

Board of Education Honors Betty Jorgensen, Tom Struzzieri



On October 11, the Saugerties Central School District Board of Education honored beloved longtime substitute teacher Betty Jorgensen and local businessman and philanthropist Tom Struzzieri. Mrs. Jorgensen has been a popular substitute in Saugerties schools since she began working for the District in 1974. Mr. Struzzieri, owner and president of HITS-on-the-Hudson horse shows, has been a staunch supporter of Saugerties schools. The Board presented both Mrs. Jorgensen and Mr. Struzzieri with plaques expressing appreciation for all they have done to enrich the lives of Saugerties students. Above, Superintendent Seth Turner is pictured reading Mrs. Jorgensen's plaque as she, Mr. Struzzieri (second from left), and Saugerties High School Principal Tom Averill look on.

Saugerties

Central School District

FALL 2016

STELLAR SCIENCE LABS...

...TAKE SAUGERTIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON



SHS senior Madison Perri performs a chemical test on water from the Hudson River.

Whether they're catching sunfish in the Hudson River or pacing out the relative distance between Mars and Jupiter on a playing field, Saugerties High School (SHS) students have a galaxy of scientific learning opportunities at their fingertips every day.

Among the unique, hands-on activities that students took part in this fall were the annual Solar Walk, Star Lab, and "Day in the Life" Hudson River estuary testing program.

The Solar Walk, a lab created by earth science teacher Ara Krom five years ago and adopted by other freshman and sophomore SHS science teachers since then, is an eye-opening experiment in helping students learn more about the universe we live in.

Because it can be difficult for anyone to get an accurate sense of the dimensions of the solar system, Krom developed a lab in which students reduce the scale of both the planets and their distances from one another in order to create a manageable model of the solar system.

Once the mathematical calculations were done, Krom and the students headed out to the soccer field with their model, which consisted of correctly scaled-down objects – for instance, a tennis ball as the sun and a blue bead as Earth – mounted on garden stakes. Using their distance calculations, the students paced out in meters the relative distance between the planets and

CONTINUED ON PAGES 4 & 5

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
NEWBURGH, NY 12550
PERMIT #145

MAN-WSS

TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

SAUGERTIES CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Call Box A
Saugerties, NY 12477
845-247-6500
www.saugerties.k12.ny.us

Board of Education

Robert Thomann, *President*
James Mooney, *Vice President*

Krista Barringer
Katie Emerson-Hoss
Damion Ferraro
Raymond (Mike) Maclary

Elena Maskell
Charles Schirmer
Paul Van Schaack

Superintendent of Schools

Seth Turner

Deputy Superintendent

Lawrence R. Mautone

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Sawyers Win Mum Bowl.....	2
SHS Student Chosen for Area All-State Band	2
Junior High Students Learn Real-World Skills.....	3
Anti-Bullying Assembly at Junior High.....	3
Stellar Science Labs at SHS	4 & 5
Elementary School Students Learn Fire Safety	6
Patriots Win Mustang Bowl XIII	7
Riccardi Readers Revel in Rooftop Reward.....	7
Mt. Marion Students Raise \$9K in Fun Run.....	7
Frightening Finery on Display for Halloween.....	8
Cahill Kindergartners Hunt for Pumpkins	8



Mum Queen Hannah Spoljaric and her court: Madison Perri (left) and Bhavreet Dhandi.

Sawyers Win Mum Bowl, Hannah Spoljaric Crowned Mum Queen

The Saugerties High School Sawyers varsity football team swept past the Red Hook Raiders at Mum Bowl on October 8. The game resulted in a 39 to 6 win for the Sawyers, with points scored in touchdowns by seniors Rob Trincellito and Jim Ball and sophomore Matt Bucci. The team had an impressive season overall, with a record of 7 wins and only 2 losses.

During half-time at Mum Bowl, senior Hannah Spoljaric was crowned Mum Queen, receiving her traditional floral crown from last year's queen, Darian Kassler. Joining Hannah to complete the Mum Court were Madison Perri and Bhavreet Dhandi.



