

P2 / MASTHEAD A message from Kev district dates P3 / SACHEM IN THE KNOW A listing of key events and the next month.

P5 / ANNOUNCEMENTS A look at announcements from community organizations. Have something you want to submit? SachemPR@Sachem. edu.



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SACHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

JANUARY 2013, NEW VOL. 4



Students from multiple Sachem schools, including Sequoya Middle School and Gatelot Elementary, recently took part in some outreach for Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. Students are going to be attending an alternative school in Connecticut after the tragic events that took place last month and there was an initiative to decorate and brighten this new building.

Sequoya sent a letter with seven boxes of constructed snowflakes as a gesture of good will and a means of decorating. This outreach was coordinated by Doreen Schaefer and the Renaissance Community Service Club at Sequoya. In a letter to Sandy Hook staff and students, Sequoya wrote, "these snowflakes symbolize the thoughts and prayers that go out to you and the community of * Newtown. We are doing this in

order to bring more peace and kindness to the world in your honor." The idea was brought to the school by Lauren Shaw, a Sequoya Teacher's Assistant, who learned about it from the girl scouts, according to building principal Frank Panasci. "Doreen also plans on constructing a Random Acts of Kindness Wall in Sequoya to honor those lost in Sandy Hook," Panasci said.

From the desk of Sachem Superintendent James Nolan

То the entire Sachem Family, I hope that this new year brings you and your family good health, peace and happiness. We are truly very fortunate for all that we have at Sachem, but our greatest blessings are certainly our children and the mutually respectful relationships and friendships that we have enjoyed for many years.

As we approach the midpoint of this school year, we continue to work interdependently to provide our students with a safe and effective learning environment which will prepare them to meet with success in college and/or careers. Looking ahead, we are already preparing for our future and beginning to have conversations about next year's budget. Sachem is extremely fortunate to be guided by a Board of Education that is supportive and actively involved in all facets of our school community. Sachem has been presented with many challenges in the past few years as a result of our economy, and together we have been able to meet and surpass even the highest expectations. Our Board of Education works tirelessly to maintain exceptional learning experiences for our children while remaining sensitive to the needs of our taxpayers. I believe the preparations and discussions

Letter from the editor

Happy New Year to everyone in Sachem! We're excited about 2013 and the great success our staff and students will have as always. Every year proves to me a new set of goals and milestones that allows Sachem to achieve its "tradition of excellance" status. For that I am forever proud to be a member of the Sachem Family.

From a communiations 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. month we'll expand this publica-Each tion, 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. #GoArrows!

-Chris R. Vaccaro



involving next year's budget will be the most challenging we have experienced in many years. Please make every effort possible to become actively involved in the budget process, so that you can become fully informed and share accurate information with your family and friends. You have often heard me speak of our Sachem Family, and I sincerely hope that you realize how important "family" is to me. Our Sachem Family includes our beautiful students, their amazing families, our talented, dedicated and caring employees, and all those who live within our school district. Each and every member of our Sachem Family contributes uniquely to our success. There would be nothing more wonderful than having the optimal level of interdependent understanding, involvement, trust, respect and communication

February

April

Bruce Singer Gail A. Grenzia Dr. Jill M. Karp . Paul Manzo

Sachem Central School District Administrative Offices 51 School Street, Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y. 11779

General information: 631-471-1300 * 631-471-1318 Website: www.Sachem.edu



in developing our 2013-2014 school district budget. Unfortunately, apathy and misinformation become our greatest obstacles. Only together can we continue to improve and enhance the Sachem Central School District that we have been so proud of for many years and is the envy of so many others. I have been blessed to call Sachem my family for the past 30 years, and I believe in our students, our families and our employees with all of my heart. This is why I am confident that together we will continue to excel during these most difficult and challenging times. We have far too much to be proud of, and we must use every bit of our collective time and talents to preserve our school district for both our current and future students.

Thank you as always for your help, support and friendship. I look forward to seeing you in the very near future, and I once again urge you to get involved in our budget process. May you and your family continue to enjoy good health, peace and happiness now and always. WE ARE SACHEM!!



Key Sachem District Calendar Items

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

- *Feb. 23-24: New York State wrestling championships (Albany) *Feb. 27: Board of Education regular meeting, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.
- *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.

*April 3: Board of Education work session. Samoset MS. 7:30 p.m. *April 1: Board of Education regular meeting, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m. *April 24: Meet the candidates night, Samoset MS, 7:30 p.m.



