Excellence honored during recent induction ceremony

Pictured, Sue Ann Archibee is congratulated by Sandy Creek Board of Education President Brian MacVean, left, board Vice President John Shelmidine, right and family members. Archibee is one of two new members to the district’s ‘Wall of Excellence’.

The Sandy Creek Central School District’s ‘Wall of Excellence’ recently gained two new members as Sue Ann Archibee and Sue Bitz were both recognized for the honor.

The appreciation program recognized both past and present faculty and staff members who have exhibited unforgettable commitment and service to the children of the Sandy Creek Central School District.

King Arthur bread baking project does double duty

King Arthur Flour representative Amy Driscoll, center, with the help of Bella Cornell, right, and Sarah Balcom, left, demonstrate bread making for middle school students at Sandy Creek. Students were given enough supplies to make two loaves of bread, one to keep and one to gift to someone in their community. Driscoll and the students demonstrated the proper techniques for mixing and handling yeast dough and showed students in the audience how to shape their dough into bread, pizza, pretzels, cinnamon rolls and more. Pictured above: Sarah, tosses the dough as she prepares the crust for pizza. Marissa Paquin, family and consumer science teacher in the district reached out to King Arthur to set up the project.

100 Days of Learning

Students in Deb Klotz’s first grade class did 100 item posters for their celebration of the 100th day of school. They are pictured with their posters following their oral presentations to their fellow classmates.
Students Participate in Local Battle of the Books Competition

Bookworms from the Sandy Creek Central School District recently participated in the local Battle of the Books contest to determine which team would advance to the county competition. Participants by level included:

**Grades 3-4**
Daltyn Landas, Mason Ennist, Allyson Mulpagano, Aydin Amell, Mary White, Trevor McDougall, Hannah White, Abigail Burns, Cameron Hathway, Sophia Luce, Tate Lalier, Abby Chen, Delaney Lococo, Abrielle Soluri, Maiya Hathway, Lillian Kohlbach and Elizabeth Glazier.

**Grade 5**

**Grades 7-8**
McKenzie Kwak, Catie-Ann Blodgett, Emily Ward, Emma McDougal, Annie Chen and Deanna Hathway.

**Grades 9-12**
Morgan Ranieri, Emily Smith, Hannah Sawchuck, Olivia Bauer, Adaiah Bauer and Madeline Yousey.

**Battle of the Books Champions**

After a perfect first round, the team from Sandy Creek High School took an early lead in the Level Four: grades 9-12 Battle of the Books competition. Team members Emily Smith, Olivia Bauer and Madeline Yousey were awarded top prize in the county-wide reading event. The 7th and 8th grade team of Catie-Ann Blodgett, Emily Ward and McKenzie Kwak took second place in Level Three, seventh and eighth grade competition.

**Students compete with adults in Battle of the Books spinoff**

Students in the Sandy Creek Central School District were not the only ones to put their literary knowledge to the test recently, as teachers also stepped up to the plate for a reading challenge.

In a spinoff to the Battle of the Books competition, which pits student teams against one another in a literary contest, teachers were able to get in on the action as well. Teams of teachers squared off against their pupils for bragging rights and the title of ‘champion.’ According to librarian Rachel Allen, the SCCS coordinator for Battle of the Books, teachers and students invested a lot of time into the event.

‘There are 10 books that need to be read for the competition,’ she said. ‘Sometimes they start reading during the summer and they even read the books more than once to be better prepared. Their hard work really shows.’

Teachers celebrate their win in the adult versus students Battle of the Books competition. Roxanne Ferguson, Brandie Norton and Mary Kubacki edged out Sophia Luce and Hannah White in the fifth tiebreaker round.
Sandy Creek Central School District

Sandy Creek embraces ideas of Wisdom Thinkers

Individuals from education, business and the community recently gathered at the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation’s Mexico campus to discuss ways to promote character development for students.

CEO and chair of the Wisdom Thinkers Network, Ralph Singh, (pictured above with Stewart Amell, superintendent of schools for the Sandy Creek Central School District) brought dozens of community leaders together to brainstorm ideas on how students can build and develop good character traits, while also developing the soft skills needed to succeed in the workplace.

