

BAYMEN REPORTER

HOME OF THE BAYMEN
HAMPTON BAYS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.hbschools.us

FALL/WINTER 2009

phone 723-2100

Standout Musicians

Two student-musicians from Hampton Bays High School were selected to participate in the Suffolk County Music Educator's Association (SCMEA) All-County Festival.

The students selected represent the best from across Suffolk County and were chosen based on their New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) scores, as well as teacher recommendations. SCMEA is an organization that consists of professional music educators and advocates of music education throughout Suffolk County.

Congratulations to Meridythe Donnan and Deborah Carlin on this outstanding achievement.



Hampton Bays Has TALENTED YOUTH

The Hampton Bays Middle School is pleased to announce that thirteen students have been nominated to participate in the 2009 Talent Search sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth. The Talent Search identifies and recognizes the academic abilities and success of high-achieving students. These students scored in the 95th



Pictured left to right: (Top Row) O'Marliare Carranza Alvarado, Gloriana Mejias, Josue Mejia, Juan Buritica, Amanda Kenny, Kasandra Phillips, Daniella Greene; (Bottom Row) Jack Hilton, Anyerlin Mora, Christen Bellucci, Darby Tupper, Emma Henry, and Caleb Reed

percentile on their state assessments during the 2008-2009 school year. Congratulations to: Christen Bellucci, Juan Buritica, O'Marliare Carranza Alvarado, Daniella Greene, Emma Henry, Jack Hilton, Amanda Kenny, Josue Mejia, Gloriana Mejias, Anyerlin Mora, Kasandra Phillips, Caleb Reed, and Darby Tupper.

Advanced Scholars in Hampton Bays

Nine members of the Hampton Bays High School Class of 2009 have earned Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP examinations taken last spring. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program provides motivated and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP exams. About 18 percent of the nearly 1.7 million students worldwide who took AP exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

Congratulations to: Advanced Placement Scholars Cory Gruner, Christian Hansen, Matthew Langsdorf, Caitlin Sullivan, and Brittany Tedesco; Scholar with Honor Noah Hoshyla; Scholars with Distinction Cindy Klager, Thomas Pandolfo, and Jessica Stellmann.

Battle of the Books

Daniella Greene, Zoe Johnson, Alexandra Peterson, and Emma Harris, seventh and eighth-grade students at Hampton Bays Middle School, placed first out of 17 schools in the region in the Battle of the Books Challenge and received third prize in all of Suffolk County. The students represented the Hampton Bays Public Library in the contest, which was held over the summer.

The Suffolk County Battle of the Books is a program for teenagers entering grades six through nine who compete in a series of trivia contests about twelve novels that they read over the summer weeks leading up to the event. This year 37 Suffolk County Libraries participated in the contest.



Pictured left to right: Eighth-grade student Daniella Green, seventh grader Alexandra Peterson, and seventh-grade student Emma Harris.

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Last summer I announced that I would be retiring as Superintendent of Schools in Hampton Bays Union Free School District. This was not an easy decision nor did it come quickly. But after weighing all the factors the decision to leave at this time seemed right for both the District and my family.

My tenure in Hampton Bays will always be the highlight of my professional life. With the support of this community we tackled a variety of challenging issues that required immediate attention and established a

strong foundation to launch the next phase of the school district's growth. From my perspective, I am most proud of the enhanced educational opportunities available to the children of Hampton Bays through the PM School, Universal Pre-Kindergarten, expanded summer school and Advanced Placement programs, the new Middle Level program design and various supports now in place to help all children achieve academic success. As with all district-wide accomplishments, these changes were the result of a team effort – a true collaboration between the board members and community, teachers and administrators, parents and students. Hampton Bays schools are poised for continued success as these same stakeholders join in designing and implementing a plan to respond to the next set of priorities for our students, community members and taxpayers.

Currently, the Board of Education is deeply involved in the selection process for the new superintendent. With assistance from Eastern Suffolk BOCES, the Board has reached out in a nationwide search that has attracted professional respondents from California to Hampton Bays. The Board hopes to complete its search task and announce the new Superintendent of Schools by February 2010.

I borrow Shakespeare's words from Romeo and Juliet to express the mixed emotions I feel in leaving this remarkable school district - "parting is such sweet sorrow". This represents my feeling as my husband and I say a professional goodbye to this community that we have come to love and respect.

