

# DIMENSION



Holley Central School District | July 2017



## Congratulations to Holley's Graduating Class of 2017

**N**inety-two seniors graduated from Holley Middle School/High School (MS/HS) on June 24. All students wore red caps and gowns as they filed onto the field in the Holley Hawks Stadium. Sixty-five graduates will head off to colleges and trade schools, 13 will join the workforce, six are undecided, five will join the military, two will pursue post-graduate studies and three foreign exchange students will return to their home countries. Graduates received \$21,000 in local and community scholarships and awards, and are eligible for up to \$500,000 in specific college scholarships.

Class of 2017 Co-Presidents Collin Papaj and Kayla Thrower started the ceremony, and Vice President Veronica Mendoza presented the high school with a new digital camera for the yearbook staff as their class gift. Salutatorian Jesse Beach and Valedictorian Anna Brasted gave their speeches to an audience that filled the bleachers and grounds surrounding

the stadium. Graduates were acknowledged with awards from Senior Class Advisor Suzanne Lepkowski. MS/HS Art Teacher Evinn Neadow gave the commencement address.

After Holley staff announced the graduates' names and future plans, Board of Education President Brenda Swanger posed with the graduates while giving them their diplomas. Superintendent Robert D'Angelo and Principal Susan Cory, along with the rest of the Board of Education members, offered handshakes to the graduates on their way back to their seats on the field. Graduates adjourned to the corner of the field by the scoreboard for the traditional cap toss photo.





## BLAST Program Offered to School Athletes This Summer

Holley Central School District is pleased to announce that the BLAST program (Biomechanical Learning And Stability Training) will return to Holley MS/HS this summer to help students in grades 7-12 stay conditioned for sports. Leroy Physical Therapy & Village Fitness is pleased to offer this program on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-10 a.m. from July 11 to August 10. **There will be no class on July 13.** This session is offered for free to Holley students as part of our Athletic Training contract with LeRoy Physical Therapy. Sessions will be held on the Holley School District campus. Students will meet in the MS/HS foyer each day.

Transportation to school for this session is not provided. Students can enjoy a **free** breakfast in the HS Dining Hall before or after each session.

Enrollment forms are available in the MS/HS Main Office and must be returned to the office for registration prior to participation in the program.

## FREE Summer Breakfast and Lunch Program

In partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Holley Central Schools will offer free breakfast and lunch to all children age 18 and under, from June 26-Aug. 18. **There will be no meals offered on July 4.** Children age 18 and under who live in the district are eligible for this summer program, regardless of income level. Pre-registration is not required. Transportation will not be provided by the district for this program.



Breakfast will be served from 8-11 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Middle School/High School Dining Hall.

Adults may also purchase breakfast and lunch during this program. Breakfast is \$2.50 and lunch is \$4.25.

National Hunger Hotline:  
1-866-3-HUNGRY or  
1-877-3-HAMBRE,  
open 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

## Holley Budget Passes and Two Board Members are Elected

On May 16, Holley voters passed the budget with 346 yes votes and 167 no votes. Both propositions passed - one for the purchase of vehicles and equipment with 326 yes votes and 188 no votes, and the other to support the Community Free Library with 384 yes votes and 134 no votes.

Holley voters also elected two members to the Board of Education, each with three-year terms: Robin Silvis (337 votes) and Andrea Newman (291 votes).

The District congratulates the members of the board on their election and thanks voters for supporting our budget and propositions.

## Holley Students are "Sticker Shocked"

Recently, Lynnette Short's and Jason Maihofer's students participated in Project Sticker Shock. They went to local convenience stores and added labels to alcoholic beverages reminding adults not to provide these products to youth under the age of 21. This project raised awareness of underage drinking. This activity was performed in partnership with the Orleans County Drug Free Communities Coalition.



## MEMORIAL DAY ASSEMBLY

On May 26, elementary students participated in a Memorial Day assembly in the Intermediate Gym to honor those who lost their lives serving our country. Local veterans posted and retired the colors. The Elementary Chorus and Concert Band performed several patriotic songs. Students presented information on eight Holley men who died fighting in the Vietnam War; they were highlighted in the book "Vietnam Reflections: The Untold Story of the Holley Boys" by Michael T. Keene. Plaques were dedicated to veterans and Holley residents Americo "Chipper" Gifaldi and Michael Giglio. The names of this year's recipients were added to the plaque mounted near the ES courtyard doors.



