



# the MAROON monthly

AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 4

## Auburn High School is Proud to Announce the Class of 2018 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



*L-R: Katherine Brundage, Valedictorian and Victoria DeJoy, Salutatorian*

When best friends Kate Brundage and Tori DeJoy found out they were going to be Auburn High School's 2017-18 valedictorian and salutatorian, they were thrilled.

"It is a huge honor, and it is awesome to be sharing it with my best friend," Brundage said.

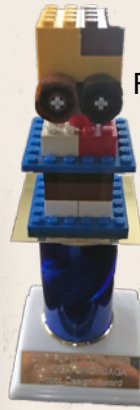
Brundage, valedictorian, and DeJoy, salutatorian, have been best friends since they were freshman.

"I was really proud of both of us," DeJoy said. "It is definitely humbling."

Outside of academics, both young women were on the Auburn High School Tennis team and hold part-time jobs. Each are planning to attend college after they graduate, but their schools of choice are yet to be determined.

**Congratulations!**

## Robotics Competition



Four Auburn teams participated in the First Lego League Robotics Competition at BOCES on November 11th. Teams were given the challenge of researching and presenting a solution to a problem related to water, creating and programming a robot to perform water-related challenges, and demonstrating the core values upon which First Lego League is based.

The four Auburn teams were from Casey Park, Genesee, Herman Ave, and Owasco Elementary Schools. The team from Herman Ave, led by coaches Matt Starr and Beth O'Hara, won the overall competition and will be heading to the regional competition in Rochester in December. The Genesee Elementary team, coached by Mike Jones and Anne Mlod, won the research component of the tournament with their project on how dogs are negatively affected by exposure to water contaminated by harmful algae blooms.

All the Auburn teams worked hard and did a great job demonstrating core values! For more information on Lego First League, visit [www.firstinspires.org](http://www.firstinspires.org).

*Submitted by Anne Mlod, First Lego League Coach*



Left: Herman Avenue Team



Right: Genesee Team

## Fall 2017 Varsity Athletic Summary

**Girls Swimming:** finished the season with a league record of 3-5, and an overall record of 4-7.



The girls placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall at the Class A Section III Tournament on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Kennedy Wilson earned 1<sup>st</sup> team SCAC honors and Claire Alexander earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team SCAC honors.

**Boys Golf:** finished with a league record of 7-7 and an overall record of 8-7. They placed 7<sup>th</sup> in Sectionals on October 4<sup>th</sup> at Tuscarora.



Ross Burgmaster and Parker Hogan qualified for the NYS Qualifier Tournament to be held at Colgate in May.

**Girls Soccer:** finished the season with a league record of 2-12 and 2-14 overall. SCAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-League honors went to Sydney Fallat and Emma Bachman, Karleigh Harris and Abby Marinelli were named to the SCAC Honorable Mention team. The girls soccer team won the NYSPHSAA Scholar-Athlete Team award.



**Boys Soccer:** finished with a 2-12 league record and an overall 3-13 record. SCAC 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-League honors were awarded to Devon Richardson, and SCAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-League honors were awarded to Joe Sabine.



Honorable mentions went to Alex Haines, Nick Dec, Matthias Ballard and Jack Boyd.

**Volleyball:** finished the season with a league record of 0-8 and overall record of 0-12. The team had 8 first year players, 4 returning players, and team captains were Olivia Maassen and Abigail Hai. All League Honorable mentions went to McKayla Hamilton, Abigail Hai and Shelby Weeks.



**Girls Tennis:** finished the season with a 16-2 overall record, and a 14-0 league record. The team qualified for team Sectional play and defeated Central Square in the first round before falling to FM in the finals of the Section III Tournament. Emma Solomon, Kate Brundage, Alex Calkins, Anna Streeter, Grace Baranick and Daisy Townsend received 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-League honors and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team honors went to Makayla Huntley and Lindsay Jarman. The team received the NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Award.



**Girls and Boys Cross Country:** The Girls finished 9<sup>th</sup> in the SCAC League and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Empire Division with Abbie and Kate Izzo receiving All League Empire Division Honors. On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the girls placed 8<sup>th</sup> at Sectionals. For the Boys, All League 1<sup>st</sup> Team went to Jack Mochler and 2<sup>nd</sup> to Ethan Reilley. The Boys finished 8<sup>th</sup> as well at the November 4<sup>th</sup> Sectional. The girls received the NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Award.



**Football:** finished the season with a 0-5 League record an overall record of 4-5. Auburn opened the season by defeating Ithaca High School in the Carrier Dome. This renewed the 13<sup>th</sup> oldest high school rivalry in the United States, and 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest rivalry in New York State. Auburn finished the season as champions of the Section III Back Tournament.



