

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Eden Central School District

Volume — 53 Issue — 6

June 2016

From the Superintendent



Dear Eden Families:

Inside this edition of the newsletter, you will see compassion, talent, innovation and dedication. Every page highlights the positive and productive year we have experienced at Eden Central School District. Your students, our staff and you have made all the difference in our journey upward and beyond. We have had many proud moments as a District this year, and our individual students have excelled, as well. Here are just a few notable mentions:

- ◆ Unified Basketball
- ◆ 6th grade Career Day
- ◆ Community Garden of Eden and the Elementary Garden Club
- ◆ Tractor Day fundraiser for Dillon Williams
- ◆ Student Voices
- ◆ UNYTS Blood Drive
- ◆ New buses and enough new substitute bus drivers to cover sports runs
- ◆ Smartboards at GLP
- ◆ Raiders Respond Day
- ◆ Compassionate students
- ◆ PK playground build and gymnasium upgrades
- ◆ Voter approval of the Capital Project

I congratulate our graduating seniors and wish them well on their next journey. Always know that you have made a difference and that YOU ARE EDEN. I also want to thank our retiring staff. Altogether, their time in education totals 210 years of service.

Eden Central School District is on the move, and our students are making it happen! Thank you for being a part of this. We are Raider Proud!

Sincerely,

Sandra Anzalone
Superintendent

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Raiders Respond at Boys & Girls Club

By Amy Banks

On Thursday, May 19th, students at Eden Central Schools participated in community service works throughout the town. Pictured are Eden Junior/Senior High School students

who weeded, mulched, spread, and graded top soil; seeded and swept the parking lot and cut back brush on the Brindley Nature Trail at the Eden Boys & Girls Club.



H & R Block Challenge

By Joann Ramaekers



The Eden High School Business/Computer Department hosted the H&R Block Challenge, the ideal playground for students to learn how to manage money. Students volunteered to take this challenge, and I am pleased to announce that the students listed below placed 59th out of 860 team participants.

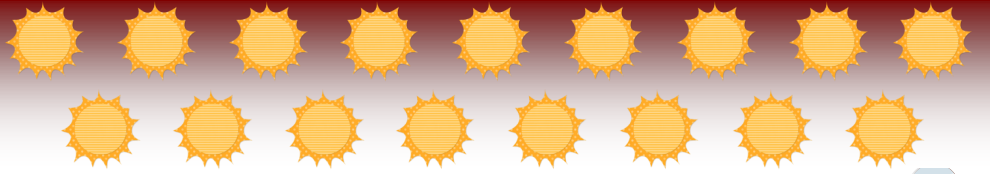
In the simulation, students created an online account, received a simulated paycheck, set aside some of their income into a 401(k) account for retirement savings, and used the remaining funds to pay simulated household bills. Bridget Bender stated, "The H & R Block Challenge was a fantastic learning opportunity. I now have a better idea of what life with my financial responsibilities will entail. This

simulation has given me the knowledge to be more confident when I handle my money, bills, and future endeavors." Great job team!

Pictured are: (Row 1) Anna Pusztay, Anna Wightman, Hannah

Braunschiedel, Bridget Bender. (Row 2) Kristin Schmitt, Clinton Robinson, Branden Johnson, Brittney Gawel, Jeremy Kazimer.





Eden Art Students Win Annual Rain Barrel Painting Contest

By Lisa Alessi-Nicastro



The Auditorium of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery was the setting on Friday, April 29th at 10:00 am for the 4th Annual Rain Barrel Painting Contest Awards ceremony. The contest is sponsored by the Erie County Department of Environment & Planning, Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Buffalo, Buffalo Sabres Green Team, Western New York Stormwater Coalition, and the Erie County Water Quality Committee in an effort to teach school age students about the use of storm water run off as a sustainable resource while creating beautiful works of art to be prominently displayed in local back yards and gardens. The gallery’s Deputy Director, Dr. Joe Lin –Hill, welcomed the excited crowd of community representatives, parents, students, and teachers from Western New York area school districts, youth organizations, and clubs before introducing Erie County Executive, Mark C. Poloncarz and Coca-Cola Bottling Company’s Director of Operations, Pasquale “Pat” Greco to present awards honoring the winning “Every Drop Counts” themed barrel designs at elementary, middle, and high school levels.