David Gifaldi accepts the plaque in honor of his father, Americo Gifaldi, and shares stories and photos of his late father.

## ES Students Perform at Lilac Festival

by Sally Martin, ES Music Teacher

The Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grade Chorus performed at the Lilac Festival on May 18. They had a beautiful day to make beautiful music.



The choruses shared music from their March and May concerts. The Fourth Grade Chorus started with "Oo-De-Lally," a song about Robin Hood. Next, they performed a calypso song, "Shake the Papaya Down," in three parts. Their final song was "This Old Man," which included excerpts from favorite childhood songs "Skip to My Lou," "Chopsticks" and "Swing Your Partner."

The Fifth and Sixth Grade Chorus performed "Humble and Kind," a song recorded by Tim McGraw. The students also sang "Plain Cheeseburger," a song that always makes me hungry. "Old King Cole" was their final song before the Fourth Grade Chorus joined them on stage.

All choruses sang "Seed to Sow" together, which is a fun song from Uganda that is sung in Swahili.



Motions and dance movements to accompany the music were fun to perform on an outside stage.

Our accompanist did a great job, even though the wind decided to join the performance and tried to scatter sheet music around!

**Our District's Mission**  
 We, the students, parents, staff and community of the Holley Central School District, will work together to provide the opportunity and means for all students to acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes to become responsible and productive citizens in a diverse and changing society. The ideal is to instill a passion for lifelong learning.

## Mandigo Receives Award for Community Service

Congratulations to senior Jessica Mandigo for receiving the Community All-Star award for making a positive difference in the lives of people at school and in the community. Jessica is a mentor for middle school students and a Sources of Strength Team Leader; she delivers gifts to residents at nursing homes and makes food for the Open Door Mission; and she is extensively involved in Cheerleading, Unified Basketball, Ski Club, National Honor Society, High School Student Council, Interact Club and Summer Recreation. Jessica also works for Salvatore's Pizzeria. She has received Orleans County Youth Bureau and Genesee Region All-Star recognition, along with the Elmira Key Award. She was showcased in the Business First edition on June 16.



## Z. Day Receives Make All the Difference Scholarship

From left, student Zachary Day and Holley MS/HS Principal Susan Cory at the Monroe 2-Orleans Make All The Difference Scholarship Dinner. Zach is a recipient of a \$5,000 Make All The Difference Scholarship, which is awarded to students who are enrolled in non-traditional programs while in high school. Congratulations, Zach!



## Interact Club Does "Clean Sweep" of Local Park

The MS/HS Interact Club decided to thank the community for their assistance with helping the club get their start this year by staging a "Clean Sweep" of a park in Holley on May 24. In partnership with the Department of Public Works (DPW), students in this club cleaned out the park near the canal. They invited other clubs and sports to help with the park cleanup and received an overwhelming response from baseball, cheerleading, softball, Unified Basketball and football teams; Spanish Club; National Honor Society; National Junior Honor Society; and Middle School and High School Student Councils. "There was some concern that the kids would get bored as the park is always kept so nice and clean," said Interact Club Advisor Samantha Zelent. "Today, I learned that when you release 70 young and enthusiastic students, they will literally explore every inch of the area until they find a piece of trash. They were very interested in helping the community, who has given so much to them."



Members of the Varsity Baseball Team



Middle School students



Senior Interact Club members Andi Carpenter and Katie Morgan



Varsity Cheerleaders Maddie Rowley and Alassia GianCursio

# Mock Accident Gives Seniors a Lesson in the Realities of Drinking and Driving

by Todd Grady, BOCES 2 Communication Specialist

On the morning of their prom, Holley seniors were given a stark reminder of the harsh realities that can come with drinking and driving. School leaders partnered with local police, fire and ambulance personnel on June 2 to vividly reenact an emergency response to a two-vehicle head-on collision. A Mercy Flight helicopter also responded to the scene, landing and taking off on school property, just a short distance from the crash staged in the school parking lot. "The purpose of this event is to show students the dangers of what can happen when you make bad choices," said Holley Police Chief Roland Nenni.



of the vehicles. Emergency personnel followed the protocols they would carry out at a real accident scene.

