

# BETHPAGE

## Union Free School District

NEWSLETTER



# A Flying Eagle



SENIOR CONNOR GOLDEN IS ONE BETHPAGE EAGLE THAT HAS TRULY TAKEN FLIGHT.

After completing 70 hours of flight training, accumulated since the age of 13, this September Connor took and passed not only his written test, but also his flight test, and earned his pilot's license for operating a single engine propeller plane under 12,500 pounds.

His journey to flight school began at the age of 3 when his dad mentioned to him that the fighter jets flying around were "protecting his mother," who was a first responder following Sept. 11. Enamored since that very moment, Connor took an interest in planes and received a flight lesson as a gift for his 13th birthday. It was a ninth-grade field trip to Republic Airport, though, that sealed his interest in becoming a pilot.

"I spoke to a pilot at Republic Airport that day and decided I could be a pilot in the military," Connor said. "I have dedicated myself to that goal ever since."

He is currently in the process

of applying to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, where he wants to be part of the flight team and ultimately become a fighter jet pilot or a member of its Office of Special Investigation.

"It's a very hard academy to get in to," Connor said. "But they offer the most opportunity for what I want to do and I'm willing to commit myself."

Connor currently serves as the class president and captain of the spring track team. He is an AP Scholar with Honor and a member of the National Honor Society. He was one of the students who helped spearhead the district's Fit and Fun campaign two years ago and has coordinated many class ski trips.

Beyond the Air Force Academy, Connor intends to eventually take night courses to earn a law degree so that once his military commitment is completed, he can pursue a career in politics.

## COMMENDED STUDENTS



Bethpage High School seniors Melissa Cao, Kripa Dahal, Megan Hsun, Gabriela M. Iacovano and Joane Kim have been named Commended Students in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Approximately 34,000 students throughout the nation receive this honor, which is based upon the exceptional academic promise they demonstrated on the qualifying test used for program entry. They have placed among the top 5 percent of more than 1.5 million students who entered the competition by taking the PSAT.

## Nation's Best High Schools

Bethpage High School has been ranked among America's Top High Schools for 2015 by Newsweek magazine. Among the thousands of schools considered, Bethpage ranked No. 450 in the nation. Newsweek evaluates schools on a range of criteria to identify those that excel at preparing students for college. The high school boasts a 99.6% graduation rate, with 93.9% of seniors bound for college.



"This confirms what many of us have long known- that Bethpage Schools are among the highest performing in the nation," Superintendent of Schools Terrence Clark said of the ranking. "This honors the hard work of students, parents, teachers, administrators and the Board of Education. We are very proud to be in such good company."

Bethpage Union Free School District  
Bethpage, New York 11714

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# AP SCHOLARS

More than 130 current and former Bethpage High School students have been recognized by the College Board as AP Scholars due to their outstanding success on Advanced Placement exams. Students took AP exams in May 2015 after completing challenging college-level courses in the district in a variety of subjects.

Congratulations to the following students:

## National AP Scholar

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Lindsey Chan*	Stephanie Katartzis*	Alexandra Nerantzinis*
Harshil Garg*	Kurt Lanning*	Marybeth Smith*

## AP Scholar with Distinction

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Ali Ahmadi	Nikki Grover*	Diana Morrissey
Jordyn Blom*	Samuel Hirsch*	Alexandra Nerantzinis*
Isabella Bradley*	Megan Hsun	Alexa Pepe*
Kenneth Cafiero*	Terrie Hsun	Ariella Ranz*
Melissa Cao	Gabriela Iacovano	Jamie Roeller*
Jack Carney	Salvatore Imbriale	Joshua Rosenheck*
Casey Caruso*	Stephanie Katartzis*	Naoki Rufian
Lindsey Chan*	Emily Katz	Jeni Sacklow*
Michael Coyle*	Ali Khambati	Priya Shah*
Kripa Dahal	Joane Kim	Marybeth Smith*
Sergey D'Alessandro*	Joseph Landers	Rishi Sohi
Robert DeDona*	Kurt Lanning*	Chris Tempesta*
Shannon Dowd*	Florence LaPlaca	Michael Vangi*
Thomas Fitzpatrick*	Jake Marchitto	Jake Vera
Harshil Garg*	Martina Morris*	

