

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS



On May 7, 2019, members of the HVS Senior Class took flight with JetBlue for an exciting flight experience as well as

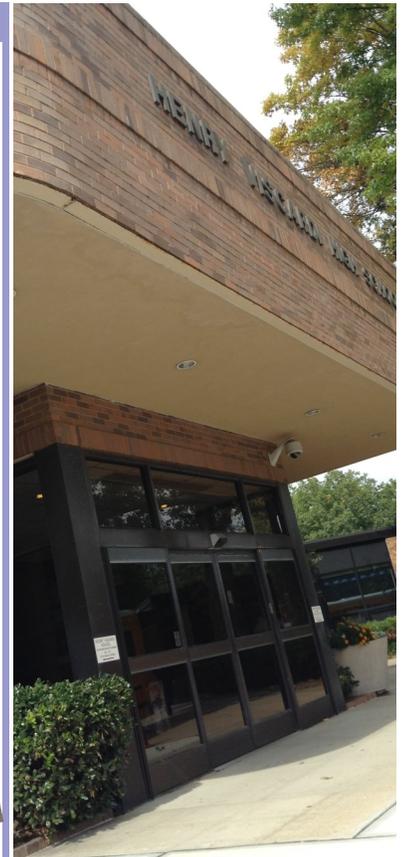


many treats throughout the day. They arrived EARLY in the morning at JFK and headed to Boston. After landing in Boston, students and staff were off to the New England Aquarium where they met Myrtle the deep-sea turtle as well as Reggae, a harbor seal, amongst other aquatic creatures. The Viscardi students shared their insights with



JetBlue employees regarding passengers with disabilities. It was a fun day of travel, socialization, and learning. A huge surprise, just before boarding the return flight back to JFK...MacBook Air laptops were given to all members of the HVS Senior Class from JetBlue!

Thank you to JetBlue for your graciousness, hospitality, intense generosity, and for your friendship with HVS!



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HVS



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Disney for Disabled

By Dylan Cuevas



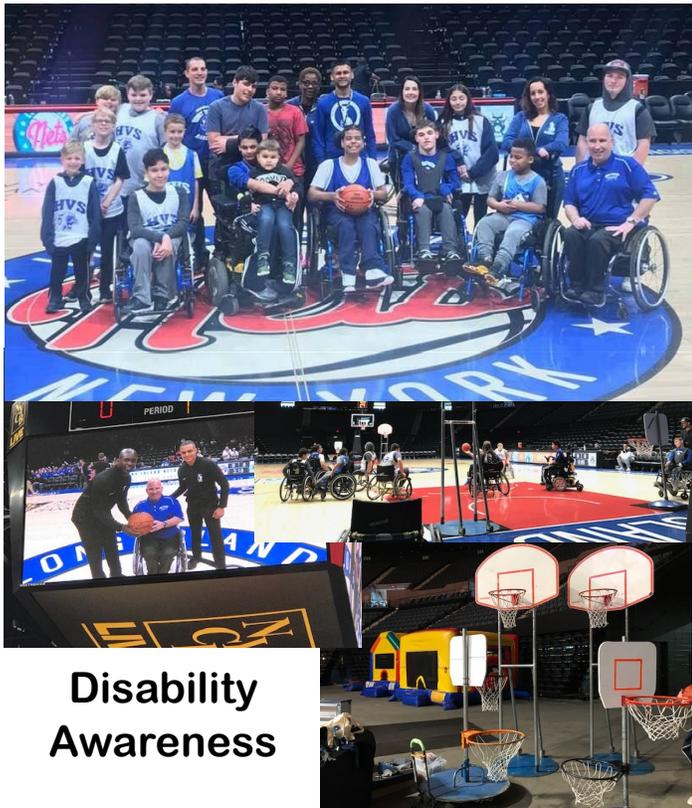
Disney World is a place where people can go on rides & see characters. For disabled people it is easy to get on the rides thanks to Disney's Disability Access Services (DAS). This means that they give you a card to go on the rides. Thanks to this, Disney lets us enjoy some of the most popular rides like It's A Small World, Journey Into Imagination with Figment, Buzz Lightyear's Astro Blasters and my favorite ride Toy Story Midway Mania. Unfortunately, some rides can't allow disabled people to ride like Splash Mountain, Rock n Rollercoaster, Space Mountain, Tower of Terror, Test Track, and even Peter Pan! These rides don't allow disabled people in wheelchairs.

They also provide ECV wheelchairs for those who don't have power chairs. ECV stands for Electric Conveyance Vehicle. People can drive ECVs all around the park and enjoy the magical experience. ECV's can be used for adults, kids and even senior citizens.

Disney for Disabled cont.

DAS services provide a Guest Assistance Card which gives people with a disability a return time for attractions based on the current wait time. Also, Disney's hotels have accessible rooms provided just for disabled people. They even give disabled people their own bathroom stall!

