

Track or Treat Provides PHS Clubs Chance to Perform Community Outreach

By Michael Castro

Many PHS clubs, as well as other student groups, gathered before Halloween to give little ones a chance to have fun in a safe environment. Kids were able to get treats for their Halloween baskets and a make-shift pumpkin patch was created to give families a chance to make a special day for

their kids. Various PHS clubs participated in this fun event, and all the students had a great time giving back to the community.

One PHS student was heard saying, "I just love that we have the chance to do this. The kids are so cute in their costumes." This sentiment was repeated by many who were having fun and interacting with kids

from around the community.

PHS students dressed in their best Halloween costumes as well. Members of the PHS Marching Band were there to provide a fun soundtrack to the event as well.

Not to be left out, PHS student athlete scholars were also present to help interact with the community and give back to future

generations of kids that will go to PHS in the coming years.

Looking at the photos included here, the joy that kids and their families shared is obvious. What is not as obvious is that the students from PHS had just as much fun. This is a great event that should be repeated next year. Good job everyone!



Woody enjoys getting his candy basket filled at Track or Treat day.



In addition to giving out candy, a pumpkin patch was created for the perfect Jack-o-lantern.



Marching Band members pause from fighting crime in Gotham and (taking a nap as Groggu?) to entertain the kids.



Bet no one has ever seen a baseball-playing T-Rex.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL CASTRO

Election Day 2022: Focus on Local election – 9th Congressional District

By Matthew Brocato

November 8th, 2022 is election day for midterm elections. All of the House of Representatives will be facing re-election this year and many in the Senate too. This year in New Jersey, there is no senate race or governor race, but there is a race for New Jersey's 9th congressional district, which is our district. The two candidates for the district are incumbent U.S. Representative Bill Pascrell (Democrat), versus U.S. Air Force veteran Billy Prempeh (Republican). This race is for the U.S. House of Representatives and there is a chance that this Democrat led body may change to Republican through 2024.

Bill Pascrell – Democrat

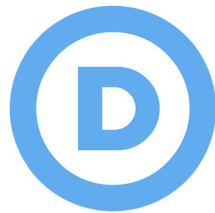
Bill Pascrell was born on January 25th, 1937 in Paterson, New Jersey. He is currently 85 years old, and has been serving in the U.S. House of Representatives for New Jersey's 9th District since 1997. He previously served as Mayor of Paterson from 1990

to 1997. He is a member of the Democratic Party, and has an Italian background.

After graduating high school in 1955, he enlisted in the United States Army Reserves, serving from 1955 to 1967, achieving the rank of a Sergeant (E-5). Pascrell attended Fordham University in Bronx, New York. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in journalism, and then a master of arts degree in philosophy. After college, Pascrell became a psychology high school teacher in Paramus, New Jersey. Then, he became a college professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He decided to run



Congressman Bill Pascrell (NJ-9th District)



for congress in 1996, when Democrat President Bill Clinton was running for re-election against Republican Senator Bob Dole. Pascrell won the seat in a landslide, and has been serving in the same district since.

He is running for re-election this year for his thirteenth term as congressman from this district. According to current polls, he is expected to win but anything can happen on Election Day. Pascrell is regarded as liberal who has focused on issues such as abortion rights, affirmative action, wealth inequality, climate change, and access to healthcare. He claims Republicans only care about helping the wealthy, and vetoing any bill President Joe Biden is trying to pass to help minorities in the country.

Billy Prempeh - Republican

Prempeh was also born in Paterson, New Jersey in 1991. He is a 31-year-old businessman and works in marketing and sales. He is a member of the Republican Party, and is a big advocate for term limits in Congress. Term limits means that a member of Congress can only serve for a certain number of terms before he must leave, giving someone else a chance.

After graduating high school in 2009, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and served from 2009 and was discharged in 2011. He earned an associates of arts degree during his service in the military.

Prempeh has advocated for term limits for the Congress because he believes no one regardless of party should be in power for unlimited time because according to

him "That is not a democracy".

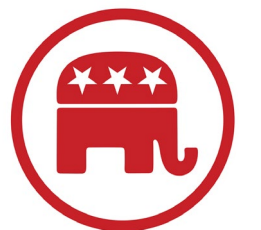
He has specifically addressed issues such as banning abortion for late-term cases, and addressing the massive crime spikes in Paterson. He ran his campaign on making New Jersey's 9th district stop relying on the state of New Jersey, or the federal government for help because it does more harm than good.

He decided to run as a Republican because he strongly disagrees with the policies of Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer, and the rest of the Democratic Party. He considers their platform to be a combination of reckless spending and big government. He claims that the Democratic Party is still the party of racism, and hate. Prempeh states that Pascrell has done nothing for people of color, and only cares about getting wealthier and having more power.

