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A look at announcements from community organizations. Have something you want to submit? SachemPR@Sachem.edu.

ESCAPE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SACHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

DECEMBER 2012, NEW VOL. 3

Historic Season

Sachem East's Steven Casali won the Hansen, Cipp, Collatta, Burnet and Division I MVP awards this year.



This year, Sachem East star Steven Casali collected more individual honors than any player in the history of the Suffolk County Football Coaches Association awards dinner.

Aside from being named the 63rd annual winner of the Hansen Award, presented to the top football player in the county, Casali was also named the Collotta Award winner as the top linebacker, the Cipp Jr.

Award winner as the top running back, the Burnett Long Island Defensive Player of the Year, the Suffolk County Division I MVP and collected his plaque as co-MVP of the Suffolk County Division I championship. Casali also learned he was one of 10 Suffolk County players to be named First Team All-Long Island.

Casali became the first athlete to win the Hansen, while playing

for a former Hansen Award winning coach. Mark Wojciechowski won it in 1985 at Sachem as one of the few linemen to grab the honor. Casali will play college ball at the University of Massachusetts. Then you could take a look at the score sheet and see the real story. He rushed for 1,915 yards and 20 touchdowns, and made 104 tackles this year, all single-season records at Sachem East.

Letter from the editor

Please take time to enjoy the holiday season with your family and friends. Due to the recent tragic events that took place in Connecticut, I think we can all agree that time spent with our families is precious and we should never take it for granted.

From a communications standpoint, we launched the "Sachem News Hour" radio show on WSHR in late November and we're eager to grow the information sharing on that platform. Tune in for live broadcasts on Thursdays from 8-9 p.m.

If you're not already following us on Twitter, you can find us @SachemSchools, and likewise with [Facebook.com/SachemSchools](https://www.facebook.com/SachemSchools). Each month we'll expand this publication, offering more and more interesting stories and tidbits you can't get anywhere else. If you have any news or information you'd like us to share across our multiple digital platforms, please do not hesitate to contact me directly. You can email me at CVaccaro@Sachem.edu.

Happy New Year, Happy Holidays and

#GoArrows!

-Chris R. Vaccaro



From Superintendent Nolan's desk



Dear Sachem Family,

It is certainly very difficult to find peace and happiness at a time of such tragedy and despair. I would ask that you continue to remember in your thoughts and prayers the Newtown community. They have experienced the greatest loss that any parent or school community could ever imagine. The Sachem Family has sent our deepest condolences and we have offered our support to them. Please know that Sachem continues to hold the safety of our students and staff members as our highest priority. We have been meeting with the SCPD and other law enforcement agencies to review and enhance our current procedures which we will practice on a regular basis.

There is certainly no greater gift than that of our children. As parents, we want our children to live long, happy, healthy, successful and peaceful lives. Each and every member of our Sachem Family

must work in synergy to help each other in raising and supporting our beautiful children. We want to provide our children with a society that supports the academic, physical, social, emotional and spiritual growth of each child, so he/she may become the best possible version of himself/herself. Life is certainly not without challenges and hardships, but I truly believe that our blessings far out number our difficult times and moments of sadness. Our children are a daily reminder of how fortunate we are, and we owe it to them to be role models of principle centered, ethical leadership and guidance. Together we need to set a foundation in values, humility, compassion and unconditional love that will sustain our children and bring them a lifetime of peace and happiness. Only together can we continue to make Sachem a safe and great place to live, learn and work.

I wish you and your family the peace and love of this special time of the year. Whether you celebrate Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanza, other traditions and holidays, or simply share time with family and friends, may you enjoy good health and happiness now and always.

Key Sachem District Calendar Items

January

*Jan. 2: Board of Education work session, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.
 *Jan. 3: Curriculum Night, Sachem HS North, 7:00 p.m.
 *Jan. 7: Curriculum Night, Sachem HS East, 7:00 p.m.
 *Jan. 16: Board of Education regular meeting, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.

February

*Feb. 6: Board of Education work session, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.
 *Feb. 11: SEPTA Meeting, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.
 *Feb. 27: Board of Education regular meeting, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.

March

*March 6: Board of Education work session, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.
 *March 13: PTA Council Meeting, Sachem HS East, 7:30 p.m.
 *March 20: Board of Education regular meeting, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.

Sachem Central School District

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 #GoArrows / #WeAreSachem

Thanks to Carol Burns, a secretary in Sachem Superintendent's James Nolan's office, we're in possession of dozens of old copies of "Sachem News," a publication formerly published by Sachem's Board of Education. The first issue was printed in Nov. 1957 and many issues after that chronicle the early stages of development in the Sachem Central School District. Through the coming months, we'll be dissecting every page and chronicling important data.

