



# Leicester Legend

Volume 14 Issue 14

Leicester Central School

March 22, 2013

## Congratulations, actors!

*King Lear* was an incredible success. The performances last week at Town Hall Theater were a tremendous culmination of ten weeks of hard work by our 4-6 graders. The skills learned and practiced during this time exceeded the memorization and delivery of lines. This group of children became a team that collaborated and cooperated together. They learned new vocabulary and analyzed text in a meaningful way. They were coached by professionals who critiqued their work and challenged them to fix it. They were given dozens of directions on stage that they immediately followed and remembered. The arts is a wonderful, genuine context in which to learn these life skills. We are fortunate to have such a resource as Town Hall Theater and its *Shakespeare, It's Elementary!* program nearby. But don't take my word for it. Turn this page over and read the reflections by three fifth graders.

## Young Writers Project in Action

The Young Writers' Project (YWP) is a nonprofit dedicated to building a generation of better writers. Teachers Laura Coro and Linda Horn have been using YWP in their classrooms all year. Recently in the 3/4 classroom, students looked at pictures of animals and wrote haiku poems about what they saw, which helped them practice working with syllables. (Haiku has a special 5-7-5 syllabic pattern.) These poems were typed onto the YWP website and posted as podcasts too. On this site, our students are then able to view and comment on each other's work, which offers writers a genuine audience beyond just their teacher and encourages students to use critical thinking as they offer each other feedback. This is truly an example of technology transforming education.

Penguins, by Connor  
Four little penguins  
Standing in a big, long line  
Black and white I see



Graceful, by Rena  
I'm ever graceful,  
I swim in shimmering lakes  
I'm a graceful swan.



## *We want your help!*

Please join us for a

**Budget Forum on Monday, March 25,  
6:30PM at Leicester Central School.**

We want to hear your comments as we prepare the budget for the revote.

*Refreshments will be served.*

*Childcare will be provided.*

We hope to see you there -

Matt, Hannah, Heather, Connie & Michelle

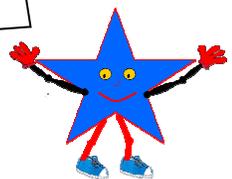
Leicester School Board

There is a message  
in every bottle!

Each can and bottle recycled at  
the Leicester Town Store will  
bring in \$.06 for Leicester Alive!

Important  
DATE!

## Mark Your Calendars



- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 3/25 | Math Team; Rock 'n Roll Band Practice<br>Budget Forum 6:30         |
| 3/26 | Leicester <i>Alive!</i> - Tinkering; Harvest                       |
| 3/28 | Leicester <i>Alive!</i> - Yoga                                     |
| 3/29 | Harvest<br>Dinner 5:30 & Talent Show 7:00                          |
| 4/1  | Math Team  |
| 4/2  | Leicester <i>Alive!</i> - Tinkering; Harvest<br>FOLCS Meeting 6:30 |
| 4/4  | Leicester <i>Alive!</i> - Yoga                                     |
| 4/5  | Harvest  |

Check the website for all the latest events! <http://leicester.rnesu.org>

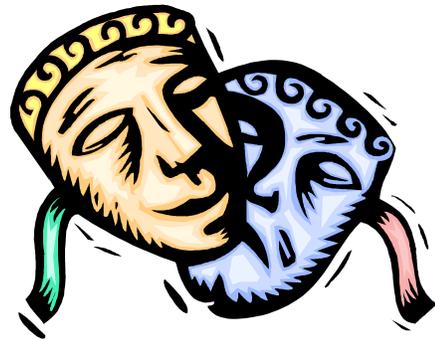
*On March 14, 2013 we did the play "King Lear", by William Shakespeare. He is an old king that divides his land between his three daughters Goneril, Regan, and Cordelia by who loves him most. We prepared in class by doing our actions, warming up our voices, and we built our set for the scenes. At home we memorized our lines for our characters (mine was Cornwall). At the theater we got our act blocked (our movements were scripted) and on stage, figured out the costume switches, and we did three performances of the show, one for a dress rehearsal and two for parents. - Ian O.*

## *Thank You*

*To all the Leicester staff who helped make this residency program a success!*

*Leicester Legends truly shined!*

*And a special thank you to OMYA, for their contribution that helped make this program possible.*



*The performance went fine. I liked to perform in front of the audience at night. I was Kent and I had four lines and I knew them all. My favorite line was "Oh to be acknowledged." This year I did better and said my lines loud. I practiced my lines everyday. What I learned about myself was that I did a good job this year because I did not go off stage when I was supposed to be on the stage. I learned to look up so I don't see the crowd and get nervous. I worked well with other actors. What I learned in the play I can use at home and school. -Kelsie S.*

*I learned practice makes perfect. Practice makes perfect in school too. Like if you have a test coming up, just study and that is like practicing. I learned that if I believe in myself then I can do it. I think we aced the performance. It was a very fun day. Teamwork is very important in theater because you have to trust each other. - Morgan L.*