

The Castle Caller

A Student Newspaper

HAZLETON ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL



Hazleton Elementary Middle School

March 2011
Spring Edition

\$1700 Given to Cancer Society from HEMS Clubs

By Elyssa Pizarro, Keyla Perez, and Pricilla Rodriguez*

The Castle Caller newspaper would like to congratulate the HEMS clubs and sports teams who are helping to fight cancer by making donations to the American Cancer Society.

Miss Leonard's cheerleading squad donated \$200 dollars, which they raised by getting donations from friends, family and HEMS staff.

The squad also performed in the telethon at the Laurel Mall on February 19, 2011, and won first place in the cheerleading competition. They competed against Heights-Terrace, Holy Family and West Hazleton Middle School.

Mrs. Cain's 6th grade community service club donated \$1000 dollars to the cancer society. The top four sellers who donated the most were **Kyle Plesh**, who came in 1st place with \$250, **Jerry Gasser** in 2nd



Student council members Kevin Harry, Kalie Kotansky, Nick Cibulish, Samantha Varela & Yamilex Rodriguez present the check to Pat Ward.



Jerry Gasser, Ciara Bannon, Kyle Plesh & Gianna Tuggle present the check on behalf of 6th Grade Community Service club.

with \$130, **Gianna Tuggle** was 3rd with \$110, and last but not least, **Ciara Bannon** who came in 4th with \$80 dollars. All four students presented the check on television to telethon host Pat Ward and got to speak to him about the importance

nated \$500 from money raised by the Victoria's Christmas candy sale in December. **Kevin Harry, Kalie Kotansky, Nick Cibulish, Samantha Varela, and Yamilex Perez** presented the check live on television..

All donated money was made in honor of Gissell Perez, a 5th grade student at Hazleton Elementary Middle School, who is battling cancer.

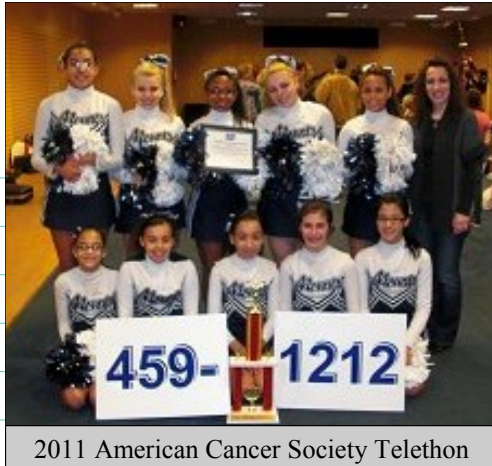
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Mounts Cheerleaders Awarding Year

By Leandris Reyes and Jaicha Valerio

The Mountaineer basketball teams have had two very successful seasons this school year, although the basketball players aren't the



2011 American Cancer Society Telethon

only athletes to achieve success. As cheerleaders, we know firsthand the great achievements the Mountaineer cheerleaders had this school year.

This year the squad won the spirit award at summer camp, got first place at the Keystone Competition, and received first place at the American Cancer Society telethon! We owe it all to Miss Leonard, our amazing coach. She worked us hard, but it all paid off in the end when we won. We realized that she was just making us the best!

As captain, "I'm very happy and proud of the squad! I wish my best to the girls, even the boys, who will carry on the name of Mountaineer Cheerleader next year! I hope the seventh grade cheerleaders keep up the excellent work!

"I'm excited to see who will take over as the captains next

for three years and it has gone through a lot of changes. In the beginning it was very small. We had difficulty with girls joining and leaving. The squad we have

now is so talented. They've worked so hard and have come such a long way! We owe all our success to our wonderful coach Miss Leonard. She put so much hard work and effort into the squad to get us where we are today.

I've had the best time cheering on this squad and I'm going to miss it so much. We entered our first major competition this year and won first place!

Everyone did so well, I'm so proud of them! I wish the future cheerleaders of Hazleton Middle School the best of luck!"

Miss Leonard had the following to say about this year's squad. "I was very proud of them and I knew that they could do it because they improved so much. I was thrilled they won

year," said Jaicha Valerio.