**Field Hockey:** finished the season with 0-3-1 league record and an overall record of 2-9-1. SCAC 1<sup>st</sup> Team honors went to Emma Clark, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team honors to Lauren Dupre, and Kiley Crehan received honorable mention. Congratulations to Captain Emma Clark for receiving the Spectrum Scholar Athlete Award during the season. Individual winners of the NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Award were Emma Clark, Kayden Perry and Stacey Ryan.



## At Casey Park this month....

**Fourth graders** researched various native American tribes and made projects/presented them. They held a gallery walk in the school cafeteria afterwards showing off their hard work.



**First graders** took the Thanksgiving theme and ran with it. Mrs. Miles's class ate a bunch of pies and voted on their favorite flavors. The class then graphed their results during math time!



**Our Top Dog assembly** was a success. Each classroom nominated a student who was an exemplar for the character trait of "Thankfulness". Our Top Dogs were recognized in front of the whole school and received a Top Dog hat!



**Our students honored** those who have served in our country's armed forces by recognizing their family members who have served. A Veteran's Wall was created in our front lobby of all of our relatives who have served our country!



*L-R: Pictured are student essayists Mitchell Homick, Aisha Bailey and Jackson Galka*

## Voices for Veterans

On November 9, 2017, a multitude of vibrant voices from Owasco Elementary School were raised in a joyful salute to our local veterans. Every branch of our nation's military was praised and recognized in a glorious manner befitting their valuable service to our country. Our students sang and read tributes to the heroes that were present. Even though it is hard to believe, this annual event grows more beautiful and meaningful each year. Let us continue to be voices for our veterans every day of the year.

*Jacquelyn Aversa  
Fifth Grade Teacher  
Owasco Elementary School*

## French Food Fair at AJHS

On November 14<sup>th</sup> AJHS French Teacher Madame Cindy Porten hosted a French Food Fair at the AJHS Library. The fair was the culmination of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade French Food Unit. Students were asked to write a Café Scene, create a menu and perform a café skit for the class. Students did an excellent job and were rewarded with a variety of French Foods purchased locally in Auburn. Wegmans, BJ's, Donovan-Luska, and the AJHS PTO were all instrumental in supporting Mrs. Porten in this venture.

Students sampled Evian, Perrier with either Grenadine or Lime Syrup, and Frizzante, in four different flavors. French cheeses (les fromages) including Triple Crème Brie, Tomé Fleur Verte, Tomé Airelles-Cran, Blue Auvergne, Comté, Pie diAngloys, Roquefort, and Nicoise-Coquillos olives were labeled and presented to the students to try. Fruit platters and vegetable platters along with several French "pains" breads, including baguettes, croissants and petits toasts, were presented to the students to try. Finally, éclairs, Lindt truffles and petit fours finished their sampling for a sweet treat! With a medley of Café music in the background, students transformed the library into a French café by creating awnings on the doorways, poster board menus and decorated each table with mini Eiffel Towers. Mrs. Porten also brought in an Eiffel Tower and a bistro table set for outside the library.

**Bon Appetit!**



## Word to the World – Young Playwrights for Change

Auburn Junior High School students recently participated in the Word to the World-Young Playwrights for Change contest sponsored by Syracuse Stage. Students were invited to write 10 minute plays addressing this year's theme:

**"Rise Up: Fighting for Love and Inclusion in the Face of Hatred and Bigotry."** The winner of the Syracuse competition gets a chance to compete in a national playwrighting competition. AJHS English teachers selected one student play from 7th grade and one from 8th grade to submit to the local competition. Clare Diffin's play "Stand Out" was selected for 7th



grade. The theme is finding the courage to stand up for oneself to a bully. Ella Boedicker's play "Elephant" was selected for 8th grade. Ella's play is about the power of friendship to help two "different" students fight against hatred. Congratulations to Clare and Ella! They will get a chance to participate in several workshops on playwrighting offered by Syracuse Stage. Good luck to them as they compete in the Syracuse competition!

Deborah Gleason-Rielly  
8th Grade English,  
Auburn Junior High School



L-R: Ella Boedicker and Clare Diffin

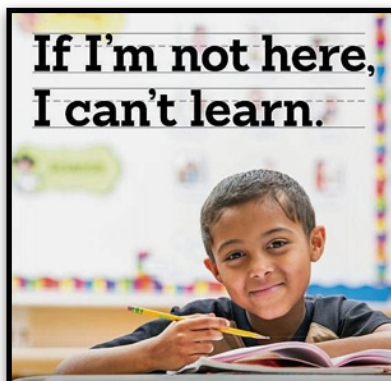
## 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Seward Elementary Circus

On Friday, November 17, sixty three Seward Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade students performed in the school's 22<sup>nd</sup> annual circus. This year's theme was "Disco Circus" and it drew in a full gymnasium of spectators. The event included games and refreshments capped off with a fantastic performance by the fifth graders. The school's physical education teachers, Mrs. Mazza and Mr. Patchett, organized a week-long preparation that included a school-wide assembly on Monday, circus skills instruction in all of the physical education classes and extended periods of practice for the fifth grade performers. Circus skills learned and performed were the spinning plates, Chinese Diabolos, juggling, stilts, devil sticks and globes.



