The Comet’s Tale

Dollars for Scholars Scholarship Recipients

Senior Scholarships: (2- and 4-year scholarships)
- Courtney Plumley
- Richelle Ranieri
- Kerrie Ridgeway
- Clarice Thibault

Alumni Scholarships: (2- and 4-year scholarships)
- Isabel Bray
- Joseph Cambareri
- Chelsea Claflin
- Elizabeth Houck
- Ashley McNitt
- Cori Pandolfi
- Maria Rice
- Amelia Yousey

Congratulations Class of 2014

Kindergarten moving up ceremony pictures on page 4.

“Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.”
– Class of 2014 Motto
Sandy Creek High School
Class of 2014

Dylan M. Anthony
William Jacob Benedict
Megan Rachel Bennett
Justin William Bonney
Ian Scott Brown
Zachery Marshall Brown
Deven Thomas Bryant
Madison Christine Bush
Elijah Edward Clark
Steven Michael Cooper
Robert Gerald Cornell
Justin James Cox
Shania Marie Darling
Hunter August Delamater
Brandon M. Delano
Dakota Densmore
Allison Donohoe
Christian Earl
Makayla Quinn Elliott
Gabriella Christine Guarasce
Kylie Janet Hanni
Molly Margaret Horth
Valarie Jean Kampff
Anthony Michael Kelton
Jacob Henry Lewis Kirchner
Maria Belle Luberto
Brittany M. Lusczynski
Scott Owen McCarthy Jr.
Kylee B. Martin
Michaela Renae Martin
Matthew David Miller
Peyton Miller

Jacob M. O’Grady
James Palmer Jr.
Zackery Tyler Pfluger
Zachary B. W. Phelps
Courtney Janice Plumley
Victor Gerrad Radcliffe Braun
Richelle Lucille Ranieri
Corey Michael Reff
Kerrie Beth Ridgeway
Brandon Rotach
Connor Mitchell Rowell
Shane Rowell
Deanna Clare Rusz
Elizabeth A. Sedore
Frehiwot Sergis
John Harold Shirley
Ronald James Skinner
Craig Jeffrey Smith
Alyssa Nicole Snyder
Wayne Austin Sponable
Sierra Steele
Karleigh Jordan Stuckey
Tyler Lane Swarouth
Clarice Angelique Thibault
Brittany A. Valley
Hannah L. Walker
Grace Nicole Wallace
Tyler Denton Ward
Caitlyn Jo Williams
Jarod M. Williams
Brett Michael Wolfe

§ Advanced Regents Diploma
◆ Regents Diploma
□ National Honor Society
◆ Honor Student
▲ Vocational-Technical Honor Society
♦ Career and Technical Endorsement
◆ Math Endorsement
† Science Endorsement
Third Grade Classroom Chick Project a Huge Favorite

‘Can I keep it?’ asks Cade Stoker, a third grade student at Sandy Creek Elementary School. The annual classroom chicken project involved hatching eggs in an incubator and studying the genetics and life cycle of a chicken. The students presented their classroom project at the annual Elementary Science Fair.

Students Make ‘Cancer Care Packages’ for Patients

Middle School Student Council members at Sandy Creek Middle School made very special ‘cancer care packages’ that will be distributed to patients undergoing treatment at St. Joseph’s Hospital Hematology/Oncology Association of Central New York. The packages contain items to ease the lives of those diagnosed with cancer and undergoing treatment but also contain lots of love and well wishes from the students at Sandy Creek. The students in grades six through eight worked on the packages, carefully filling each one and decorating each bag with a special handmade card. It was the second year that the students decided to create the cancer care bags and the project hit close to home as a staff member at the school was newly diagnosed with cancer and served as the inspiration for the project. Donations for the items needed came in from students, staff and community members and included bottled water, tissues, lip balm, lotion, pen and paper, hand sanitizer, and more. The completed packages were delivered in late May to the hospital.

Sandy Creek Students End of Year Celebration in New Vision Program

Students, parents and district personnel were on hand for the New Vision end-of-the-year ceremony. Sandy Creek students were enrolled in the New Vision program through Oswego County BOCES.