Students first attended an assembly in the MS/HS Auditorium and watched a short video of students acting out drinking at a post-prom party before driving off to get something to eat. The next thing students heard was the frantic voice of a peer calling 911 to report an accident. Students were then directed outside to watch the drama unfold. Some were visibly upset to the point of tears by the actions taking place in front of them. The reenactment took about 20 minutes to play out, from the initial emergency dispatch call to a Mercy Flight helicopter airlifting a victim extracted from one

One of the "victims" of the accident was Holley teacher Emily Harms, who was the other driver involved in the accident. Harms played the role of a teacher picking up a student who had called for a ride knowing she had had too much to drink. Senior Collin Papaj was ejected through the front windshield of a vehicle, pronounced "dead" at the scene and placed in a body bag. His mother arrived in tears at the scene to identify her son before he was loaded into a hearse from Christopher Mitchell Funeral Homes, Inc. Senior Chris Baly's

acted as a drunk driver taken away from the scene in handcuffs after failing a field sobriety test. He said playing a role in the mock accident served as an important reminder of the consequences of getting into a vehicle with a drunk driver. "It's not only your life you're risking, but others," he said.

"The students filed out of the auditorium pretty somber, and they've been pretty somber here," said Principal Susan Cory as Mercy Flight flew off. "I am hoping that it makes them think before they get behind the wheel." To reinforce the message, Cory called the students back to the auditorium to remind them of the importance of making the right choices. "I will give you my number," she said. "Call me ... I will find someone who will give you a ride."



## Senior Walk

Holley seniors completed their second "Senior Walk" on June 5. Wearing their graduation gowns and a sign listing their post-graduation plans, seniors walked through the halls of the MS/HS one last time, cheered on by the underclassmen, faculty and staff. Seniors also walked through the hallways of the Elementary School, receiving high fives from the younger students and greeting their former teachers.



# Young Author Urges Students to be the Agents of Change

Congo native Sandra Uwiringiyimana spoke to the Holley community and students in grades 7-12 on May 18 about what it's like to be a refugee in America after fleeing her home country. Uwiringiyimana, 22, wrote and released a book on May 16 entitled "How Dare the Sun Rise" that detailed her experience. Her visit to the Holley MS/HS Auditorium was sponsored by the Holley Community Free Library and the Holley Rotary Club.

Uwiringiyimana was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo, into a tribe that has lived in the Congo for 300 years. Her tribe is similar to the Tutsi tribe, as portrayed in the movie "Hotel Rwanda." Just like the tribal conflict explored in that movie, a dominant tribe campaigned against Uwiringiyimana's tribe and spread the ideology that hers was a lesser tribe because they looked different and spoke a different dialect. "I never realized I was black until I moved to the United States," said Uwiringiyimana. "In Africa, everyone has the same skin color, but there is still discrimination based on slight differences in facial features, language and culture."

When Uwiringiyimana was 10, tribal conflict prompted her family to flee to Rwanda, never to return home. They were ambushed as they fled, and she watched her sister, Deborah, age 6, be punched in



the face by a grown man. "That is the point when I learned hatred," said Uwiringiyimana. She spent three months living in a refugee camp in Burundi before it was attacked on August 13, 2004, a day that became known as the Gatumba Massacre. It is a day that she will never forget. In a camp of over 500, 166 died that day, including her beloved sister. Many members of her family were killed or seriously injured. Uwiringiyimana escaped and went to live with relatives. She came to the U.S. in 2007, settling in Rochester, NY.

When she was learning English, Uwiringiyimana enjoyed meeting high school students that were her tutors. "I felt like I made a new friend each time," she said. "Those who treated me nicely made me feel like I belonged in the U.S. It's important to reach out to refugees, be nice and listen to their stories. It can change how they view themselves and their lives. It's not enough to be a nice person, you have to express it. Step out of your comfort zone."

Uwiringiyimana's experiences drove her to write the book. "I didn't want what happened to my sister to happen to another kid," she said. "This book is about how I turned tragedy into triumph. I learned you need to put a face to the issues to make people care. I have to be the agent of change to change the cycle of hate in my country. You are never too young to effect a change. You make millions of small decisions in your daily life that lead to a bigger impact."

Along with other refugees, Uwiringiyimana started the Jimbere Fund. It's a non-profit organization that raises money towards different efforts effecting change in the Congo. She explained that in the Congo, many girls are married off at age 15, and very few complete their education or pursue potential career paths. For more information on the fund, visit [www.jimberefund.org/](http://www.jimberefund.org/). Fifty copies of Uwiringiyimana's book were sold at the Holley event, allowing the MS/HS Library Club to make a \$175 donation to the Jimbere Fund.

