

# *The Corridors*

Proctor High School Newspaper

## Let's Talk About School Spirit!

By Norielle Culver and Mahalia Starling

Recently, Proctor hallways have been flooded with school pride. From Decades Day to Character Day, it seems students have painted the school in red and black. With Spirit Week following an eventful weekend for Proctor students, neon footballs and a lively dance were just the beginning. Everybody was beaming with eagerness and excitement for new school year. Let's go, Proctor!



# The Generation of Uncertainty

By Mahalia Starling

The greatest generation (1900s-1920s) are notorious for their patriotism, but what about us? Do you ever wonder how the current generation ("Gen Z") will be looked at in 20 years? What is the legacy we leave? Can the future benefit from us and our accomplishments?

Gen Z might be the most different generation compared to others before us. We are living in a social experiment, and the results are crucial for the future of mankind. As a member of Gen Z, it's not unlikely for us to live in a diverse society. We are in fact, the most racially and ethnically diverse generation in U.S. history ever. Generations before us had fought for rights during the Civil Rights Movement, the Women's Suffrage Movement, and LGBT+ Rights Movements. These feats have all happened so that we can all be both free and equal, and these feats have certainly affected our current generation.

The accomplishments of generations before us have become engraved in our society today: you see it on television, hear it in music, and come face to face with it in every day life. They have become such a significant influence for Gen Z and will continue to be unto the next generation: Gen Alpha.



image from google.com

However, with the good will always come the “bad”. Let’s take a couple steps back into the 1800s when the Industrial Revolution began. People moved into cities creating more jobs, economic surplus, lower prices, and more goods. All great things. Yet, as I said, come good, come bad. For more than a hundred years, the climate has been demonstrating change and will likely progress if not stopped. There is much data and statistics that claim the rise of pollution and climate change have come after the Industrial Revolution, which makes sense. This means that one more thing Gen Z has to face is the destruction of mother nature, but hopefully we can defeat it.

Of course, I have not forgotten the recent pandemic we’ve all faced, causing a domino effect on all our lives, and claiming lives too. From 2020 until now, it felt as if the world was frozen in time. With online schooling due to closing, lay-offs in jobs, social distancing, and inflation, some might call it a dark time to live in, which I do not oppose.

This horrid event has deeply shaped our generation into a generation of uncertainty, but even then, if the millennials can bounce back from college debt , then we shouldn’t have much trouble.

As Kung Fu Panda wisely stated, “Yesterday is history, tomorrow a mystery, but today is a gift. That’s why it is the called present .”



Images from google.com



# Senior Spotlight: Todd Abraham

By Alliyah Scott



**What have been some of your favorite experiences as a student at Proctor High School?**

"Spirit Weeks, Proctor Pep Rallies, and school dances have been some of my favorite experiences."

**What advice would you give to incoming freshman?**

"I would tell them to stay on the right path. Proctor is a huge school so it can be easy to stray away from what a student is supposed to be doing."

**What is the next step after you graduate?**

"I have accepted a baseball scholarship to play Division 1 at Binghamton University."

**Do you feel that attending Proctor has helped you get ready for the next step in your life?**

"Definitely. My coaches, teachers, and mentors have prepared me well for the next step."

**What clubs or extracurricular activities would you recommend to other students?**

"I would tell other students to definitely play or participate in as many sports or clubs that they can. They won't regret it!"

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## Teacher Spotlight: Ms. Walrath

By Geri Teal



**What courses do you teach here at proctor?**

"I teach Regents and Non-Regents Chemistry."

**What's your favorite unit to teach?**

"Organic chemistry is my favorite. It's fun to draw chemical structures, and it's relatable outside of school."

**Where are you from?**

"I'm from Verona, not far from the casino."

**What did you want to be before you became a teacher?**

"I wanted to be a marine biologist."

**What is your favorite part of teaching?**

"Seeing kids finally understand a topic and being able to connect it to something outside of school."