With appreciation,

Joanne Loewenthal

Hampton Bays Elementary Students Get SQUEAK-E-CLEAN

Hampton Bays Elementary School students learned the importance of hand washing during a daylong "Squeak-E-Clean" presentation.

Physical Education teacher Frank Mancuso reported that Principal Marc Meyer advocated for the program since healthcare experts have predicted that flu season will be particularly challenging this year. "We really needed to step up our efforts at prevention," said Mr. Mancuso. He added that students were taught about the importance of hand washing in all special area classes, including physical education, art, music, library and computers.

During the special instruction, children viewed a 13-minute "The Hand Washing Brigade" health video. Teachers followed up with interactive question-and-answer time with students after the viewing.

"Why do we wash our hands," Mr. Mancuso asked his group of Kindergarteners.

"Germs!" the children quickly, and exuberantly replied.

Other questions, such as "Where do you find germs?" "What do you do with a paper towel after you've washed your hands?" and "Where's the best place to sneeze or cough?" were asked. The answers given by students were "Toys," "Use it to open the bathroom door," and "Inside your elbow."



HAMPTON BAYS PTA Welcomes Kindergarteners with an Ice Cream Social

Members of the Kindergarten classes at Hampton Bays were welcomed to the school on Thursday night, September 17, with an Open House and Ice Cream Social mixer.

The event, hosted by the Hampton Bays Parent Teacher Association, included story time, movement exercises, ice cream and a book fair for the children, and an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and administrators.

PTA parent Tracey Morea said the social, which has become a mainstay over the years, was held to help children and their parents acclimate to the school environment.

"We want to make sure the kids are comfortable at school, and they really enjoy it," she said. "It's a great place for everybody to come together and socialize with their new friends." The evening started off with some coloring and socializing and was followed by a reading of "Isaac the Ice Cream Truck," by Scott Santoro. Afterwards, the children enjoyed movement exercises and a video by The Wiggles. At the end of the event, the new students enjoyed ice cream while parents got some one-on-one time with teachers. Additionally, everyone was invited to stop by and get a sneak peek at the PTA-sponsored Scholastic Book Fair.



Greenhouse Efforts

Last year, members of the Hampton Bays Elementary School K-Kids raised more than \$1,000 through various fundraisers, and with the help of the Southampton Kiwanis used the funds to purchase a greenhouse for the school. On October 26, the K-Kids officially opened the greenhouse for business by holding a Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony following the sixth-annual K-Kids Induction Ceremony. According to their co-advisor, Joan Moran, a gardening/farming club will be formed and will plant herbs and vegetables in the greenhouse. The items grown in the greenhouse will be sold as fundraisers for the K-Kids.

"Our District Wellness Committee is dedicated to healthy eating and lifestyles for all of our students," said Mrs. Moran. "The greenhouse is another way to promote healthy eating habits."



Hampton Bays Fifth Graders CONNECT WITH THE TROOPS

The entire fifth-grade class at Hampton Bays Middle School is participating in a yearlong series of service projects to honor and assist American servicemen and servicewomen.

In addition to a letter writing campaign to send cards, poems, essays and artwork for the men and women stationed overseas for Veterans Day, the children are also collecting non-perishable food items and health supplies for the troops as well as pitching in their pennies, nickels, dimes and more to donate to the Wounded Warrior Project.

"This is a multi-component service project," said fifth grade teacher Joan Crowley. "We are writing letters, collecting money and collecting food and other items for the troops; it's an ongoing project."

The students, with the help of Ms. Crowley and parent volunteer Ms. Lowry, have also constructed a "Wall of Heroes" in their pod area at the Middle School which features some familiar faces—including family members of the children and Hampton Bays alumnae—to honor those who are now serving or have served in the Armed Forces.

Other activities associated with the yearlong service project include inviting local veterans to come and speak and making cards for veterans.

Ms. Crowley reported that similar service projects have been ongoing since the Gulf War in the early 1990s, but she added that the project isn't about political beliefs. "This isn't for or against any war, but it is about extending our support to the people who have chosen to serve," she said.



HAMPTON BAYS STUDENTS HONOR Fallen Heroes

Members of the Hampton Bays fourth grade held a Patriot Day Ceremony on Friday, September 11, to honor those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as well as other American heroes.