Uwiringiyimana urged students to stay positive and practice kindness. "Keep your heart and mind open to other people, cultures and tribes," she said. "Appreciate people for who they are, not the color of their skin. Just like my tribe was targeted in the Congo, don't tolerate others seeing people as different, and using that as a basis to put them down. What kind of justice would that be for Deborah if I embraced the same notions that killed her? This book is for her; it's about the lessons she taught me. My own community told me I couldn't possibly do this and make her story heard. I am the first from my community to do this – I have to speak out about it and begin effecting a change."



Sandra Uwiringiyimana poses with a student during her book signing event.



## Students of the Month for May

Holley Central Schools recognizes Students of the Month in grades K-12. Elementary students are nominated from each classroom, and middle and high school students are nominated in each subject area, all on a monthly basis. Each student receives a certificate with their photo on it and the nomination from their teacher written on it. The certificates are also displayed in the glass display case outside the MS/HS Library and then filed in a binder in the MS/HS Main Office. Pictures of the elementary students are displayed in the hallway near the Elementary Library and archived in a binder in the library.

Once each month, students of the month from grades K-12 have breakfast together with the principals in the Elementary Café or MS/HS Dining Hall (location rotates monthly). Breakfast is supplied by Food Service Director Vickie Scroger and her cafeteria staff.

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized as students of the month for May: Mikaela Auch, Brandon Cowan, Alex Edwards, Frank Flynn, Derrick Hildreth, Regan Hodge, Jessica Mandigo, Autumn Moy, Collin Nothnagle, Madison Papaj, Jakob Silpoch, Michael Stoll, Kyle Webster, Brandi Walker, Liam Maloney, Logan Lane, Kallan Babcock, Olivia Huffer, Bella LaRock, Isaiah Williams, Tessa Hazzard, Addison Bevins, Chase Kempa, Sadie McElwain, Amarianna Vargas, Kohle Pachla, Kaitlyn Kennedy, Maizy Ehrhardt, Luca Szepetyk, Xavier Garcia, Alleenea Blosenhauer, Amber Webster, Jaily Bishop, Isabella Thom, Lydia Sprague, Mikayla Evans, Riley Allen, Matthew Bull, Ozzy Stephens, Miranda Blannar and Emmett Walker.



## Holley Students Attend Teen Book Festival

by Lisa Osur, MS/HS Library Media Specialist

Twenty-nine Holley students attended the Twelfth Annual Teen Book Festival (TBF) at Nazareth College on May 20. The students wore their red Holley Strong t-shirts and many were covered with author autographs by the end of the day! They attended the Opening Ceremonies and up to four sessions with some of their favorite authors.



Top row, from left, Kira Gantman, Amanda Ryan, Kris Conrad, Dawson Moy, Jazmin Mounts, Jake Greenman, Heather Ramsay, Holley MS/HS Librarian and TBF Committee Member Lisa Osur, Ruth Miller, Autumn Moy, Brian Gay, Yasmin Heldson and Becky Payton. Bottom row, from left, Emma Lavender, Ashanty Gonzalez, Robert Torres, Colin Nix, Rebecca Kinsey, Bryce Baxter, Diana Castillo, Cora Bennage, Kirsstin Althof, Melea Towsley and Spencer Tupis.

## Yearbook Dedications

On June 1, Holley MS/HS students dedicated their yearbooks to two teachers who are passionate about their profession. The Holley Middle School Yearbook was dedicated to Social Studies teacher Nick D'Amuro and the Holley High School Yearbook was dedicated to Spanish teacher Kathy Monks. The teachers were nominated by students in both schools.



## ★ Flag Day Celebration ★

You may have seen a parade of Holley Elementary students and staff dressed in red, white and blue walking through the village on June 14. They were headed to the grounds of the former train depot to celebrate Flag Day for the 60<sup>th</sup> year. The Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Elementary Chorus sang patriotic songs, and the Beginner and Concert Bands played their tributes to the flag. The American Legion Honor Guard ended the ceremony with a gun salute.

Good Citizen Awards were handed out to students at all grade levels. Alumna Nicole Boyle, Class of 2015, announced the Catherine B. Press Award winners, Jaxson Schicker and Caitlin Dobri. Boyle explained the award with the help of her cousin, sixth grader Evan Press; they have a special connection to this award, since Catherine, a Holley graduate and long-time elementary school secretary, was their great-grandmother.

