



# Greene Central School

# NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXIII, Number 4

May/June 2013

## Class of 2013 Students Proudly Honored

Greene Central High School proudly announces its Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Superintendent's Award recipient for the graduating Class of 2013. It is with great pleasure that the High School recognizes **Emma Margaret Anderson** as its Valedictorian, **Emily Mary Conroe** as its Salutatorian, and **Catherine Jean Grace McCloud** as its Superintendent's Award recipient for the 2013 senior class.



### VALEDICTORIAN

**Emma Margaret Anderson**, daughter of Mitchell and Christine Anderson, is the Valedictorian of the Class of 2013. Emma has taken part in various activities in and out of school throughout her high school career. She has been a member of Student Council for four years, Interact Club for three years, and National Honor Society for two years. She has served as the Treasurer of the Class of 2013 for four years as well as the Treasurer of National Honor Society her senior year. Emma has been awarded the Rensselaer Medal and Scholarship, the American Chemical Society Award, Faculty Key Awards for both Earth Science and Drafting, and MAC Top Scholar Athlete Awards for both Varsity Field Hockey and Track. She was also selected to participate in the Girls' Leadership Conference as well as SADD's White Face Day and Mock Car Crash. Emma has been on the Varsity field hockey team for four years and has been a member of two state championship title-winning teams. She has received several athletic awards including being a two-time Harrow All American Nominee, the 2012 Greene Field Hockey Defensive Player of the Year, selected twice to the NY State Field Hockey Tournament All-Tournament Team, and selected once to the National Field Hockey Coaches Association High School All-Region Team. She has also been a member of Varsity track for four years and has been named Most Valuable Runner twice. Outside of school, Emma has participated in dance for fourteen years, club field hockey with BCFHC Storm for four years, and the USA Field Hockey Futures program for six years from which she was selected to participate in the National Futures Tournament and Junior Olympics. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and kayaking. Emma will be attending Hamilton College in the fall where she plans on majoring in Biochemistry and participating in field hockey.



### SALUTATORIAN

**Emily Mary Conroe**, daughter of Thomas Conroe and Mary Klecha Conroe, is the Salutatorian of the Class of 2013. Emily has participated in clubs and sports throughout her high school career. She has been involved in the National Honor Society for two years, and was Vice President this year. She has

played field hockey for five years, and served as team captain for two years. She also played one year of basketball, and three years of track and field throughout high school. Emily attended the Girls' Leadership Day to Albany during her junior year, and has been awarded Scholar/Athlete for basketball and field hockey. Emily was selected as a member of the National Academic Squad and third team All-American for field hockey. Outside of school she enjoys playing field hockey, lacrosse, fishing, and working on the family farm. Emily plans on attending Wake Forest University in the fall playing field hockey with her sister Christine Conroe and pursue a Bachelor's Degree.



### SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENT

**Katie Jean Grace McCloud**, daughter of Michael Huff and Heather McCloud Huff, is the Superintendent's Award recipient for the Class of 2013. Katie has been actively involved in many clubs in high school, as well as soccer all four years. Her senior year she was chosen as team Captain by her team mates. She is currently President of Student Council and President of National Honor Society. Katie a member and Secretary of the Envirothon Club, and her team attended states last year after coming in first at regionals. Katie has been awarded many honors, such as Student of the Semester, Faculty Key Award for Mechanical Drawing, and St. Michael's Book Award. She will attend Brigham Young University this fall and plans on double majoring in Political Science and Archaeology. After two semesters, Katie will take a break from school and serve an 18 month mission for her church.

Congratulations to Emma, Emily, and Katie. We salute your achievements.

# Superintendent's Message

The 2012-2013 school year will forever carry unique and poignant memories for each of us. As a nation, we were confronted with a series of storms that we are still recovering from. We saw some of the worst in man through the tragedies in Connecticut and the Boston bombings. New York State continues to struggle through difficult fiscal times that increasingly impact the education we are able to provide our children. In this environment, our students, administrators, faculty and staff have had to respond to a myriad of change, new demands and greater accountability than ever. Thankfully our memories of this year are not limited to just the challenges we face.

