

THE CORRIDORS

February 2024

PROCTOR NEWSPAPER

Issue 3

Environmental Club News

by Sarkanyaw Chit

Proctor Environmental Club members recently visited a recycling center that the school recycles to. They were introduced to the process of what happens after we recycle multiple bags of bottles to the center. Freshman and new club members were especially encouraged to go so they could understand how clean and accurate recycled items should be for the club. Always remember to keep clean and keep recycling!

As the club is working on things such as recycling, fundraising, and playing games about the environment, the Envirothon is also coming up. The date is unspecified at the moment but all club members are welcome to try it. The Envirothon is an environmental based test with teams that travel around a park to answer questions. Teams go against several schools in the district, and seniors who win the Envirothon get \$1,000 to the college they would like to attend. It is a fun and enjoyable experience with friends, and this is coming from someone who doesn't really like to study, and genuinely enjoyed the Envirothon for two years in a row! Proctor has done spectacular at this Envirothon and more teams are encouraged!

Raider Bots News

by Geri Teal

Go Raider bots, go! On January 21, 2024, Proctor's very own Raider Bots, a robotics team, competed in their first qualifier competition at the MVCC Jorgensen Center. We came in 9th place, an awe-inspiring accomplishment for us. Competing against over 20 other teams from around NYS, the Raiders Bots represented our school well. When you see a distinguished member of our team,(the Raider Bots), congratulate them on their hard work and determination.



Senior Spotlight: Aidyn Ferguson



What is one of your favorite memories during your years at Proctor, and why?

My favorite moments would be all of the memories that I made through sports or just being with friends.

What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan to go to college and pursue a career in law.

What is one lesson that learned from running track in high school?

I learned that even when it gets hard and the finish line seems so far away, keep giving it your all so you can get the best results. Not giving your all will only leave you with regret and “what if?”

Who is your biggest inspiration, and why?

Obviously, my mom and dad inspire me. Aside from them, I’d have to say that my inspiration is Steve Prefontaine, not because of how good he was at running but because of his mindset to push himself to be the best he could be.

What words of wisdom would you like to impart on your fellow students?

Expand your boundaries, step outside the box, be yourself, and don’t live your life wondering, “What if?”.



Teacher Spotlight

For our current issue, we have teamed up with the Future Educators of America Club for our Teacher Spotlight column. Students in the club, overseen by Mrs. Cubino, contributed 2 interviews with their chosen Proctor educators.



Interview with Ms.Kehoe
by Bu Soe Paw

What was your initial dream career growing up?

Ms.Kehoe : My initial dream of a career growing up was actually to be a teacher. Initially, my dream was to be an elementary school teacher, but once I entered the classroom, I realized that I much more enjoyed teaching high school and middle school than elementary school.

Where did you attend college?

Ms.Kehoe : I attended SUNY Potsdam for my undergraduate degree and the University of Albany for my graduate degree.

Are there hobbies you enjoy outside of school?

Ms.Kehoe: Some hobbies I enjoy outside of school are reading, golfing, and playing bocce.

Can you describe the funniest teaching moment you've had during class?

Ms.Kehoe: One of the funniest teaching moments I have had during class was when I was teaching at a small rural school, and one of the students who was a hunter brought me in a turkey that he killed himself as a gift to me.

In ten years, where do you see yourself? Will you still be teaching at Proctor?

Ms.Kehoe: In ten years, I see myself still teaching at Proctor. Hopefully, I will still be teaching 11th grade in C135 and advisor of the Senior Class.

Teacher Spotlight (continued)

Interview with Mrs. Slegatis-Smith
by Taicha Matos Rivera



What made you decide to go into education?

I had a couple of teachers who were formative for me, and I made the decision to go into education because of them. Mrs. Vaughn was my eighth-grade English teacher. She was the teacher who helped me find the first book I actually enjoyed reading. It was a tough love moment that I hated her for at the time, but it became a life-changing moment. Her pushing helped me to see where I was handicapping myself and helped me to become the reader and writer I am today. Mr. Bucher was my ninth-grade biology teacher, but I learned a lot about how to teach and be a teacher by being his student. Not only did he help me be successful in a subject I was not adept at, but his classroom was a safe haven for many students, including me. I had many other teachers who were good and bad examples to me that shaped who I wanted to be as a teacher and kept me passionate about pursuing teaching even when it was challenging.