Sandy Creek students assembled the bags for delivery to the hospital facility. Pictured are eighth graders Autumn Shephard, Faith Bachar, Becca Miller, and Emily Smith with a few of the assembled ‘cancer care packages.’

Busy packing up the cancer care packages are sixth grade students Madison Bauer, seated in chair; Lainie Hathway, left; Sadie Lurcock, right; and Gavin Babcock behind Lurcock.
Kindergarten Students Move Up to First Grade

Kindergarten students in Mrs. Darou’s, Miss Olin’s and Mrs. Vaadi’s classes at Sandy Creek Elementary School held a special ‘graduation’ ceremony where they performed songs with a ‘Happy’ theme.

Above: Donning ‘super hero’ capes, the students danced to the Pharrell Williams song, ‘Happy’ Left: Mrs. Darou poses with Krislynn Harlow in the classroom during the celebration following the graduation ceremony.

Right: Happy to be a Kindergartner, Brody Pecha is all smiles as he joins his fellow classmates on stage following the presentation of ‘diplomas’ at the Sandy Creek Elementary School Kindergarten ‘graduation’ ceremony held on June 20.

Middle School Awards

Sandy Creek Middle School recently held an awards ceremony where students were recognized for their outstanding academic achievement. The following awards were presented during the ceremony.

Art Awards
6th grade: Travis Benjamin and Sadie Lurcock
7th grade: Hunter Lachenauer and Makenzie Lococo
8th grade: Sullivan Worns and Emily Kehoe

Student Council Initiative Award: Madison Bauer (6th);
Morgan Bristol (7th);
Faith Bachar (8th)

Mabel Laird Memorial Sportsmanship Award: Sullivan Worns
Terri Haynes Sportmanship Award: Madison Yerdon
Alice Babcock Memorial Homemaking Award: John Irwin
Cheri Bartholomew Memorial Award: Samantha Walter
Edith Ormasen Memorial Award: Kaitlyn Quinn (8th)
Esther Brafman (7th)

Hamers Memorial Science Award: Michela Sullivan
James Welch Memorial Award: Riley Dowlearn
Academic Initiative Award: Gavin Babcock and Madison Brown

Social Studies Initiative Award: 7th: Esther Brafman
Nathan Grinnell
8th Nick Potter and Majorie Vazquez

Sandy Creek Certificate of Excellence: T.J. Harding
Sandy Creek Support Staff Initiative Award: 8th grade: Emily Kehoe
Logan Stone

Reading Award: 7th: Brittany Davis and Timothy Snell
8th: Riley MacDuffie Dingman and Logan Stone

8th Grade Motivation Award: Faith Bachar and Christopher Blount
Middle School Principals Award: 6th - Madison Brown
Madison Bauer, Gavin Babcock, and Adam Hilton
7th - David Worden and Cassondra Hayes
8th - Emily Kehoe and Oren McDougall

8th grade English Award: John Tibbles and Marjorie Vazquez
7th grade science: Joey Bendzunas, Stephany Cole
Carly Lyndaker and Joseph Metott

Coterie Club Award: Sullivan Worns
English 7 Award: Samantha Walter and Joseph Metott
Humanitarian Service Award: Christopher Blount and Hope Priest
Irene Killam Award: Hope Priest and William Robbins
Jack Miller Industrial Arts Award: Samantha Walter
Jeff Flaver Spirit of Scouting: T.J. Harding
Math 7 Award: Jadyn Mullin, Zachary Martin, Alexis Wolfe and Joseph Metott

Mathlete Award: Violet Carkey and Alec Balcom
Outlook Club Citizenship Award: Tori Jenkins
Outlook Club English Award: Christopher Blount

Social Studies 7 Award: Samantha Walter and Joseph Metott
Social Studies 7 Citizenship Award: Dominick Miller
The Comet Award: Zachary Martin and Carly Lyndaker
For the Love of Science Award: Kennedy Sullivan
V.F.W. Auxiliary Award: Machela Sullivan
Teacher’s Helper Award: Kyle Allen
Valedictorian for the fifth grade class was Michaela Kastler. She is pictured with Sue Ann Archibee, Principal at Sandy Creek Elementary School. Archibee told fifth graders to ‘be thoughtful about your choices,’ she said. ‘What you do is much more powerful than what you say.’