Reviewing old documents from Sachem’s archives



Gatelot students create ‘highly effective’ murals

This year, Gatelot Avenue Elementary School welcomes the new addition of student-created murals. These beautiful, thought provoking murals were created through the hard work and creativity of all of Gatelot’s students. Hung in the cafeteria, the paintings serve as a daily testament to kindness, teamwork, good deeds, and filling buckets. Students at Gatelot have learned what it means to be a “bucket filler” through the book, “Have You Filled a Bucket Today: A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids” by Carol McCloud. This inspiring story provides various insightful examples of how their kindness, appreciation and helpfulness can be personally rewarding to themselves, as well as emotionally satisfying towards others. The students collaborated on a very large mural depicting buckets being filled by other buckets, representing the ability of people to receive love and kindness from others.

At Gatelot, administration, staff and students would agree they are a family of “bucket fillers” and are very proud of the important character traits portrayed through the many murals they created. Art teacher Deborah Coyne

and visiting artist John Diniro provided guidance and direction throughout the project. During the week-long mural painting project, the students combined their creative efforts to create several more murals as well. Inspired by the teachings of Stephen Covey, the students created another mural depicting “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People”, a teaching philosophy implemented across all disciplines.

Other messages displayed in the murals include “Gatelot shines with kindness” and “Together we can do anything,” with according works of modern art designed and created by the students hanging above.

These murals will hang in the school indefinitely, serving as a reminder of the power of teamwork, visible to students every day. They will remind them that together, they can do anything.



SACHEM IN THE KNOW...

DONATE ITEMS TO LOCAL SOUP KITCHEN

A local soup kitchen in Patchogue, N.Y. is collecting NEW adult socks, scarves, gloves, hats and blankets to be given for a holiday breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 22. The items are needed no later than Thursday, Dec. 20. They could also use toiletries, canned goods, deli's who could donate cold cuts/cheese, bakeries/rolls/bread/ baked goods, bagel stores/bagels and any businesses that would like to sponsor a breakfast one weekend because these efforts are ongoing throughout the year. Items can be dropped off at 171 Jayne Ave. in Patchogue, N.Y. or at Saxton Middle School at 121 Saxton Ave., Patchogue, N.Y. 11772, care of Jackie Nolan. If you have any other questions about the volunteer efforts call (631) 831-9832.

* * * * *

CLASSES IN SESSION DURING REGENTS WEEK

Due to Super Storm Sandy and the loss of class time, all Sachem classes will be in session during the January Regents testing week which begins Tuesday, Jan. 23 through Friday, Jan. 25, according to Sachem Assistant Superintendent Paul Manzo. Students who are scheduled to take regents exams will be excused from class time in order to take their regents examinations as scheduled by NYS Dept of Education. Please contact your students' respective high school for additional information is needed.

* * * * *

SEND US SACHEM ALUMNI NEWS

Know of an alumnus doing something unique? Let us know! Email the information to SachemPR@Sachem.edu.

* * * * *

SUBMIT NEWS UPDATES

Please send all news and info updates for The SCENE and any Sachem platforms to SachemPR@Sachem.edu and they will appear.

CONNECT WITH SACHEM SCHOOLS

- *TWITTER: FOLLOW @SACHEMSCHOOLS
- *FACEBOOK.COM/SACHEMSCHOOLS
- *WEB: WWW.SACHEM.EDU
- *BE PROUD: #GOARROWS / #WEARESACHEM

Sachem’s CPR training program helps school district in north Texas

A Texas middle school student’s brush with death inspired a new program to teach students CPR in the school district. Brent Reese, the athletic coordinator in the Frisco Independent School District, located just north of Dallas, reached out to Sachem’s Lori Hewlett for help with starting a CPR training program.

Hewlett, Sachem’s Chairperson for Health Education, sent Reese Sachem’s curriculum information, breaking down the basic se-

quence of how to implement and teach CPR properly to students. According to a story on WFAA.com, the news site for a television station in Dallas-Forth Worth, every sixth grader is receiving CPR training this year. Furthermore, Seventh and eighth grade physical education students are also getting trained. “A million times, thank you!” Reese wrote Hewlett in an email.



Seneca, Second Chance Toys team up during holiday season

In an effort to make a meaningful difference emotionally and environmentally, Second Chance Toys, a charitable organization, and Seneca’s Community Club teamed up this holiday season to distribute gently used plastic toys to children in need.

