

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HAMPDEN, ME  
PERMIT NO. 2

### 3 SAD 22 schools identified as “higher performing and efficient”

Three SAD 22 schools have been identified as “higher performing and efficient” schools in an updated study of Maine public schools by the Center for Education Policy, Applied Research, and Evaluation at the University of Southern Maine.

The schools are Hampden Academy; Reeds Brook Middle School, and George B. Weatherbee School.

Only nine out of 105 high schools (8.6%) in the state were identified as both higher performing

and efficient, and Hampden Academy was the only school in the Penquis region. The other eight Maine high schools were in Cumberland, Kennebec, and York counties.

A total of 17.9% of middle schools were identified as both higher performing and efficient, as were 23.6% of grade schools and 10.5% of K-8 schools.

Earl C. McGraw School wasn’t included in the report, but it can be considered high-performing

by association, since most Weatherbee students attended grades K-2 at McGraw.

Superintendent of Schools Rick Lyons said he was extremely pleased by the survey results.

“It bodes well for our system,” he said. “It reaffirms that what we’re doing at McGraw, Weatherbee, Reeds Brook, and Hampden Academy meets an independent definition of high performance. Not only that, but it confirms that SAD 22 schools provide good value for the dollar.”

SAD 22 was exempted from consolidation in 2008 when it was designated as a high performing and efficient school district.

As part of the study, researchers from USM visited Hampden Academy and Wagner Middle School on February 10-11 to identify the strategies and practices that high performing and efficient schools are using to support all students.

The researchers visited a total of 25 schools, including five high performing and efficient schools and 20 “typical” schools.

The researchers spent two days talking with teachers, ed techs, guidance, kitchen staff, bus drivers, students, and parents.

*(Please turn to page 2)*



# Link-22

MSAD 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport

24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

March 2011



Left photo: Contractor crews pour the concrete slab in the Wellness area. Right photo: Workers finish the slab later that afternoon.

### HA construction project about 40% complete and ‘moving right along’

The Hampden Academy construction project is about 40 percent complete and “moving right along,” according to Assistant Superintendent Emil Genest.

All of the structural steel has been erected, and temporary tenting and heating has allowed the construction crews to work inside on the classroom, kitchen, and wellness areas of the new building.

In all three areas, the crews have been pouring slabs for the flooring, installing exterior sheathing and window blocking, and installing the roofing material—rigid insulation, cover board, and EPDM membrane roofing. The roof is now watertight for the kitchen and wellness areas and about half of the classroom wing.

Contractor crews have been installing interior plumbing and electrical conduit in the

*(Please turn to page 5)*



Steel work for the Performing Arts Center balcony.

### SAD 22 gets state help for asbestos removal projects

SAD 22 has received approval for \$290,693 in loans from the state’s School Revolving Renovation Fund (SRRF) for removal of all asbestos floor tile at the George B. Weatherbee and Earl C. McGraw schools.

Both projects will be completed this summer.

The Weatherbee School loan will be \$233,725; the McGraw School loan will be \$56,968.

Of the total, \$200,461 will be considered a grant and forgiven. The remainder will be paid from the district’s Capital Reserve account so that our district citizenry will not pay for minor capital improvement projects from the local tax base.

### Sarah Young, Jill Kenney earn highest level of U.S. teacher certification

Two staff members in SAD 22—2nd grade teacher Sarah Young at Leroy H. Smith School and guidance counselor Jill Kenney at Hampden Academy—have achieved national board certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), effective November 2010.

National board certification is the highest level of professional certification for a teacher in the U.S.

Mrs. Young and Ms. Kenney are the third and fourth teachers in SAD 22 to be certified by the NBPTS. Nancy Simpson, math teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School, and Ira Weissman, special education teacher at Hampden Academy,

*(Please turn to page 3)*



Sarah Young



Jill Kenney

### HA student saves mother’s life by remembering CPR lessons

Christian Walsh, a Hampden Academy senior who took the required First Aid/CPR course as a sophomore, learned his lessons well.

Well enough, in fact, to save his mother’s life when she stopped breathing after she suffered an electric shock while using a jigsaw in her basement.

Christian performed mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, after which his mother, Gidget Walsh, started gurgling, and then gasping and breathing slowly.

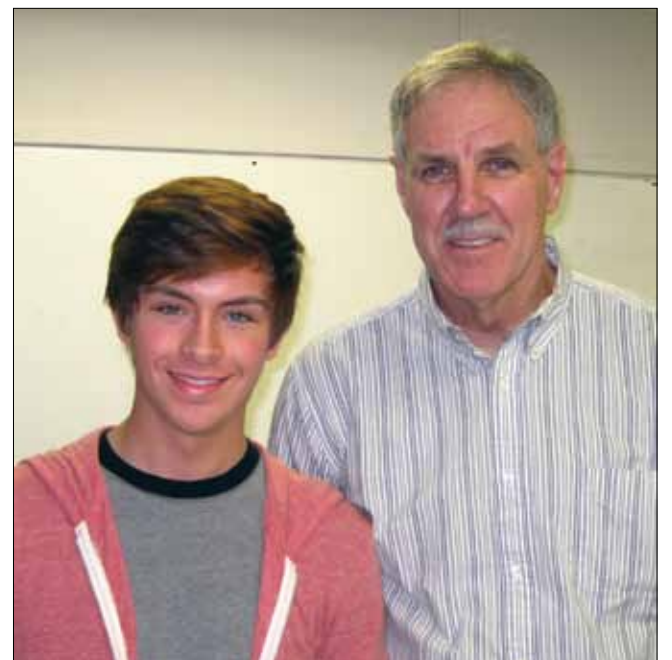
But before he started CPR, he made sure the scene was safe and called 911.

“Christian used the knowledge he acquired and the skills that he had learned, and applied them to perfection,” said John Plourde, who teaches the First Aid/CPR course.

The next day, Mrs. Walsh told school nurse Barb Parent, “Am I glad he took that class—I might not be here.”

Christian said he heard four loud crashes, and

*(Please turn to page 3)*



HA senior Christian Walsh and CPR instructor John Plourde.

**Superintendent's Report:**

# SAD 22 schools high performing and cost-efficient

By Rick Lyons, Superintendent of Schools, MSAD 22

We are delighted to note that an updated report by the Center for Education Policy at the University of Southern Maine has identified three SAD 22 schools—Hampden Academy, Reeds Brook Middle School, and George B. Weatherbee School—as both high performing and efficient.

The story that starts on page 1 of Link-22 has more details, and you can access the full report by going to the SAD 22 website ([www.sad22.us](http://www.sad22.us)).

But two points stand out:

First, performance scores at all three schools are substantially above the state average—and above what would be expected based on student demographics.

Second, SAD 22 has been able to achieve these high performance levels in a cost-effective manner.

If the USM report had been issued by Consumer Reports, SAD 22 would get a solid red circle for

excellent quality and a solid blue check mark for best buy.

Incidentally, Earl C. McGraw School wasn't included in the list because state assessments aren't given in grades K-2; however, by association with the three other schools, it has the same classification.

\* \* \*

I am also pleased to report that negotiations with the teachers and support staff have been concluded on terms that reflect both the interests of our employees and the needs of the district and taxpayers.

The support staff agreed to a three-year contract with no increase in the base pay scale. Support staff members will continue to receive step increases until they reach the top of the scale. If they are at the top of the scale and have eight continuous years of service in the district, they will receive a \$500 stipend in year 1, a \$600 sti-

pend in year 2, and a \$700 stipend in year 3.

The support staff contract also includes some changes in health insurance. The district currently pays 100% of single coverage and 88% of dependent coverage. Under the new contract, the district's share of dependent coverage will fall to 80% for current employees and 75% for new employees.

Support staff employees will receive an additional personal day, but the probationary period will be extended from six months to a year.

The teachers and SAD 22 have tentatively agreed on a one-year contract, which being submitted to the association membership and to the SAD Board of Directors for final action later this month.

\* \* \*

Budget deliberations have begun at the administrative levels and will continue during March and April, as we strive to maxi-

mize opportunities for students while minimizing the need for local tax dollars.

This year's budget will show the loss of federal stimulus money; however, the Governor's proposal infuses \$21 million into the funding formula to help offset the loss of federal funding. The district's valuation as compared to the state is favorable, and student enrollment is constant, both positive factors as they relate to our state subsidy level.

The administration is looking at enrollment trends in the K-12 schools, where K-5 enrollment is increasing and 6-12 is decreasing. The budget conversations will be held in public from early April to mid-May.

The District Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 9th. The District Budget Referendum will be held Tuesday, June 14th.

## SAD 22 Board looking at options for Hampden Academy reuse

The SAD 22 Board of Directors continues to discuss options associated with the existing Hampden Academy facility after the school moves into its new building in August 2012, according to Assistant Superintendent Emil Genest.

Mr. Genest said the board's Reuse Committee is looking at several different options. It will make a recommendation to the Board, which hopes to reach a decision by this summer or early fall.

"Nothing is definitive yet," says Mr. Genest. "Everything is in the exploratory stages."

The options include:

- Leasing a portion of the existing facility to house a regional program for students with identified disabilities that serves 15 area school districts, including SAD 22. This would generate additional revenue for the district through lease or rental payments.

