



## Inside this Edition

Capital Improvement Project.....	1
First Lego League .....	1
Alumni Association Basketball .....	1
Addams Family Musical .....	2
Student Spotlight.....	2
Student Led Leadership .....	3
International Exchange Program.....	3
Fall Athletics .....	4

## VOTERS APPROVE \$13.5 MILLION TRANSPORTATION FACILITY CAPITAL PROJECT

On behalf of the school district and Board of Education, I want to thank the community and voters for approving construction of our new transportation facility. We are thrilled to be able to begin the next phases of this project, which is a critical need for our district. This project allows us to now address our aging transportation facility with one that is modern and that will meet our current and future needs. We will continue to update the community as progress begins.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Luthringer

### Updated Project Timeline



www.lkgeorge.org

## First Lego League

Lake George Elementary School students competed at First Lego League for the first time in three years. Thirteen students in 5th and 6th grade have been practicing since September to gear up for the January 28 competition.

First Lego League introduces students to STEM learning by solving real-world problems through a robotics program using the core values of teamwork, discovery, inclusion, innovation, impact and fun. Each competition is given a mission and based on this, students are asked to brainstorm ideas and build robots to complete these missions in a fast and effective manner.

This year, students participated in the "Super Powered Hudson Valley Qualifier" with robots they designed to have a positive impact on clean energy. This year, the team won the Innovation Project Model and came in 4th place for the Robot Model!

"We had to think of ways to preserve energy using a model and we chose the windmill," said Hope Farrell, a First Lego League student at LGES. "We used windmills with the idea to

make energy pads on the Northway that would charge cars. I like all the experiences, building models then using robots and seeing who can complete the missions the fastest."

Charlotte McFarland, another student participating in FLL, said, "I like how I get to try new things, and I'm excited for the robot game. I get to test to see how good I am against other teams, and I'm looking forward to that because I've never been in a competition like this."

First Lego League allows students to build their knowledge of STEM and creates a springboard for the Jr.-Sr. High School VEX robotics program.



## LG Alumni Association Basketball Tournament

The annual alumni basketball game has been a longstanding tradition for the Lake George Central School District. The reinvigorated alumni association is getting events going and continuing their dedication to the school community. This year, despite a broken rim and backboard, the alumni persevered and adjusted their game to half court. The Wincowski brothers proved to be an unstoppable force, going undefeated in all rounds. During the event the alumni association was taking donations with the the assistance of the Lake George Rotary and the Class of 2024 to contribute to our school district.



*We are lifelong learners, leaders, and global citizens.*

## The Addams Family Musical

Adapted from the book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, "The Addams Family" musical was director John Alecci's debut show at Lake George Jr.-Sr. High School. The Addams Family is a familiar story to American culture, and the musical brought together the idea of how misconceptions can be turned around and people can be brought together through understanding. More than 25 cast and crew members took their acting, musical, artistic and engineering skills to new levels over the 12 weeks of rehearsal.

"This musical allowed the students who had the lead and supporting roles to develop their characters, which created a full-dimensional show," said Amy Baker, the production manager. "Even the ensemble was encouraged to have their own backstories with a depth of personality, different costumes, and the cast members even made their own tombstones."

Each year, the school musical gives students the opportunity to grow in an area with which they may have previously had no experience. The school musical gives students with varying degrees of musical involvement a chance to walk across the stage as one united family.

"The family I built with everyone was so special," said Antonio Caldaroni, who played Gomez Addams. Reflecting on his senior year, Antonio said, "I struggled with finding my place, but being on stage was a unique and magical experience that I recommend to everyone. I had played minor roles before, but this year I wanted to try something bigger and it was incredible."

Anna Richichi, who played Wednesday Addams, said the largest impact for her was seeing the underclassmen and how they were excited to come to school because they had theater class. "This year felt like a new beginning. We had a new director and younger students in the play. Watching everything come together felt so good knowing we worked so hard," said Anna.

Samantha Tennyson, who played Morticia Addams, reiterated Anna's sentiments and added her own positive experiences with being involved in theater at LGHS. "The whole process of auditioning and performing in front of your peers leaves you vulnerable and can be scary, but it has helped me with confidence. This year I watched so many younger students grow in this area as well," said Samantha.

Reflecting on his time in musical theater, senior Jonah Coccozza said, "I've been involved since I was in 7th grade, and this year was bittersweet knowing this was my last year."



## Student Spotlight



### Travis Havens - Class of 2033

At 7 years old, Travis Havens is already making his mark in the world of ATV racing.

Travis started racing at 5 years old. "When COVID started, there were no sports, so my parents decided to let me do ATV racing. We went to Florida and trained with a personal trainer," said Travis.

Travis is working hard at getting first place in every race he participates in this year and so far, he has met his goal with much success. While Travis enjoys the cheers of his fans on the course and the sponsors he

has gained for his racing, he also loves the support of his classmates at Lake George Elementary School.

"Everyone is really supportive. Last year, we watched a video of one of my races in my class, and everyone was cheering and excited." Travis' biggest piece of advice? "Practice your hole shot, which is how you come out of the gate, and focus on that so you can get better."

Off the track, Travis enjoys his time at school. His favorite subject is math, and his favorite project so far this year was a "pic collage" he got to do of the book, "Monster."



