

# The Comet's Tale

December 2020

## Sandy Creek, Lacona fire departments teach fire safety

Local fire departments have been by recently to talk about fire safety with students at Sandy Creek Elementary School.

A number of firefighters with the Sandy Creek and Lacona volunteer fire departments have been in on several days to speak with students outside of the school.



Sandy Creek Volunteer Fire Department

During the presentations, students learned about fire safety, having a plan of action for emergencies and all the services fire departments provide to their local community. Then, students were able to check out the firetrucks and equipment.

“We’re really appreciative they were able to come and impart these important skills and knowledge that are so important to learn early,” said Principal Tim Filiatrault.

The students also learned about cooking safety to avoid burns, and there was time for them to ask any questions they had.

## Work on Capital Project continues to progress

Construction continues on Phase II of the Sandy Creek Central School District capital project that voters approved in 2018. In a recent report to the Board of Education, the School District’s Construction Manager, Todd LaBarr of Watchdog Building Partners said work is well “underway and progressing smoothly as scheduled.”

The gymnasium roof work is near complete as the contractor prepares to halt work for the winter months and Paragon Environmental, the site contractor, has made great progress on the site development and installation of underground utilities at the new bus maintenance facility.

Additionally, they executed the repair to existing drainage structures in the Elementary School parking lot.

The footings and foundation walls for the new bus maintenance facility have been placed. The general contractor has also begun work on the new gym entrance’s foundation.

Other completed work includes: The disassembly and relocation of the west side retention wall per design and the existing water main has been tapped and a new six-inch watermain was installed and tested.

Among the projected work to still be completed in this phase includes backfilling and compacting the new six-inch watermain, continued installation

of new drainage structures and waterproofing foundation walls to go along with continued work on the new gym entrance and installation of new metal trim on the gym roof.

The Board of Education receives a monthly update at its public meetings on the capital project.



## National Honor Society inducts 12 new members

The Sandy Creek Carpe Diem chapter of the National Honor Society added a dozen members to its ranks during its 2020 induction ceremony recently.

The ceremony, recorded and held virtually, honored the 12 new members featuring comments and words of encouragement from Superintendent Kyle Faulkner, High School Principal Kevin Seymour and Advisor Kelly Halko.

Members inducted included Madison Benedict, Cati-ann Blodgett, Alayna Blount, Mary Carnes, Kendall Darling, Emma Halsey, Abigail Lantry, Hailey McNitt, Cailey Robbins, Brooke Rogers, Dorothy Searles and Matthew Trudell. Members of NHS pledge to uphold the four principles of character, scholarship, leadership and service.

“Being a member of the NHS is an honor and certainly something to be proud of,” said Faulkner while congratulating the honorees. “However, you still have much to accomplish and still live up to the four pillars of the NHS. I have always felt that service is the most important, so I challenge all of you to find a way to give back.”

During the video, current Honor Society members lit the four candles representing each character trait. Then, a slideshow was played featuring photos of each new member and comments from family.

In closing remarks, Seymour encouraged all the inductees to thank their family, teachers and friends for their support and congratulated them on their achievements while reminding all to take advantage of the time and resources.

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# Halloween



## National Honor Society inducts 12 new members

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“For some, you have over a year and others have less than a year before you transition to the next part of your life,” said Seymour. “At that point you may be going into the military, college or workforce, so take advantage of your time left at Sandy Creek.”

Current officers of the Sandy Creek NHS chapter include President Deanna Hathway, Vice President Sarah Balcom, Secretary Michaela Kastler and Treasurer Annie Chen.

Other NHS members include Sydney Burgy, Terry Egleston, Elsa Graf, James Green, Emma McDougal, Hailey Miller, Madeleine Palmer, Olivia Pappa, Zachary Paternoster, Ashleigh Rosenbaum and Emily Yousey.

The full induction video can be viewed by scanning the nearby QR code with your smartphone’s camera/QR reader or at the following link: [tinyurl.com/y4r7fzc5](https://tinyurl.com/y4r7fzc5)





## Video: 1st & 2nd grade sing for Thanksgiving

Recently, classes in first and second grade at Sandy Creek Elementary recorded two songs in the gym to help the community get in the Thanksgiving and holiday spirit.

The classes sang "Gratitude Attitude" while some students said what they are thankful for this year and then concluded with the classic "Over The River."



**Their full video can be viewed by scanning the nearby QR code with your smartphone's camera/QR reader app or via the following link: [fb.watch/2aaGCeGrVj/](https://fb.watch/2aaGCeGrVj/)**



## 4th grade builds longhouses



*The Elementary School's fourth-grade classes recently constructed longhouses to learn about how Native Americans lived and put them on display for all to see. Great work!*

## District launches ParentSquare to streamline communication

The Sandy Creek Central School District launched earlier this school year a new method of communication aimed at making the process of receiving updates and messaging teachers easier.

The app, called ParentSquare, provides updates, important information, allow users to view upcoming events and to message your child's teacher. At the elementary level, the app is being used to sign up for parent teacher conferences.

All families are asked to download and sign up for ParentSquare either on the computer or a smartphone if they have not already done so. Parents should have received an invitation to the app via the email they provided to the school.

Families may visit [www.parentsquare.com/signin](https://www.parentsquare.com/signin) to finish the registration process. If your email has changed or you haven't received an invitation, please contact your child's principal.

**Sandy Creek Central  
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*Elementary:* Timothy Filiatrault  
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**3rd Grade honors heroes on Veterans Day**

Our third-graders from Sandy Creek Elementary recently recorded this song of appreciation for our service members as Veterans Day approached.

Mrs. Hobbs helped the students prepare for the video and led them as they sang the song "Because Of You" around

the bus circle in front of the school's flying American flag.

"To our military heroes and veterans everywhere, we are always grateful for your service!" a post on the district Facebook that accompanied the video read.



**To view the video, scan the  
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Shelley Fitzpatrick, *Business Administrator/Title IX Officer*

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