Sachem Central School District

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SCTA hosting "Not Just Ladies Night Out"

The Sachem Central Teachers Association is presenting "Not Just Ladies Night Out" on Wednesday, Jan. 23 to benefit the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund.

at Villa Lombardi's in Holbrook, N.Y. from 6-10 p.m. pian Maria Michta will make to SCTA Office, 245 Union

Tickets are \$50 and please make checks payable to SCTA Breast Cancer Fundraiser. Your ticket price will go towards dinner at Villas, door prizes, admission to The event will take place shop with local vendors and access to a silent auction.

Please bring/send your list Sachem alum and Olym- table name list and payment a special guest appearance. Ave. Holbrook, N.Y. 11741.



Sagamore hosts Citizens Campaign for the Environment

Eighth grade writing workshop students at Sagamore Middle School were honored to attend a presentation by Citizens Campaign for the Environment educators Maryellen Dour and Tara Bono last month. Students participated in a lab experiment using a model of Long Island's aquifer system to learn about how the aquifer works and how we can monitor, protect, and improve our drinking water and local environment. Student feedback was positive and energized. "I was very amazed to learn that our water is under our feet," said Marisa Filarosa. "I never realized

that chemicals or fertilizer that we put on our grass or dump into the dirt can affect our drinking water." All of Mrs. Gennosa's and Ms. Anziano's writing workshop students were able to participate. Imad Chaudry was inspired by the presentation.

"Regular citizens can have a say in local government," he said. "The Citizens Campaign motivated me to actually do something that will benefit the local society. It showed me the determination people like them can have to make our society, government, and the environment better for us all."

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Mary Rae reinforced the importance of working to improve our own community and protect our future.

"I would like to take my children and grandchildren to the beaches on Long Island in the future," said Rae. "I've helped the community by getting my school to help preserve the Brookhaven Wildlife Center. I will now encourage my parents and friend's parents to use chemicals moderately and to not dump things in drains or toilets."

These Sachem students are writing letters and creating public service announcements to have their voices heard. This generation will be leaders in the effort to keep our drinking water safe and our environment healthy. They are spreading the word about the importance of taking steps to protect our environment like minimizing the chemicals we put on the ground, recycling and reusing, respecting nature, and most importantly, staying vigilant and having a voice in helping to keep our environment healthy.

-Words submitted by Betsy Gennosa, Marisa Filarosa, Imad Chaudry, and Mary Rae



MERRIMAC ELEMENTARY NEWS AND NOTES

On Feb. 15 Merrimac will hold its Family Sweetheart dance for all merrimac families. The "Trial of Goldilocks" will be held on Feb. 8 with the fourth grade. The Kindergarden classes will enjoy "The Singing School Bus Driver" for 100 days of school celebration on Feb. 26. PARP will be ongoing for the month of February. Our next PTA meeting is March 6. There will not be a PTA meeting in February.

SUPERINTENDENT NOLAN TO GO LIVE ON TWITTER Sachem Superintendent James Nolan will be live tweeting from his office for the first time later next week. He will tweet directly with the community on Thursday, Jan. 24 from 1-2 p.m. More details to come about the live tweeting session in terms of specific topics for discussion. We the hashtaq plan on usina **#SachemChat** during the session @ lf you have't done S0, follow SachemSchools on Twitter today

FAFSA HELP DURING FINANCIAL AID MONTH It's Student Financial Aid Assistance Month. There are a number of FAFSA Do's and Don'ts for students and families. These questions can be answered in a number of ways. Call us toll free at 1-800-808-1790, Mondays through Fridays, Noon - 5:00 p.m. Or email us anytime at FAFSAhelp@HESC.ny.gov. Sachem East will be hosting a college information night for juniors on Thursday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m.

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

Tecumseh Elementary implements six school action teams

Tecumseh has implemented six action teams this year to promote its theme "Healthy Mind, Body and Hearts." Teachers and parents are working together to develop different ideas to incorporate throughout the school year. *The Healthy Mind committee was designed to help students understand the importance of exercising their brain. Students will test their brains with a variety of puzzles and mind games.

*The Health Body Committee will be running "Hoola Hoops For Hearts" in an effort to promote physical activity as well as contributing the donations to a charity.

*Healthy Heart Committee is designed to help students understand the importance of kindness and giving back to others. The Committee arranged the Toys For Tots program to run during the month of December.

*PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) is a program designed to foster the love of reading in children by asking parents to set aside 15 minutes daily to read with their children. The PARP committee cre-



ated fun and exciting activities that students will experience during the month of February. *An Anti- Bullying team was implemented this year to develop ideas to foster anti-bullying among the students. *The Seven Habits of a Healthy Child committee is a team of teachers and parents working together to help incorporate the practices and language of Stephen Covey's The Seven Habits of Happy Kids into the daily lives of Tecumseh students.

Reading to change lives

Students at Tecumseh Elementary School will be reading to change lives. Tecumseh is excited to be partnering with Blanca's House for the 2013 Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) program. Blanca's House is a nonprofitor ganization of volunteer healthcare professionals who donate their time to provide children and their families with free medical treatment.

As a result of this partnership, this year's theme will be "Reading Changes Live and Puts a Smile on Children's Faces".

The kick-off will take place next month during the school day for students and with a milk and cookies night for families.

The PARP Program is run by li-Tina Evan and classbrarian teacher Devon Lampasona. room

The team's goal is to help children embrace and internalize the seven habits as part of their daily lives. The teams plan is to achieve this goal by implementing activities that include Seven Habits. Students are given 'high fives' when they are caught implementing one of the seven habits.

The committees form a partnership between teachers and parents. And by working together a healthy learning environment is created for all children. ****

Doug Shanahan gets two hall calls

Not long after he learned he will be inducted to Hofstra University's Athletic Hall of Fame in April, Sachem alum Doug Shanahan was notified that he will be inducted to the Long Island Lacrosse Hall of Fame as well. The induction reception will take place on Feb. 8 at the Huntington Hilton Hotel. Joining Shanahan as inductees are Allison Comito, Keith Cromwell, A.J. Haughen, Jay Jalbert, David Kelly, Christopher LaMonica, Christopher Massy, Tricia Leigh Simon and Bob Vlahakis. Shanahan graduated from



Sachem in 1997, starred at Hofstra in lacrosse and football, had a tryout with the Jets and continues to play Major League Lacrosse today.



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#GoArrows / #OnToVictory / #WeAreSachem



Place announcement in "The Scene"

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

"THE SACHEM NEWS HOUR"

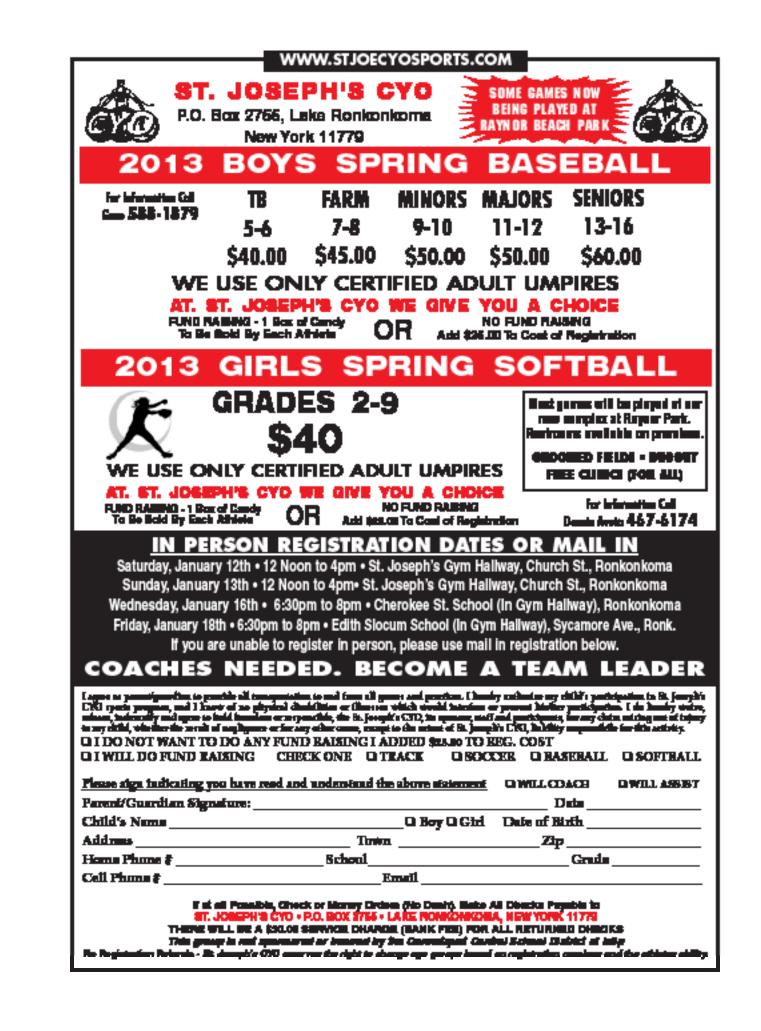
Only on 91.9-FM, WSHR

LIVE on Thursday from 8–9 p.m.



