



Eden Central School Newsletter

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NO. 6

Dear Community Member,

It doesn't seem possible that we are already to the end of the school year and that I have been Superintendent for five months.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of the Eden Central School District. You again have made a difference in the lives of so many students by supporting not only the 2007-2008 School Budget, but also the propositions for new school buses and vehicles, a building project that will finally bring a new roof to our GLP School and a Capital Reserve Fund that will help us plan for the future and reduce the impact on taxpayers for future projects. Thank you!!

Please know that we all will continue to do our best for the students of the Eden Central School District while finding a real balance for what is best for our taxpayers. In an effort to make sure we can maintain this delicate balance, we have begun the process of reviewing all aspects of the District's operations and embarking on the lengthy process of developing a five year plan. This plan will encompass all aspects of our District, i.e. student achievement, finances, buildings and grounds, transportation, staff and extra class activities. Once completed, we will use the plan to chart our goals for the future. As this effort is taking place, we will continue our research into ways to improve student achievement, cost savings, program enhancement and collaboration with the town, other municipalities and school districts.

There is a great deal that each of us as members of the Eden Community can be proud of in this school District. Our students do well academically, our administrators, faculty and staff are some of the most dedicated in Western New York, our students are very well behaved and respectful, our parents are hard working and supportive, and our community is dedicated to helping us become the best school District in Western New York. The Business First Ranking again this year reflects this. The District ranked 18th out of 97 districts academically and 6th out of 97 in cost effectiveness. Our High School ranked 11th out of 127 schools, and the Middle School (grades 5-8 across two buildings) ranked 68th out of 207 schools. This year, Business First included all of the non-public schools in these rankings.

This is a great school District that we should all continue to be proud of!

Note: Be on the lookout for a special fall edition of the newsletter dedicated to student achievement!

Ronald S. ...

PRESS RELEASE

June 6, 2007

Contact: Ronald Buggs
Superintendent

716-992-3629

At the May 17, 2007 Board of Education meeting, Mr. Buggs, the new District Superintendent, reported on the status/accomplishments of his first five months in the position. He offered the following list of accomplishments, plans, committees and communication efforts:

- ◆ AIS - Academic Intervention Support Committee - Completed work presented to Board.
- ◆ Web-site Committee - Completed work presented to the Board.
- ◆ CDEP - Comprehensive District Education Plan Committee - Organized and began to work. This work will continue for the next 12-15 months. The committee will evaluate all aspects of student achievement data.
- ◆ Have maintained regular communication with the Board.
- ◆ Monthly District personnel newsletter.
- ◆ Writing a message to the community in each District newsletter.
- ◆ Weekly meeting with District administrators.
- ◆ Have given the opportunity to all staff in the Transportation Department, Administrators, Elementary School, GLP School, Business Office and Maintenance to meet with me one on one.
- ◆ Met with Glenn Nellis, Eden Town Supervisor. We will work to set up some areas of collaboration.
- ◆ Process of reviewing Shared Decision Making Team Plan underway.
- ◆ Working to complete Board, Superintendent Self-evaluation, as well as evaluating all members of the Administrative Team.
- ◆ Working to set up a process for developing additional parts of a five-year strategic plan outside of CDEP.
- ◆ Visit all of areas of District on a regular basis. Making every attempt to be visible throughout the District.
- ◆ Developed a well balanced, effective budget for 07-08. Will continue to review ways in which we can become more efficient doing what is best for kids.
- ◆ Continue to oversee all aspects of the Shared Decision Making Team Project #2.
- ◆ Developed a plan to bring the Superintendent's Office, Business Office and Pupil Personnel Services to one location to create better efficiency and teamwork.
- ◆ Reviewing all mandates for the State and Federal Education Departments to ensure that we are in compliance.
- ◆ Continuing to support curriculum and scheduling changes in all three schools to ensure that we maintain and increase excellent levels of student achievement.
- ◆ Working with administrators looking at ways to better showcase student work and achievement.
- ◆ Held two town meetings where each administrator shared information about their department and/or school. Will continue this format for next year.
- ◆ Worked with the Business Office staff to meet the needs and requests of the New York State comptroller's audit personnel.
- ◆ Meetings with town, administrators, and other district superintendents to brainstorm ideas and areas of effective collaboration.
- ◆ Set up/coordinated a 2.5 day administrative work session. Focusing on our mission, goals, hiring procedures, and effective evaluation of staff.
- ◆ Working to develop a plan for Board of Education in-service training to be presented in the fall of 2007.
- ◆ Worked out a collaborative plan with BOCES to share the services of our Director of Curriculum that will enhance her interaction with the New York State Education Department.
- ◆ Established a committee to develop a hiring practices handbook.
- ◆ Working to improve support of the PTA.

In addition, he thanked the Board of Education and the community for the opportunity to serve as the District Superintendent.

FBLA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2007

By Jaimy Sessanna

Recently the Eden Chapter of Future Business Leaders of America attended their State Leadership Conference in Ellenville, New York. With six members and one advisor attending, this was an excellent time for Eden. Members who attended included: President - Jaimy Sessanna; Vice President - John Malayny; Secretary - Caitlin McLaughlin; Treasurer - Amy Ray; School Store Manager - Ahron Benson; and Fundraising - Jen Acosta. Eden did extremely well at this year's conference, returning with five different awards. John Malayny and Jaimy Sessanna placed first in Network Design, John Malayny placed third in Website Development, Jaimy Sessanna placed third in Multimedia Presentation, Amy Ray and Jen Acosta placed fifth for their Chapter Display, and the chapter won ninth place in the Chapter of the Year competition. Chapter of the Year is based off of a scrapbook created throughout the year chronicling all the events the club makes available to the membership. A special thanks to John Levulis and Nick Brown who headed the creation of the scrapbook throughout this year. Through their efforts we are now a TOP 10 FBLA CLUB IN NEW YORK STATE!

