



# the MAROON monthly

AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 5

## “Working Together...Building A Community of Learners”



**Anthony, Nicholas & Sara Alberici**

Anthony and Nicholas Alberici, alumni of Owasco School, gave an engaging and edifying presentation describing the benefits of a well-rounded education and the rewards of being a life-long learner. They provided visual narratives highlighting their experiences at West Point Academy and Merchant Marine Academy. Their sister Sara, as well as her fifth grade peers, were captivated and focused during their demonstration. The Auburn Enlarged City School District is known for providing rich and authentic experiences to the students in Auburn. Anthony and Nicholas serve as ambassadors of this tradition. A community of learners make a difference not only in Auburn but in the world. “Once an Owasco Owl, always an Owasco Owl.”

*Jacquelyn Aversa, Grade 5, Owasco School*

## Help Auburn Junior High School WIN a \$25,000 grant through Project Fit America!

AJHS is competing with schools across the state to win a \$25,000 grant for state-of-the-art outdoor fitness equipment, indoor fitness equipment, on-site training with a PFA Trainer, and more! The four schools with the most votes will each receive a \$25,000 grant.

**How can you help?**

1) **VOTE!** Vote every day from January 5 – 31 at

<http://danimalsshopriteschoolcontest.young-america.com>

Voting opens at 9 a.m. EST on January 5 and closes at 11:59 p.m. EST on January 31, 2018. You can vote every single day, but you must be 13 years of age or older and a resident of CT, DE, MD, NJ, NY, or PA to vote. Limit one (1) vote per participant/email address per day.

- 2) Enlist other people to be voting ambassadors – family, friends, anyone you know who lives in CT, DE, MD, NJ, NY, or PA!
- 3) Ask businesses you frequent to promote voting for AJHS with their customers.
- 4) Follow the district on Twitter and Facebook (@AuburnECSD), and share the posts about the contest! For your own posts, use the hashtag: #DanimalsBTSContest

### About the program and grant:

The Project Fit America program teaches all of the building blocks of fitness, which include social and critical thinking skills. This grant will allow AJHS to create programs that assure every child, not just the already gifted athletes, can discover, explore, improve, and be recognized for their physical mental, and fitness efforts and performances. For more information about the program, visit: [www.projectfitamerica.org/program\\_summary.html](http://www.projectfitamerica.org/program_summary.html)

Thank you for your support!

# VOTE for Auburn Junior High School



AJHS could win a \$25,000 grant for fitness equipment through a Project Fit America voting contest. Vote daily January 5-31!

<http://danimalsshopriteschoolcontest.young-america.com>

**We Make a Difference!**

## Auburn High School Students Earn College Credits through Engineering Program

The Auburn High School Technology Department offers five engineering courses through the **Project Lead the Way** program: Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, Digital Electronics, Civil Engineering and Architecture, and Engineering Design and Development.

All of the courses, with the exception of Engineering Design and Development, offer students the ability to achieve college credits through the **Rochester Institute of Technology**, as long as they pass the end of course assessment. Enrollment for the Project Lead the Way program has remained steady over the past several school years, allowing Auburn High School to offer two courses of Introduction to Engineering Design and one course each of the others.

Students start their Project Lead the Way experience at Auburn Junior High School with the **Gateway to Technology** program. When they move on to the high school, they begin with the Introduction to Engineering

Design course and progress through the other courses during their high school careers.

The curriculum starts by introducing students to the engineering processes and how the concepts are used in real word environments. Students are introduced to several different types of three-dimensional software allowing them to visualize and problem-solve different design problems. As the courses progress, so do the theories and concepts in the curriculum with the idea of introducing students to the different facets of engineering and the possible career paths available in the field.

**Engineering Design and Development** is the capstone course for seniors who have taken all of the other Project Lead the Way courses, and it is a culmination of all of the theories and concepts learned. It offers the students a chance to fully engulf themselves in real-world design problems by producing working drawings and final prototypes to be presented.



