



# The Hillside Times



A Student Produced Publication

January 2021

Work Hard

&

Be Kind

## Find the Hawk Drawing

On each page of the newspaper issue, this image will be hidden! Challenge yourself to try and locate it on each page!



Image By: Natalia Placek

## Troop 61101 Bronze Award



*The Girl Scout Troop 61101, a group of eight kids from Hillside, completed a community service-oriented bronze award project in support of the Bridgewater Library's Storytime services. The troop includes: myself (Akshara Arvind), Sahana Rajiv, Chloe Foehsel, Karianne Barnish, Alyssa Cervino, Rhia Evans, Ally Dobkin, and Jade Tofte. Our first step was to explore the community and identify the best project idea to make a difference. After much discussion, we chose to make felt pieces for the library's story time services.*

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Did Someone say MOVIE NIGHT?

You look bored, why don't I help you by telling you some great movies you should watch. The movies are named Phineas and Ferb the Movie: Candace Against the Universe, Radio Rebel, Rango, and The Secret Life of Pets 2. These movies are rated from G-PG. Spoilers ahead!

*(Continued on Page 6)*



**The Hillside Times wishes everyone a Happy New Year! Remember to set goals this year and work hard to accomplish them!**



# How to Help the Earth While Being Safe!



In this section of the Hillside Times you'll learn on how to help our lovely planet, the Earth, while still staying safe. We'll learn how to reduce, reuse, and recycle and how we can clean up local areas without having many people to help.

Did you know that it's very simple to reduce, reuse, and recycle in your very own home? You can reduce the amount of water you use in your house by turning off the water faucet when you're not using it. For example, after you put water on your tooth brush you should turn off the faucet. You can also reduce the amount of electricity being used by turning off a light when you're not in that room and you can turn off your heater or air conditioner when you're not home. You can reuse or upcycle an object by making it into something new or reuse it. For example, I can turn a can of beans into a flower holder for artificial flowers or I can reuse a plastic water bottle. Finally, but surely not least, I can recycle by putting dog food cans in the recycling bin. Here are some of the many things you can recycle:

- Any plastic bottles or containers that you can use in your kitchen
- Cereal/snack cardboard boxes
- Phonebooks, magazines, and mail
- Office Paper, newspaper, and cardboard
- Tin, aluminum, and steel cans
- Food containers or jars
- Soft drink bottles

Hope those helpful tips can help you and your family apply the three R's into your lives. A little birdy told me you want to know how we can help clean up our local areas without having many people. Well you're in luck because this paragraph talks about how to do that. To do this you're obviously going to want to find a dirty public area. For example, a park in your neighborhood. Now you most likely want to get supplies like gloves, garbage bags, paper towels, bleach, and rakes. If you would like to invite your neighbor(s) I highly suggest to stay socially distant from each party and wear masks. After you've gotten everything ready you may start the event. You should start off by picking up any garbage with your gloves (bottles, cans, candy wrappers, etc.). Then you can rake the leaves off of the park and into the trash bags. Lastly you can start sanitizing the equipment with bleach and dry them off with paper towels. Those are some savvy tips on how to help clean up our local areas without having many people.

Now you know how to help our lovely planet, the Earth while still staying safe. "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." -The Lorax

