



# the MAROON monthly

AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 7

## NJHS' Volunteer Efforts

By Marcella Didio, NJHS Advisor



“You miss 100% of the shots you do not take.”

Mary Alice Pineau and Caitlyn Cook

Honor Society Quote of the Day

The members of the National Junior Honor Society at Auburn Junior High School have been busy fulfilling their volunteer service hours. While Covid-19 has limited their reach to the Auburn community, they have turned their focus to serving individuals in their own school community. Some members have volunteered by giving our students a positive thought to carry with them for the week over The Morning Announcements.

Other students have provided recorded picture book readings for Ms. Gebo's remote kindergarten class. Although options were limited, efforts were still made and appreciated.



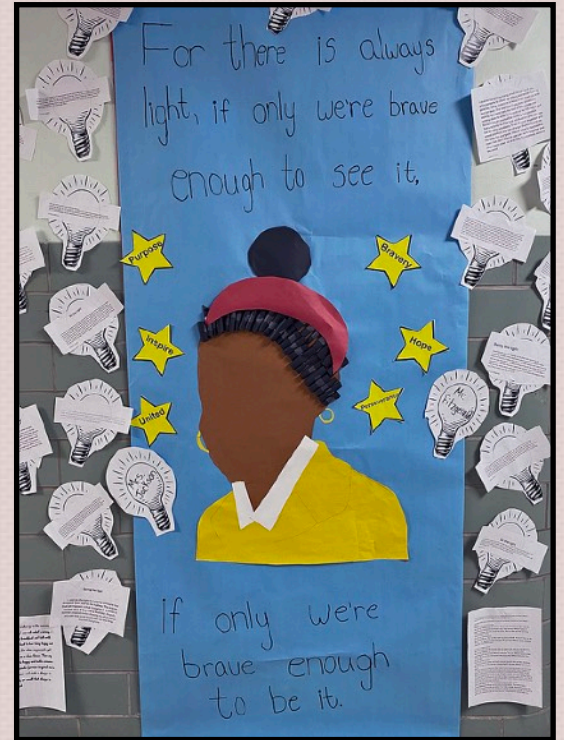
Thomas' Snowsuit: Read by Matthew Crouse

One Snowy Day: Read by Lindsey Marinelli



“I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.” *Nicholas Trumbull*

## Honoring Black History Month



Sixth graders in Mrs. Jackson's and Mr. Fitzgerald's classes at Seward Elementary School celebrated Black History Month by studying Amanda Gorman's Poem "The Hill We Climb." Students were charged with how they could "be the light." Students wrote about complimenting strangers, advocating for equality, and making posters to encourage recycling. Students then helped to create a display about "being the light." We hope that our inspiration causes a ripple that encourages more people to "be brave enough to be it" (the light).



## Seven Songs to Celebrate Harriet Tubman

On Sunday, March 7th at 4:00 PM, folksingers Greg Artzner and Terry Leonino will hold a live concert on Facebook, singing the seven songs created by Genesee 4th grade students. The link is: <https://www.facebook.com/greg.artzner>

*This event is made possible by a grant from the Skaneateles Area Arts Council.*



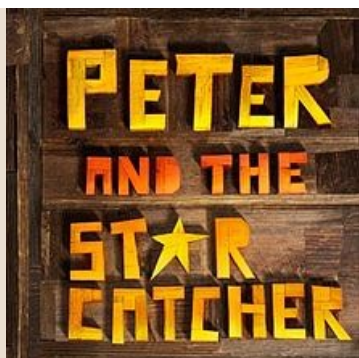


## Snowshoeing Showoffs!

Pictured are first graders in Mrs. Christine Siddall's class and Mrs. Gremli's kindergarten class at Herman Avenue who were able to enjoy the winter weather and snowshoeing!

Thank you so much to Auburn Education Foundation for supporting a grant written by Mrs. Meg Gremli to purchase snowshoes to be used by the kindergarten and first grade classes at Herman Ave Elementary. The students have really enjoyed this new experience. It has been a great way for them get exercise, fresh air, and experience one of winter's most fun (and super healthy) activities during the school day!




Thank you also to Mr. Eaton for helping us put them on, and Mother Nature for supplying the snow!



## Spring Musical at Auburn Junior High

Auburn Junior High School's musical production this spring will be "Peter and the Star Catcher." It is the original story of Peter Pan. Auditions are starting next Tuesday, March 9 and Wednesday, March 10 after school. Rehearsals will run between the end of March and May. Performances are scheduled for May 21-23, 2021.