Among those remembered were fallen firefighters, U.S. servicemen and women, and those who died eight years ago during the terrorist attacks. Local heroes from the Hampton Bays Fire Department, Hampton Bays Volunteer Ambulance, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5350, Southampton Town Police and the National Guard were also specifically recognized at the Hampton Bays Elementary School.

During the ceremony, fourth-grade students read essays and poems about what Patriot Day meant to them, what it means to be a hero, and thanking firefighters. Students who read their essays included: Casi Radziul, Denisse Hernandez, Allie Martinez, Hannah Hansen, Oscar Mora, Dylan Flores, Michelle Torres, Shane Riscen, Anna Harris, Andrew Calderon, Freddy Saldanna-Soliz, Brandon Castaldo, Natasha Vaquero and Christian Breault.

Teacher Steven Piliero also led students Michael Moscato, Sydney Blaustein, Jaline Zhagui-Saguay, Matthew Zbitkowski, Leah Kim, Salvatore Carozzi and MacKenzie Tyler in renditions of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" and "This Land Is Your Land."

Additionally, the Hampton Bays Fire Department presented a memorial wreath to the school, which was later placed outside by the memorial rock in front of the elementary school. Hampton Bays Fire Department Chaplain Father Dan Harris gave the benediction.



LIPA REBATE

Superintendent of Schools Joanne Loewenthal accepts the \$300,000 rebate check from the Long Island Power Authority that was promised to the district last June. Pictured left to right: Robert Scipioni, LIPA Account Executive, Superintendent of Schools Joanne Loewenthal, School Business Official Larry Luce, and LIPA Director of Municipal and School Programs Walter Hofer



Great Greening of Hampton Bays

During the week of October 19, students at Hampton Bays Middle School participated, in conjunction with the Town of Southampton, in the "Great Greening of Southampton." This town-wide initiative promoted sustainable living and making our lives GREEN.

"Since HBMS is the first GREEN, LEED certified middle school in New York, we felt that it was important to participate in this major initiative," said Hampton Bays Middle School Principal Lars Clemensen.

Students participated in a number of activities throughout the week, including Trayless Tuesday, where students and faculty were encouraged to go trayless at lunchtime in order to reduce waste. On Wednesday in their English ELA classes, they wrote to local businesses to thank them for using biodegradable

products, as well as wrote to other local companies requesting that they switch to using biodegradable products.

EARTH Club sponsors Pam Renna and Jim Waring organized the entire week. To culminate the "Great Greening of Southampton," the school hosted a volunteer "Brown Out," where families were encouraged to turn off all unnecessary electronic items such as computers, televisions, lights, and chargers.

Students have also begun recycling bottles and cans at HBMS this year to promote going GREEN.



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Baymen Pride Showcased at Homecoming

The rain might have cancelled the Hampton Bays Homecoming Parade, but the wet weather didn't dampen Baymen spirits during the 2009 Homecoming football game on Saturday, October 3.

The stands were packed with spectators and fans that braved the inclement weather to support the undefeated Hampton Bays Baymen as they took on the Wyandanch Warriors. The Baymen continued their winning streak by beating the Warriors 32 to 14.

During halftime, members of the Homecoming court were announced and recognized on the field. Winners of the Homecoming Spirit Week were announced as well; the freshman class took top honors in the Spirit Week competition, sophomores came in second, juniors third and seniors claimed fourth place for their participation during school spirit week.



Think Pink MS Service Project Kickoff

Members of the Hampton Bays Middle School Student Council kicked off their first service project of the year by raising funds for breast cancer awareness and Lee National Denim Day, a fundraising and awareness event sponsored by Lee Jeans.

The club, which is comprised of eighth graders, sold Lee Jeans paper pockets at \$1 apiece to raise awareness for breast cancer and to honor loved ones who have battled the disease. The pockets were posted on the "Tribute Wall" at the entrance to the school.

The group also sold pink breast cancer ribbon pins for \$5 each and encouraged the entire middle school population to show "Denim Spirit" by wearing pink and denim every Friday in October. Students continued to sell pockets and pins through the end of October and raised \$324 for breast cancer awareness.

Additionally, the High School Varsity Club donated \$1240 to the American Cancer Society during the Making Strides walk at Jones Beach in October.



Denim Day

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the ESL/Bilingual Department at Hampton Bays Elementary School helped raise \$250 for the Susan J. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation by participating in Lee National Denim Day. The faculty members at the elementary school each donated \$5 to wear their favorite pair of jeans and a pink shirt for a day at work.

