

## The Voice of Long Island Education

# Spring/Summer 2018 Vol. 34, No. 17

# Save the Date

VIOLENCE PREVENTION **CERTIFICATION** 

Wednesday, July 11, 2018 9-11 a.m.

#### **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION CERTIFICATION**

Wednesday, July 11, 2018 12-2 p.m.

#### **DASA CERTIFICATION**

Monday, June 11, 2018 4-7 p.m. Tuesday, July 17, 2018 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Monday, August 27, 2018 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

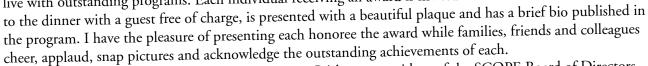
#### 34th ANNUAL DINNER MEETING FOR SUPERINTENDENTS AND **SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

Thursday, August 9, 2018 5 p.m. Bourne Mansion, Oakdale, New York

Dear Reader,

The 17th Annual SCOPE Education Services School District Awards Dinner was held this year on March 19 at Villa Lombardi's in Holbrook. Once again, public-school districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties selected individuals in the five categories of Community Service, School Administrators, School Board Service, Support Staff and Teachers to be honored for having provided outstanding service to their respective school districts. A total of 43 school districts honoring 166 individuals were at the dinner, attended by 821 people.

Honorees were selected by their district for having gone above and beyond, assisting in providing the children and communities in which they work and live with outstanding programs. Each individual receiving an award is invited



Assisting with the presentations were Mr. Henry Grishman, president of the SCOPE Board of Directors and superintendent of Jericho School District; Dr. Charles Russo, vice president of SCOPE Board of Directors and superintendent of the East Moriches School District; Mrs. Susan Schnebel, past president of SCOPE Board of Directors and superintendent of the Islip School District; Dr. Joseph Famularo, treasurer of SCOPE Board of Directors and superintendent of the Bellmore School District and Mr. Michael O'Brien, associate director of SCOPE.

A big thank-you to all of our many sponsors of the award dinner, in particular our Platinum Sponsors: BBS Architects, Landscape Architects and Engineers; Guercio and Guercio LLP; Ingerman Smith LLP and Lamb & Barnowski LLP. Without the support of these businesses and our other many sponsors this event would not be possible. You will find a list of all of our sponsors in this edition of The Forum.

I also was honored to present Mr. Henry Grishman with the National School Development Council's Cooperative Leadership Award. This award recognizes exemplary efforts to establish cooperative relationships with other educational agencies or study councils in the course of creating educational programs for the nation's schools. In addition to serving as president of the SCOPE Board for the past two years, Mr. Grishman is superintendent of the Jericho School District. Additionally, he has served as president and officer of the New York State Council of School Superintendents, chairperson of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Section VIII, past president and officer of Nassau County Council of School Superintendents and is an active member of the American Association of School Administrators.

I would like to also thank those individuals at SCOPE, particularly Christine Cosme, Jennifer Milillo and Ann Nuzzo, and all of the staff who assisted with this very successful event!

Congratulations to all of those honored and thank you for all you do to make Long Island's school districts the best in our nation. I hope that you enjoy this edition of The Forum, which is dedicated to the honorees and their accomplishments.

Sincerely,

George L. Duffy **Executive Director** 

"SCOPE Education Services, a not-for-profit organization currently celebrating our 52nd year, is permanently chartered by the New York State Board of Regents to provide services to public school districts on Long Island and in New York State."

George L. Duffy, Executive Director

# We Are Growing to Serve You Better



### **Before- and After-School Child Care**

Time outside of the school day should be filled with opportunities for children to enjoy themselves. In our school-safe environment, SCOPE provides enriching experiences through varied activities.

Children are offered experiences in:

- STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math).
- Physical fitness.
- Traditional board games.
- · Homework completion.
- Music.
- Crafts and other enriching activities.



Contact with peers offers children opportunities to form friendships and learn rules of fair play and cooperation. The SCOPE staff is trained to be continually aware of the needs and interests of the children they supervise. Emphasis is on safety, learning and fun.

#### **Supervision**

SCOPE programs are licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Staff are qualified and well trained to properly supervise children.

Staff to student ratio never exceeds 1:10.

Children get to know their peers in age-appropriate groups and activities are tailored to meet their needs.







#### **Safety**

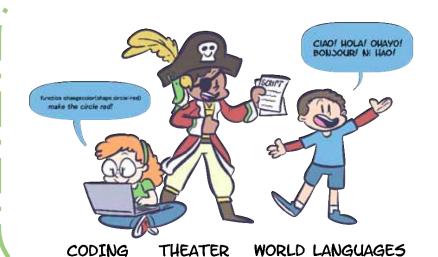
Safety of the children attending SCOPE programs are always our main priority.

Under close supervision children take part in a variety of daily activities.

SCOPE staff are trained in Emergency First Aid/CPR/AED and in Medication Administration Training.

Children are provided daily snacks and drinks. All snacks provided are USDA approved and are nut-free (gluten-free options are available). Drinks include bottled water, 100 percent fruit juice and milk.





#### **Enrichment**

SCOPE provides activities that reflect student interests and extend the learning experiences they may have in school and at home.

Enrichment activities are included as part of the before/after care program at no additional cost to parents. Children will take part in a minimum of 40 enrichment activities throughout the year. Activities will be STEAM related, fun and educationally enriching.