## Auburn GooseChase Winners!

**TEAM NSWAB**  
RAEGAN AND NATHANIEL  
SWAB  
OWASCO





**TEAM REDMONDFAMILY2021**  
LILY AND COLSON REDMOND  
SEWARD





**TEAM SASHAZ737**  
SASHA ZALBEN  
HERMAN

See all the winners as well as a video with highlights from the GooseChase at:  
<https://sites.google.com/aecsd.education/auburngoosechase>

## "We Care" ART Project at Herman Avenue and Owasco



On Tuesdays art students in kindergarten through sixth grade at Herman Ave. and Owasco Elementary have been learning about caring for others in our Auburn Community. Students in art class in school, remote and virtual have been discussing caring as well as ways to give in the month of February. Students have created 400 Valentine's cards to give to Auburn Nursing Home for Valentine's Day this year. Remote and virtual art students' with Ms. Rice also took part in sending virtually created cards that are now on a slideshow for Auburn Nursing residents to view. Students had a great time learning, using art supplies and combining problem solving skills to give to others!

*Jessica Rice, Art Teacher*

## Black History Month Project at Casey Park Elementary



*Mrs. Mizro's 5th grade students completed Black History projects in celebration of Black History Month. The students each chose a person to research and present on. They all did a wonderful job and everyone learned a lot.*



### 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.



## MARCH is Music in our Schools Month



Led by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), music educators and students throughout the United States and overseas are demonstrating the powerful role that a quality music program plays in the lives of young people. On March 14th, 1973, the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) initiated and celebrated the first ever Music In Our Schools Day. This has since evolved into a month long national and international celebration.

At present, students and educators, K-12, in the Auburn Enlarged City School District are engaged in a variety of music related activities. These activities explore many different concepts, including how music is connected to other core subjects and how music can help us strengthen our successful character traits.

Students at all levels are also exploring specific music concepts such as music reading, moving to the beat while creating patterns/rhythms, playing piano, sight-reading, instrument specific techniques, and playing together as an ensemble.

Some of our Seward Elementary and Auburn High School students are involved in an age-appropriate version of March Madness. Our elementary students are using songs from our online curriculum, Quaver, to compete. At the high school level, concert marches that have been selected by the "President's Own" Marine Corps Band are being utilized for the competition.

Elementary instrumental students at Genesee and Owasco are participating in a building-wide game where they are learning about the musical experiences enjoyed by the building's staff members. At Casey Park, students have the opportunity to "perform" and/or write music in a virtual environment. Several students representing intermediate through high school are preparing to participate in NYSSMA sponsored solo festivals. Students prepare a solo and scales to perform for a judge. The solos may represent difficulty levels from I - VI. All performances are being conducted virtually for this upcoming Spring Solo season. Approximately 12 AHS students representing band, chorus & orchestra are preparing All-State Level VI solos! These are the most rigorous of all of the various solo levels. Currently students representing the AJHS Chorus, AJHS Orchestra, AHS Band and AHS Orchestra are preparing individual performances to be included in collective virtual All-County ensembles. AJHS Band and AHS Chorus students participated in a similar experience last Fall.



All levels of band, chorus and orchestra, represented throughout the district, are considering a variety of options for both virtual and/or live "Spring Concerts" to be able to share with family and friends the collaborative work that they have done in preparing music for performance throughout the year.

At present, planning is underway for the Spring version of our AHS Musical Theatre presentation. Stay tuned for updates...

The AHS Vanguard Marching Band & Color Guard, which includes students from AJHS and AHS, participated in the USBands virtual State Championships last Fall, finishing in First Place for the "Creative" division. These same students, along with the AHS Jazz Band, are currently preparing performances to be entered in the Sherburne virtual Pageant of Bands this Spring.

Congratulations to Mrs. Mucedola (Elementary band) and Mr. Miller (AHS band) on their upcoming retirements. Congratulations also to Dr. [Douglas McCall](#), former Director of Choirs at AHS, on the successful completion of his PHD in Music Education through Penn State University. Dr. McCall will be returning to the district in the Fall of 2021.

On behalf of all AECS D music students and staff, we want to thank the BOE, administration and especially the community for their continued unwavering support of our full K-12 Music Programs (general music, vocal, orchestra, band, musical theater, marching band, jazz band, as well as a variety of individual performance opportunities, et.al.)!

