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# the MIARON NI MONTHLY

AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 10











#### ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP: Available to Auburn HS Seniors

Skyler Bishuk plans to attend Keuka College to pursue her education in ICU Nursing/Nurse Anesthetist

Nathaniel Bennett plans to attend Cornell University to pursue his education in Biology/Chemistry

#### COE SCHOLARSHIP: AHS Seniors and Alumni

Nathaniel Bennett plans to attend Cornell University to pursue his education in Biology/Chemistry

Skyler Bishuk plans to attend Keuka College and pursue her education in ICU Nursing/Nurse Anesthetist

Kaitlyn Diego attends Alfred University to pursue her education in School Psychology

Ella Doan attends the Rochester Institute of Technology to pursue her education as a Physician's Assistant

Luke Fallat plans to attend University at Buffalo to pursue his education in Architecture

Sara Fritz attends Clarkson University and is pursuing an education as a Physician's Assistant

Magdaline Hill plans to attend SUNY Geneseo to pursue her education in Biomedical Science as a Physician's Assistant

Alyssa Hogle plans to attend Keuka College to pursue her education in Occupational Therapy

Sydney Marinelli attends St. John Fisher University and is pursuing her education in Nursing

Cara McKeen plans to attend Cayuga Community College to pursue her education in Nursing

Sydney Yurco plans to attend Le Moyne College to pursue her education in Biology as a Psychiatrist

#### CHARLES MAIN SCHOLARSHIP: AHS Seniors and Alumni

Jacob Ackerman plans to attend Clarkson University to pursue his education in Mechanical Engineering

Sara Alberici attends Siena College and is pursuing her education in Business

Tapangah Becker plans to attend Le Moyne College to pursue her education in Accounting

Nathaniel Bennett plans to attend Cornell University to pursue his education in Biology/Chemistry

Skyler Bishuk plans to attend Keuka College to pursue her education in ICU Nursing/Nurse Anesthetist

Nora Burroughs plans to attend Hamilton College to pursue her education in Biology/Doctor

Ella Doan attends the Rochester Institute of Technology to pursue her education as a Physician's Assistant

Collin Elvin plans to attend the University at Buffalo to pursue his education in Civil Engineering

Luke Fallat plans to attend University at Buffalo to pursue his education in Architecture

Sara Fritz attends Clarkson University and is pursuing an education as a Physician's Assistant

Magdaline Hill plans to attend SUNY Geneseo to pursue her education in Biomedical Science as a Physician's Assistant

Alyssa Hogle plans to attend Keuka College to pursue her education in Occupational Therapy

Check out the following links on our Website:

AHS Graduation Ceremony & Future Plans: AHS Class of 2025

Junior and Senior Awards: AHS Class of 2025

AECSD Athletics Homepage: Auburn Maroons Athletic Gallery

2025-2026 School Year Calendars: Download Calendars

| Auburn Enlarged City School District Retirees 2024-2025 |                  |  |  |  |
|---|------------------|--|--|--|
| Name  | Years of Service | Position - Building                      |  |  |
| Name  | Years            | Position – Auburn High School            |  |  |
| Julie Liccion   | 13               | CTE/Family & Consumer Science<br>Teacher |  |  |
| Cheryl Loechelt   | 22               | Earth Science Teacher                    |  |  |
| Deborah Luziani   | 18               | Keyboard Specialist                      |  |  |
| Patricia Mulvey   | 23               | Teacher Aide                             |  |  |
| George Whipple  | 26               | Social Worker                            |  |  |
| Name  | Years            | Auburn Junior High                       |  |  |
| Michele Borza   | 23               | Library Clerk                            |  |  |
| Cynthia Bovi  | 34               | Reading Teacher                          |  |  |
| Patricia Lincoln  | 29               | Foreign Language Teacher                 |  |  |
| James Martin  | 19               | Teacher Aide                             |  |  |
| Name  | Years            | Position – Casey Park                    |  |  |
| Lisa Petrosino  | 20               | Art Teacher                              |  |  |
| Teresa Querns   | 22               | 3rd Grade Teacher                        |  |  |
| Name  | Years            | Position – Genesee                       |  |  |
| David Fern  | 27               | Physical Education Teacher               |  |  |
| Michelle Petrosino                                      | 25               | Teacher Aide                             |  |  |
| Name  | Years            | Position – Herman                        |  |  |
| Patricia Lull   | 26               | Teacher Aide                             |  |  |
| Juliann Tabone  | 26               | 3rd Grade Teacher                        |  |  |
| Mary Jo Turner  | 26               | Elementary Teacher (6TH)                 |  |  |
| Name  | Years            | Position - Tubman                        |  |  |
| Jeffrey Pirozzolo                                       | 20               | Superintendent of Schools                |  |  |
| Pamela Skomsky  | 28               | Secretary to the Superintendent          |  |  |