Separate enrichment programs such as coding, theater, world languages, etc., may be offered at an additional cost, based on student interest

Contact Info: Mindy Labriola (631) 360-0800, Ext. 164

Contact Info: Dina Pendel (631) 360-0800, Ext. 120

# **SCOPE Education Services**

# **Pre-Kindergarten Program**

#### The Pre-Kindergarten World

- SCOPE conducts more than 70 3-year-old and 4-year-old pre-k classes in 15 school districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties.
- SCOPE pre-k prepares the children for the school district's Kindergarten program.
- SCOPE's pre-k Curriculum is aligned with NYS Next Generation Standards as well as school district needs.
- SCOPE accommodates Emergent Multilingual Language Learners.
- SCOPE pre-k provides for the needs of all children.

#### Take a Look.....

SCOPE pre-k programs provide for the social, emotional and academic growth of the children. Children learn to interact appropriately with their peers, work cooperatively, problem-solve, and discover and explore their own personal interests.

Playtime, free time to explore, structured learning activities including STEAM activities (science, technology, engineering, arts, math), and continuous language development are a part of the daily routine.





### **Learning Centers Include:**

The Kitchen Center - providing a setting for play through collaboration and sharing.

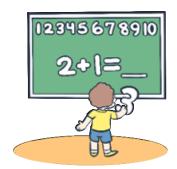
Math Center - Making connections between the symbol and the quantity, along with sequencing is a major focus.



LEGOS Building Center - LEGOS and assorted blocks are used to underscore basic engineering principles.

Drama Center - Role play is made easier with a costume center and doll house center.

Reading Center - Literacy through reading is not only center based, but spread throughout the room.









#### Social-Emotional Learning

- Learning how to make and sustain positive relationships with others.
- Fostering friendship and belonging.
- Learning to be respectful of one another's needs.
- Learning to identify and verbalize their own needs and strengths.
  - Children are frequently assessed and information on their developmental, academic, and socialemotional progress is passed on to parents and shared with their home school.

#### Staff

All of the SCOPE pre-kindergarten teachers and teaching assistants are New York State certified and knowledgeable about early childhood development. They are provided with professional development opportunities to sharpen their instructional skills and address different demographic and district needs.

Contact Info/Extra Info: Mellisa Krauss (631) 360-0800, Ext. 146









# SCOPE 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Dinner Celebrates Dedication and Commitment

The 17th Annual SCOPE Educational Awards Dinner was a memorable event, where numerous members of various educational communities across Long Island were acknowledged and recognized for their contributions to the field of education and the school districts they serve.

SCOPE Executive Director George Duffy congratulated each award recipient and noted that the services they provide have a meaningful and

lasting impact on the school district, community and the children they serve. Members of the SCOPE Board of Directors assisted in presenting the honored guests with personalized commemorative plaques as family members and guests applauded their well-deserved recognition. This year's honorees were chosen from five categories: Administrator Service, Community Service, School Board Service, Support Staff Service and Teacher Service. Congratulations to all of this year's honorees.













# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

SCHOOL BOARD SERVICE AWARDS

Jarrett Behar

Commack UFSD

Debbie Bernstein Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD
Thomas Cooley
Sayville UFSD
Charlena H. Croutch

Roosevelt UFSD Mark Doyle Port Jefferson UFSD
Tony Falco

Sachem CSD
Cathy Gismervik
West Babylon UFSD Sean Hattrick Tuckahoe CSD Kevin Johnston

Kings Park CSD Bruce Kahn Seaford UFSD
Donald King
Southampton UFSD
Diana Kolhoff

Sag Harbor UFSD Annmarie LaRosa West Islip UFSD
Guy Leggio
Bay Shore UFSD
Robert Martin

Garden City UFSD Liz Mendelman Springs UFSD
Anthony Miller

Freeport UFSD
Mary Jo O'Hagan

Michael Pappas Levittown UFSD Laura McVeety Pawlewicz Amityville UFSD Pedro A. Quintanilla

Westbury UFSD Robert Rose Shoreham-Wading River CSD Eric B. Schultz

Nassau BOCES Jeremy Thode Smithtown CSD

#### ADMINISTRATOR SERVICE AWARDS

**Regina Agrusa** Sewanhaka CSD Glen Arcuri Shoreham-Wading River CSD Barbara Bekermus Sag Harbor UFSD Lino Bracco Kings Park CSD

Maria Carnesi

Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD Eric Casale Springs UFSD Jean Castelli Massapequa UFSD Joseph Coniglione

Comsewogue UFSD Monica Corona William Floyd UFSD Renee Crump-Dedmon Freeport UFSD Eva J. Demyen

Deer Park UFSD Wendy Duffy West Islip UFSD Deadra Faulkner Westbury UFSD John J. Gallagher, Ed.D.

Longwood CSD Ingrid Hrvatin Smithtown CSD Lucinda P. Hurley Nassau BOCES

**Bret Kearney** Lindenhurst UFSD Fred Koelbel

Port Jefferson UFSD Lissette Laboy Roosevelt UFSD

Dr. Michele LeBlanc
Sayville UFSD

Dr. Kim Lowenborg-Coyne North Babylon UFSD Donna A. Mandella

Dennis Martin Bayport-Blue Point UFSD Stacy O'Connor

Brentwood UFSD Sandra Parmentier Amitwille UFSD John Ruggero

Sachem C **JoAnn Scott** West Babylon UFSD John Striffolino

Seaford UFSD Janet Studley Commack UF\$D Gene Tranchino Elwood UFSD

Kenya Vanterpool Wyandanch UFSD Jeanmarie Wink Levittown UFSD

TEACHER SERVICE AWARDS
Nancy Alt
Levittown UFSD
Roxane Basandella Westbury UFSD
Anne Bean
West Islip UFSD
Therese Blake