The Elementary Student Council announced the results of their year-long fundraiser for the After School Friends program. They raised \$415.50 through a series of creative fundraisers: a “Kids-terry” to guess when two litters of baby goats would be born and how many would be in each litter, a photo session with baby goat Millie, and an After School Friends Ambassador election. Stella the hedgehog was announced as the winner of the election.

The Flag Day program was a wonderful way for Holley Elementary to show their patriotic pride, which is something that this community holds near and dear to its heart. It was good to see so many retirees in attendance, including former Elementary Teacher Virginia Robb, who has attended almost all of the Flag Day celebrations in the 60 years that the district has been hosting them.



## Art Show Awards

Holley MS/HS students had their artwork on display in the foyer of the high school this spring. Students were recognized in several categories as their artwork included photography, digital art, painting, drawing, mixed media, textiles, sculpture and ceramics. Winners were announced during the MS/HS Concert on May 25. Some of the winners are pictured below and at right.



Anna Adams, best in show



Autumn Moy, painting



Madison Papaj, sculpture



Megan Hatfield, mixed media



Anna Brasted, photography

# Biggest Winner Contest Declares Champion

Lisa Campbell was declared the “Biggest Winner” in Holley’s Biggest Winner Contest that ended on June 6. Campbell, a Holley physical education teacher, lost 13 percent of her body weight since the contest started in November 2016, but gained a new 32-inch Samsung Smart TV for her efforts. Total weight loss for the 25 participants was 83.5 pounds. In the past five years, 228 participants have lost a grand total of 1,224.4 pounds.



Lisa Campbell

This is the fifth time the Holley Central School District hosted the Biggest Winner weight loss challenge, which was open to residents of the community and district employees. Participants met monthly in the elementary school cafeteria to weigh in. Each monthly meeting had a different focus and they included making smoothies with Karen Blank from The Whole Approach, exercising with S & S Fitness and Martial Arts Center, dancing with Holley art teacher Brandi Zavitz, nutrition lessons from Foodlink, and a canning demonstration by Orleans County Cooperative Extension. During these sessions, prizes were raffled off from local businesses, with grand prizes handed out in June. To be eligible for the grand prizes, participants must have missed no more than two meetings and had the greatest percentage of weight lost. The top eight grand prize winners are listed below:

Place	Name	Prize
1	Lisa Campbell	32" Samsung Smart TV
2 (tie)	Amie Callen and Pam Coopenberg	Complimentary stay at the Hampton Inn Brockport (Amie) Rochester Airport Marriott Hotel package (Pam)
3	Hilary Vogt	Dollinger’s Inn & Suites package
4	McKenzie Hill	Wegmans gift card (Brockport)
5 (tie)	Daniel Scroger and NS Mary Jo Smith	Wegmans gift card (Brockport)
6	Alethes Kruger	Wegmans gift card (Brockport)

*In addition to the suppliers of the grand prizes above, other business supporters include: Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Beary Good Friends Catering, Biggest Loser Resort Niagara, Christopher Mitchell Funeral Homes, Inc.; Explore & More Children’s Museum, Foodlink, Heath & Martin, Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum, Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester, Sam’s Diner, Seabreeze Amusement Park, Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park, and Tillman’s Historic Village Inn.*

Campbell’s motivation to participate in the contest was her youngest son’s wedding this summer. She made diet changes this year, including cutting down on carbohydrates, sugar and beef. She stopped eating large meals and ate small meals instead, snacking on fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the day. She followed four guidelines during her weight loss program this year:

- If man makes it (packaged, processed foods), don’t eat it! Eat farm fresh every chance you get!
- If you don’t buy it, you can’t eat it!
- Eat to live, don’t live to eat!
- Someday, the only thing that will really be important is your health!

“I feel great and am thankful for the support of the participants and donations from area businesses,” said Campbell. “I especially appreciate the fine job done by Vickie Scroger, Holley’s Food Services Director, who kept track of weigh-ins and percentages, and assisted with the activities each session.”

“The participants really appreciated Lisa’s efforts to keep this program going the last five years,” said Scroger. Campbell retires from the district this year after 40 years of teaching.

*Monetary donations from sponsors were put towards the television purchase.*

## Children’s Summer Reading Program at Community Free Library

Registration for the Summer Reading Program at the Holley Community Free Library began on June 27. There will be several weekly events scheduled to highlight the program this summer. For more information, call the library at 638-6987.