## AP Scholar with Honor

Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Scott Altman	Emma Lammers	Laura Russo
Michael Cipolla	Jillian Leavey	Steven Scigliabaglio
Kyle Collins*	Anastasia Levy*	Andrew Stephens
Samuel Danziger	Daniel Lizarazo*	Nicholas Whelan*
Emily Dean	Daniel McGlynn	Jessica Witt
Sydney Gilbert*	Katherine Meaney*	Mackenzie Woods*
Connor Golden	Lynne Richardson	Ailin Yu
Kayla-Anne Javier*	Stephanie Roach*	
Emily Klein	Rebecca Rosenheck*	

## AP Scholar

Granted to students who receive a score of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

Liam Alfred*	Tara Gallagher	John Neuman*
Gina Aliberti	Emily Ganshaw*	Mackenzie Pech*
Ayesha Asif*	Geraldine Granobles*	Brendan Piulson*
Kyra Bella	Jennifer Gunning	Jillian Pizzuto
Anndrika Bhatia	Rachel Hayes*	Vaibhav Prasad*
Amanda Bitetti*	Matthew Heym	Brendan Reilly
Amanda Bogue*	Natalia Hoyos*	Taylor Sammis*
Kyle Bohringer*	Ajay Kalia*	Vivek Sanghvi
Nicholas Carlino	Ali Khokhar	Richard Schatzel*
Justin Chiu*	Andrew Kim*	Alissa Seiter*
Eric Cho	Daniel Kim*	Samuel Sergio
Michelle Cirillo*	Valerie Kress	Prachi Shah
Julie Considine*	Robert Kunar*	Sagar Shah*
Jenna Coyne*	Michelle Lampert*	Joseph Smith*
Thomas D'Agostino	Anna Lisa*	Emre Soybas*
Cynthia Dabrowski*	Melissa Marietto*	Stephanie Vayner
Jason Danglo	Paul Marinos	Chae Young Yuu*
Melissa Delgado	Angelo Micciche	Jun Young Yuu
Carly Deo	Jennifer Millan*	
Elizabeth Ferraro*	Samreen Mohammed*	
Edward Firth*	Mahir Mohtasin*	
Jasmine Flynn	Neal Morris*	

\* denotes the student graduated



## Soaring Up the Scales

Three Bethpage High School student-musicians have been selected to perform in the All-State Festival of the 2015 NYSSMA Winter Conference in December. They were chosen for this prestigious honor based on the proficiency they demonstrated at NYSSMA auditions last May. To prepare for the rigorous process, students spent countless hours preparing for the auditions. Only 900 students in the state were selected to participate in the December festival.

Congratulations to juniors Alec Cavaciuti (drums) and Keana Lee (women's choir) and senior Emily Marczak (mixed choir) on being selected for this honor.



## ALL-NATIONAL SELECTION

Senior violinist Melissa Cao was chosen for the National Association for Music Education's 2015 All-National Honor Ensembles. To be considered, Melissa had to submit an online application and video audition. Only 150 students in the country were chosen to perform in the All-National Symphony Orchestra, representing the top-performing student-musicians in the United States.



In addition to this honor, Melissa holds the designations of All-State and All-County musician, and is a six-year participant in the Long Island String Festival Association concerts. She has played the violin since the third grade and is concertmaster of the school orchestra.

"I didn't expect it," she said. "I just sent [my application] in, and I am honored to have been selected."

The performance took place during NAFME's All-National Honor Ensembles event at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Conference Center in Nashville, Tennessee, Oct. 25-28.