- A magnet school or other innovative school, possibly in partnership with the University of Maine. This could generate additional revenue through tuition income, while simultaneously providing enhanced educational opportunities for SAD 22 students.

- Offering all or part of the facility to the Town of Hampden. This

would allow Hampden to increase its taxable property and aid in its comprehensive plan.

A public meeting that was held on January 28 to discuss the various options attracted about 45 people.

The agenda included an analysis of partial demolition options and environmental considerations, a market analysis involving a possible partnership with the University of Maine, a presentation by the Knowledge Transfer Alliance (a broad collaboration of UMaine departments, business assistance agencies, local community and economic development districts, and private sector representatives), and a review of state law governing reuse of public schools.

Demolition of the existing facility would cost between \$1 million and \$1.5 million, depending on how much of it was demolished and which parts were retained and improved.

If the facility is not demolished, heating and maintaining it would cost between \$150,000 and \$300,000 annually, depending on how much of it was occupied and how much was vacant.

If the SAD 22 Board decides to demolish all or part of the facility, a referendum would be required to

approve the decision.

Ultimately, the Board has to decide whether it wants to retain all or part of the facility for educational purposes. The Board of Directors can have immediate educational plans to implement, as well as subscribe to long-term educational strategic plans. If educational plans do not come to fruition, it may offer to sell or lease it to the town.

If SAD 22 offers all or part of the property to the town and the town accepts, the town can be required to

pay fair market value for the property, minus its apportioned share of the building. Since Hampden's share of SAD 22's local expenses is about 65%, it would have to pay about 35% of fair market value to acquire the property if offered by the district. If the town then wanted to demolish all or part of the facility and make the property available to a developer, it could do so. The town (or the developer) would be responsible for the cost of demolition, but a referendum would not be required.

## 3 SAD 22 schools identified as high performing and efficient

(Continued from page 1)

They also observed classroom activities and non-classroom activities, including the opening and closing of the school day, recess, and lunch.

The goal was to gather information about eight key characteristics of schools—standards and expectations, leadership, curricula, assessment, professional development, community participation, school culture, and use of resources.

The USM study defines a high-performing school as having the following characteristics:

- Three-year average composite scores on state assessments that are significantly higher (by at least one-third standard deviation) than the state average, and also above the scores that would be predicted, based on student demographics and prior performance.

- Two-year average percentages for Meeting Proficiency and Partially Meeting Proficiency that are above the stage average.

- In the case of high schools, a graduation rate that is above the state average.

Efficient schools are determined through a formula that looks at the percentage of students at or above the "meets proficiency" level, the expected performance based on pupil characteristics, and the school's per-pupil operating expenditures. A school that doesn't spend disproportionately more than other schools for the higher-performing student outcomes is deemed efficient.

The full report, "Status Report: The Study of Higher Performing and Efficient Maine Schools," can be found on the SAD 22 website.

## Teachers earn national board certification

(Continued from page 1)

achieved national board certification in November 2009.

Only 202 teachers in Maine currently have NBPTS certification.

To attain the certification, teachers must go through a rigorous year-long self-reflection process that requires them to prepare four large

portfolio entries assessing their professional and classroom practices and take a series of six on-line tests in their subject area.

The certificate, which is good for 10 years, meets most states' definition of a "highly qualified teacher" under the federal No Child Left Behind law.



# Link-22

MSAD 22 • Hampden • Newburgh • Winterport 24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

is published by Maine School Administrative District No. 22 for the citizens of Hampden, Newburgh, and Winterport.

**Richard A. Lyons, Superintendent of Schools**  
**David C. Wollstadt, Editor ([www.SchoolNewsletters.net](http://www.SchoolNewsletters.net))**

Maine School Administrative District No. 22  
24 Main Road North, Hampden, ME 04444

207-862-3255

[www.sad22.us](http://www.sad22.us)





View northwest toward the Classroom Wing, February 11, 2011..

## Hampden Academy project 40% complete and 'moving right along'

(Continued from page 1)  
enclosed areas, along with sanitary sewer, mechanical, and heat piping.

Work on the main electrical room is almost complete.

Mr. Genest said the project is

basically on schedule, although the crews may have lost a week or two because of the cold weather and heavy snowfall this winter.

He said about 80 to 90 workers have been employed on the site

this winter, and that number will increase to about 120 to 130 workers this summer.

Mr. Genest added that except for the structural steel work, the construction crews have stayed

out of the administration wing, the performing arts center, and the gym this winter. Those areas will be enclosed this summer, so that the interior work can be completed next fall and winter.



Heavy duty wiring connecting the new building with the transformer vault..



Workers shovel snow off the Classroom Wing roof.

## NECAP Performance Data

The NECAP is a challenging test composed of a combination of multiple-choice questions, items that require the construction of written responses, and essays. It demands that students use complex thinking skills to answer questions requiring interpretation, inference, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation information. This test is administered in grades 3-8.

### MSAD 22 Grades 3-8 MEA/NECAP Scores for 2009 and 2010 Percent of Students at Level 3 or Level 4

2009: Level 4 = Exceeds	2010: Level 4 = Proficient with Distinction
Level 3 = Meets	Level 3 = Proficient
Level 2 = Partially Meets	Level 2 = Partially Proficient
Level 1 = Does Not Meet	Level 1 = Substantially Below Proficient

### Elementary Schools

#### READING

Grade	Year	State	District	Weatherbee	Smith	Newburgh
3	2010	73%	74%	80%	69%	60%
3	2009	65%	65%	75%	48%	56%
4	2010	67%	74%	83%	55%	--
4	2009	71%	84%	84%	85%	--
5	2010	72%	80%	83%	74%	--
5	2009	67%	71%	76%	63%	--

#### MATH

Grade	Year	State	District	Weatherbee	Smith	Newburgh
3	2010	62%	69%	71%	72%	55%
3	2009	69%	74%	83%	65%	56%
4	2010	62%	70%	71%	68%	--
4	2009	66%	75%	78%	65%	--
5	2010	64%	76%	83%	61%	--
5	2009	65%	79%	79%	79%	--

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Grade	Year	State	District	Weatherbee	Smith	Newburgh
5	2010	63%	72%	77%	61%	--
5	2009	55%	59%	67%	41%	--

### Middle Schools

#### READING

Grade	Year	State	District	Reeds Brook	Wagner
6	2010	68%	77%	77%	77%
6	2009	70%	82%	87%	71%
7	2010	69%	79%	81%	76%
7	2009	79%	85%	88%	78%
8	2010	68%	77%	83%	65%
8	2009	71%	88%	91%	77%

#### MATH

Grade	Year	State	District	Reeds Brook	Wagner
6	2010	63%	79%	84%	68%
6	2009	54%	67%	71%	59%
7	2010	60%	74%	79%	62%
7	2009	58%	64%	70%	52%
8	2010	60%	70%	76%	56%
8	2009	53%	62%	64%	55%

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Grade	Year	State	District	Reeds Brook	Wagner
8	2010	71%	83%	87%	71%
8	2009	62%	70%	71%	64%

**MSAD #22**  
**Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport**

**4th Annual  
Dessert  
and  
Discuss**

**April 5, 2011 - 6-8 p.m.**  
**Reeds Brook Middle School**

**Topics being considered:**

- Internet safety
- Understanding assessments used in MSAD 22
- Math Computation and Every Day Math
- Update on the new Hampden Academy

**Childcare will be provided.**

## Drama Club to perform 'Skin of Our Teeth' March 24, 25, 26

The Hampden Academy Drama Club will present *The Skin of Our Teeth*, by Thornton Wilder, at 7 p.m. March 24, 25, and 26 in the Old Gym.

Director Sharon Zolper, faculty advisor to the Drama Club, says the theme of the play is how humanity has survived catastrophe after catastrophe throughout history.

Although the characters are in contemporary settings and modern dress, the first act has them dealing with the onset of the Ice Age, while the second act is concerned with Noah's Ark and the flood.

The third act has the characters emerging from World War II, which was being fought when the play was written.

Ms. Zolper says the play is a comedy, "but it's an absurd comedy with a serious underlying theme."

Senior Zach Hardy, who plays

Henry, one of the children, agrees.

"It's definitely absurd," he says. "It's so funny."

Senior Thomas Cowin, who plays Mr. Antrobus, the father, says the play is very unique.

"In past years, we've done comedies and the *Crucible* [a drama], but this one stands out as a one-off play that none of us has ever encountered before," he says. "It's going to be a challenge, but an exciting one."

In addition to Zach and Thomas, the cast includes Helena Tatgenhorst as Sabina, the family maid; Christin Casavant as Mrs. Antrobus, the mother; Sophie Lataille as Gladys, the daughter; and Derek Willette, Micah Valliere, John Rocker, Katie Asalone, James Cowin, Morgan Springer, and Marion Earley, all of whom have multiple roles.

There are 13 cast members and 40 roles in the play.

Juniors Olivia Dahlbergh and Jasmine Deschesne are members of backstage crew that will prepare costumes and work with the sets.

The backstage crew will have particularly important role in *The Skin of Our Teeth*, according to Ms. Zolper.