Bayport-Blue Point UFSD Tiffany Cioffi Sachem CSD Suzanne Cluff

Oysterponds UFSD
Danielle DeRosa
Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD
Lisa Dieumegard
Islip UFSD
Christine Dorchak
Tucknhoe CSD

Tuckahoe CSD Christine Els

William Floyd UFSD
Courtney Fabian
Center Moriches UFSD
Walter M. Fishon Bay Shore UFSD Maureen Foster

Sayville UFSD Maria Goncalves

Springs UFSD Ronald Gross William Floyd UFSD
Lauren Heaney
East Moriches UFSD
Dr. Paul Hesleinen

Massapequa UFSD Christine M. Iaquinto

West Babylon UFSD Barbara Imperiale Tuckahoe CSD

Joan Jacobs Shoreham-Wading River CSD Renee Johnson

East Moriches UFSD
Tameka Kendrick-Bredwood Roosevelt UFSD Neil Klatsky

Longwood CŠD Michel Krivosta Port Jefferson UFSD Michael LaSorsa

Freeport UFSD
Annemarie Magee Center Moriches UFSD Melba Martinez

Hampton Bays UFSD Janice McQuaid Kings Park CSD Corinne Moreland

East Moriches UFSD Jeffrey Netter Šmithtown CSD Joseph Pace

Elwood UFSD Lori Palladino Garden City UFSD Kim Palma

Bayport-Blue Point UFSD Jennifer Rind North Babylon UFSD

JoAnne Rubin Amityville UFSD Dennis Schleider

Tuckahoe CSD
Elizabeth Schwarz Brentwood UFSD Debbie Smith Deer Park UFSD **Edward Stella** 

Nassau BOCES Terry Stubelek Southampton UFSD
Brett Voegel

Tuckahoe ČSD **Lawrence Voelger** Center Moriches UFSD Christina M. Walsh

Lindenhurst UFSD Kesi Wheatley Wyandanch UFSD Kathy Whitehurst Kelli Wilson

East Moriches UFSD SUPPORT STAFF SERVICE AWARDS

John Ali Sag Harbor UFSD Aileen Balzano East Moriches UFSD **Ann Barodin** Seaford UFSD

Krystyna Baumgartner
Bay Shore UFSD
Denise Burger
Longwood CSD
Tena Chaffee
Seaford UFSD

Kim Doner Lindenhurst UFSD Eric Drew Springs UFSD

Lois Emerick

North Babylon UFSD Fran Gastman Amityville UFSD Maureen Griffin

Port Jefferson UFSD Lamar Henson Freeport UFSD Helen Hewitt Roosevelt UFSD Meghann Hodge

**Rick Holmes** 

Kings Park CSD
Theresa Jamison Wyandanch UFSD Kris Kalinowski Elwood UFSD Clare M. Kelly

Westbury UFSD Scott Lambeck Little Flower UFSD Thelma Lee Southampton UFSD
Diane Lyons

Brentwood UFSD Vincent Mangogna Wyandanch UFSD Doug Martines
Freeport UFSD
Debra McCaffrey

Massapequa UFSD Kevin Mercer Islip UFSD

Dawn Mitterando William Floyd UFSD Robert Nocella

William Nofi Center Moriches UFSD
Christine Pandolfo
Hampton Bays UFSD
Judy Ponticello Center Moriches UFSD
Otis Riddick

Southampton UFSD Ann Marie Scholz Smithtown CSD Stephen Shadbolt Sachem CSD Jeffery Vitkun West Babylon UFSD Olivia Vogler Deer Park UFSD

Thomas Wagner Shoreham-Wading River CSD

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS**

Ray Amorosso
Nassau BOCES
Nada Barry
Sag Harbor UFSD
Dorothy Boxley (Posthumously)
Roosevelt UFSD

Philip M. Carpenter

Bay Shore UFSD Jeanette Cocheo Oysterponds UFSD Nicholas Conzo Western Suffolk BOCES Lutricia (Pat) Edwards

Wyandanch UFSD E. James Freeman Longwood CSD

Cynthia Grimley Kings Park CSD
Ann Hedgis
Massapequa UFSD
Maria Jordan-Awalom

Freeport UFSD Kathleen Koster Elwood UFSD Justin Lite, Esq. Sayville UFSD Elaine Lovell

Westbury UFSD Alisa McMorris Shoreham-Wading River CSD
Barbara Mehmel William Floyd UFSD

Jacqueline Peters Smithtown CSD
Jennifer Prudente Massapequa UFSD Gary Repetto Brentwood UFSD Theresa Roden

Dina Shingleton Rosenberg Amityville UFSD Maryellen Scarola ichem CSL

Elisa Scott

Port Jefferson UFSD
Father Ralph Sommer
Levittown UFSD **Paul Anthony Soodoo** Deer Park UFSD Rachel Staiano Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD

Joanne Williams North Babylon UFSD Richard ("Juni") Wingfield
Southampton UFSD



School Board Service Award Recipients



Administrator Service Award Recipients



Teacher Service Award Recipients



Support Staff Service Award Recipients



Community Service Award Recipients

# National School Development Council Award

As a study council representing
Nassau and Suffolk counties, SCOPE
participates as a member of the National
School Development Council. This is an
organization comprised of various study
councils located throughout the nation.
The NSDC annually presents an award
to acknowledge outstanding leadership
within the Council's membership. The
award recognizes the exemplary efforts to
establish cooperative relationships with other
educational agencies or study councils in the
course of creating educational programs for
the nation's schools.

Previously, this award has recognized individuals including Cramer Harrington, deputy director for management services for SCOPE (posthumously); Lorraine Deller, Nassau Suffolk School Boards Association executive director; Dr. Charles T. Russo,

Center Moriches superintendent of schools and past president of SCSSA; and Susan Schnebel, Islip superintendent of schools and past president of SCSSA.