‘Wisdom Thinkers is another vehicle school districts can use to promote respect, character education and diversity,’ said Amell. ‘Our students need to learn that in order to be a successful citizens, they must demonstrate respect and an understanding that being a ‘team player’ is a priority in today’s job market.’

Amell noted that the collaborative nature of the meetings offer participants a chance to learn more about Wisdom Thinkers and share what each school district is doing. ‘It also gives educators an opportunity to hear what business and industry has to contribute to our mission.’

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Potts earns Section III Class C Champ title in two swim events

James Potts, a junior at Sandy Creek High School set a lot of records this year for his combined Sandy Creek/Pulaski boys’ varsity swim team. Potts was the Section III Class C Champion in the 200 Individual Medley and 100 Breaststroke. He was recognized at a recent board meeting for his outstanding athletic accomplishments. Potts is pictured with Michael Stevens, Athletic Coordinator for the Sandy Creek District.

Sandy Creek Volleyball All Stars

Sandy Creek Girls’ Varsity Volleyball players were recognized for their outstanding athletic achievement in the Frontier League. Pictured left to right are: Allison Burrows (Honorable Mention All Star Team), Sophie Walter (April Fitchette Scholarship Award), and Autumn Darling (All Star Team). Missing from the photo is McKenna Guarasce (All Star Team).

Sandy Creek Volleyball players were recently named to the Frontier League Volleyball All Star Team for their outstanding athletic achievement. Autumn Darling and McKenna Guarasce were named to the All Star Team while Allison Burrows received honorable mention. In addition Sophie Walter was selected by the Frontier League officials for the April Fitchette Scholarship Award. The award, based on academic achievement, sportsmanship skill and overall positive influence on the court, provides a scholarship to a summer volleyball program to the recipient. The Sandy Creek Varsity Volleyball team is coached by Dorianne Hathaway. The team finished the season 8-8 overall.
“No Signs of Intelligent Life”

The Sandy Creek High School drama department performed ‘No Signs of Intelligent Life’ on March 13-14. The uproariously funny play centered around innocent aliens who were trying to fit into a world they did not understand. The extraterrestrials possessed the knowledge to increase food production, create alternative energies and achieve world peace, but could these hapless humans possess the intelligence to handle this power? The play was directed by Sandra Kinney and Valerie Marshall. In one scene, human resources representative played by Mariah Hess, left, attempts to fire employee/ alien Brody Cooley in a funny scene.

Wall of Distinction Nominations

The Sandy Creek Central School District is accepting nominations for the ‘Wall of Distinction.’ The Wall of Distinction honors graduates who have achieved a high level of prominence in their personal and professional lives and who represent a positive role model to the youth of Sandy Creek. Nomination forms can be obtained from the district office or by calling 387-3445 ext. 1510. An advisory committee will coordinate the program. Deadline for nominations is April 24, 2015.

Sandy Creek artists featured in “Art Through the Eyes of a Child”

Select Sandy Creek Elementary School art students were chosen to have their artwork on display at the Salmon River Fine Arts Center’s ‘Art Through the Eyes of a Child’ art show recently. A special reception was held on Feb 21st for students and their families to kick off the show. Pictured is Alex Caufield and his mother Mindy with Alex’s artwork ‘Sunflowers’. Alex is a student in Tara Abbott’s art class at Sandy Creek Elementary School.

Puppets teach Sandy Creek Elementary bus safety

Sandy Creek Elementary Students learned about bus safety during a puppet show put on by the schools transportation department recently.

Transportation Supervisor Robin Cashel says the production is an annual event that brings something new each year. Sandy Creek alum Mike Cambareri writes the script and arranges the songs. This year he transformed the song ‘All About That Base’ (originally sung by Meghan Trainor) into ‘Oh you know you have to sit.’

Clapping and singing along, the students learned the importance of staying in your seat on the bus, looking both ways before crossing the road and putting an end to bullying from puppet Bus Driver Bill.