-Rania Reddad



## Troop 61101 Bronze Award

Continued From Front Cover

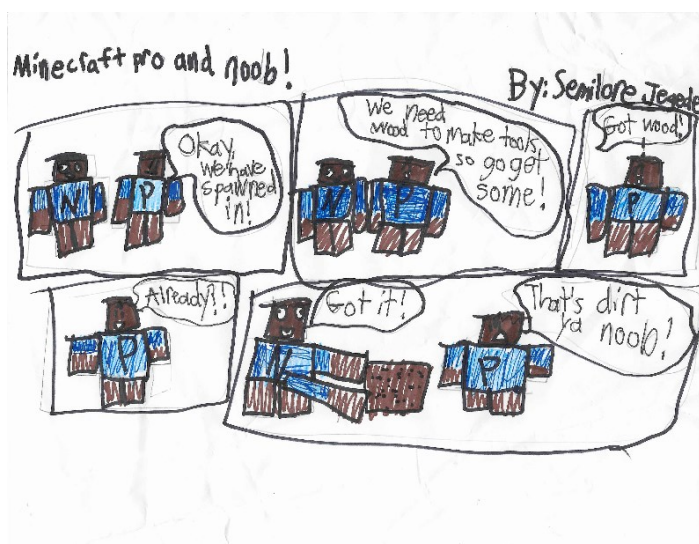
By Akshara Arvind

We had to ask ourselves, *Why would the Bridgewater library need felt pieces?* After interviewing the librarian, it had come to our attention that Storytime was for young kids, who were being read to. Felt pieces were essential because, even though some books had illustrations, the felt pieces would help make the story a more visual and interesting experience.

The next step was to create a budget. We already had about one hundred seventeen dollars from a bake sale we had held earlier. After calling stores such as *Michaels* and *Walmart* to get an idea of how much money was needed, we predicted that we would need around two hundred dollars. Using the troop's savings, the troop made a trip to Michaels to get the supplies. In order to manage our time efficiently, we split up into groups (one was in charge of getting all the felt, one was in charge of getting the glue, etc.). We organized all the supplies and began to make our felt pieces. This was about when the pandemic spread to Bridgewater.

Because of the pandemic, we mostly had to work on the project at home by ourselves, instead of meeting and doing it together. We were lucky enough to have completed many of the steps that involved doing together (such as budgeting and learning about the project) before the pandemic started to become serious. We had a zoom meeting as a way to share our progress with the project. And just recently, we handed in our project to the library.

All I can say is that we're glad to have contributed to the community. Although there were many struggles (one of them being the situation we are in), we persevered and still managed to finish our project. Along the way, we learned so much. From learning how to plan to have and stick to a budget, we learned a plethora of useful skills that we will definitely use as we continue our journey as Girl Scouts, and even as we're adults. Twenty-hours of work are one of the requirements for the girl scout bronze award, but it's fair to say that we did more than that, *together*. *We worked together, and that was what made this work.*



## MINECRAFT COMIC



**BY SEMILORE JEGEDE**





## FOUR WEBSITES TO HELP YOU STUDY

Finding it hard to understand what's going on in lessons? Stuck on wondering whether your essay is good enough? Here are 4 websites that will help you in these situations.

### 1. khanacademy.org

Khan Academy has many different courses varying from kindergarten to high school level, so it's fit for all ages. It has courses in math, reading, and other main subjects, but it also has courses in extra things you might think would be fun to learn, like how Pixar animates their movies. If you ever have a test in any subject and want to study, Khan Academy is your pick. It's completely free and all you need to do is make an account to start learning.

### 2. online-utility.org

This is a website that processes what level your writing is. All you have to do is copy and paste your writing into the box, and press **process text**. Then look for **Flesch Kincaid grade level** (This is the most accurate one). If you scroll down, it also shows which sentences are hard to read. This website is perfect for proofreading your essays and reports. Just don't rely on it too much, because it only processes how many commas and special punctuations you have. So if you have very advanced wording in your report, it won't count it. Just consider it an extra tool to double-check your work.

### 3. ixl.com

If you haven't used IXL already, this is a website that is very similar to Khan Academy, which has courses for all levels. IXL has exercises from preschool to high school level, from math to reading, and other subjects. If you need to study for a math or some other test, you'll want to consider IXL to study. You don't even need to make an account, just click on your grade and start studying.

### 4. trove.nla.gov.au

This is an Australian website that brings together content from libraries, museums, and other research organizations. This is great if you're looking for resources for your next essay. If you're stuck on looking for more information, you going to want to consider trove as a helper.

By Natalia Placek



## Zoom Meetings Gone Wrong

One of the most popular and longest-running TV shows is America's Funniest Home Videos. But over the last 9 months we can probably relate to bloopers that happened during a Zoom meeting - I know I can!