This year, the recipient of this prestigious award is Mr. Henry Grishman, president of the SCOPE Board of Directors and superintendent of the Jericho School District. Mr. Grishman generously shares his time and experience in education in his service to several organizations. He has served as president and officer of the New York State Council of School Superintendents, chairperson of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Section VIII; past president and officer of the Nassau County Council of School Superintendents and is an active member of the American Association of School Administrators.





# U.S. ARMY LEADERSHIP AWARD

The U.S. Army Leadership Award is presented to educators who have inspired their school districts through innovation and character. Factors considered when selecting the recipient of this prestigious award include how a school district promotes and integrates character education, technology, athletics and the maximum utilization

of external resources to provide the highest quality, well-rounded education based on the whole-person concept.

This year's recipient was the Longwood School District. Lt. Col. Juddson Floris presented the award to Longwood Senior High School Principal Scott Schuster.

# Special Thanks to Our Awards Dinner Sponsors



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#### **SILVER SPONSORS**

Intralogic Solutions St. John's University



#### **BRONZE SPONSORS**

A+Technology & Security NYSIR Suffolk Transportation Services

# Congratulations Are in Order Appointments and Announcements

#### **BELLMORE-MERRICK**

Dr. Mara Bollettieri Honored as **BOCES Education Partner** Deputy Superintendent Dr. Mara Bollettieri was among 15 honorees of the Nassau BOCES Education Partner Award program. Nassau BOCES created the awards program to honor those who share the agency's commitment to providing the best possible education – and Dr. Bollettieri certainly spends her days fulfilling this mission. In March 2014, Dr. Bollettieri helped to create a districtwide student-led think tank. Student ambassadors from the district's four high schools and two middle schools now join together throughout the school year to address issues affecting the student body and surrounding community. They also collaborate to host an annual Day of Service and fundraising run. In 2016, she helped facilitate the creation of a Community Cupboard food pantry, which serves more than 40 local families on a biweekly basis.



#### **BETHPAGE** New Principal of Bethpage High



The Bethpage Board of Education has appointed Nicholas Jantz as the new principal of Bethpage High School, effective July 1, 2018. Jantz will replace current principal Michael Spence, who will assume the role of assistant superintendent for instruction starting July 1. Jantz has been the John F. Kennedy Middle School assistant principal since 2014. Prior to working in Bethpage, he served as a social studies teacher for 10 years in the East Meadow School District. He has been deeply involved in the entire school program at JFK and the Bethpage school community through his role in supporting students and teachers. While at JFK, he has focused on improving school and community relations and the district's social and emotional learning. Jantz holds a Bachelor of Arts in history and secondary education from Saint Peter's University, a Master of Science in teaching literacy from Touro College and a school building leader certificate from The College of Saint Rose.

FARMINGDALE New Superintendent of Schools Named

Paul Defendini has been appointed the new Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2018. Mr. Defendini began his career in Farmingdale as an English language arts teacher at Weldon E. Howitt Middle School and later became dean of students. For the past 12 years, he has served as the district's school business administrator and assistant superintendent for business. Under his leadership, the district passed 10 consecutive budgets, achieved an S&P AA+ rating and helped spearhead the district's successful \$36 million bond referendum. Mr. Defendini has extremely strong ties to the community; he grew up in Farmingdale and graduated from Farmingdale High School in 1997.



#### HALF HOLLOW HILLS

Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education to Retire Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education Mrs. Mary Rettaliata is set to retire at the end of this school year. Mary is most grateful for the opportunity she had to work in a school community that continuously strives to develop instructional programs in the best interests of its students.



#### **HICKSVILLE**

Marconi Makes Her Mark Fork Lane Elementary School thirdgrade teacher Christina Marconi was selected as Nassau County's



Above and "Bee"yond Teacher Essay Contest. Marconi was recognized following nominating student Landon Lutrell's winning essay about her exceptional dedication to students and commitment to her craft. As a result of the honor, Marconi was presented with a \$500 check from Applebee's, which will be used to purchase supplies for her class next year.

Dr. Ellen Semel Named Islip Superintendent of Schools

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The Board of Education appointed Dr. Ellen Semel as the next superintendent of schools, effective July 1, 2018. Dr. Semel will replace current superintendent Sue Schnebel, who is retiring. Dr. Semel has served as the district's assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction since 2006, and is responsible for K-12 curriculum, instruction, assessment and data initiatives, and professional development. She has more than 35 years of experience in education and an extensive background in curriculum development. Dr. Semel has been with Islip for 12 years. Dr. Semel, an Amityville resident, holds a Doctor of Education degree in literacy from Hofstra University and a Master of Science degree in administration from LIU Post.



#### LYNBROOK

Lynbrook Welcomes New Waverly

Park Principal
The district is pleased to announce
the appointment of Waverly Park Elementary School Principal Allison Banhazl, effective July 1, 2018. Ms. Banhazl will replace current Waverly Park Principal Lucille McAssey, who has served the children of Lynbrook for 19 years and will retire at the end of the school year. Ms. Banhazl, a Rockville Centre resident, grew up in Merrick and has served as an assistant principal in the Merrick Union Free School District for the



past six years. Prior to her role in Merrick, she was a teaching assistant in the Baldwin Union Free School District while in college and served as a teacher in Brooklyn while working for the New York City Department of Education. During her undergraduate career at Loyola University, Ms. Banhazl majored in elementary education. She continued her studies at Hunter College where she received her master's degree, along with an advanced certificate from The College of St. Rose in educational leadership.