Band awards were presented by Valerie Marshall and included recognition of all participants in the band and King and Queen, most improved and all around. Maddy Palmer and Thomas (T.J.) Reff were named Queen and King. Emily Kampff was awarded most improved and Sarah Balcom was named all around band student.

Chorus awards included recognition of all participants and T.J. Reff and Michaela Kastler were named King and Queen of Chorus.


Community and school district volunteers work together to provide healthy meals and snacks for hungry children and their families in the Sandy Creek Central School District. The ‘Sandy Creek United Methodist Church Backpack Project’ provides sixteen families with a bag of nutritious food to help feed the children and family members over weekends and school vacations. Now in its second year, the project is supported through donations and sponsorship through the church and community members. Pictured are some of the many volunteers who keep the project going. Left to right: Colleen Mead, Rose Graham, Gerhardt Brosch, Sharon Podgers, and Buffy Peterson.

Sandy Creek Central School District

Fifth Grade “Movin’ On Up” Ceremony and Celebration

Archibee gave the students a few words of advice cautioning them and saying, ‘Be thoughtful about your choices. What you do is much more powerful than what you say.’

Sandy Creek Elementary School said goodbye to the fifth grade class in an emotional ‘moving up’ ceremony at the school. As Principal Sue Ann Archibee took the stage, she admitted that she would be very emotional during the ceremony, and the tears turned to laughter as she was presented with a giant sized box of tissues just in case.

Backpack Project Partners With Community to Help Students in Need

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AHERA/Asbestos Notification

The Sandy Creek Central School, in accordance with the federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) maintains the complete Asbestos Management Plan at its 124 Salisbury Street, Sandy Creek location. Any questions regarding the plan should be directed to LEA designee Chris Ouderkerk, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds. He can be reached at 315-387-3445 x1535.

All requests to review the management plan can be made through the Sandy Creek Central School District Office at 315-387-3445.
Wall of Distinction Induction

Five alumni were added to the Wall of Distinction in the Sandy Creek Central School District in a special induction ceremony held on June 27. The inductees and representatives are pictured above with the plaques that will be on display at the school in their honor. The following alumni were inducted at the ceremony:

- Mark Potter • Class of 1978
- Joanne Bryant Bruce • Class of 1969
- Earl Ledden • Class of 1963
- Rita Carpenter Romach • Class of 1960
- Robert Beltran • Class of 1964

Pictured above, left to right, are: Earl Ledden; Andrew Zahler, accepting the honor on behalf of Joanne Bryant Bruce; Mark Potter; Georgia Perkins accepting the honor on behalf of Rita Carpenter Romach; and Robert Beltran.

High School Spanish Students Share Culture With Fifth Grade

Maggie King, left, quizzes students on the differences between mar (sea) and tierra (land) during Spanish class presentations to the fifth grade students at Sandy Creek Elementary School. The high school Spanish students selected a specific topic surrounding a Spanish speaking country and did a presentation board and activity related to the topic during their presentation. Pictured with King is Alexis Miley who had to jump from left to right to select land or sea in answer to King's questions.

Elementary Science Fair

Natalie Bauer and Rilee McNitt test one of the many experiments that were on display during the Sandy Creek Elementary School Science Fair.

Dorothy Searles, Autumn Bartlett and Emma Halsey finally locate the hamster in the topmost portion of the hamster habitat on display at the Science Fair.

Among the most popular science fair displays, as always, was the annual Chicken Project from Mrs. Patty King's classroom project. Pictured left to right are: Madden Soluri, Coral Raszl, and Maddie Norton with King and one of the chicks. King's class hatched the chicks in their classroom incubator and studied the animals for their project. They also learned about genetics and the specific genetic traits of each chick.
The Sandy Creek Elementary School Student Council Awards Ceremony was held recently which featured academic and special interest awards and recognitions for students in the school. The following awards were presented:


**Music Interest Award**: Ryan Barney, Lily Liszewski, Cody Walke, Elizabeth Glazier, Hunter Redden, Lillian Kohlbach, Carl Petrie, Madison Benedict, Tyler Mason, Emma Halsey, Colby Kimball-Salzman, Jessica Graham, Zachary Patternoster, Deanna Hathaway, Dyllan Pearsall, and Emily Ward.