Jaimy Sessanna & John Malayny qualified to compete at the national level in Chicago, Illinois this summer with their first place win in Network Design. Congratulations to all the FBLA club members and their advisors Mrs. Nowicki and Mrs. Ramaekers.



Front row: Jennifer Acosta, Amy Ray. Back row: Jaimy Sessanna, Caitlin McLaughlin, Ahron Benson, John Malayny.

SCHEETZ SIGNS WITH MERCYHURST N.E.

By Eric Cooper

Pitcher Nick Scheetz has recently signed a letter of intent to accept a scholarship offer and play baseball at Mercyhurst North East, a school competing in the NJCAA. Nick is a three year varsity player, not only pitching, but also playing outfield. As a pitcher, Nick has compiled a 12 and 3 record over the past three years. As a junior, Nick had a record of 6 and 1 with an ERA of 2.18 and totaled 57 strike outs in only 38 2/3 innings pitched. He posted a .391 batting average and contributed 13 RBI. This past off season, Nick worked to develop a slider and improve his off speed pitches to go along with his fastball, which tops out in the mid-eighties range. This season, Nick is 4 and 2 with 62 strike outs in 37 2/3 innings pitched. He currently sports a 2.23 ERA and has a .382 batting average with 14 RBI. Among his 21 hits this season are a double, triple, and two homeruns. Nick is the son of Donna and Gary Scheetz of Eden.



Front Row: Coach Eric Cooper, Nick Scheetz, Mrs. Scheetz. Back Row: Mr. Beetow, Mr. Graff, Coach Burnside, Mr. Hassett.



NEW WEB-SITE

By Lucinda Karstedt, Director of IT

The new Eden Central School District website will be released at the beginning of July. The new URL will be: www.edencsd.org

CUP STACKING CRAZE

By Kim Stewart

A new activity took Eden Elementary by storm. Cup stacking, which had students using 12 cups to create different pyramids, is the latest phenomenon. This craze started as part of a unit that Miss Fallacaro and Mr. Witman taught to the students. It then became a favorite activity during inside recess. Then Mr. Witman had a morning program that students attended on Tuesday and Thursday. There were 12 students attending.



FREE AND REDUCED MEALS

Non-Discriminatory and Confidential

By Shawn Johnson

The State of New York mandates that there is no physical segregation of, or any other discrimination against, any child because of his/her inability to pay the full price of a meal. The names of children eligible to receive free or reduced meals are not published, posted, or announced in any manner, and there is no overt identification of any such children by use of special tokens or tickets, or by any other means. Children eligible for free and reduced meals do not eat meals differently from the meals sold to children paying full price, go through separate lunch lines, or eat at separate times.

The District can approve applications with "no income", for up to 45 days. For example, health related emergencies where you are unable to work, changes in employment, or any other temporary financial hardships.

**Congratulations to the
Class of 2007!**

PACHYDERM PASSION

By Irene Lavin

Helping the Buffalo Zoo's Elephants—Animal lovers, Kelly Doherty, Selina Kernan, and Cianna Durringer (from left to right, center front), sixth grade students in Eden Elementary's REACH Program, raised \$608 for the Buffalo Zoo in May through coordinating an all-school drive for "I Love Elephants" wristbands. As part of their service project, the three students, who are taught by Mrs. Irene Lavin, also coordinated a coloring contest for grades 3-6, with two winners for an elephant wristband per grade level. Also pictured - Row 2: Valerie Fox and Emily Cataldo. Row 3: Sierra Puckhaber, Mackenzie Biastre, Amanda Schummer, Katie Slisz, Alyssa Lawrence, Rhyse Strawbrich.



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR A.F.S. STUDENTS

We are currently looking for families interested in hosting a foreign exchange student for the 2007-2008 school year. This is an incredible opportunity to open your home and share your life with an individual from another culture. Our students are usually affiliated with AFS (American Field Service), and we hope to have at least two students here next year.

We need your help! If you have ever wanted to host a student, please contact us immediately. Since it is early enough, we still have the ability to try to match your requests for a student from a specific country; however, we need your input now in order to make that match.

If interested, please contact Mrs. Nicole Janowsky, Foreign Student Coordinator -- 992-3600 or Mrs. Carol Collins at 337-4481.

GLP ARTISTS EXHIBITION AT BNA

By Mary Ellen Bossert

April Artists were featured at The Buffalo Niagara International Airport. The Association of Young Children honored the creativity of children from Early Childhood Programs and Public Schools throughout Western New York. Five of GLP artists were juried into this exhibition during the entire month of April (the month of the Young Child). This photograph was taken at the opening reception on April 4, 2007. The artists that were exhibited at the Airport gallery were: Colton Becker, First grade; Jessica Pelc, Stephanie Altherr, and Jacey Harris from Kindergarten; and Andre Rosario from Pre K. Congratulations to all my young artists and KEEP ART IN YOUR HEART!

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up.” Pablo Picasso



Mrs. Mary Ellen Bossert Artist/Art Teacher GLP with Jacey Harris, Kindergarten Artist

SUPERINTENDENT'S ART AWARDS

Congratulations to the following artists, who have been selected for the Superintendent's Art Collection for 2007.

Marika Hichiki, grade 12 - Acrylic - Horses; Megan Gawronski, Grade 5 - Mexican Foil Repousse; Liz Kryczak, Grade 9 - tempura painting of fish; and Megan Cassidy - Grade 2 - Egyptian Self Portrait.