Disney makes all of us disabled people enjoy the rides and attractions in our wheelchairs! It is incredible that they work so hard to make us enjoy the magical experience. The employees make sure that disabled people have no problems while visiting the parks.



Disability Awareness

The HVS Wheelchair Basketball Program had the chance to play on the home court of the Long Island Nets, an NBA G-League team, at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Students of HVS, family and friends played on the open court and stayed to watch the LI Nets, as they entered the playoffs.

Life at HVS by Perla Rexhepi

Wake up at seven forty-five

Takes forever to get ready

Hungry

Dead tired on the bus

Don't want to get up

I'm here

Muffins in homeroom

Decimals fractions and word problems

Typing, games, too much work

Running around

Playing instruments

Lunch time

Learn about ancient people

Painting pictures

Digestive systems, bones and disgusting stuff

Projects on the computer

See you tomorrow!!!

Adapted Xbox Controller

By Kelvin Martinez



Microsoft has come out with an adapted Xbox controller. Anyone with an Xbox One or Windows 10 can use it. It features Bluetooth, USB connectivity, Copilot, and a 3.5mm stereo headset jack. It costs about \$100. This is helpful for disabled people. The joystick on a standard Xbox controller can be very hard to move. The

back buttons of an Xbox controller can also be hard to manage. The buttons on the adapted controller are easier to reach. The controllers/buttons can be customized, and user profiles can be saved. You can even hook up switches to the controller or can even use a joystick with it. The controller can also be used for gaming on a PC. If any friends come over to play with you, you can be independent. It allows you to interact with other people in a fun way.



The Tech Train Wreck of 2019

By Lilly Murphy

Should a tablet and a phone mix? This new device begs the question. Samsung thought they had the answer: *Galaxy Fold*. They said that it would bring a new type of experience never done before with a brand-new flexible screen. This would have been Samsung's largest screen ever. It was meant to eliminate the need for 2 devices. This product was supposedly able to fold open to a 7.3-inch tablet display which then could be used as a phone when closed. It was originally meant to be released on April 26th of this year. However, as of May 8th, 2019, because of extreme reliability problems, the orders were canceled leaving people disappointed. For one thing, the plastic screen was not as durable as a typical glass screen. The cost of this crash and burn device would have been \$2,000.00. There is no set date for the new phone. Stay tuned for future updates...



For the fourth year in a row, the Middle School Student Council has donated 100 back packs filled with school supplies to the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. Thank you to all those who continuously support our fundraising efforts, so that we are able to give back to the community.

NYC Ballet Visits Viscardi



PROM 2019



Henry Viscardi School
201 I.U. Willets Road
Albertson, NY 11507

Tom Naro
David Billingham
Southampton Fresh Air Home
36 Barkers Island Road
Southampton, NY 11968

Dear Tom and David,

I am writing to you to let you know what a wonderful summer I had this year. I was able to go to Sessions 1 and 3 and boy can I tell you it made such a wonderful difference in my life. The counselors were excellent. They looked past our disabilities and gave us the opportunities to have the best summer. The new counselors fit right in and would do anything to help us, whether it was the slightest need or a major necessity. All the counselors showed how much they loved being there and working with all of us. I learned how to be more independent, confident, and I am a more rounded individual. I think we all grew into more mature and self-sufficient young men and women. I attribute this to a counselor named Stephen Hunter. I guess I should have known with him having the same name! Stephen reminded me of my dad, he took care of me like a family member would. He gave me the utmost respect, treating me as if I had no disability and for that I am beyond grateful. I hear people say that angels come into our lives to remind us of the good in all, and I feel Stephen was just that angel. I don't know if he will be returning this summer, but I'm hoping that my letter will help you decide on this young man to return. I'm very grateful for all the counselors and know that they all play a major part in making our camp experience amazing. I feel that when I am of age, I would like to become a counselor. I think it's because of all the great care I have received over the years.

I would like to bring up some of my favorite moments at camp. My family and I usually go to Ohio for 4th of July. This year I got to spend it at camp. The 4th of July party was excellent, from the carnival to the night's celebrations, everything was unimaginable. The Prom this year was mind-boggling. The counselors all got us involved in the dancing, eating and festivities of the night. The food was fantastic, especially the brownies! The activities were perfect. Everything from the morning to the evening was filled with exciting and happy moments.

Thank you for running such an awesome camp. Can't wait to see you in July.

Your friend,
Hunter Tobias
Summer 2018

They're Back At It

By Lilly Murphy



The Super Bowl LIII took place on February 3, 2019. Once again, the Patriots planned to regain their status and come back with ring number 6 against the Rams. The game was played at the Mercedes-Benz Arena in Atlanta, Georgia. Gladys Knight gave an amazing performance of the national anthem.

