WHS Musician hits all the right notes
By: Lynn Bijou

Sheyla Turcios is a decorated member of the Westbury High School 10-12th grade band whom we recognize for her success.

Sheyla has received many awards while being a musician at WHS, but her most recent award she received was the "Laurence Paul Grey Memorial Scholarship" where she earned the opportunity to attend the Usdan Summer Camp of the Arts for 7 weeks.

Here, she was able to improve her skills and learn more about music. However, this and her other achievements came with hard work and dedication.

"I practice around 15-20 hours a week," Turcios says.

She practices her trumpet and horn on her free periods, and outside of school she is a part of the Nassau Suffolk concert band, which she goes to each Saturday, as well as The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York, which she attends each Tuesday. Currently, she is working on her NYSSMA level 6 solos on both her trumpet and horn, and even will be evaluated on a voice solo at the musical festival.

Although she enjoys playing more than one instrument she says, "Trumpet remains my favorite instrument because it's what I started out with in band."

After graduating this June, Sheyla wants to further her education and pursue a degree in music education. We wish Sheyla the best in all her future endeavors and hope she continues to remain motivated in her study of music!

WHS Student named scholar artist by local art group

Sheyla Turcios

Loren pictured here (center) with her mom Yesica Diaz (left), and high school Art Director Ms. Fernandez (right).

Westbury High School senior Loren Manrique was recently named a 2018-2019 scholar artist by the Long Island Arts Alliance. Loren was awarded for her work in the Visual Art category.

What’s Inside?

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National Foreign Language Week coming up in March!

WHS teachers and students of the Department of World Languages are excited to invite all to enjoy our Annual Celebration of National Foreign Language Week. Each year in March, our language teachers and students share throughout our school the beauty found in other cultures. In addition, we provide visuals and events to expose the entire school to other languages through music and creativity. WHS World Languages Department optimizes this time to highlight the importance of diversity and the undeniable need to learn other languages in today’s multilingual society.

¡Disfrutemos juntos! Venez participer!

WHS Hosts Book Fair at Barnes and Noble

On December 8, Westbury High School hosted its second annual Book Fair at Barnes and Noble in Carle Place. The community, students and staff came out and enjoyed the festivities, which included a holiday story time, crafts, raffles, our very own WHS orchestra students preformed holiday classics, and author Nick Eliopulos, was there to read and discuss his books from The Adventures Guild Series. A great time was had by all!

-Linda Grisafi, Librarian

Westbury Herald Staff

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Ayanna Haughton
Abigail Miranda
Erik Mariano
Iyana McKnight
Semaj Moore
Melanie Moquete
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Jahshua Taylor

Advisors
Ryan Mulholland
Josh Schimsky

NOTE:
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Scenes from the Annex

Shark Tank
Mr. Abruscato, graphic design teacher at the Ninth Grade Academy, recently had students participate in an activity that replicated the concept of the show “Shark Tank”. Students were challenged to design and create a functional web advertisement of an original, student created business idea. Our celebrity “sharks” included Ms. Siragusa (ELA Teacher), and Mr. Hollie (custodian). In the above photo, students are pitching their concept for the “Link” smartphone app to the sharks. Bravo on a job well done!

9th graders visit Molloy
On Thursday, November 15, 2018, the students of the Ninth Grade Academy visited Molloy College. Students were treated to a college tour along with question and answer sessions with the admissions department of the College. The school provided students important key information regarding college financing, academic requirements, and post college careers.

Students had an amazing time and were treated to the first snowfall of the year as they came back to the 9th Grade Academy. A special thanks to Molloy College for hosting this visit.

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2018-2019 Annual Winter Concert
by: Lynn Bijou

The annual winter concert took place on December 17, 2018 and the Westbury High School band, chorus, and orchestra all participated. For this school year’s winter concert, the WHS band performed a classic piece from the nutcracker called “Trepak” while the chorus and orchestra performed beautiful pieces like “African Noel” and “Winter Solstice.”

Semaj Moore, a junior who attended the concert says, “Everyone was amazing, but I especially loved the soprano section of the chorus,” and we have to agree.

We recognize WHS musicians on their hard work, dedication, and congratulate them on a job well done!

High School band helps get students into the holiday spirit

On the final day before holiday break, the Westbury High School band serenades students and faculty in the lobby, led by Mr. Rubenstein.

Students and staff show off their ugly sweaters

On Friday, December 21st, students and faculty alike whipped out their ugliest of Christmas sweaters in order to celebrate the holiday season.

Thanksgiving food drive once again a success

The Westbury High School faculty stepped up once again this Thanksgiving and raised a total of $2,000 that helped provide Thanksgiving dinner for 65 Westbury families. The New York City Department of Corrections also pitched in this year by donating 60 turkeys. Many thanks to Mr. Rhodes, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Kahn, and Ms. Santoro for leading the way this year!