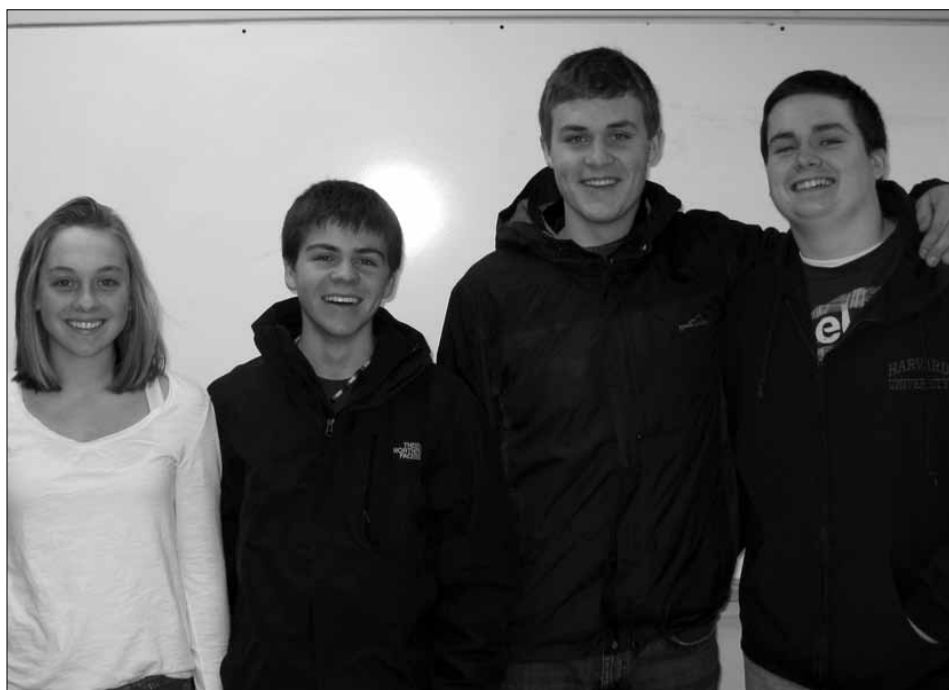
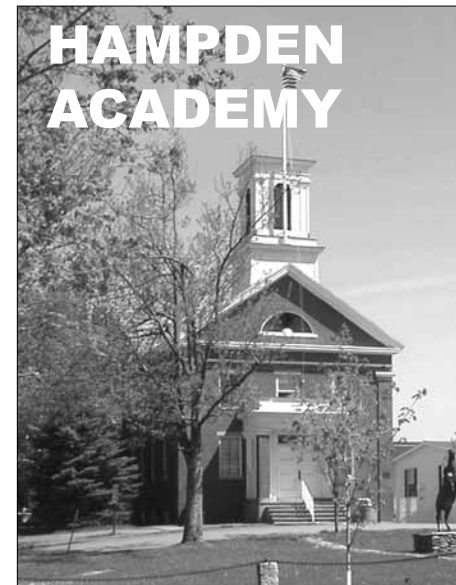
"We will have a strange situation where the set is deteriorating during the first act," she said. "Bits of the set are supposed to fly off [as a wall of ice move southward from Canada]. We don't have a fly system, so we'll have to remove them by other means—which means the backstage people will be working furiously."

Ms. Zolper says the play will require some audience involvement.

The impending Ice Age and the approach of the glacier means that the Antrobus family will need as much wood as it can find to be

burned to provide heat for their home.

"That includes chairs from the audience," she says.



Sophomore class officers (l. to r.): Anna Michaud, vice president; Sam Jordan, treasurer; Sam Ward, secretary; and Logan Lafayette, president.

## HA sophomores raise funds for Santa's Helper, Homeless Shelter

The sophomore class at Hampden Academy has held two fund-raising projects this year to support local charities.

The class raised about \$800 for the Santa's Helper Fund by putting out a donation jar at basketball games.

The Santa's Helper Fund is sponsored by the Bangor Daily News. The money received by the fund goes directly to the Salvation Army, which helps provide Christmas toys for children, meals for those who are hungry, and heating assistance and food baskets for struggling families.

The class also held a Valentine's Dance for children in grades 3 to 5 and a parent, which raised \$450 for the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter.

Class president Logan Lafayette said eight or nine businesses donated door prizes and other supplies for the dance.

The class is planning at least one more fund-raiser, but has not decided on the details.

In addition to Logan, sophomore class officers are Anna Michaud, vice president; Sam Jordan, treasurer; and Sam Ward, secretary.

The class advisor is John Plourde.

## HA student saves mother's life by remembering CPR lessons

(Continued from page 1) then the power went out and back on a few times. He called to his mother, but got no response.

He went outside, but still didn't see her, so he went down to the basement, where she had been cutting out Christmas ornaments with the jigsaw.

"The moon was shining through the window, and saw her on the floor," he said. "I saw that she wasn't breathing, so I went upstairs and called the ambulance."

The dispatcher asked Christian

if he knew how to do CPR. He said he learned it in school, and the dispatcher said she would help him through it.

"I did mouth-to-mouth, but not chest compressions," Christian recalled. "She had a choking, gurgling sound. She started gasping and then breathing slowly. Then the ambulance came and took her away to the hospital."

Mr. Plourde said he was very proud of Christian—and proud that Hampden Academy has made the choice to require all sophomores to

## Voices Unlimited in Rotary Club's 'All That Jazz' competition March 24

Voices Unlimited, Hampden Academy's show choir, will be one of four musical groups to perform at "All That Jazz 2011," at 7 p.m., Thursday, March 24, at Peakes Auditorium in Bangor, sponsored by the Bangor Breakfast Rotary Club.

The group will receive \$1,000 from the Bangor Breakfast Rotary Club for performing. It will also compete for an additional award of \$2,000, which will be awarded to the group that receives the most votes from the audience at the conclusion of the performance.

Also performing that evening will be the Bangor High School Concert Band, the Brewer High School Jazz Ensemble, and the Old Town High School Concert Band.

Admission is \$10 per person. Ticket proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity. Tickets will be available at the door. For information on purchasing tickets in advance, call Heidi Corliss, choral director at Hampden Academy, and 862-4962.

## 10 HA staff members learn about UTC programs through evening course

A growing number of staff members at Hampden Academy are able to provide first-hand information about the programs that are offered to juniors and seniors at the United Technologies Center (UTC) in Bangor.

UTC is a regional vocational-technical school that serves students from seven area high schools, including Hampden Academy.

Students spend half a day—either morning or afternoon—at UTC and the other half-day at their regular high school.

UTC offers 19 programs in 14 program areas. To learn more about those programs, educational technicians Steve Brown and Sherry Glencross and four other Hampden Academy staff members

enrolled in an evening course at UTC during the Spring 2010 semester.

Each class covered a different program area at UTC and gave the participants an opportunity to do the same type of hands-on work that UTC students do in class.

"The course was a real eye-opener for us," said Mr. Brown. "We knew that the kids went to UTC to learn a number of different trades, but we didn't really know what went on in those classrooms."

In the class session that covered UTC's Public Safety Program, Mr. Brown said he had to put on about 60 pounds' worth of protective gear, including an SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) unit.

Ms. Glencross said the classes were taught by UTC students, including some that she knew from Hampden Academy.

"We were very impressed with how they presented themselves," she said. "We were interested in learning, and they were just as interested in teaching."

Also attending the Spring 2010 course were Jocelyn Stilwell, Leo Smith, Brad Veitch, and Karen Grotton.

Two more staff members, Jeff Johnson and Pam Johnson, attended the same course when it was offered in the Fall 2010 semester, and Ken Mitchell and Todd Moore are taking the course during the current semester.

take First Aid/CPR.

"We've really bumped the expectations for all the students," he says. "The point is that we're teaching real life skills that actually saved his [Christian's] mom's life."

Mr. Plourde said that Christian not only remembered how to do CPR, but also that it was important to call 911 first.

"It'd critical to call 911," he said. "Unless you get the emergency action plan in place, everything you do may come to naught."

## 19 HA students participate in District 5 Music Honors Festival

Nineteen Hampden Academy students participated in the District 5 High School Music Honors Festival, which was held Friday and Saturday, January 28 and 29, at Foxcroft Academy.

The festival, sponsored by the Maine Music Educators Association, included an orchestra, concert band, and chorus made up of students from about 15 high schools in District 5.

The Hampden Academy students were:

Orchestra: Helena Tatgenhorst, violin.

Band: Simon Burditt, tuba; Renée Michaud, clarinet; Amy Cirinone, clarinet; Derek Willette, trombone; Lucas Holmes, French horn; and Andrya Ryan, flute.

Chorus: Jennifer Fortin, Eliza Nealley, Christin Casavant, Devin Slagger, Laura Sargent, Jackie

Estey, Zach Hardy, Marion Earley, Cicso Montes, Emmanuel Gallucci, Jimmy Sargent, and Gave Winch.

The three groups practiced on Friday and Saturday morning and performed at 4 p.m. Saturday.

The band was conducted by Peter Martin, band director at the University of Southern Maine; the chorus was conducted by Dr. Robert Russell, director of choral activities at USM; the orchestra was con-

ducted by Sasha Zaburdaeva, first violinist for the Bangor Symphony Orchestra.

District 5 includes 22 school districts in an area roughly bounded by Millinocket, Lincoln, Searsport, and Greenville.

The Hampden Academy students were nominated by Pat Michaud, band director, and Heidi Corliss, choral director, because of their outstanding musical abilities.