# 2025 Student-Athlete Award Winners Presented at the Varsity Club Athletics Award Ceremony

| Award   | Winners  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Varsity Club Award  | Female: Gianna Gagliardi Male: Aidan Musso   |  |
| Silver Medal: two sport Varsity athletes with an academic average of 85 or above.   | Jaccob Adams, Eric Barski, Sam Coleman, Kyle Driscoll,<br>Tionna Edghill, Colton Hai, Shaliyah Helmick, Maggie Hill,<br>Marlee Hogan, Addison Lange, Emily Neuman, Wayland<br>Wright   |  |
| Gold Medal: two sport Varsity athletes with an academic average of 90 or above.   | Sara Alberici, Nate Bennett, Skyler Bishuk, Nora Burroughs,<br>Abby Clark, Jack Dalziel, Ashlyn Feneck, Austin Ferrin, Alyssa<br>Hogle, Amelia LeFevre, Aidan Musso, Mary Alice Pineau,<br>Eythan Raso, Abigail Ringwood,  |  |
| Three Sport Athlete: These student-athletes participated in three Varsity sports in their Senior Year.                                    | Sara Alberici, Nate Bennett, Nora Burroughs,<br>Tionna Edghill, Merlin Ferguson, Austin Ferrin, Seamus<br>Gentile-Ovens, Colton Hai, Shaliyah Helmick, Alyssa Hogle,<br>Emily Neuman, Mary Alice Pineau, Eythan Raso, Abigail<br>Ringwood, Samaya Stokes, Wayland Wright |  |
| <b>Mighty Maroon</b> - Awarded to class Valedictorian and/or Salutatorian, earning a varsity letter in both their Junior and Senior year. | Mitchell Homick (Valedictorian) Matthew Crounse (Salutatorian)   |  |
| VanBrocklin Award- Swimming   | Matthew Crounse  |  |
| Kroker Award - Football   | Alex Chase   |  |
| Section III Award   | Female: Alyssa Hogle Male: Nathaniel Bennett   |  |
| Coaches of Women's Sports Award   | Abby Clark, Tionna Edghill, Mary Alice Pineau  |  |
| Coaches of Men's Sports Award   | Austin Ferrin, Seamus Gentile-Ovens, Eythan Raso   |  |
| Go-To Caddie Golf Scholarships  | Skyler Bishuk, Abby Clark, Mike Driscoll   |  |
| AHS Cross Country Scholarships  | Nora Burroughs, Austin Ferrin, Mary Alice Pineau, Abigail Ringwood   |  |
| Edwin A. Blatz Scholarship  | Alyssa Hogle   |  |
| Nicholas W. Campagnola Scholarship  | Mike Boyhan & Colton Hai   |  |
| Kaiden Tubbert Foundation Team Spirit<br>Scholarships   | Ice Hockey: Seamus Gentile-Ovens<br>Lacrosse: Samuel Coleman   |  |
| Gino Alberici Memorial Scholarship  | Kyle Driscoll  |  |
| Auburn Community Hospital Scholarship   | Female: Alyssa Hogle Male: Seamus Gentile-Ovens  |  |
| Coach Tom Clary Jr. Memorial Scholarship  | Amelia LeFevre   |  |
| Ringwood Award  | Female: Abigail Ringwood Male: Aidan Musso   |  |
| Dr. Tamela Ray Athletic Leadership Award  | Female: Shaliyah Helmick Male: Colton Hai  |  |
| William F. Huther Memorial Scholarship  | Winner #1: Addison Lange Winner #2: Amelia LeFevre   |  |
| Bob Dean Leadership Scholarship   | Female: Mary Alice Pineau Male: Nathaniel Bennett  |  |
| Chloe Calhoun Memorial Scholarship  | Female: Amelia LeFevre Male: Jacob Morrell   |  |

# AHS seniors were recognized at the NAACP Juneteenth Students of Color Graduate and Scholarship Recognition ceremony! Congratulations to our 2025 graduates and scholarship recipients!