The bags all ready to be shipped out for this year’s Thanksgiving Food Drive.
Students attend Teen Summit at Adelphi

Westbury High School students recently attended a Teen Summit, hosted by Jack and Jill Nassau County (JJNC) Chapter, a unique experience offering local high school students tools necessary for academic success, exposure to a variety of careers and topics to prepare for life after high school, all on the campus of Adelphi University. The Teen Summit seeks to help students develop the skills needed to navigate through their high school years and move successfully into college or other post-high school endeavors.

The one-day program contained a variety of workshops by phenomenal presenters who cover topics in: Leadership Development, Money Management, Time Management, College Admissions Process, Networking and Interviewing Skills, Teen Relationships, Police Interactions, Drugs, Alcohol and Consequences, The Scholastic Athlete, Career Exploration, and more.

- Traci Caines

IAB hosts quarterly meeting at the HS

The Westbury student Industry Advisory Board (IAB) held their quarterly meeting at Westbury High School on February 12. The objective of the IAB is to create partnerships with industry leaders, community members, parents, alumni, and students to focus on providing students with opportunities and experiences to become aware of, and plan for a career.

Students from the Culinary Arts program prepared a delicious spread for the meeting.

Senior Natalia Cox addresses the board.

Sydney Chester wins one of five free laptops donated by Northwell Health.

Superintendent of Schools Eudes S. Budhai speaks with Nassau Legislator Siela Bynoe. Also pictured from left, Director of Guidance Deandra Faulkner, WHS Principal David Zimbler, Director of Instruction, Assessments and Funded Programs Maria Meyer, and Director of Science Brumsic Brandon.
Aquaman joins the billion dollar club
By Erik J. Mariano

‘Aquaman’ joins the billion dollar club making it the biggest DC Comics movie since “The Dark Knight Rises.” The film is directed By James Wan, starring Jason Momoa, Amber Heard, Patrick Wilson, Nicole Kidman, And Yahya Abdul Mateen II.

Aquaman is visually beautiful, and visually stunning, though with a rough start to the movie and some out of place scenes. It felt like a video game, like "Uncharted" And “The Last Of Us.” The CGI looks real and completely normal to the real world, filled with beautiful cinematography, and beautiful colors. Aquaman brings awe to your eyes.

Once you get past the intro, the rest of the movie till the end is amazing, filled with upbeat jokes. Overall, Aquaman is great time at the movies. It is best to experience it in IMAX.

My favorite line of the film had to be: “A King Fights For His Kingdom, A Leader Fights For Everyone.”

If you are interested in reviewing movies and television shows, join the Newspaper Club!

Students create their own businesses

Students in business department’s Virtual Enterprise class prepared for the 2019 trade show at CW Post on January 9. They worked to create a company, interview for departments then operate as a corporation to make sales. Congratulations to all on their success!

Number of the Month
400 Million

This is the amount of aid Westbury schools says it is owed over the past ten years from New York State. Contact your local State Senator to ensure that Westbury gets its fair share of State Aid!

9th grade Annex pitches in during the holidays

The WHS Interact club collected 53 pounds of food donations from students and faculty at the 9th grade Annex this holiday season. The donations went to the Long Island Cares Harry Chapin Food Bank in order to ensure Long Island children and families do not go hungry. Thank you to Ms. Kahn and the Interact Club for their charity and selflessness!

9th grade Annex pitches in during the holidays

BECAUSE IT TAKES MORE THAN FOOD TO FEED THE HUNGRY

Character Day kicks off
Reid-Robeson spirit week

Westbury students and staff showed off their school spirit during the week leading up to the Reid-Robeson basketball classic, starting on January 29th. The first day was character day, and so many showed off their creativity with their outfits.
Meet our Men’s Swim Team

By Erik Mariano

The season has begun, and it’s time to meet our Westbury Swim Team Members. The swim meets are all very competitive and bring out a lot of hard work and energy into the events, showing good sportsmanship, setting personal goals and swimming for success. Let’s meet the team...

William Ostorga, is a Senior, and according to Coach Patty Mueller, “He is our fastest and most versatile swimmer, leading the team in the sprint freestyle events and has the ability and drive to swim any event in a meet.”

Christian Zelaya, is a Junior and it’s his first year on the Swim Team. Coach Mueller says, “He is a breakout star in the 100 yard breaststroke. He is a natural and his technique is top notch.” These players ain’t playing…

Alex Weidemann is a Freshman and a player to keep an eye on. He “has become the team’s star for the Butterfly events as well as excelling in all of the freestyle events (sprint to long distance),” according to Coach Mueller.

Oscar Munguia is another freshman who is up and coming, swimming the sprint freestyle events and the 100 yard backstroke.

Jason Salvant and Daniel Lee, are seniors, they round out the team excelling in sprint freestyle events, with Daniel showing promise in the distance events as well.

If you want to be part of the swim team’s bright future, see Coach Mueller!

Wrestling wins conference for first time in 20 years

The Westbury High School wrestling team made history by winning its first conference championship in 20 years. Their success continued in the playoffs with a second round win over Mepham, after bowing out in the Elite Eight versus Long Beach.

Other major team accomplishments this season included a 1st place finish in the Hicksville Tournament and 2nd place finish in the Uniondale tournament.

