

BETHPAGE

Union Free School District

NEWSLETTER



SPACE CAMP

Two students and one teacher from John F. Kennedy Middle School have been chosen to attend Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, for five days this summer. The district's participation is being sponsored by local Northrop Grumman Corporation.

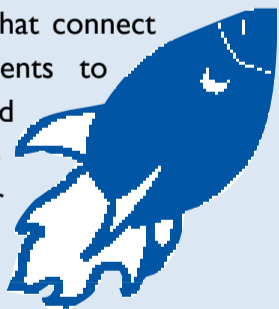
Based upon recommendations from teachers and a genuine interest in the subject matter, seventh-graders Vincent Perez and Anthony Verde were chosen for the program. Science teacher Vincent Perez Sr., Vincent's father, has been selected for the teacher training portion of the program.

The student camp will have four components: a history of space exploration, astronaut training, technical skills and graduation. Teachers will participate in STEM-related activities and training that can then be replicated in the classroom.



"Attending Space Camp is an excellent opportunity for students to explore and

experience exciting applications of STEM concepts as they train like astronauts in high-tech simulators, run missions to the ISS, build and launch rockets, and investigate robotics on Mars," said Janice Yale, district director of science and data analysis K-12. "Experiences like this that connect concepts with action inspire students to learn more so they can do more. And through their efforts to learn and do more, students ultimately unlock their potential and realize their dreams."



Most



Philosophical Student

Bethpage High School valedictorian Harshil Garg has been named 2015's Most Philosophical Student in America. His essay, "Violence or Compassion: Which Has a Greater Impact on Society?" resounded with judges and earned him a chance to compete for the national spot. With more than 4,000 submissions, a panel of philosophy judges selected Harshil as the winner of the 15th annual National Kids Philosophy Slam.

The mission of the Philosophy Slam is to give kids a voice and inspire them to think by unlocking intellectual and creative potential through a unique forum. The

annual program is designed to make philosophy fun and accessible to all kids, as well as to promote critical thinking skills and encourage dialogue with other students and adults.

For his philosophical effort, Harshil received \$250, a framed certificate, and the title of Most Philosophical Student in America.

Harshil is also a National Merit Finalist and a National AP Scholar. He was a member of the National and Spanish honor societies and conducted research at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Harshil intends to major in computer science at Duke University this fall.



2nd PLACE WINNER

Bethpage High School also had a second-place winner in the 2015 Philosophy Slam. Congratulations to Kristen Hoffman for taking second in this national competition.



Bethpage Union Free School District
Bethpage, New York 11714

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 37
Bethpage, NY

ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Letter of Intent

Senior athlete Jake Einbinder signed a National Letter of Intent to wrestle at Binghamton University in the fall. A two-time Bethpage varsity wrestling team captain, he was named a two-time All-State athlete, a two-time county champion and a four-time All-County athlete. A wrestler since kindergarten, Jake also attends Bellmore Kickboxing Academy and Ascend Wrestling in Hicksville. In his spare time, he volunteers at Bethpage Youth Wrestling. Jake will be attending Binghamton with an athletic scholarship.



Principal Michael Spence, assistant coach Ben Resnick, brother Sam, sister Sarah, coach Ron Abatelli and Athletic Director John Franchi; (seated): Jake with parents Erik and Jennifer.

First Time to Nationals

The spring track and field team qualified for the national competition in North Carolina this June, a first in Bethpage history. Named county champions in the 4x400, the team qualified to compete against other elites. Members of the 4x400 include senior captains Sergey D'Alessandro and Deniz Soybas, junior Connor Golden and sophomore Daniel Midgett. Coached by James Ravener, the track and field team was named a New York State Scholar/Athlete Team. The senior captains also received individual recognitions for their performances: Sergey was named an All-County athlete and plans to continue track at Virginia Tech in the fall; and Deniz represented Bethpage at the state level in the individual 400-meter, was named an All-County athlete, and plans to continue track at Lehigh University in the fall. Congratulations to the entire team on these recognitions.



TOP Elementary School



Central Boulevard School has been named among the top 100 elementary schools in New York State, according to niche.com, which ranked more than 40,000 schools nationwide based on key student statistics and opinions from more than 280,000 students and parents.

With 43 elementary schools on the list from Long Island, CBS is listed among schools in some of Nassau County's most competitive districts. According to Niche, being ranked among the top 100

is indicative of "an exceptional academic institution with a diverse set of high-achieving students and faculty, and the students are very happy with their experiences." Niche aims to help people make informed decisions about their education.

