

February 27, 2024

# Travell eNews

In this Issue (scroll through):

**DON'T  
MISS OUT**



## **LAST CHANCE - Travell Auction Ticket Sales End Today - TUESDAY 2/27**

- Reading Marathon Week 6
- Reading Marathon Bookmark Contest
- **Science Fair 3/1** - see flyer for drop off & visit info
- **International Expo Info** - 3/15
- Travell DEI Committee **21 Day Challenge**
- Green Team Presents: **Sports Equipment Swap**
  - Swap Dates & Info
  - Volunteers Needed!
- **CSA Sign Up** (w/Stokes Farm)
- **Yankees Tickets** - Sale Ends March 8 (4/7 Game)
- **SEPAG Information**
  - SEPAG Coffee Chat, Feb 27, 7:30pm
  - Sensory-Friendly Dinner, Feb 27, Puzo's



**Ticket Sales Close 2/27**

PLEASE JOIN  
TRAVELL HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
FOR

*An Elegant Whimsical  
Evening...  
The Terrace  
at Biaggio's*

MARCH 9, 2024

7:30-11:30PM, BIAGGIO'S

\$125 PER TICKET (AS OF FEB 1)

*Buy Your Tickets Here*

# FAQ

## What is the Travell HSA Auction?

The Travell HSA Auction is a biennial fundraising event hosted by the HSA with a goal of raising funds to support Travell Elementary School. The funds raised from this event help pay for a multitude of programs and enrichment activities such as assemblies, field trips including buses, One School One Book, the 5th Grade Circus and Mayfair just to name a few. Funds raised through the HSA also go towards improving the overall experience for Travell students and faculty and staff.

## That's great, but really...what is it?

It's a fun night out with friends and a chance to meet some other parents who live in the community. It's also an excuse to get dressed up and have a night out...including a sit down dinner and plenty of dancing. Oh, and also an auction!

## What kind of auction?

The auction will have a few components. There will be a live auction (you get to shout out bids), a silent auction (no shouting, unless you win), a tricky tray (you can shout if you want to) and a 50/50 raffle (you can half shout).

## What kind of stuff is being auctioned off?

LOTS of stuff! The auction committee has worked tirelessly to secure hundreds of donations of goods and services from local businesses all around the area. Some of the items up for auction include sports tickets and merchandise, golf lessons, Spa gift certificates, overnight stays, teacher experiences and much much more!!!

## I might have something to donate, could I make a donation?

YES! The more items up for auction the more fun the auction is. If you have a good or service you'd like to donate, please reach out to [Travellhsaauction@gmail.com](mailto:Travellhsaauction@gmail.com).

## Is there a theme and dress code?

The theme for the evening is "Elegant and Whimsical" so please dress elegant and whimsical. Or at least somewhat elegant and whimsical...Maybe just somewhat elegant?

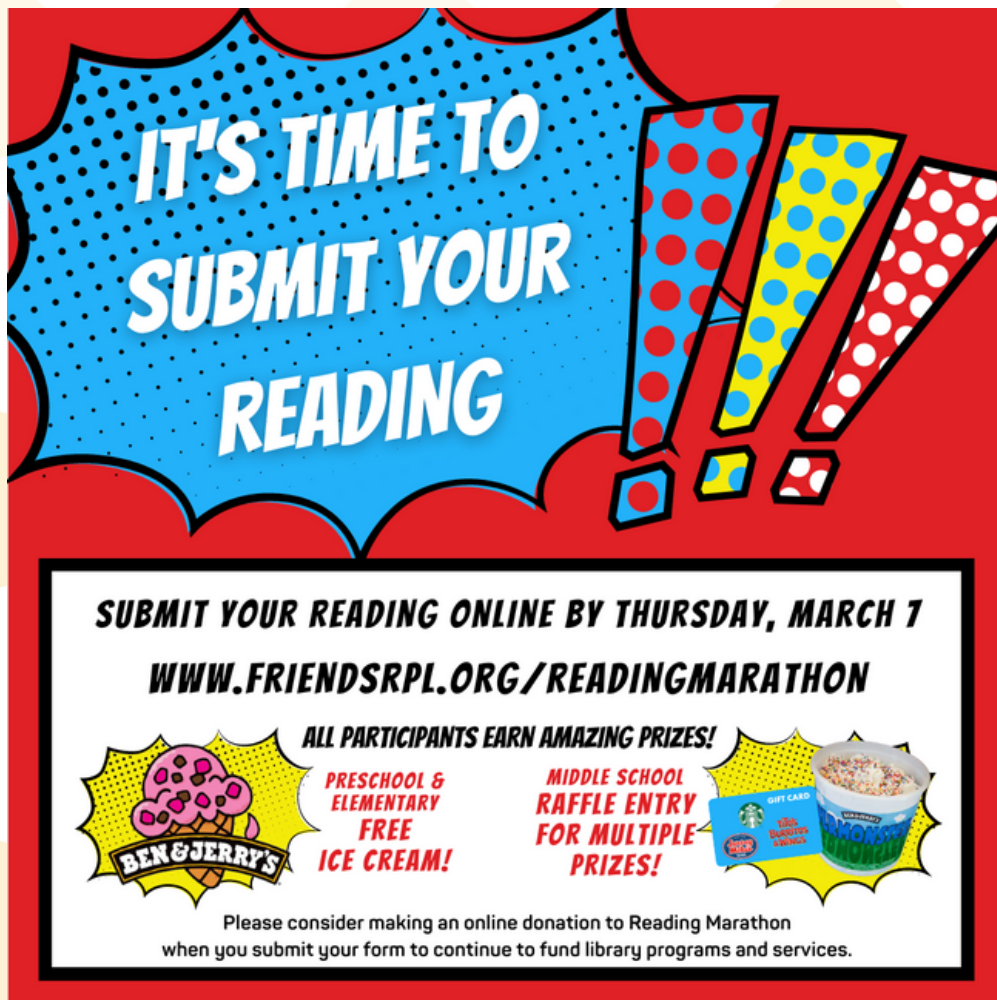
## What if I have more questions?