Pictured is 5th grader, Megan Gawronski, whose artwork was under the guidance of Art Teacher Mrs. McConeghy. Megan's "Mexican" foil dolphin was created using a technique called repousse (a method of creating a raised pattern in relief) as well as embossing. Great work artists!

EMPTY BOWLS UPDATE

By Mary Ellen Bossert

Congratulations to the 2nd grade artists from the GLP! These artists created beautiful Asian inspired paper bowls adorned with Japanese origami paper cranes to represent HOPE. They donated these bowls to The 4th Annual Empty Bowls Project where they were sold to raise funds for Western New Yorkers in need. This event was held on Sunday, May 20 at Rockwell Hall at Buffalo State College. Hundreds of creative bowls lined the tables from artists of all ages and walks of life. Musicians and local restaurants joined in to supply entertainment and food. It was a family fun experience in which every \$1 spent supplied 12 meals for the needy.



Philip Newton, second grade artist and Daniel Newton, Kindergarten artist display the bowls.



IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL ENTRANCE/ATTENDANCE K-12

3 doses of Diphtheria toxoid containing vaccine (DTP, DTaP, DT) - New York City requires 4 doses for Kindergarten only.

3 doses of Tetanus toxoid containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine for children born on or after 1/1/05 (DTaP, DTP)

3 doses of Polio vaccine (OPV and/or IPV)

2 doses of Measles vaccine and one dose each of Mumps and Rubella vaccines.

- The first dose of Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccines (MMR) must be administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.

3 doses of Hepatitis B Vaccine (HBV)

1 dose of Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid containing vaccine and acellular Pertussis vaccine for all children born on or after 1/1/94 who are enrolling in 6th grade.

1 dose of Varicella vaccine.

- Administered no more than 4 days before the first birthday.

- Applies to all children born on or after 1/1/98 or children born on or after 1/1/94 who are enrolling in the 6th grade.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRE-K

3 doses of Diphtheria toxoid containing vaccine (DTP, DTaP, DT) - New York City requires 4 doses.

3 doses of Tetanus toxoid containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine for children born on or after 1/1/05 (DTaP, DTP)

3 doses of Polio vaccine ((OPV or IPV)

1 dose of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella vaccines (MMR)

- Administered no more than 4 days prior to the first birthday.

Hib (haemophilus Influenzae Type b) vaccine

- 3 doses before 15 months of age or

- 1 dose on or after 15 months of age

3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine (HBV)

Pneumococcal vaccine for children born on or after 1/1/08

- 3 doses before 15 months of age or

- 1 dose on or after 15 months of age

1 dose of Varicella vaccine

- Administered no more than 4 days before the first birthday.

SICKAU SIGNS WITH BINGHAMTON

By Chris Dobek

Sheila Sickau has signed a letter of intent accepting an offer from Division I Girls Track at Binghamton. Sheila has emerged as one of the premier Track and Field athletes in Western New York. Sheila is a six year varsity track athlete who has led the team in points the past two years, averaging 160 points per season. Sheila holds the school records in the 100m hurdles and triple jump. She was voted Most Improved Track Athlete in 8th and 9th grades and Most Valuable Jumper the past two seasons. At last season's Sectional Meet, Sheila placed second in the 100m hurdles and third in the long and triple jumps. She then went on to represent Eden and Section Six at the New York State meet, finishing sixth in the 100m hurdles. Sheila is a three sport athlete who also excels in basketball and soccer. She was named ECIC Soccer First Team All-Star the past two seasons and was this year's Most Valuable Offensive Player. In basketball, Sheila received the Coach's Award this season.

Outside of sports, Sheila is involved with countless activities including the 4-H Club, Student Council, Girls Athletic Association, Mock Trial, Future Farmers of America, and Wind and Jazz Ensemble. Congratulations to Vicky and Richard Sickau on your daughter's outstanding accomplishments.



Row 1: Mrs. Sickau, Sheila, Mr. Sickau. Row 2: Mr. Dobek, Mr. Beetow, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Graff



STRING QUINTET PERFORMS FOR THIRD GRADERS

By Merry Jeffers

Special thanks to these students for entertaining the third graders while introducing them to the stringed instruments at Eden Elementary on May 11, 2007.



Christina Lorenz (violin), Sally Schaefer (violin), Andrew Gorcica (Bass), Carolyn Schupp (cello) and Samantha Grapes (viola).

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

By Kim Stewart

Students at Eden Elementary School celebrated Earth Day on Wednesday, April 25th. A group from Earth Spirit came to Eden and taught the students about ecology, including information about owls, snakes, creepy crawlies, and trees. Eden Elementary teachers, Mrs. Lauer, Mrs. Malkowski, Mrs. Maynard, and Mrs. Nowak also taught classes about our environment. Thank you to everyone who made Earth Day possible, especially the Eden PTA!



Xavier Weathington and Sarah Caldwell with Mrs. Lauer.

GREATER BUFFALO YOUTH ORCHESTRA MEMBER

By Merry Jeffers

Emily King, an Eden Senior, had a wonderful musical experience performing with the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra this year. The music was very challenging and the group sounded professional. Emily will take many happy memories of this orchestra with her as she studies for a career in music at SUNY Potsdam. She has won a scholarship to study music as a voice major there. She will play her cello, too! Best wishes, Emily!



SOUTHTOWNS YOUTH ORCHESTRA

By Merry Jeffers

These two Eden violinists performed with the Southtowns Youth Orchestra this year in challenging concerts that were a great musical experience.



They are Sally Schaefer and Katelyn Kugler.

ERIE COUNTY JUNIOR HIGH SOLO FESTIVAL 2007

By Merry Jeffers

Congratulations to these instrumentalists and singers who performed at the Junior High Erie County South Music Festival hosted here at Eden Jr./Sr. High School March 16 & 17. Thank you to everyone in Eden who helped run the festival!