The gallery’s stage provided a noteworthy display for the rain barrels judged “best” by several different community leaders and organizations made up of the Erie County Executive, an Erie County Legislator, Directors of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Members of the Western New York Stormwater Coalition,

Members of the Erie County Environmental Management Council, the City of Buffalo Recycling Coordinator, Coordinator of Western New York Prism, the Executive Director of the Arts Services Initiative, Chair of the Global & Local Sustainability Program at Daemen College, and Members of the Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable. The winning entries were chosen among 57 submissions from



49 different schools, youth groups and clubs.

Eden Art students Allison Winiecki and Erica Cross represented a total of nine senior high art students including Brendan Smalling, Sam Kidder, Anna Pusztay, Patrick Sullivan, Alexis Browning, Samantha Burgio, and Gabby Mohan, whose barrel design and execution won first place in the contest.

The award consisted of a \$500 check to be used toward the purchase of future art supplies. This is the second year of participation by my art students who won second place in last year’s contest and received a \$250.00 award.





Attention Alumni!

Eden High School is in the process of sponsoring a Wall of Distinction. It will be similar to the Athletic Hall of Fame. This will be for alumni who have achieved outstanding accomplishments after high school. If you would like to nominate someone, send your nominee's name and address to the Eden Central School Planning Team c/o Eden Central School—District Office, 3150 Schoolview Road, Eden, NY. Nominations must be received by January 30, 2017.

Eden Community Garden



On October 21st, the Eden Board of Education approved a community garden. Work with New York State and Cornell Cooperative Extension to promote "Ag in the Classroom" coupled with the O'Briens' desire to bring a garden to Eden, similar to the S.O.L.E. Giving Garden in Hamburg, prompted the idea for the garden, which is located near the GLP school.

Phillipi, and Lisa Witmer.

The mission statement for the "Garden of Eden" is *"to create a space to promote hands-on agricultural experiences for school-aged children; To get kids excited about growing their own food—making a hobby/career out of it; To promote community involvement and to share Eden's rich history in farming."*



Pictured are students involved in the club with Mrs. Inman, Teacher Advisor, Mrs. Yvette O'Brien, Allie

Eden Elementary Students of the Month



By Patty Steinmetz

April

Grade 3: Autumn Abplanalp, Allison Bednarek, Landon Foutz, Autumn Wielgasz.

Grade 4: Ella Archabald, Jake Kohlmeier, Becky Nyitrai, Kathryn Preischel, Meeah Wegrzynowski.

Grade 5: Michael Crowley, Mikayla Dee, Mary Gunner,

Connor Johnson, Evary Ryan.

Grade 6: Cody Gemza, Cecelia Karpinski, Zachary Keefe, Emma LaVerdi, Isabelle Marchitte.

May

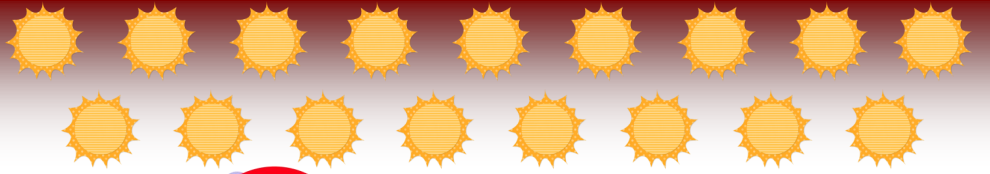
Grade 3: Skyler Fox, Trevor Franklin, Grace Lucachik, Toookie Shaffer.

Grade 4: Alex Abplanalp, Nicholas Barth, Thomas Blas,

Mitchel Schnauer, Alexis Wierzba.

Grade 5: Liam Clark, Kensington Jerome, Alyssa Johnson, Sophia Nasca, Aiden Wagner.

Grade 6: Alex Cialone, Ryleigh Finnigan, Courtney Schmitt, Brody Seitz, Wyatt Shaffer.



A Special Moment

By Tammy Orcutt



May 10th was a very special teachable moment and an amazing experience for Mrs. Musso's class and Mrs. Meredith's class.