## PRE-K GRADUATION

A mie Callen and Lori Passarell's Pre-K A.M. class held their graduation ceremony on June 15. Seventeen students performed 15 songs. Congratulations to the Pre-K graduates!



## KINDERGARTEN YEAR-END PROGRAM

Eighty students in Kris D'Angelo's, Meg Schubert's, Leigh Weaver's and Kim Harrington's kindergarten classes participated in a year-end program on June 20. They performed a variety of songs. Good luck in first grade!



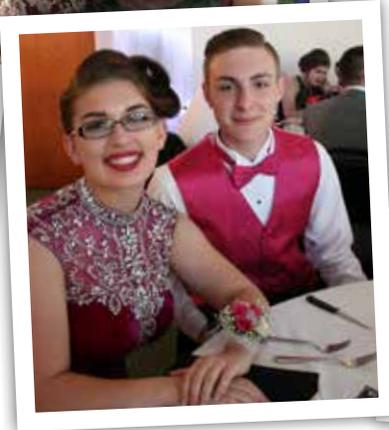
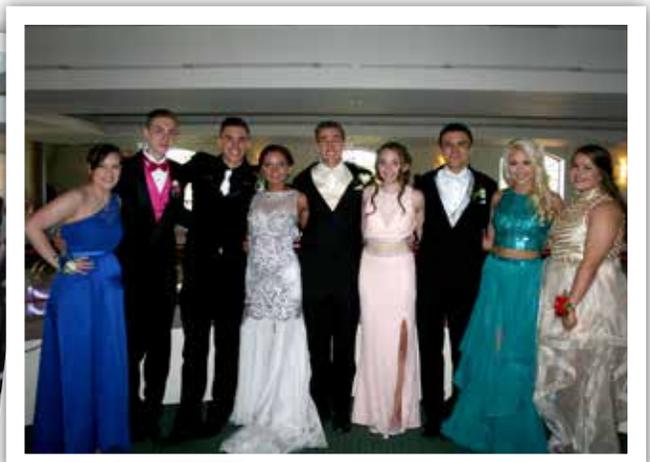
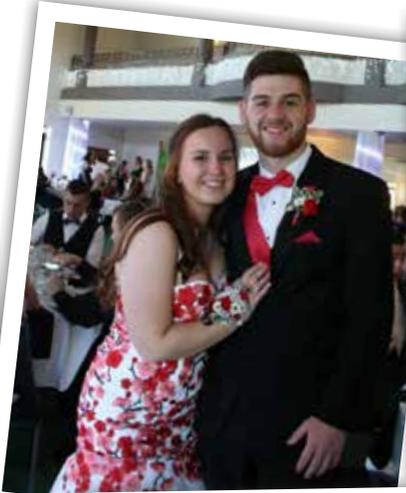
## SIXTH GRADE GRADUATION

Seventy-six sixth graders received certificates of graduation on June 21 as they left their elementary school days behind. They proudly crossed the stage to shake hands with Superintendent Robert D'Angelo and nervously smiled for photos. They also received numerous awards for their involvement in school activities and academic achievements. The students received memory books put together by Principal Karri Schiavone that reflected their years at Holley Elementary. Congratulations to these students and keep an eye on the future Class of 2023!



# Prom 2017

at the Italian American Community Center on June 2



## Senior Breakfast

The parents of the senior class hosted a breakfast for the graduating students on June 23 in the MS/HS Dining Hall. The parents also put together a slideshow of photos of the seniors over the years and gave each of them a travel coffee mug with candy in it. Many of the staff from both the Elementary and Middle/High Schools dined with the students.

Senior athletes received plaques from the Sports Boosters. The senior class gave Senior Advisor Suzanne Lepkowski a bouquet of flowers and thanked her for her support.

Social Studies teacher and Holley alumnae Sheena Hamiter gave a brief speech to the students. She told them that 17 years ago, she was attending her own Senior Breakfast. "I am grateful to you for letting me spend the last two years with you," said Hamiter. "You made me excited to get up every day and be your teacher. This is an impressive, exceptional group of students. I am impressed with how much you care. You care about each other; you cared about the work we did together and the discussions we had. Keep caring about others around you. Don't wonder if you've made a difference in this world – you've already done it. Just remember, everyone is better than you at something. Be inspired by those that are better than you; learn something from them." Hamiter ended her speech by performing her "China Rap" one last time at the seniors' request.