To view the full list of New York's best public elementary schools, as well as the detailed methodology in the process, visit <https://k12.niche.com/rankings>.

Vogts to Be Inducted into HALL OF FAME

Nassau County Executive and Bethpage alumnus Edward P. Mangano, together with the Nassau County Public High School Athletic Association, is slated to establish a Nassau County High School Athletics Hall of Fame. Among the HOF's first inductees will be former Bethpage football coach Howard Vogts. Nominees had to exemplify the high standards of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and moral character in order to be considered for induction.

Coach Vogts is New York State's All-Time Winningest High School Football Coach with 61 total wins. He founded the district's football program in 1953 and was the head coach for 55 years, winning Nassau County Coach of the Year 12 times during his tenure. Under Coach Vogts, Bethpage won 29 regular season League I conference championships, three Rutgers Cups and five Long Island titles. The district dedicated its athletic field in his honor in 1989.

Coach Vogts will be formally inducted on Sept. 30. The HOF will be temporarily located in the rotunda of the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building in Mineola until plans for its permanent home are finalized.

MUSICAL HONORS at Disney



Musical groups from Bethpage High School attended the Festival Disney in Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, during the last week of April.

Based upon their performances during the festival, each of the groups — concert band, jazz ensemble and chorale — received the highest honors with a rating of "excellent" from the judges.

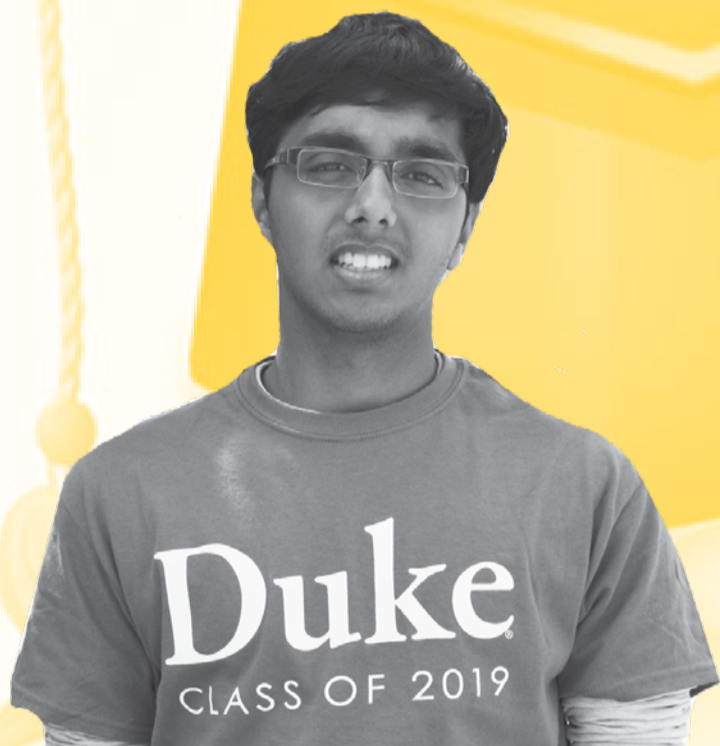
In addition, the jazz ensemble was named Best in Class and three student-musicians were named outstanding soloists, a designation only seven students out of the thousands in attendance received. The three soloists were 10th-grader Alec Cavaciuti, 11th-grader Emily Marczak and senior Michael Rotunno.

Congratulations to all of our musicians on this recognition for their talents.



Eagles of Excellence:

CLASS OF 2015'S VAL & SAL



Leading the Class of 2015 to its final walk down the track were its valedictorian and salutatorian, Harshil Garg and Joshua Rosenheck. These esteemed young men have been strong academic and exemplary leaders in the Bethpage school community.

A National Merit Finalist and National AP Scholar, Harshil has received much recognition for his academic successes. At BHS, he served as president of the robotics team, president of Mathletes and captain of the varsity tennis team. He was a

member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society and conducted research at the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. In addition, he is an accomplished musician who plays the violin. Harshil intends to major in computer science at Duke University this fall.

Also no stranger to success, salutatorian Joshua Rosenheck is a National Merit Commended Student and an AP Scholar. An athlete, he received the Nassau County Student Athlete Award and served as captain of the school's cross-country, bowling

and baseball teams this year. As a musician, he was a section leader in the jazz band and a drum major in the marching band. He was also a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society, the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society. He intends to major in finance and computer science at Binghamton University.

The district congratulates both of these students on their achievements and wishes them much success in college.