**What is your favorite quote?**

"When you have a dream you've got to grab it and never let it go. "- Carol Burnett

**If you could tell your students one thing, what would it be?**

"Learn from your mistakes and don't dwell on them. You should always try"

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# Pep Rally

By Sarkanyaw Chit and Glory Htoo

Thomas R. Proctor High School held its first fall pep rally on October 14, 2022 after COVID-19 restrictions were lifted. Many of the students can agree that this year was more lively in the main gymnasium when the Juniors and Seniors came to cheer on our fall sports teams. The band played a lot of songs that made us pumped up and ready to cheer for the teams, and the choir sang the National Anthem with the cheerleaders giving us an amazing show during the pep rally. Thank you to all the fall sport teams showing their Proctor pride. Go Raiders!!!



# More From Fall Pep Rally



# Homecoming Game

By Sarkanyaw Chit and Glory Htoo

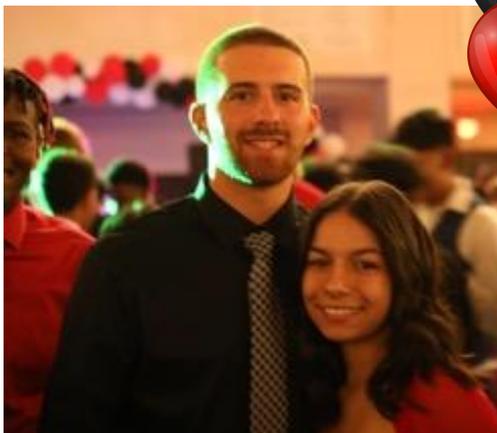
Thomas R. Proctor High School went up against Henninger High School and won by a landslide with a score of 50-8. Many of the students came to cheer on Proctor and showed off their school spirit by cheering for the boys whenever they made a touchdown. This year was also filled with lights and not just because of the stadium night game, but because of Proctor's neon theme! We didn't fail to show our school spirit and unity by showing up in our neon clothes. It was a night to remember. Congratulations to the Boys Varsity Football team!



# Homecoming Dance

By Sarkanyaw Chit and Glory Htoo

This year's Homecoming dance had many food and drinks but also had a photo booth run by Mr. Duncan. The DJ this year was DJ Roscoe Red who played several songs to celebrate our homecoming win. The Homecoming dance was decked out in our black, red, and white school colors and took place in the main gym. Interestingly enough, many students even took many of the star balloons home that night as a memento. That night, we went around and asked some of the students what they rated the Homecoming dance this year. I'm not surprised to say that many rated it 10/10!



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## More From the Homecoming Dance!



# Proctor Drama Club Presents: *Treasure Island*

By Geri Teal



On November 4th and 5th, Proctor's Drama club put on a spectacular play called *Treasure Island*, directed by Ms. Stevens. The play was about a young man named Jim who, along with his friends, go in search of a pirate's treasure. They meet perils and challenges along the way, and find new allies. The play was wonderful. Great job, Drama Club! We are all looking forward to the musical in the spring: *Legally Blonde*! The dates for the Spring musical are March 9th, 10th, and 11th. Mark your calendars!



# Local History

## Proctor High School: Then and Now

By Ayishetu Ibrahim



image from google.com

Proctor High School initially opened its doors on Wednesday September 9th, 1936 for students who lived east of Conkling and Third avenues in Utica. Students in the western part of the city kept going to Utica Free Academy. On the first day, Proctor had 1,850 students in grades 9 through 11, but there were no seniors. According to school authorities, it would be less difficult for students to finish their senior year at UFA if they had attended for their first three years at Proctor. Nearly 4,000 students were cramped into UFA, which led the city to request new schools from the U.S Public Works Department in 1934.

The city issued bonds for 892,000 dollars and an agency provided 303,000 dollars toward the expense. 1.2 million dollars in total was utilized to build Proctor High School, Hugh R. Jones Elementary School, and North Utica's Seymour School. The first principal at Proctor High School was Rollin W. Thompson. A three-room apartment with a bedroom, living room, and a fully functional kitchen was a brand-new addition to the school for Domestic Science students. The school library was equipped with a cork floor to promote quiet, and its expensive cafeteria was referred to as "the largest restaurant in Central New York."