If you were to google "Zoom Meetings Gone Wrong", you would get a variety of things and many of them I couldn't mention here, but you can use your imagination! In my house, much like yours, we have plenty of zoom meetings, but I also have a 2 year old brother, an 8 years old sister, a dog, a cat, grandparents and a bird that likes to fly around -what could go wrong?

Apparently, a lot of things for instance, last week my Dad was on a zoom meeting with lawyers, executives and his boss. He stepped away from the screen for a minute to answer the door, and my baby brother jumped on his chair, started spinning around and took a stack of papers, which happened to be the contract they were working on and threw it up in the air the way you would at a ticker tape parade. Well, it was all on camera and when my Dad got back, one person asked "how old is that young executive trainee" and another person said that it was the best part of the call! My Dad took it in stride but when I had a similar mishap the following week, unfortunately that was not the case for me.

It should have been another normal library class - reading books, playing kahoots and being sssshhhh - siiiiiiiiiiilent! Ok, silence is golden except when you get a song in your head that you must sing....even when your mute button was not pressed. Well, I thought I pressed it and after the first two verses of "Swanee River" (the rap version) and my teacher suddenly breaking the spell with "Ashna, you are not on mute" I felt like I just got a bucket of ice thrown at me. Yeah, that was real fun. Well, remember to STAY ON MUTE if you need to sing during class.

By Ashna Hall



# THE CELEBRITY CHEF'S RECIPE

Celebrity Chef was a lot different this year. Unfortunately, kids and adults weren't able to taste the scrumptious dishes of food each and every chef worked hard on, but that's not going to stop us from making the school's best-loved food!

**Here is Brice and Olivia Martino's Apple Crisp!**

## Ingredients

6 golden delicious apples, peeled and chopped - (other varieties can be used, can also be sliced)  
 2 Tbsp granulated sugar  
 1 3/4 tsp ground cinnamon, - divided  
 1 1/2 tsp lemon juice  
 1 cup light brown sugar  
 3/4 cup old fashioned oats  
 3/4 cup all-purpose flour  
 1/2 cup cold unsalted butter, diced into small cubes  
 pinch of kosher salt



## INSTRUCTIONS:



1. Preheat the oven to 350 F degrees. Butter an 8x8 baking dish, or spray with non-stick cooking spray. Set aside.

2. In a mixing bowl, add chopped apples, granulated sugar, 3/4 tsp of the cinnamon and lemon juice. Stir to combine, then transfer to the prepared baking dish.

3. In a separate mixing bowl, add topping ingredients (brown sugar, oats, flour, 1 tsp cinnamon, salt, and diced cold butter). Use a pastry cutter to cut the butter into the oat mixture, using a slight downward twisting motion, until the mixture resembles pea-sized crumbs. Alternatively, you can use two forks or even your hands to cut butter into the mixture.

4. Spread topping over apples in baking dish, and gently pat to even it out. Bake 40-50 minutes, until golden brown and bubbly.

5. Serve while it's still warm and enjoy!

**By Rebecca Ribeiro**



## DID SOMEONE SAY MOVIE NIGHT????

*Continued From Front Cover*

"MOM PHINEAS AND FERB ARE MAKING A TITLE SEQUENCE!" Well, if you know that iconic catch phrase then you most definitely want to watch Phineas and Ferb the Movie: Candace Against the Universe. In this movie Candace gets abducted by aliens and once her brothers find out they take a thrilling adventure to find their sister. You can locate this movie on Disney+ and/or Netflix and it's rated G. If you like adventures then this is the movie for you.

"I'M RADIO REBEL!" Sorry, I was in the moment. Speaking of Radio Rebel, have you watched the movie? If not then you should watch this movie about a shy teenage girl who's a famous DJ. She doesn't want anyone at her school knowing her true identity, but when she reveals she goes to Lincoln Bay High School on the radio everyone starts to freak out because a famous person attends their school. Suddenly the principal at Lincoln Bay High School decides to expel the mysterious DJ. So Tara (Debby Ryan) reveals her identity and stands up for her opinion(s). This movie is great to watch with your family and/or for the memes.