Graduates Celebrate Four Years of Commitment



In what was a culmination of four years of hard work and dedication, the senior class at Bethpage High School graduated in front of friends, family and members of the community during the annual commencement exercises on June 26.

Visitors cheered as the Class of 2015 marched onto the field to the high school band performing "Pomp and Circumstance." Senior Class President Priya Shaw and Student Council President Michelle Cirillo reflected on their time at Bethpage, while Valedictorian Harshil Garg and Salutatorian Joshua Rosenheck used comedy to share their hopes and expectations for their classmates in the future.

Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark and Principal Michael Spence thanked the students for their hard work and commitment to excellence during their time in the Bethpage School District, urged them to strive for excellence and wished them luck in the years to come.

FAST FACTS

- 230 graduates
- 99.6% graduation rate
- 97% Regents Diploma rate
- 69% Advanced Regents Diploma rate
- One National Merit Finalist
- Four Commended Students
- Valedictorian Harshil Garg named Most Philosophical Student in America
- Helped raise more than \$10,000 through fundraisers this year
- 116 AP Scholars

CLASS OF
2015

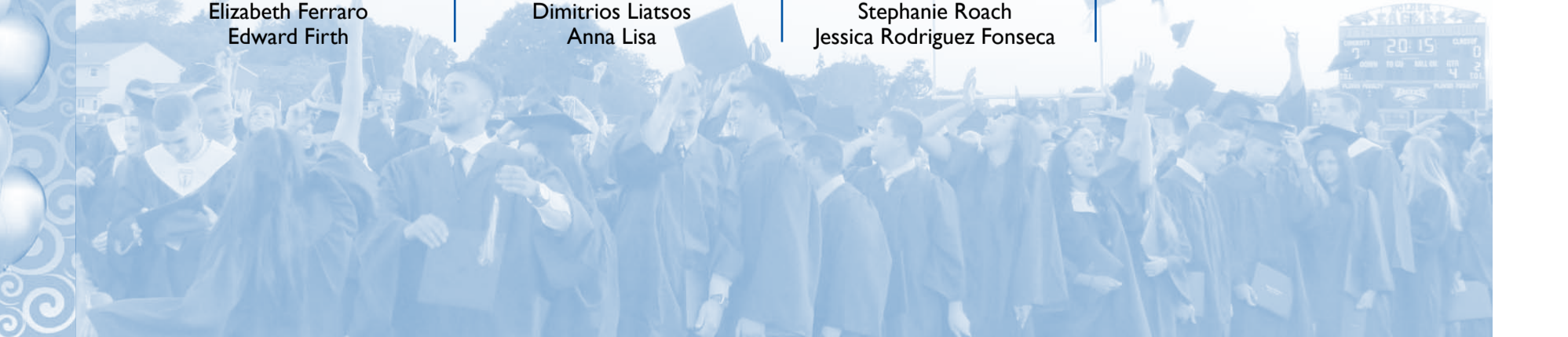


Rebecca Ahearn
Joseph Ahmadi
Nicole Albergo
Liam Alfred
George Alimonos
Manuel Alvarez
Dominic Ambrosio
Iyana Ashby
Ayesha Asif
Luana Barbuzano
Peter Basile
Sean Beltran
Janys Benitez
Nicholas Biasi
Elizabeth Bickard
Harleen Bindra
Jennifer Birnbach
Michael Birofka
Amanda Bitetti
Jordyn Blom
Michael Bochnovich
Amanda Bogue
Kyle Bohringer
Isabella Bradley
Tiffany Busri
Kenneth Cafiero
Kaitlin Camidge
Dean Cano
Michael Carbone
Casey Caruso
Daniel Cascarella
Joseph Chamorro
Lindsey Chan
Timothy Charles
Robert Chillianis
Justin Chiu
Matthew Cho
Michelle Cirillo
Emma-Lee Coletta
Kyle Collins
Julie Considine
Lauren Conway
Kimberly Cosgrove
James Cote
Michael Coyle
Jenna Coyne
Sergey D'Alessandro
Cynthia Dabrowski
Robert DeDona
Lauren DeStefano
Jessica DiMarco
Bryan Donovan
Shannon Dowd
George Duemig
Yoannis Efstathiou
Jake Einbinder
Marisa Fantry
Elizabeth Ferraro
Edward Firth