Seward Elementary would like to extend a special thank you to the Seward Elementary School's PTA for their continued financial support to ensure the tradition continues; Larry Rundle (aka "The Incredible Larry") and Joshua Edelman (aka "Joshua J. Superstar") for working with all of the Seward students all week long to perfect their circus skills; and to the many parent volunteers that worked to make the night such a great success!

## Auburn Schools Committed to Making Every Student Present



In today's fast paced classroom, it is more important than ever for children to attend school every day. When children miss school, they cannot learn, and their opportunities disappear. Research is clear; students who attend school regularly do better academically and are more likely to establish work habits that help them succeed in life and work.

The Auburn Enlarged City School District is committed to reducing chronic absenteeism district-wide and to convey the importance of consistent school attendance within our community. To help with this, we launched a strategic attendance initiative at the beginning of the school year to coincide with New York State's **Every Student Present** campaign. **Every**

**Student Present** is a public awareness campaign developed by the Council on Children and Families, and it is designed to help families, school leaders, and communities understand the importance of consistent school attendance and the impact of absences on students' learning, especially young students.

Since the start of the school year, all of our schools have been promoting good school attendance and working with students and families that are struggling with it. At the junior high and high school, teachers meet each week to discuss attendance issues and relay any concerns to the school counselors who monitor attendance. Weekly meetings with the school's social worker, school counselors, school psychologist, principal, and assistant principals are held to brainstorm ways to help students with chronic absenteeism. The principal schedules meetings with parents of students who are chronically absent, and in some cases, home visits are made. At the high school, students who have moderate or above school attendance concerns are referred to FAST, which is a program designed for quick access to home and community-based services for families and children who are experiencing significant problems at home, in school, and in the community.

Herman Avenue Elementary is calling home to have a conversation with parents when students miss multiple days of school, excused or not. Owasco Elementary is celebrating good attendance in the classrooms and handing out quarterly awards. Casey Park Elementary is incentivizing students each month with a raffle to win breakfast with the principal and assistant principal. Seward Elementary has a competition for best attendance going between grade levels and awards prizes to the winners each week.

Genesee Elementary also has a competition between grade levels for best attendance, and the winning grade level gets a pizza party at the end of the month courtesy of the Genesee Parent Teacher Partnership. Furthermore, Genesee has been promoting its "Attendance Counts!" board showcasing grade level attendance percentages on its Twitter and Facebook pages in order to keep parents informed of the initiative.

In the month of December, all of our schools will be implementing an attendance incentive program called **STRIVE FOR 95**. The goal is to reach a 95% or better attendance rate for the month of December in each of our schools. Our students need to be in school so they can get the most out of many exciting educational opportunities. **STRIVE FOR 95** will consist of classroom discussions, awards for best class attendance, and a contest for classroom posters that send the message to our students to be in school daily. In addition, there will be information for parents regarding school attendance and how it impacts families today.

School absences are not an issue which can be solely dealt with by the schools. School attendance requires the support of both parents and the school community if it is to be successfully addressed. Join us in our month long goal to STRIVE FOR 95. Please ensure your children get to school every day in December to help us meet our goal.

For more information on **Every Student Present**, please visit [www.everystudentpresent.org/parents](http://www.everystudentpresent.org/parents).

Thank you for your anticipated support.

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



**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!**



**Follow us on Twitter!**

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

## **SCHOOL TAX INFORMATION**

**2nd installment due:  
December 5, 2017**

**Last day the collector will accept taxes is: December 5, 2017**

**Questions about your bill?  
Call 315-255-8806  
or e-mail:**

**[Sandra\\_VanGiesen@auburn.cnyric.org](mailto:Sandra_VanGiesen@auburn.cnyric.org)**

**You can also look up your bill online at: [www.taxlookup.net](http://www.taxlookup.net)**



## **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.

**Red Ribbon Week** is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country and serves as a vehicle for our students to take a stand on drug prevention and education. The Auburn School District celebrated Red Ribbon Week October 23-31, 2017.



### Casey Park Red Ribbon Winners

Top Row: Jayden DeAngelis (6th), Troy Reed (5th), Adam Stotler (4th), Alex Knight (3rd). Bottom Row: Hayley Allen (2nd), Sierra Smith (1st), and Nevaeh Colwell (K)



### Genesee Red Ribbon Winners

L-R: Jacob Morrell (5th), Issak Keegan (K), Alyssa Davenport (6th), Korissa O'Hara (4th), Willow Waldron (3rd), Nayana Broadnax (1st), Shartrise Baker (2nd), and Principal Amanda Simmons.