As an educator, I have been fortunate to have many opportunities to experience much of what is best in our world. I am surrounded by adults that care deeply about children and who are committed to making a difference in their lives. Day in and day out I see countless examples of these people reaching out, putting in extra hours and giving so much of themselves to make a difference in the life of one child. Our school, together with parents, families and the greater Greene community has created a unique and caring climate that is marked by a shared purpose and a history of achievement both in and out of the classroom.

The 2012-2013 school year has seen considerable changes in our instructional practice in response to the move to the Common Core Learning Standards. This shift has necessitated changes in the literature we use, the content and skills we teach, and how we assess our students. The new teacher and principal evaluation system has pushed us in ways we have not seen before. We all continue to learn and strengthen our use of the new technology we find in our classrooms and wrestle with the changing technological needs our children face in the 21st Century.

District-wide, we have implemented the OLWEUS Anti-bullying Program and continue to refine our efforts to ensure that we provide a safe and respectful school environment. On the athletic field, our student athletes continue to excel while representing Greene with integrity and class. At the same time our students' participation in clubs and activities provide wonderful opportunities and their efforts affect many others in our community in positive ways. In the classroom, Greene students, once again, perform at high levels and we continue to be recognized for our academic accomplishments.

We are surrounded by so much that is good and taking a moment to pause, reflect and recognize this is important. We have much to be proud of for what has been another successful school year.

Congratulations and best wishes to our retirees this year. Thank you for your service to Greene and I wish you the best as you start this next phase in your lives. I would also like to thank Chris Cox for his 12 years of service to Greene as a member of the Board of Education. Your years of service, leadership on the Board and your commitment to this district have had a significant impact on Greene CSD, the students and families we serve.

## **2013 RETIREES**

Bob Frank—30 years

Bobbi Jones—24 years

Mary Lake—26 years

Darlene Peterson—10 years

Sue Silvernail—27 years

Carole Stanbro—18 years

Janet Welch—17 years

I want to conclude by offering my congratulations and best wishes to the class of 2013. I am very proud of all that you have accomplished and I am confident that you have been well prepared to embark on the next phase in your lives. As you move forward, be confident in your abilities, dream big and always know that you have a Greene CSD and the Greene community behind you.

— Mr. Retz, Superintendent

# Students of the Month

## Intermediate School Special Area Student's of the Month for January



**ART**—Sarah Sexton, Jarrett Ludolph, Dustin Markham, Shaylee VanVorce, Shelby Holt

**MUSIC**—Dalton Krupp, Shelby Holt, Jenna Keathly

**COMPUTER**—Ryley Taft, Ethan Ketzak, Saige Griffin

**READING & MATH**—Jacob Titus, Jarrett Ludolph, Olivia Sullivan, Jesse Ledford

**CHORUS**—Mackenzi Puglisi

**LIBRARY**—Brei Wells

**BAND**—Nathan Gabriel

**GIRLS' PE**—Skyler Nowalk, Jessica Unkel, Brooke Austin

**BOYS' PE**—Jacob Titus, Trent deHaan, Nate Hurlburt

## January Student Citizens of the Month

### GRADE 3



Sean O'Donnell—Mrs. Whittaker  
T.J. Wiggins—Mrs. Russ  
Olivia Kennedy—Mrs. Erickson

### GRADE 4



Leah Decker—Ms. Hunter  
Austin Quillan—Mr. Komperda  
Shelby Holt—Mrs. Novitsky  
Gabe Blasko—Ms. Sanderson

### GRADE 5



Alex Trifunovic—Mrs. Beach  
Brianna Austin—Mrs. Giannetto  
Absent: Madeleine Doll—  
Mrs. McDermott

## April Student Citizens of the Month

### GRADE 3



Geoffrey Walker—Mrs. Erickson  
Ryley Taft—Mrs. Russ  
David Hughes—Mrs. Whittaker

### GRADE 4



Ayden Doolittle—Ms. Hunter  
Gage Parrish—Mr. Komperda  
Luke DeJager—Mrs. Novitsky  
Jenna LaPorte—Ms. Sanderson  
Arthur Shaffer—Mr. Evans