Any further questions feel free to reach out to the auction committee at [Travellhsaauction@gmail.com](mailto:Travellhsaauction@gmail.com). And be sure to check Groupspot and eNews for further updates on the auction as well as all things Travell.

# Reading Marathon Week 6

You've tracked for Reading Marathon all month long and now it's time to **SUBMIT YOUR READING!** Parents can submit reading online at [www.friendsrpl.org/readingmarathon](http://www.friendsrpl.org/readingmarathon) by Thursday, March 7 to earn a free Ben & Jerry's ice cream. Please be sure to submit one form per child so that each child receives a coupon.


Donations to Reading Marathon can be made online when you submit your form & each donation of \$25 will receive a personalized bookplate in a new Ridgewood Public Library book. While donations are not necessary to participate, they are very much appreciated and help to fund programs such as story times, author visits, cooking classes, book clubs, free museum passes and much more.




**IT'S TIME TO  
SUBMIT YOUR  
READING**

**SUBMIT YOUR READING ONLINE BY THURSDAY, MARCH 7**  
**[WWW.FRIENDSRPL.ORG/READINGMARATHON](http://WWW.FRIENDSRPL.ORG/READINGMARATHON)**

**ALL PARTICIPANTS EARN AMAZING PRIZES!**

**PRESCHOOL & ELEMENTARY  
FREE  
ICE CREAM!** 

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
RAFFLE ENTRY  
FOR MULTIPLE  
PRIZES!** 

Please consider making an online donation to Reading Marathon when you submit your form to continue to fund library programs and services.





**PROJECT DROPOFF  
AT THE GYM AT TRAVELL:  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29 • 4:30 – 6PM**

**ALL CLASSES AT TRAVELL WILL VIEW PROJECTS  
DURING THE DAY ON FRIDAY, MARCH 1.**

**FAMILY VISITS  
FRIDAY, MARCH 1 • 6:15 – 8:00PM**

**GRADES K-2 FROM 6:15 – 7:00PM  
GRADES 3-5 FROM 7:15 – 8:00PM**

# 2024 Reading Marathon Fundraiser

## Travell's Bookmark Contest



February's Reading Marathon is underway. Please decorate the bookmark below in the theme of a book that you have enjoyed reading during the Marathon. One bookmark per grade will be selected and the artist will receive a **prize!**

Please return your bookmarks to school by **Friday, March 8th**. Reading Marathon information can be found at <https://www.friendsrpl.org/readingmarathon>

If you have any questions regarding the Reading Marathon or the Bookmark Contest, please do not hesitate to contact [Becky Schaeffer, beckylschaeffer@gmail.com](mailto:beckylschaeffer@gmail.com)

*Bookmark Activity is sponsored by the Travell HSA. All prizes have been donated. Contest participants **MUST** be registered for the Reading Marathon.*

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*Name:*

*Classroom:*

*Book Title:*



**COME JOIN US IN  
CELEBRATING DIVERSE  
CULTURES!**



**INTERNATIONAL  
EXPO**

**FRIDAY MARCH 15, 2024**

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM**

**6PM PARADE OF NATIONS & LIVE  
PERFORMANCES**

**7PM INTERNATIONAL SNACK BAR**

**ADVOCATING, PROMOTING AND CELEBRATING DIVERSE CULTURES**

**TRAVELL.INTL.EXPO@GMAIL.COM**

# TRAVELL DEI COMMITTEE



Travell's DEI Committee welcomes you to join our

## **21 Day Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Challenge**

Our goal is to take a few moments every day to learn about how DEI impacts us, our children, our families, our community, our workplaces, and the world.

