriniyae then proceeded to throw black fireballs at the humans. Ozrigoth created a wave of fire that sent several humans flying, causing their corpses to burn. Necriniyae handed the Shadows of Fire to Ozrigoth. Ozrigoth placed them in the slots on his axe. He then went up to Nerigoth. “Brother. I never wanted to kill you. But if

you continue this destruction, I will have to do this.”

Right as he was about to thrust the Shadowed axe into Nerigoth’s heart, Shade stepped in.

“OZRIGOTH!! I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO KILL MY MASTER!!!!!!”

A wave of white fire washed over Shade and he disappeared. Then the Shadowed axe was covered in fire. Ozrigoth thrust it into Nerigoth’s heart and he fell upon the ground. He then died.

The End

\*

## The Golden Scarab (Epilogue to the face of Fire)

By Eric Lasko

“So, Ozrigoth. Did Nerigoth, really try to kill you over a bug?” The stranger asked inquisitively.

“It’s not just a bug, Stranger. This “Bug” has the power to level mountains, entire cities, even.” Ozrigoth replied.

“So, I guess after all this you want to know who I am?”

“Indeed, Stranger. I’ve wanted to know for a while.”

The Stranger removed his hood to show that his face was an older version of Ozrigoth’s son, Eskane.

“So, Dad. Now you know who I am. You happy?”

“Yes I am Eskane. I am happy, and proud to know that my son would grow up to be who you are. Now I know you have a question for me.”

“Yes I do. Dad, what is the Face of Fire?”

“Well, Eskane. I am The Face of Fire.”

THE END



# REVIEWS

## Book review

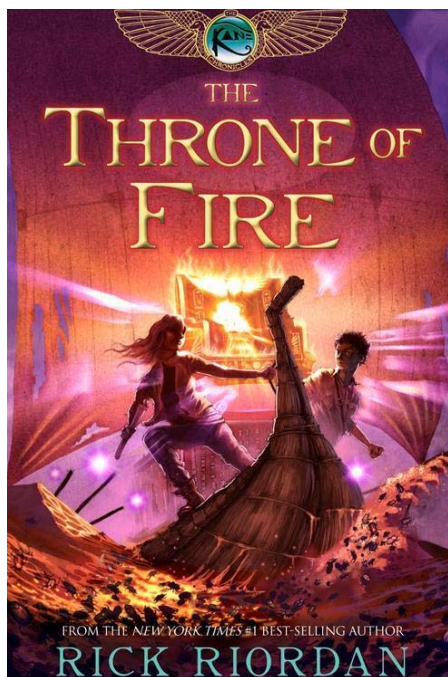
### Throne of Fire

By Eric Lasko

In the latest installment to Rick Riordan's Kane Chronicles series, readers have been left speechless. In the quest to stop Apophis, the Serpent god of Chaos, Carter and Sadie Kane, have traveled around the world. This adventure is more dangerous than the last and may cost them their lives. This adventure will bring them to St. Petersburg, Cairo, Brooklyn and the river of the Duat. In order to defeat Apophis, they must awaken the sun god, Ra. Will they succeed? Find out in The Throne of Fire!

Rating: 10 out of 10!

Ha-Tep and N'dah! (Protect and be at peace in Egyptian)



## App Review

### Light Saber Duel

By Eric Lasko

Are you a fan of Star Wars? Have you ever wanted to have a light saber duel without using the plastic ones that look stupid? Well then Apple has the app for you! Star Wars: Light Saber Duel for the apple Ipad, Ipad or Iphone is a more advanced version of the app, Light saber unleashed, with more characters the ability to have a light saber duel and force Lightning.

The possibilities of dueling are endless. You can also make your own character!

Rating 8 out of 10

## App Review

### DC Comics/ Marvel Comics

By Eric Lasko

These apps allow you to get comic books on various devices, including an apple Ipad, Ipad or Iphone. The apps are divided into several categories, such as Free, Top 25 and browse. The Browse feature allows you to search by artist, series, title, story line/ arc and several other categories.

While the DC app has a better selection of both Free and paid for comics, the Marvel app still has a wide selection of enjoyable comic books. The below screencap is from one of my favorite comic books, Blackest Night #0, which Follows Hal Jordan, The second is Green Lantern who was made famous by comic books. Screencap from Blackest Night #0:

Authors review:

DC Comics: 10 out of 10

Marvel Comics: 8 out of 10

Reason for not being a 10: lack of enjoyable/free content.

## Movie review

### Thor

By Eric Lasko

Are you a fan of Norse Mythology? Do you enjoy Marvel Comics? Do you like movies? If the answer to all three of these questions is yes, then Thor is the movie for you. It follows the Norse god of lightning, Thor. In this movie, Thor's father, Odin,



banishes him from their world of Asgard, to Earth.

This is because he along with his friends and his brother, Loki set out for the world of Jotunheim to destroy the frost giants, who were once enemies of Odin and the Asgardians. Thor is also disowned. While on Earth he meets a scientist named Jane Foster. Will Thor return to Asgard? Will he become the king of Asgard? Will he get his hammer, Mjolnir back? These are answered in the movie.



Photo:gunbuck-chuckwordpress.com

I personally think this is a good movie although the ending could use a bit more work. Check out the movie trailer at <http://thor.marvel.com>.