Mrs. Malkowski, sixth grade teacher, invited my students from Mrs. Musso's class to take part in their rocket launching. The smiles and excitement on their faces were absolutely priceless.

More importantly, it was a teachable moment for Mrs. Meredith's homeroom. At

times, I find it difficult to really teach young children the concept of what kindness and empathy truly means. I didn't have to say a word. They experienced it for themselves. The sixth graders were just as excited to have guests and have them participate in launching their rockets. Mrs. Musso's students were able to count down, push the ignition switches, and retrieve the rockets while making new friendships and establishing a larger sense of Eden Community for both

classes.

Thank you Mrs. Malkowski, Mrs. Meredith and students.



"Fred"

By Sandy Anzalone



Fred was created by Junior, Abbey Rojek, and purchased by me. Fred now hangs in the Superintendent's office. "The moment I saw Fred in the Art Wing display case, I knew I had to find the artist. His eyes spoke to me. His face jumped out of the canvas. I am so lucky that Abbey was willing to let him go."

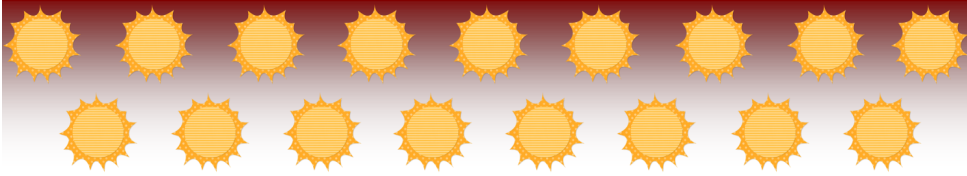
Artist: Abbey Rojek, Class of 2017



Superintendent's Art Collection Awards

These pictures, created by our talented art students, were all recipients of the Superintendent's Art Collection Award for 2015-2016. The Otter is the creation of senior, Anna Wightman. Second grader, Brayden Waring's picture is of a fish. Seventh grader, Eliana Mormina's picture is of leaves and varying designs, and the bird is the work of fourth grader, Calista Skraitz.





Eden Rated the 15th Safest Town in New York State

By Sandy Anzalone

If you haven't heard, Eden has been ranked one of the **safest towns in New York State!** Please take a moment to thank everyone, including our students, who live and work in this town. Each of you makes all the difference! Way to go Eden!

Eden's Town Supervisor announced at a recent Town Board Meeting that Eden was ranked the 15th safest town in New York State according to statistics released by the website CreditDonkey.com.

Congratulations to the Eden Police Department and

everyone who works to make this possible.

Read More: The Safest Town in WNY is in the Southtowns.

<http://wyrk.com/the-safest-town-in-wny-is-in-the-southtowns/>

Adopt-A-Highway

By Amy Steger

A huge and heartfelt thank you to the eight members of the Eden Teachers' Association who cleaned up our two-mile Adopt-A-Highway stretch of 62 recently!

Pictured are: Morgan Theophilus, Eden Elementary; Michelle Berne, Eden Jr./Sr. High School; Brian Smith, Eden Jr./Sr. High School; Colleen Kot, Eden Jr./Sr. High School; Amy Steger, Eden Elementary; Joanne Meredith, Eden Elementary; Judy Maynard, Eden Elementary; and Jacquelyn Bonfante, Eden Elementary.



Driver Education

Summer Driver Education will begin approximately July 5th and run through approximately July 28th. Students must be 16 years old with a valid learner's permit. The cost is \$430 per student. Interested students should stop in Room 143 at the High School to pick up an application or download a copy from the edencsd.org web-site. Registration closes on June 24th. There is a minimum of 12 students to run the class.

Retirements 2016



This year, Eden Central School District says thank you and good luck to the following retirees: Ellen Kindley, Elementary Teacher, will retire on July 1, 2016 after 41 years of teaching; Rita Schmitt, Cleaner, retired August 26, 2015 after 37 years of service; Sue Engle, Elementary Teacher, will retire July 1, 2016 after 25 years of teaching; Mark Vona, Music Teacher, will retire July 1, 2016 after 24 years of teaching; Kathy Funke, Bus Driver, retired December 23, 2015 after 22 years of service; Rosemary Peters, Bus Driver, retired May 23, 2016 after 21 years of service; Esther Butera, Elementary Cafeteria Monitor, will retire after 18 years of service; Mary Ann Mandiak, Reading Teacher, will retire July 1, 2016 after 15 years of teaching; and Patricia Szulewski, Bus Driver, retired May 22, 2016 after 7 years of service.