**Library Interest Award**: Noah Reff, Delaney Lococo, Hayden Haines, Abrielle Soluri, Zach Comins, Olivia Williams, Justin Thayer, Kendall Darling, Logan Henry, Makayla McBroom, Nate Alford, Hailey Norton, Taylib Kimball, Madeleine Palmer, Matt Caufield, Emily Ward, James Green, and Gabrielle Brown.

**Science Interest Award**: Riley Phillips, Cody Walke, Kenny Burd, Rian Glenister, Tyler Mason, Maya Stubbs, Terry Eggleston, T.J. Reff, and C.J. Barney.


**Citizenship Award**: Abigail Burns, Maiya Hathway, Tae Lallier, Emily Youmans, Avery Cornell, Kendall Darling, Autumn Bartlett, Eyan Greenfield, Cailey Robbins, and Colby Kimball-Salzman.

**Math Interest Award**: Dustin Mackey, Josh Griffith, Abby Chen, Justin Thayer, Logan Henry, Jessica Graham, Zachary Patternoster, Jazmyn Baker, Cati-Ann Blodgett, and Olivia Pappa.

**Writing Interest Award**: Lily Liszewski, Marissa Brennan, Natalie

**Bus Safety Poster Contest**

Bus safety poster contest winners were announced by Sandy Creek Transportation Supervisor Robin Cashel. The poster contest theme: ‘Be smart, be seen’ – ‘I wait in a safe place’ emphasized bus safety before students board the bus. Local winners in the contest are pictured above with their bus drivers. Left to right: Roy Allen with Madison Brown; Cashel; and Hannah White with Melissa Goodsell.


**Good Kid Award**: Noah Reff, Olivia Lallier, Olivia Williams, Kaleigh Doyle, Autumn Bartlett, Jessica Graham, Brooke Rogers, Cati-Ann Blodgett, and Gabrielle Brown.

**Scholarship**

LaCelle, Kyev Hawkins-Holmes, Madison Benedict, Grace Skellington, Alayna Blount, Deanna Hathway, Emily Ward and Michaela Kastler.

**True Beauty Club at Sandy Creek High School Raises Suicide Prevention Awareness**

Pictured left to right manning the True Beauty suicide awareness table during one of the lunch periods of the day are: Lindsey Goodnough, Deanna Rusz, Valarie Kampff, John Shirley, Brittany Valley, Wayne Sponable and Caitlyn Williams.

Members of the True Beauty Club at Sandy Creek High School recently held a suicide awareness day at the school. The students had a table set up with information about teen depression and suicide prevention. Suicide Prevention Education Awareness Kit (SPEAK) information was available for students to read and the club passed out ribbons to raise awareness of teen depression and suicide. The True Beauty Club, with more than 120 members, is in its second year and was formed to recognize an individuals true beauty rather than focus on looks and superficial beauty. Tanya Van Ornum and Michael Stevens are co-advisors of the group in grades six to twelve.

Also handing out ribbons to raise awareness of teen depression and suicide were: Jessica Leppien, Lindsey Goodnough, Richelle Ranieri, Courtney Plumley, Tanya Van Ornum, Caitlyn Williams, Bailey Laudre and Wayne Sponable.
Volleyball Team Members Recognized For Athletic Achievement

Autumn Darling was selected by 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. Dorianne Hathaway called Darling ‘the whole package.’

Senior members of the Sandy Creek Varsity Volleyball team are pictured left to right: Madison Bush, Shania Darling, Kylie Hanni, Grace Wallace, Kylee Martin and Michaela Martin.