 All Sachem on the airwaves District news and analysis Weekly in-studio guests · Alumni, history, academics all in one hour · Re-airs: Friday 6 a.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.







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		
an Ste	BASEBALL	REGISTRATION DATES		
4-5	Monday / Friday	\$ 60.00	January 24 & 25	Merrimac Elementary
6	Tuesday / Friday	\$ 60.00	February 13	Merrimac Elementary
7	Monday / Thursday	\$ 75.00	February 15 Dick's Sporting Goods Lake Grove	
1	Monday / Saturday	\$ 75.00		In the second s second second se second second s
9	Wednesday / Saturday	\$ 90.00	All Registrations 7:00-9:00 pm Or REGISTER ONLINE WWW.SYAG.COM	
10	Tuesday / Saturday	\$ 90.00		
11	Tuesday / Saturday	\$ 90.00		
12	Monday /Friday or Saturday	\$ 90.00	GAME DAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE	
13-14	Tuesday / Saturday	\$ 155.00		
15-18	Wednesday / Saturday	\$ 155.00		
1	SOFTBALL	+ 5:30 - APRIL GAMES DIVISIONS 7 AND UP on # ALL_MEDFORD GAMES ALL SEASON		
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		





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in

Come join the Sachem North Varsity Cheerleaders for

Cheerleader-For-A-Day

Clinic includes stunts, jumps, tumbling, cheers, dance, snack, drink, and glitter t-shirt for each participant!

Friday, January 18th, 2013

Sachem North HS back gymnasium 6-9pm Special performance at 8:45pm

all students grades K-6 \$30 per cheerleader email <u>nroggemann@sachem.edu</u> for guestions or additional copies of this form

Please complete this portion, and mail with check made out to The Liberty Club to:

The Liberty Club - January Cheer for a Day PO BOX 1026 Holbrook, NY 11741

Advance registration is preferred but walk-ins welcome

Participant Name:

T-shirt size (youth sizes - circle one): ys ym yl Grade: Emergency contact person and number:

Email address:

FREE Dental screening, cleaning & sealants (if provider finds it is needed) Friday, February 1, 2 School of D

This is a one time event and will not establish any child as a patient of record at the Dental Care Center

"Give Kids A Smile Day" is part of a national campaign by the American Dental Association to promote good oral health in children who do not have access to dental care

The American Academy of Pediatrics & American Dental Association recommend "First Tooth, First Birthday, First Dental Visit"

Directions To Stony Brook University School of Dental Medicine, Cental Care Center LIE east to X62 N, Nicolls Road, (approx. 8 miles) cross over Rte 347, 2nd light is Stony Brook entrance, make a left at South Entrance (West Campus), go around curve, parking lot on right (Dental Care Center), entermain doors and follow signs for registration table.



ages 1 - 17

uary 1, 2013	2:00 P.M 6:00 P.M.				
School of Dental Medicine					
Dental Care Center					
Stony Brook University					

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT CALL

between January 21 - 29 during the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 631 - 632 - 8967

A parent/legal guardian must come with the child WALK-INS WILL BE ACCEPTED IF TIME PERMITS

SAFER ONLINE TEEN CHALLENGE

Are you a teen, age 13 to 18*? Do you know how to stay safer when you go online? Interested in helping teach others?

YES?

Then here's your chance to tell the world-AND win a prize!

FIRST PRIZE Samsung ATIV Tablet

SECOND PRIZE Xbox 360 250 GB Console with Kinect

One first price and one second prize assurcied for each category



ne selety advice here: advress

your creativity in any for ally of the O selow, sharing your online effety votes with others,



Stace a shit or presentation



Produce e video



Write a story or drew a certoon



Compose a song



Conduct a survey





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 DANIELI



Friday, January 18, 2013



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

For more information please contact Vicky Moreno @ <u>vinazumba41@gmail.com</u> or call 631-332-2516





Tamarac Elementary School

50 Spence Avenue, Holtsville

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

Zumba[®] Class 7:30pm-9:00pm!!!

\$10 Donation