#### **NORTH SHORE**

David Soto Named 2018 New York

State Band Director of the Year The New York State Band Directors Association has named David Soto as the 2018 recipient of the Richard H. Snook Outstanding Band Director Award for New York State. Selected from a list of educators ranging from elementary to college, this award is given to one band director annually in the entire state. The honor recognizes individuals who not only demonstrate mastery in their craft as educators and musicians, but who also understand what it means to be a learning and growing artist, whose role is to inspire students of all ages.



ROCKY POINT Coach Named a National Hall of

Fame Inductee

Rocky Point High School wrestling coach Darren Goldstein has been inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Mr. Goldstein, a former All-League wrestler, is a member of the 1985 Port Jefferson State Cup champion team. He is considered to have the most winning athletes in the Empire State Games and started the North Shore Wrestling Club on a federally funded grant. He began his coaching career in the district as the junior varsity coach; before being appointed the varsity coach in Rocky Point, Mr. Goldstein served as a coach in the Longwood, Mt. Sinai and Shoreham-Wading River school districts. He has amassed numerous championship awards and has coached one Olympian – Brandon



# Congratulations Are in Order Appointments and Announcements

Escobar – and a female world team member and national champion – Jenna Burkett.

#### THREE VILLAGE

Teacher Pens Article, Shares Professional Creativity Minnesauke Elementary School art



teacher Christine Sacco's passion for inspiring students' creativity is serving as an inspiration for her colleagues nationwide through an article she authored for the February issue of SchoolArts Magazine. The article focuses on Ms. Sacco's creative "Chopped Art" project. Inspired by the hit television show "Chopped," the project is competition-based and calls for students to create a piece of art based on a central theme using only the materials in a given concealed box.

#### WILLIAM FLOYD

Next Principal of Moriches Elementary School

Deirdre Redding has been appointed the next principal of Moriches Elementary School beginning July 1, 2018, where she will serve as the

instructional and administrative leader and supervise more than 830 students, as well as approximately 60 faculty members and more than 40 professional staff. Mrs. Redding, who has served as the assistant principal at Moriches Elementary School since August 2007, has held various roles throughout her educational career, including ESL teacher in the Hampton Bays School District and Suffolk County Community College, and in 2017, served as principal of the William Floyd School District Elementary Summer Literacy Program. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in linguistics/ TESOL at Stony Brook University, a Master of Arts in liberal studies from Stony Brook University and an Advanced Graduate Certificate in school district leadership from Stony



Brook University. She also holds a NYS School District Administrator Permanent Certification (K-12), as well as a NYS ESL Permanent Certification (K-12).

# INSIDE OUR



#### **AMITYVILLE**

**Boys Win State Basketball Title** 

Amityville Memorial High School's boys varsity basketball team captured the Class A New York State championship with two wins at the Final Four tournament. The Warriors defeated Irondequoit High School, 52-42, on March 17. After knocking off the defending state champions, Amityville played Ardsley High School the following day. With a 74-54 win, the boys in red and gray earned their first state title since 2003. The team was guided by head coach Gordon Thomas and assistant coach Paul Robinson.



#### PARVI ON

JSHS Inducts New Members Into National Honor Society

Congratulations to the 51 Babylon Junior-Senior High School students who were inducted into the school's National Honor Society. To qualify, the following criteria must be met: an 89.5 unweighted cumulative average; 20 hours of community service; a profound demonstration of character, leadership and service through an application process and two teacher recommendations.

### BELLMORE

Students Celebrate Their Inner Superhero Leaders

Charles A. Reinhard Early Childhood Center students celebrated the district's core values and leadership principles



during the school's annual Superhero Leader Day. Students and faculty dressed up as their favorite superheroes. During classroom instruction, the students wrote about the superhero leaders at Reinhard, and pronouncements were read over the loudspeaker and posted on the Superhero Leader bulletin board for all to see.



#### **BELLMORE-MERRICK**

Kennedy Teams Earn \$3,000 at Northwell Health SPARK! Challenge

Two teams from Bellmore-Merrick Central High School's John F. Kennedy High School presented in the Northwell Health SPARK! Challenge competition, netting a \$3,000 award. The competition actually began last fall, when two groups of Kennedy students from science and engineering classes shadowed professionals in the Northwell Health System. The students completed the competition by giving presentations about the professionals at Northwell Health. Kennedy's ASR/ biology team won second place for its oral presentation and third place for its career advertisement poster representing the Emergency Department from North Shore-LIJ. Their combined prize includes a \$3,000 award to be used for a field trip chosen by the 14-member team and its teacher.

#### CARLE PLACE

**Hooray for Hip Hop** 

As part of Hip Ĥop Ĉulture, a new senior English elective at Carle Place High School, students have been learning about four distinct elements – emceeing, deejaying, graffiti and breakdancing – and understanding the common misconception



that hip hop refers only to rap music. Teacher Melissa Mehling has led students on a journey from the start of hip hop to its development as a global movement, and on trips to Harlem and the Bronx to experience elements of hip hop firsthand.



#### COMSEWOGUE

Writers Celebration

Following the reading of "The One and Only Ivan," a book inspired by a true story of a gorilla raised in a shopping mall, and two months of research on the rights of endangered animals, students in Mrs. Dunn's fourth-grade class presented their findings during a Writers Celebration at Terryville Road Elementary School. After learning how to formulate questions to drive their research, the students studied various animals and learned about their physical features, habitats and diets. The class turned their school library into a gallery by pairing their research projects and poems with a display of handmade illustrations visitors could purchase. The students raised more than \$50 dollars, which was donated to the World Wildlife Fund.