#### **June DEI Notes**

Throughout June, all AECSD buildings recognized Caribbean Heritage Month and honored the significance of Juneteenth through creative bulletin board displays and themed morning announcements. At Casey Park Elementary, Ms. Burns-Hadfield's classroom brought history to life with a special Juneteenth play. Students performed for families and friends, using speeches and songs to explain the importance of the holiday. At Genesee Elementary, Ms. Harvey's Kindergarteners baked sweet plantains to try for Caribbean Heritage Month.

Many of our students also proudly participated in the Juneteenth parade and community celebration hosted by the Booker T. Washington Community Center. Families enjoyed an afternoon filled with crafts, music, food, and fun, making it a memorable event for all.

In a meaningful ceremony on Juneteenth, the NAACP honored our graduating students of color at the AME Zion Church with a student recognition ceremony. Several students were awarded scholarships and shared their future aspirations with the community.



#### **Juneteenth Presentation at CaseyPark**

Students in Mrs. Burns-Hadfield's class honored Juneteenth by performing a special presentation that highlighted the history and significance of the holiday. Families were invited to attend and enjoy the thoughtful and engaging performance, which reflected the students' learning and creativity.



"It doesn't matter where you come from. You are never too small or too insignificant to contribute to the long term sustainability of our planet. By doing simple things to the best of your ability, you are improving our world."

Farmer Tantoh



Grey Coughlin, a third grade student at Seward Elementary School, took these words to heart. Grey contributed \$50 of his own savings to "The Farmer Tantoh Project" fundraising drive at Seward Elementary in May. The money will support clean water efforts and sustainable organic farming practices in Cameroon, Africa. Grey's parents said that, "He felt very strongly that he wanted to donate to help. We are proud of him and it makes us happy to know he is in tune with how blessed he is and wants to help others." Thank you, Grey, for your generosity your whole Seward Family is very proud of you too!

# Grade 3 Seward kids wrote a book two years ago —



In 3rd grade, they wrote a picture book titled "A Sticky Situation", which is about a donut family that lives on a farm. (1st picture)



#### - AND

The same group of students wanted to write a sequel to the book they wrote in 3rd grade. These students are now in 5th grade and have just published a chapter book titled "A Sticky Situation: The Sequel". The sequel takes place 10 years later; the family sold the farm and bought an island! Each student wrote a chapter about what their character has been up to over the last ten years and what they are doing now on the island.

Julia Mondo

#### **News from Auburn Junior High**

#### **Expanding Opportunities Through Community Support**

Thanks to generous support from two incredible organizations, the Physical Education Department has expanded its curriculum in meaningful ways.

The Auburn Education Foundation awarded a grant to support the addition of an Aerial Yoga unit at the Junior High School. This unique program allows students to explore strength, balance, flexibility, and mental wellness through the use of aerial silks. The unit has already been met with enthusiasm, and students are benefiting both physically and mentally. We are deeply grateful to AEF for making this innovative opportunity possible.



In addition, funding from DonorsChoose enabled the purchase of an adapted trike, providing our special education students with the chance to experience the joy and independence of bike riding—something many take for granted. The smiles on our students' faces say it all. Many thanks to the generous donors who made this dream a reality. (Now we just need to add a bell!)

> Shelly Connors, AJHS PE Teacher







## SEWARD STUDENT SHINES!

Third grader Hunter
Janish participated in
Key Bank's 34th annual
"Neighbors Make the
Difference Day." Hunter
helped other volunteers
clean the kitchen and
lodge at Camp Y
Owasco to get ready for
this year's campers on
Owasco Lake!

# Postcards to Space from Casey Park

What is a cow's two favorite places to visit in space? The Milky Way and the Moooon of course! These were just some of the topics that Mrs. Blaisdell's Third Grade class got to read and learn about in our ELA unit called "Astronomy: The Solar System and Beyond".

Students learned that the outer planets are not solid but made of gas (mostly hydrogen and helium); the big dipper is found within the constellation Ursa Major; and the International Space Station was designed and built by scientists from 4 countries - Russia, Canada, Japan and the United States. We were also amazed that it is approximately the size of a football field!

As our class continued learning about our Solar System, we wondered what else has ever been to space? That is when we learned about the "Postcards to Space" program.

Founded by Blue Origin, the Club for the Future is a nonprofit with the mission to inspire future generations to pursue careers in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) for the benefit of Earth. The "Postcards to Space" program aims to inspire the next generation of world changers by participating in sending postcards to space!

Students were given a blank postcard to create their own picture and message about how space has inspired them. The postcards were then sent back to board Blue Origin's New Shepard rocket and will make the incredible journey to space! Once the rocket returns to earth; the postcards will be recovered, stamped "flown to space" and sent back to each student as a space-flown-keepsake.