# Breakfast Is Served

Before new guidelines from the state on the nutritional requirements for breakfast were announced, the district relaunched its breakfast program for students and staff members at the middle and high school levels in November 2014. The Bethpage Board of Education was committed to offering an early morning meal at an affordable price for its secondary students.

## Highlights of the Breakfast Program:

- Students eligible for Free & Reduced lunch are now also eligible for Free & Reduced breakfast
- Available on strategically placed and visually enticing carts.
- Features “grab-n-go” options.
- Hosts incentives such as \$1 items and raffle prizes.
- Baked goods are made fresh in the cafeteria each morning.
- Can be paid for through the MySchoolBucks.com payment plans.

Breakfast items include whole-grain egg sandwiches, freshly baked whole-grain muffins, pre-packaged CinniMinnis, yogurt parfaits, and a variety of milks, juices and fruits. Coffee is available at the high school level only.

## Breakfast Is Available for \$2

### JFK Middle School

7:30-8:15 a.m. Every Day

@ Cart Outside the School Store

### Bethpage High School

7-7:30 a.m. @ Cherry Avenue Entrance (Cart)

7:30-8:15 a.m. @ Main Entrance (Cart)

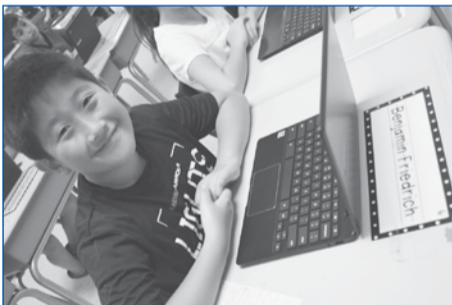
7-8:15 a.m. @ Cafeteria



## Campus Courtyard

In an effort to give the high school more of a college-style campus feeling, the district completed a renovation project to its central courtyard. Renovations included the installation of benches and brickwork, as well as beautification to the landscape.

The high school has already held an outdoor Activities and Club Fair, featuring a jazz ensemble, in the new courtyard and intends to hold many events, as well as picnic lunches, in the new area.



## Chromebook Expansion

As part of an expanding initiative, the district has equipped all students in grades 3-10 with Google Chromebooks. At the elementary level, each student is assigned a personal laptop for use in class, and the technology is incorporated into many instructional lessons.

As an example, fourth-graders in

Sara Dionne's class at Kramer Lane recently used their Chromebooks to sign up for the 21st Century program and began earning credits for volunteer work and participation in clubs. On a daily basis, the laptop is used to facilitate the Achieve 3000 reading program, as well as provide

an outlet for students to conduct research and engage in educational online games.

“It’s a lot of fun to use,” fourth-grader Benjamin Friedrich said. “It’s really light and durable and is helpful to use for schoolwork.”

The district hopes to continue expanding the initiative to all grade levels.

## Space CAMP

Based upon recommendations from teachers and a genuine interest in the subject matter, eighth-graders Vincent Perez and Anthony Verde were chosen to attend Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, for five days this summer. Sixth-grade science teacher Vincent Perez Sr., Vincent's father, participated in the teacher training portion of the program.

The student camp had four components: a history of space exploration, astronaut training, technical skills and graduation. Teachers participated in STEM-related activities that could be replicated in the classroom and learned about the unique history of NASA. All three participants

were left with memories that will stay with them for a lifetime.

“For me, working in and learning about where it started, and then meeting astronauts in person, were the highlights of the program,” Perez Sr. said. “We did two simulators, and I have video of my participation in both. I’m planning to show these to my classes so they can see their teacher experiencing zero gravity and better understand what it is like for an astronaut.”

The district's participation was sponsored by local Northrop Grumman Corporation, which seeks to build awareness of space exploration in future generations.