#### **CONNETQUOT**

Connetquot High School Students
Attend Mathematics Competition
Fifteen Connetquot High School students



attended Nassau Community College's 18th annual Yes 2 Mathematics workshops and mathematics competition. The students participated in a mathematics-based competition against students from Nassau and Suffolk counties. Participants Jessica Chau, Brady Ferguson, Tyler Hane, Dan Haughie and Giridhar Mula secured the first-place title, while Albert Ang, Dominic Manicone, Thomas Szostak and Michael Vincente took home third place.



#### **EAST MEADOW**

East Rockaway Music Department Competes in Virginia Beach

The Music Department participated in its annual trip to the Festivals of Music Competition. This year boasted record participation, with 69 students from band, orchestra and chorus attending. The trip included a tour of the University of Delaware's Music Department and a discussion with undergraduate and graduate music students. While in Virginia Beach, Virginia, each ensemble performed for a panel of judges and received a clinic with a guest conductor. The senior band placed first, the senior orchestra placed second and the senior chorus placed third in their respective categories. All ensembles received a rating of excellent from the adjudicators.

#### ELMONT

**Veterans Honor Dutch Broadway Sixth-Graders** 

Twenty-one sixth-grade students from Mr. Joseph Dooley and Mrs. Karen Rutledge's classes at Dutch Broadway School were honored by 19 local veterans for their community service. These students, under the supervision of physical education



# MENSIDE OUR SCHOOLS

teacher Deb Bennett, collect and sort recyclable bottles and cans throughout the school. Retired Marine Veteran Bill "The Can Man" Urianek recycles the bottles and all the money is donated to various veterans' organizations. Since 2013, the students have collected more than 120,000 bottles and cans. Each veteran presented the students with a volunteer service medal. Mr. Urianek presented a plaque to principal Amy Buchanan, recognizing Dutch Broadway for its years of participation in the program.



#### **ELWOOD**

### Recycling Pilot Program Comes to Elwood

The district has been selected to pilot a new school recycling program, at no cost to the district, inclusive of the carting fees and all materials, as part of the Suffolk Share Initiative, in partnership with the Suffolk County Executive's office. Each classroom throughout the district will receive two containers to aid in recycling efforts – one for paper and one for plastic. Receptacles will also be placed in cafeterias to assist in recycling food-related waste. Other tools, including a large commercial scale, will be supplied by the county so that students can measure the impact of their efforts. Suffolk County will also share a voluntary curriculum, written by a panel of local educators to support the program.



#### **FARMINGDALE**

### Grammy Award Winner Returns to Record Next Album

Grammy Award-winning kids' musician and performer Tim Kubart returned to Woodward Parkway Elementary School to record background vocal tracks for his upcoming album, "Building Blocks." For the past three years, Kubart's tour has included a stop at his elementary school. During last years' show he heard the chorus and invited them to participate on his next album. The third-grade chorus sang the lyrics from his new song, "We Are Growing."



#### FREEPORT

#### Students Make Live Contact With Astronaut Scott Tingle Aboard the ISS

The district became one of only 13 districts nationwide and the only one in Nassau County to provide its students with a once-

in-a-lifetime opportunity to speak directly to an astronaut. Following a rigorous selection process by NASA, the district was chosen to make contact through ARISS, the Amateur Radio International Space Station, program. Students had the remarkable opportunity to ask questions of astronaut Scott D. Tingle aboard the International Space Station. In conjunction with the amateur radio telebridge network with a ground operator in Italy, contact was made with Tingle for about 10 minutes.



#### **GLEN COVE**

#### **Educators Become Students**

Teachers at Connolly Elementary School took part in professional development, which is new to the district this year, with Columbia University's Teachers College Reading and Writing Project staff developer Amanda Denmore. Ms. Denmore shared teaching strategies and best practices with the educators in narrative writing, research-based writing and other topics.



#### HALF HOLLOW HILLS

## Students Dream Big to Comfort Kids at NYU Winthrop Hospital

Students Ashley Kalb, Hayley Kalb, Marissa Mandel, Matthew Mandel and Morgan Mandel spearheaded a very successful Pajama Day throughout the district, where all students were encouraged to wear pajamas to school and bring a new pair to be donated to Children's Medical Center at NYU Winthrop Hospital. More than 1,650 pairs of pajamas were donated to benefit pediatric patients.



#### HAMPTON BAYS

#### Science Research Students Present at Annual Symposium

Hampton Bays High School Science Research students presented their scientific findings at the school's fifth annual Science Research Symposium. The 19 students spent as many as four years working on their research projects. Topics included the medical uses of 3D technology, cardiovascular medicine, diabetes and obesity.

### ISLIP

#### Production of 'Pippin' Proves Magical

Islip High School's theater company performed magic, bringing the play "Pippin" to life for three superlative performances. The production was the



culmination of long hours of planning and practice by the students enrolled in Dr. Rich Harris' Theater Production course, which was first offered several years ago to provide students with an opportunity to better understand the roles and responsibilities of a professional theatrical production.



#### **LINDENHURST**

### Students Share Their Democratic Voices

The Wade-Burns Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7279 recognized several students for their written contributions to the 2017-18 VFW Voice of Democracy essay contests. The student essays reflected the theme, "America, Our Hope for the Future." Lindenhurst High School students Jack Burton and Efrain Laguna, who took second and third place respectively, and were awarded with medals, certificates and monetary awards.



#### MALVERNE

#### **Select Choir Rates Superior**

Malverne High School's Select Choir received a superior rating and won first place out of six high school choirs in their division from around the country at the competition held at Busch Gardens. In addition, Kyrah Michael was awarded a medal as best soloist from all divisions. The choir is directed by Ken Zagare and was conducted by Deanna Vitola in this competition.