Row 1: Lauren Psonak (Orchestra), Megan Psonak (Band), Justine Gugino (Band), Joy VanDette (Orchestra), Laura Robinson (Band), Mike Rakiiecki (Alternate Band), Joshua Mack (Orchestra).

Row 2: Alex Snell (Orchestra), Anna King (Chorus), Heather Feldman (Chorus) Abby Ploetz (Chorus), Sam Pustulka (Chorus), Erynn Motak (Chorus), Mark Thomasulo (Chorus).

Row 3: Jaysson Glendenning (Band Alternate), Breanna McCabe (Chorus), Lauren Morrow (Chorus), Kristina Notar (Chorus), Christine Schaefer (Chorus), Brad Fageol (Band Alternate).

Chorus Members missing from the picture: Sarah Brown, Allison Campbell, Leanna Carlson, Kaley Donaldson, Taylor Hecke, Cori Lutz, Dominique Maitland, Meaghan Morley, Cullen Motak, Emilea Oertly, Rebecca Preischel, Megan Ulrich, Alyssa Wittmeyer.

ERIE COUNTY SENIOR HIGH SOLO FESTIVAL AND MUSIC FESTIVAL 2007

By Merry Jeffers

These instrumentalists and singers performed solos for the Erie County Senior High Solo Festival held at Alden High School on January 20, 2007.

Congratulations on excellent ratings on very difficult music!



Row 1: Joelle Crabtree (French Horn), Sally Schaefer (Violin & Voice), Christina Lorenz (Violin), John Malayny (Cello), Carolyn Schupp (Cello), Sarah Harms (Flute & Voice).

Row 2: Samantha Grapes (Viola), Emily King (Voice), Vicki Pace (Voice), Katie Maitland (Voice), Emma Williams (Voice), Will Psonak (Voice & Percussion), John Rakiiecki (Voice).

Missing from the picture: Chip Ressel (Voice), and Kevin Westphal (Voice).

Special congratulations to: Will Psonak, Emma Williams, and Emily King for being selected for the Erie County Senior High Music Festival held at the University at Buffalo in March.

April 2007 - Eden Central School has earned recognition as a High Performing/Gap Closing School District by the State of New York.

IT'S SHOW TIME!

By Mark Vona

The Eden Elementary Drama Club invited Michelle Costa, a professional puppeteer, in on June 6th to do two shows for us. They were presented to all grades here in our building. Michelle Costa has been working with puppets for many years. She makes all her own puppets and has written some of the shows. Recently she designed the puppets for the Studio Arena production of the Fourth Wiseman. Our students saw *UNDERGROUND AND OVER THE MOON*. Its theme was slavery. If you would like more information about Ms. Costa, you can go online to costapuppets.com and visit her website.

Thank you to all those who support our Drama Club.



VOLLEYBALL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

By Robert Pierce

J.J. Meyer has signed a letter of intent accepting an offer from Division I Men's Volleyball Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne. After an exceptional career as an Eden Raider, the Eden High School is proud of J.J. and excited for his chance to take his athletic ability to the highest level. J.J. is a three sport athlete who started for the basketball team as their leading scorer and baseball team as a pitcher and third baseman. He earned ECIC division all-star recognition in both of those. As a member of the Eden Volleyball team, he has earned numerous tournament all-star awards, First Team All-WNY status, a Gold Medal at the Empire State Games and been on Eden's three straight Class B State Championship Teams. He is a gifted athlete with a tremendous jump and textbook armswing. His fine tuning in this sport was accomplished as a member of the Eden Mizuno Volleyball Club, which has traveled and competed in tournaments throughout the country exposing him to the highest level of competition. Congratulations Brad and Eileen Meyer on your son's tremendous accomplishments.



Row 1: Mrs. Eileen Meyer, J.J. Meyer, Mr. Bradley Meyer.
Row 2: Mr. Beetow, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Pierce, Mr. Buggs, Mr. Graff.

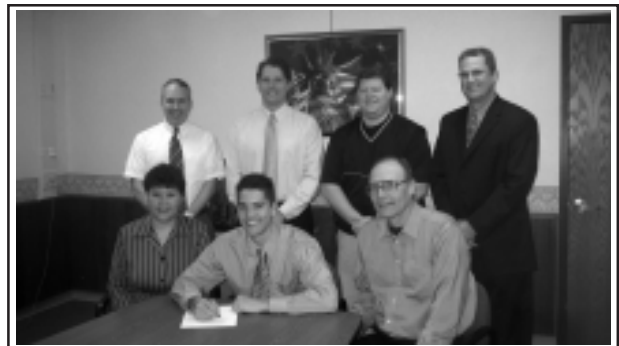
Jacob Waszak has been offered a spot on next year's Division I Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne Men's Volleyball Team. Jake, as a result of his tremendous academic career, coupled with his athletic one at Eden, has been offered the Chancellor Excellence Scholarship by the university. This offer covers more than 80% of the total cost to attend. The school is very excited in getting quality players like Jake and J.J. Jake has been a four-year Starter for the Eden Boys' Volleyball team and worked extremely hard to emerge as the top setter on the East Coast for the past two years. The personal athletic and academic awards that Jake amassed over the years are astounding. Certainly the highlights of being a two-time First Team All-WNY candidate, two-time Empire State Games Gold Medalist, an invitee to

USA Volleyball top camps, and three-time New York State Champion are memorable. Jake is also the 2007 Senior Class Salutatorian. Jake, along with his teammates, Joe and J.J. headed to Richmond, Virginia to defend their East Coast Championship title, which they have won in the 14,15,16 and 17 year-old divisions. Congratulations to Sue and Larry Waszak on your son's amazing accomplishments.