### GRADE 5



Callie Page—Mrs. Beach  
Absent: Adrienne Button—  
Mrs. Giannetto  
Conner Grant—Mrs. McDermott

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## Physics Day at the Primary School

On Thursday, May 2, the TC3 Physics students traveled to the Primary building to teach science lessons to the 2nd grade students. The TC3 Physics students developed a 20 minute science hands-on lesson aimed at getting the 2nd grade students excited about science. Each 2nd grade class was divided into three groups. The groups then rotated to each TC3 Physics student station consisting of three seniors that taught an engaging lesson in science. Watching each of the seniors present, you could see that they had the attention

of each 2nd grader in the group. This event helps to recognize that teaching is a learning process. The seniors had to prepare for the lesson and in doing so had to learn a lot about the topic they were teaching. Therefore by doing this project the seniors are in fact learning as well as the younger 2nd grade students. The younger 2nd grade students look up to and respect the seniors which aids in the attention that the 2nd graders give to the seniors during the lessons.

—*Ethan Leet*, Physics Teacher



*Senior Beth Ann tickles the nose of second grader Emma with a tuning fork showing that sound is a vibration.*



*Chris demonstrated conservation of momentum.*



*Chris and Garret have the students build simple electrical circuits.*

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## Beekeeper Visit!

Babbett Lehmer is a beekeeper in our local community. The new Common Core Standards for second grade English Language Arts includes a unit on insects, and a focus on honeybees. She volunteered her time and resources in May to teach us even more about honeybees and beekeeping. Mrs. Lehmer shared her equipment and hive boxes to demonstrate their purpose and importance. She demonstrated how she collects honey from the hives and why her clothing is important to protect her as the beekeeper! We learned about the importance of honeybees and the goods they produce such as honey, beeswax, pollen, and royal jelly. Second grade was all *abuzz* at being able to connect knowledge from our classrooms to her visit for a richer learning experience!



# Primary School Health Fair

The 2013 Health Fair was a great success. K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students enjoyed a day of Health Education that included Stranger Danger with Officer Brown.

—Mr. Starliper



*Nutrition with Pat Mizerak*



*Water Safety with our own Mr. Platta*



*Heart Health with Jump Rope For Heart's Meg Gibbons*



*Fire safety with Officer Dan Montgomery and friends*



*3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students enjoyed a presentation of Outdoor Safety and Tick Awareness by Ms. Schindler's Science students-Kelsey Reagan, Diana Myers, Katie McCloud, Seranda Barton, Daniel Treadwell, and Kurt Bartholomew*



*Nutrition by Smart Health's Neisa Pantalia*



*Good Hygiene by Mrs. Williams Health students Margo McDermott and Allison Stanton*



*Self Defense by Lieutenant Bay of the NYS University Police Department*



*And finally, Germ Prevention with Mr. Paske's Health students Megan Brown and Catherine Reichert*



*The students learned a lot about how to keep their bodies healthy and safe!*

## Raymond® Sponsors Stem Event for Greene Central HS Students



*Dan, Chris, and Andy listen to Raymond Engineer John explaining the development of forklift components.*

The Raymond Corporation recently hosted the 12th grade physics students from the High School to provide education on careers in the manufacturing industry and a look at the engineering behind Raymond® lift trucks. In alignment with the objectives of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education Coalition council for Chenango, Delaware and Otsego counties, the Wednesday, May 8 event provided students with the opportunity to get a detailed look at STEM-related careers at Raymond.

The idea of the event started with Stephen Bentley, a Manager in Manufacturing Engineering at Raymond®. At the High School Open House, Mr. Bentley approached

Greene’s High School Physics teacher Mr. Ethan Leet. Mr. Leet created the layout for the event and wanted the event to stress and highlight STEM careers. Students are unaware of the type of education path that may need to achieve a career at a company like Raymond®. Mr. Bentley took the layout and created a team at Raymond® that put together the parts of the tour.

During the visit, students were placed into three small groups to participate in the activities. Students toured the testing lab where Physics is applied to testing the lift trucks. “I really loved this part of the tour.” —Mr. Leet. The students also toured the engineering department to see how an idea and design come to life in the real world. Students toured the business and marketing departments to see how media and finances are conducted for advertising, pricing, and selling lift trucks.