What did your journey to become a teacher look like?

I pursued an associate degree in education at MVCC and followed it up with a bachelor's degree from Houghton College. It was at Houghton that I started learning about being an ENL teacher, even though I pursued an English Language Arts certification at this stage. During a summer program at Houghton College, I went to Buffalo to work in an AmeriCorps program, and I also volunteered with Jericho Road. That was my first experience acting like an ENL Teacher, even though I still hadn't considered becoming an ENL teacher. That experience, plus a friend in the ENL Education program, is what influenced me to go for ENL as a master's program at SUNY Fredonia. After my master's program, I was certified in both ELA for secondary (7-12) and ENL (k-12). I applied all over New York State, expecting I would have to move to get a teaching job. However, I was fortunate enough that before the summer after my master's program ended, I had an interview with USCD, and they hired me as an ENL Teacher.

Where have you taught?

I was a substitute teacher in Old Forge and a long-term substitute for an ELA middle and high school teacher in Westmoreland. Then, I was hired as a full-time teacher in Utica, where I spent my first four years as an elementary ENL teacher at Watson Williams before transferring to Proctor High School for the last two years.

What was your favorite moment as a teacher?

So far, my favorite moment as a teacher is when I had a student who had been a struggling reader as a third grader. He then had a breakthrough moment and worked even harder to learn to read. His ambition and progress were so encouraging. I feel lucky to have been a part of his life for a time. There are so many students that I could list that I feel fortunate for the year I had with them. The greatest reward for me, as a teacher, is getting to see my students live life well. I am lucky enough that this student came back to me now that I am at the high school. He's not perfect, but he is living his life well, and that is inspiring to me.

Career Fair

by Jointly Htoo

What are your goals after high school? To find a job? Join the military? Go to college? On December 12th of this school year, Proctor held a career fair in the Main Gym for students in 11th and 12th grade. Students were able to get information from area industries and employers to help them start thinking about life after graduation. The next career fair will be on Thursday March 14th for 9th and 10th grade students.



Thrift Store

by Jointly Htoo

Check out the all new Raider Nation Thrift store located next to the 1st floor cafeteria. The thrift store, run by Proctor Student Council and Key Club, is a great place to find gently used items such as clothing, purses, accessories (including winter hats, scarves, and gloves), and other assorted trinkets. All items are 5 dollars or less and all money raised will go toward awards for Proctor Seniors in June, as well as to local local charities.