The band and orchestra students at Casey Park, Herman Avenue, and Seward Elementary prepared concert videos for Music in Our Schools Month. They are available at the following links:

Casey Park Elementary School:  
<https://ensemble.cayboces.org/Watch/f4JZj75Q>

Herman Avenue Elementary School:  
<https://ensemble.cayboces.org/Watch/Gm75LaBf>

Seward Elementary School:  
<https://ensemble.cayboces.org/Watch/Lc8x4Q2X>



## Important STAR Tax INFORMATION

**Again, this year, Governor Cuomo has included in his budget proposal various School Tax Relief (STAR) Program Actions. He is requiring those who have not yet switched over from the STAR exemption (reduction directly taken off the school tax bill) to the STAR Tax Relief check (credit), to**

**do so by May 1, 2021 in order to receive the check in time for your school tax bill. If the change to the credit is not made by the deadline, the exemption will still be received for the current year but any difference generated by the credit will be issued as a check. The current deadline is June 15, 2021.**

**Why should you switch to the STAR credit? In 2019, New York State announced that the value of the STAR exemption will no longer increase, yet, the STAR Tax Relief check may increase by as much as 2% each year and never be less than the amount received from the exemption. If you currently receive your STAR benefit as a reduction on your school tax bill (the STAR exemption), you may receive a greater benefit if you switch to the STAR credit to receive a check instead. Therefore, by making the switch you could receive a greater benefit.**

**To see what the savings could be for your home, take a look at your 2019-2020 school tax bill to see what your STAR savings was and then multiply that by 1.02. For example, if your savings was \$800 in 2019-2020 then next year your STAR credit could be \$816, an additional savings of \$16. Yet if you continue with receiving the exemption it will remain the same, year after year.**

**To make this switch, please visit the New York State Department of Taxation website at: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/star/default.htm#switch> and follow the directions to get registered.**



## #FixAndFundIt

The Advocacy Ad Hoc Committee has put this website together as a way to get information out to the community regarding the Foundation Aid issues affecting the district.

For more information please visit:

[fixandfundit.org](http://fixandfundit.org)



### ATTENTION:

All events and activities are subject to change. Please check the website for the latest updates:  
[www.aecsd.education](http://www.aecsd.education)

### NEW YORK STATE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

You can go online to find out if any sexual offenders live near you. The New York State Sex Offender Registry is available at [www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/index.htm](http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/index.htm) whereby you can search for Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders.

## NOW OPEN!

### Open Enrollment for Auburn Enlarged City School District's 2021-2022 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program

The Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program is an integral component of our district and includes a UPK program for our 4 year-old learners and a 3PK program for 3 year-olds. Together, these programs offer comprehensive educational services to Auburn School District residents who will be 3 or 4-years of age on or before December 1st, 2021 and are available at **no cost** for eligible children.

A list of our Universal Pre-Kindergarten program locations (sites) below contains information regarding which sites offer 3PK and/or UPK and which sites provide full-day and/or half-day programs. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are welcome and encouraged to visit any of these participating sites before completing your child's registration. Kindly contact the site to arrange a visit.



Site	Program *	Full/Half Day*	Contact
Cayuga Community College – 81 Wall St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-294-8603
Cayuga Onondaga BOCES – 1879 W. Genesee St. Rd.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-0075
Cayuga Seneca Community Action Agency - 89 York St. and sites at several AECSD schools	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-252-0038
Early Childhood Center – 1110 Corporate Dr.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-0233
E. John Gavras Center – 182 North St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-255-2746
Montessori School of the Finger Lakes – 6734 Pine Ridge Rd.	3PK and UPK	Full-day	315-252-2225
YMCA – 27 William St.	3PK and UPK	Full-day & Half-day 3PK Full-day UPK	315-253-5304

*\*Program offerings, and full/half day classes per site are subject to change*

### Parents/guardians can register their child online and upload the supporting documentation.

Please register your student using the online enrollment form located at the link on the Auburn Enlarged City School District website [www.AECSD.education](http://www.AECSD.education) under Student Registration or <https://www.familyid.com/auburn-csd-student-registration-programs/auburn-csd-2021-2022-upk-registration>

Parents/guardians who prefer to submit their student's registration in person may also pick up a 2021-2022 registration packet at any of the UPK sites listed above and also at any Auburn Elementary School or our Administrative Offices. **Completed applications should be submitted to your child's current Pre-Kindergarten site or to the Harriet Tubman Administrative Offices at 78 Thornton Ave.**

**Need more information about the 2021-2022 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program?**  
Please contact Tina Brechue at 315-255-8825 or Michelle Kolceski at 315-255-8613.