# New Teachers

## WELCOMED

The district welcomed new members of the educational community with a detailed orientation program to ensure a smooth transition into their new positions. The day was designed to familiarize these new individuals with the Bethpage tradition of excellence and demonstrate ways to put that tradition into practice. The daylong orientation featured breakfast, welcoming remarks from central administrators and district directors, a bus tour of the community (including a stop at local supporter Cablevision), and time for incoming staff to get acquainted with their new principal and school.

Congratulations and welcome to the following new staff members:

### ADMINISTRATOR

#### ANDREW CHOI, DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY

A graduate of the district, Andrew Choi rejoins Bethpage as its director of technology. With more than 10 years of experience in education, he previously served as the district administrator for instructional technology in the Deer Park Union Free School District. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in economics and a Master of Science in education from St. John's University.

"Bethpage Schools has long been a leader in terms of the technology courses and tools they provide to support 21st-Century learning," Choi said. "As a byproduct of this school district and graduate of Bethpage High School, I am excited to return 'home' to work alongside the instructional and support staff to prepare the next generation of Bethpage students for college and careers."



### TEACHERS

Raquel Goldsmith	ESL & Elementary (CBS)
Kayleen Gonyon	Special Ed. (CCS)
Brittney Hayes	English (JFK)
Alyssa Kildare	Health (BHS)
Holly Markee	Music (CBS)
Danielle Mole	Mathematics (BHS)
Maureen Mulle	Special Education (CBS)
Nancy Noskewicz	Art (KL & BHS)
Alicia Rosen	Reading (JFK)
Christopher Russo	Physical Education (BHS)
Jordan Schessler	Mathematics (BHS)
Christine Sciara	Family & Consumer Sciences (JFK)
Suzanne Taylor	Teacher of the Deaf (Districtwide)
Julianne Tierney	Special Education (CCS)
Lauren Trogele	English (JFK)

### TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Diane Amiruddin	BHS
Ann Badolato	CBS
Ashley Blatus	CCS
Michael Buttafuoco	JFK
Carmelo Carbone	CBS
Amanda D'Amico	CCS
Jared Davis	BHS
Ashley Friedman	CCS
Mandi Gaffney	CBS
Stella Gatanas	JFK
RoseMarie Hale	CCS
Molly Hernon	CCS
Caitlin Higgins	JFK
Laura Lupoli	JFK
Roxanne Ong	JFK
Valentina Parisi	JFK
Eleni Polis	CCS
Gina Romuno	CBS
Allison Santana	CCS
Taylor Tully	BHS
Jessica Wendland	JFK



## ENHANCING INSTRUCTION WITH EXPERIENCE

While students were enjoying their summer vacation, Lorraine Marcis, science enrichment and elementary coordinator for the 21st Century program, was on a school field trip of her own. In July, she embarked on a research adventure of a lifetime in which she, three other educators and 22 students from across the United States went on a scientific expedition to the Cape Eleuthera Institute in the Bahamas. While there, she participated in an intensive, hands-on research experience with residents and visiting scientists. In addition to learning about the symbiotic relationship between flounders and plants, encountering a shark and receiving a lesson on the fragility of coral at the beach, the lessons went much deeper for Marcis.

"Interacting with the local Bahamians was a major highlight of the trip," she shared.

With the district's emphasis on STEM-related activities in the classroom, Marcis' experiences will prove invaluable to her students. Bethpage is one of only a few districts that have a science program at the elementary level in which the teachers work cooperatively to enhance the New York State science standards curriculum and provide opportunities for hands-on science exploration. The JASON Project, with which Marcis has a membership, provides the framework for many elementary-appropriate projects and experiments.

"The JASON program makes it easier for educators to bring adventure into the curriculum and for students to explore real-world science and its benefits to a society," Marcis said. "Just as I will never forget my experiences in Cape Eleuthera, these students will always remember the learning that occurred outside the box."

This year, Marcis intends to incorporate a hands-on wetlands curriculum, in which students will build a model of a river system and build and test a dam in a model river valley.

