

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION • KEEPING YOU INFORMED

The Grand Island Central School District BRIDGE

www.k12.ginet.org

The Community Newsletter for the Grand Island Central School District

Congratulations to the Class of 2013!



*'Goodbyes are not forever.
Goodbyes are not the end.
They simply mean I'll miss you,
until we meet again!'
- Author Unknown*

"Photos compliments of Mark Gorton"

July 2013

Please Note: Back to School Start Date

The 2013-2014 school year will start for students on Monday, September 9. The first day of school is later than in previous years due to the Capital Project construction that will begin over the summer break.

Capital Project Update

The District recently received the official building permit from the State Education Department allowing us to proceed with the capital project construction. The Board approved the contract award at their July 1 meeting and we anticipate the construction schedule to begin July 24.

This summer, two construction site staging areas will be set up. One will be located in the rear of the high school/middle school complex and the other in the front of the complex. For security purposes, temporary fencing and site lighting will be installed for the duration of the project.

The first focus will be on the addition of the technology wing on to the front of the high school. During the summer the frame will be excavated and concrete foundations will be poured.

Inside the complex, contractors will be preparing phasing walls and will begin demolition in select areas.

Up-to-date information can be found on the website. Please feel free to call 773-8801 with questions.

A Message from your Superintendent

Thirteen days into starting as your school superintendent, I had the great fortune of presiding over the graduation ceremony of the 2013 senior class. Families, friends and faculty of the 2013 class assembled at Artpark to witness the satisfaction graduates experienced from their accomplishments as well as to feel the excitement they exuded for what is to come. The graduates of the class of 2013 will proudly represent the Grand Island community in every branch of the military, in the workforce and at universities across the nation. We wish them the very best of success and welcome the opportunity to hear of their continued progress in reaching their goals and dreams.

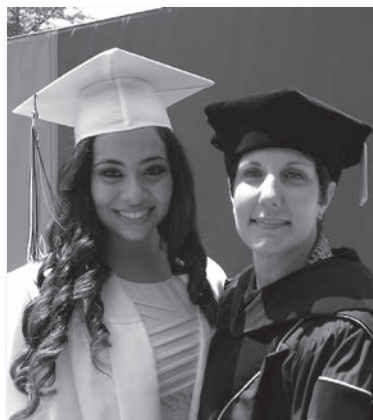
As your new superintendent, I extend to you an invitation to spend some time with me this summer to share your perspective on the school system and the community at large. I may be reached either by phone 773-8801 or email teresalawrence@k12.ginet.org to arrange a meeting time or to answer any questions you may have at any time about the District.

I look forward to working together in partnership to strengthen the educational program for which the Grand Island Central School District is known; a program that strives to foster academic excellence, personal growth, and social responsibility in our students.

As a reminder, school begins for all students on September 9, 2013.

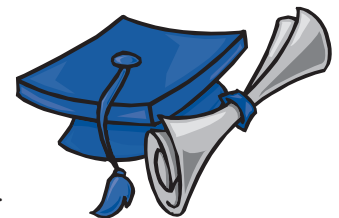
I wish you an enjoyable summer!

Teresa Lawrence, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools



New Beginnings *Commencement Day - June 23, 2013*

Class of 2013 graduate Ammany (Amy) Samir Abdellatif prepares for her future with diploma in hand - the first diploma Dr. Lawrence signed as Grand Island's new superintendent!



Fall Community Education Classes

Look for the Fall Community Education Brochure in the Back to School Edition of the Bridge! Registration information and class details will also be posted mid-August on the website at www.k12.ginet.org - departments & services - community education.



Board of Education Candidates Selected

At the May 2013 District Budget Vote/Election, the Grand Island community elected Lisa Pyc as an incoming Board of Education member. Incumbents Donna Tomkins and Paul Krull were also elected to serve additional terms.

At the July 1 Board of Education reorganization meeting, board members elected Tak Nobumoto to serve as President and Paul Krull to serve as Vice President for the 2013-2014 school year.



Lisa Pyc



Donna Tomkins



Paul Krull

*The next regular Board of Education Meeting
will be held on August 12, 2013.
See website for complete meeting information.*

New High School Principal

The Grand Island school community welcomes Dan Quartley as the new high school principal. Quartley was appointed by the school board at the June 27 meeting and will officially start on July 25. He comes to the high school with over 10 years of school building leadership experience. If you get the chance this summer, please make it a point to stop in the high school and welcome Mr. Quartley to GI!



A Message From Your Board of Education

It's hard to believe that another school year has come and gone. There have been so many changes in the Grand Island School District this year. The Board of Education (BOE) would like to thank Robert Christmann for his six years as superintendent of GI. He has helped grow and improve this district in so many ways. We would also like to say thank you to Paul Hashem for serving as interim superintendent. His hard work and support from his wife Deb helped make Grand Island a better place. Robert and Paul you both will be missed, thank you.

We would like to welcome Dr. Teresa Lawrence to Grand Island as the new superintendent. Teresa comes to GI from the Clarence Central School District. She brings with her a great wealth of knowledge and experience. We know she will lead this district to a rewarding future. Welcome, Teresa!