“We are so grateful to have Raymond® as a resource right here in our own backyard—helping introduce students to excellent opportunities for their future.” —Mr. Leet. Through the Raymond-Greene Central High School STEM project, high school students will visit Raymond® each year to foster interest in the wide range of careers in the STEM industry.

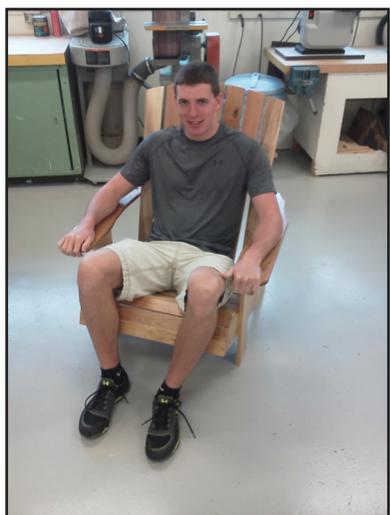
Thank you to the Raymond® team for thinking of such a great opportunity for our students and committing the effort to make it a success. And of course, thank you to all the members of the GCS team who helped plan, support, and chaperone this great activity.

—Ethan Leet, Physics Teacher



### Manufacturing Class

*Trevor Flohr, a student in Mr. Stanbro’s 12th Grade Manufacturing Class, made this beautiful maple and cherry Adirondack Chair. Nice job, Trevor!*



## Greene Trobats Compete in Robotic Competition



*Mike and Garret use remote control to have the robot complete tasks at the event.*

This year the Greene Trobats built three robots which were entered into the Broome Community College (BCC) Robotic Challenge held on Monday, April 30 at BCC Engineering Atrium. The competition grows each year with more and more schools participating. This year at the competition we had 16 robot teams entered from 10 surrounding schools.

The Greene Trobats took 4th place in the Lego® Class automated robot event. The automated challenge had changed a lot from last year's placement of soda cans. This year the

event was task based. You were awarded 25 points for each task completed. There were four tasks for a total of 100 points possible. We missed one task giving us a total of 75 points placing us third. The last team to run their robot also only completed three tasks, yet, they completed those tasks 10 seconds faster. We lost the podium by 10 seconds. The competition is getting tighter each year.

The team's coach is Ethan Leet Physics teacher at GCS. This year's team members were **Wyatt Silvernail, Orion Bryan, Mike Sandway, Zach Sorensen, and Garret Hebbard**. Wyatt and Mike built robots that were remote control and competed in the head to head bracket race. Both Mike and Wyatt made it to the second round of brackets before being knocked out. Garret, Zach and Orion programmed and built the automated robot that made 4th place in the event. All members worked as a team to create three outstanding robots.

—Ethan Leet, Physics Teacher



Greene Trojan Robotics



## Red Cross Recognizes Greene HS

Greene High School was recently presented a plaque by the American Red Cross recognizing GCS for 20 consecutive years holding blood drives. Greene and Cortland are the only two schools in the region to achieve this remarkable milestone. Interact and Honor Society members posed for pictures with administration and faculty for this event.

—Mr. Butler



## GCS National Honor Society Inducts New Members



*Students pictured are: (back) Michael Anderson, Matthew Bonney, Karl Zaengle, Kyra Yanusas, Adrienne Trass (front) Julia Amell, Maura Deering, Julia-Beth Taft, Laura Durdon.*

The Greene Chapter of the National Honor Society would like to announce their 2013 inductees: **Michael Anderson, Julia Amell, Matthew Bonney, Maura Deering, Laura Durdon, Adrienne Trass, Kyra Yanusas, and Karl Zaengle.** In a ceremony held on May 1, in the High School auditorium, these students joined current NHS students with a pledge to be models for the entire student body through leadership, scholarship, character, and service. Service to the school and community is an essential aspect of the National Honor Society. Each year we conduct a blood drive and, in addition, every member must complete at least 20 hours of volunteer service throughout the school year. Congratulations to all of our new members!