## Newspaper Hits the Internet

Bethpage High School's newspaper, The Eagle's Cry, has launched online at [www.eaglescry.net](http://www.eaglescry.net). The Eagle's Cry is the official source of news for high school students and faculty. Run by the school's journalism class, it features videos and photos from all recent events, as well as a running list of sports scores and upcoming events. Visit the website for all of the latest information.

## 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*



# HOMECOMING



AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE BETHPAGE HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES

## HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS



The Class of 2016 presented "The 70's Seniors."



The Golden Eagles Marching Band led the parade down Stewart Avenue, added zest to the game and performed during halftime.

Following a week of spirit-filled activities, the Bethpage High School Eagles had much to celebrate on Oct. 17. Under clear skies, the Bethpage community gathered for the annual homecoming celebration, which kicked off with a parade down Stewart Avenue that featured many local community organizations, as well as homecoming king Joseph Tierney and queen Gabrielle Gherardi.

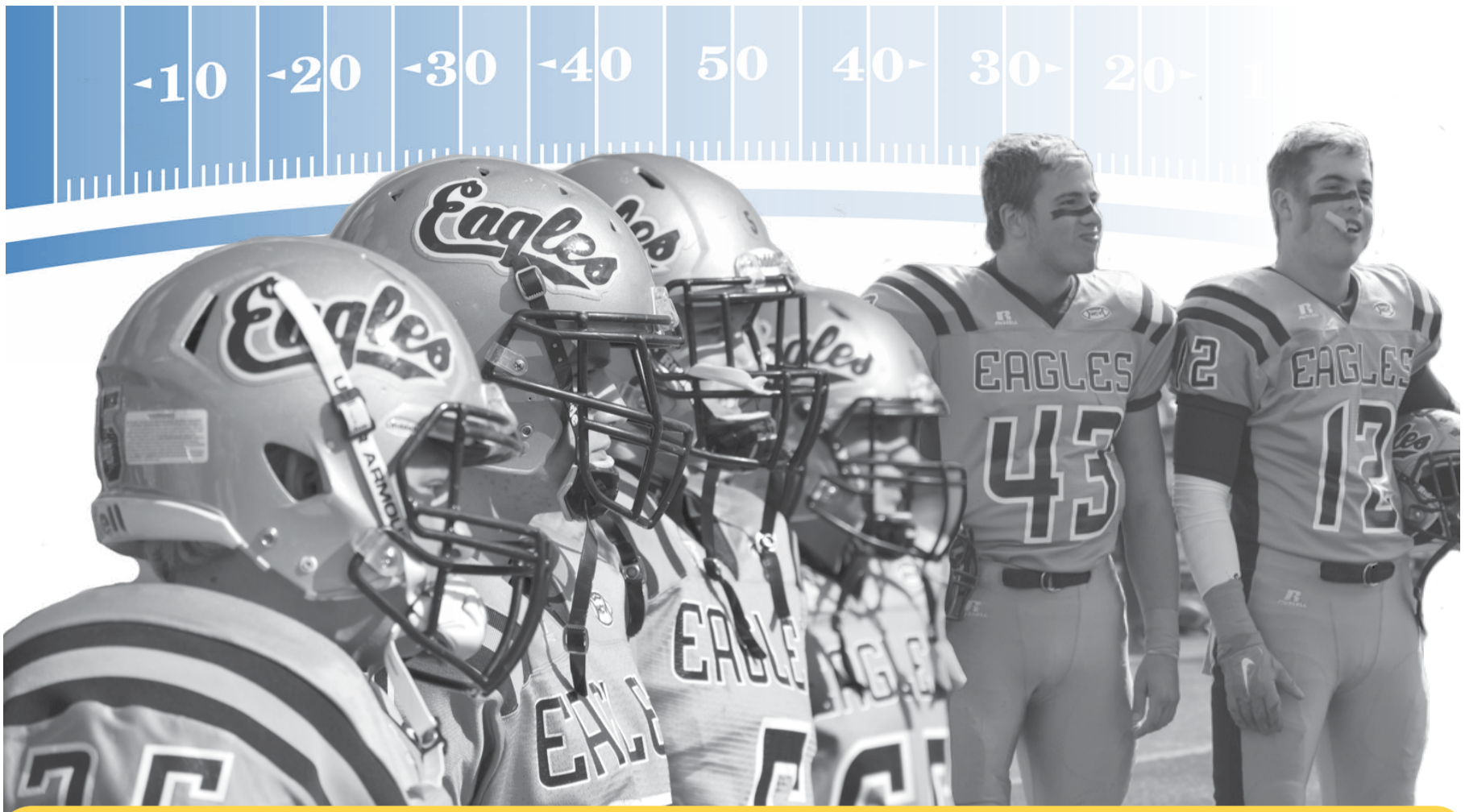
Attendees were then invited to view the class skits and visit the many booths and concession stands set up throughout the athletic complex. Under head coach Erwin Dill, the Bethpage Golden Eagles took the field for an afternoon game against the Floral Park Knights. The Eagles soared high, defeating the Knights 21-7. The halftime show dazzled with performances from the varsity cheerleaders, varsity kickline team and marching band.