Several members of the Sandy Creek Varsity Volleyball team were recognized for outstanding athletic achievement. The team members pictured here were selected for All Star and All Section status. Kylee Martin was named to the All Section team with Kylie Hanni and Grace Wallace receiving All Section Honorable Mention. Kylee Martin was also named All Star along with Michaela Martin, Kylie Hanni, Grace Wallace and McKenna Guarascie. Coach Hathaway also recognized the seniors on the team including; Kylee Martin, Michaela Martin, Kylie Hanni, Grace Wallace, Shania Darling and Madison Bush. The team is coached by Dorianne Hathway.

Volleyball team members recognized for outstanding athletic achievement are pictured left to right: McKenna Guarascie - All Star; Kylie Hanni - All Star, All Section Honorable Mention; Grace Wallace - All Star, All Section Honorable Mention; Kylee Martin - All Star, All Section; and Michaela Martin - All Star.

Flag Day Lessons Taught by Second Graders

Flag Day celebrations at Sandy Creek Elementary School included several patriotic songs.

Sandy Creek Elementary School second graders showed their love of country and their spirit of patriotism in a Flag Day celebration at the school recently. Dressed in red, white, and blue, the students entered the auditorium each proudly carrying a U.S. flag. The celebration featured students sharing information with the audience regarding rules about the flag, what the Pledge of Allegiance means, and then spelled America with each letter representing another great fact about this country.

Second grade students at Sandy Creek Elementary School prepare to march into the auditorium in celebration of Flag Day at the school.
Zach Stevens Takes Top Spot in Mr. Sandy Creek Pageant

Fourth Graders Are New Friends of Sandy Pond

Fourth graders at Sandy Creek Elementary School learned how lucky they are to live near a very unique ecological area. Friends of Sandy Pond volunteers Ron and Emmie Fisher brought their dune ecosystem presentation to Sandy Creek Elementary School recently. They used a simulator to show students how essential the dunes and dune grass are in protecting the fragile shoreline surrounding Sandy Pond. The simulator showed how the dune grass serves as a buffer to beach erosion from wind and waves off Lake Ontario. Fisher also demonstrated how quickly erosion could occur when the beach grass is disturbed through foot and vehicle traffic. The couple also shared historical information about the Sandy Pond area including photos dating back to nearly a century ago. ‘I consider all of you,’ said Fisher pointing to the students in the classes ‘friends of Sandy Pond.’ Each student was presented with a special sticker from the ‘Friends of Sandy Pond’ members. Pictured are Ron Fisher, Dorothy Searles and Olivia Rudd.

Sue Bitz Memorial "Life Is Good" Scholarship

Four graduating seniors were the recipients of the Sue Bitz Memorial ‘Life Is Good’ Scholarship announced at graduation. The following students were presented with $500 and $1,000 awards:

- Molly Horth - $500
- John Shirley - $500
- Tyler Swarthout - $500
- Zachery Brown - $1,000
The NED Show Comes to Sandy Creek Elementary

Three character attributes were emphasized throughout the entertaining character education program: Never Give Up, Encourage Others, and Do Your Best, making up the acronym NED. Christine Porter, a NED Show performer, holds up the letters that make up NED’s name and reinforce the character attributes to remember.

The NED show, a traveling character education program infused with humor, audience participation, storytelling and amazing yo-yo tricks came to Sandy Creek Elementary School recently. The show brought a message of school wide positive behavior that focused on persistence, kindness, diligence and excellence. NEDs name serves as an acronym that makes the message easy to remember. Never Give Up, Encourage Others and Do Your Best.