*Kathy Rhodes, Vice President, Board of Education, Auburn Enlarged City School District*



**Pajama  
Party**

Fifth grade students at **Owasco Elementary School** collected **64 pairs** of pajamas in conjunction with Scholastic Book Clubs' Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive. For every pair of pajamas collected, Scholastic donates a brand new book to go along with them, helping to give children a warmer good night. The pajamas collected by Owasco students were donated to the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency and distributed, along with a book from Scholastic, to local families.



## Career Shadow Day at Auburn Junior High School

On December 1, 2017, approximately 250 Auburn Junior High School 8th grade students participated in our 5th Annual Career Shadowing Day. Career and college readiness is one of our most urgent goals in education right now. One aspect of that is to gain knowledge of and exposure to a diverse range of postsecondary pathways. Not only did our students have the opportunity to shadow someone for the day, but they were also required to set up their own experience, interview their host, and write a thank you letter.

As in past years, we have received a lot of positive feedback from students and from the businesses that hosted them. Career Shadowing Day is designed to give students a meaningful introduction to the world of work and to provide a context for understanding the connection between school and career. We want our students to be able to see that what they are doing in their classes every day is preparing them for future jobs.

Our students shadowed a variety of career areas including the FBI, design and architecture, food service, education, and law enforcement to name a few. Our students had a great time and were able to get a true experience of what the “world of work” is all about. We would like our current 7th graders to begin thinking about where they would like to shadow next year.



**Mekai Bailey & Jack Kennedy at AFD**



**Zach Barber and Owen Novak job shadowed at the FBI.**



**L: Fiona Chisolm at YMCA**



**Top: 8th Graders at Beardsley Design. Left: Lexi Derby at Dr. Gioia's office.**



We would also like to extend a huge THANK YOU to all the businesses and employers in Auburn and the surrounding communities that allowed our students to shadow and experience the “world of work” for the day. If you are an employer and would like to participate next year, please contact one of the School Counselors at Auburn Junior High School.

*By Jerry Salvage, School Counselor, AJHS*



## The CCMEA All County Music Festival

*Students from the Auburn Junior High School Band attended the CCMEA All County Music Festival on November 17th and 18th. They were selected after auditioning with a solo at NYSSMA the previous year.*

*Lisa Edlind, Instrumental Music Teacher, Auburn Jr. High School*



Front Row: Abigail Carr. Middle Row: Kara Lockhart, Caleb Riley, Reeve Axton, Seamus Greene, Cameron Daddabbo. Back Row: Maryn Elster, Jasmin Kotula, Avry Zank, Carly Chappell, Matthew Tamburrino, Mekai Bailey, Sarah Fritz, Andrew Graney, Jakob Remauro. Absent: Patrick McLaughlin, Aiden Diego, Amarion Bochenek.

## Shelly Connors: Teacher of the Year

The New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NYS AHPERD) has recognized **Shelly Connors** as the **2017 Secondary PE Teacher of the Year**. NYS AHPERD recognizes one individual in NYS, each year, for excellence in teaching and overall performance in secondary physical education. Shelly has worked for the Auburn School District for the past 16 years. During that time she has coached Boys and Girls Varsity Tennis, coached multiple modified sports as needed, has been the Ski Club Advisor, helped Auburn to secure the PEP Grant, serves on the District Wellness Committee, and is a former PE Department Facilitator and Curriculum Council member. At the local and State level Shelly has been actively involved in her professional organization, serving as Zone President, NYS Secondary Section President, and she is currently the Recreation/Adventure Section President on the NYS AHPERD Executive Council. Shelly is recognized statewide by her peers as being a dedicated, involved and innovative physical educator.



*Shelly Connors, Teacher of the Year, (right), with Monica Wolfe, (left) the President of NYS AHPERD.*



## Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)

Students who are applying to colleges, please be aware that procedures for the confidentiality of student records within the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) have recently changed. FERPA permits school officials to disclose all education records, including disciplinary records, to another institution at which the student seeks or intends to enroll. This now also applies to post-secondary institutions (colleges), upon request.