The first half of the game was excruciatingly slow. The game was stuck at 0 for the first quarter. The patriots finally got on the board with a field goal in the second quarter making the score 3-0. This was the second lowest halftime score in Super Bowl history.

The halftime show included Maroon 5 and Big Boi among others. In my opinion, it wasn't up to par. It seemed like the crowd at the stadium was bored. Most people didn't even tune in to watch it.

Most of the scoring took place in the dull second half including a new Super Bowl record 65-yard punt. Something that was also achieved was a 53-yard field goal, the second-longest in Super Bowl history. For the very first time in the history of the Super Bowl, both competitors went 3 quarters without scoring a touchdown. There were many plays made that finally led to a touchdown. The final score was 13-3.

Brady became the first player to win six Super Bowls. He was also the oldest quarterback (age 41) to win a Super Bowl along with Bill Belichick who became the oldest coach to win a Super Bowl, at age 66.

According to [Thrillist.com](https://www.thrillist.com), the top 3 ads were Microsoft adapted Xbox controller, avocados from Mexico and Bubly. Personally, I liked the Xbox controller the best because of the relevance to people with disabilities.





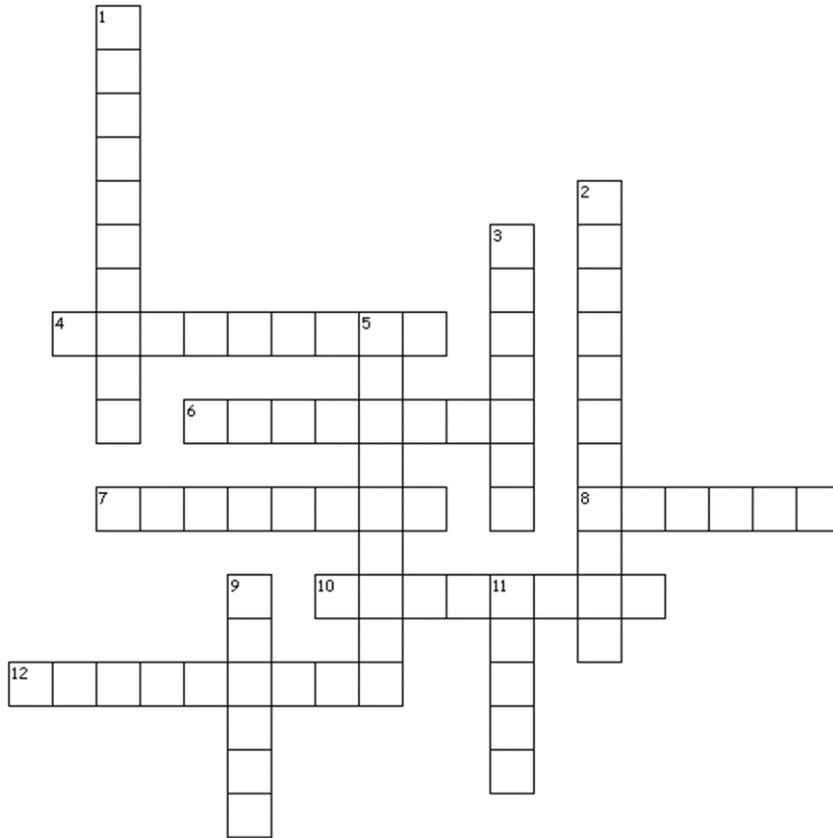
Horseability by Nidhi Majumder

Horseability is an organization for people with disabilities. They offer physical, occupational and speech hippo therapy. Horseability has a variety of ponies and horses in different sizes for each body type.

Along with outdoor rings and trails, they have also recently established an indoor arena for when the weather doesn't permit outdoor riding. Hippo therapy strengthens core muscles and improves balance. All staff members, volunteers and riders make up our Horseability family.



CROSSWORD NONSENSE BY KERVIN COLON



Across

4. falling with style
6. sky transport
7. money holder
8. shark bite
10. touchdown is the game
12. it's a snowy slide

Down

1. nothing but net
2. feeling relaxed without pain
3. a Christmas surprise
5. who's calling?
9. time to write
11. it's a "shore" thing



The Henry Viscardi School Occupational Therapy Department recently formed a relationship with a young man Michael Dicipinigitis, who created JerichoAdaptsToys.org. Michael and his close friends have established a free lending library of switch adapted toys. These switch accessible toys, which are activated by an external switch (i.e. Jellybean switch), are being distributed across other schools on Long Island. This enables children with disabilities the opportunity to play with toys that they could otherwise not be able to physically play with.



STEM DAY



Our senior HVS cougars received an award for basketball at annual sports night.

The Cougar Chronicle Corner

Thank you to all our readers.

If interested in joining our team see Mr. Chris OT or Ms. Marlana OT.

Have a great summer!!