Vice Principal David Greenier and friend.

## Life Skills students, staff enjoy reunion

About 75 former students and staff members who participated in the Life Skills program at Hampden Academy over the past two decades attended a reunion from 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20, in the cafeteria.

The oldest student who attended graduated in 1998.

Life Skills teacher Ira Weissman said invitations were sent to all students and staff for whom addresses could be found.

He said he apologizes to any student or staff



Hugs are always nice.

in the Life Skills program who didn't get an invitation—and hopes they will provide current contact information so they can get an invitation to the next reunion.

"It was a great event," Mr. Weissman said. "A lot of former students enjoyed seeing people who had been special in their lives."



Sarah H. and Mrs. Hopkins.

He said a good time was had by all, and the general feedback was, "Let's do this again."

Mr. Weissman said the Life Skills staff would like to know whether people think the reunion should be repeated every year or every other year.

## 4 HA athletes earn medals at Sugarloaf Special Olympics

Four Hampden Academy Special Olympics athletes earned medals at the 42nd annual Special Olympics Winter Games, which were held Jan. 30-Feb. 1 at Sugarloaf USA.

Casey Bass, Aaron Carney, and Robbie Huntley completed in speed skating, and Emily Chasse completed in snowshoeing events.

Speed skating time trials were held Monday morning for the 100 meter, 300 meter, and 800 meter races. After the opening ceremonies, the athletes returned to the ice for the finals.

Casey placed first and received gold medals in all three events.

Aaron, earned his first Winter Games medals, bringing home the bronze in the 100m, 300m, and 800m events.

Robbie placed second and brought home silver medals for all three events.

## HA grad in Special Olympics World Games

Cailynn Goss of Hampden is one of three Special Olympics athletes from Maine who will participate in the Special Olympics World Games in Athens, Greece, June 25-July 4.



Right and left photos: Hampden Academy Special Olympics athletes display their medals.

Emily participated in the snowshoeing time trials on Monday

Cailynn, who was a member of the Hampden Academy swim team, will compete in aquatics events.

Cailynn is the daughter of Ray and Tina Goss. She graduated in 2008.

morning, but while her teammates were proudly wearing their medals at the Special Olympics dance Monday night, she had to wait until Tuesday morning to compete for a medal. When her chance came, she flew across the snow and earned two bronze medals by placing third in the 50 meter and 100 meter races.

Along with the medals, each of



the Special Olympics athletes came home with a beautiful handmade scarf. People throughout Maine made and donated scarves to be given to the athletes and coaches.

It was very moving to see the athletes and coaches wearing the scarves, which were made by people in the community—including some in Hampden—to show their support and encouragement.





Seventh graders from Mrs. Michaud's reading class read children's books they wrote and illustrated to students in Gwen Winton's kindergarten class.

## Math, reading interventions now part of Flex Time at Reeds Brook

"The good of a book lies in its being read"

The words of writer and philosopher Umberto Eco seemed particularly appropriate after 7th graders in Julia Michaud's reading class completed a unit on short fiction last fall.

The final assignment required her students to demonstrate their understanding of the elements of fiction by writing narratives in the form of children's books.

They wrote stories that followed common themes of acceptance, tolerance, individuality, and friendship, and Mrs. Michaud said they did a fabulous job, in terms of both

plot and other important elements of fiction writing. The creative illustrations the students added made their stories even more unique and memorable.

"We wound up with a wonderful collection of children's books, but something was missing," she said. "The books needed to be shared."

On a Friday afternoon in Novem-

ber, the 7th graders walked over to McGraw School, bringing their books with them. Teachers at McGraw were enthusiastic about having the 7th graders read their books to students in grades K-2.

The Reeds Brook students were paired with students in Gwen Winton's and Amy Hanson's kindergarten classes, and with 2nd graders in Cynthia Kelley's and Mrs. Fitzpatrick's classes.

Mrs. Michaud said all the students enjoyed the visit.

"They had a wonderful experience—young authors sharing their works with an enthusiastic audience of young readers," she said.



## 32 students from 5 SAD 22 schools participate in Special Olympics bowling

Thirty-two students from five SAD 22 school participated in the first Special Olympics event of the year—candlepin bowling at Bangor-Brewer Bowling Lanes—on January 18.

Four of the athletes were from Leroy H. Smith School, which was participating in Special Olympics for the first time.

"It was fantastic that the Smith School students could join us and do what Hampden students have been doing for years," said Andrea Lee, physical education teacher at Reeds Brook Middle School and a long-time supporter of Special Olympics.

Mrs. Lee said the candlepin bowling event was extremely successful.

"The students were really independent, and they were great teammates," she said. "The athletes had

a lot of training prior to the event, so they knew exactly what was expected of them, and when they got to the bowling alley, they knew how to ask for their shoe size, and get their bowling shoes on. They waited patiently

for their turns. It was such a glorious day, and the best part was that Smith was with us."

Mrs. Lee said students who had been participating in Special Olympics served as mentors to the athletes

who hadn't participated before.

"They took a leadership role, which was something special," she said.

"They were able to demonstrate their skills not just for themselves, but for others. That was awesome."

## 6th graders help make Christmas merrier at EMMC

Christmas was a little merrier in the children's ward at Eastern Maine Medical Center this year, thanks to the efforts of sixth graders at Reeds Brook Middle School.

The students collected books, puzzles, games, and video games during the week before Christmas vacation so that children who had to stay in the hospital during the holiday season could enjoy them.

On the last day before vacation, the

6th graders organized the items they had collected and got them ready for delivery to EMMC. They put a label in each of the boxes, saying, "Donated by Reeds Brook Middle School."

"The 6th graders really pulled through," said 6th grade teacher Jen Bowman-McKay. "When everything was taken out of the boxes, it filled a room with three tables full of collected items. I couldn't believe how much the kids had collected."

Ms. Bowman-McKay and Kim Haggan delivered the items the day after vacation started, accompanied by their sons. Nick Robichaud, a 6th grader, met them at EMMC to help carry the items.

The donation was welcomed by patients and staff at the hospital.

"They thought it was terrific to have new items show up just before Christmas," said Ms. Bowman McKay. "Just like getting Christmas presents."

## Ms. Albee partners with UMaine on after school creative problem solving class

An innovative creative problem solving program has been developed as an after-school activity at Reeds Brook Middle School.

The program, led by part-time social studies teacher Emily Albee, has allowed 30-40 middle school students to get hands-on experience with geochaching, visualization walls, supercomputing, boomerangs, and an introduction to innovation engineering.

The program, which meets from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is designed to bring innovation engineering, inquiry-based learning, and University of Maine research to the middle school level.

"It's basically an opportunity for enrichment-type activities to increase awareness of science, technology, engineering, math, and social studies," says Ms. Albee. "But there's a twist—students learn how to play, explore, and ask great inquiry questions"



Creative Problem Solving students on a geochaching exercise.

Ms. Albee also works part-time as a graduate research assistant at the University of Maine, which has provided material and financial support for the after-school program. She is also taking graduate courses in innovation at UMaine led by Doug Hall, Renee Kelly, and Margo Lukens and works on a number of other educa-

tional outreach activities.

Ms. Albee and three other teachers at Reeds Brook work with Dr. Bruce Segee on a National Science Foundation grant utilizing laptops in the classroom to create high visualization tiled displays.

Ms. Albee says the after-school program has some interesting innovation activities on deck, such as having students come up with different flavors for popcorn. "We have had great dialogues as a group looking at how innovation has played a strong role in their 11-14

years of life. Making connections to innovative ideas they use on a daily basis has been helpful with their own creative process. Students have already had practice with brainstorming and creating different ideas for different flavors of ice cream, pizza toppings, and different types of candy. This creativity

exercise is the foundation for how innovation engineering works. We

(Please turn to page 8)

## Explorer classes

Students in the Explorer programs at Wagner and Reeds Brook middle schools will be doing some real exploring this spring, as they follow the progress of two unmanned 4½-foot sailboats that will be launched from the Maine Maritime Academy training ship *State of Maine* in May.

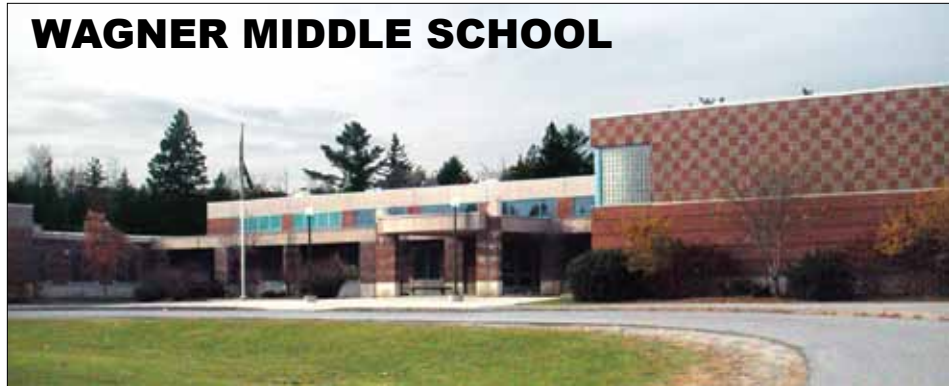
The two classes are participating in the 2011 Atlantic Passages program, sponsored by Educational Passages of Belfast.