Thank you goes out to former high school principal Sandy Anzalone who was named superintendent of the Eden School District. We wish her success and best of luck in her new career. Dr. James Dempsey, thank you for returning to the high school and serving as our interim principal. We wish you well when your return to retirement. Three hundred and thirty years of service, that is what the GI retirees have in combined service! Thank you to all of you for your service to the Grand Island district. To our newly tenured staff members, welcome to the Grand Island family. Your hard work and dedication has paid off and we know you will continue to be an asset to this district.

The BOE would also like to thank Dave Goris, former trustee and president. Thank you Dave for nine years of hard work and dedication to the GI district. To the residents of Grand Island, thank you for supporting the 2013-14 school budget. Very shortly we will begin our capital project. Our schools will be under construction for the next three years forever changing the looks of our district. When the project is finished we will have added much needed space, renovated areas in need and have built an environment that much better prepares our students for the future.

To the class of 2013, for all of your hard work and dedication, the future holds so many rewards for you. Set high goals for yourself, reach for the stars and remember the Viking Values. You will be missed here on GI. You may be gone but you will never be forgotten. We wish each and every one of you the best of luck and congratulations. We look forward to you being our future leaders.

Paul Krull - Acting Board of Education President, June 2013



Free at Last

A concerned neighbor taking an early morning walk on the high school track called the school to report a large bird stuck in a fence near the football field. Ron Rose, head custodian, and Tom Rachow, building and grounds supervisor, headed to the area behind the home bleachers where nets are positioned to keep soccer balls from being kicked on the track. There they found a large bird, believed to be a great horned owl, that somehow had become tangled up in the net. With some help from high school teacher Daneen Gallagher, they cut the net with scissors and freed the bird. He appeared not to be hurt but he did not fly away (probably so exhausted from his ordeal.) The three rescuers left the bird alone resting and when they checked back after 30 minutes, he was gone!

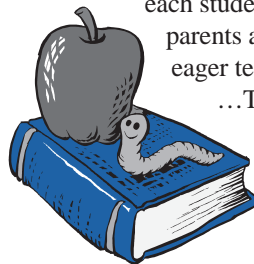
Tenure Granted

Congratulations to the following individuals who were appointed tenure during the 2012-2013 school year.

Angela Amato
Matthew Ells
Meredith Eppers
Christina Kensy
Kerri Nowak
Freda Orosz
Eleanor Payne
Christina Podlucky
Stephanie Pritchard
Eve Terhune
Sara Silvestri

A Good Apple

Mrs. Carrie Mesmer of the transportation department was honored with the Good Apple Award by the Gamma Delta Chapter of DKG on May 23. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honorary society of women educators who promote professional and personal growth of its members and excellence in education. The Good Apple Award is given annually to a non-teacher who is dedicated to students and learning. Mesmer was nominated by Mary Jane Fonte, FACS teacher at Veronica E. Connor Middle School. Fonte's nominating speech stated, "It didn't take long for 'Miss Carrie' to stand out as someone who has the patience to work with our special needs population. She treats



each student with dignity and respect, forming a lifeline between the anxious parents at home leaving their child in others' hands at loading time, and the eager teachers at school who work hard to increase independence and maturity. ...To say that Carrie Mesmer is a 'Good Apple' is an understatement."

Mesmer says, "I love working with my students on the bus and my goal everyday is to start them off on a good foot so that they can learn from dedicated teachers. I wish I could do more at times; often, I see the difficult things my students face."



JFK Break Camp

About 40 students had plenty of fun during the April Break as they participated in the Just for Kids "Explore and More" Break Camp session. New experiences and hobby choices, including App-Tastic, Make-It Take-It, and Culinary Kids were offered. Kids learned lots about jewelry making from Mr. Harris, a local entrepreneur who designs his own.



The week-long session was a perfect warm up for this Summer, when Huth Elementary will host Just for Kids for 10 weekly camp sessions through August 30. Visit justforkidsonline.org for more information.

Congratulations Retirees

Thank you for your years of service!

Anna Agnello (1993)
Marilyn Alaimo (1996)
Charlene Burchfield (1993)
Robert Christmann (2007)
Carolyn Furman (1986)

Billy Jean Harper (1979)
Irene Hubler (1985)
Bonnie Kaiser (1987)
Patricia Myers (1978)
Mary Reisdorf (1996)

Caroline Ungaro (1986)
Susan Waters (1995)
Gerald Weeks (2002)
Janice Zaborowski (1986)

Learning to Read Celebration

Mrs. White's pre-kindergarten class and Mrs. Taylor's kindergarten class met every Friday for the second half of the school year. Students from each class were paired together and took turns reading to one another. To recognize their accomplishments, they enjoyed an end of the year Book Buddies celebration!



I Like School

Kindergarten students in Miss Andrews' class presented the play *I Like School* to a packed audience on March 25. Students told the story of what it is like to be a preschooler getting ready to enter kindergarten. They sang songs about the alphabet, the importance of listening and being safe, and there were even "Channel 2 Red Coats" on hand to tell the story!



Pictured standing: Ruairi Higman, Conner Weber, Asher Wright, and Annabelle Linenfelser.

Art and Ice Cream

Sidway's 4th annual Fine Arts Show and Ice Cream Social was held on Friday, May 3. Artwork created by every student was on display for families to view while high school students provided music for the evening. The Ice Cream Social was sponsored by the PTA. It was a beautiful evening for Sidway families to enjoy the fine art and a tasty sundae.