Multiple research studies confirm that toys inspire play which is critical to the healthy development of children. Yet, many plastic toys are disposed of when they could be enjoyed by a growing number of children who go without. According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, nearly 12.5 million children under the age of six in the United States live in low-income families; nearly a quarter of these chil-



dren live in families with annual incomes below the federal poverty level. Given the nature of plastic, these toys show little signs of wear and are still in good working condition. When these perfectly useable toys are thrown out instead of given to those who could benefit, they become waste in a landfill, take up a lot of space and do not biodegrade.

Second Chance Toys provides a waste-need solution to these problems. Unwanted plastic toys, that are still useable, are rescued and recycled. Seneca’s Community Club and Second Chance Toys hope to bring some happiness to children in need, while making a contribution to the environment.

East donates to Little Flower

With the help of all faculty and students, Sachem East’s Junior Class was able to hold Holiday Operation again this year. More than 200 shoeboxes were collected and donated to Little Flower in Riverhead. With the disastrous effects from Hurricane Sandy, contributions to the children at Little Flower at this time of the year are sparse.

Little Flower expressed its gratitude for this great contribution that will now allow all children at the Little Flower cottages to have a gift to open at the holidays. Junior Class advisors Mrs. Boles and Ms. Carpenter would like to thank everyone for this generous contributions. Junior Class officers are Ishrak Alam, Anmol Gupta, Young Jin Sohn, Nicole Lunger and James Zeitler.



HS students teach history at Tecumseh

Sachem East’s National History Club stopped by Tecumseh Elementary School to teach three classes about courage and civil rights to fourth grade students. East students helped define terms associated with civil rights and discussed specific examples of civil rights in America, including the topics of segregation, and the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Using the story “Yertle the Turtle,” they explained how Yertle stood up for himself and was courageous fighting for his rights. As part of the lesson plan, fourth graders created an acrostic poem. “The program yesterday went really well,” said Tecumseh Principal Laura Amato. “It was great to see the interaction of the HS students and our fourth graders. The poems they created were very thoughtful and creative.”



Connect with Sachem



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#GoArrows / #OnToVictory / #WeAreSachem



Place announcement in "The Scene"

For more information, email Chris R. Vaccaro directly at cvaccaro@sachem.edu.



SACHEM YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE



Honored to serve Sachem and the surrounding communities for over 30 years!

REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING 2013 SEASON

For children born from Aug 1, 2003 through July 31st, 2009

See our website WWW.SYSL.ORG for Online Registration

*****REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL 2/19/2013*****

EXCITING NEWS: SYSL IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH
RED BULLS ACADEMY & CHALLENGER SPORTS
TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
TO OUR PLAYERS

Intramural Registration Spring 2013

Intramurals Program - \$60 (spring only)

For players born between 8/1/03 - 7/31/08

U4 Program - \$60 (spring only)

For players born between 8/1/08 - 7/31/09

Uniform purchased separately from Olympic Den (471-3521) (Includes full, durable uniform (shirt, shorts, socks) Required for all new registrants.

THE SYSL PROUDLY OFFERS THE FOLLOWING :

- The finest youth soccer complex on Long Island - maintained, irrigated and continuously improved to provide for safe, quality play.
- Intramural, Interleague and Travel programs with separate divisions offered for Boys and Girls. (Travel teams are for the more advanced player, fourth grade and older.)
- Structured games in all age groups.
- Professional training of all players and coaches by recognized leaders in professional soccer education and player development.
- New professional trained weekly pre-travel programs for U8 & U9 players
- Special soccer program for children with special needs.
- All Intramural and Interleague players are guaranteed at least 50% playing time
- Paid referees, insurance coverage and player participation awards.

Please see our website, www.sysl.org, for more information.

Questions about registration or coaching, call 447-2466 or e-mail syslregistrant@yahoo.com



Sachem youth lacrosse

Winter Lacrosse clinic

For all skill levels

at KK Athletics ON TURF

we provide helmets and shoulder pads

--Grades pre k thru 1st--

+ON THURSDAY'S 6:30PM-7:30PM Starting December 6th +Learning basic skills (passing, catching, cradling, scooping, offense/defense, teamwork, sportsmanship, and pride. Cost \$100

--Grades 2nd and 3rd --

Will play winter season of 8 games (each grade has its own team) at long island sport plex in Sayville. Plus once a week practice @ kk athletics Wednesday nights 7pm-8pm cost is \$125

For info go to WWW.SYAG.COM or email SYAGLACROSSE@GMAIL.COM



SACHEM YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

BASEBALL-SOFTBALL PROGRAM

Let the Games Begin... Spring, 2013!