SHS senior Jim Ball runs for a touchdown during Mum Bowl.

SHS Student Jasper Weaver Earns Area All-State Honor



Jasper Weaver rehearses with the SHS band.

Saugerties High School (SHS) senior Jasper Weaver has been selected for the prestigious Area All-State Band, becoming the first Saugerties student to qualify in six years.

Jasper, who has played the flute for nine years, was chosen based on the score of 98 he received at last April's New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Solo & Small Ensemble Festival and the recommendation of his SHS music teacher, Marisa Trees.

"Jasper possesses a great deal of natural ability and worked really hard on preparing the [NYSSMA] solo," Trees said.

As part of his preparation, Jasper worked with Trees during lunch periods and after school. He currently plays in the SHS band, and takes Music Theory, High School Choir, and Voice classes. He also plays in both the SUNY Ulster Community Band and the SUNY Ulster Wind Ensemble.

Jasper said he particularly enjoys playing music by Bach because of its livelier tempo. For

his NYSSMA solo, he chose to play Sonata in A by C.P. Bach.

When he's not playing music, Jasper will likely be found drawing or playing video games. He is considering a double major in music and art when he heads off to college next fall.

Although he was confident that he did well at the NYSSMA festival, he still admits to some surprise upon learning that he had been selected for All-State.

"I almost started screaming," he said.

Jasper traveled to Cornwall High School in Orange County on November 18 to take part in the Zone 9 Area All-State festival, along with students from five other counties.

Trees noted that competition for a spot in the Zone 9 ensembles is particularly tough because of the zone's proximity to the city.

"I'm extremely proud of Jasper and I'm delighted that Saugerties was once again represented at Area All-State by such a talented and dedicated young musician."

Sawyers Saw (and Dig) Their Way to Real-World Work Skills

More than 60 Saugerties Junior High School eighth grade technology students became the living embodiment of the Sawyer mascot this fall as they sawed wood that will be used as part of the school's maple sugaring operation in the spring.

In previous years, the work of sawing the wood fell to teachers Brian Robinson and Mike Cooper, who oversee the maple sugaring operation. This year, the work was done by students, thanks to a grant received in January to help students get hands-on, real-world work experience.

The \$744,000 grant funds the Saugerties Graduation Requirements

through Occupational Work Study (G.R.O.W.S.) program, which gives students the opportunity to gain hands-on work experience in order to obtain the Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) credential. The CDOS credential recognizes students' preparation and training for post-secondary employment.

The focal point of Saugerties G.R.O.W.S. will be a greenhouse, vegetable garden, and farmstand where students will gain valuable real-world work experience in growing, preparing, and selling food. The sale of maple syrup from the sugaring operation has already been underway for several years.

Under the guidance of teachers Shawn Christensen, Jack Washburn, and Bryan VanVliet,

the students measured and cut large pieces of wood into smaller sections to fuel the evaporator. The work required math, collaborative skills, and hands-on use of tools.

The week after the sawing took place, another group of both Junior High School and High School students spent time digging holes and installing fence posts around the school garden. Students installed fencing around the garden on November 10.



Don't Be a Monster Anti-Bullying Program Comes to Saugerties Junior High

Saugerties Junior High School students snap a selfie with Frank Shelly, the popular character from the "Don't Be a Monster" anti-bullying program during an assembly on October 19. "Don't Be a Monster" founder Ryan Dutcher presented the program to all seventh and eighth graders, using magic, videos, and real-life stories of bullied kids to help students learn more about bullying and how to prevent it. Dutcher encouraged students to feel good about themselves, pursue their passions, and be kind, helpful, and caring to others.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



STELLAR SCIENCE LABS...

SHS sophomores stand outside the Star Lab after their planetarium experience.



With SHS science teacher Ara Krom following, Ashley Pettengill paces out the distance between Saturn and Uranus during the Solar Walk. At right, Hannah Munoz takes a leap on the way from Mars to Jupiter.