Thomas Fitzpatrick
Thomas Florentz
Kelly Gallagher
Ginamarie Galletti
Emily Ganshaw
Harshil Garg
Alyssa Gennaro
Sydney Gilbert
Mary Kate Gillis
Nicole Giovannello
Ashley Goldstein
Carlos Gonzalez
Nina Gonzalez
Virginia Gorel
Geraldine Granobles
Noelle Grassel
Joseph Greco
Victoria Greco
Kayla Griffin
Erin Groom
Nikki Grover
Michael Guerrero
Austin Hale
Kristian Hammervik
Christopher Harris
Rachel Hayes
Samuel Hirsch
Alyssa Hoffman
Natalia Hoyos
Patricia Huttle
Kayla-Anne Javier
Andrew Jedd
Ajay Kalia
Stephanie Katartzis
Marie Kelly
Kimberly Kerimian
Andrew Kim
Daniel Kim
Tae Jeong Kim
Stephanie Koenig
Brandon Kolsch
Courtney Kovalovsky
Brittany Krien
Daniel Krupa
Robert Kunar
Christina Kundla
Brian Kupfer
Victoria LaMontanaro
Michelle Lampert
Kristen Landolfi
Kurt Lanning
Elle Lastihenos
Jenna Leavitt
Deirdre Leicht
Jake Lestrangle
Anastasia Levy
Sara Lewis
Dimitrios Liatsos
Anna Lisa

Daniel Lizarazo
Christopher Looney
Michelle LoPinto
Nicole LoVerde
Kirsten Lucente
Niko Lukic
Brianna Lydon
Kyle Lynch
Cain Mack
Janine Maggi
Katlyn Mahomar
Jesica Maleszewska
Anthony Marchese
Melissa Marietto
Kristie Marotta
Jacqueline Massucci
Cynthia McCann
Thomas McManus
Katherine Meaney
Kayla Mendes
Matthew Merfogel
Jennifer Millan
Morgan Milliken
Samreen Mohammed
Mahir Mohtasin
Nicolas Monteleone
Melissa Monten
Martina Morris
Neal Morris
Megan Murphy
John Narbutt
Alexandra Nerantzis
John Neuman
Andrea O'Donnell
Catherine O'Halloran
Jessica O'Keefe
Cristin O'Neill
Er Batun Ozkul
Skyler Paccio
Mackenzie Pech
Brandon Pellitteri
Alexa Pepe
Jillian Perota
James Piccione
Mark Pikounis
William Pilc
Juan Pinon
Brendan Piulson
Deanna Poggio
Vaibhav Prasad
David Press
Michael Price
Ariella Ranz
Daniel Ranz
Rachel Resnitzky
Andrew Ritchie
Josue Rivera Tobar
Stephanie Roach
Jessica Rodriguez Fonseca

Jamie Roeller
Thomas Romani
Jessica Romano
Nicole Romano
Joshua Rosenheck
Rebecca Rosenheck
Michael Rotunno
Jack Ryan
Morgan Sachs
Jeni Sacklow
Domenic Saitta
Amanda Salvo
Taylor Sammis
Roberto Sandoval
Edris Sanzar
Sheena Sarin
Samantha Sarris
Nadia Satir
Gabrielle Scagliola
Richard Schatzel
Angelo Sciortino
Michael Sciulli
Alissa Seiter
Michael Sforza
Priya Shah
Saakshi Shah
Sagar Shah
Stephanie Shamah
David Shannon
Nicole Shkreli
Sean Siblano
Nicholas Sikoryak
Anthony Simeone
Parminder Singh
Joseph Smith
Marybeth Smith
Emre Soybas
Kevin Stursberg
Nicholas Tangorra
Chris Tempesta
Devan Thakur
Sheila Torres
Alyssa Trebitz
Joseph Valero
Michael Vangi
Carlos Vera
Lydia Vlachos
Gregory Walsh
Ryan Walsh
Kayla Watters
Nicholas Whelan
Jason Wolpow
Mackenzie Woods
Jaewon Yu
Chae Young Yuu
Alex Zelaya
Devin Zic



Senior Awards Spotlight



Nassau County Comptroller's Award
LIAM ALFRED



Herff Jones "Believe In You"
Principal's Award
MICHELLE CIRILLO



Sen. Kemp Hannon Citizenship
Advancement Award
SERGEY D'ALESSANDRO



New York State Comptroller's Award
SAMUEL HIRSCH



Nassau County Executive Award
STEPHANIE KATARTZIS



Nassau County Legislative
Citizenship Award
SHANNON DOWD



Plainview/Bethpage Lions Club Award
NICOLE LOVERDE



L.I. Blood Services Award
REBECCA ROSENHECK



Principal's Award
PRIYA SHAH

PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS



Certificate of Achievement
MICHELLE CIRILLO



Certificate of Merit
NATALIA HOYOS & JANINE MAGGI



Certificate of Excellence & Merit
MARTINA MORRIS & PRIYA SHAH

These awards are a small representation of the many distributed at Senior Awards Night. The district congratulates all of the seniors on their many accomplishments in all their years as Eagles.