*Proctor's Local History Club attended a talk given by Historian and Paranormal Investigator Dennis Webster at the Oneida County History Center on October 22nd. There were 8 members of the Local History Club in attendance.*

# Creative Corner

## SPOOKY STORIES- READ IF YOU DARE

Each of Mrs. Pflanz's 9th Grade Language Arts Labs were given the same task: to finish the scary story written below. Each of the four classes voted on one story. Included here are the winners from each class.

### **Our story begins ...**

Samantha sat alone in her dark bedroom on Halloween night. She was going to miss out on all the free candy, but did not want to embarrass herself by going trick-or-treating on her own. All of her friends that she went with in the past said they were too old this year and refused to go with her. Her parents were out at a Halloween party and told Samantha she could keep the porch light off so no trick-or-treaters would bother her.

She was just about to start another episode of her favorite show when the doorbell rang. She ignored it, but soon after, it rang again followed by loud pounding on the door. She looked out of her bedroom window and saw figures dressed in costumes running up and down the street with their candy buckets, but could not see the front door clearly enough to tell who was there.

The pounding resumed and so did the ringing doorbell. Annoyed, she walked down the stairs and – against her better instincts – opened the door.

***What happens next is up to you!***



Ending #1:

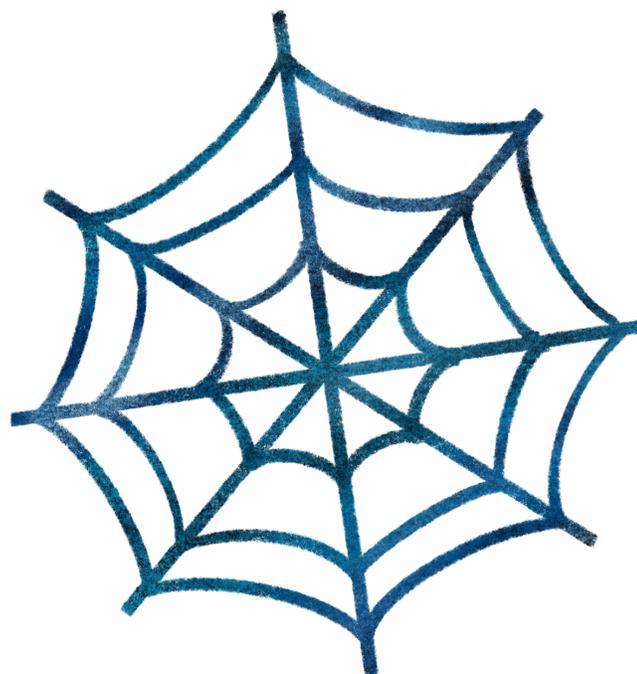
Written by: BRIAN LAVISCOUNT

When she opened the door, nobody was there. She just saw the same kids running around in the street laughing and giggling, so she had no clue if they were pranking her or they were just having fun.

Samantha went back to the couch and continued to watch her favorite show, but then she heard creaking coming from her stairs. She was startled and scared to look, but she paused the episode anyway. She just froze on the couch and tried to listen for any more noise but she could hardly hear from all the yelling from the children outside trick or treating, so then she just resumed her show and laid down on the couch.

When she was focused again on the show, the bathroom lights started to flicker. Samantha jumped up frightened, then walked towards the bathroom. Samantha walked in the bathroom, but nobody was there. The door then shut, Samantha started to cry, and she then passed out. Samantha woke up confused because she wasn't in the bathroom anymore. Her parents then came into the room and told her they will be at a Halloween party. Samantha then realized ...it was just a dream. Samantha then told her parents about what happened, and her parents said, "It was perfectly timed for Halloween. Maybe it was meant to happen."

Samantha was still traumatized, but she went to her room and went to sleep.