Angela Amato and her daughter Lydia show off Lydia's masterpiece.

PARP Author Visit



Sidway students enjoyed a visit from author Michael Patrick O'Neill as a culmination to their annual Parents as Reading Partners Program (PARP). PARP asks both students and parents to pledge to read at least 15 minutes per day.

O'Neill is an author and underwater photographer. He shared many photographs of sea life and entertained the students with facts from his books and the underwater world.

Special thanks to the Sidway PTA who sponsors an author visit as part of PARP each year.

Walk for Hope

On May 10, Sidway students, teachers, staff and parents participated in a *Walk for Hope* in honor of Sidway teacher, Renee Luzi who lost her battle to cancer in December 2011. Amanda Martinez led the students in many activities as they "walked" for hope. Over \$1200 dollars was raised and donated to Relay for Life.



A Fairy Tale Lesson in Writing

Kindergarten students in Miss Hall's class have been learning about opinion and persuasive writing. Students read a variety of fairy tales and then chose to write about one in a persuasive essay. Several of the students proudly shared their writing samples with Principal Denise Dunbar.



Pictured from L-R are: Gianni Anello, Rocquelle Hy, Carly Tilkins and Megan Reynolds.

See you in September

Sidway faculty and staff gave students their traditional wave good bye on June 19, the last day of school for Sidway students. Several teachers adorned graduation caps and gowns as a way to celebrate the successful school year. Enjoy the summer boys and girls!



Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs



Sidway students were entertained by the Merry Go Round Playhouse on Tuesday, May 26. The Merry Go Round Playhouse is a theatrical group out of Auburn, New York and is sponsored by the Sidway PTA. Students enjoyed the presentation, *Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs!*

Kindergarten Picnic & First-Grade Field Days

Kindergarten students enjoyed a day at Beaver Island State Park on Friday, June 14 as an end of the year celebration. Relay races, bubbles, and water play were all part of the day students enjoyed with their parents and teachers. First grade students enjoyed a day full of organized games and were treated to an amazing juggling act by Mr. Nells Ross from In Jest. It was a fun day for all!



Brooke Christensen and her dad spent the day with the kindergarten students.



Mrs. Suszczynski's first-grade class on field day.



First-graders Kendyl Ode, Gianna Karnath and Kathryn Czyrny enjoy snow cones at field day.

H-Pin Winners

The H-Pin is an award made annually to those students who, in the opinion of the faculty, evidence qualities worthy of recognition. It is not an award for a specific quality or aptitude; rather it is based on the student's overall character. Congratulations to this year's award recipients.

Listed alphabetically:

Ronald Appoloney, Carmela Bartolomeo, Samuel Castellino, Allison Fay, Jenna Foglia, Alexa Fox, Jasmin Gill, Jack Hammond, Michael Marino, Lauren Merletti, Sarah Moore, Isabella Pridgen, Emily Reynolds, Sean Christian Rustowicz, Brett Shickluna, Benjamin Spiesz, Mark Steck and Anthony Surace.



Comptroller Award

The NYS Comptroller Award is given to students who have shown academic excellence and the potential for leadership, through involvement in activities that improve the community. Congratulations to Sean Christian Rustowicz for being selected this year's recipient of the for the 2012-2013 Comptroller's Award.



New York State Office of the Comptroller Award winner Sean Christian Rustowicz.

Presidential Award Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded the 2012-2013 Presidential Award. Listed alphabetically:

Ronald Appoloney, Samuel Castellino, Emma Dickinson, Rhianna Enright, Mitchell Fusillo, Alex Gottler, Mackenzie Heyden, Victoria Huang, Trevor Knight, Kristian Krantz, Patrick Loss, Reid Martin, Sarah Moore, Jackson Nicoletti, Alexander Paul, Emily Phillips, Sean Christian Rustowicz, Mark Steck, Anna Thompson and Luke Webb.

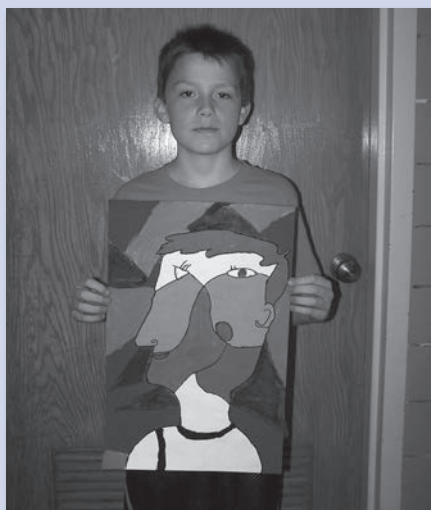


Project Linus

Jeanne Percival's third-grade class proves once again Huth Road students are outstanding citizens. This June, in lieu of an end of the year teacher gift, students participated in a blanket making project called Project Linus. This is a national organization that gives children who are facing trauma a blanket to comfort them. "My students are so eager to help others! They are wonderful citizens and great students who truly care about their community and their peers. I am so proud of them," says Percival.

Artist of the Month

The Grand Island art department proudly recognizes Kristian Krantz as the "K-12 Artist of the Month". Kristian is a member of the 5th-Grade Art Club at Huth Road Elementary School. He became interested in art during kindergarten and his greatest influence is his older brother. He remembers watching and admiring the things his brother drew while growing up. Kristian takes pride in his work and uses only his best craftsmanship. He prefers to work two-dimensionally in pencil and likes to draw in his free time. You will often see his favorite color, orange, incorporated in his work. Kristian would like to continue drawing and creating art and plans to join art club in the middle school. Congratulations!