The boats, which are designed to sail downwind with no steering, will be equipped with GPS devices that will transmit their positions via satellite every two hours.

The boats are currently being built by students at the Boat School in Eastport, using a hull design created in 2010 by Fitzgerald Marine Architecture



## WAGNER MIDDLE SCHOOL



### Student Council projects

The Student Council at Wagner Middle School has continued its tradition of community service by donating more than 100 towels and blankets to the Bangor Humane Society in February.

The project, called “Heart for Homes,” asked students to bring in small towels or blankets for use by animals at the Humane Society’s shelter.

Earlier this year, the Student

Council organized a food drive for the Winterport Food Cupboard in November and sponsored the annual Senior Citizen Luncheon in December.

The food drive was assisted by Winterport Open Stage, which was doing a production at the school at the time. The stage group offered patrons \$1 off the price of admission if the brought a can of food to the performance.

### 7th graders enjoy Greek Dinner Theater

Seventh graders at Wagner Middle School have completed their studies of ancient Greece with a Greek Dinner Theater and Olympics.

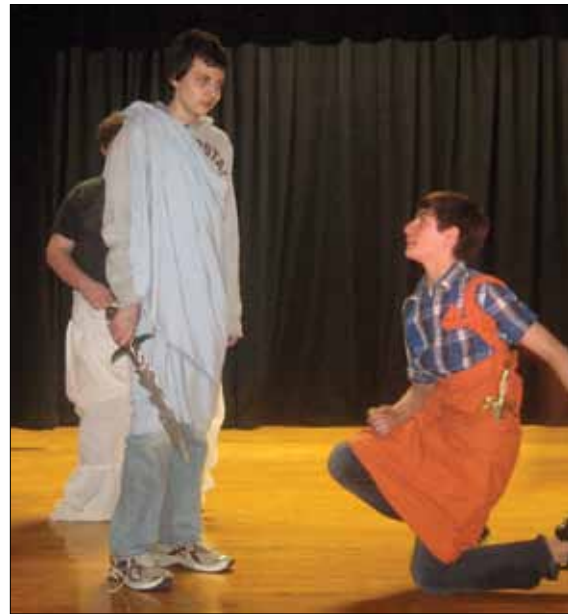
The students learn about ancient Greece in social studies; in English, they read the Adventures of Ulysses, which is based on Homer’s epic poem, the Odyssey.

At the dinner theater, the students enjoyed a Greek appetizer, main course, and dessert. After each course, they performed three skits, based on the chapters where Odysseus meets the Cyclops, encounters the enchantress Circe, and wakes up on Calypso’s island.

Later in the day, they participated in the 7th

grade Greek Olympics.

The students came to school that day dressed either in togas or in the costume they wore for the skits.



Seventh graders performed skits based on the Odyssey.

### Wagner band opens State House session with ‘Star Spangled Banner’

The Wagner Middle School band performed the Star Spangled Banner at the State House in Augusta on Thursday, Jan. 27, as part of the opening ceremonies for the House of Representatives.

As the band was playing in the balcony of the House chamber, the rest of the student body at Wagner was in the cafeteria watching the performance via Skype.

The band was invited by Sen. Mike Thibodeau of Winterport, but performed on the House side.

Band director Dana Ross said the group left Winterport by bus at 7:30 a.m.

After arriving at the capitol building, the students played a brief concert in the capitol rotunda to warm up, before the House sergeant-at-arms escorted them to the balcony, which is the public portion of the House gallery.

When they entered the gallery, there was practically nobody on the floor. Then a bell started ringing, indicating that the House was about to go into session, and within five minutes, the chamber was full.

The session began promptly at 10 a.m. with the call to order and an opening prayer, followed by the Star Spangled Banner and the Pledge of Allegiance. After the pledge, the



The Wagner Middle School Band with Rep. Peter Rioux of Winterport (left foreground).

Speaker of the House introduced the band.

“When the Speaker recognized us, the Representatives on the

House floor stood up, turned towards us, and applauded,” said Mr. Ross. “I think all the kids stood a little taller.”

The Skype transmission was a team effort by Sharon Baker, Health and PE teacher, who brought her laptop to Augusta with the band, and Technology teacher Stephanie Turner, who made the necessary arrangements to broadcast the image in the cafeteria.

The MLTI laptops used at Wagner have a video lens incorporated into the screen. When Ms. Baker pointed her laptop screen toward the band, the students could see and hear the band playing. When she point it down at the House chamber, the students could still hear the band, but they could see the same few of the House floor as the band members.

Shortly after being introduced, the band left the House chamber. The students posed for a photograph with Rep. Peter Rioux of Winterport on the State House steps and then boarded the bus to return home.

“It was short and sweet, but it was a really good experience for the kids,” said Mr. Ross. “A lot of them had never been to Augusta and the State House before. Now, if they see a TV report or news story about something happening at the State House, it will be more than just a picture on TV, because they’ve been there.”

### at Wagner, Reeds Brook participating in 2011 ‘mini-boat’ program

of Camden.

The boats will be delivered to Wagner and Reeds Brook in March by Richard Baldwin of Educational Passages. The students at each school will design the graphics for the boat, prepare finder’s instructions asking the finder to notify the school and hopefully return it, and assemble some school-related items to be included in a small cargo area on the deck.

The students also have to name their boats.

The Explorer class at Wagner came up with three names— Pride Tide, Clipper Skipper, Pridetanic—which were submitted as a poll question for the school’s brand-new school newspaper. The poll results will be announced during the week of March 7.

Reeds Brook students decided to

On April 15, a small group of students from both Wagner and Reeds Brook will bring the two boats to Maine Maritime Academy, so they can be loaded on the *State of Maine* and launched into the Atlantic Ocean when the *State of Maine* takes MMA cadets on their annual training cruise in May.

The fun begins when the boats are launched. Students—and anyone else with an Internet connection—will be able to follow the progress of the boats at the website [www.iboattrack.com](http://www.iboattrack.com) (click on “Educational Passages-Mapper”).

MMA will give the students some choices about the launch location. Typically, the boats are dropped off in the Atlantic Ocean north and east of the Caribbean islands, where the prevailing winds and currents are likely

to take them towards Florida and the Bahamas. If the boats encounter the Gulf Stream, the currents can carry them north and east past Cape Cod and towards Great Britain.

Michele Campbell, who teaches the Explorer group at Wagner, says project has provide opportunities for a lot of learning in such areas as geography, oceanography, earth science, and meteorology.

Mrs. Campbell said that once the boats are in the water, the students can start making predictions as to where they will make landfall. Then they can study the geography of those places.

Where the boats will wind up is anybody’s guess.

Of four boats that were launched November 2010, two made landfall on islands in the Caribbean, one went

ashore in a jungle area of Panama, and the fourth is still sailing about 150 miles north of Haiti.

By contrast, when five boats were launched in June 2009, one of them washed up on the coast of Ireland in July 2010, while another was picked up by the State of Maine crew in June 2010 several hundred miles off the coast of France after a journey of 8,473 nautical miles.

Mrs. Campbell says Educational Passages has asked if SAD 22 would be to help with curriculum for the mini-boat project.

She said Mr. Baldwin was impressed with the many different learning activities that schools have developed in conjunction with the mini-boats, but there’s no place where teachers can go to find that information.



# Meghan Schall nominated for Teacher of the Year



Mrs. Nickels announces that Meghan Schall is Weatherbee's nominee for Teacher of the Year.

Meghan Schall, 4th grade teacher at the George B. Weatherbee School, has been nominated for Maine Teacher of the Year.

"I'm very honored that the staff thinks highly of me," says Mrs. Schall, who has been teaching at Weatherbee for the past 11 years.

Mrs. Schall has submitted her first-round nomination packet, which included statements the school nomination team explaining why she was nominated, an essay by Mrs. Schall on why she should be selected, and four letters of recommendation from an administrator, a fellow teacher, a parent, and a student.

All nominees will attend a dinner at the Hall of Flags in Augusta on March 23, where they will meet the governor and the current Teacher of the Year. At that time, the names of up to six semi-finalists will be announced.

The semi-finalists will be evaluated during a school visit in April or May; in July, they will make an oral presentation and submit a professional portfolio.

Up to three state finalists will be selected for the final step in the evaluation process, which is an interview with five former Teachers of the Year and the Teacher of the Year coordinator.

The name of the winner is a closely-kept secret until it is announced at a surprise assembly at the winner's school in September.

The current Teacher of the Year is Shelly McNeil-Moody, a grade 3-4 teacher at Williams Elementary School in Oakland. She and Mrs. Schall have been friends since they attended the University of Maine at Farmington. One of Mrs. Schall's college roommates was also nominated for Teacher of the Year last year.

## Hallway outside of Mrs. Schall's classroom is Weatherbee 'book swap' HQ

Students at George B. Weatherbee School who are looking for an interesting book to read don't have to travel any further than the main hall outside Mrs. Schall's 4th grade classroom.

On the first and third Monday of every month, students and staff participate in a book swap before school starts, from 8:30 to 8:50 a.m.

The book swap is open to the entire school, but it is run by Mrs. Schall and her 4th grade students.

She says the idea for the book swap came to her when she was cleaning out her children's book-

shelves at home.