Ending #2  
Written By Rayshaan Patterson

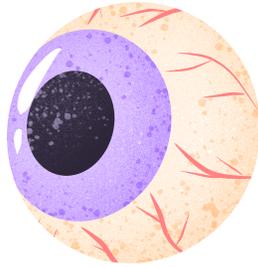


She saw a plushie of the pirate monkey from the children's pizzeria. It was missing an eye and had a hook on its left hand. She stepped down the porch to see who could have left the piece of memorabilia from her memories. There was nobody to be found; there weren't even trick-or-treaters on the road. All the house lights were off, but Samantha didn't think anything of it. She picked up the plushie in her hands, and when she got to her room she threw the plushie in her closet without a second thought and continued with her night.

She ended up falling asleep while watching her show. She was awakened when she heard heavy footsteps on her porch, but she didn't think much of it. She just thought it was just her parents coming home after their fun night out so she just went back to sleep peacefully. While in her slumber, she heard footsteps on her left and then on her right. That was abnormal because on her right was a window. She snapped awake to find out her room was mirrored on the right and there was a door identical to the left one and her lights turned an ominous dark purple. Samantha heard a disturbing scratch like it was on a chalkboard. She flung her head at her closet to see what the commotion was. She saw a bloody hook peeking out of her closet and scraping against the closet door along with the monkey's wretched smile with his dirty yellow teeth.

Samantha shrieked at the sight of the wretched monkey and jumped up and grabbed the TV remote off her dresser and threw it at the wretched monkey. The monkey froze and Samantha took a breath before the monkey with its twisted pirate accent said "YAR, LITTLE GIRL. YOU BETTER RUN". Samantha took the warning and dashed out the door on her right to dodge the monkey's grasp. Out the door, Samantha watched a dark figure turn the corner. Samantha, with fear, walked down the hallway. With every step she took, she hoped she didn't step on a loose floor board...

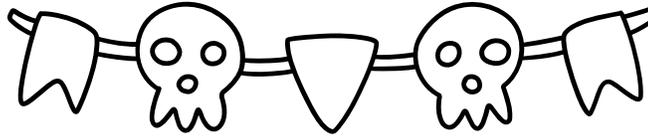
Ending #3  
Written By Amya Vitullo



When Samatha opens the door she finds a record disk. She looks around confused about who had left this disk. She picks it up and heads back inside. She had remembered that her great grandmother had a record player somewhere. She looks around the house for a little bit until finally she finds it and sets it up in the living room. Once it is set up, she puts the disk inside of the record player only to hear a weird groaning sound coming from it. She tries taking it out to see if it was scratched or something, but as soon as she does she hears the doorbell ring. She heads to the door and opens it only to see a big bowl of sweets. Once more, she looks around to see the person leaving these gifts for her, but sees nobody. She takes the bowl inside and decides to head back upstairs for now. She sits in her room munching on the sweets when suddenly she feels sick and rushes to the bathroom.

When she finally reaches the bathroom she looks into the mirror to see her mouth bleeding severely. "What the hell..." She cleans off the blood around her mouth to see that it has cuts all over. She runs back into her room to see that the big bowl full of treats was actually rusty razors and nails. Tears form in her eyes and she drops onto her knees. After crying for a few minutes she finally gets up to call the cops. She walks over to her bed to get her phone and call 911 but it seems like her phone had been smashed. She is confused how she had broken it when it was fine just a min ago. She rushes down the stairs but as she walks by the living room, in the corner of her eye she could see a shadow of a very tall skinny man looking right at her. She slowly looks at the man in pure fear of what was going to happen to her. She and the man are staring at each other. Next to the man was the record player that still had the disk playing. She had completely forgotten about the disk until now. She decides she'll run for it to the door, she stands there for a second until finally she rushes straight to the door, but when she does the man just stands there not moving. Sadly, she forgets to be careful when running and the man had actually set up a trap. She trips on the icy concrete in front of the door and lands face first into a bunch of knives set just for her.