## Genesee Elementary School's Holiday Concert



On December 20<sup>th</sup>, the Genesee Elementary band, chorus, and orchestra put on a wonderful performance that showcased students' talent and hard work. The evening started with the band, directed by Nancy Schlenker, delighting the audience with "Jolly Old St. Nick," "Major Duple," and "Jingle Bells." It was followed by the chorus, directed by Justina Taylor, enchanting concert goes with "Winter Fantasy," "Oh, Hanukah," "Winter Walk" (joined by Ms. Schlenker on violin), and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." The night ended with the orchestra's captivating performance of "Alison's Waltz," "Fantastic Fiddles," "Winter Song," and "Ode to Joy." We hope to recruit more brilliant singers for the chorus, and thank parents for their time in getting students to practice for all three ensembles.

Genesee would also like to thank Nancy Schlenker for her years of hard work, passion, and dedication here, and wishes her a very happy retirement!



For the eighth year, Genesee Elementary School was able to offer the Fill-A-Belly Program to students and their families. With generous community donations and volunteer service hours, the program has continued to provide the opportunity for families in need to receive both perishable and non-perishable food items in order to provide their children with healthy nourishment over the extended school breaks. Additionally, the program donations also support a school-based food pantry, which serves to further assist families during weekends and throughout the school year.

### Fill-A-Belly Program at Genesee Elementary School



During the last five years, our community has experienced an increase in reported hunger, homelessness, and those living well below the poverty level, all due to many extenuating variables. Our hope and mission is to be able to meet the ever-growing needs of our students and to ensure that no child ever goes to bed hungry.

Through the program this year, 87 Genesee Elementary School families received food boxes with a reported number of over 450 individuals receiving nourishment from the program.

We wish to thank the following program sponsors: Nucor Steel, Auburn Fire Department, Wegmans, LeBrun Nissan, Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Auburn United Methodist Church, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Owen Orchards, and private donors who wish to remain anonymous. We also wish to thank additional volunteers from the Genesee Parent Teacher Partnership, GES faculty, AECSD Administration, Board of Education Members, and Genesee parents and students who worked at the event on December 21, 2017.



### AHS senior Jacob Morin is the first player in the history of the Auburn Ice Hockey program to reach 100 goals!

He accomplished this noteworthy task as the Auburn team defeated Oswego 5-0, in Oswego on December 19. If Jake continues at this pace, it's possible he could also reach 200 points later in the year, which would also be a first for the program.

Congratulations Jake and Good Luck reaching the next milestone!



## PBIS at Owasco School

*(Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports)*



### Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe and Be Honest

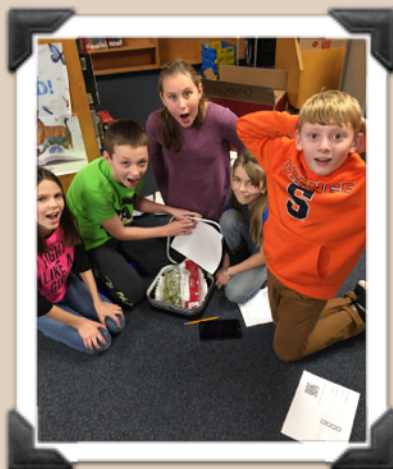
Jared Sheridan and Eleanor Sears were exhibiting PBIS attributes while collaborating with Ms. Aversa's and Mrs. Bouley's classes. The fifth graders were creating yarn dolls for their kindergarten buddies.

All students were on-task, working cooperatively and using appropriate voice levels. Fifth grader Catarina describes the event, "It is enjoyable working with our buddies. It is a fantastic feeling being a good role model."

### "A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words"

This phrase comes to life as fifth grade students celebrate unlocking the Esperanza Rising breakout kit. Reese, Owen, Cat, Kaela and Liam enjoy Esperanza grapes. The "fruits" of their labor paid off.

Jacquelyn Aversa  
Owasco Elementary School



## Owasco Spelling Bee

Owasco Elementary held a Spelling Bee in conjunction with the Scripps National Spelling Bee Program. All Owasco students in Grades 3 through 6 took a written test, and the top 25 spellers went on to compete in an oral Spelling Bee on December 5 in front of their peers, teachers, and parents. Students were very nervous, but they all did an outstanding job!