High School Academic, Scholarship and Sports Awards

Academic and Scholarship Awards: Alice Bacon Memorial Award - Molly Horth and Hannah Walker; Hamer Choral Memorial Award: Molly Horth; Hamer Widrig Memorial Award: Anita Glenister; Jeff Favor Memorial Award: Connor Rowell; Jeff Favor Photography Award: Corey Reff; Kenneth D. James Memorial Award: Maria Lumberto; Kevin Stevens Memorial Art Award: James Manchester; Michael C. Handley Memorial Scholarship: Madison Busch; The Charlotte Reed Memorial Award: Autumn Darling; Mock Trial Program: William Benedict, Elizabeth Sedore, Clarice Thibault, Brett Wolfe, Zachary Halsey, Jay Ivison, and Maggie King; Lake Ontario Chapter 124 O.E.S. Instrumental Music Award: Hannah Walker; Cheryl Yerdon Initiative Award: McKenna Guarasce; Hilda Ormasen Clemens Art Award: McKenna Guarasce; The Mad River Club Environmental Award: Karleigh Stuckey; Oswego Teachers Employees Federal Credit Union: Korrie Ridgeway; Sandy Creek Grange Consumer Education Award: Adahia Bauer; Sandy Creek Grange Shop Award: Jacob O’Grady; Clarkson University Achievement Award: Alexandra Goodnough; Clarkson University Leadership Award: Rachel Yerdon; Dartmouth Club Book Award: Anita Glenister; Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Award: Frehiwot Sergis; Fulton Savings Band Scholarship: Madison Busch; Lawrence Tech. Award for Excellence in Science and Math: Rachel Yerdon; LeMoyne College Heights Award: Madeline Yousse; North Rainbow Shores Association Scholarship Award: Karleigh Stuckey; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: Rachel Yerdon; Rochester Institute of Technology Computer Medal Award: Liberty Yalch; Rochester Institute of Technology Computer Medal Award: Josh Lococo; Rochester Institute of Technology Innovation and Creativity Award: Taylor Mullin and Zachary Halsey; Student Sage Award: Sarah McDougall and Alina Quintana; The Clarkson School Scholars Award: Jay Ivison; The Elmira College Key: Anita Glenister and Olivia Bauer; University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award: April Miller; University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award in Humanities and Social Sciences: Marissa Guarasce; Hiawatha Award: Connor Rowe

Maddox Brown assists Christine Porter with a portion of the NED Show at Sandy Creek Elementary School and received a special balloon crown for his efforts.

LaCelle: University of Rochester George Eastman Young Leaders Award: Collin Reff; University of Rochester Xerox Award: Maggie King; Utica School of Commerce Business College Award for Excellence: Zach Brown; Wells College 21st Century Leadership Award: Autumn Darling; Army Reserve Scholar Athlete Award: Michaela Martin and Grace Wallace; Art Jones Memorial Award: Zach Brown; Student Council Initiative Award: Hannah Sawchuck, Adaihaua Baker, Alexandra Goodnough, and Hannah Walker; Luis Nunez Scholarship Fund: Hunter Delamater; St. Lawrence University Book Award: Katie Austin. Perfect Attendance Awards: Zackerie Bower, Alexis Ladd, John McGrew II, and Maison McNitt.

Sports Awards:

Mark Harvey Award: Brett Wolfe and Madison Bush; Sandy Creek Comets Sportsmanship Award: John Shirley; Sandy Creek Comets Sportsmanship Award: Corey Reff, Tyler Swarthout, Zach Brown, Steven Cooper, Brett Wolfe, Hannah Walker, William Benedict, Makayla Elliott, Matthew Miller, Kyle Hanni, Sierra Steele, Michaela Martin, Richelle Ranieri, Frehiwot Sergis, Caitylin Williams, Brettynn Valley, and Kylee Martin; Babe Ruth Sportsmanship Award: Madison Busch and John Shirley; Frontier League Scholar Athlete Award: Gabriella Guarasce, Clarice Thibault, Hannah Walker, Madison Bush, Kerrie Ridgeway, Grace Wallace, Valarie Kampff, Caitylin Williams, Kylee Martin, Deanna Rusz, Richelle Ranieri, William Benedict, Zachery Brown, Matthew Miller, Brett Wolfe, Kyle Hanni, Michaela Martin, Molly North, Makayla Elliott, Brittany Valley, Frehiwot Sergis, and Shania Darling; Larry Miller Wrestling Award: Jarod Williams; Nate Woolson Memorial Award: Zac Pflugler; Physical Education Award: Kylee Hanni, Zach Brown, and Brett Wolfe; Terry Miller Memorial Award: William Benedict; Tri-Athlete Awards: Kylee Hanni, Michaela Martin, Kylee Martin, Grace Wallace, Brittany Valley, Gabriella Guarasce, Madison Bush, Dylan Anthony, Zach Brown, Brett Wolfe, Tyler Swarthout, Steven Cooper, Shane Rowell, Victor Braun, Connor Rowell, and Robert Cornell.
Pre-Kindergarten Sail-a-bration