Ellen Kindley was Teacher of the Year in 1985. She was chosen to be included in Who's Who Among America's Teachers in 2002 upon the recommendation of a former student. Mrs. Kindley was proud to come back and teach in the same district she graduated from, working alongside teachers who had been her favorite instructors. She had the good fortune to work with many wonderful people, many of whom became close friends. Because she lives in the district, she really got to know many of the families of her students outside of school. "It's been wonderful to see many of my former students now as successful adults with students of their own. Eden has been such a supportive district to work in."



Mrs. Kindley plans to spend more time with her out-of-state family (her son, her brothers and sister). She will get involved in volunteer work of some kind, but she also plans to get her flower garden in shape. She is on the look-out for a kayak and plans to do some paddling with family members. She added that "it's been a good run."

Sue Engle began teaching at the second grade level in 1972, in the Gowanda Central School system. She enjoyed that level for five years. Within a six-year span following that, she had four children, stayed home as a full time mom, and then eased her way back into teaching by working at the Hamburg Wesleyan Playschool for three years. In 1990, she returned to second grade in Gowanda, taught first grade the following year in Eden, and moved back to second grade the following year. She has enjoyed this level for the past 24 years.



Mrs. Engle was recognized in Who's Who Among America's Teachers in 1992. She loved the career path she chose. If she had to do it all over again, she would still want to be a teacher. On most days, she loved and appreciated the enthusiasm for life that children brought into the classroom. In addition, she recognized that children have much to teach us, as adults, about perspective, wonderment, and joyfulness in small moments day to day. Mrs. Engle often chuckled to herself this year whenever she looked at the front of her classroom. On the wall was a silent history of the important tools in her career. The bottom visible base of the wall is an old green chalkboard, which she used daily for many years and loved the chalk and all it afforded her to do in the classroom. **(Retirements Continued on page 8)**



2016 Retirements (continued)

When white boards came into play, she dug her teacher heels in, to a degree, and only had part of the chalkboard surface covered by the white board. Now one could see two visual layers to the tools of her trade. Last year, Smart Boards were installed in the GLP classrooms. Because she thought she still might use or need the chalkboard and white board, the Smart Board covers part of both—with visual bits of the others poking out. What a hoot! As she acclimated to the Smart Board, which she named Festor, it quickly became apparent that the students knew more about how to navigate it than she did, although she admits that it’s certainly now her favorite tool of all.

Mrs. Engle hopes to remain open to change and continues to learn from the generations to follow. She is praying that her husband might receive new lungs. Then they can easily travel to see their daughter and son-in-law in North Carolina, spend more time with their children and grandchildren in Western New York, and maybe travel to see friends who have relocated to various part of the country. In the interim, she plans to do lots of gardening, read in her favorite front porch rocker, and enjoy unscheduled time.

Mark Vona’s position has been fairly consistent over the years. He has worked in or from the same room for his entire tenure. Sometimes he was assigned classes at the GLP and would need to travel.

Mr. Vona has received leadership awards from the ETA and recognition in the Buffalo News for local theater performances.

The musicals that he established in the Elementary building have provided him with the fondest memories. They were a vehicle for the most intense interaction with each year’s fifth and sixth grade classes. He will miss the interaction with the students. Also, there are many faculty, staff, and community members that he will remember and miss.

Mr. Vona hopes to continue to work in music. He is the musician at Churchill Memorial Church in Boston, New York. He enjoys that, and it will keep him playing. He plans to get back into teaching piano, and he hopes to continue to perform in local theaters.

He and his wife, Marsha, plan to travel; maybe all the national parks. He plans to complete the peaks in the Adirondacks, become a 46er, and continue to hike and then see where his feet take him. He likes to hike, and he loves gardening, so his spring/summers will always be busy.