#### NORTH BABYLON

#### Lessons in Mindfulness

Students and staff at North Babylon High School received a special visit from mindfulness coach and founder of the Long Island Center for Mindfulness Cory Muscara, who led them through a peaceful journey aimed at promoting oneness and well-being. The social-emotional training was aligned with the school's ongoing commitment to teaching students to be mindful and self-aware of their actions and emotions



#### NORTHPORT

### STEM Challenge Raised Nearly \$30K for ALS Research

Young scientists and engineers from the community attended the fourth annual STEM Fair and Challenge at Northport High School. The event was expanded to include a grade K-4 fair featuring 21 STEM activities designed and facilitated by K-12 teachers, Technology and Engineering Honor Society students, and physics students. Participants exercised their creativity and problem-solving skills through hands-on experiences with VEX robotics, Scratch coding, laser mazes, flower chromatography, hover balloons and more. The Cyberian Tigers, the high school robotics team, also demonstrated their fifth-generation robot. At the STEM Challenge for grades 5-8, 25 teams from six different schools competed and earned awards in events including a Mystery Solution Mix-up, Circuit Central, the Marshmallow Tower Design and Puzzling Math. This event, organized as part of the Team Packard initiative and A Midwinter Night's Dream Inc. raised nearly \$30,000 for the fight against amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, which was directed to the Robert Packard Center for ALS Research at Johns Hopkins University.



#### PORT JEFFERSON

## Science Olympiad Team Ranks in State Competition

The Port Jefferson Middle School Science Olympiad team placed eighth overall in the New York State Science Olympiad Competition, held in Syracuse. The ranking is the second highest for the team in almost two decades. The team, which includes students from grades 6-9, achieved 12 medals in various events. During the awards ceremony, the team received a plaque for its accomplishment. According to coach and middle school science teacher Adam Bouchard, the students were successful due to their hard work in studying scientific principles and engineering devices to complete the various tasks

#### RIVERHEAD

#### Geology of Beaches

Sixth-graders at Pulaski Street Elementary School spent a day learning about the geological differences between area

# INSIDE OUR SCHOOLS



beaches on the North and South shores. The students visited Indian Island County Park, where they fished with a net and discussed the importance of estuaries; Hallock State Park Preserve, where they took a nature walk to search for evidence of glaciation; the Shinnecock Canal, where they learned about the waterway's importance to Long Island; and Ponquogue Beach, where they took part in a sand casting art project.



#### **ROCKY POINT**

Creating Memories for Syrian Children

A group of juniors in Gregory Armine's Drawing and Painting class at Rocky Point High School and seniors from Seth Meier's Advanced Placement Studio Art class created very special portraits for Syrian children living in refugee camps. The Memory Project, which is a Wisconsinbased organization, asks young artists from around the world to create portraits for children who are living in impoverished areas of the world. The joy of these children as they receive their portraits is a wonderful thing to see and can be watched in a video produced by the Memory Project staff.



#### SAG HARBOR

Mock Trial Leads to Student Learning

Wearing Colonial garb, Jeff Reed's fourthgrade class at Sag Harbor Elementary School held a mock trial to determine the fate of three famous leaders of New York's earliest colony, New Netherland of the Dutch Republic. Three student attorneys defended their "clients" against a prosecutor who levied a series of charges, while their peers served as the jury, complete with a foreman. Leading up to the trial, the students independently researched primary documents for arguments supporting their clients and prepared a defense for the many historical accusations that remain debatable. The lesson coincided with the fourthgrade social studies curriculum on early American history.

#### **SEAFORD**

## Shirts Showcase Life After High School

Seaford High School seniors looked toward the future as they wore shirts representing



the colleges and universities they will attend after graduation during National Decision Day. College Awareness Day is an annual tradition for the soon-to-be graduates. Faculty and administrators, who wore the shirts of their alma maters, bonded with students wearing the same college shirt, uniting them under a new identity.



#### **SEWANHAKA**

National Merit Scholarship Achievement for NHP Students

New Hyde Park Memorial High School students Aisha Abdelhamid, Sahran Amin, Minato Fukuda, Nicole Joseph, Aleena Kavanakudy, Vishwaiit Sharma, Ramsha Shoaib and Emily Yuan took the 2017 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test and met requirements to enter the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. Congratulations to the students, who are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants.



#### SHOREHAM-WADING RIVER

**Celebrating Earth Day** 

Miller Avenue Elementary School students did more than just observe Earth Day. With a gift of 50 white pine saplings from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, second-graders planted the trees native to the region. The hard work that the students in Linda Burke's and Alice Steinbrecher's classes accomplished helped beautify the Miller Avenue School property. Each student was also given a tree to plant at home.



#### SMITHTOWN

Coding Enrichment Program for Budding Scientists

For the second consecutive year, Smithtown High School East science research coordinator Maria Zeitlin has partnered with Brookhaven National Laboratory to provide an enrichment program open to all interested 10th-12th grade students. Twenty-one students participated in the weekly scientific coding seminars, which ran from the start of school until the end of April. During the final session, instructor Dave Biersach, along with the directors of

Brookhaven National Laboratory's Office of Educational Programs, were on hand to deliver certificates to all the student participants.



#### **SPRINGS**

**Embracing Tolerance and Respect Through Art** 

Sixth-grade students and their families worked together to complete an art project during the Spring Schools' first Diversity Institute event. Student ambassadors planned the entire evening, which included activities to teach tolerance and respect.