Mrs. Nowak Suggests... Things To Do This Summer

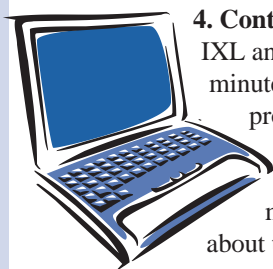
There are several things you can do for your children this summer that will make a big difference in their growth and development:

1. Enjoy them: Enjoy being together and growing as a family. Learn from each other by learning how to best love each other. Anyone with children knows that this does not come naturally for children. Children are self-centered by nature. It is essential to their survival. It takes plenty of patience, understanding and words of wisdom to help them see outside of themselves as they grow. Teach them to love being an essential part of your family.



2. Give them plenty of free time: The school year is packed with responsibilities, homework and appointments. Let summer be the time when they can explore, be curious, and take each moment as it comes. Think about the best times of your childhood summers. I bet you're thinking about swimming with friends, running around the neighborhood with a ball, or sitting and reading for hours on end. Give them time to be peaceful, and steal some time for yourself, too!

3. Help them be responsible citizens: Make sure they do their chores. We all know it's much easier to pick up their clothes for them than to have them do it for themselves, but we also know it's important for them to be organized. If we put in the time now to teach them how to do it right, they'll have the skill for a lifetime. Picture yourself visiting your grandkids, and your child's whole family is happy and successful. Yep, it's worth it to put in the effort now. Teach them to be a responsible member of your family by doing their chores to help out...everyday.



4. Continue to learn: Each child in the school has an IXL and a Razkidz account. Consider that for just 20 minutes per day, your child can beat the "summer recession" blues. Since the programs are computer based, your children will be motivated to keep practicing their reading and math all summer long. Also, I created "Picks and Prizes" with former PTA President Maura Rustowicz to make summer learning fun. Check your enews for more information about this great summer time family program.

I especially want to thank all of you for the careful attention you pay to your children's education and their physical and psychological growth and development all year long. You are your child's primary and most important teacher. The school teachers and I hope we can live up to your expectations in supporting you in this very important role as parent, and we thank you for trusting your children to us every day. Have a wonderful and safe summer and don't hesitate to stop in to visit this summer if you have any questions or concerns. We are here for you.

Yours in education,

Kerri Nowak,
Huth Road Elementary School Principal



Outstanding Students Recognized at Kaegebein

Gold K Winners

Kaegebein Elementary School is pleased to announce this year's Gold K Winners:



Avery Andrews
Aizaz Asif
Brooke Bartolotta
Gabriella Bergstrom
Kenny Carter
Erin Cool
Harinder Dhaliwall
Autumn Gagliardi
Kira Hutton
Joshua Kam
Robert LeFevre
Ben Moskala
Thomas Shemik
Elzbieta Sorel
Griffin Sykes
Aleksandra Tirone

Presidential Awards

Congratulations to the Presidential Award winners for 2012-2013.

Avery Andrews	Colby Kalp
Aizaz Asif	Joshua Kam
Brooke Bartolotta	Nicholas Keller
Gabriella Bergstrom	Caitlin Klienschmidt
Maria Buscaglia	Kevin Koch Jr.
Kenny Carter	Robert LeFevre
Erin Cool	Ben Moskala
Harinder Dhaliwall	Aubrey Nitsche
Jack Faso	Brian O'Neill
John Fletcher	Jacob Przystal
Autumn Gagliardi	Aleksandra Tirone
Jeremiah Goss	Jenna Wilkinson

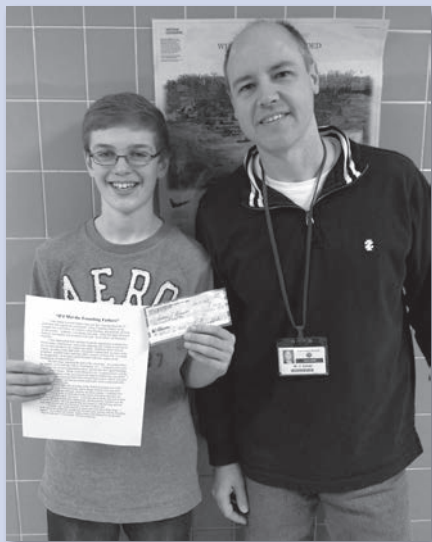


Reminder to All e-News Subscribers

If you are a current e-News subscriber and you have a child/children moving up to a new building in September, please check the subscribed category selections you have chosen to insure they meet your needs for the upcoming school year. You don't want to miss any news or announcements from your new principal! You're not an e-news subscriber? Sign up now for regular news and updates from the building principals and district administration. Just visit the district website at www.k12.ginet.org and click on the "sign up for e-news" button in the lower right corner.

Patriot's Pen

Congratulations to seventh-grade student, Andrew Thompson who was the winner of the Charles N. DeGlopper Memorial VFW Post's annual Patriot's Pen Essay Competition!



Andrew Thompson proudly displays his award with Mr. Zaleski, seventh-grade social studies teacher.