Imagine the protagonist and the antagonist staring at each other, dramatic music plays in the background, and then the classic wild west stand off begins. If you're interested in those types of movies then you should watch Rango, a Nickelodeon Production. This movie is about an indoor chameleon (Johnny Depp), who somehow ends up in the middle of nowhere. Then he comes about a small town called Dirt. At Dirt when they ask for his name he doesn't know what to say. Finally he looks at a bottle of cactus juice, "Name's...Rango!". Rango starts to tell many lies about his life, at this point he's fighting an identity crisis. Now he's trying his best to be the hero until... there's barely any more water. He sets off to take an incredible journey with his new friend in hope to save the town Dirt and change the name to Mud. You can locate this movie on Hulu rated PG. This movie will be perfect for your next Wild West Themed movie night.

Have a pet or may know someone who does? Well then I've got the movie just for you! It's, drum roll please... The Secret Life of Pets 2. In this film a dog named Max visits the countryside. He discovers that the sheep, cows, and more are not afraid of him. Soon after his remarkable discovery Max meets another dog named Rooster, he's a gruff farm dog who attempts to cure Max from his neurosis. This Film is located on Netflix and it's rated PG. Enjoy watching The Secret Life of Pets 2 by yourself, with your friends, your family, and/or your pets!

Hope you're not bored anymore because you just learned about some amazing movies that you could watch in your very own home! Which movie is your favorite?

**By Rania Reddad**



# CHALLENGE YOURSELF!

Try out this Sudoku

5		3						
2			3					
	4		7	1		2		3
		5	4				7	1
		4	2		1	8		
6	8				7	5		
1		7		6	9		3	
					4			6
						9		5





## Troop 61082 Bronze Award - Hillside Buddy Bench

By: Annie Morano and Rebecca Ribeiro

Our Troop 61082 started our Bronze Award at the beginning of 5th grade. We wanted to build a Buddy Bench for Hillside school so kids don't have to be lonely during recess. How do you use the Buddy Bench? When you're feeling lonely you can go sit on the buddy bench until somebody invites you to play with them. When two people are sitting on the buddy bench they should play with one another instead of waiting for someone else to come and play with them. Also, the Buddy Bench shouldn't be used for jackets or lunch boxes because that's not its proper use, it's to help people make new friends.

As the bench was getting sent to the school, our troop had to plan some things out. Some girls needed to figure out where the bench would be placed, while others had to decide whether we were going to put a plaque up or place our handprints on the bench. Once we got everything planned, each girl went to help build the bench on their reserved day. Once we finished the building portion, it was time to inform the community about this project. At our elementary school, we had a Buddy Bench which helped develop our friendships, along with our Girl Scout Troop. We thought that the students at Hillside could have a similar experience. Overall, we just wanted to make people happy!







# Do students prefer Online or In-Person school?

A lot has changed since the beginning of COVID-19, including the school shutdown in March. Since then, we've been doing school online and have pretty much gotten used to the usual routine. Get up, get dressed, turn on your computer, and get to class. It's definitely a lot simpler than the morning scramble to get to school on time. However, even though the routine these days is simpler, does it necessarily mean that students like it more?



At first, online classes might've been seen as a fun change from the typical school day. You could get up later, eat during class, and could be in school while laying in bed if you wanted to. However, after months of this schedule, it got boring for a lot of students, and many wanted everything to go back to normal again.

15 students were asked if they preferred normal, in-person classes, or distance learning. 10 out of the 15 students (67%) said they would rather go back to normal. An interview with two students on opposite sides of the debate answers the question: Why?

*An interview with Caroline Bryczkowski (6th grade), Hillside Intermediate, NJ*

Do you prefer online or in-person learning?

**Online.**

67% of the students asked this question said they preferred in-person learning. Why do you think this is?