Mr. Vona wishes the district the best of luck in this difficult environment. He wishes the best to the music department as they work to provide the gift of music and the privilege of a music education to the Eden children and the community.

Mary Ann Mandiak—The only change in Mrs. Mandiak’s career were changes in the name only: Remedial reading, AIS, RTI; whether using State Standards or Common Core, her job was always to improve the decoding and comprehension skills of her students.

During her time at Eden, she won ETA (2008) and NYSUT (2012) Leadership Awards. Her best memories are of the students who were finally able to "crack the code" of reading that had caused them difficulty in the past or found a book that hooked them onto the pleasure of reading.

(Retirements Continued on page 9)





2016 Retirements (continued)

She is grateful for the friendships that were formed and the many laughs that got everyone through some trying times in education. Mrs. Mandiak is planning a trip this summer to the west coast from Yosemite to Denali; spending more time with her family; more quilting; investigating volunteer opportunities; and she is open to whatever comes along.

Rosemary Peters has received driving safety awards over the years. She loved driving bus, it was great while her kids were growing up. She always knew what was going on at school and was off when they were off. She knew their friends and the kids (although her kids didn't appreciate all the other drivers' eyes on them).

Mrs. Peters will miss the cute sayings and stories from the kids and being with her co-workers. She has made wonderful friends over the years working for the school district that will last.

She and her husband, Denny, plan to do a lot of camping, kayaking and traveling. Genealogy keeps her busy during the winter. Since they enlarged their pond, the builder made a huge hill to keep her busy. She loves gardening and she loves her rocks. She will never be bored!

Esther Butera commented that students have changed over the years, and many are willing to help out when asked. Her fondest memories include listening to stories from the students about everything happening in their lives, seeing pictures of their pets and families, and receiving drawings, cards and hugs.

Mrs. Butera's plans for the future are just getting the house cleaned. She will miss the teachers and the talks they have had, and the students will be greatly missed.

Patricia Szulewski worked at a printing plant for 30 years. While at the printing plant, she received many awards for record runs. Even still, she became bored. She saw a sign indicating that Eden needed bus drivers, so she became a bus driver.

Her fondest memories are of listening to the children's stories, getting to know the other drivers and attendants, just talking to the students, and having Barb Caffery teaching her how to drive.

She plans to do some traveling to see family and relaxing. She has now worked for 47 years. It's time to relax. She enjoyed working for Eden Schools, especially this year, because the buses and secretary were just great!

Kathy Funke thinks the only change for her is that she is older and wiser. She has received many thanks from parents and co-workers—best feeling ever. Her fondest memories are from when she first started driving. The older drivers were the best. They would help with everything from how to turn the wipers on to how to make a child stay in a seat. If it wasn't for all those mentors, she would have never made it as a bus driver—thank you, thank you, thank you.

Mrs. Funke plans to enjoy every day, keep smiling and make time to play. She added that it has been a great bus ride. She can never say thank you enough!

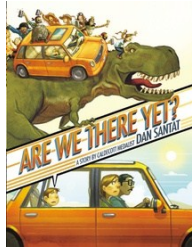
Rita Schmitt retired last August after 37 years of cleaning in the Jr./Sr. High School. She is missed by the staff.





Book-O-Rama Summer Reading

By Ms. Zoll, Jr./Sr. High School Librarian

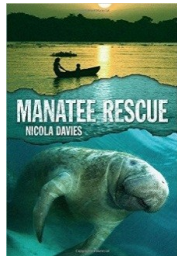


Are We There Yet? by Dan Santat

A boy goes on a long car ride to visit his grandmother and discovers time moves faster or slower depending on how bored he is.

Princess Hamster: Of Mice and Magic by Ursula Vernon

Harriet Hamsterbone sets out to reverse the curse on twelve mice princesses who are forced to dance all night, every night.

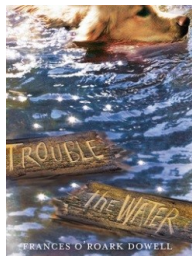
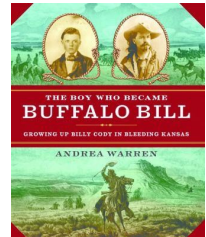


Manatee Rescue by Nicola Davies

When her father successfully harpoons a manatee, leaving its baby orphaned, Manuela vows to rescue the calf and return it to the river, helping change the attitudes of the people in her village in the process.