## Unified Basketball Has Another Successful Season

by Dan Courtney, Athletic Director

This spring, Holley Unified Basketball finished their second successful season. With the help of Holley students, faculty and staff, we were able to create the same or better atmosphere you'd get in our gym during the winter.



The Unified Sports model pairs athletes with developmental disabilities on the court with partners, who are players without special needs. This model creates opportunities for students to be involved who may not have been included before. At Holley, these opportunities include team t-shirts and uniforms, announcements over the PA, Twitter updates, bus trips, screaming fans and camaraderie.

## Girls On The Run Begins Again This Fall

The annual Girls On The Run (GOTR) program will begin again at Holley Elementary this September for female students in grades 3-6. Advisors Lynn Vendetti and Hannah Bock will be coaching the team once again. Registration information will be available this fall. For more information on the program, visit [www.gotrbuffalo.org](http://www.gotrbuffalo.org).



# Chef Once Again Schools Students in the Power of Food

Dr. Robert Dell'Amore returned to Holley schools to teach students cooking techniques and nutrition tips. He last visited the district two years ago, and many students remembered his previous lessons about how to flavor their food without using salt and preservatives. He engaged students during his cooking sessions by asking them questions and demonstrating various cutting and cooking techniques. He made taco-less tacos, three-bean salad and a simple salad dressing. Students had a chance to sample these dishes at the end of each lesson, which was held during their regularly scheduled physical education (PE) classes. Most students found that they enjoyed trying the new foods incorporated into these dishes.

Students learned that "more color, more health" means that by incorporating a variety of fruits and vegetables in different colors to their meals, they gain more vitamins and minerals than if they selected just a few options. Dell'Amore showed students how to use various tools in the kitchen to cook foods properly. He used tongs to squeeze all the juice and pulp out of a lemon. After cooking vegetables in a fry pan half-way, he showed students that by turning off the heat and covering the dish, the food will steam and complete cooking on its own without losing crispness. Dell'Amore demonstrated that by caramelizing an onion in a fry pan for 10 minutes, it brings the level of nutrition in the onion up from a 3 or 4 in raw form to a 10 in cooked form. He doesn't add sugar or salt to his meals, but chooses to add other seasonings, like cumin, garlic or lemon, to bring out a dish's flavor. He suggested students use balsamic vinegar instead of soy sauce to cook vegetables in a stir fry.

Dell'Amore's visit to Holley consisted of two days each spent in the Elementary School and MS/HS PE classes, and a community cooking and sampling session in the evening. He said making the learning fun and providing tasting opportunities are key ingredients. "With great programming (such as the hands-on cooking demonstrations he offers), you can change behavior,"

Dell'Amore said. "This is an opportunity for students to come in with one perception of healthy food and leave with another, such as 'I tried kidney beans, and they were pretty good.'" The goal of Dell'Amore's sessions was to show families that making healthy food together is a chance to connect and talk about their day while creating a meal together. His demonstrations showed students how they can select and prepare healthy food while experimenting with different ingredients and seasonings until they arrive at a dish that the whole family enjoys. By providing students with the nutrition information, cooking tools and techniques, and a hands-on way to engage their senses of sight, smell and taste, he gave the students the confidence to bring the lessons and recipes home to replicate the same success of incorporating more vegetables into their family meals.



# Third Graders Spend the Day Down on the Farm

by Loretta Giarrizzo, Third Grade Teacher

Third grade students took a field trip to Lamb's Dairy Farm in Oakfield, NY, on June 13. Students learned about cows and how a dairy farm operates as they traveled through many different stations. The field trip was free of charge and students left with a wealth of knowledge about life on a farm.



Kendra Lamb, wife of one of the owners, greeted students as they arrived. She explained that the farm was founded in 1966 with 110 cows. The Lamb family has been operating the farm for over 50 years. At the home site in Oakfield, they house 2,400 cows. They have a rotating milking parlor that can milk 60 cows at one time. With the additions of land and farms throughout the years, they have over 7,000 cows that they care for. All of their milk goes to Upstate Farms for production and distribution.

In the cow barn, students learned about what cows need to produce the ultimate amount of milk. They were shown what cows eat and drink. They also learned about the cow's unique stomach that houses four chambers. Next, students visited the milking parlor, where they watched the rotating milking parlor in action. They learned how much milk each cow makes in a day.

