



**Marblehead High School's
Freshman Class
PLANT SALE**
Saturday, May 19
**Community Center Parking Lot
20 Humphrey St.
8:30-11:30am**



All proceeds will benefit the MHS Class of 2021

What it Means to be a High School Class Officer

Sophie Hauck, Freshman
Reporter

Last fall, when I came into my freshman year of high school, I was unsure of how I would fit into the school community. From depictions in pop culture, I understood secondary education to be an extremely divisive experience. In movies, the student body divides based on polarizing interests, with barely any intersection of cliques. Yet in time, I realized these stereotypes to be false. At Marblehead High School, students pursue multiple interests, and join multiple groups of friends. Rarely are there people that can be simplified or classified as a person of just one particular niche.

Yet despite pop culture's many false notions of high school, one cliché that will always be true is the fact that high school is a great time to start fresh. With these new lessons in mind, I decided to take the leap towards becoming a class officer.

Before this year, I never imagined myself taking on a position in Student Government, especially because of the expectations I had of this position, and its holder. To me, a class treasurer has to be completely put together, with ambitions of someday holding public office and gaining world domination. Like so many other stereotypes in high school, there appeared to be personal obligations in order to perfectly fit the role. However, after a motivational conversation with another prospective candidate, I decided to go out on a limb and run for the position. Weeks later, I won the election and became my class's treasurer.

As the year progressed, one event in particular stands out in terms of this position's effect on me. In the weeks preceding Valentine's Day, my class fundraised by selling roses and candy to the student body. Through this event I learned invaluable communication skills, both through talks with local flower vendors as well as discussion with my school's administration. Even simple skills, such as the ability to write formal emails and call businesses on the phone, were unfamiliar to me before this experience. Beyond these fundamental abilities, I learned even greater lessons, like the importance of assertiveness, as well as the value of being an educated consumer and advocating for my needs. After all, while I may disbelieve in many of the quintessential high school stereotypes, plenty of adults do not. When I was talked down to, I had to know how to appropriately persevere. Yet for every negative encounter I faced, there were far more adults there to respect me, no matter my age. The flower business I ultimately chose not only priced their flowers almost a dollar less per stem than their competitors, but also treated me as an equal, both on the phone and throughout in-person consultations.

To be a high school class officer, or to even just hold any position of power for that matter, is not an easy task. There are innumerable responsibilities and lessons to come from the experience, and along the way, it is easy to forget the purpose of this position. Yet when one does take a moment to step back and think of all they gained along the way, they will realize that even beyond serving their peers, the most rewarding part of holding office is to see their own personal growth. After all, I would not say that Student Council is for those who are looking to better their community. The position of class officer is meant for those ready to jump headfirst into a world of mature responsibilities and experience the reckonings that must come with them. I can confidently say that from this position, I am equipped with a greater work ethic, along with stronger communication and leadership skills. This is what I believe it means to be a high school class officer.

Black Lives Matter Banner Revealing at UU Church

Shelby Casimir, Senior
Reporter

On Sunday, May 6, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Marblehead revealed their Black Lives Matter banner in front of the masses. Men, women, young and old came to participate in the celebration that was filled with peace, love, and prosperity. The highlight was a beautiful hymn sung in times when racial inequality rings high. The revealing ceremony brought forth speakers such as Unitarian Universalist Church's own Reverend Dr. Wendy von Courter, Cheryl Boots, and Nikki Moore, who are also a part of the Marblehead Racial Justice Team. Other speakers also included Fawaz Abusharkh, a local Salem community and North Shore Islamic leader, Reverend Ross Johnson of the St. Stephen's Methodist Church in Marblehead, and Reverend Andre Bennett of Zion Baptist Church in Lynn.

The ceremony was filled with personal stories that encouraged us, but also showed the sad realities and history of marginalized groups in the United States. Before the banner was revealed, everyone held hands to display our connection to the fight in the community and beyond. The banner was revealed with praise, contentment, and celebration. The audience sang songs that paid homage to the Civil Rights movement of the 50s and 60s.

The peaceful event was later followed by an activist and poet from Illinois, Chris Sims, who facilitated a meeting inside the church after asking local residents how it felt for the banner to be hung. A lot of encouraging words were offered.

One Marblehead resident shared, "It feels fabulous because we're standing up for what we believe and we're putting it out there for everybody to see." There were some cautious people who expressed worry, inquiring how the town would react. One resident said, "It's going to generate some pushback in this town." The event was mixed with poetry and music from Marshunda Smith, a cellist, teacher, and conductor from Wenham. The revealing of the banner and the community event afterwards was a milestone that displayed the togetherness of community.



Newton North Dominates the Field against the Boys in White

Kate Lothrop, Senior
Reporter

While the Boys in White are ranked number five and have only lost twice, Newton North was on their A game last Saturday, May 12th. Marblehead Lacrosse lost with a great effort of 8-14. The Boys in White held up their own for the most part in offensive strategy, but the game resulted sadly in a defeat.

Come support the Boys in White Thursday, May 24th, @ 6 pm against St. John's Prep @ Piper Field!



Marblehead fighting for control of the ball.



Marblehead shoves back for control over Newton North.



Coach Wilkins calls a team meeting during halftime.



#22 Sam Cioffi looking for an opening to score while blocking off Newton North.

Headlight Staff 2017-2018

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