Mrs. Susan Waszak, Jake Waszak, Mr. Larry Waszak

Joe Norton has signed a letter of intent accepting an offer from Division I Men's Volleyball George Mason University. Joe, who has exploded onto the volleyball scene over the past two years as a 6'4" rightside hitter, emerged as the top positional recruit in the East Coast. He was a three-year starter for the Eden Raiders who went 84-9 in the past three years. He racked up numerous individual honors, including all-star awards at the Orchard Park, Eden and Webster tournaments over the past two years. Joe has been recognized in the nationally publicized Volleyball Magazine. He was recognized as a First Team All-WNY member and earned a Gold medal at this year's Empire State Games. Joe is also a member of the Eden Mizuno Volleyball Club and will finish up his career with the club as they travel down to Richmond for the prestigious East Coast Championships and then onto Nationals in July at Atlanta. Congratulations to Deb and Mike Norton on your son's fantastic accomplishments.



Row 1: Mrs. Debra Norton, Joe Norton, Mr. Mike Norton.
Row 2: Mr. Hassett, Mr. Pierce, Mr. Beetow, Mr. Graff.

NEWS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL ART DEPARTMENT

By Lisa Alessi Nicastro

This year, three Eden art students had their work chosen to enter "An Artistic Discovery," an annual art competition sponsored by members of Congress in an effort to celebrate the many talented students of their high school constituents. Brian Higgins honored and commended the artistic achievements of eleventh grader, John Horvatits for his acrylic, "My Grandfather's Yacht," as well as junior, Jessica Nemeč for her watercolor entitled, "Paradise in My Backyard," and sophomore, Kelsey Carson for her 24"x30" self portrait in acrylic. All work was exhibited on the first floor of the Larkin at Exchange Building from April 28th-May 5th, 2007. This competition is nationwide with the first place winner and two people of their choice sent via Southwest Airlines to Washington, DC for a ribbon cutting as their work is hung in the Canon Tunnel for the period of one year. Congressman Higgins is an important proponent of the visual arts and makes time in his busy schedule to attend this competition and personally congratulate art students on their merits.

On Friday, April 27th, many works of Mrs. Nicastro's classes went to Lancaster for the annual "Festival of the Arts." The Festival included displays of hundreds of pieces of art from many schools in Western New York, as well as "hands on" creation experiences for all ages, and a "Living Art" display, which showcased Lancaster students in the re-creation of eight masterpieces. The Festival was a juried show for grades 7-12. Eden students dominated the competition this year winning six of eight awards. The remaining two awards were in the category of 3D Media and no works were submitted. Sophomore, Lauren Hudson won "Best of Show" with a watercolor of her cousin, while senior, Joe Sadlo took First Place for his acrylic painting of "Itchy the Duck". Second Place in painting went to exchange student Marika Hichiki for an acrylic of "Horses in the Field". First Place in 2D Media was awarded to senior Lora Pasnik for an acrylic painting of her dogs. Third Place in the category of 2D Media was senior, Nick Sessanna's watercolor of a neighborhood barn, and junior, Jessica Nemeč was given an Honorable Mention for her acrylic self portrait.



May 14th began the annual Art and Technology Show in the High School Foyer. The show included many works from students grades 7-12, as well as all award winning work from the aforementioned shows. The exhibition was on display until Friday, May 18th and was certainly worth seeing. Mrs. Nicastro's Drawing and Painting class is currently finishing a large mural in the business wing for FBLA. Stop by to see that also. We are certainly proud of our art students, they work very hard. Pictured - Row 1: Nick Sessanna, Jessica Nemeč, Mrs. Nicastro. Row 2: Lora Pasnik, Lauren Hudson, and Joe Sadlo. Missing from picture: Marika Hichiki.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ANNOUNCES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL & MAY

April Students of the Month:

Grade 3: Garret Olds, Hunter Rubeck, Angela Cala, Nicholas Sapkaroski, Samuel Gaglione, Alyssa McKeever

Grade 4: Jeffrey Jeziorowski, Lorissa Grapes, Brandon Navel, Michael Webber, Hannahardino, Brian Fageol

Grade 5: Callie Abram, Melanie Raduluff, Alex Kruger, Alexis Gaul, Brandon Ketterer, Michaela Glendenning

Grade 6: Andrew Herbert, Emily Kessler, Samantha Steen, Jena Congilosi, Daniel Scheffler, Charles Lauria

May Students of the Month:

Grade 3: Gabrielle Snyder, Michael Seggio, Zachariah Schmitz, Jenna Fiebelkorn, Meghan Ballou, Alexander Hutz

Grade 4: Alexis Marchitte, Holly Burdick, Kellie Christiansen, Faith Anderson, Matthew Lee, Ryan Shaw

Grade 5: Alexis Weathington, Nicholas Fox, Wyatt Bromley, Xavier Weathington, Jillian Weidner, Javonda Velez

Grade 6: Ryan McGillicuddy, Zachery Blas, Kaitlyn Slisz, Brianna Schofield, Jocelyn Armbruster, Arielle Schunk

Congratulations to all our Students of the Month!

KAREN PSZONAK - PIONEER OF THE GLP PUBLISHING COMPANY

By Sandy Wess-Rishel

The G.L.P. Publishing Company has been operating and running smoothly for 12 years, thanks to the many parents who volunteer their time and patience to type and bind each child's written work. There is one volunteer who deserves special recognition this year, as it will be her last. Karen Pszonak has been a Parent Coordinator for the Publishing Company for all 12 years. She helped start and establish it. She will be passing the torch this year due to her last child moving on to third grade.