Jeanne Blaisdell, Gr. 3 Teacher, Casey Park



#### **Field Day at Casey Park!**

Students had a blast rotating through a variety of exciting space-themed activities and games on June 20.









#### Parental Notice Language for 2025 - 2026 School Year

As part of a required school health examination, a student is weighed, and his/her height is measured. These numbers are used to figure out the student's body mass index or 'BMI'. The BMI helps the doctor or nurse know if the student's weight is in a healthy range or is too high or too low. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's school health examination. A sample of school districts will be selected to take part in a survey by the New York State Department of Health. If our school is selected to be part of the survey, we will be reporting to New York State Department of Health information about our students' weight status groups. Only summary information is sent. No names and no information about individual students are sent. However, you may choose to have your child's information excluded from this survey report.

The information sent to the New York State Department of Health will help health officials develop programs that make it easier for children to be healthier.

If you do not wish to have your child's weight status group information included as part of the Health Department's survey this year, please print and sign your name below and return this form to:

Caren Radell, Nursing Supervisor

78 Thornton Avenue
Auburn, NY 13021
Carenradell@aecsd.education

Please do not include my child's weight status information in the 2025-2026 School Survey.

| <b></b>             |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Print Child's Name  | Date               |
| •                   |                    |
| <b>I</b>            |                    |
| Print Parent's Name | Parent's Signature |



#### Weather Experiments

Scientists in third grade at **Owasco** are studying weather and climate in their area and worldwide! In their first lesson, they examined clues about how clouds look and feel to discover what they're made of and how they form. In the activity, Gas Trap, students added hot water to clear cups to observe evaporation firsthand. They used this model to understand how clouds are formed.

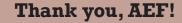




#### Read and Ride!

Read and Ride at Herman Avenue Elementary School had a fun time, thanks to generous grant funding from the <u>Auburn Education</u> Foundation.

Kindergarten teacher Meg Gremli said, "We were able to purchase 25 pedal bikes for students to use while reading. The bikes encourage exercise throughout the day! Kids have said that pedaling while reading or listening has helped them with their focus, and they are a lot of fun!"









#### **Stock Market Game Winners!**

Each year, Mr. Kowalski registers teams from various schools and grade levels (4–6) to participate in the Stock Market Game, a statewide competition where students are given a virtual \$100,000 to invest in real-time stocks from September through April. Teams from across New York State take part, with the majority being high school students.

This year, two teams from Mr. Dechick and Mrs. Monahan's 4th grade class at Casey Park Elementary had an outstanding showing. One team placed 1st among all elementary school teams in the state (1st out of 144) and ranked an impressive 151st out of 4,366 teams overall. The second team placed 3rd among elementary schools and 548th overall.

Congratulations to these young investors on their remarkable achievement!

# Seymour Library

Seymour Library | 176-178 Genesee Street | Auburn, NY | 315.252.2571

#### **Color Your World with the Library!**

From a variety of fun clubs to our annual Discover Summer Kick-off party, children and families can explore fun programs & events at Seymour Library! Join us this summer for storytimes, crafts, teen DIY, and much more!

# Discover Summer: June 28 - August 9 Color Our World with Seymour Library!



Calling all explorers! Discover Summer at Seymour Library, **June 28 through August 9**, and join us for adventures filled with storytimes, science programs, book to movie clubs, and more. All you need is your imagination and curiosity! Programs will be held on the library's front lawn. If there is rain, the fun will be moved into the library!

#### PokéWalk @ Hoopes Park Saturday, July 19, & August 9 at 2:00 pm



This summer Pokémon Club is on the GO! Meet up at Hoopes Park to play Pokémon GO with fellow trainers on a PokéWalk! Bring a device that is wifi compatible to connect to our library hotspot or take turns on the library's device to catch some pokémon IRL. For ages 7 and up, but all ages are welcome! No registration required.

#### Family Fun Nights! Friday, July 18 & Friday, August 8 at 6 pm

July features our favorite magician, Jeff the Magic Man, and in August it's Game On in the Family Space as we celebrate with a fun filled Family Game Night with HABA! No registration required for either program!

#### Storytime Explorers

**Every other Saturday at 11 am** 



Calling all EXPLORERS! Bring your curiosity and join us for a special storytime led by local community guests! For ages 6 to 11, but all ages welcome. No registration required.

## July 12: Fire Safety with the Auburn Fire Department

Join the Auburn Fire Department at Seymour Library for a special firefighter-themed storytime.