The top four spellers move on to the Syracuse area written Spelling Bee at OCC on January 13. Congratulations, and good luck!



### Owasco school winners:

**1st:** Mikey Keogan, Grade 6

**2nd:** Ava Pinckney, Grade 6

**3rd:** Makayla Hutchinson, Grade 3

**4th:** Kaylah Pluta, Grade 6

*Winning word:* repugnance





## Books & Bracelets, Hats and Hard Work!

*Submitted by Anne Mlod & Cinda Gilmore,  
Kids With Pride Advisors  
& Marcella Didio, AJHS Honor Society Advisor*



*L: Kids with Pride in front of wall of "Fish" (people who supported project by buying a bracelet or bringing in a book).*

*R: Kids With Pride members Mackenzie Ware and Alex Roblee model uniforms students in Kenya would wear to school.*

*R: Books ready to be mailed.*



In October and November, students at Genesee Elementary School and Auburn Jr. High School worked together to collect 1,000 gently used books to send to the Lianda Primary School in Kenya, Africa. This school, located in a rural fishing village, lacked a school library. Junior High School Librarian Marcella Didio made a connection with The African Library Project, which connects schools in Africa in need of a library with organizations in the United States who are willing to collect the books and raise the money to ship them. Mrs. Didio enlisted her Jr. High Honor Society students to collect, organize and pack the 500 books collected at Auburn Jr. High, and the Genesee "Kids With Pride," with advisors Cinda Gilmore and Anne Mlod, did the same at Genesee Elementary School. To raise money to ship the books, the Jr. High Students held a "Hat Day" and Genesee "Kids With Pride" members made and sold bracelets.

To learn about Kenya, we were able to borrow a "Kenya Kids Kit" from Boston University. The kit contained a variety of artifacts representing life in a Kenyan village. These included games, uniforms, school books, maps, and more. Our students learned about creative ways that people in Kenya re-use materials to make jump ropes, dolls and games. We are so proud of our elementary and Jr. High students for their dedication to this project!

## Genesee Students Explore the World Through Holiday Cards

Four classrooms at Genesee participated in a Global Holiday Card Exchange with classrooms in Canada, the Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Taiwan. Students in Miss Tabone's 1st grade, Ms. Hares's 2nd grade, Mrs. DeJohn's 3rd grade and Mrs. Gilmore's 4th grade classrooms created Christmas cards which included holiday traditions celebrated in student homes. These were mailed in early December to the other classrooms. The first cards mailed to us arrived from a 2nd grade class in Canada. These were followed by cards from Belarus, the Ukraine and Russia. We expect the cards from Taiwan, celebrating Chinese New Year, will arrive soon. It was fun to learn directly from other students how they celebrate the December holidays!

*Submitted by Anne Mlod, Librarian*



*Students in Miss Tabone's class with cards they received from Canada, Belarus, Ukraine and Russia.*



*Cards from Genesee students mailed to a classroom in Minsk, Belarus.*

**The Auburn Enlarged City School District** has been facing significant budget shortfalls year after year due to major flaws with the New York State Foundation Aid formula and its lack of funding.

**Join the fight to eliminate the Income Wealth Index “floor” of .65 so ALL public schools can achieve equitable educational funding!**

If the “floor” of .65 were eliminated, Auburn and 150 other school districts across the state would see a net benefit in the amount of Foundation Aid they receive.

# #FixAndFundIt

**Please help spread the message:**

## **SEND!**

Post cards addressed to Governor Cuomo are available at the Harriet Tubman Administration Building at 78 Thornton Avenue and the main offices of each school. A directory of NYS officials is available at: [district.auburn.cnyric.org/Budget](http://district.auburn.cnyric.org/Budget)

## **SIGN!**

A petition requesting the Governor take immediate action to fix and fully fund the Foundation Aid formula for public schools is available to download at [district.auburn.cnyric.org/Budget](http://district.auburn.cnyric.org/Budget). Ask your family, friends, neighbors, and any other district resident you know to sign the petition.

## **SHARE!**

Use our hashtag - #FixAndFundIt - on social media.