PTA Reflections Program

The National PTA Reflections Art Program encourages students to create works of art for fun and positive recognition. Since 1969, the Reflections Program has been bringing families, schools and communities together in support of student success through the arts. This year, Veronica E. Connor Middle School had four students who advanced from the district level to the regional level. They placed as follows:

- Miranda Proctor:** 1st place - Dance Choreography (advanced to states)
- Eva Bobeck:** 2nd place - Literature
- Samin Durran:** 2nd place - Visual Arts
- Claire McCaffery:** 3rd place - Photography

Congratulations to our very talented students!

Masterpieces Meet Learning Standards

Accelerated eighth-grade art students Natasha Keller and Kassie Moss proudly display their ceramic storyteller masks. Their work is a visual representation of the interdisciplinary learning taking place in their Studio In Art class. Using Greek mythology as a catalyst for learning, the masks narrate and reinterpret the archetypal stories which have inspired artists, poets, musicians and craftsmen for hundreds of years. Students met several Common Core Learning Standards for the English Language Arts as well as State and National Art Standards as they completed their masterpieces.

Natasha Keller and Kassie Moss with their Icarus storyteller masks.



Gallup Makes History

When students were recently challenged with documenting history for the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project, Alexis Gallup didn't hesitate. She asked her eighth-grade teacher, Dawn Hayes about the project and immediately began work to document and preserve history. The Veterans History Project is an online database of veterans' experiences that have been collected and preserved by individuals from across the nation.



Alexis Gallup and U.S. Army National Guard Specialist Robert Banas.

Gallup contacted a family member who had served in the United States Army National Guard in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. She painstakingly prepared for an interview with Specialist Robert Banas by editing a list of questions that she would use for the interview. She then recorded the interview on a CD and completed a detailed log of the topics discussed with SPC Banas. Once she completed the necessary forms, the materials were forwarded to the Library of Congress to be added to the Veterans History Project archives. Hayes was not surprised by Gallup's willingness to complete the extra work and said, "She loves writing, writes extremely well, and is always willing to complete any task to the best of her ability. You can always count on Alexis."



Editorial Cartoon Contest Winner

Eighth-grade social studies students at Veronica E. Connor Middle School have consistently been using their artistic talents to display political statements on newsworthy events. As part of an annual assignment, social studies teacher, Dawn Hayes requires all her students to participate in The Buffalo News Editorial Cartoon Contest.

Julianna Passarelli is the most recent student to win the middle school division of The Buffalo News' 2013 Editorial Cartoon Contest. Passarelli's editorial cartoon was chosen from over 800 entries by nationally syndicated Buffalo News cartoonist Adam Zyglics.

Passarelli, her mother, father, grandparents and Hayes attended a reception held at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library Downtown Branch where contest winners had the opportunity to meet with Adam Zyglics and were presented with an award. Great job, Julianna!



Girls on the Run

This spring, a team of students and coaches from Veronica E. Connor Middle School participated in the Girls on the Run program. Girls on the Run combines training for a 5K (3.1 miles) running event with healthy living education. The program instills self-esteem through health education, life skills development, mentoring relationships, and physical training - all of which are accomplished through an active collaboration with girls and their parents, schools, volunteers, staff, and the community.

Typically, the girls are paired with an adult running coach and together they train twice a week for the culminating event - a Girls On The Run 5K Race at the University of Buffalo's Amherst Campus. However, the twosome of Randles and Abedellatif had reversed roles. This season, 12 year-old Tima Abdellif coached seventh-grade teacher Lori Randles. "She is my teacher in running," said Randles. "It's a great opportunity to know the students more personally. I work with 130 kids as a teacher but just one as a running partner, so it was an opportunity for me to get really close to a student...and get some exercise."

Girls On The Run is a popular program among students and teachers at VCMS. This year's race had over 2,500 total participants. A good time was had by all!



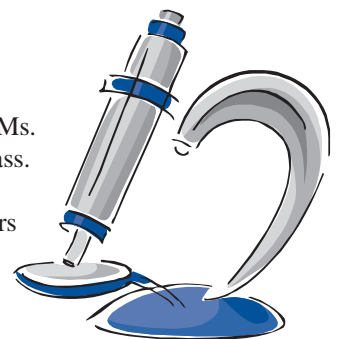
Students Display at Art Show



The works of several hundred young Grand Island artists were on display during the annual K-12 District Art Show which opened the evening of May 20 and ran throughout the week. Works in a wide variety of media visually illustrated the various ways in which students in each of the schools use the arts to explore the world around them, find varied solutions to complex problems and express their unique and individual artistic voices. Pictured is eighth-grader Alexa Mallare with a self portrait.

Science Night

On April 11, the Grand Island High School and Veronica E. Connor Middle School coordinated with Life Technologies to hold a Family Science Night. Students enrolled in Mrs. Briganti's honors biology class and Ms. Hegarty's seventh-grade science class presented posters summarizing research projects they completed in class. Students worked with teachers and scientists (Science Buddies) in completing their research and developing their poster presentations. These presentations were then judged and many students received numerous honors from the Life Technologies organization. Scientists from Life Technologies visited the classroom where they worked alongside students to complete laboratory experiments using some of the most advanced technologies available in modern science. Students then took a field trip to Life Technologies and learned about potential careers and applications in biology.