Rating: 9.5 out of 10

## Bullying

By Alex Guzman

Bullying is a big problem and I know that when you read this you're going to think to yourself it can't stop. Well I don't understand why people have a habit of hurting others. Does it make you happy to see them walk away sad? Does it make you feel like you've done something right? Well then think to yourself why did I actually do that, why did I actually hurt that person? Sure everyone does it, but if you are going to make fun of someone then just keep it to yourself, rather than going up to their face, around your friends, or around other people. And even Mrs.Pereira says "you can think it but don't say it."

## The Boston Trip

By Jamie Hulsey

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders of New Paltz Middle School with Dr.Wiesenthal and teachers from the middle school and went to Boston, Massachusetts on May 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>. The bus ride was very long but the trip was worth it!

Students first stopped at the Boston Aquarium. One highlight of the aquarium was the giant sea turtles. After the aquarium, everyone went to the Freedom Trail to reenact this historical event. Another ac-

tivity included a fantastic whale watch. More whales were seen this year than previous years. Students enjoyed seeing *Australia* in an IMAX theater. The trip concluded with a visit to Plymouth Plantation. A good time was had by all students.

## Summer Fun

By Nicole Schofield, Nicholas Zaccheo ,  
Andres Martynek, Robby Mercogliano,  
Augie Scoppa, Alex Guzman, Jamie Hulsey,  
Eric Lasko, and Phaelan Koock,

Looking for something to do this summer. The following are some fun activities and places to visit recommended by The Mirror staff. They are right here in our town or close by.

**Swimming**-Moriello Pool, County Pool, Deep Hole, Split Rock, High Falls, Minnewaska State Park, and Mohonk Lake, and backyard pools

**Rock Climbing**- The Trapps, Lemon Squeeze, The Inner Wall, Mohonk Preserve

**Hiking**-Minnewaska State Park, Duck Pond, Mohonk Preserve

**Camping**-Jellystone campground, Lake Placid, Tongore Park, ID Tech Camp

**Biking**-rail trail, Minnewaska and Mohonk Preserve, roads (be careful)

**Summer Camps**-Hawks Swim team, Frost Valley, Gardiner Recreation, Kingston City, Sports camps, Wild Earth

**Library**- find a good book to read or participate in the Summer Teen Programs

Play **Computer games**

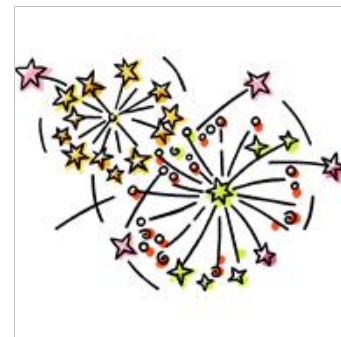
**Play** outside in beautiful New Paltz

Attend **events** :

The Ulster County Fair.

The Rib Fest

4th of July Fireworks





# TIME FOR FUN

## JOKES!

By Robert Mercogliano

Q: Why did the man freeze his money?

A: Because he wanted cold, hard, cash!

Q: When is a Baby Good at Basketball?

A: When it Dribbles!

Q: What kind of Star is Dangerous?

A: A Shooting Star!

Q: What do you Call it When you See a Fruit Punch and a Cereal Box?

A: Food Fight!

Q: What Word is Always Spelled Incorrectly?

A: Incorrectly!

## Fun Facts!

By Robert Mercogliano

The king of hearts is the only king without a moustache on a standard playing card!

It takes glass one million years to decompose, which means it never wears out and can be recycled an infinite amount of times!



A 'jiffy' is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second!

The sloth (a mammal) moves so slowly that green algae can grow undisturbed on its fur!

A quarter has 119 grooves on its edge, a dime has one less groove!

The Earth weighs around 6,600,000,000,000,000,000 tons (5,940 billion billion metric tons)!

<http://spt.bhmedia.com/index.html>

## Summer Time

i k x g f w q z c j s x z w z t w a f f  
d n h n q j n r g n u l j s a o g m j s  
r x m i m u g x h u m h v s l a a l h f  
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r u p y e h m n u n p u n l m n y i v k  
f o o t b a l l s f d g z w k w a e l a  
y l v s t t z d b e p v s n c a d j l n

**Find the following words:**

baseball	camping	football
fun	hiking	
party	pool	summer
sun	swimming	

# Baby Announcements

Congratulations to the parents of the babies born in this school year:



Mr. Scarpati on the birth of his son, Samuel Paul, on March 5.

Ms. McNamee on March 15 for the birth of Killian.

Ms. Grey on the birth of her son, Desmond Arthur on May 19.

## Congratulations to all the 8th graders graduating this year.



## Have fun at the high school!

### The Mirror

## Staff

Matteo Danisi,  
Alexis Garcia  
Alex Guzman,  
Jamie Hulsey,  
Eric Lasko,  
Ian McCalaster,  
Robert Mercogliano,  
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Phaelen Kooock and Andres Martynek



### **Advisor**

Susan Pereira

A special thanks to Fran Lamb for all of her technological help and Jeff Lipton for his editing expertise!

***The Mirror* is also available  
online at:**

**<http://www.newpaltz.k12.ny.us>**