**Our students deserve fair and equitable funding. They need everyone on board to spread this message. The more the governor and other lawmakers hear the message, the more likely they are to listen and act!**

## **ATTENDANCE MATTERS!**



Missing just a few days of school a month can hurt a child's math and reading skills or even their chance of graduating. Please help us reduce chronic absence. Find out more at:

**[www.everystudentpresent.org/parents](http://www.everystudentpresent.org/parents)**

**Check out  
#EveryStudentPresentAECSD  
on social media.**



**Follow  
US  
on  
Twitter!**

District: @AuburnECSD  
AHS: @auburn\_ahs  
AJHS: @auburn\_jrhhigh  
Casey: @auburn\_casey  
Genesee: @auburn\_genesee  
Herman: @auburn\_herman  
Owasco: @auburn\_owasco  
Seward: @auburn\_seward



# January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	 <p><b>1</b></p> <p>NEW YEAR'S DAY <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Holiday Recess</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Winter Tryouts: Modified Girls Basketball Modified Boys Wrestling</p> <p>School Resumes</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>AJHS PTO Mtg. 6:00PM</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>MGR Career Workshops @ Herman Gr.3-5</p> <p>Genesee PTP Mtg. 6:00PM</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Epiphany</p>																																																																																											
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Owasco OPT Mtg 6:30PM</p> <p>District Parent Council Mtg. 6:30PM @ Tubman</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Casey Park CPTO Mtg. 6:30PM</p> <p>Owasco Site Based Team Mtg. 3:30PM</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>																																																																																											
<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday <b>NO SCHOOL</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>8th Grade Parent Night AHS @6:30PM</p> <p>Benjamin Franklin's Birthday</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>																																																																																											
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>World Religion Day www.bahai.us</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Regents Exams</p> <p>PTA Meeting Seward 6:00PM</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Regents Exams</p> <p>Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Regents Exams</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Regents Exams</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>MGR Workshops @ Herman Gr. K-2</p> <p><b>End of First Semester</b> <b>HS End Marking Period 3</b> <b>K-8 Marking Period 2 Ends</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>																																																																																											
<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Blue Moon</p>		<p>December 2017</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<p>February 2018</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
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School social worker, Jennifer Poole, and Auburn Grove Community Manager, Sue Allen

## Thank You for your Generosity!

The Village at Auburn Grove participated in the O'Hara Agricultural Museum's 2017 Festival of Trees by decorating a tree with 123 sets of hats, scarves, and mittens. Volunteers either made the items or raised money to purchase them. They have decided to donate all 123 sets to students in the Auburn school district.



Auburn Grove residents and volunteers



Auburn Enlarged City School District  
Harriet Tubman Administration Building  
78 Thornton Avenue  
Auburn, NY 13021

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
AUBURN, NY 13021  
PERMIT NUMBER 42  
ECRWSS

## POSTAL CUSTOMER/BOX HOLDER



### Enhanced STAR Exemption for Senior Citizens

Senior property owners who already have a Basic STAR Exemption on their primary residence may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR Exemption when they are 65. You should apply when you are 64 so that, if you qualify, you may receive the exemption beginning the year that you turn 65. Auburn city residents should contact the Assessor's Office at City Hall on South Street (315-255-4125). Other Auburn (Aurelius, Throop, Owasco, Sennett, Fleming) and Cayuga County residents should contact their local assessor's office. The deadline for applications for Auburn city residents is February 1. Other Auburn and Cayuga County residents should check with their local assessor.

The Enhanced STAR program for senior citizens provides eligible seniors an exemption from school property taxes for owner-occupied, primary residences. To be eligible for this exemption, a property owner must be 65 years of age or older on December 31, 2017, with income not exceeding \$86,000.

STAR provides qualifying households with up to a \$65,500 exemption on the full value of their property. Qualifying residents owning a home with a full value of \$100,000 will recognize an estimated \$1,158 in Enhanced STAR tax savings in 2017-2018.



January 2018  
**DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

Official Publication of the  
**AUBURN ENLARGED CITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
<http://district.auburn.cnyric.org/>

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**We Make a Difference!**