As of press time the season wasn’t over, as there were still an individual qualifying tournament for counties. Premier wrestlers this season who are contenders for counties include 2nd ranked Jeremiah Funchess and 5th ranked Patrick Jean Louis. Our other wrestlers who have a great chance are Samuel Bonilla, Andi Salvador, Mateen Stevens.

Dragons go the distance

Winter track update

By Iyana McKnight

The Westbury High School track team is on the move this winter season! With the County Championships right around the corner (as of press time) track stars Kevens Leger, Jarvis Kuunifaa, and Naquan Frazier are optimistic about the coming competition and refuse to back down from any challenges thrown their way.

Eleventh grader Kevens Leger is known to be an ambitious runner with a lot of heart. Coach Ross calls him a “beast with great character, one who dominates at everything he does.” Specializing in the 55-meter dash with a personal record of 6.63 seconds he has set major goals for the remainder of the season. Leger has high hopes for the team as they are currently fourth in Nassau County and strive to win the County Championships.

Jarvis Kuunifaa a sprinter is known as the up and comer of the track team this season. With a personal best of 6.9 seconds in the 55 meter dash and 37.3 seconds in the 300 meter dash, Kuunifaa is and continues to break records and make his coach proud. They say diamonds are made under pressure and Jarvis is no exception to this rule. His habits perfectly exemplify this saying since, according to Kuunifaa, the best course of action is to “push yourself harder when you feel someone gaining on you.”

Naquan Frazier, the team’s best shot putter, best 300 meter runner, 200 meter sprinter and 55 meter runner has the team shell-shocked. Frazier has his mind on one thing--counties-- and refuses to step down from his goal. With unwavering support from Coach Ross, he has adopted a determined mindset to excel at everything he does and does exactly that. At number four in Nassau Country for shotput, Frazier has exceeded expectations and does not plan to stop anytime soon.
Girls Hoops finishes strong

The Westbury High School girls basketball team thrilled the crowd with a heart-stomping 46-39 victory over Clarke during the Reid Robeson classic on Feb. 2. The Lady Dragons led from wire to wire, jumping out to an 8-0 lead and never looking back. 8th grader Kirina Azemar led the Dragons with 20 points, and senior Janina Jean added 18.

It is obvious that the Westbury High School track team is on its way to the very top and “no matter who you are, we’re never giving up.”

“Our goal is to use every day to get better as a team,” Coach Jason Bryant said. “We are not as talented as we have been in the past. So we have to continue to get better with every practice.”

Despite this season’s record, the long legacy of Westbury basketball will continue to drive on into the 2019-2020 season and beyond.

The future looks bright for the girls as this year’s roster includes an eighth grader, three freshmen, three sophomores, and two juniors.

Head coach Dwight Gibson is optimistic about the ‘19-‘20 season and beyond. See Coach Gibson if you want to be part of westbury girls hoops’ bright future.

Wish Together, Swish Together

By: Semaj Moore and staff

The Westbury High School Varsity Boys Basketball team knew this season would make a difference. Although, there is no guarantee you will see a win, the energy of the team and audience makes going to the games worthwhile. With the audiences enthusiasm; the cheerleaders energetic cheers, and the team’s spirit, basketball games at Westbury High School were something you didn’t want to miss this season.

The Dragons have been led by captains Tyreik Frazier, Herrick Sainbert, and leading scorer Jordan Redd. As of press time the boys varsity basketball team was 4-8 and 3-5 in the conference. The boys finished the season 5-12 and 4-8.

“According to Coach Ross, if you ask him he’s “having a fantastic season,” and “couldn’t ask for a better year!” The team has amazed and instilled mountains of pride in him and he gives them unrelenting encouragement to welcome challenges and go beyond expectations which they have never failed to do.

It is obvious that the Westbury High School track team is on its way to the very top and “no matter who you are, we’re never giving up.”

Continued from page 6
Basketball players honored for work in the classroom

The 33rd Annual Reid Robeson Basketball Classic on Feb. 2 was not just a time for the boys and girls hoopsters to show their skills on the court, but was also a time to be honored for their exploits off of it.

Scholar athletes were awarded from each team. The winners are:

**Boys Varsity:**
Jahmir Washington, Junior

**Girls Varsity:**
Jade Telesford, Senior

**Boys Junior Varsity:**
Clayten Thomas, Freshman

Congratulations to all!

Welcoming In The New Year
*by: Lynn Bijou*

As we usher in 2019, many people make new goals they wish to accomplish by the end of the year. So, here are the resolutions some WHS students have set for themselves.

**Caela Anderson, Junior**
“In 2019, I hope to be more positive.”

**Kevin Moran, Sophomore**
“This year my goal is to get high grades on all my Regents exams and get promoted to the next highest rank in ROTC.”

**Rodney Jerome, Senior**
“This year I want to be a better me overall.”

**Yaneak Thomas, Junior**
“I want to become more confident and learn to love and appreciate myself unconditionally.”

We hope that these WHS students are able to reach their goals as well as all other students, teachers, parents, and faculty. Happy 2019 and have a healthy and successful new year!