The Boy who Became Buffalo Bill by Andrea Warren

Long before stardom, Buffalo Bill--born Billy Cody--had to grow up fast. To support his family after a pro-slaver killed his father, Billy herded cattle, worked on wagon trains, and rode the Pony Express. He joined the infamous Jayhawkers, seeking revenge on Missourians, and then became a soldier, scout, and spy in the Civil War--all by age seventeen.

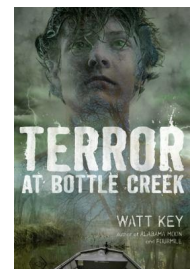


Trouble the Water by Frances O'Roark Dowell

A sweeping tale of the friendship between a black girl and a white boy and the prejudices they must overcome in segregated Celeste, Kentucky, as the pair try to solve the mysteries surrounding a lonely old dog.

Terror at Bottle Creek by Watt Key

Cort's father who is a local expert on hunting and swamp lore in lower Alabama has been teaching his son everything he knows. But when a deadly Gulf Coast hurricane makes landfall, Cort must unexpectedly put his all skills to the test.

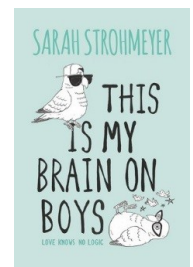


Summerlost by Ally Condie

Following the sudden deaths of her father and autistic younger brother, Cedar Lee spends the summer working at a Shakespearean theater festival, making a new friend, and coming to terms with her grief.

This is my Brain on Boys by Sarah Strohmeyer

Brainiac Addie Emerson doesn't believe in love, and her senior project for the Athenian Award is all about making people fall in love. She has to complete her experiment to win a prestigious scholarship, deal with her backstabbing lab partner, and learn how to navigate her emotions as she starts to fall for fellow student, Kris.



Job Shadow Day

By Joann Ramaekers



The second annual Job Shadow Day sponsored by the Eden Chamber of Commerce and the Future Business Leaders of America / Eden Business Department was an eye opening day for the students.

Many local businesses welcomed our 23 Eden Jr/Sr. High students. Some of the careers introduced to the students were engineering, farming, veterinarian, criminal justice, culinary arts, healthcare, hospitality, human resources, etc.

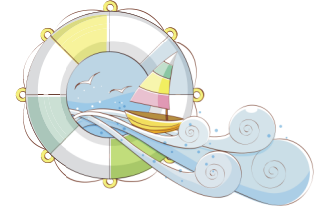
Students stated that it was an amazing experience, and they were looking forward to shadowing next year. I would like to thank the Eden Chamber of Commerce and the local companies for their support in hosting this event.



Have a great SUMMER!



Eden Central School District
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Eden, NY 14057



Phone: 716-992-3630
Fax: 716-992-3656

Eden Central School – Embrace, educate, empower

MISSION:

In collaboration with the community, the Eden Central School District pursues our tradition of excellence in personal and academic achievement. We provide a positive and respectful learning environment that places students at the heart of all activities. Students are afforded the tools and opportunity to realize their potential within our global society, while cultivating the understanding necessary to fully appreciate their journey.

VISION:

ECSD is a collaborative learning community that embraces the individuality of each student, educating and empowering them to become productive citizens in an ever-changing and diverse society.

PHYSICALS

Physical examinations are mandated by New York State to be completed on ALL 7th and 10th grade students and also for any student wishing to participate in a school sport. School physicals are only being offered at the Eden Jr./Sr. High School building on **Wednesday, June 29, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.** for any Eden students in grades 6-12. This is the **ONLY** time that physicals are being offered for the entire 2016-2017 school year. If your child is thinking of participating in a fall, winter, or spring sport, this is the only time that they can receive a physical by our school Physician. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Jr./Sr. High School health office at 992-3615.



**EDEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
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June 2016

Eden Central School
3150 Schoolview Road
Eden, New York 14057



Welcome Marlene Grunder and Donald Sutfin to the Board of Education!