The Class of 2017 created their banners and skits to the theme of "John Cena Juniors."

10 20 30 40 50 40 30 20





## Floral Park

Overall 3-3 | Conference 2-3

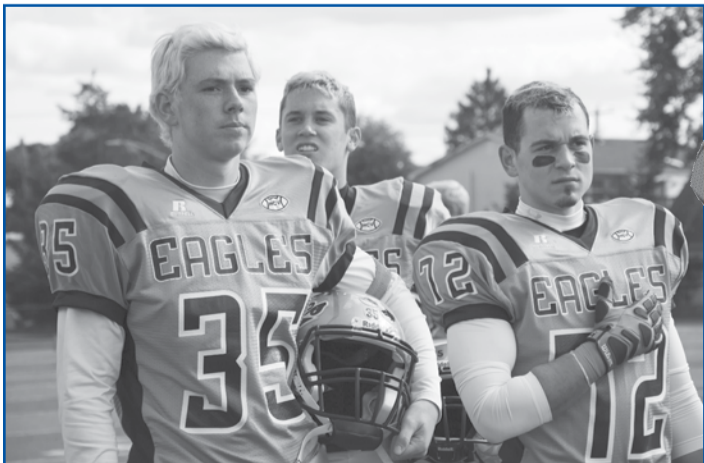
## Bethpage

Overall 5-1 | Conference 5-1

TEAMS	1	2	3	4	F
Floral Park	0	0	0	7	7
Bethpage	0	0	14	7	21

### Top performers

BE - Micciche 10 run (Magi kick) BE - Galgano 12 run (Magi kick) BE - Sforza 5 run (Magi kick) FP - Corbett 1 run (Sawicki kick)







## GOLDEN EAGLE

# Hall of Fame

The district held its third annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner, sponsored by the Bethpage Educational Foundation, as part of the homecoming festivities on Oct. 17. Superintendent Terrence Clark served as emcee for the event, which drew a crowd of approximately 150 to celebrate the honorees. Among the prestigious honorees was longtime teacher's aide Marge Zuk, who passed away in December 2014 after 42 years of service to the district.

"The Bethpage Educational Foundation could not have selected a more deserving group of Golden Eagles," Mr. Clark said in his opening remarks. "In the 100-plus years of Bethpage's history, it was a tough

selection. We look forward to honoring the highest caliber of Bethpage's alumni, staff members, coaches and community members in the years to come."

Other speakers included JFK Middle School Principal Kevin Fullerton, Bethpage High School Principal Michael Spence, Bethpage Educational Foundation secretary James McGlynn, and Nassau County Legislators Rose Walker and Laura Schafer.