All-WNY Academic Team Honors GI Seniors

Two Grand Island Senior High School seniors have been named to the Business First 2013 All-Western New York Academic Team.

Bridget Kennedy (Second Team) and Ellen Lutnick (Second Team) qualified for this year's list of the 100 most outstanding high school seniors in the eight-county region. Winners were chosen for their records of academic excellence, school leadership and community involvement.



Bridget Kennedy

"This is an extremely exclusive award," said Jack Connors, president and publisher of Business First. "There are roughly 20,000 seniors in Western New York's high schools, and we've selected only 100 for this year's Academic Team. They're truly the best and brightest students anywhere in our region."

The complete list of honorees, along with their photos and profiles, were published in Business First's 2013-2014 Guide to Western New York Schools, which hit newsstands on June 14.



Ellen Lutnick

Venture Yearbook Gives Back



The Grand Island High School Venture Yearbook staff continues its long tradition of giving back to the community. This year's staff raised approximately \$3400 for Caralyn Reynolds, a student at Huth Road Elementary School. Caralyn has been ill for the last few years but is on a great path to hopefully a full recovery. Members of

the Venture Yearbook staff presented her with gift cards and local event memberships to give her a summer of fun and to help her on her way with her "Wish Trip" from the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Students sold candy bars, holiday chocolate, candles, and cookie dough to raise the money on their own.

A great big "THANK YOU" to all staff who contributed in some way and special thanks to Mr. Cushing and Mr. Hennessy who visited our classroom most days for a chocolate bar!

Career Bound

Grand Island senior Amanda ElHoussieny just graduated from Niagara Academy with her diploma and a certificate in cosmetology in hand. After completing the program, Amanda was hired and is now employed in her field of study. Great job, Amanda!

Superintendent Lawrence congratulates Amanda ElHoussieny.



Corporate Bowl 2013

Congratulations to this year's winners of the 2013 Corporate Bowl.



1st place: "Bennie and the Jets" - Lydia Bernatovicz, Sam Clarke, Courtney Collignon and Bridget Kennedy.



2nd place: "The Team" - Kamra Phillips, Pam Slattery, Jodie White and Shamus Johnson.



3rd place: "Do You Have a Name" - Eric Dudley, Sara Cichon, Kurt Laschinger and Alex Garey.

World Travelers

In March, Grand Island High School teachers Jeannine Scibilia, Susan MacPherson, and Tom Gorman accompanied 29 eager students on a nine day European adventure to Spain and France. The group first traveled to Spain to visit the cities of Madrid, El Escorial, and Toledo. While there, travelers reveled in full cultural experiences including touring magnificent cathedrals and art museums, going to a professional soccer game and cooking authentic Spanish cuisine. The next stop was Paris, France. Sightseers were exposed to some of the greatest destinations in France including the Eiffel Tower, Arc D'Triomphe, Notre Dame Cathedral, Sacre Coeur and the Palace of Versailles. While travelers had to bid this phenomenal trip farewell, they will be left with memories that will last a lifetime.



Kasprzycki Scores in the Top 8

Junior, Kristina Kasprzycki scored in the top eight of all test takers on the American Chemical Society's Chemistry Olympiad Competition. Kasprzycki is the first student in the history of Grand Island Central School District to be named to the Chemistry Olympiad Teams of the Western New York Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Kasprzycki will take another exam to compete for a spot on the United States National Chemistry Olympiad Team.

Creating a Culture of Character



Pictured from L-R: Sara Silvestri (Advisor), Courtney Liberte, Emily Szabo, Miranda Phillips, Kim Gacon, Molly Smith and Christina Kensy (Advisor).

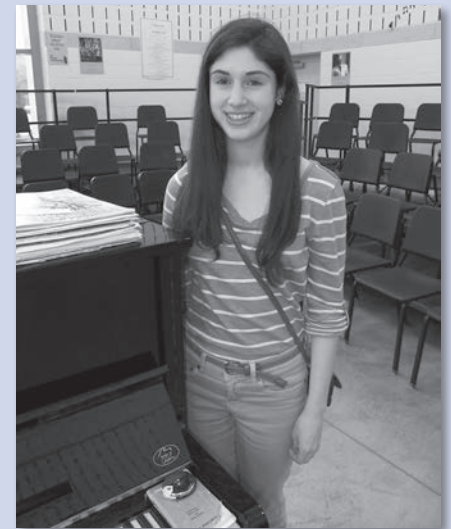
The Grand Island High School Character Council attended the 5th Annual "Creating a Culture of Character" Conference presented by the Character Council of Western New York. This leadership program encourages youth to take a stand for character excellence. The full-day program formalized a youth component to champion good character and encouraged youth to help lead the charge for creating a culture of character through the character councils within their schools.

Scholastic Achievement Recognized

Three Grand Island students from the Class of '13 were recognized on May 23 at the 33rd Scholastic Achievement Recognition Dinner sponsored by the Erie-Niagara School Superintendents Association. The students honored at this annual event, held at Salvatore's Italian Gardens, are the top three academic scholars from each of the area high schools. Congratulations to Lydia Bernotvitz, Ellen Lutnick, Bridget Kennedy for earning this prestigious recognition!

Music On Hold

New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) have selected a musical composition by sophomore, Carly Hand, as the second place winner for their Music on Hold Contest. "Where I'm Going," for solo piano, is featured on the NYSUT website and was used as their on hold phone selection during June. In addition, Hand also received a \$400 award that she intends to use to further her musical interests.