**Because they want to see their friends and miss their teachers. The other percent either don't like socializing or they find it easier online.**

Is it harder to learn online or in-person?

**In my opinion, in-person because everyone always is talking and it's really distracting and online, everyone is muted and no one is chitchatting.**

*An interview with Sara Domurat (5th grade), Mill Creek Elementary, FL (To get a feel for how other students across the country are feeling).*

Do you prefer online or in-person learning?

**In-person.**

67% of the students asked this question say they preferred in-person learning. Why do you think this is?

**Because they get to be with friends and socialize.**

Is it harder to learn online or in-person?

**Online.**

Why?

**Because your teacher is not actually there. Nobody's gonna learn anything from a video meeting.**

Even though Caroline and Sara stand on opposite sides of the debate, they can both agree that the reason behind students wanting to be in-person is that students want to be with their friends. In conclusion, we now know that many, but not all students, prefer in-person learning as opposed to online learning, for the reason that they want to be with their friends.

**By Natalia Placek**



## *Ten Things to do when You're Bored*

By: Akshara Arvind



### **Make a Movie**

This is something you can do. And no, you don't need any special cameras or equipment. All you need is a device that can record (like a phone or tablet), and you're good to go. It's fun, yet time-consuming at the same time!

### **Watch Classic Movies**

They're classic for a reason. They don't have to necessarily be really old, but it's interesting to see how much movie-making has evolved. And they are pretty long, so time will pass.

### **Look Up Recipes to Make on the Internet**

The other day, I looked up easy recipes to make with Oreos, and I found a recipe to make an Oreo mug cake. All I needed to use was Oreos and milk. Even though it only needed two ingredients, it was still delicious. And I bet there are a plethora more recipes like that!



### **Pick Up A New Hobby**

Using the stuff you have at home, just try different hobbies. Maybe try painting, cooking, baking, etc. And I promise you, there will be a hobby for you.



### **Learn A Dance Move**

TikTok has been extremely popular lately and there are many things you can do on the app. Such as dancing. You don't even have to have the app, you can just look up a tutorial on YouTube and you could learn a trendy dance.

### **Get A Penpal**

This has to be parent-approved, but you could meet a new person through the Internet or letters. But, make sure you stay safe while doing it.

### **Clean Out Your Closet**

Your closet is probably filled with clothes you don't want. And what's better than giving it to someone else who needs it? Split your clothes into two piles (the "keep" and "donate" pile). And it's pretty self-explanatory from those titles.



### **Do a Sudoku Puzzle**

I know from experience that these are time-consuming. And it doesn't have to be sudoku. It could be any game that requires one person to play with. Or, you could even play a few games (like chess) against the computer.



### **Do Origami**

All you need for this is paper and you could make something beautiful.

### **Learn How To Juggle**

First, start with two balls, and then go on to three, four, and so on. The most balls juggled are about eleven. Who knows, maybe you could do more!



# CHALLENGE YOURSELF!

Happy Winter Season! Use the word search to try and find the words in the word bank!

## WINTER WORD SEARCH



E	T	C	G	B	W	T	B	X	E	S	S	Y	H	I
T	N	A	H	Q	L	W	I	K	Q	E	N	T	O	J
A	Y	E	H	I	I	I	A	U	V	F	O	S	L	T
L	W	C	Z	N	L	L	Z	O	S	W	W	O	I	S
O	I	W	T	O	F	L	L	Z	I	W	G	R	D	E
C	I	E	M	W	R	G	Y	P	A	H	O	F	A	W
O	R	D	O	W	T	F	W	I	B	R	F	N	Y	O
H	S	N	E	E	R	T	E	N	I	P	D	J	S	S
C	S	C	T	M	I	T	T	E	N	S	Y	A	N	N
T	E	P	A	E	L	C	I	C	I	F	K	O	A	G
O	J	E	K	R	H	B	O	O	T	S	W	M	C	I
H	Y	U	S	E	F	D	N	I	W	B	W	O	V	V
F	I	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	A	O	L	E	E	I
A	V	U	C	R	U	G	U	L	N	D	D	C	E	N
C	P	Y	I	J	U	U	L	S	U	Q	S	I	Y	G