Under the Sea

Seniors in Larry Portuese's classes at Bethpage High School were asked to create and teach a maritime festival for third-graders from each of the district's elementary schools.

Formerly a living science teacher, Mr. Portuese began the festival 14 years ago to breed a love for the ocean and all things nautical, as well as bring attention and appreciation to the fact that students live on an island. Now a forensic science teacher, he spends a week teaching his students the skills of rope making, fish dissection and fishing to continue this annual tradition for the elementary students of Bethpage.

The maritime festival contained six workshops, which the third-graders rotated through during a two-hour timeframe. Some of the activities included rope making, a scuba diving lecture,

examining plankton, touch tanks that contained local marine life, fish dissections and fish painting.

During the rope making activity, 12th-graders explained the history of Long Island as a whaling center and asked third-graders questions about the importance of rope. Nautical rope was then made from scratch with an 18th-century machine that turns twine into usable rope.

In an effort to better understand how experts search underwater for sea life, third-graders learned about scuba diving from an instructor who performed a dive for the students, described the equipment used and answered questions relating to the safety of scuba diving.

Touch tanks allowed third-graders to get their hands wet by touching sea creatures. Some of these creatures included horseshoe crabs, hermit crabs and eel, which the 12th-graders had caught on a local fishing trip with Mr. Portuese the day before.

As part of the dissection, which was done by the high school students, the students spoke about the anatomy of fish

and how they breathe underwater through gills. In another workshop, students had an opportunity to see plankton up close using a microscope.

Fish printing was done utilizing the Japanese art of Gyotaku, which uses a thin, translucent paper to transfer the image of a fish. The third-graders were able to create their own fish prints by patting the paper onto a painted fish.

These activities served to excite the elementary students about the aquatic world, as well as foster a mentorship between the elementary and high school students.



Battle for the BOAT



As Zeus the ruler of Olympus retires, who will be the next ruler? For the seventh consecutive year, sixth-graders in Monica Klein's social studies classes at John F. Kennedy Middle School debated who would become the new ruler of Olympus.

With the role of Zeus played by Mrs. Klein's father, Ben Morselli, each student dressed the part of their chosen god and gave a speech that highlighted why they deserved to be the new ruler of Olympus. After all of the debates were completed, fellow classmates, together with Zeus, determined who would be the next ruler of Olympus. In order to determine Zeus' successor, a rubric scored each presentation based on persuasive speeches, delivery and costumes.

This unique activity reinforced the curriculum on ancient Greek history, as well as persuasive speeches and oral communication skills. The winning debater from each class was named Zeus' successor and received the coveted lightning bolt.

STICKING TOGETHER

Under the leadership of social worker Sarah Glassman and teacher Patricia Tierney, fourth- and fifth-grade students in the 21st Century Scholars Program at CBS read the book "If Kids Ran the World" by Leo and Diane Dillon and discussed what they would want to accomplish if they ran the world.

The Scholars then tied the lesson to a schoolwide community service initiative and held a sticker drive to benefit children in the Child Life Program at Winthrop-University Hospital. Titling their project "The CBS Sticks Together Sticker Drive," they decorated boxes and created posters, which were placed throughout the school building, asking for sticker donations. More than 100 packs of stickers were collected and donated in June to the hospital.



Teddy Bear Picnic

In lieu of a kindergarten moving up ceremony, Charles Campagne Elementary School hosted its annual Teddy Bear Picnic. The picnic included snacks for the students to share with special guests and fur-covered friends, as well as bear-related games to engage the young learners. Activities included scooping plastic bears out of a pool, creating sand art using plastic bear containers, and a bear bean bag toss. The event serves as a special way for kindergartners to culminate their first year of school in a fun and engaging manner and share it with their family and friends.



Congratulations to All!



JFK MS
Grade 8

CBS
Grade 5



CCS
Grade 5

KLS
Grade 5



Union Free School District
BETHPAGE

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Bethpage School District's
Community Relations Office

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Michael J. Kelly, *President*
Anna Israelton, *Trustee*

Sandra Watson, *Vice President*
John Lonardo, *Trustee*

James A. McGlynn, *Trustee* Kurt Spears, *Trustee* Marie Swierkowski, *Trustee*
Terrence Clark, *Superintendent of Schools*