The everyday activity is your own, and once a week we will come together to share what we've found.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/4bgLHQB> and we will contact you with the schedule and resources.

Have a question? Reach out to Deb Lee [DebLee@gmail.com](mailto:DebLee@gmail.com) or Deirdre Byrne [Deirdre.byrne@gmail.com](mailto:Deirdre.byrne@gmail.com).



Join all 6 Elementary Green Teams  
in reducing waste and consumption with our



# 1st Annual Ridgewood SPORTS EQUIPMENT SWAP

**DROP:** SATURDAY 3/9 **SHOP:** SUNDAY 3/10

(You'll receive a ticket to shop early on Sunday)

Donate your gently used  
sports equipment:

Dropoff: **9am-12pm**

 Hawes Elementary  
531 Stevens Avenue

For alternate drop-off arrangements  
or questions, email  
[rwsportsequipmentswap@gmail.com](mailto:rwsportsequipmentswap@gmail.com)

Shop our inventory  
at **NO COST:**

Priority shopping for ticketholders:  
**10am-11am**

Open to public:  
**11am-2pm**

 Hawes Elementary  
531 Stevens Avenue



# 1st Annual Ridgewood SPORTS EQUIPMENT SWAP



## DONATION DETAILS

### ITEMS WE ARE COLLECTING:

Clean and gently used gear for kids grades K-12

Football: Pads, helmets, footballs

Soccer: Cleats, shin guards, soccer balls

Cheer: Cheer sneakers, uniforms, pom poms

Dance/Gymnastics:

Leotards, dance shoes  
(tap, jazz, ballet, hip hop)

Hockey: Pads, skates, helmets, hockey sticks, pucks, gloves

Lacrosse: Pads, helmet, sticks, goggles, lacrosse balls

Baseball/Softball: Bats, mitts, tees, baseballs/softballs

Volleyball: Knee pads, volleyballs

Skiing: Skis, helmets, goggles, ski pants, snowboards, boots, bindings

Other: Racquets, skateboards, ice skates, helmets, basketballs, equipment bags,  
golf clubs, goggles and fins, wrist guards, knee guards, rock climbing shoes,  
fishing gear, jump ropes, yoga mats

### ITEMS WE WILL NOT ACCEPT:

Any items that are well-used,  
dance recital costumes,  
uniforms and any items  
geared or sized to  
toddlers/ preschoolers.



Join all 6 Elementary Green Teams  
in reducing waste and consumption with our



**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

# SPORTS EQUIPMENT SWAP

WE NEED HELP DURING OUR SWAP:

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

TO VOLUNTEER





**Email**

travellcsa@gmail.com  
for more info

TRAVELL GREEN TEAM  
**CSA WITH  
STOKES FARM**



Feeding your family is hard, make it easier with a farm, fresh CSA box! Travell Green Team has partnered with Stokes Farm for our 3rd year to bring you delicious, local produce. Each produce box is filled to the brim with vegetables picked that day, guaranteeing immense flavor and freshness.

**22 WEEKS JUNE  
THROUGH OCTOBER**

**Sign Up**

TRAVELL HSA  
PRESENTS



# *Yankees vs. Toronto Blue Jays*

LAST DAY TO  
BUY IS  
MARCH 8

**SATURDAY, APRIL 7 - 1:00PM**

**YANKEE STADIUM  
FIELD LEVEL (SECTION 134)  
\$100 PER TICKET**

*Each ticket includes a new Yankees Backpack  
and \$15 food voucher.*

*Seats will be near our friends attending from  
Hawes and BF - the more, the merrier!*

**PURCHASE TICKETS HERE**

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT TRAVELL HSA SPONSORED ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS.**

*Please note, the RBSA opening day parade and activities are scheduled for  
Saturday, April 20, 2024.*





# Join Us for a Special Education Virtual Coffee Chat!



**February 27, 2024 at 7:30 pm**



**Learn from other parents. Share your experiences.** Navigating the special education system is far from intuitive. It is common for parents to have difficulty advocating for their children when they “don’t know what they should know.”

Join other parents on Google Meet for an informal Q&A and discussion moderated by Meghann Bierly, the Ridgewood SEPAG’s VP-Education and Engagement.

Join on Google Meet  
[meet.google.com/kpq-hsrq-mab](https://meet.google.com/kpq-hsrq-mab)



**Ridgewood SEPAG**

[www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org](http://www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org) • [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org)

# Sensory-Friendly Dinner

## Puzo's Family Restaurant

16 West Ridgewood Avenue, Ridgewood

Please visit [RidgewoodSEPAG.org](http://RidgewoodSEPAG.org) for FAQs about our dining events and a social story about eating out, created by STEPSS students!