Twelve years ago, Marie Davern, the reading specialist at GLP at the time, brought the idea of "publishing" every child's written work or stories into books, to a group of teachers and parents. Karen Pszonak was one of the first to volunteer, as her first of five children was starting Kindergarten. As plans were discussed in the back room of the Eden Public Library, the GLP Publishing Company was born.

Karen's job as Parent Coordinator has evolved through the years. Every book a child writes for the Publishing Company passes through her hands. That could be 400 - 1200 books per year. When a child writes a book that he/she would like published, it will be checked in by Karen, and sent to a typist. Then it will be returned to Karen, and sent to be bound and delivered to the student's teacher.

In May, Karen helps coordinate the Author's Tea, in which the children can read their written work to family and friends, and sometimes on stage.

Karen has fond memories of working with the parents and teachers of the GLP. She especially enjoys "the excitement of the children as their books are delivered and the appreciation of the teachers at GLP." On a personal note, I have worked with Karen from the beginning and will miss not only her outstanding leadership ability, but also her friendship. A sincere THANK YOU goes out to Karen from the staff, parents, and children of GLP.

* Colleen Gaglione has graciously offered to take over for Karen next year, but the Publishing Company will be looking for a partner to help her. If you are interested, please see Mrs. Wess-Rishel at the GLP.



EDEN SAYS THANK YOU AND GOOD-BYE TO ANOTHER BOARD MEMBER

By Thomas J. Gannon, Sr.

With the stepping down of Mark Henry due to the needs of his business and family, the Eden School Board loses another long time veteran. Mark has served the school for eight years, and in that time has shown himself to be a strong supporter of all the good things that this District does on behalf of kids. Being part of a board requires an ability to listen, as well as to challenge the organization of which you are part, and Mark does both of those things well. He did not always agree with the majority, but once consensus was reached, he stood by the decision of the Board.

His understanding of business and the long history of his family's commitment to the Eden Community was evident in his support for the school. But he was not shy about reminding the board, the administration, and the community, it is the hard work and the willingness of businessmen and taxpayers to bear the cost, that has given the school the springboard to the success it has achieved.

Mark, on behalf of the board, administrators, staff, and community, we extend our thanks to you, BG, your family and the entire Henry clan for all they have done for so many years. May you be rewarded for your willingness to serve, and we wish you good fortune in the years ahead.

EDEN DRIVERS SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

By Mary Banko

During our most recent Staff Development Day, Mr. Buggs discussed the FISH work philosophy with the transportation staff. Debbie Barton, Bus Attendant, was inspired by one aspect of this philosophy which encourages each person to make a positive difference in someone's day.

Shortly after this meeting, Debbie's nephew, Sergeant Sean Cadby, United States Marines, was deployed to Iraq where he commands a convoy unit consisting of 17 young men and women. It was clear to Debbie that the aspects of life we consider commonplace become extraordinary when stationed in an area such as Iraq. The military, of course, supplies the essentials, but items we take for granted like snack foods, candy and magazines become luxuries these young men and women can only hope for. Even basic personal hygiene and clean socks can become uncommon indulgences when in a convoy unit.

Debbie saw an opportunity to make a difference not just in her nephew's life, but in the lives of every member of his unit. She suggested that the Transportation Department adopt the troop, and that was the beginning of a very successful endeavor. Thanks to the generosity of the transportation staff, we have shipped several large boxes to Sergeant Cadby's unit.

The boxes are filled with a wide variety of food items, disposable tooth brushes, socks and other non-perishable items. Sergeant Cadby tells us it takes very little time for the boxes to be cleaned out, and that his unit is grateful for the shipments. We plan to continue the collections through the rest of the school year and begin again in the fall. The Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion has graciously donated money towards shipping, and the remainder comes from donations at the bus garage.

We would like to challenge each of you to begin a collection box of your own. Each one of us is a member of some group, whether it is an office, a social club, a sports team, or even a large family. Within these groups, someone will know military personnel stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan or another area where simple pleasures become luxuries. Even if you make just one or two shipments, you will make a positive difference in their day, and you will gain a feeling of satisfaction that cannot be easily replaced.



ROAD-EO

By Mary Banko

Four Eden bus drivers recently competed in the Western New York Chapter of NYAPT's 27th Annual School Bus Safety Road-EO. The Road-EO is a hands-on experience that tests driver skills in various areas including pre-trip inspection, bus safety practices, loading/unloading procedures and more. The drivers are also required to maneuver the bus through obstacle courses intended to represent actual, but challenging, scenarios. Pictured at right are Barb Caffery, Janette Bonczar, Marilyn Yager, and Ellen Pulinski.



DIVE INTO SUMMER FUN!

By Vanessa Zoll

When all the required reading is done, here are some breezy reads for all ages to take to the beach!

BEGINNING READERS

Elephant & Piggie: My Friend is Sad by Mo Willems

Another winner by Mo Willems! A gloomy elephant and an upbeat best friend piggie are the characters in these simple, beginning to read series. Spare speech, a simple plot and useful repetition make this an easy-to-follow book.

Casey Back at Bat by Dan Gutman

Dan Gutman once again has his fans cheering! With rhyming text and colorful illustrations, this is a fun read-aloud sequel to Ernest Lawrence Thayer's classic "Casey at the Bat".

Time Spies; Giant in the Garden by Candice Ransom

Blending history, biography, mystery and adventure, a new series that kids won't be able to resist!

INTERMEDIATE

Bunnicula Meets Edgar Allan Crow by James Howe

The seventh adventure in the Bunnicula series. When a writer of juvenile horror fiction and his pet bird stay overnight at the Monroe household, Chester the cat predicts the worse for his fellow pet friends.