The Bethpage Educational Foundation has been responsible for raising and donating well over \$100,000 to the Bethpage schools over the past eight years. These donations are used to enhance the program and offerings for all the district's students.

*"I think everyone here knows that Bethpage is a very special place where the bonds of family and friendship run deep. With that bond has developed a civic spirit, and the school district plays an essential role in keeping that spirit and sense of community alive."*

- Terrence Clark, Superintendent

# Honorees

### GARY BRETTON

Class of 1972

"Champion of all things Bethpage": Founded the Bethpage Community Foundation, which has raised more than \$750,000 for local families in need; president of the Bethpage Police Activities League; commissioner of the Bethpage Water District; founding member of the Bethpage Chamber of Commerce

### PATRICK CALABRIA

Class of 1969

Sports writer who covered the 1980, 1988 and 1992 Olympics; vice president for institutional advancement and enrollment management at Farmingdale State College

### DAVID KESSLER

Class of 1957

First BHS graduate to attend an Ivy League college – Cornell and Princeton; served as captain in the Army during the Vietnam War and earned the Army Commendation Medal; family owned a glass factory in Bethpage; serves as a visiting scholar at NYU's Rudin Center for Transportation Policy

### GENERAL WALTER KROSS

Class of 1960

A four-star general; Served as commander of the Air Force over North Vietnam, earning the DFC three times and the Air Medal 14 times; served as director of the Pentagon's joint staff for the joint chiefs and as the Air Force's director of operations; CEO of software company Flight Explorer and currently serves as chairman of a small California defense firm

### LINDA MANGANO

Class of 1981

Former president of the Bethpage Parent Teacher Association; longtime publisher of the Bethpage Tribune; since 2010, has been the first lady of Nassau County; founding member of the Bethpage Chamber of Commerce

### ROBERT MORAGHAN

Class of 1956

Member of the first BHS graduating class in the school's history; serves as the director of the educational leadership programs at Stony Brook University; received more than \$1 million in grants for the betterment of education in New York

### MARGE ZUK

(In Memoriam)

Served as a beloved teacher's aide at John F. Kennedy Middle School for 42 years; her family owned the farm where the JFK school now sits





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"The Freshmen Flamingos" was the Class of 2019's theme.

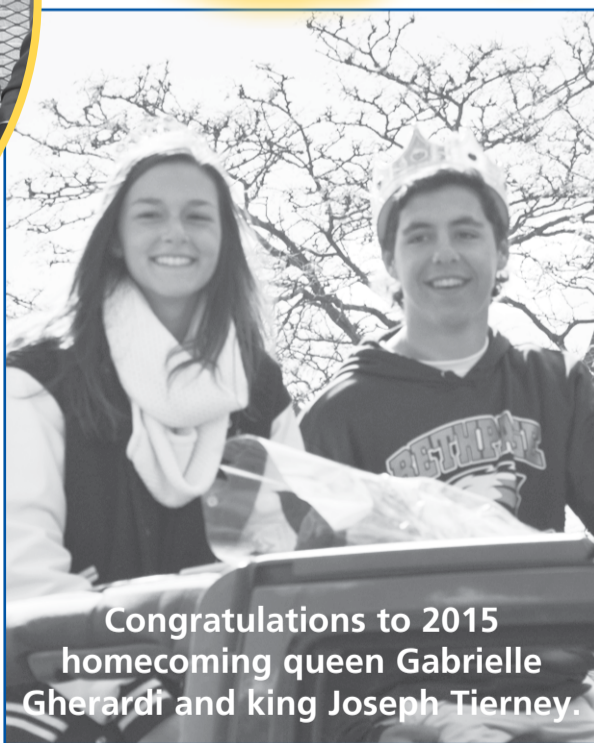


**BETHPAGE**  
GOLDEN

# EAGLES



"The Superhero Sophomores," the theme for the Class of 2018, took first place by the judges.



Congratulations to 2015 homecoming queen Gabrielle Gherardi and king Joseph Tierney.



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