Ten judges reviewed her work and one stated that, "Carly is the next Jim Brickman." She started writing simple songs on the keyboard at the age of nine and her first "real song" was at the age of 13. To date, Hand has recorded six songs and is currently writing two more. She hopes to attend another music camp this summer and would like to get her songs professionally recorded in the near future.

In April, Hand won first place in the Niagara Region PTA Reflections Program -High School Division for Music Composition. She is an active member of the high school music department playing Oboe in Wind Ensemble, piano in Instrumental Jazz, singing in Vocal Jazz and accompanying the group in performance. Hand studies piano with Steve Parisi.

IB Students Participate in Disaster Drill

The staff at Sister's Hospital recently held a mandatory emergency drill and Grand Island High School International Baccalaureate (IB) students were part of the action. Stephanie Kowalak coordinated the field trip as part of her IB Creativity, Action, and Service Project and it was an interesting day for all involved. Twenty students from Grand Island were given cards explaining the nature of their injuries and then were escorted to the Emergency Room where hospital staff attended to their needs. "It was very real and the hospital staff treated it very seriously" exclaimed Kowalak. Students were outfitted with fake blood and costumes to authenticate their emergency situation. After the drill the students were treated to lunch and attended a meeting between hospital administrators and the emergency drill team to review the events. Sister's Hospital was thankful for the help and GIHS students received a great experience in the medical setting.



IB students Zach Jones, Zoe Reda, and Stephanie Kowalak participate in a disaster drill.



GI Students Honored by NTHS

This year 138 high school students, representing 19 local school districts, from across Erie 1 BOCES' three career and technical centers were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) on March 14, 2013 during an event at the Maryvale High School auditorium located in Cheektowaga, New York. Five students from Grand Island High School were among the honorees. Enrolled at Ken-Ton Career & Technical Center are: Ronald Clark - Culinary Arts program, Tyler Jackman - Criminal Justice program, Elenor Zaccaria - Cosmetology program, Jane Cooke - Culinary Arts program, and Brittany Faulise - Criminal Justice program.



Grand Island honorees from Kenton Career & Technical Center from left to right: Back row: Ronald Clark, Tyler Jackman. Front row: Elenor Zaccaria, Jane Cooke, and Brittany Faulise.

Reading Contest Winners



Pictured L-R: Tom Gorman (English Teacher), Brianna Little, Hope LoHouse, Samara Johnson, Cheryl Cardone (Director of Pupil Personnel Services) and Michael Lauria (High School Assistant Principal).

Students in English 9 Honors competed in an annual reading contest by recording the pages of books they read from September through May. The winners of the contest Hope LoHouse, Brianna Little, and Samara Johnson read 82,758, 55,220, and 52,462 pages, respectively.

Rachael Grabek generously donated library funds to purchase gold, silver, and bronze reading medals and Barnes and Noble gift cards for the top three readers. Trophy, Trophy, a local award company, donated free engraving of the medals.

Venture Yearbook Scholarships 2013

Christopher Simpson, advisor of the Venture Yearbook at Grand Island High School is pleased to announce the senior scholarship winners for the 2013 school year. Seniors who were awarded the Venture Yearbook scholarship include Sarah Chamberlain, Courtney Collignon, Grace Kulikowski, James Rustowicz, Nick Soos and Maggie Weiser. Students were each given \$300 to use toward college costs for the upcoming school year. Since 2007, the Venture Yearbook has awarded over \$14,000 in scholarship money.



All Spring Teams Honored as Scholar Athletes

The 2013 Spring Scholar Athlete Teams recognized by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association are: Girls Track & Field, Boys Track & Field, Softball, Baseball, Girls Lacrosse, Boys Lacrosse and Boys Tennis. To qualify, a varsity team must average a minimum of 90% with several additional requirements considered. Student athletes were recognized with their coaches at an Ice Cream Social on June 4.

Baseball - 90.27, Head Coach: Dean Santorio

Cory Adamshick, Robert Augugliaro, Bryce Callen, Quinn Corrao, Ben Goc, Jake Lawley, Al Lenz, Matt Lenz, Mark McKenna, Nick Soos, Kyle Schoener, Adam Stanczyk, and Josh Ungaro.

Girls Lacrosse - 91.27, Head Coach: Jen Shalke

Cailin Atkins, Megan Carroll, Karli Deuser, Kara Hazelet, Lexi Kalinowski, Bridget Kennedy, Tiffany Melendez, Brooklyn Morton, Catherine Navagh, Meaghan O'Leary, Shannon Robillard, Marina Scerra, Jordan VeRost, Megan Wendt, Emily Wolcott, and Madz Wright.

Softball - 92.90, Head Coach: Cheryl O'Connor

Ciara Alcorn, Jessica Amsdill, Natalie Argy, Ashley Colan, Courtney Collignon, Annie Corrao, Alley Cutting, Leah Geis, Melissa Gibson, Brittney Little, and Jillian Sheehan.

Boys Tennis - 90.00, Head Coach: Don Pray

Tom Corrao, Brian DeRubes, Sean DeRubes, Jacob Dixon, McLain Erhard, Anthony Huff, Justin McCarthy, Wyatt Mock, Colin Osborn, James Osborn, Mike Paternastro, Drew Pitts, Eric Riederer, Jake Sweeney, and Corey Wilkinson.

