

The Pillars of Success Academics, Athletics, the Arts and Altruism

## **POINTS OF PRIDE**

# September/October 2016

## **Academics**

- Maximilian Bazil and Claire Kelly, Advanced Science Research students at Kennedy, have been selected as recipients of the 2016 Child Mind Institute Rising Scientist Award. Seniors Max and Claire received this honor in recognition of their achievement in science courses, commitment to addressing advanced scientific questions, and leadership in the classroom and in extracurricular activities. As Rising Scientists, they will each receive an award certificate and a \$1,000 scholarship for college expenses.
- **Kennedy** science student **Perri Zilberman** has been named a semifinalist in the 2016 Siemens Competition. Only 498 students nationwide received this recognition.
- **Hadi Aziz**, a **Calhoun** senior, had the unique opportunity to participate in a summer science research program while at the same time attending college-level physics classes at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Aziz was the first high school student admitted to work at one of the prestigious labs at the Dana Farber Cancer Research Center associated with Harvard Medical School.
- Alaina Anderson of Calhoun, Maximilian Bazil of Kennedy and Rachel Jozwick of Mepham have been named semifinalists in the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Eleven students from the district have been named Commended Students in the 2016 National
  Merit Scholarship Program. From Calhoun High School: David Bekore, Matthew Garber, Julia
  Losner and Rebecca Unz. From Kennedy High School: Ruth Bergman, Chloe Davis, Rebecca
  Stekol and Alixandra Wilens. From Mepham High School: Rachel Jozwik, Christopher Rosenthal
  and Zachary Weiss.
- **Gregg Zogby** and **Nicole Tschan** are once again being recognized for their outstanding work in preparing Mepham students for the financial literacy exam. W!SE Financial will honor both teachers next month as Gold Star Educators.

## **Athletics**

- The **Mepham boys cross-country** team has a 5-2 conference record. They placed sixth out of 20 teams at the McDaniel-Baxter Pre-State Invitational and finished second out of 23 teams at the St. Anthony's Invitational.
- The **Mepham girls cross-country** team has a 5-2 conference record. They placed 11th out of 18 teams at the McDaniel-Baxter Pre-State Invitational and finished 13th out of 26 teams at the St. Anthony's Invitational.



- The **Mepham girls varsity tennis** team has had an unbelievably successful season. With a roster of 12 girls, each athlete played an integral part in the team's success. Senior **Emily Garone** holds an 11-2 record at third singles and has helped secure the win at many of their matches this year.
- **Kennedy** recently hosted a Bellmore-Merrick girls volleyball friendship tournament with **Mepham** and **Calhoun** high schools.
- The Kennedy boys volleyball team won an incredible match against West Hempstead on Oct. 13, capturing the No. 1 seed in Class B.
  Some of the Bellmore-Merrick Lady Sharks secured state qualifying times; Kirsten Giovanniello, Liz Walsh, Stephanie Walsh, Hazel Wilkins, Georgeanne Zimmerman, and Marley Zimmerman.
- The **Kennedy boys cross-country** team is presently ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in the county; the **girls** team is ranked 10<sup>th</sup>.
- **Sean Arresto** has been named the new head wrestling coach at **Mepham** High School.
- **Cameron Levy** of **Kennedy** won the bronze medal at the recent USA North American Cup Cadet Men's (under 17) Foil event. There were 174 fencers in the event, which featured the best cadets in the country.

## Arts

- **Immanuel Mellis** of **Mepham** was recognized for being named a 2016 Young Composer by the New York State School Music Association.
- Alaina Anderson, Julia Losner and Logan Strobing of Calhoun and Skylar Berkley and John Duroseau of Kennedy were selected for All–State by NYSSMA.
- Samantha Adams and Emily Herrera of Kennedy and John Beck, Ryan Flash, Sarah Kaplan and Logan Strobing of Calhoun were named All-State alternates by NYSSMA.
- Calhoun's On Tour Program put on a production of "Romeo and Juliet" in late October/early November.

#### Altruism

- In mid-September, seventh-graders from **Merrick Avenue Middle School** hosted Cup for a Cure to benefit the district's Relay for Life event, which is held annually in the spring. The car wash fundraiser was held at Applebee's in Bellmore and raised approximately \$400.
- **Mepham's Leo Club**, the first-ever in the district, inducted more than 50 members into their group. The club was later recognized by the district Lion's Club and its officers were honored.
- **Mepham's Leo Club** and **H4H members** volunteered at the Bethany House to work with underprivileged mothers and children.
- **Mepham's student government** partnered with the Family Service League and collected Halloween costume donations to help less fortunate families in the community.
- **Mepham's A World of Difference Club** hosted Matthew Shepard Day to raise awareness and replace hate with understanding, compassion and acceptance.
- **Calhoun's student government** hosted their annual Costumes for a Cause fundraiser to raise money for Music Never Stops: The Tyler Seaman Foundation.
- On Oct. 16, the Cougar football family took part in the annual American Cancer Society Making



Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K at Jones Beach. More than 100 **Kennedy** High School football players, coaches and family members joined tens of thousands of other Long Islanders in this annual non-competitive, inspirational event that raised money and awareness in the fight against breast cancer. The Cougars raised more than \$1,500 to be donated to the cause.

- On Oct. 10, **Kennedy** held their kickoff event, a golf outing at Pine Ridge, for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The event raised more than \$9,000 for student scholarships. Appreciation is extended to Assistant Principal **Jon LaRochester** and the planning committee who worked so hard to organize the outing.
- **Kennedy's kickline team** and **Coach Schiavetta** participated in an assembly at Lakeside Levy Elementary School in Merrick that culminated Lakeside's Pick a Reading Partner program.
- The **Kennedy junior class** held a Flapjack Fundraiser on Oct. 16 at Applebee's to help the family of Jake Lonigro, a 12-year-old from Merrick who is fighting a rare form of cancer. They raised nearly \$1,500.
- **Calhoun's On Tour Program** volunteered at a Halloween party for local children held at the school on Oct. 29.
- **Mepham** senior **Thana Theodule** is coordinating a collection for the victims in Haiti who were affected by the devastation of Hurricane Matthew. Donation bins are established in the main office.
- **The Senior Government classes** at **Kennedy** are working to "Adopt a Battalion" as part of their community service hours, collecting toiletries and candy for troops overseas.
- The student council and Builders Club of **Merrick Avenue Middle School** coordinated their efforts to sell pink bagels on the morning of Oct. 26 to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. More than 200 pink bagels were sold and approximately \$400 was raised for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.