

The Suds hosts drama fundraiser

By Deiana Forde
copy editor

The smell of fries, onion rings and burgers filled the air as the Thespians hosted and performed at their new karaoke fundraiser at The Suds.

"I helped to organize the event, and since I work there, I MCed the whole thing," sophomore Mya Lindsay Luther said.

Luther is on Thespians council, and she explained the process of setting up the event, which raised \$200 for the theater program.

"I asked my boss if we could do it. Then, I got Ms. Hayes in contact with my boss, and they both agreed and got it set up. The process wasn't really difficult because we had help from the GHS Student Council with getting a sound system, and it was nice and easy to work with," Luther said.

Although Luther was a significant part of setting up this event, Ms. Amy Hayes, director, worked behind the scenes.

"I organized the fundraiser. I set up the contact with The Suds through Mya, so she was my main contact. We sat down and hashed out a date that would be good for everybody. I also put together the karaoke program and all the music that dealt with the sound system. So I essentially did a little bit of everything for this fundraiser," Ms. Hayes said.

Since this was the Thespian's first time hosting a Karaoke event, she was happy with the turn out.



Sophomore Trevor Capien performs on stage at The Suds. Capien sang "Tequila" by The Champs. Audree Ferguson photo



Junior Jordan Gummerman and junior Gavin Phillips watch students perform. Gummerman and Phillips supported the Thespians by attending. Audree Ferguson photo

"I had pretty much no expectations because this is the first time we ever did it, so I was pretty pleased with our turnout. We had quite a bit of kids show up, and the program has grown so much that it was only a small fraction of the students we have in the theater program now. The students said they had an amazing time. So, I think it will be a really big crowd pleaser next year, once everybody knows more about it," Ms. Hayes said.

One of the students who attended the event, sophomore Olivia Rockey, shared her experience.

"I enjoyed the event. It was a lot of fun. I didn't sing even though I wanted to. My friend didn't want to go up there with me so I got scared to go by myself. But, my favorite part was probably watching the other people perform. It was really silly and funny, and I really enjoyed it," Rockey said.

Another attendee, senior Eva Dean, is heavily involved in theater, so she was excited for this fundraiser.

"I enjoyed going to the karaoke fundraiser because I love singing in front of crowds and hearing other people sing, so it was a really fun experience. I went with my dad, and he really enjoyed it, and I know all of my friends that were there enjoyed it, so we really hope to get to do it again sometime," Dean said.

She shared how the fundraiser may help the theater department.

"The money from this fundraiser will help fund our student-led productions and our regular productions because we are really in need of some money," Dean said.

The theater program thanks everyone for attending.

"Every little bit of this helps, not only with raising funds but with exposure and bringing people to our program because one of the things I am really proud of is this program and how incredibly strong we are talent and production-wise," Ms. Hayes said.

Blood drive collects 31 units

By Norah Wallischeck
news editor

Donate blood to save a life.

Blood is vital when it comes to saving a person's life. In case of any medical emergencies, it is crucial to have blood on hospital shelves. It is essential to fulfill the need for blood in hospitals, especially since the need will always be there.

"It is lifesaving. I think that if there was no blood to receive, well you cannot just manufacture blood. It is something that is vital for people that are going to have surgery, or had a GI bleed, and just so many different things," Mrs. Libby Cruzan, nurse, said.

To help provide for this need, the Service Club partnered with Versiti to organize a blood drive on Sep 10. Service Club set a goal of encouraging as many people as possible to donate to collect 30 units of blood.

"Our ultimate goal would be to fill every single spot we have. If not, then just reaching our goal number of units collected. 30 units is our goal, and I hope that in the end we collect that," Mrs. Lisa Laug said.

To achieve this goal, Service Club devoted their time to promoting the blood drive.

"Service Club has been having meetings every week to prepare for it. We have been asking for volunteers who run the blood drive, and we have also been challenging every member of our club to get at least two people to sign up for the blood drive. We have been handing out flyers, hanging them up on the wall, and making sure people have been filling out their parent permission slip," senior Valeria Moreno, club vice president, said.

Service Club's efforts made a difference for many people in need of blood. There is a constant shortage of blood, so all donations are welcomed.

"I absolutely encourage people to donate. It is something that I would encourage everyone who fits the criteria to try. It does not work out for everybody. Some have puny veins, and some people do not weigh enough, and their blood pressure. There are different factors, but I think you might be surprised if you were to donate and see that it really does not take that long. They give you all kinds of yummy snacks, so sometimes people are afraid they are going to pass out, and some people do, but they take all the precautions to make sure that does not happen," Mrs. Cruzan said.

The blood donation process can seem intimidating, but well-trained people help to make it easier.

"Nurses are super friendly. Do not be afraid. I am afraid of needles, I just look away, and they do a great job, I felt hardly anything," Ms. Kate Keller, community member, said.

Students, faculty members, and community members were all encouraged to donate.

"I wanted to support the high school with this blood drive. Obviously, it is a positive thing because there is a shortage of blood, so I wanted to help out. I have donated before, but it has been quite a while, so I was glad I could help today," Ms. Keller said.

All the blood donated will help someone who is in need in the Indianapolis area.

"It goes to a bunch of hospitals in Indianapolis, but we know that it is going to help a bunch of people, which is obviously the goal," Moreno said.

The Service Club achieved and exceeded their goal by collecting 31 units of blood and had almost 40 people signed up to donate. Donating blood is selfless and lifesaving, so everyone should give it a try.

"There is always going to be a need for it, and so I think that is why it is really important to donate because you never know, a family member or someone you know could need it. It is a very selfless thing that you could do that costs nothing but is lifesaving for someone else," Mrs. Cruzan said.



Senior Waveland Goodrich donates blood during the Service Club blood drive. Service Club exceeded their goal of 30 units by collecting 31 although nine additional people tried to donate but did not meet the criteria. Damien Hoagland photo

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