Girls Track & Field - 94.33, Head Coach: Craig Davis

Clare Ahne, Jessica Brownschidle, Sophie Castilo, Sierra D'Ettorre, Jessica Dhaliwall, Hallie Fitzgerald, Olivia Johnson, Lovepreet Kaur, Ruby Kaur, Julia Kelly, Leah Killian, Marah Killian, Mary Kneer, Lauren Kullerkupp, Ellen Lutnick, Holly Lutnick, Emma MacIntyre, Ayla Marino, Taylor Marino, Alyssa Pelosi, Samantha Reynolds, Mikayla Rosati, Maggie Rustowicz, Mary Rustowicz, Ashley Tillet, and Stephanie Voyzey.

Boys Lacrosse - 91.00, Head Coach: Chaz Bulera

Conor Atkins, Adam Bahgat, Austin Blair, Dan Blocho, Jarod Brandon, Jack Boyko, Colin Carey, Aaron Cook, Chris Connors, Mike Dzielski, Adam Heftka, Justin Lavis, Mike Mankowski, Ben Morrish, Matt Osinski, and Brock Tetreault.

Boys Track & Field - 91.50, Head Coach: Craig Davis

Cyle Alcorn, Nick Bonarek, Kyle Frascatore, Kevin Freedman, Connor Harrigan, Steven Howard, William Madigan, Andrew Masiello, Colton McGraw, Nick Pino, James Rustowicz, Vince Shores, and Tanner Speer.

2013 Athletic Highlights

- Grand Island sports program ranked #8 in Business First - Best High School Athletic Programs in all of WNY. GI was ranked #11 and #9 the last two years.
- Grand Island ranks #2 in NFL Supremacy (Fall, Winter, Spring).
- 24 of 26 sports teams qualified for the NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Award.
- The Girls Volleyball team (coach - John Head) and the Boys Volleyball team (coach - Bill Schultz) won the NFL Championships.
- The Girls Basketball team (coach - Jen Banker) and the Boys Bowling team (coach - Craig Davis) won Section VI championships.
- The Girls Tennis team (coach - Julie Neville/Carley Antonelli) and the Boys Volleyball team (coach - Bill Schultz) won NFL Sportsmanship Team and Individual Awards.

Individual Awards

- Senior Aaron Schauger (Golf) Section VI Championship Winner.
- Junior Kevin Borowicz (Golf) 2nd NFL Championship Winner.
- Zaineb Khawar (Girls Tennis) NFL Sportsmanship Winner.
- Mark Dryfhout (Boys Volleyball) NFL Sportsmanship Winner.
- Junior Kevin Freedman (110 Hurdles) and Jess Dhaliwal (Discus) won the Section VI championship. Jess also finished 2nd in the shot put event.
- Cassie Oursler and Chris Connors received the "Outstanding Senior Athlete Award."

Division I Scholarships

- Cassie Oursler - Girls Basketball, Robert Morris University.
- Alex Brown - Girls Volleyball, Maryland University.
- Jessica Brownschidle and Nick Soos represent Grand Island for the prestigious Hewitt Award.
- TJ Acker qualified to Wrestling State Tournament.
- Sophomore Alley Cutting pitches a no hitter vs. Kenmore East.

Niagara Gazette Player of the Year (Spring Season)

- Megan Carroll - Girls Lacrosse
- Jess Dhaliwall - Girls Track & Field
- Kevin Freedman - Boys Track & Field



Grand Island

Central School District

1100 Ransom Road • Grand Island, NY 14072
www.k12.ginet.org

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Toshiba's Commitment to Education



Eric Fiebelkorn and Toshiba Business Solutions were nominated for "The Commitment to Education Award" sponsored by The Niagara Frontier Industry and Education Council (NFIEC) and The Buffalo Alliance for Education (BAE). NFIEC and BAE honored organizations who demonstrate ongoing efforts to advance education in western New York schools through sustained involvement in the educational process. Fiebelkorn and Toshiba have been heavily involved with the Grand Island School Business Alliance (GISBA) which is the advisory board to the business programs at Grand Island High School. Job Search, Shadow Day, Corporate Bowl and Senior Celebration are just a few of the programs that Toshiba has supported.



GISBA Sponsors

*Casey's Corner - GIHS Bookstore
Grand Island Administrative &
Supervisory Council*

*Grand Island Central School District
Office Staff*

*Grand Island High School PTSA
Grand Island School Related
Professionals*

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M&T Bank*

*Niagara Frontier Publications:
Island Dispatch, Grand Island
PennySaver, Lewiston-Porter Sentinel,
and Niagara-Wheatfield Tribune*

Toshiba

Town of Grand Island Elected Officials

**Thank you for your
continued support!**

Life After High School

The question, "what am I going to do with my future?" comes up often during high school and it is difficult to answer for many students. The Grand Island business department, with the help of GISBA and local companies, offers some answers during the annual Shadow Day program. Shadow Day allows students to "try out" a career for a day and over 100 Grand Island High students did just that. The Niagara Falls Aquarium, WIVB, IsleChem, and Cannon Design were just a few of the businesses participating and aiding students in search of career choices.



Student Annie Corrao feeds the penguins at the Niagara Falls Aquarium.