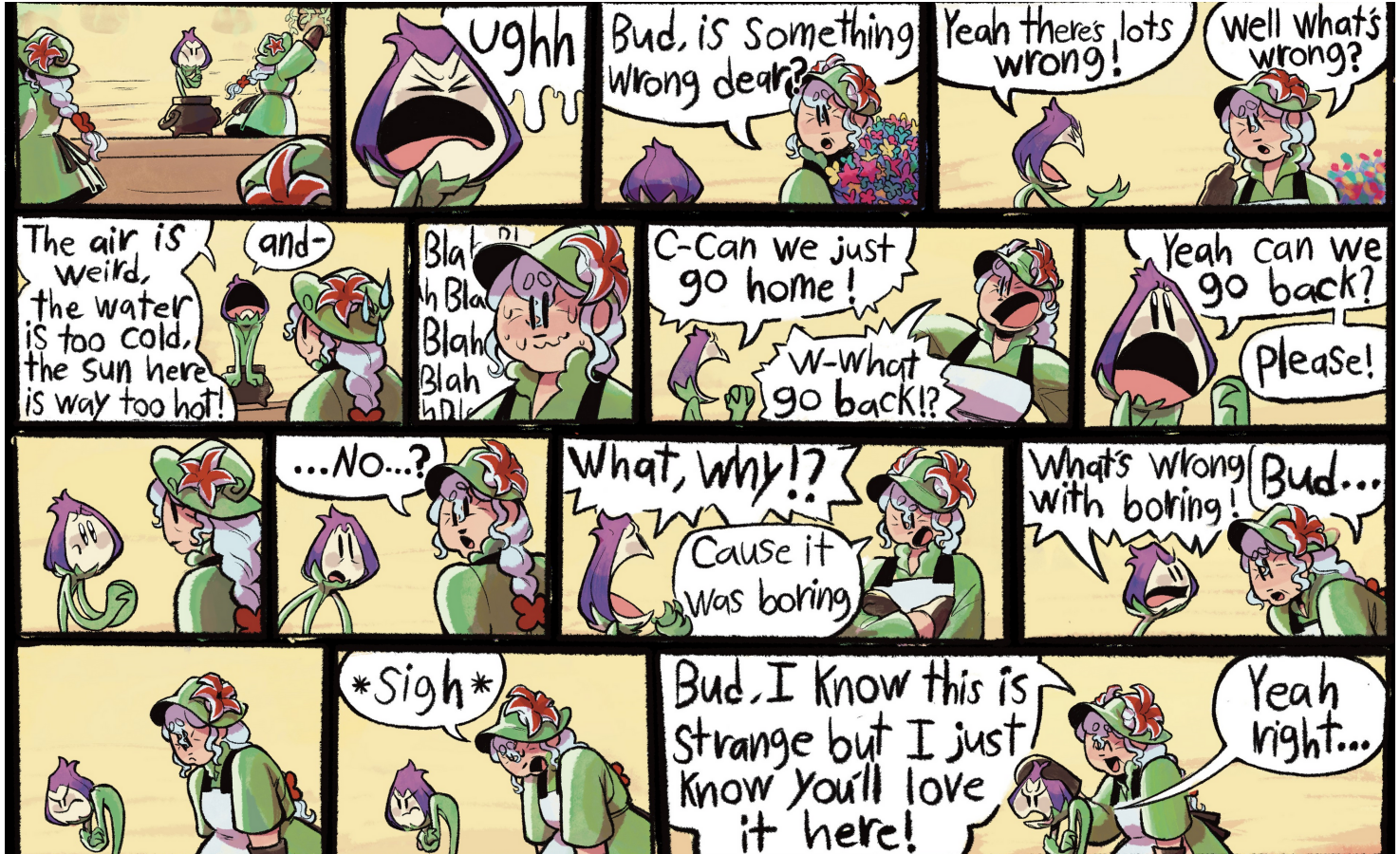
Also, Cinderella's Closet now includes men's formal wear, and all dress items in will continue to be free for students.



Creative Corner

Witch's Garden (Part 2)

by Wilmari DeVargas



Untitled By Mahalia Starling

Within me lies
A bronze sea
I can smell the salt
The will is against me
To be more than gold
My waves are to be folded
Hold up a thousand ships
And yet, slip through fingers

Winter
by Maddi Smith
Falling snow
There sits a chill in the air
Lawn lights aglow
Grey sky clouds

Children dressed in jackets
The flowers start to run
The radio stations change
Away goes the sun

Skating in an ice rink
Icicles all grow
Watching Christmas movies
Go slow over the roads
Wintertime is here
Bus