#### SYOSSET

Learning Empathy Through History

Music students at Robbins Lane Elementary School studied the music of the Civil Rights Movement to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Under the direction of music teacher Dr. Catherine da Silva, students studied the lyrics of "We Shall Overcome" using a Smithsonian historical recording from 1964, wrote a special verse of their own for the song and then performed their composition with their classmates. Students also read the Caldecott Award-winning "Martin's Big Words," a stirring picture book about the life of Dr. King that teaches empathy and the power of being an upstander. Students shared 10 ways to be an upstander and learned how to "keep their empathy radars up."



#### THREE VILLAGE

Iron Patriots Showcase Talents on Regional Stage

Ward Melville High School's robotics team – the Ward Melville Iron Patriots – competed in the 2018 FIRST Robotics competition. After three grueling days of battle, the Iron Patriots emerged as second-place winners. This was an amazing accomplishment for a team that has only existed for two years.

#### VALLEY STREAM THIRTY

**Dancing Into First Place** 

Twelve fifth-graders from Shaw Avenue Elementary School proudly represented their school and the district by earning first place in Dancing Classrooms of Long Island's "Spring Colors of the Rainbow Team Match and Festival." Students who took part in the 10-week, 20-lesson



residency program, Dancing Classrooms: Creating Connections. Inspiring Confidence, put their dancing skills to the test during the event. Shaw Avenue was among seven Nassau and Suffolk elementary schools and 84 fourth- and fifth-grade students who participated in the competition at George W. Hewlett High School. The students received a large gold trophy and individual medallions for their achievement.



#### W/A NITA CH

**Perfect Sales Pitch** 

Wantagh High School's Virtual Enterprises International firm Guaco Taco, a taco food truck, earned a silver medal in the Sales Pitch Competition at the 2018 Youth Business Summit held at the New York City International Trade Show. Members of the firm include Nancy Ambrosio (CEO), Donald Conway (Human Resources), Gabriella Iannuzzo (CMO), Joseph Loccisano (IT), Jonathan Loew (Finance), Kiera Roth (Administration), Matthew Ryall (Sales and Marketing) and Stephen Vaiano (CFO). The Youth Business Summit is a global business convention for VEI students, providing participants the opportunity to demonstrate their professional skills and business acumen developed through running a VE company.



#### WEST BABYLON

Learning in the Field

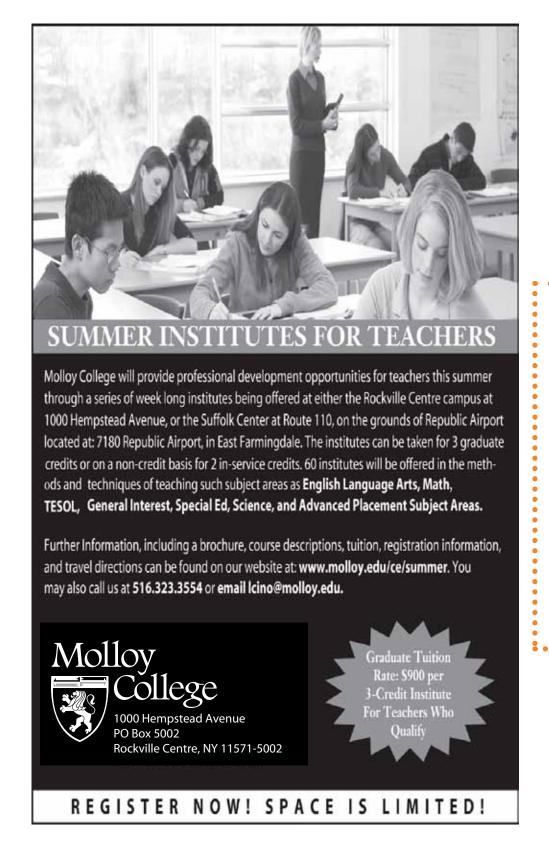
Fourth-grade students from Santapogue Elementary School took a field trip to Connetquot State Park, including a tour of the hatchery. Students discovered the underwater world of ponds through handson sampling and field observations. After visiting the pond, the class went indoors to look at microscopic organisms and discuss their role in the food chain.

#### WEST ISLIP

40 Inducted Into Business and Marketing Honor Society

West Islip High School inducted 40 exemplary students into the New York State Business and Marketing Honor Society. Both in the classroom and through extracurricular involvement, students selected for recognition demonstrated the outstanding qualities of character, leadership and community service. Keynote speaker Robert Cutrone, a 2010 West Islip alumnus, the founder of Just Press Play Entertainment and the owner of The Bean coffee house in Patchogue, shared stories of his own experiences as a young entrepreneur.





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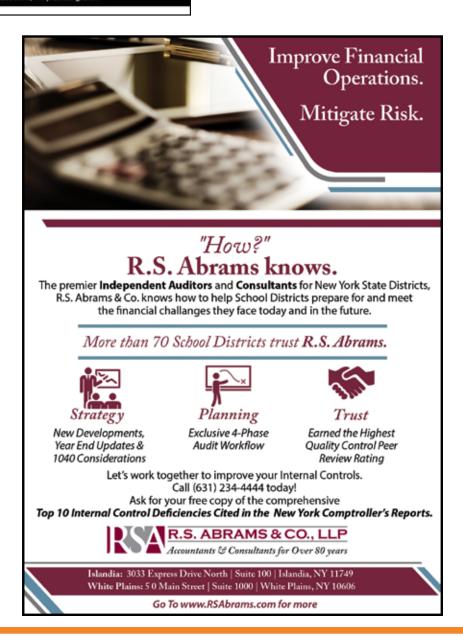
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The Forum can be accessed online at www.scopeonline.us. If you have information about your school district that you would like to share, please send it to Kathy Beatty at kbeatty@syntaxny.com.