On Election Day the only thing that really matters is how many people go to the polls to make their voices heard. There is a clear choice this year for this Congressional District. Hopefully a wise decision will be made.



Congressional Candidate Billy Prempeh



Z's Quote Corner

"Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some."

– Charles Dickens





PHOTO BY YUELISY VILLANUEVA

Jency Valdez Contrera dominates on the gridiron, as well as being a role model and friend to those in the PHS community.

Hilltop Student Scholar Athlete of the Month (November 2022)

By Sheila Inoa and Yuelisy Villanueva

Congratulations to Jency Valdez Contrera, a senior, wide receiver and cornerback, for being an essential part of the Passaic Football Team, as well as a great member of the Passaic community. He has been an active leader in both school and the community for about four years now. He started playing football during his freshman year at 14 years old.

By working hard and practicing his skills developed quickly. Contrera began playing his freshman year as tight end and guard, wearing the number 9 on his jersey. As time passed Jency showed his strength more as a wide receiver cornerback and safety. Eventually, his career as number 9 ended and his commitment to the number 2 began.

As the team grew stronger together, their bond became tighter. Jency's commitment to his team not only set an example for

the next generation but also made his family proud.

Playing a sport while juggling school takes not only hard work but also loads of dedication. In school, Contrera is a very outgoing student, constantly smiling and trying to brighten everyone's day. When it comes to school specifically, Contrera remains on task, by not only attending class, but also making sure he maintains good grades. By excelling both on and off the field Jency is the epitome of a student athlete.

We shall miss Jency's positive attitude and strong charisma as he departs from us and starts a new chapter, moving to Clifton. Although his journey in Passaic has ended, his presence will leave a lasting impression with those lucky enough to form a relationship with him. On behalf of PHS, we wish him the best of luck with the remainder of his journey. Number 2 signing off...

Club Corner

Garden Club Beautifies PHS Entrance

By Angel Garcia

While many of the clubs at PHS strive to help people, either students at school or the community, only one uses live plants to improve the school environment. You may have noticed that there are some beautiful plants in the pots on the walkway to the main entrance by the flagpole. These were designed, planted and maintained by the PHS Gardening Club. There are also plants beautifying the courtyard.

If you have ever wanted learn how to plant, or just get your hands dirty, join the Gardening Club. It is a great way to see biology in action and you can even have a chance to use your artistic side as well. Give it a try and be a part of something that is growing.



PHOTOS BY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Guidance Suite

College Visits:

Wed. 11/2 - SUNY College
At 4:00 - Make the road FAFSA

Tues. 11/8 - Seton Hall University
Tues. 11/8 - Farleigh Dickenson University

Wed. 11/9 - Rutgers University:
New Brunswick

Tues. 11/15 - Rutgers University:
Newark

Wed. 11/16 - Caldwell University

Tues. 11/22 - Bloomfield College

Tues. 11/29 - PCCC

Wed. 11/30 - NJIT

If any of these institutions are of interest to you, then please sign up in the Guidance Office.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES FROM: NOV. 30 to DEC. 31, 2022

1) Search Is On Scholarship - \$2,000 - 1 Award (Deadline: November 30, 2022)

To be eligible for the scholarship a student must:

A) Be currently attending high school, college, vocational, or any other accredited post-secondary institution.

B) Be 13 years of age or older and a legal resident of the 50 U.S. or D.C.

Applications can be found by going to: <https://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarships/36788/search-is-on-scholarship>

2) Dell Scholars Program - \$20,000 - 300 Awards (Deadline: December 1, 2022)

To be eligible for the scholarship a student must:

A) Be on track to graduate from an accredited high school in the current academic year.

B) Demonstrate a need for financial assistance.

Applications can be found by going to: <https://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarships/27413/dell-scholars-program>

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3) Jameela Jamil x I Weigh Scholarship - \$5,000 - 3 Awards (Deadline: December 2, 2022)

To be eligible for the scholarship a student must:

A) Be 16 years of age or older and in good academic standing.

B) Be enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States.

Applications can be found by going to: <https://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarships/36970/jameela-jamil-x-i-weigh-scholarship>

4) Stephen J. Brady Stop Hunger Scholarships - \$5,000 - 5 Awards (Deadline: December 5, 2022)

To be eligible for the scholarship a student must:

A) Be enrolled in an accredited educational institution (kindergarten through graduate school) in the US.

B) Have demonstrated on-going

commitment to their community by performing unpaid volunteer services.

Applications can be found by going to: <https://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarships/26518/stephen-j-brady-stop-hunger-scholarships>

5) Science Ambassador Scholarship - \$40,000 - 1 Award (Deadline: December 13, 2022)

To be eligible for the scholarship a student must:

A) Be a high school senior or an undergraduate student.

B) Attend a school in the United States in the Fall of 2022.

Applications can be found by going to: <https://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarships/32337/science-ambassador-scholarship>