## National Kick Butts Day

On March 20 the 7th grade health students listened to a guest speaker from the Chenango Health Network (James Mutabiilwa, Tobacco Free Coordinator) discuss the harmful effects of tobacco marketing on children. “Research shows that kids who shop at stores with tobacco marketing two or more times a week are 64% more likely to start smoking than their peers who don’t.”

*Henrikson, Schleicher, Feighery and Fortmann, Pediatrics: The Official Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, July 19, 2010. DOI: 10.1542/peds.2009.3021*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING TOBACCO STATISTICS, QUITTING SMOKING, ETC., CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING SITES**

[www.tobaccofreechenango.org](http://www.tobaccofreechenango.org)

[www.TobaccofreeNYS.org](http://www.TobaccofreeNYS.org)

—Mrs. Paske



## Clothing Drive

Greene High School students held a clothing drive to benefit the Greene Clothing Bank.

# Thank you!

*Mr. Walters, Middle/High School principal, members of the Greene High School Interact Club, and Mr. Butler, Interact Club advisor.*

# 2013 Prom Court



*Left to right: Michael Beckwith and Margaret Cass (senior prince and princess); Gabriella Sherwood and Joseph Cronin (Prom Queen and King); and Joseph Beckwith and Jenna Taylor (junior prince and princess).*

# Understanding Common Core State Standards

Created by Oswego BOCES

Increasing the rigor and relevance of today's curriculum to prepare students for their future, not ours.

## Common Core Terminology:

**Shift** - A change in how teachers teach and how students learn

**Text** - Any written work

**Non-fiction** - Texts about real-life events or facts

**Evidence** - Bits of proof from the text

**Judgment** - A student's conclusion about what they have read

**Speed and Accuracy** - How quickly a student can solve math problems correctly

## Q: What are the Common Core State Standards?

**A:** The Common Core State Standards create clear expectations for what students in Pre-K through 12th grade should be able to do in reading, writing, speaking and listening, language and mathematics. The standards will help all students across the State learn the same skills to ensure they are prepared for college and careers following graduation. The standards include changes, or "shifts," in how teachers teach to help children succeed in the topics and skills that matter most.

## Q: What's shifting? What are the changes?

**A:** The Common Core State Standards ask teachers to make 12 major "shifts" or (changes) in their classrooms - six shifts in English Language Arts (ELA) and six shifts in Mathematics.

### ELA

- Read more non-fiction
- Learn about the world through reading
- Read more challenging material
- Talk about reading using "evidence"
- Learn how to write from what is read
- Know more vocabulary words

### Math

- Build on learning year after year
- Spend more time on fewer concepts
- Use math facts easily
- Develop speed and accuracy in solving problems
- Really know it, really do it
- Use math in real-world situations

Parents across New York want to know more about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). CCSS is a nationwide initiative that allows states to share a common definition of readiness at each grade level. If students are to graduate high school fully prepared, they must meet the benchmarks set by the Common Core - at every grade and in every classroom. Here, you will find information and some frequently asked questions and answers about the standards and ways that your child's classroom is changing.

For more information and resources on what you can do to help your child adjust to these higher expectations, contact your child's classroom teacher, school principal or visit:

[EngageNY.org](http://EngageNY.org)

# Common Core and Our Children's Test Scores

Increasing the rigor and relevance of today's curriculum to prepare students for their future, not ours.

## ELA and Math Assessment Changes:

**Increases in Rigor**  
Questions will be more advanced and complex

**Focus on Text**  
Students will be required to read, analyze passages, and answer questions with evidence gathered from the text

**Depth of Math**  
Students will demonstrate a conceptual understanding of real-world math

## Q. Why do we need state assessments?

**A.** Assessment tests do not measure the worth and intelligence of our children, but are an important tool for improving student achievement. The new tests will help principals and teachers identify those students who might need extra support to successfully move on to the next grade level.

## Q. Will these new tests be harder?

**A.** At first, the new tests may seem more difficult. This is normal. The new tests will be based on the "shifts" in the Common Core State Standards.

## Q. Will student test scores drop?

**A.** The number of students that score at or above grade level will likely decrease. This decrease should not necessarily be interpreted as a decline in student learning or a decline in teacher performance. These new assessments will provide a more realistic picture of where students are on their path to being well prepared for the world that awaits them after they graduate from high school.