### Seward Red Ribbon Winners

Back row L-R: Taryn Yeomans, Anthony Cioci, Madison Fredericksen, and Alexa Fedigan.

Front row L-R: Makenna Komanecky, Peter McIntyre, and Steven Reynolds.



### Owasco Red Ribbon Winners

L-R: Dejah Evans-Murphy, Owen Mahunik, Nate Bennett, Makayla Hutchinson, Madeline Nightengale, Hannah Blair, Alexandra Sadusky, Kia DuMond & Jonathan Carnicelli.

### Herman Ave Red Ribbon Winners

L-R: Seth Portipilo (K), Lily Blanchfield (1st), Kevin Crary (2nd), Sean Ringwood (3rd), Madeline Wolfgang (4th), Addison Lange (5th), and Shelby Boles (6th).

## Field Trip to the National Guard Armory



Students enrolled in the Auburn High Technology Department's Transportation Systems course participated in a field trip to the National Guard Armory. Students were able to experience the actual working conditions and tools utilized by professional mechanics. They were able to go in and around HUMVEE's that were being serviced and repaired and ask the technicians questions about specific parts of the vehicles. Students were able to see the specialized equipment and tools that larger facilities require to maintain large service vehicles. In the spring, the class is hoping to revisit the armory and learn about MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicles that are in use in combat areas.

*Mike Baldino, AHS Technology Teacher*

# December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 2017 S M T W T F S 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	January 2018 S M T W T F S 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				<b>1</b> World AIDS Day  AHS Drama Club Show 7PM @ Auburn Pub.Theater	<b>2</b>  AHS Drama Club Show 7PM @ Auburn Pub.Theater
 FULL <b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Casey Park Winter Concert Instrument/Choral 6PM  District Parent Council Mtg. 6:30PM @ Tubman	<b>5</b> National Volunteer Day	<b>6</b> AJHS PTO Mtg. 6:00PM  AHS Orchestra Winter Concert 7:00PM	<b>7</b> Genesee PTP Mtg. 6:00PM  Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	<b>8</b> AJHS Winter Ball 6:30-8:30PM  HS End Marking Period 2	
 LAST <b>10</b> Human Rights Day	<b>11</b> MGR Playhouse @Herman Gr. 4 Longhouse Seward Winter Concert Instrument/Choral 6PM  OPT Meeting Owasco 6:30PM Library	<b>12</b> AJHS Winter Concert (Orchestra) 7:00PM Board of Education Mtg. AHS Library @ 7:00PM  <b>Hanukkah</b> (Begins at Sunset)	 <b>13</b> Owasco Holiday Shop  AHS Band Winter Concert 7:00PM	<b>14</b> Owasco Holiday Shop Owasco Winter Concert at AHS Auditorium, 6PM CPE AJHS Parent Night 6:00-7:00PM Herman Winter Concert Instrument/Choral 6PM	 <b>15</b> HS Report Cards Bill of Rights Day	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	 <b>18</b> PTA Meeting Seward 6:00PM	<b>19</b> AJHS Modified Boys Swim/ Wrestling Physicals, 2:20PM	 <b>20</b> <b>Hanukkah</b> AJHS Girls Modified Basketball Physicals, 2:20PM Genesee Winter Concert Instrument/Choral 6PM	 <b>21</b> AJHS Winter Concert (Band/Chorus/) 7:00PM <b>First Day of Winter</b>	<b>22</b> Holiday Parties Herman Sing-A-Long 2PM <b>GO HOME DRILL</b> (Students Released 15 Minutes Early)	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Christmas Eve	<b>25</b> <b>NO SCHOOL                      Holiday Recess</b>   Christmas Day	 <b>26</b> <b>NO SCHOOL                      Holiday Recess</b>  Kwanzaa	<b>27</b> <b>NO SCHOOL                      Holiday Recess</b>	<b>28</b> <b>NO SCHOOL                      Holiday Recess</b>	<b>29</b> <b>NO SCHOOL                      Holiday Recess</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> New Year's Eve						

## Auburn 2017 Athletic Hall of Fame



The inductions to the Auburn High School Athletic Hall of Fame were held November 4<sup>th</sup> at The Springside Inn. Pictured are members of the 2017 Class. Front: Melanie (Kulis) Maher, Melissa (Coleman) Finlay, and Julie (Angelina) Rosga. Back: Greg Michaels representing Bill Sroka (deceased), Charles Alte, Jim Kleiber, Thomas McCants, and Bill Picciano. Not pictured: Walter Fuss (deceased).

Congratulations to all of these very deserving inductees. The Auburn Athletic tradition continues!



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.



December 2017  
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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

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Deborah J. Leone

**We Make a Difference!**