She said she was looking for a way to get students excited about reading, and she started thinking that the books she was cleaning out might be something that some of her students might want to read.

"I came in and talked to my students about it," Mrs. Schall said. "We started collecting books throughout the school year and then started a monthly book swap. Students would bring in a book from home that was in good condition and swap it for another gently-used book."

She said the students took



GEORGE B. WEATHERBEE SCHOOL

ownership of the idea. They started promoting the book swap, doing announcements in school, and inviting the other classrooms and grades to participate.

The students she has this year

have continued the tradition.

"This year, we have way more books, and we're doing the book swap twice a month now," she says. "The kids and the teachers are really enthusiastic."

## Weatherbee Principal wins 'Grown-Up Spelling Bee'

Weatherbee School Principal Regan Nickels has earned the title of Hampden Spelling Bee Champion by out-spelling 10 other contestants in the town's first Grown-Up Spelling Bee on February 11 in the Weatherbee School gym.

The spelling bee raised \$471 for Mrs. Penley's 5th grade class, which needs to raise \$2,500 for a planned overnight trip to the Boston Museum of Science this spring.

The runner-up in the bee was School Board Chairman Tim Pease.

Contestants included:

- Superintendent of Schools Rick Lyons and his wife Pat, who teaches 1st grade at McGraw School.
- Ruey Yehle, principal, Hampden Academy.
- Regan Nickels, principal, Weatherbee School.
- Tim Pease, SAD 22 School Board chair.
- Hampden Town Manager Susan Lessard.

- Officer Dan Stewart, Safety and Resource Officer at Hampden Academy and DARE instructor.
- Mrs. Penley.
- Jackie Ward of Channel 2, Joy Hollowell of Channel 5, and Tony Consiglio of Channel 7.

Judges for the competition were Weatherbee students Connor Roy and A. J. Todd.

The bee was organized by Jamie Roy, parent of Connor, who is a 5th grader in Mrs. Penley's class.

## Ms. Albee partners with UMaine on after school creative problem solving class

(Continued from page 6)

talked to the students about the process of creating and where their ideas originate. No idea is too radical or impossible. Our next step will look at how to make some of those ideas a reality."

She points out that SAD 22 is starting to look at innovation for the curriculum, and the after-school program provides an opportunity to test out some lesson plan ideas.

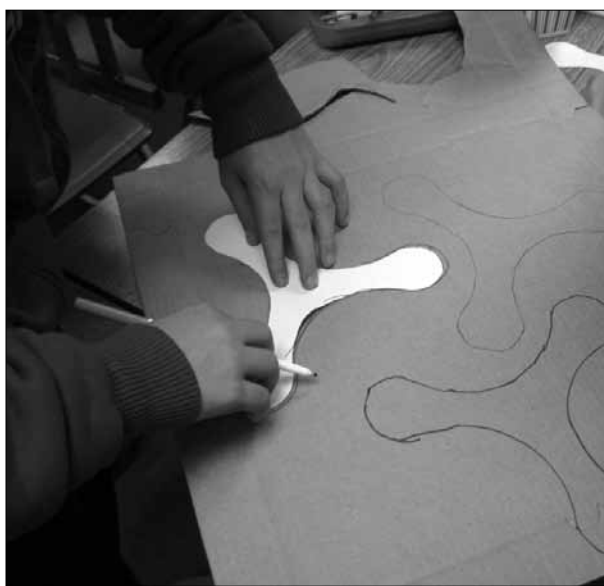
"The 7th graders have their invention convention coming up," she says. "We're getting into the innovative thought process—how you think about things, how you create things, how you make something better? We give them some play space to do that; we take away the fear of a grade and let them have fun."

The popcorn experiment will try to get students to create flavors that are unique to them without worrying about what other people might think.

"Hopefully, we'll get to do a little kitchen experiment and see how some of those flavors turn out," she says.

The initial after-school sessions dealt with geocaching and boomerangs.

The geocaching sessions included a review of the concepts of latitude, longitude, and what it means to have a GPS locator.



Making boomerangs.

Ms. Albee hid some caches around the school. The students went out in teams with GPS units to locate the caches. Utilizing computer resources at the University of Maine as well as multiple classroom laptops, the students plotted the coordinates on Google Earth and viewed the entire region from Bangor to Hampden and beyond utilizing the size and resolution of all the laptops combined. Each geocache could be clearly seen, as could the distance and geographic relationship between the geocaches and nearby features such as Speedway 95 and



Bruce Segee of the University of Maine.

Bangor International Airport.

The sessions on boomerangs were led by science teacher Rob Burke, who does a boomerang lesson with his eighth graders. Each student got to throw a boomerang outdoors; then they constructed their own boomerangs out of cardboard and looked at some of the physics concepts behind that. Finally, the students had a boomerang contest in the gym, to see how many times they could catch their own boomerang.

Ms. Albee says students don't have to attend every session of the

after school program.

"Once they get a permission slip, they can come whenever they can," she says. "There's no homework—it's purely enrichment, an opportunity to have learn and have fun."

Ms. Albee graduated from the University of Maine in 2006 after doing her student teaching with 7th grade social studies teacher Sharyn Hastings at Reeds Brook. She has a master's degree in middle level education and is working on a C.A.S (Certificate of Advanced Study) in technology and social studies at UMaine.



# At Weatherbee School, March is 'Read Across America' month

March 2 was the official "Read Across America" day, but at George B. Weatherbee School, March is Read Across America month.

Weatherbee students are being challenged to read as many books as possible during the month, and for every book they read, they'll receive a ticket for a drawing at the end of the month.

The Masons are donating a total of six bicycles—a boy's bike and a girl's bike for grades 3, 4,

and 4—which will be the drawing prizes.

In addition to the drawing, Weatherbee will have a variety of book activities during the month.

Community readers visited the school on March 2 to read to students. They read books by Maine author Lynn Plourde or they selected a favorite book of their own.

Ms. Plourde is scheduled to visit Weatherbee on March 15 and 16. She is the author a number

of children's books, including *Margaret Chase Smith: A Woman for President*.

The school will celebrate Maine Day on March 15 (the day Maine became a state) with a Maine lunch featuring blueberry smoothies and a birthday cake (saying Happy Birthday to the State of Maine). There will also be a "How Well Do You Know Maine?" quiz, and Maine speakers, including Lucas Rumler.



Renita Downer's 5th grade students display the charters they drafted on "Colonial Day."

## 'Queen' Downer's 5th graders enjoy Colonial Day

December 21 was Colonial Day for students in Renita Downer's 5th grade classroom at George B. Weatherbee School.

The day was the culmination of their unit on the history and daily life of the American colonies. As their final project, the students had to create a charter to form their own colony and present it to Queen Downer.

Ms. Downer came to school dressed as the queen, and most of the students dressed in colonial costume. The class did activities related to colonial times: the girls practiced sewing, the boys played colonial games (e.g., dominoes), and they all made homemade butter and applesauce.

In drawing up the charters for their new colonies, the students had to determine what kind of government the colony would have, who would be the ruler, what holidays would be observed, and who would go to school.

They also had to address other questions about the development of their colonies, such as where along the east coast of the new continent they would settle, how they expected to make a living, what crops or manufactures they would produce, and who they would trade with.

Ms. Downer said the students came up with 20-plus different names, with some naming their colony after themselves (think "Pennsylvania") or after Queen Downer (think "Maryland").

One surprising result was that the students' most popular spot for locating a new colony was the present-day coast of Georgia.

"I've no idea why," Ms. Downer said.

Ms. Downer said all of the girls in the class were able to find or create outfits relating to colonial times, which raised some eyebrows during lunch, because they were the only 5th grade class celebrating Colonial Day.

## 5th grader wins Geography Bee

Fifth grader Christy Rose Woodside won the Geography Bee competition at George B. Weatherbee School on January 13. More than 30 fourth and fifth grade students participated.

A preliminary round was held on January 6, which narrowed the field to 10 finalists.

Fifth graders who participated were: Ashley Fitzgerald, Benz Halog, Grace Hopper, Cole Beaton, Alexandra Buzzini, Nicholas Parker, Christie Woodside, Danielle Barrett, Didi Bryant, Ryan Collins, Jarrett Osborne, Orion Zydlewski, Killian O'Reilly, Chloe Thurlow, Zachary Frisch, Josephine Lawrence, Anthony Meo, Katie Nickerson, Connor Roy, and Michael Wentworth.

Fourth graders who participated were: Audrie French, Luke Kelley, Brady Lobdell, Alyssa Redwine, Cara Whitmore, Gabe Woodrow, Jakob Archer, Alexis Pressey, Nate Bailey, Autumn Beayon, Eric Smith, Daniel Fachiol, Nicholas Gauthier, Parker Harriman, and Elliot Mulford-Layne.



**WEATHERBEE GEOGRAPHY BEE WINNER**—Fifth grader Christy Rose Woodside won the Geography Bee competition at George B. Weatherbee School on January 13. Above, Christy is pictured with her mother, Sharry.

## Tired of winter? Time for a miniature golf tournament!

Mrs. Penley's 5th grade class at George B. Weatherbee School is sponsoring an indoor miniature golf tournament on Saturday, March 26, at Hampden Academy to raise funds for a planned trip the Boston Museum of Science this spring.