## July 26: Sheriff Schenck from the Cayuga County Sheriff's Department

Learn about what law enforcement officers do and receive some safety tips!

#### August 9: Reading with a Ranger

Learn about the life of Harriet Tubman while exploring nature during this interactive storytime with Ranger Brittany from the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park.

For more information regarding events, programs, and library hours, visit seymourlibrary.org.

## StoryWalk® Returns to Hoopes Park, Owasco Playground, and Casey Park

This year you will be able to enjoy the library's StoryWalk® at three locations- Hoopes Park, 100 S. Herman Ave., Owasco Playground, 6 Bristol Ave, and Casey Park, 150 N Division St. Take a stroll around the park or playground and read a story at the same time! New books installed mid-June through August.

Learn more about the library's Discover Summer programming <u>seymourlibrary.org/events/discoversummer</u>.

#### PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION

Dear Parents, Guardians, and School Staff:

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The Auburn Enlarged City School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are <u>not</u> subject to prior notification requirements:

- a school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- anti-microbial products;
- nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- the application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- the application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- the use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the form below and return it to the AECSD Facilities Department, Attn: Eric L. Francisco, CBO, Director of Facilities, the Auburn Enlarged City School District pesticide representative, at: 78 Thornton Avenue, Auburn, NY 13021 or email to marycregg@aecsd.education.

| Auburn Enlarged City School District<br>Request for Pesticide Application Notification  |                |   |  |
|---|----------------|---|--|
| School Building Name (Circle all that apply):  * Auburn High School  * Auburn Junior High School  * Casey Park Elementary School  * Genesee Elementary School |                | * Herman Avenue Elementary School  * Owasco Elementary School  * William H. Seward Elementary School  * Harriet Tubman Administrative Offices |  |
| Name:   |                | Address:  |  |
| Day Phone:  | Evening Phone: | E-mail Address:   |  |

Notification requests must be received by AECSD each school year to stay current. If you have requested notification in the past, you will need to re-submit your request using the form above. Feel free to contact Eric L. Francisco, CBO, Director of Facilities, the Auburn Enlarged City School District pesticide representative, at 315-255-8853 for further information on these requirements.

National Suicide Prevention
Call or text 988

988

24/7 Free and confidential support for people in distress https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/crisis/988.html



# Talk to your teen about **VAPING**

Click below to read the US Surgeon General's Tip Sheet for Parents:



https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/SGR ECig ParentTipSheet 508.pdf

#### Follow us on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/AuburnECSD

https://www.facebook.com/AuburnJrHS

https://www.facebook.com/caseyparkelementary

https://www.facebook.com/geneseeschool

https://www.facebook.com/OwascoElementary

https://www.facebook.com/HermanAveElementary

https://www.facebook.com/WilliamHSewardElementary

# #Fix and FundIt

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



#### 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.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/index.htm">www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/index.htm</a> whereby you can search for Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders.



#### 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

Check out #EveryStudentPresentAECSD on social media.



· Other urgent situations



## New Student Safety Reporting System: SpeakUp for Safety

We are excited to announce that our school district has transitioned from Anonymous Alerts to **SpeakUp for Safety**, a new student safety reporting system provided by Gaggle. This platform offers students a simple and confidential way to report concerns about school safety and the well-being of their peers—such as bullying, threats of violence, or students in crisis.

Students can **email tips to speakup@aecsd.education or text/call 315-370-3222** at any time. There's no app to download—just a simple way to speak up when something doesn't feel right.

Messages are monitored by trained safety professionals 24/7/365, and serious concerns are immediately shared with district staff for appropriate action.

We believe SpeakUp for Safety will strengthen our efforts to maintain a safe and supportive environment for all students.

#### **GO MAROONS!**

All events and activities are subject to change.

Please check the website for the latest updates: www.aecsd.education



## July 2025 DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the AUBURN ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT www.aecsd.education

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Jim Van Arsdale, President
Matteo Bartolotta, Vice President
CJ Calarco
Melissa Deyneka
Dr. Eli Hernández
Jason Horbal
Daniel Lovell
Noel Romeo
Danielle Wood

#### SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Misty L. Slavic, Ed.D.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK
Michelle Major

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER
Deborah J. Leone

To report Child Abuse call the Statewide Toll Free Telephone Number: 1-800-342-3720 or visit: <a href="http://ocfs.nv.gov/main/cps/">http://ocfs.nv.gov/main/cps/</a>

The New York State Office of Children and Family Services

We Make a Difference!