Ending #4  
Written By: Samuel Stone



But no one was there. She was a little confused, but she just went back in to watch her show, but before she could press play she noticed it was silent...too silent. She noticed something moving out the window, but she brushed it off though it did look like a dark figure. About an hour of watching her show she was asleep.

But then, ...\*knock...knock...knock\*. She jumped out of her sleep! When she woke up and caught her breath, she checked the time. It was 12:42am...none of the trick or treaters should be out and the lights were off so even still they shouldn't knock. She still went to check the door, but before she could, the only sound for hours was heard: "ahhhh!" \*slice\*. She gasped and ran to her room upstairs to grab a weapon. As she was up there she remembered that her parents should have been back about 15 minutes ago. She went back down the stairs as quietly as she could.  
\*creeek\*creeeeek\*thump\*

She slipped down the last step but caught herself. When she got up she noticed the bloody handprint on the window. The window shattered as a bloody knife was thrown through it. She made sure to lock the doors and windows and hid to listen for any movement. Then, she heard her mother's voice calling to her, "...Samanthaaa.....Samanthaaa...".

She looked towards the window to see a distorted figure that looked like her mother, but something was off. Her smile was sinister and filled with evil and her body looked distorted.

She held her mouth to not make a noise. She went upstairs to call 911 and heard her parents calling to her, "Samanthaaa...you can come with us. We can be a family as we were. Samanthaa... come on sweetie," said her father. She ran out the front door and ran as far as she could, but while she was running she heard something. "We will find you" they said.

**10 months later...**

She moved someplace in an open field to stay vigilant. It's been 15 years and when the police found her they checked her house and found nothing. They threw her in a crazy home thinking she wasn't okay in the head. She began to believe them but she thought for some reason it may come true one day.

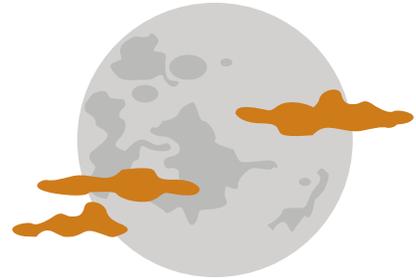
It was Halloween again and she didn't care anymore. She sat on her couch watching the same show that she was watching on that fateful day. As she was drifting off to sleep she heard \*knock...knock...knock\*. She got up thinking it was a dream and went to open it. As she opened the door she saw those same distorted people from what she thought was a dream. They grabbed her by the throat and she couldn't scream for help. You could see now, she became one of them.....

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# Under the Moon

Anonymous

Under the moon  
the witches cast a spell  
by the mystic coven  
of 12.



Under the moon  
witches brew  
is boiling  
bubbles of trouble  
and the mystic coven of  
12  
grin with delight  
of their evil  
might.



Calling upon the dark lord  
they wish to smite  
every lingering piece of the  
enemy.

They turn away  
but not without an evil eye  
so sly.  
The smirk and grin with delight,  
knowing of the evil  
they cast upon the night.

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# Fall Sports Photos

By Sarkanyaw Chit



# Proctor Clubs

Chess Club B114  
Best Buddies C134  
Speech and Debate M464  
Key Club C329  
Model UN D241  
Environmental Club B110  
Drama Club B112/Aud  
Art Club M473  
Photo Club M473  
Fashion Club M476  
Student Council A206

Local History Club D144  
Mathletics B115  
FBLA M343  
D&D Library  
Mock Trial C237  
Mohaw Valley Junior Frontiers  
and Upward Bound B311  
Write For Your Life Writing Program  
M361  
Robotics M196 and M016  
Money Smart M185

Club Advisor: Ms. Sklarz  
President: Geri Teal  
Vice President: Glory Htoo  
Secretary: Sarkinyaw Chit  
Treasurer: Faith Loughlin  
Mirela Ahmetasevic  
Norielle Culver  
Ayishetu Ibrahim  
Najra Kudra  
Charzell Perkins  
Alliyah Scott  
Mahalia Starling  
Eh Blurpaw Win