There will be prizes for the best male team, the best female team, and the best mixed team. Tournament scores will be based on a "best ball" format.

The entry fee for the 18-hole course is \$15 for a team of three or \$20 for a team of four.

Teams will "tee off" at five-minute intervals, starting at 9 a.m. The last tee time will at 5 p.m.

Jamie Roy, parent of one of Mrs. Penley's 5th graders, says the tournament will be similar to one held in 2006 for her daughter's Dollars for Scholars program at Hampden Academy. In fact, some of the holes

will be the same ones that were used five years ago.

"We've challenged the kids to come up with ideas for miniature golf holes," Mrs. Roy said. "It's going to be fun. Some of the holes will be simple, some more extreme. There's no limit to your imagination."

She said the tournament will post 10 rules pertaining to what golfers can and cannot do in the tournament.

At the end of the course, golfers will be invited to enjoy refreshments at the "19th hole."

Mrs. Roy says the 5th graders need to raise about \$2,000 to have enough funds for their trip to Boston. If the tournament proceeds exceed that amount, she says they'll leave the extra money for next year's 5th graders, so they won't have to raise as much.

## Indoor Miniature Golf Tournament March 21



**Tired of Winter? Can't wait to get back to the course?**

**Sponsor a Hole \$50.00**

**Mrs. Penley's 5th grade class is hosting an Indoor Miniature Golf Tournament on March 21, inside Hampden Academy**

**18 holes, best ball format \$15 for a three-person team \$20 for a four-person team**

**The proceeds will help Mrs. Penley's class take an overnight trip to the Boston Museum of Science this spring.**



**Tickets or Questions?**

**Call Jamie Roy 862-2843**



## 3rd graders enjoy dance instruction at Smith

For the second year in a row, third graders at Leroy H. Smith School have received seven weeks of dance instruction, thanks to a grant from the Community Health and Counseling Center.

The dance instructor, Stevie Dunham, one of the principal dancers with the Robinson Ballet of Bangor, works with the students for an hour each week during the seven-week session.

The final session includes a performance for parents.

Russ Bartlett, physical education teacher at Smith, says the students really enjoy the class.

"It's fun to watch some of the kids who aren't as involved in a traditional phys ed class," he says. "They get very involved in the dance unit."

He says some students are hesitant at first, because dance is a new experience, but by the end of the first hour, they're no longer hesitant.

From a physical education standpoint, Mr. Bartlett says dance is an hour of movement.

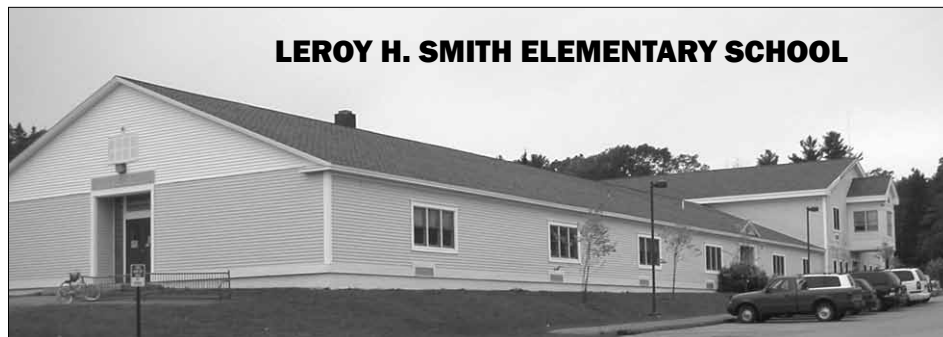
"It's a different type of movement than throwing, catching, or kicking a ball," he says. "It's all rhythmic movements. It's something the kids don't have a lot of experience with, but once they get going, they like it."

He noted that a lot of the students talked about the dance class when they went home.

"They wanted to show mom or dad the dance steps that they learned that day," he said.

Last year, dance classes started

in the spring. This year, they started in the fall with Mr. Carter's class doing the first seven weeks, followed by Mrs. Patterson's class and then by Ms. Barton's class.



LEROY H. SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Smith School Special Olympians compete in a snowshoe race.

## 6 Smith students get first taste of Special Olympics

Six students from Leroy H. Smith School are participating in the Penobscot Region Special Olympics events for the first time this year.

They are: Trent Palmer, Bailey Rahn, Dustin Bucklin, Joshua Leneski, Brianna Leneski, and Stephanie Sacobie.

The Smith students have joined athletes from Reeds Brook Middle School, George B. Weatherbee School, and Earl C. McGraw School, traveling as a team representing SAD 22 at both regional and state events.

In January, students participated in a regional candlepin bowling event at the Bangor-Brewer Lanes (see story on page 6).

On February 14, they competed in the Penobscot Area Special Olympics Winter Games at Hermon Mountain. Students competed in the 25 meter and 50 meter snowshoe events.

Students from Smith School were pleasantly surprised by the generous donation of hand-knitted Special Olympics winter scarves. The scarves were donated as a

result of the 2011 Special Olympics USA Scarf Project. They are symbols of unity, support, compassion, and empowerment. For more information about the scarf project, go to [www.scarvesforspecialolympics.org](http://www.scarvesforspecialolympics.org).



Special Olympics athletes receive their medals.

## Sarah Young makes 2nd grade classroom a recycling center

Sarah Young's 2nd grade class at Leroy H. Smith School does more than just recycle.

They've become a recycling center.

Since September 2009, they have recycled more than 42,000 items, in at least 30 categories, and they're hoping to use the proceeds to purchase solar panels for the school.

Mrs. Young started by collecting juice pouches and recycling them through TerraCycle, an organization that provides free waste collection programs for hard to recycle materials. TerraCycle's website is [www.terracycle.net](http://www.terracycle.net).

Terracycle provides free shipping; when it receives the waste material, it turns it into affordable green products, such as fencing (made from recycled drink pouches), Starburst insulated coolers (made from recycled candy wrappers), and plastic recycling bins (made from recycled plastic).

Mrs. Young's class gets 2 cents per item for most of the recycled waste products. Ink jet cartridges are worth 25 cents each; cell phones are worth 20 cents each. Several electronic items have been added recently, including laptop computers (\$2.50), digital cameras (\$1), and MP3 players (\$1).

The students learn the value of recycling and community service, but they also get a lot of excellent practice in their counting and math skills.

Students drop off items for recycling throughout the week.



Monday morning drop-off.

Friday is collection day, when the class collects, sorts, and counts the items. Two fourth grade boys come on Friday mornings to help count juice pouches. Recently, two other fourth graders began volunteering on Monday and Friday after school to help collect, sort, and ship items in response to the increased number of items being recycled by the school and the community.

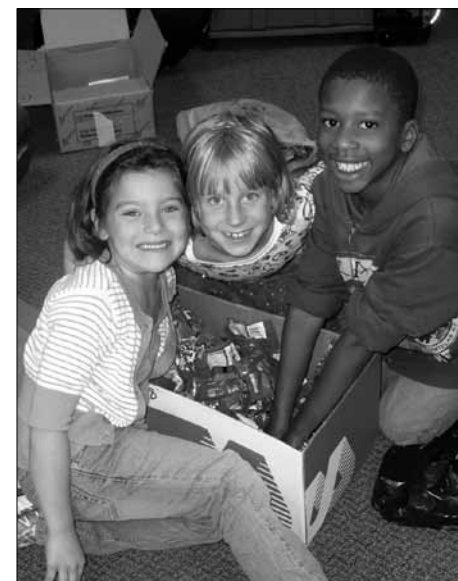
As of February 1, the following quantities of recycled items had been shipped to TerraCycle:

- 1,749 chip bags



Counting markers by 10's.

- 2,484 snack/cookie wrappers
  - 65 ink jet cartridges
  - 4,311 juice pouches
  - 1,700 writing utensils
  - 12,305 plastic containers
  - 660 toothbrushes/toothpaste tubes/containers
  - 1423 yogurt containers
  - 199 cheese wrappers and packages
  - 586 glue sticks and bottles
  - 244 tape rolls and dispensers
  - 114 Kashi packages
  - 119 Lunchables
- To see a complete list of the items



Counting Nabisco wrappers requires teamwork.

Smith School is recycling, visit the school's website at [www.sad22.us/smith/](http://www.sad22.us/smith/)

In January, Terracycle sent Ms. Young a check for \$276.91, based on items that were collected last fall.

Ms. Young says students, their immediate and extended families, and community members bring many different items into the classroom for recycling.

"Our recycling efforts have reached beyond Smith School's walls," says Mrs. Young. "We have people collecting from as far away as Connecticut."

One of her students, Hannah, told Link-22 that one day last fall, the pile of stuff to recycle "was taller than the students in class."



## 2nd graders perform skits about U.S. civil rights movement

Second graders at Earl C. McGraw School presented a series of skits about the civil rights movement in the United States on Civil Rights Night, Wednesday, Feb. 16.

Each of the five grade 2 classroom presented a skit, which covered:

- The Underground Railroad.
- Martin Luther King as a young boy.
- The lunch counter sit-ins in the early 1960s.

• The Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott.  
 • The March on Washington on August 28, 1963,

Second grade teacher Amy Nadeau said the



**EARL C. MCGRAW SCHOOL**

students gave a performance for the entire school on Monday, Feb. 14. The Wednesday night per-

formance was open to parents and community members.