The children might not have realized that their very own bus drivers and transportation staff were the masterminds behind the puppets’ faces, making sure to stay hidden behind the bus scene until the students had left.

At the end of the performances, Cashel relayed information regarding the National School Bus Safety Poster Contest. The competition begins at the school level whose winners will proceed to a regional contest, a state contest and then a national contest. The national winner’s poster is used to promote National School Bus Safety Week in 2016.

This year’s theme is ‘Bully Free Zone,’ and entries must include the name of the theme as well as an image of a school bus. The posters must be 11 by 17 inches or 12 by 18 inches. They can be illustrated vertically or horizontally and must be on quality tag poster illustration board.

The deadline for poster submission is April 17, 2015. Entries are judged on safety impact (relationship of the poster design to the school bus safety practices), originality, artistic quality and visual impact. Students can ask their teachers or the transportation department for official rules and details.

The National School Bus Safety Poster Contest is sponsored each year by the National Association for Pupil Transportation, the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services and the National School Transportation Association.

Yearbook Reminder

Don’t forget to order your 2015 yearbook! Forms are available at the Elementary and High School Offices and from Mr. Ferguson or order online at www.balfour.com.

Sandy Creek Team Pictures are available for sale from the yearbook. Contact Mrs. Crast for an order form. All pictures are $6 ea. for a 5x7 team photo.
Sandy Creek Central School District

Sandy Creek Middle School students become iron chefs

As part of the consumer science curriculum in the Sandy Creek Central School District, eighth-graders recently showcased their cooking and collaboration skills in an ‘Iron Chef’ competition.

Just like the Food Network television show bearing the same name, students in Marissa Paquin’s family and consumer science class were given a secret ingredient (apples) to incorporate into their dishes. The eighth-graders created three different recipes with apples as they vied to impress a panel of judges comprised of Principal Carolyn Shirley, teacher Jim Pelton, library media staff member Karin Nemier and high school student Taylor Mullin, who is enrolled in the gourmet foods class.

‘Each student in the group had their own responsibility,’ Paquin said. ‘They all worked together to create a really tasty finished product.’

The judges tasted the creations, which included a gourmet caramel apple, a hybrid apple pie concoction, and a French apple cake. With each bite, the judges had to consider taste, food presentation, originality and group project presentation.

‘It was hard to decide a winner,’ Principal Shirley said. ‘All the groups did a great job. Some were stronger in certain areas, which made it very close when we calculated the overall scores.’

However, after much deliberation and once the scores were tabulated, the team of Courtney Burns, Abbey Fitzpatrick and Emily Melucci emerged victorious. Their winning recipe, which was a Granny Smith apple topped with decadent caramel and a chocolate drizzle, delighted the judges’ taste buds.

While the finished product was the focal point of the competition, Paquin noted that the project also incorporated a variety of academic skills and soft skills as well. The students had to research recipes, create posters, use math to measure ingredients, deliver an oral presentation and examine nutritional information as part of the project.

Sandy Creek students celebrate Valentine’s Day

The judges for Sandy Creek Middle Schools’ ‘Iron Chef’ competition deliberate to determine the winner of the recent cook-off. From left are library media staff member Karin Nemier, Principal Carolyn Shirley, teacher Jim Pelton and high school student Taylor Mullin.

Sandy Creek’s Cheney advances to state cross country ski competition

Emily Cheney, a junior at Sandy Creek High School advanced to the Cross Country Ski State Championships at Mt. Van Hoevenberg outside of Lake Placid on Feb. 23 and 24. Cheney is a member of the combined Sandy Creek/Camden Cross Country Ski team and led the team to a 3rd place finish in Sectionals at Holland Patent on Feb. 12. Cheney has qualified for the state competition every year since she was in eighth grade. The team is coached by John Cheney.