The 2013 grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA) and Math assessments are best thought of as a new assessment. New York State, for the first time, will be reporting student grade-level expectations against a trajectory of college- and career-readiness reflective of the Common Core State Standards.

For more information and resources on what you can do to help your child adjust to these higher expectations, contact your child's classroom teacher, school principal or visit:

[EngageNY.org](http://EngageNY.org)

Understanding Common Core State Standards

See other side



## TV Turnoff Week Celebration Family Fun Nights Enjoyed by All

The Greene Central School Wellness Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the National TV Turn off Week Family Fun Nights. On the evenings of April 25-26, students enjoyed art projects, swimming, basketball, volleyball, tag games, a bounce house, health education, and healthy snacks. Over the two days more than 600 of the student body K-6th and their families turned off their screens at home and engaged in some healthy fun. Thanks to Chenango Health Network's Tina Utley Edwards and Margaret Newell, as well as, John Carlin and Greene Community Services for providing donations to fund the snacks, prizes, and bounce house. Other donator's were Raymond Corporation®, Labor Day Picnic committee, PTO, and local Walmarts. Overall, 20 families won a raffle prize with two students going home with a brand new bike.

The Wellness Committee would like to thank the following individuals who made both evenings possible: The coordinator Ryan Starliper; GCS Phys. Ed. teachers Sue Carlin, Brent Kim, Sue Silvernail, Tim Paske and Sunnie Williams for their expertise and enthusiasm. Matt Butler's Interact Club for managing the creation station and assisting with the games. Thank you to Mike Platta and the student lifeguards for keeping the pool safe and fun as well as Michelle Marker and Lisa Unkle for organizing the PTO volunteers each night. And finally, Brandy Stone and her students for organizing the face painting station. This event could not be possible without all your help. The students are looking forward to next year's event.



*4th grade student  
Quintin Pezzino  
with one of the  
winning bikes.*



*2nd grade student  
Paul Starliper  
showing off his fun  
face paint creation.*

## 2016 Fundraiser

### THE CLASS OF 2016 IS SELLING A LIMITED NUMBER OF GOLF UMBRELLAS AND STADIUM BLANKETS!

- A great nylon golf umbrella, hunter green with white Greene Trojans imprint.
- A stadium blanket in cozy, warm fleece with nylon backing to keep you dry. It comes in a nylon carrying bag with zipper and handle. The carrying case is gray with green Trojan imprint.

Please contact a local ninth grader or Jessica St. Germain in the High School Guidance Office.

## Facility Use Requests

### MAKING THE PROCESS EASIER, FASTER, AND WORK FOR YOU!

Starting September 1, the facility use request process will be online and accessible from the Greene CSD web site. We will be using **FSDirect, an online facility usage scheduling tool for managing educational facility usage requests, tracking event schedules, and accounting for usage expenses. The new system will allow for the following:**

- Enable event requesters to check facility availability and submit usage requests online
- Display scheduled events on an interactive calendar
- Track facility usage costs and automatically generate invoices
- Automatically route usage requests through the approval process
- Provide timely feedback to the requester

ALL facility (including internal District requests) use requests will be through this system and process.

Please check the District web site later this summer for an introduction to the new system and process, including instructional guidelines.



**GREENE CENTRAL SCHOOL**  
**Greene, New York 13778**

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**Mission Statement**

*Greene Central School, in partnership with the community, will inspire students to learn the skills and behaviors necessary to become productive citizens.*

- *Provide quality programs to prepare all students with skills and knowledge to become responsible citizens, productive workers, and lifelong learners.*
- *Provide safe, quality facilities, which enhance the programs for the District's students and community.*
- *Ensure long-term fiscal stability in order to provide the necessary programs and facilities to educate the children of the Greene Central School District.*
- *Communicate effectively with all members of the community to promote quality education in the Greene Central School District.*

# 2013 Ceremonies

**Graduation** will be held on Saturday, June 22, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Middle/High School Gymnasium.

**Moving-Up Day** will be held on Friday, May 31, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. in the Middle/High School Gymnasium.