Dirty Magic by Carol Hughes

A dark and intriguing fantasy! When 10-year-old Joe wishes his sister would disappear, the next day he finds her bed empty and an ambulance parked outside his house. He is mysteriously whisked away to a war-torn world and offered a chance to find her. With the help of a young girl named Katherine, Joe faces deadly machines and learns the truth about himself.

Lawn Boy by Gary Paulsen

The summer adventures of a 12-year-old boy and an old riding lawn mower.

The Navigator by Eoin McNamee

Owen discovers he has a terrifying role to play in the battle to protect the world he knows: he is the Navigator.

To Dance by Siena Cherson Siegel

Presented in a graphic novel format, this memoir follows the dreams of a 9-year-old ballerina from her dance school experiences, performances and personal life.

YOUNG ADULT

The Celebutantes: On the Avenue by Antonio Pagliarulo

An all new series about billion dollar heiresses who can't seem to stay out of the headlines.

Code Orange by Caroline Cooney

While conducting research for a school paper on

smallpox, Mitty finds an envelope containing 100-year-old smallpox scabs and fears that he has infected himself and all of New York City.

Heat by Mike Lupica

Pitching prodigy Michael is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball, because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Harmless by Dana Reinhardt

How much can one lie do? An untruth results in a slew of problems for three private school girls and their families, community and the wrongly accused person.

Top Ten Uses for an Unworn Prom Dress by Tina Ferraro

An unworn prom dress is a lot more useful than you could possibly imagine!

ADULT BOOKS

What the Dead Know by Laura Lippman

A Baltimore detective becomes caught up in investigating a long-ago crime when police arrest a woman involved in a rush-hour accident only to have her tell them she is the younger of the two Bethany sisters who went missing from a local mall thirty years earlier.

When No One Understands: Letters to a Teenager on Life, Loss, and the Hard Road to Adulthood by Brad Sachs, Ph.D

A nationally known child psychologist shares his poignant and profound letters to a troubled teen, guiding her through the anguish of adolescence and addressing the key concerns shared by many teens.

Empire of Blue Water: Captain Morgan's Great Pirate Army, the Epic Battle for the Americas and the Catastrophe that Ended the Outlaw's Bloody Reign by Stephen Talty

The gripping story of the legendary pirate who challenged the greatest military power on earth with a ragtag bunch of renegades and brought it to its knees.

Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil by Deborah Rodriguez

Hairdresser Deborah Rodriguez details her experiences in post-Taliban Afghanistan, discussing the opening of her beauty school and recalls the personal stories of various women who overcame obstacles to obtain an education in cosmetology.

Jack Absolute by C.C. Humphreys

Retired Captain Jack Absolute is called upon for his Native American languages and espionage skills. He arrives in England after four months at sea to find himself dueling for his life for the dubious honor of a young actress and forced to flee London with his old army regiment.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Stevan Jones

The hard work of thirty-four students enrolled in various Technology Education courses and members of Eden's Battlebots team, was on display May 22nd at the ECC South Campus. The students were all competing in Tech Wars ECC 2007.

Tech Wars ECC 2007 showcased nine individual Technology based competitions for junior and senior high students. There were twenty-four local schools represented and over five hundred students attended the event.

Eden had ten students who entered the junior high bridge building/testing competition. Each of the following eighth grade students should be commended for their efforts: Derek Palmerton, Matt Kuppel, Josh Smith, Troy Neureuter, Justin Rich, Matthew Benedict, Cord Polzin and Zach Rice.

Two students in particular, Kyle Nagle, second place, and Kyle Zittel, first place, should be recognized for their outstanding achievement. Both eighth grade students actually competed in the high school division and still finished number one and two in the rankings.

The Battlebots team showcased thirteen brand new members this year. The following students should be congratulated for using a team approach to design and fabricate three separate robots which successfully functioned and competed in the Robotic Cage Match event: Zak Kordal, Cullen Playtar, Adam Laing, Matt Vankoughnett, Edward Schneider, Eric Lortz, Michael Paciorek, Jason Gard, Adam Cwynar, Mitchell Eck, Richard Krouse, Charles Schmitz and Dan Lempke. None of Eden's entries finished in the top three, but it was a very competitive field of 23 robots. The team will certainly use this year's experience to help them in future fighting robotics competitions.

The Habitat for Humanity Architectural Design competition allowed many of Eden's third and fourth level technical drawing/CAD students the opportunity to showcase their talents. Many of these students have already decided to pursue a career in architecture or engineering as they enter college in the fall. The following students created both a finished set of working drawings for a Habit for Humanity house, as well as a scale model to physically display their design solutions: Nate Ohmit, Cory Lauber, Dave Holeyka, Anna Miller, Phil Marble, Mike Satanek and Eddie Dirosa. Cory Lauber took first place overall, and Eddie Dirosa captured second place overall. These students displayed an incredible amount of talent, knowledge and determination and should be recognized for their outstanding achievements.

The cardboard boat challenge was the final event that Eden students entered. Tim Ongley, Sam Lewandowski, James Rigley and Pedro Bittante create a cardboard boat that had to hold one passenger and navigate through a series of obstacles as fast as possible. Each boat was equipped with a small trolling motor and battery to use as their propulsion system. Eden's boat, "children of the corn", finished in a very respectable fourth place.

The entire Technology Education Department, Mr. Brechtel, Mr. Carbone, Mr. Jones and Mr. Uhlman, would like to thank all of the students who participated in Tech Wars ECC 2007. To compete at such a high level in each individual event is a true testament to the work ethic, commitment, skill and natural talent of our students. You have made your school and community proud. We would also like to thank the parents in the community, Mrs. Cindi Renaldo, Mr. James Schneider, and Mr. Joe Fuchs who have consistently supported our student's quest for excellence by donating their time, materials and effort. Additionally, we would like to thank Mr. Graff and Ms. Menkiena for their continued support of our students and the recognition of their talents. Finally, a special thank you to Mr. Buggs for serving as a celebrity judge during the Robotic Cage Match. Although he was new to the judging process, he did an excellent job. Look for more innovation in 2007/2008 from our program and our students.