At the vet truck, students heard about the vet's role on a dairy farm. They learned how a vet helps deliver calves and cares for sick cows. They held many instruments that a vet uses. Students then interacted with two newborn calves. One was named "Holly" because we came to visit from Holley Schools. Students petted the calves and watched them get fed. Some students even let the calves suck on their fingers!

At the tractor station, students learned about the crops that the farm grows and how different tractors are used for various jobs.

After rotating through each station, students posed for pictures by the giant cow head and

enjoyed their lunches on the lawn. Kendra Lamb provided us with free milk and ice cream.

This was a wonderful day full of learning, and everyone truly enjoyed this experience. The staff at this farm were exceptional and very helpful! This was a great opportunity for students to share in their knowledge of the dairy farm process.



## Soaring Awards

The Class of 2017 Valedictorian Anna Brasted and Salutatorian Jesse Beach received the “Soaring to New Heights”

awards at the Holley Board of Education (BOE) meeting on June 19. This award is given monthly to deserving students and adults who go above and beyond expectations, and lend their skills and abilities to



*From left, Valedictorian Anna Brasted, Principal Susan Cory and Salutatorian Jesse Beach.*

help others. Brasted and Beach received the Soaring awards from MS/HS Principal Susan Cory for their high academic achievements. “They have the highest averages we have ever seen at Holley,” said Cory.

Also at the June 19 BOE meeting, Holley math teacher Russ Albright and technology teacher Tim Rogers, along with Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES STEM Coach Leslie Tanner, received the Soaring awards from BOE President Brenda Swanger. The team of three educators created the Geometry in Construction class at Holley MS/HS this year, which resulted in students constructing a shelter for homeless



*From left, Russ Albright, Leslie Tanner and Tim Rogers.*

men at Second Wind Cottages in Ithaca, NY. Swanger said this team received the award because they created a way for students to better understand geometry

through hands-on learning and practical application. “I know everyone wondered if this new class would be successful,” said Swanger. “Would students like it and learn from it? The results far exceeded our expectations. This team enjoyed teaching the class, the students enjoyed taking the class and seeing improvement in their math skills, and everyone enjoyed being able to help someone else. What a great step forward for our program! I hope other teachers are inspired by this to create something new with their classes.”

## Retirees Honored at Board Meeting

On June 19, six Holley faculty members were honored at the monthly Board of Education meeting for their collective 176 years spent working in education. Pictured, from left, elementary art teacher Mimi Reyngoudt, MS/HS physical education teacher John Grillo, MS/HS math teacher Patti Gauer, elementary physical education teacher Lisa Campbell, and elementary teachers BethAnn Sanford and Lynn Vendetti retired in June. Congratulations on your retirement!



## Summer Access to Holley Elementary School

The Elementary School (ES) will not be accessible this summer while the Capital Project Phase III construction work is being done. This includes the Family Fitness Center and Elementary Playground. The ES Main Office will be relocated to the Middle School/High School Main Office area for the summer. Both offices will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily.

The free summer breakfast and lunch program for students and district residents will be held in the MS/HS Dining Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact the ES Main Office at 638-6318, extension 2400.



**Superintendent of Schools**

Robert C. D'Angelo

**Board of Education**

Brenda Swanger, *President*

Robin Silvis, *Vice President*

John Heise

Melissa Ierlan

Andrea Newman

Mark Porter

Anne Winkley

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## District Calendar

The Board of Education approved the following dates for the 2017-18 school year:

**School Opens** – Sept. 6

**Half Day for Staff Development** – Oct. 6

**Columbus Day** – No School Oct. 9

**Staff Development** – No School for Students Nov. 7

**Veterans Day** – No School Nov. 10

**Thanksgiving Recess** – No School Nov. 22-24

**Half Day for Staff Development** – Dec. 1

**Holiday Recess** – No School Dec. 25-Jan. 1

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day observed** – No School Jan. 15

**Midterm & Regents exams (all students report)** – Jan. 22-25

**Half Day for Staff Development** – Jan. 26

**Mid-Winter Recess** – No School Feb. 19-23

**Half Day for Staff Development** – March 16

**Spring Recess** – No School March 30-April 6

**Staff Development** – No School for Students April 27

**Half Day for Elementary Students** – May 23

**Memorial Day** – No School May 28

**Half Days for Elementary Students** – June 1, 8

**Regents exams** – June 5, 12-21

**Last day of school for students** – June 21

**Regents rating day/last day for teachers** – June 22

**High School Graduation** – June 23