# March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
	1  Music in Our Schools Month	2 NEA's Read Across America	3 World Wildlife Day	4 	5 	6 For updated events please check the online calendar at our website: <a href="http://www.aecsd.education">www.aecsd.education</a>																																																																																				
7 Women's History Month ( <a href="http://www.nwhp.org">www.nwhp.org</a> )	8 International Women's Day	9 Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM	10  Harriet Tubman Day	11 HS End Marking Period 4	12 	13 																																																																																				
14  Daylight Saving Time Begins	15	16	17  St. Patrick's Day  National PTA Founders Day	18	19	20  First Day of Spring																																																																																				
 21 American Red Cross Month ( <a href="http://www.redcross.org">www.redcross.org</a> )	22	23 Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM	24	25	26 AHS Report Cards	27 Passover Begins at Sunset																																																																																				
 28 Palm Sunday Worm Moon	29 NO SCHOOL	30 NO SCHOOL Spring Break Week	31 NO SCHOOL		February 2021 <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</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							April 2021 <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></td><td>1 2 3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</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	
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Looking for past issues: [Maroon Monthly Newsletters](#) Download & Print: [March Calendar Page](#)

## Auburn Education Foundation thanks everyone for their Support



The AEF Board of Directors commends the administrators, staff, students, and parents of the Auburn Enlarged City School District. In spite of the many challenges posed by the Covid-19 virus, each of you continues to work hard to overcome numerous obstacles, to find the most effective ways to maximize teaching and learning. We realize that this has not

been an easy task, but maintain our hope that as an increasing number of teachers and the larger community get vaccinated, the district will return to a more traditional learning environment.

AEF continues to support student learning through our teacher grants. You can learn more about the recent grants awarded by reading an article published in the Citizen on February 17, 2021.

We appreciate the continuous support of the community and local foundations. Your generosity makes it possible to work in collaboration with the district to identify and fund creative and innovative programs. Donations can still be made on AEF's website, [auburneducation.org](http://auburneducation.org), or checks can be mailed to AEF, P.O. Box 592, Auburn, NY 13021. Thank you!

## Central Registration Center for New Students

### Remote Registration Process for New Students During COVID-19

Online student registration is currently open for new students enrolling in pre-kindergarten through Grade 12 for the 2020-2021 school year. Like many school districts, Auburn Enlarged City School District is adapting to the ever-changing environment during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Registration Process that will be followed during this time is online.

Please register your students using the enrollment form located at the following link:

<https://www.familyid.com/programs/auburn-csd-2020-2021-student-registration>



For more information,  
please contact Tina Brechue,  
AECSD Central Registration  
Pre-K through 12th grade

(315) 255-8825 or

TinaBrechue@aecsd.education

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## Anonymous Alerts!

The school district is pleased to partner with Anonymous Alerts®, the anti-bullying and safety reporting app and system. This safety communications tool is a way for our students to quickly communicate anonymously with school officials and engage in anonymous 2-way communications to share more information about incidents. Types of concerns that may be reported include, but are not limited to, bullying, harassment, drug-related issues, fighting, weapons, threats, and more. The goal of this reporting system is to help maintain a safe school climate while giving students ample opportunity to securely communicate with school administrators without fear of retribution by their peers. The system will be monitored during school days between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

To send a report online:

[www.anonymousalerts.com/](http://www.anonymousalerts.com/)

- Download the Anonymous Alerts® app
- Start the app, enter Activation Code: **auburnecsd**
- Send important reports to school officials
- Add a screenshot, photo or video about the incident





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on  
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- District: @AuburnECSD**
- AHS: @auburn\_ahs**
- AJHS: @auburn\_jrhigh**
- Casey: @auburn\_casey**
- Genesee: @auburn\_genesee**
- Herman: @auburn\_herman**
- Owasco: @auburn\_owasco**
- Seward: @auburn\_seward**

## **Keep Your Child on Track With Schoolwork**



**Supporting Children's Learning:** Children who are struggling with schoolwork can become frustrated and look for ways to avoid going to school and participating in school. Our goal is to provide them with the support they need so they feel good about learning and good about themselves. Parents and teachers need to work together to help children succeed in school and feel connected. Find out more at:

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

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



March 2021  
**DISTRICT NEWSLETTER**

Official Publication of the  
**AUBURN ENLARGED CITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
[www.aecsd.education](http://www.aecsd.education)

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