### DATE

Tues, February 27, 2024



### ARRIVAL WINDOW

5:00pm to 7:00pm

*Reduced noise and lighting ♦ Understanding wait staff ♦ Expedited service  
Table activities for kids ♦ Contributions from STEPSS students ♦ And more!*

Registration required:

<https://Feb24SEPAGDinner.eventbrite.com>



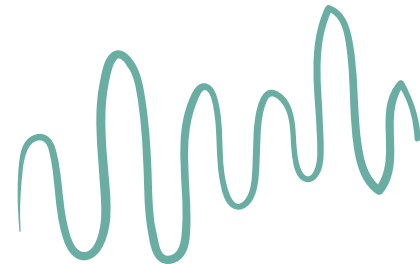
**RIDGEWOOD  
SEPAG**  
SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY GROUP

**Ridgewood SEPAG**

[www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org](http://www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org) • [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org)

# FAQ

## for Ridgewood SEPAG Sensory-Friendly Dinners



### ✓ What is a Ridgewood SEPAG sensory-friendly dinner?

A sensory-friendly dinner is a time for families and friends to eat out at a local restaurant. Consider this your typical dining experience, except that special care has been taken to provide a lower-sensory atmosphere, such as turning down or off overhead music, as well as a judgment-free experience, including dining with families who have similar support needs and being served by staff who are prepared ahead of time on the general needs of our community. Food and checks are expedited, and our Ridgewood STEPSS students (ages 18-21 years) often provide activities to keep kids entertained during brief waiting periods. Although we can't guarantee 100% satisfaction, we do hope these thoughtful adjustments help you have a great experience out with your loved ones.

### ✓ Why is the Ridgewood SEPAG doing this for our community?

The Ridgewood SEPAG, in conjunction with Ridgewood Village Council and support from Access Ridgewood members, are providing this much needed service because we all need to feel seen and included. Many families never take what they see as a risk to eat out, either because they worry about their child's unpredictable behavior at a restaurant or because they've tried in the past but had a negative experience for any number of reasons. Our goal is for you to release yourself and your family of the pressure, help you access a delicious meal at a local restaurant, and be exactly who you are: a valued member of our diverse and powerful community.

### ✓ If my child is struggling (e.g., not staying in their seat/at the table, not keeping noise levels down), do I need to leave?

You may of course pick up your check and excuse yourself anytime. However, we hope that you trust you're in a safe space among families who understand the difference between disrespect and impulses.

### ✓ Do I need to make a reservation with the restaurant to attend?

No. However, you should reserve a spot on the Ridgewood SEPAG Eventbrite for the particular dinner so that the restaurant can anticipate how many families to expect throughout our designated window. Once the event has been arranged by the Ridgewood SEPAG with the restaurant, we will distribute a flyer that includes the restaurant name and address, timeframe, and a link/QR code to the Eventbrite reservation site.

### ✓ How much do I pay?

There is no fee to RSVP for the event, and pPayment is made at the end of your meal in a typical restaurant-patron transaction. You simply pay for what you eat!

### ✓ Is there a way to stay informed about upcoming sensory-friendly dinners?

The Ridgewood SEPAG's goal is to host one sensory-friendly dinner per month during the school year, and perhaps during the summer as well. All families on the Ridgewood SEPAG email list (i.e., families whose Ridgewood students receive services under an IEP or 504 Plan) will receive notifications about the dinners through emails and the Ridgewood SEPAG monthly newsletter. Others may "follow" the Ridgewood SEPAG on Eventbrite, to be alerted about upcoming dinners.

### ✓ Where can I submit feedback?

We are eager to hear all feedback that families have about our sensory-friendly dinners. If your family's needs were not adequately met by the set-up of the event, we would love to hear from you so we can make our future dinners more accommodating for your family and others. Also, if there were aspects of the event that worked well for your family, we'd like to hear about that, too, so we can continue those accommodations. Any and all thoughts are welcome and can be shared by emailing us at [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org).



**Ridgewood SEPAG**

*Formerly the Learning Services Home & School Association*

[www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org](http://www.RidgewoodSEPAG.org) • [contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org](mailto:contact@RidgewoodSEPAG.org)

Updated January 2024

yearbook

**SUBMIT PHOTOS  
FOR THE 2023-2024  
YEARBOOK!**

*First Day of School, Back to School BBQ...  
let's make memories!*

[Travellyearbookphotos@gmail.com](mailto:Travellyearbookphotos@gmail.com)







**Be sure to check the GroupSpot calendar feed for important dates such as General HSA meetings, no-school-days, deadlines, etc.**