Sandy Creek Elementary students enjoy hot chocolate in celebration of Valentine’s Day. The students say they look forward to the yearly treat and the Valentine’s celebration that happens later in the day. Pictured, left to right are: Rachel Doyle, Arlo Driskell, Angel Jennings and Brodey Orr.
Pesticide Notice
Dear Parent, Guardian, 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 following pesticide applications took place in the Sandy Creek Central School from September 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015:

- **There have been no pesticide applications during the above stated period.**

  As a reminder, the Sandy Creek Central 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 not 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 16 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 have not yet registered 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 Shelley H. Fitzpatrick, Sandy Creek Central School District Business Administrator at:

PO Box 248
Sandy Creek, NY 13145
Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510
Fax: 315-387-2196

Sandy Creek Central School District
Request for Pesticide Application Notification
(Noe Print)

Name:__________________________________________
Address:________________________________________
Day Phone:_______Evening Phone:__________
E-Mail Address:_____________________________

Please feel free to contact Chris Ouderkirk, the Sandy Creek Central School District pesticide representative at: PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145, Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510, Fax: 315-387-2196 for further information on these requirements, including information on the products that have been applied in this school.

Sandy Creek Class C Division Champs in Frontier League

The Sandy Creek Varsity Boys Basketball team was named Frontier League Class C Champions. The team is coached by Jim Hunt, who was selected as Class C Division Coach of the Year. Reis Harding, Matt Reese and Zach Halsey were named Frontier League C Division All Stars and Halsey was also selected as Class C Division MVP. Pictured in the front row, from left, are James Green, Reis Harding, Josh Meizlik and Michael Carkey. In the back row, from left, are Coach Hunt, Tyler Brown, Jake Bennett, Troy Wall, Cameron Hall, Zach Halsey, Tyler Doe, Zach Potter, Matt Reese, Zach Patternoster, Jared Baird and Coach Elkin.

Winter Scholar Athlete Teams

Above are representatives from each of the winter Scholar Athlete teams. Front row, from left: Adrian Ranieri, Lexi Goodnough, Sammi Pandolfi, Alina Quintana, Liberty Yalch, Autumn Darling, Maggie King and McKenna Guarasce. Middle row, from left: Alicia Paige, Kasey Yerdon, Kim Distasio, Jessica Leppien, Jody Davis and Sophie Walters. Back row, from left: Jamie Washburn, Rosie Morgan, Dallas Blair, Kate Hanni, Allison Burrows, Carley Lyndaker and Carley Stoker.

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPIHSAA) recently announced the Winter Sports Scholar Athletes whose averages were 90% or greater. Among these elite academic athletes were three teams from Sandy Creek High School including:

- Girls Varsity Basketball
- Girls Varsity Volleyball
- Winter Cheerleading

Congratulations to the many students recognized for achieving this academic honor and representing the Sandy Creek Central School District as outstanding academic ambassadors.

For current events, schedules and more visit the Sandy Creek Central School District website at [www.SCCS.cnyric.org](http://www.SCCS.cnyric.org)
Students at Sandy Creek Middle School had some very special visitors at the school recently to kick off a community service project to benefit Paws Across Oswego County. The visitors, Sawyer and Charlotte, along with their owners Marjorie Wentworth and Connie Evans visited the school to talk about the rescue service that Paws provides for animals in Oswego County and the assistance that Paws gives to other shelters and animal welfare organizations in the county. The two rescue dogs are quite famous and have books written about their lives and how they came to be rescued by Paws. ‘Sawyer’s Promise’ by Wentworth and Evans and ‘Charlotte’s Big Dream’ by Evans, chronicles the lives and journeys the two dogs have gone through since coming to Paws.

The middle school students at Sandy Creek were studying the petition process in one of their classes when they learned about the plight of Apollo, a dog who was found abandoned and weighed only 29 pounds, less than half of what a lab should weigh. His owner was brought up on animal cruelty charges and Oswego County residents developed a petition that was signed by thousands asking for the judge in the case to impose the strictest punishment for the crime. After reading about Apollo, the students at Sandy Creek decided they wanted to do something positive to help other animals and reached out to the Paws organization to see what they could do to help. They decided to organize a community service project to collect items needed by the organization in their work to assist homeless dogs and cats. The students are collecting food, treats, collars, leashes, cat litter, toys, and other supplies needed by the organization.