Kaylie Parker, Remington Blodgett, and Savannah Rose performed during the Pre-Kindergarten Sail-a-bration at Sandy Creek Elementary School. The students in the pre-kindergarten program showcased some of what they have learned throughout the school year in their final performance before moving up to kindergarten. The members of the class of 2027 celebrated all things alphabet with songs such as ‘Who Let the A Out?’ to the tune of the popular song ‘Who Let the Dogs Out?’

Pre-kindergartner Andrew Macklen pauses for his photo op with his portfolio during the Pre-K Sail-a-bration.

Sandy Creek High School Concert Band Earns Gold!

The Sandy Creek High School Concert Band received a ‘Gold’ rating at the NYSSMA Major Organization Evaluation Festival at Fulton High School. This rating is awarded to organizations that have demonstrated an outstanding level of technical and artistic skill in all evaluative categories for all three selections performed. The Concert Band performed ‘Conquista’ and ‘Tempest Rising’ by David Shaffer in addition to ‘Aventura’ by James Swearingen. The Concert Band is under the direction of Thomas Artini. Pictured left to right are band members Connor Stone, Jason Hays, James Potts, Jon Dana, Jacob Cornell, Collin Reff, and Elizabeth Sedore.

Pre-kindergarten teacher Ms. Julie McNitt presents Cordelia Crast with her portfolio of work during the Pre-K Sail-a-bration at Sandy Creek Elementary School. The students performed a variety of songs and actions for the packed audience in both the morning and afternoon programs. Following the ceremony there was a reception for students, parents, family members and guests.

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Top Ten Sandy Creek Class of 2014

The top ten students in the Sandy Creek High School Class of 2014 are pictured in order, from left to right: Gabriella Guarasce (#1), Clarice Thibault (#2), Hannah Walker (#3), William Jacob Benedict (#4), Madison Bush (#5), Elizabeth Sedore (#6), Kylie Hanni (#7), Kerrie Ridgeway (#8), Grace Wallace (#9), and Michaela Martin (#10).

Top Students Named for Class of 2014

The top two students for the Sandy Creek High School Class of 2014 were recently announced by Maureen Shiell, principal at the school. Gabriella Guarasce was named Valedictorian and Clarice Thibault was named Salutatorian for the graduating class.

Gabriella Guarasce, with a 96.225 overall average, is the daughter of Amy and Tom Guarasce. She will attend Clarkson University for their physicians assistant program and hopes to pursue a career in medicine. Her favorite class was fashion design and her favorite teacher was Miss Morris, who teaches calculus at Pulaski High School. Guarasce is transported to the neighboring school district so that she can take advantage of the opportunity through Pulaski to earn college credit for the math course. Her advice for others? Live every moment like it’s your last. Some of Guarasce’s favorite activities have been her involvement in softball, soccer, ski club and show choir. She said she will miss seeing her friends every day, as well as Big Mac pizza from a local pizza shop.

Clarice Thibault, with a 95.585 overall average is the daughter of Priscilla and Glenn Thibault. She will attend Houghton College in the fall and study Elementary Education and Psychology. She hopes to become an elementary teacher or a guidance counselor. Her favorite classes were fashion design and woodshop, and her favorite teacher was Mrs. Maxon. Her advice: follow your dreams and don’t let others put you down. Do what makes you happy. Thibault has been involved in many activities and clubs during her years at Sandy Creek High School. Her favorites include: cheerleading, dance, show choir, mock trial, drama club and band, and it is those activities that she will miss the most.

Guarasce and Thibault both thanked their parents and gave credit to them for supporting all of their endeavors. They were also grateful for the supportive community in which they live, and credited the small school district with providing them additional opportunities that would not have been available to them at a larger, less personal district.

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