...TAKE SAUGERTIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON

placed the stakes at the correct locations. As they took small steps for man and giant leaps for learning, Krom provided fascinating facts about each of the planets, including details about their temperature, color, atmosphere, and other characteristics.

Back in the classroom, students were asked to use their observations to reflect on various aspects of the solar system, including what planet is the most likely to be inhabited by humans in the future, and what would happen if the speed of a planet's orbit around the sun were to change.

Krom said the lab "really gives [the students] a better appreciation" for the distances involved and the solar system as a whole.

Space exploration at SHS doesn't end at the edge of the soccer field, however. Students also enjoyed a visit to the Star Lab as part of their science classes in October.

The Star Lab is a portable, inflatable planetarium that the District borrows from the Mid-Hudson Teacher Center. After crawling inside the vinyl dome, which can accommodate about 25 people at a time, the students were treated to a display of the solar system and constellations projected onto the dome using film cylinders.

SHS teachers have been trained in the use of the Star Lab and they created a multi-disciplinary experience for students, discussing not only the science of the planets and stars, but also how different cultures, from the ancient Greeks and Chinese to Native Americans, perceived the constellations.

While some SHS students were shooting for the stars, others were exploring an area a bit closer to home: the Hudson River.

Ten students in Brian Robinson's Advanced Placement Environmental Science class became Hudson River researchers on October 20, collecting



SHS students Cameron Kouhout, left, and Jack Smythe examine the contents of the fishing net they used during the “Day in the Life” Hudson River estuary testing program.



Amber Murphy collects a water sample from the Hudson River at Falling Waters Preserve in Glasco.



Teacher Brian Robinson stands with his AP Environmental Science students on the banks of the Hudson River.



Jaclyn Gehring holds a sunfish caught in the Hudson River. The students could use a Department of Environmental Conservation guide to identify the fish they caught.

valuable data about the river for the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

The students, who are juniors and seniors, were among 4,500 elementary, secondary, and college students who participated in the DEC’s 14th annual “Day in the Life of the Hudson River Estuary” program. By collecting and recording physical, chemical, and biological information about the river on the same day, at 90 sites between New York City and Troy, the students helped the DEC create a snapshot of the river’s ecology.

The Saugerties students performed their data collection at Falling Waters Preserve in Glasco. Donning waders and working with nets, water-testing kits, and other devices, the students measured the tide, determined the river’s

salinity and level of chlorine, and caught a variety of small fish. The work provided a hands-on learning experience for students and critical information about the river for the DEC at the same time.

Nancy Beard of the DEC’s Hudson River Estuary Program met with the students at Falling Waters and praised them for their efficiency in collecting samples and completing tests.

The Advanced Placement Environmental Science class is a rigorous science course designed to be the equivalent of an introductory college course. Robinson and his students travel to the Hudson River as often as possible, using the nearby natural resource as a living classroom. They have taken part in the DEC’s “Day in the Life” program for several years.

Saugerties Elementary School Students Learn Fire Safety



Morse

Grant D. Morse student Jesse Bach gives a thumbs-up from the driver's seat of a Centerville fire truck.

Whether they were crawling through a smokehouse, wielding a fire hose, or trying on turnout gear, students at Saugerties Central School District elementary schools had some fun and took home valuable fire safety lessons in October in honor of Fire Prevention Month.

A long-standing annual event in the District, Fire Prevention Month is marked by visits to each elementary school by local fire companies. Firefighters volunteer their time to provide instruction in preventing fires and how to escape safely from a blaze, display their trucks and tools, and provide hands-on learning experiences.

At Cahill, students had the opportunity to climb through a rescue truck, and cheered on two Saugerties village firefighters as they competed to see who could don their turnout gear the fastest.

At Riccardi, younger children experienced the smokehouse, which helps them build knowledge and skills for escaping a fire, while older students observed Glasco firefighters simulate an automobile rescue.

Mt. Marion students tried their hand at spraying the Mt. Marion Fire Department's fire hose and tried on turnout gear, while Morse students enjoyed exploring fire vehicles and watching Centerville firefighters spray fire suppression foam.