### Samantha Gorey, Class of 2023

During her time at Lake George Jr.-Sr. High School, Samantha Gorey has been deeply involved in many extracurricular activities. As one of the captains of the girls soccer team, treasurer of student council and National Honor Society, and vice president of the French Honor Society, Samantha has balanced her senior year with both academics and fun. This past summer, through the Lake George Rotary, she was able to visit Japan for a month, and she will return for a year-long study abroad program after graduation. While looking forward to this experience, Samantha shared

that one of her favorite things about LGHS is that she gets to be with her friends in classes together and how they come together to help others.

"During the Student Council's 'Change for Ukraine,' I was learning how to work for the treasury position and I had to count all the change. It was really exciting how many people came together and donated."

When asked about advice for underclassmen, Samantha said, "Try to do your work on time, but also be happy with your work and your accomplishments."



## Student Led Leadership at LGES

Lake George Elementary School is proud to partake in Leader in Me, a program in which more than 5,000 schools across the country participate. The program sets a model for students to build leadership roles with themselves and their school community.

"Leader in Me is built on basic and core principles that everyone is a leader, and it works on helping participants be proactive," said LGES Principal Jim Conway. "The first step is that students are leading themselves and they are empowered to lead others, both inside and outside of their classrooms."

Student-led leadership has shown remarkable participation this year. Fifth grader Piper Brown enjoys the opportunity to create beautiful decorations in every hallway for each holiday, working with a team of about 10 other students.

The holidays haven't been the only time students have shown leadership, as the fourth, fifth, and sixth grade Lighthouse Team continue to give students the opportunity to grow themselves and the school community. Each action team proposes a positive change to improve the school, their community, or creates an opportunity for their peers to participate in.

Fourth graders Thomas Coccozza and Laura Atkinson have pitched their ideas to improve LGES, called companies for their proposals, and are making headway to change both the bathrooms and the ropes course.

Fifth graders Vivianne Bombard, Mya Contarino, Louis Musto and Alexander Galkiewicz all spoke about their projects with their action team and how they want to bring positive change to the school and to their local community.

"We wanted to make a difference for local animal shelters," said Mya. "We called around to shelters and asked what their needs were, and we will be putting bins in each cluster to collect items that they need the most."

Louis Musto spoke about plans to enhance the school lunch menu. "After talking with Chef Jeff, we learned we couldn't do everything we wanted, but he worked with everyone and we negotiated and chose some really exciting new options."

One of the most ambitious projects from the teams is the idea to install booths along the walls in the cafeteria.

Sixth grader Clara Fish said, "We met with Mr. Parrott, the new director of facilities, picked out booths, and started pricing and calling companies. We have help from an adult, but the kids are doing all the work."

Teamwork is the largest takeaway from each student. "My favorite part about being on the Lighthouse team is being able to confer and talk with my friends about our ideas and how we can be a team, and I'm not alone with what I'm doing," said Thomas.



## International Exchange Program Coming to LGCS

Let's see the world through another lens! The LGCS is excited to announce the launch of the Lake George VISTA Program, an international student visitor initiative. Starting in the fall of 2023, we will welcome several international students to LGHS and to the greater community for a year of cross-cultural exchange.

Designed as a financially self-sustaining program, the VISTA participants will pay tuition to the district to help cover host family expenses and district costs. We will be looking for host families to provide our visitors with a friendly and supportive environment for a full academic year. An information night about the VISTA program will be held Wednesday May 3, 2023. Watch for additional information closer to May 3.

### Some benefits of the VISTA program include:

- Broaden exposure to global perspectives and practices.
- Opportunity to share interests, hobbies and expertise with the global population.
- Help fulfill the district's Mission, Vision and Values
- Potential for enrichment to co-curricular activities and athletic teams.
- Provide opportunities for students to work toward achieving national cultural competence standards.
- Linguistic exposure to native speakers of other languages.

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**News & Views** is published by the Lake George Central School District to encourage interest in education and to keep the district residents informed of the school's activities and programs.

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## Fall Athletics

### Volleyball

**Overall Record 20-0**

Scholar-Athlete Team | ADK League Champions | Section II Champions | NYSPHSSA Class D Regional Champions | NYSPHSSA Class D State Finalist

### Football

**Overall Record 12-1**

Scholar-Athlete Team | Section II Class C Champions | NYSPHSSA Class C Regional Champions | NYSPHSSA Class C State Semifinalist

### Girls Soccer

**Overall Record 12-4-2**

Scholar-Athlete Team | ADK League Regular Season Champions

### Boys Soccer

**Overall Record 8-9-1**

Scholar-Athlete Team

### Golf

**Overall Record 9-3**

Scholar-Athlete Team | ADK League Indy Tournament Champion (Zach Bruno)

### Boys XC

Scholar-Athlete Team | ADK League Champions | NYSPHSSA Section II Class D Champions | State Qualifiers (Brendan Battersea-Manna, Sam Burns, Jonah Cocozza, Liam Fahey Stack, Oliver Herrick, Jason Ludlow, James Richard, Caden Willett) | Finished 7th in the State

### Girls XC

Scholar-Athlete Team | ADK League 2nd Place | Section II Class D 4th place

\*NYSPHSAA honors those teams and individuals that excel in the classroom. Scholar-Athlete teams are recognized with a certificate if the team's average GPA for 75% of the roster is greater than or equal to 90.00.