VISIT US AT WWW.SYAG.COM

DIVISION	GAME DAYS	FEE
BASEBALL		
4-5	Monday / Friday	\$ 60.00
6	Tuesday / Friday	\$ 60.00
7	Monday / Thursday	\$ 75.00
8	Monday / Saturday	\$ 75.00
9	Wednesday / Saturday	\$ 90.00
10	Tuesday / Saturday	\$ 90.00
11	Tuesday / Saturday	\$ 90.00
12	Monday /Friday or Saturday	\$ 90.00
13-14	Tuesday / Saturday	\$ 155.00
15-18	Wednesday / Saturday	\$ 155.00
SOFTBALL		
4-6	Wednesday / Saturday	\$ 60.00
7-8	Thursday / Saturday	\$ 60.00
9-10	Wednesday / Saturday	\$ 70.00
11-12	Monday / Thursday	\$ 75.00
13-17	Tuesday / Thursday	\$ 85.00

REGISTRATION DATES

REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH 3-18-13

****REVISED REGISTRATION DATES****

January 24 Merrimac Elementary

**January 25 Merrimac Elementary
7:00pm -8:30 pm**

**Or REGISTER ONLINE
WWW.SYAG.COM**

GAME DAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WEEKDAY START TIMES:

- 5:30 - APRIL GAMES DIVISIONS 7 AND UP and ALL MEDFORD GAMES ALL SEASON
 - 6:00 - MAY / JUNE GAMES DIVISIONS 7 AND UP (EXCEPT GAMES AT MEDFORD)
 - 6:00 - ALL GAMES in the 4,5,AND 6 YEAR OLD DIVISIONS ALL SEASON
- SATURDAY GAME TIMES WILL BE POSTED ON WEBSITE**

**SPECIAL EVENTS:
OPENING DAY PARADE, ALL STAR DAY,**

Fee Includes:
Insurance
Uniform
Trophy

(50% Discount
off lowest fee
for families
registering 3 or
more players)

**ALL
DIRECTORS
ARE CPR/AED
CERTIFIED**

**BACKGROUND
CHECK
CONDUCTED
ON EVERY
MANAGER &
COACH**

**CERTIFIED
UMPIRES**

**BB & SB
AGES
9& UP**

EMAIL QUESTIONS:

**BASEBALL@SYAG.COM
SOFTBALL@SYAG.COM**

ON LINE REGISTRATION @ www.SYAG.COM



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kidsTennis Camp



During Winter Break!

December 29th & 30th (Saturday and Sunday)

Expose your child to the great sport of tennis without the high cost of clubs

Coach Lindsay's Introduction to Tennis

Holtsville resident, Scott Lindsay is a teacher at Rocky Point Middle School where he also coaches tennis, basketball and lacrosse. His tennis camps are known for their fun and energetic drills and creative game play. His summer sessions have tripled in attendance over the last two years. For the first time, Coach Lindsay is offering camps during the school winter breaks, indoors at Give It Your All Sports in Ronkonkoma, NY.

Tennis instruction can be very costly. Coach Lindsay has a true passion for the sport of tennis and his camps were created to offer an introduction to the world of tennis without the high costs of academies and clubs.

Tennis camp will help improve hand eye coordination, footwork, speed and agility. Our clinic covers all aspects of the game such as grip, forehand, backhand, volley, and serve.



Coach Lindsay is the father of two girls in the Sachem school district.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!
CALL (631) 676-4412



631-676-4412 • 2127 Lakeland Avenue
Suite 5, Ronkonkoma, New York 11779
www.giveityourallsports.com

December 29th & 30th (Saturday and Sunday)

Session 1: (Ages 4 - 7) 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Session 2: (Ages 8 - 12) 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Fee: \$60

Please join us in this **ZUMBATHON®** for the Schnell Family

Daniel Joseph Schnell was born July 19, 2012. Due to seizures he has suffered, Baby Daniel has neurological and developmental issues. This Event was created to help alleviate some of the Family's financial stresses, enabling them to concentrate on Daniel's much needed care. Let's DANCE for DANIEL!

"Dancing for Daniel"



Friday, January 18, 2013

Tamarac Elementary School

50 Spence Avenue, Holtsville

Registration at 7:00pm and Raffle tickets for sale!

Zumba® Class 7:30pm-9:00pm!!!

\$10 Donation



Cosmetics will be for sale with a portion of the proceeds for "Dancing for Daniel"

For more information please contact Vicky Moreno @ vivazumba41@gmail.com or call 631-332-2516