Firefighters at each school demonstrated what they look and sound like while wearing full turnout gear and breathing apparatus, to ensure that students won't be frightened of them in an emergency.

Staff and students at all four elementary schools thanked the firefighters for keeping them safe and taking the time to share fire safety lessons.



Mt. Marion

Carter Nelson, a Mt. Marion student, wields a fire hose while classmate Isabella Fragoudaki eagerly awaits her turn.



Cahill

A Saugerties village firefighter explains to Cahill students how a pry bar is used.



Riccardi

Kindergartners at Riccardi enter the smokehouse.

Patriots Win Mustang Bowl XIII



Julian Hackett runs with the ball to gain yardage for the Mustangs. With the ball in play, Mustangs and Patriots give it their all in Mustang Bowl XIII.

In a game that came down to the wire and could have been anyone's victory, the Grant D. Morse Elementary School Patriots won the 13th annual Mustang Bowl by a single point on October 19.

The touch football classic brought together the school's fifth and sixth graders in a friendly competition to capture the Green Apples Cup. The Patriots' 13-12 win gives them a lead of 8 games to 5 in Mustang Bowl history.

Both the Mustangs, coached by Ryan Curran, and the Patriots, coached by Maddy Dodig, played well in an exciting game that included several interceptions, quarterback sacks, and tense play in the end zone with just moments left on the clock. As always, the two teams displayed outstanding sportsmanship.

The Morse Cheer Team kept spirits high and shared their talents during half-time. Younger students, families, and members of the community came out to cheer on the players as well.

Five individual students, four players and one cheerleader, were honored during the game. Iain Lydecker received the Bruce Eymann Most Valuable Player Award for the offense, while Joey Karolys earned the same honor for the defense. Mackenzie Sullivan received the Seth Turner Award for Outstanding Line Play. Maddy Dodig received the Patrick Buonfiglio Sportsmanship Award. Cheerleader Kendall Drost received the Mary Cosentino Spirit Award.

Riccardi Readers Revel in Rooftop Reward

More than 140 Riccardi Elementary School students gave themselves a lifelong reward this past summer by reading every day and improving their English Language Arts skills. This fall, they received another reward for their hard work. Principal Sue Osterhoudt spent October 6 on the school roof, fulfilling a promise she made at the launch of the Summer Reading Challenge program. Nearly 30 percent more students participated this year, smashing the old record and sending Osterhoudt to a rooftop office overlooking the playground. Students waved and called out to Osterhoudt during recess, and were thrilled when she lowered a bucket of treats for them to enjoy.



Mt. Marion Students Raise \$9K at Fun Run

At Mt. Marion Elementary School, there are just no obstacles to having fun, staying healthy, and raising money.

The third annual Obstacle Color Fun Run, held on October 6, gave students healthy physical activity while raising money for assemblies, field trips, and other fun and enriching opportunities throughout the school year.

Students navigated more than half a dozen obstacles, from a maze to a rope swing, on the half-mile course. Physical education teachers Sean Collins and Melinda Glover cheered students on and helped them tackle the obstacles, while parent volunteers provided valuable assistance spritzing students' white tee shirts with fabric paint and making sure all the participants got water and a healthy snack after the run. This year's run was organized by PTA President Carmalina DeWitt.

For the second year in a row, the students raised approximately \$9,000.



Halloween 2016

Saugerties students of all ages enjoyed a fiendishly fun Halloween celebration this year, showing up to school cloaked in frightful finery. The spooky spectrum of costumes included doctors and doughnuts, skeletons and scarecrows, hippies, hot dogs, and more than one Harry Potter. At Cahill, Morse, and Riccardi, students and teachers alike earned their haunting licenses by showing off their delightful disguises in spirited parades.



It's the Great Pumpkin Hunt, Cahill

Cahill Kindergartners enjoyed their annual Pumpkin Hunt on October 25. After being greeted by Mickey and Minnie (and the mice's sunglass-wearing sixth grade security detail), the school's littlest learners scooped up perfect pumpkins in the school field. They had the chance to decorate them later at Cahill's Pumpkin Fun Night.