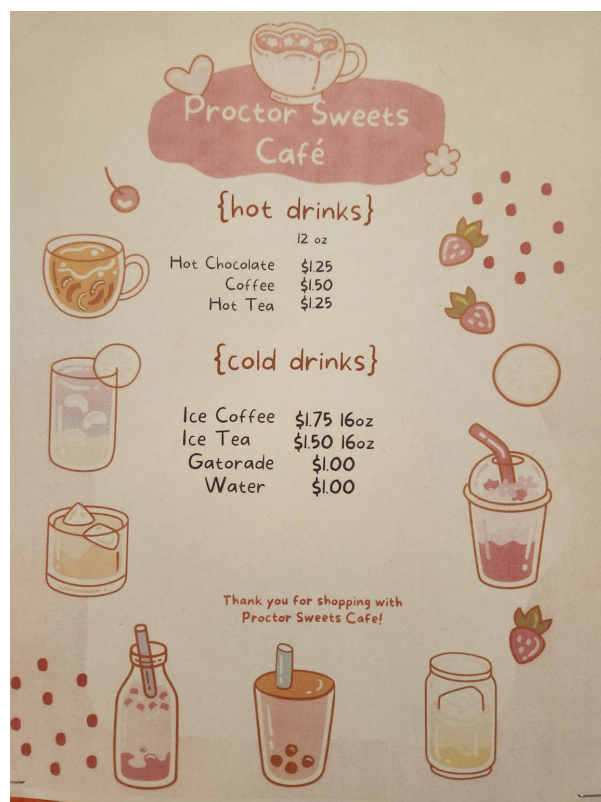
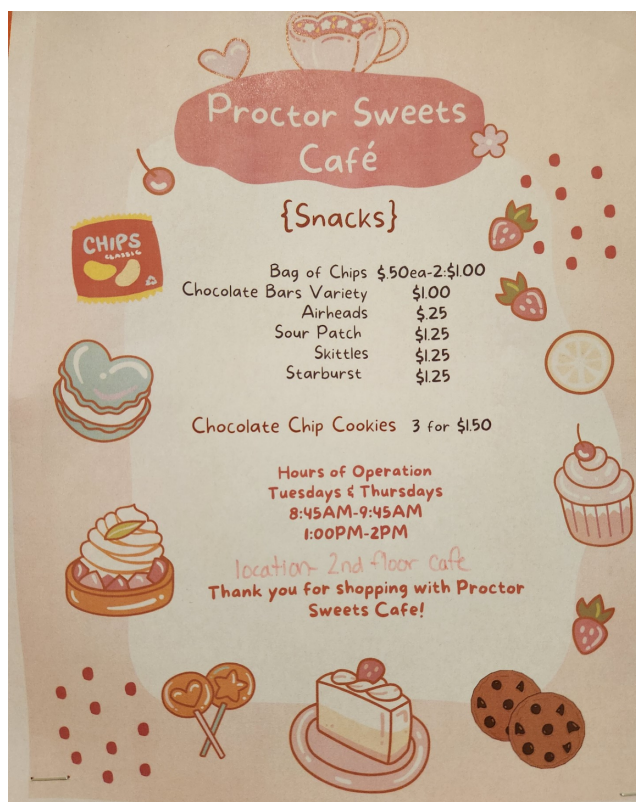
I rest my head on the window wall
The drawl drowns out amongst
itself
I play some song to blind my ears
The hiss of the egress is all I hear

The time slips by with no retention
There is no meaning in this place
Cars fly outside the window
A designation alone in space

The sun sets slowly, I think
Decadent dance through tinted glass
Minutes, maybe hours pass
My hands run pink aground the stale air
Day or night? I couldn't tell
I lost myself a day ago
No name could ever suit me
And god, does it show

The bumps in the road all feel the same
I've been in this place before
Same old black tar paves me through
Same old closing cytosine

Then infinity lulls me over
Sun or snow? I do not know
Droning droll can make-
Shoot, wait, here's my stop



Attention Seniors: IT'S TIME TO FOCUS ON GRADUATION!!



Caps and gowns are on sale now. You must have a cap and gown in order to participate in the annual graduation ceremony. The cap and gown comes with a tassel and stole that is specific to Proctor High School and can only be ordered through the Jostens company. The Jostens representative will be here taking Cap and Gown Orders outside of the school's auditorium:
 WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH & 8TH -
 10:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

The cost for a cap, gown, tassel and stole unit is \$50.00, which can be paid by cash, check or money order made payable to Larry DeWitt. Credit/debit cards will not be accepted at school. To pay by credit card or to order other items including graduation announcements, visit www.nygrad.com to see the full offering.

(Final price in checkout will reflect tax and shipping)
 Contact us by e-mail: larry.dewitt@jostens.com
 Telephone: (315) 656-5152 (not available for texting) or through the contact us link on www.nygrad.com
 For other questions see Ms. Kehoe in C135 or email at kkehoe@uticaschools.org

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