Students could earn coupons by buddy reading.



A student pilots her scooter around the "luge" course.



Sledding was a popular outdoor activity.

## McGraw enjoys Winterfest

Students at Earl C. McGraw School enjoyed their annual Winterfest celebration, which was switched to the Friday before February vacation to ensure that there would be lots of snow.

The 16 classrooms in grades K-2 paired up and visited a series of eight stations with different activities. They spent 20 minutes at each station before moving onto the next station.

Two of the stations were outside; the other six were inside.

All of the activities, including the inside activities, had a winter-snow theme.

The two outside stations were back-to-back, to avoid the need for students to put on their coats and boots twice.

The organizational work for Winterfest was done by 1st grade teacher Pat Lyons with assistance

from many other staff members. She said she volunteered to chair the committee because the day is "too much fun for the children" to not keep it on the calendar.

The outside activities included sledding, organized games, and free play.

Inside activities included a "luge" course in the gym, where students piloted little scooters around a series of obstacles and a "snowball" fight, also in the gym, using puff balls.

In the carnival rooms, students played "musical snowflake chairs," walking around to music and then, when the music stopped, sitting on numbered chairs that were decorated with snowflakes. Numbers were drawn, and the students sitting on those chairs got a winning sticker.

Students also played snowman



Hockey was another popular activity during the ou

ring toss and mitten bean bag toss, ice-fished for magnetic fish, and got

a face painting of a mitten, snowman, or snowflake.

## Adult Education News

The SAD #22 Adult Education Program will again be offering course offerings this spring to residents of Hampden, Newburgh and Winterport. We were very excited with the positive response we had from many people concerning the programming that we offered during our fall and winter sessions, and believe that we will again be able to continue to offer a variety of courses and workshops that will appeal to many people. Most of our spring courses will start in early April.

In late March, we will be offering a Certified Nursing Assistant – Med Tech (CNA-M) Course at our Orono location. Certified nursing assistants work under the supervision of a nurse and provide assistance to patients with daily living tasks. To qualify for this (CNA-M) program, a person must have at least one year's experience as a CNA. If interested, please contact our office to get an application. The cost of this program is \$600.00 and applications must be received by March 18. Our next regular CNA class will be offered in late summer of early fall.

Some enrichment courses being offered during our spring session include: 3D Modeling Made Easy, Buying/Selling on eBay, Garage Band, Aerobic Exercise, Tai Chi for Health, Golf for Beginners, Yoga,

Cardio Fitness, Hula Hooping, Boating, Basic Fly Casting, Rug Hooking, ATV Safety, Watercolor Painting, Penny Rug Wool Applique, One Stroke Painting, Maine Driving Dynamics, Bread Making, 'Mommy & Me' Craft Workshops, Cupcake Decorating, Organic Gardening, Is Your Well Water Safe?, Making Event Calendars, Building a Healthy Lawn, Adding a Rain Garden to your Lawn. More a more complete list of our offerings, please look for our spring brochure which will be in mail boxes soon our view our web page at: <http://www.sad22.us/adulteducation>.

People who are interested in GED Preparation or who want free one-on-one adult literacy or ESL tutoring should also contact our office for information on how we can help you receive these services.

Again, our partnership with the RSU 26 (Orono, Glenburn, Veazie ) Adult Education Program is allowing us to offer a wider variety of programming to residents of both educational communities. Many people have been contacting us with ideas for courses that they would either like to take or teach. We value your input and continue to want to hear from you. As always, you can contact the SAD #22 Adult Education office at 862-6422.

At the theater station, students viewed a Frosty the Snowman movie as they enjoyed hot chocolate with snowballs (marshmallows).

Several of the activities had a literacy theme. Students read stories from the computer laptops with a buddy at the computer station, and in the library, students read a book to a friend, and for every book they finished, they recorded the book title onto a snowman or a mitten cutout. These cutouts were displayed in the main hall surrounding a giant snowman.

Mrs. Lyons said the end result was a very active day for the students.

"The parents love it," she said. "The kids use up so much energy that they all go to bed early."

The day was also a lot of fun for both staff and students.

"We have high standards and expectations for the children at McGraw, but we want to make sure that they have opportunities for playful time," Mrs. Lyons said. "It's a celebration of all the hard work that they do."



## Generous sponsors help get Foundation website underway

The Education Foundation's website will be launched this spring, thanks to the good work of volunteers and board members, as well as several generous sponsors. Four companies have pledged \$250 to serve as originating website sponsors: Piper Mountain Christmas Trees of Newburgh, The Coffee Break Café in Hampden, Landmark Heritage Trust, and Links Online Marketing in Bangor. The website will provide links for volunteers, donors, teachers, students and alumni to access Foundation information and resources.

## Time capsule project for new Hampden Academy

The Foundation is partnering with Forest Hart, WBRC, J&J Construction, and Hampden Academy staff and students to place a time capsule in the new Hampden Academy.

The 50-year capsule will include scrolls with signatures of the District's 2,155 students, teachers, administrators and alumni, as well as other memorabilia. The two scrolls were donated by a Foundation Board member and are made of archival parchment paper.

The capsule will be capped with a large medallion sculpted by Forest Hart and featuring a design created by Academy art students under the direction of art teacher Pat Craig. It will be placed in the lobby of the High School during the completion phase in 2012.

For more information on the project, or to volunteer to help out, contact the Foundation office at 852-2138 or [mspencer@sad22.us](mailto:mspencer@sad22.us).

## Molly Jones named honorary Foundation board member

Hampden Academy Senior Molly Jones was recently appointed a Student Honorary Member of the MSAD #22 Education Foundation Board. Molly, a resident of Hampden, has worked as a Foundation volunteer since last spring.

"Molly has been helping the Foun-

ation in many ways, and, on numerous occasions, has provided the Board with an invaluable student perspective," said Board members Jim Shue and Jim Tatgenhorst, who serve on the Membership Committee and recommended Molly's appointment. "She has maturity beyond her years, and it

shows in her comments and input."

Last year, Molly helped with the Foundation table at Children's Day, served on the Event Planning Committee and helped to organize the "Making Tracks for Teachers 5-K Fun Run." She also regularly attended the Foundation's monthly Board meetings, and

helped to inform students and teachers about Foundation activities.

"We are very fortunate to have Molly as an honorary member," said Foundation Board President Ralph Thompson. "She brings a lot of enthusiasm and insight to our work for the District."



**MSAD #22 Education Foundation**  
*Supporting Innovation in Teaching & Learning*

## Foundation board member profile: Jim Corliss

Board member Jim Corliss chatted on television with Martha Stewart, shook hands with the president in the Oval Office and has been interviewed dozens of times by major newspapers and radio from the New York Times to California public radio – all because of Christmas trees. You may have seen a story about Jim recently in the Christmas Eve edition of the Bangor Daily News.

Jim and his wife, Norma, have owned and operated Piper Mountain Christmas Trees in Newburgh for 34 years. He served as president of the National Christmas Tree Association for 2 ½ years, and was the first New Englander to do so. He retired from the Federal Aviation Administration in 1988 after a 33-year-career as an air traffic controller.

Jim's sociable nature, calm diplomacy and strong speaking and writing skills make him a valuable asset to the Foundation Board and an excellent chairman of the Communications Committee.

Jim and Norma moved here in 1969 with five young children, all of whom received



Jim Corliss

a solid education in the MSAD #22 system and, says Jim, "It didn't cost very much money. I've looked for a way to pay back ever since. I feel honored to be a member of the founding Board, and I believe we are creating something that will impact education very positively in this District for many generations to come."



**THE 2010 EDUCATION FOUNDATION BOARD** consists of members from Hampden, Winterport and Newburgh. Pictured here from left to right, back row, are: Ed Armstrong; Ralph Thompson, president; Trish Niedorowski, secretary; Annette Adams, vice-president; Jim Tatgenhorst; Jim Corliss; and Jim Shue. Front row: Clarissa Edelston; Lori Sargent; Jean Camuso; Molly Jones, student member; Adele Drake; and Robin Wood. Not pictured are Treasurer Bill Burke and Peter Witt.

## Calling all Academy alumni

Were you in the class of 1990? 1979? 1952?

Whatever year you graduated as a Hampden Bronco, the Education Foundation wants to hear from you! The Foundation is developing a comprehensive listing of Hampden Academy Alumni. The Alumni Project will help us keep better track of our alumni, and help us communicate in a more organized way.

Email or call in your name, address and graduating year: [mspencer@sad22.us](mailto:mspencer@sad22.us) or (207) 852-2138.

## An apple for your schools

You will soon start seeing apples around the tri-town area, not on trees, but on vehicles. This February, the Education Foundation launched its "Apples for Schools" campaign to encourage individuals and businesses to show their support for the Foundation and MSAD #22 teachers and students. The Foundation is raising funds to help teachers pursue innovative projects and to support the District in other ways as well.

The apple emblem features a

red apple outline with a gold star and is backed by Bronco purple. In appreciation for a suggested donation of \$100 or more, supporters will receive an emblem to put on their vehicle or display at their workplace. The Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization, so all donations are fully tax-deductible.

To make a donation of any amount, contact the Foundation Coordinator Melanie J. Spencer at 852-2138 or [mspencer@sad22.us](mailto:mspencer@sad22.us).