RETIREMENTS

By Barbara Thomasulo

This summer we say good -bye to two teachers, Merry Jeffers and Sue McClain, along with several support staff members.

Merry Jeffers started teaching in Eden in 1973, having been hired to build an orchestra program in the District. There was a seven year period where she taught in the High School only, teaching High School Mixed Chorus, Girls Chorus, Music Theory, High School Orchestra and lessons. After a district building reorganization, she went back to the orchestra program in various buildings.

Merry was nominated for the Who's Who Among America's Teachers many times. She was touched by the nominations. Merry also conducted Erie County Junior High South Orchestra twice, which was an honor for her. In addition, she has performed at many fabulous events with a very successful commercial band as a lead singer and violinist for 25 years.

Merry's fondest memories come from her District concerts over the years. She started District orchestra and choral concerts to encourage students to stick with their music through their senior year. Seeing all the orchestra members in the District in one auditorium performing together inspired the young students and their parents. The older students gained a great sense of satisfaction to see how much they had learned. She also carries many fond memories of being involved with Eden's musicals since 1977. She wore many hats: vocal director, choreographer, string advisor, costume maker and photographer. Merry also loved teaching at the Fredonia Orchestra Camp for ten years. "It was fun, inspiring and educational." Merry, along with Eden students who attended the camp, brought many ideas back to school. Giving her seniors their senior awards at their last concert meant the world to her. Merry felt it was such a tribute to their developed musicianship and their loyalty to her and their musical teammates. She "could see in their eyes that they took pride in their ensemble and in their developed ability to be independent musicians".

Merry has watched some of her students become professional actors and music teachers. "It has been satisfying to see them pursue their dreams without fear. It means so much to stay in touch with them and see them inspire the next generation. Music - Pass it on!"

For the future, Merry plans to continue in the Orchard Park Symphony and be the Contemporary Music Leader at her church. She will be taking care of her mother and organizing her home. She will also have time to be an activist in many worthy causes.

Sue McClain was hired to teach secondary English beginning in September 2000. Before moving to the Buffalo area, she was the Academic Dean of Downers Grove North High School.

In the early days of her teaching career, she was voted Teacher of the Year on two separate occasions at Downers Grove South High School.

Her fondest memories include her colleagues here at Eden, who have been really great. Sue commented that, "People are not territorial here and especially my fellow-teachers in the English Department. They have shared ideas, material and inspiration. The sense of community and spirit of camaraderie have made this a good place to work." Sue also said that interactions with special students have made many days worthwhile.

For the future, Sue plans on working with at-risk inner city kids who can't read, working with refugee women in Buffalo and hopefully, doing some speaking to women in churches.

She would also like to add, "It's been fun! Thanks!"

Over the past year, several other employees have retired. Superintendent, Robert E. Zimmerman retired December 31st after 7 years of service; School Nurse, Juanita Majewski retired August 2006 after 26 years of service; GLP Secretary, Jean Avery retired August 2006 after 33 years of service; Courier, Jerry Flynn retired after 41 years of service; Bus Driver, Mary Sessanna retired after 33 years of service; and Bus Driver Sharon Lyndsley retired in March 2007 after 13 years of service. Pictured are Sue McClain and Merry Jeffers.



To all our retirees, we wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement!

WINTER SPORTS RECAP

Congratulations -

To all of our winter sports teams and coaches for a successful season! We had approximately 22% of our students participating in the winter sports season.

Boys' Basketball finished their season in the pre-quarter finals. Girls' Basketball ended their season in the pre-quarter finals. Boys' Bowling won first place with an overall record of 9 wins and 3 losses. They are a Scholar/Athlete Team. Girls' Bowling finished with an overall record of 5 and 6. They are a Scholar/Athlete Team. Varsity Cheerleading took second place at Springville Griffith Institute Invitational, second at Fredonia and placed fifth at ECIC's. JV Cheerleading won first place and Grand Champions at Springville Griffith Institute Invitational. They also took second place at Fredonia and received third place at ECIC's. Boys' Swimming came in second in their division and finished with an overall record of 13 and 2. They placed second at ECIC's. Wrestling finished the season in third place with an overall record of 14 and 2.

INDIVIDUAL ATHLETIC AWARDS

Girls' Basketball: ECIC Division IV First Team All Star: Stacey Gibbins

Boys Basketball: ECIC Division IV Second Team All Star: Jonathan Meyer; ECIC Division IV Honorable Mention: Mark Gardner.

Cheerleading: ECIC All Stars: Jennifer Acosta and Kathryn Larson.

Wrestling: Robin Broda finished sixth at State Competition.

Boys' Swimming: Michael Zittel set a new school record in the 50-free (22.41) and 100-free (49.96). The 200-free relay team of Andrew Gorcica, John Sickau, Joseph Skuse and Michael Zittel set a new school record. (1:32.14). The 200-medley relay team of Andrew Gorcica, Matthew Miller, Joseph Skuse and Michael Zittel set a new school record. (1:42.11). Michael Zittel and Andrew Gorcica each qualified for two events at State Competition.

Congratulations to Daniel Hoelscher. Mrs. King recommended Daniel as a candidate for the Triple C award, offered by the state of New York.



**HAVE A SAFE AND
RELAXING SUMMER!**

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June 2007

Eden Central School

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***Wanted: Substitute Nurses, Monitors,
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