### WORDS TO FIND:



BLIZZARD	BOOTS	CHILLY
COLD	FIREPLACE	FROSTY
FROZEN	GIVING	GLOVES
HAT	HOLIDAYS	HOTCHOCOLATE
ICE	ICESKATE	ICICLE
MITTENS	PINETREE	SCARF
SNOW	SNOWBALL	SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN	SNOWSUIT	WIND
WINTER		





## February is Black History Month

### HARRIET TUBMAN BIOGRAPHY

BY NEHA ASHOK

DURING A TIME WHEN SLAVERY MADE THE UNITED STATES A VERY DARK PLACE, HARRIET TUBMAN GAVE OUR COUNTRY A LITTLE BIT OF LIGHT. SHE WAS BORN IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND TO A FAMILY OF SLAVES, AND SHE REMAINED ENSLAVED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1849. DURING THIS TIME, SHE ESCAPED FROM HER OWNERS HOME BECAUSE SHE WORRIED THAT HER OWNER WAS GOING TO SELL HERSELF AND HER TWO BROTHERS. SHE FINALLY ESCAPED TO PHILADELPHIA USING THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD. THIS WAS KNOWN TO BE A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO HELPED GIVE ESCAPED SLAVES HOMES WHO WERE TRYING TO TRAVEL TO THE NORTH AND REACH FREEDOM. AFTER SHE ESCAPED, HARRIET TUBMAN HELPED HER FRIENDS AND FAMILY BACK IN THE SOUTH AS WELL AS OVER 300 OTHER SLAVES TO FIND FREEDOM LIKE SHE DID. SHE RISKED HER LIFE TO HELP OTHERS, AND FOR THIS, SHE WILL BE KNOWN AS ONE OF HISTORY'S GREATEST HEROES.

#### 5 Fun Facts about Harriet Tubman:

1. She was given the honor of being on the \$20 bill
2. She never lost a slave while bringing them to freedom
3. She suffered from narcolepsy (sudden bouts of sleep)
4. Her real name was Araminta, and her family nicknamed her "Minty"
5. TWO U.S, national parks are named after her: Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Dorchester County, Maryland and Harriet Tubman National Historic Park in Auburn, New York.







## Black History Month Crossword Puzzle

Use the clues at the bottom to complete the cross word puzzle on famous African Americans who have made a difference in the world.

1.												
2.												
3.												
4.												
5.		6.				7.						
8.												
9.												
10.												

### Across:

2. Conductor of the Underground Railroad.
3. First American (& African American) to earn gold medals in the team and individual all-around at the Olympics.
4. First African-American female billionaire.
5. First African-American woman to go to space.
9. First African-American golfer to win the Masters Tournament.
10. Known as the woman who "did not give up her seat."

### Down:

1. First African-American President.
6. Known as "Lady Ella".
7. A famous African-American investigative journalist and an early leader of the civil rights movement.
8. First principle ballerina for the American Ballet Theatre.

By Akshara Arvind



## Page 7 Sudoku Answers

5	7	3	6	9	2	1	4	8
2	1	9	3	4	8	6	5	7
8	4	6	7	1	5	2	9	3
9	2	5	4	8	6	3	7	1
7	3	4	2	5	1	8	6	9
6	8	1	9	3	7	5	2	4
1	5	7	8	6	9	4	3	2
3	9	8	5	2	4	7	1	6
4	6	2	1	7	3	9	8	5

## PAGE 13 CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ANSWERS

1. BARACK OBAMA

2. HARRIET TUBMAN

3. GABBY DOUGLAS

4. OPRAH

5. MAE JEMINSON

6. ELLA FITZGERALD

7. IDA WELLS

8. MISTY COPELAND

9. TIGER WOODS

10. ROSA PARKS