

Representing Lincoln Avenue Retired Teachers Janet Cozza

Hello everyone. I am Janet Donadio Cozza, a retired Lincoln Avenue teacher.

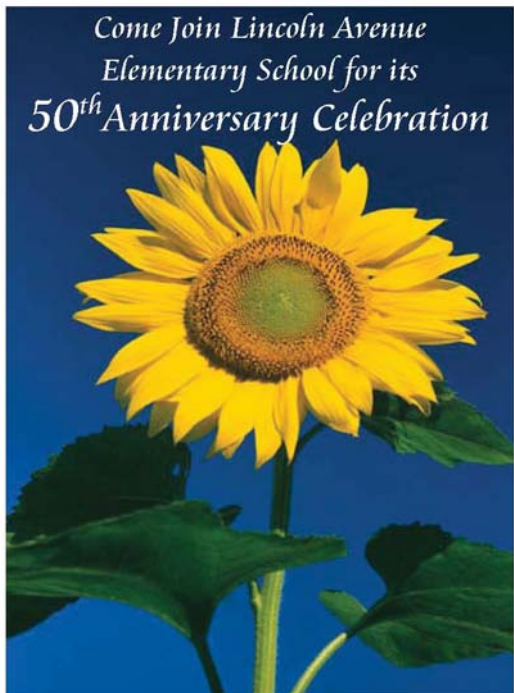
You may wonder why there are so many sunflowers around this building.

Well back in 1990 - 1991, I taught a sixth grade student named Erin Halliday. Erin graduated from Sayville High School, went on to college, and decided to become a teacher. She came back to Lincoln Avenue and taught kindergarten and third grade.



Erin was an incredible woman. She was a well-loved teacher. Although Erin battled cystic fibrosis her entire life she never let that stop her from doing anything. Sadly the disease took Erin from us in 2007.

Since then the PTA has graciously funded ten grants in memory of Erin. We have been able to bring programs into the school, buy classroom games and playground equipment, get a sound system, update our courtyard, and have *The Erin Halliday-Duffy Book Collection* housed in our library. Erin's family has also given 45 Lincoln Avenue students scholarships.



This year the *Friends of Erin* team will be participating in their 10th walk at the Holtsville Ecology Site, raising money to support the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. We would love to have any of you join us on June 11.

Please contact me for further information. The sunflower murals and paintings are our way to keep Erin's spirit alive always. Wherever you are, here at Lincoln or elsewhere, if you see a sunflower, please remember Erin, a very special inspiration!