Kyla Osadche, a captain for the past two years, had this to say, "I've been on our squad

1st at the telethon, because they were the best squad there and I'm not just saying that because I'm their coach. This was the best year for HMS cheerleading. The girls were very talented and accomplished a lot. I will miss my 8th graders, especially Kyla, who has been with me the last three years, and I hope all the 7th graders tryout again."

For any 6th or 7th grade girls who would like to tryout out to be part of the squad, the tryouts will be held in May at the 9th Grade Center. The dates will be announced.

Spring Sports

By Kevin Harry*

It is now time to start spring sports. Our school offers something for everyone. There are track and field, baseball, and softball teams.

Track and field is available for seventh and eighth grade boys and girls. The events for this sport require skills in running, jumping and throwing. If you never tried a sport like track and field, it would be a great idea to see what it is all about.

Baseball is available only for the eighth grade boys, while softball is open to girls in both seventh and eighth grade.

All sports offer a lot of fun and great friendships to be made. Plus they are a great way to stay in shape. Join today!



Keystone Trophy

MOUNTS CORNER CHAT

By: Joanny Jimenez and Pricilla Rodriguez*

Do you get *nervous* during the PSSA exams?

60% **NO**
40% **YES**

The PSSA's are right around the corner. We asked 100 students from middle school if they get nervous during the biggest test of the year?

The responses to our quarterly poll were mostly "No" because most students feel they are prepared for the test. However, there were some students who said they are scared. They are worried they won't pass.

We polled 50 seventh and fifty eighth graders in this school about whether the PSSA's make them nervous.

Seventh grader, **Diana Colon** said, "I do not get scared. I take the test very calmly."

Desiree Galarza, 7th grade said, "There's nothing to be nervous about."

Other seventh graders feel differently. **Ashley Land** said she gets nervous, "because I'm afraid I won't pass it." **Adrian Valerio** said, "It's hard." Finally, **Mineylie Ramos** said, "I don't know some of the questions."

Many eighth graders were divided on how they felt.

Leidy Perez isn't nervous because, "It's just a test."

Jaicha Valerio feels completely different. She said, "The pressure kills me."

Hernon Aquino and **Randy Pineda** do not get nervous. Aquino said, "I eat breakfast and sleep 15 hours."

Pineda is sure of himself. "I know I'm going to pass."

Yamilex Rodriguez seems to get the most worked up. She told us, "My hands get all shakey, my brain hurts, and I look crazy and traumatized."

6 Tips For PSSA Success

By Jessica Turitto

1. Look over the Words of the Day. Teachers don't make us copy them for our health. The words are there to help us. When studying, don't try and cram it all in the night before. Space it out and maintain a positive attitude while preparing.
2. Get a good night's sleep before the tests. You don't want to be yawning while you are testing.
3. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day so eat and make it healthy. Have some cereal with an apple, or my favorite is waffles and blueberries with orange juice on the side, yum! If you don't have time to eat at home, our school provides a fresh breakfast every day for a low cost.
4. When your test is handed to you, listen and follow all directions. For math, make sure you have plenty of scratch paper and check over your answers. For reading, read the passage carefully, even twice if needed. Yes some of it may be boring, but substitute yourself and your friends in for the characters.
5. Don't rush while taking the test. If you are unsure about an answer, you can skip it and go back to it later. But never leave a question unanswered. It will be marked wrong, so you should guess if you have too.
6. Last, but not least, do not forget your name. I hope these pointers are helpful. I know they are to me.

GOOD LUCK!

2011(So Far) - A Pictorial Review

By: Miss Leonard

The new year has been very busy for HEMS students - and it's only March! We have had a Valentine's dance, book fair, math show, pep rally, playoff games, and student participation in the American Cancer Society's Telethon. Most of the below photographs are on our school web-site www.hasdk12.org. Check our school website regularly to see if you make the cut!



As of press time, the articles "*Spelling Bee - Districts to Regionals*" by Moriah Graaf and Lauren Merola and "*Early Start for Girl's B-ball*" by Jennifer Alberto & Christley Mena were not completed.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Miss Leonard

(* Miss Leonard assisted with article)

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