The most important need, according to Wentworth, is the need for canned food. Many of the animals they rescue, like Apollo, are malnourished and canned food provides the highest amount of nutrition and is easier for the animals to eat. Apollo was so malnourished, he required several feedings a day and he was in such a weakened condition, he could not chew dry food. Evans and Wentworth both expressed the need for cat and dog canned food as well as anything else an individual can spare. ‘Even if it is one can,’ said Wentworth, ‘every donation is appreciated.’

Some of the donations will be shared with other agencies in the area including Suzette’s Pet Food Pantry which provides food to individuals who don’t have enough money to buy food for their pets, either on a temporary or long-term basis.

The local drive is coordinated by Jodi Whitney, middle school English teacher in the Sandy Creek District. Together with the Middle School Student Council and the National Junior Honor Society, the students are encouraged to bring in the donated items for the next several weeks. Whitney said the drive would run until a few weeks after the spring break from school. Her goal, she said is to fill the back of her father’s truck, which she will use to deliver the items to Paws.

Paws Across Oswego County was founded in 2001 and has helped thousands of homeless animals find forever homes. For more information about Paws, visit their website at www.PawsacrossOswegoCounty.com.

Community service project to benefit Paws Across Oswego County

SkillsUSA Medal Winners

The team of Tyesha Webb (Sandy Creek), Emily Mullen (Mexico), Courtney Thomas (Phoenix) and Jacklyn Foster (Pulaski) received third place bronze medals in Health Knowledge Bowl at the SkillsUSA Regional competition held at SUNY Morrisville in February. The team will advance to the SkillsUSA New York State competition on April 22-24 at the New York State Fairgrounds. Tyesha is a student at the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation where she is enrolled in the Nurse Assisting program.

Middle School teacher Jodi Whitney, left, joins Marjorie Wentworth, center and Connie Evans, volunteers from Paws Across Oswego County, following their presentation to students at the school. They visited the school with Sawyer, front left, and Charlotte to kick off the school’s community service project to collect items to assist the organization in their service to homeless animals in Oswego County.

Varsity Cheerleaders Frontier League Division Champions

The Sandy Creek Varsity Cheerleading team was named Frontier League Class C Division Champions and received the highest score of all teams during the recent competition. Team members selected as All Stars were Lexi Goodnough, Sammi Pandolfi and Tara Huggins. Coach Tanya VanOrnum was designated Coach of the Year by the Frontier League at the event. Sandy Creek’s Junior Varsity team also participated in the exhibition division. Pictured in front, left to right with the Champions banner are: Kim Distasio, Alina Quintana, Sammi Pandolfi, Sara Castor, and Lindsey Goodnough. In back, left to right: Dallas Blair, Mikayla Russell, Lexi Goodnough, Angelina Salzman, Jessica Leppien, Tara Huggins and Bailey Laundre. The team is coached by Tanya VanOrnum.
Perfect English Regents Exam
Three Sandy Creek High School students scored a perfect 100% on their recent English Regents Exam. Brigid McClusky, Rosie Morgan and Skyllyn Salzman each achieved the perfect score on the January English Regents test. The Board of Education recognized their achievement at a recent board meeting where they presented the students with plaques to commemorate the honor.

Celebration honors Dr. Seuss
Students in Tamera Halsey's second grade class held a week long reading celebration to honor Dr. Seuss birthday. On Tuesday, the class read ‘Fox in Socks’ and wore crazy socks. Wednesday featured a mixed up day of mismatched, inside out clothing and read ‘Wacky Wednesday.' On Thursday, the class dressed in green and read ‘Green Eggs and Ham.’ Friday ended with students wearing shirts with a message, and read 'I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!'

Middle School Names All-County Chorus Participants
Sandy Creek Middle School students selected to participate in the OCMEA All-County Chorus are pictured in front, left to right: Morgan Bristol, Aden Goodnough, Travis Benjamin, Hunter Lachenauer, Mackenzie Sherman; in back, pictured left to right are: Madison Brown, Sydney Cook, Charlie Shaw, Sydney Jenkins, and Courtney Burns.

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