

THE VIEW FROM THE HILL

News from Eastport Elementary and Shead High School

EES named "School Garden of the Month" for September

Samantha Cottone, FoodCorps AmeriCorps Service Member for Eastport Schools, and the Maine School Garden Network (MSGN) have announced that Eastport Elementary School's garden has been named Maine's School Garden of the Month for September.

According to the press release from the MSGN, "The school gardens were established several years ago by parent Connie Knight and a former teacher. Two enthusiastic parents, Knight and Amy Zipperer, raised a significant amount of funding through grants in order to establish raised beds and a toolshed. EES's growing space consists of two raised beds and two in-ground beds, plus a separate in-ground garlic patch as well as a flower garden around the school's sign."

Produce from the EES garden is incorporated into the school lunch program and used in classroom projects and taste tests. Students use the school garden to learn about topics such as life cycles in the garden, exploring the five senses, and making measurements.

Among the lessons students have learned in working with their school garden is that it's always good to see challenges as opportunities. As with many Eastport gardeners, one of the biggest challenges EES gardeners face is the burgeoning local deer population. Deer-resistant crops are a staple of the garden, including garlic, onion, oregano, crocus, and daffodils. The two raised beds have removable wooden superstructures covered with plastic netting, which makes crops inaccessible to the deer.

In honor of being named the school garden of the month, EES has received a donation from Johnny's Select Seeds of Winslow, Maine. Several varieties of seeds, including cucumbers, melons, lettuce mixes, tomatoes, carrots, green beans, and sunflowers will find a home in next year's school garden.

Cottone says, "I feel so lucky to be working with such incredible teachers and staff at this school. I am excited to be here again this year using the gardens with teachers and students as a learning space to grow and develop."





Outing Club summits Katahdin

On the long weekend of October 7th-9th, members of the Shead Outing Club went camping at Baxter State Park and climbed Mount Katahdin. The club members were accompanied by their advisor, Stephanie Allard, and her husband, Scott Fraser of the Outdoor Adventure Center (OAC) at WCCC, which provided the club with camping and climbing equipment and a van for the trip. CeCe McCoy, a Shead alumna and Adventure Recreation & Tourism major at WCCC, also accompanied the club.



Shead students participate in fin clipping at EMARC

On Thursday, October 12th, students in Stephanie Allard's biology and marine resources classes visited the East Machias Aquatic Research Center (EMARC) to participate in fin-clipping of Atlantic salmon. All juvenile salmon originating at EMARC have their adipose fin clipped, which does not harm the fish or its ability to swim. The fins are clipped on hatchery-raised Atlantic salmon as part of an on-going research project at EMARC's Peter Gray Hatchery.

According to the Downeast Salmon Federation, spring smolt trapping and electrofishing are the primary research methods. Their website states that, "Spring smolt trapping surveys allow biologists to determine the size of the population of salmon leaving the East Machias River on their way to the ocean as smolt. Electrofishing surveys allow biologists to get an idea of the survival rate of the fish stocked into the East Machias River and to check in on these young salmon while they are still in fresh water."





Shead freshmen and sophomores enjoy a morning whale-watching, thanks to a generous donation from an anonymous donor.

Eastport students see the whales

Thanks to a generous donation by an anonymous benefactor, Eastport Schools students have been given an opportunity to spend a half-day whale watching with Captain Butch Harris and his crew on the “Ocean Obsession.”

The gift was in support of marine resources education in Eastport schools. Shead biology teacher Stephanie Allard notes that the consensus was that “a good use of the funding would be to get Eastport kids on the water,” as many students had never had the experience of being on a boat.

On Tuesday, September 12th, Shead freshmen and sophomores and teacher chaperones were first to spend a morning out on the bay. On Wednesday, September 13th, it was the juniors’ and seniors’ turn. Both groups reported perfect weather and whale, porpoise, seal, and eagle sightings. Eastport Elementary students also went on whale-watching trips in two groups, with younger students’ trip being shorter.

In preparation for the trips, Allard provided a reading and activity about whales in the Gulf of Maine, which students completed in her biology classes. Some other teachers also chose to use the material, tied to the life science curriculum, as enrichment in their classes.

The students and staff thank Captain Harris and Eastport Windjammers for providing this memorable experience. He made the trips available at a reduced rate, which the schools greatly appreciate as it made the donation stretch further, allowing more grades to access the trip. Thanks also to Hank Young, who provided some excellent commentary on local maritime history and marine life, and to Shead sophomore Jason Garnett, who is working with Eastport Windjammers to log sea-time in preparation for an ocean-going career.



EES, Shead student elections held

Student elections for class officers have been held at both Eastport Elementary and Shead High. The elections at Shead are under the direction of the student senate, to which classes elected members earlier this fall.

Eastport Elementary School eighth grade:
president, Allison Crabtree;
vice-president, Kahlysta Morris
co-secretaries, Katie Bartlett, Lulu Calame
treasurer, Winnie French

Shead senior class:
president, Cassidy Wilder
vice-president, Maritza Olson
secretary-treasurer, Audrey Bradbury
student senators: Aaron Lank, Maya Tirado

Shead junior class:
president, Keegan Miller
vice-president, Madison Greenlaw
secretary, Roxanna MacGregor
treasurer, Trever Fenderson
student senators: Jacquelyn Cook, C.J. Francis

Shead sophomore class:
president, Cassidee Lawrence
vice-president, Cassandra Bore
secretary, Felicia Smith
treasurer, Justine Cheney
student senators: Sarah Bartlett, Halle Sullivan

Shead freshman class:
president, Brenden Cox
vice-president, Anasia Tucker
secretary, Rebecca Johnston
treasurer, Teryn Oravec-Smith
student senators: Ryleigh Andrews, Johnathan Sutton

Shead student senate officers:
president, Jacquelyn Cook
vice-president, C.J. Francis
secretary, Halle Sullivan
treasurer, Sarah Bartlett

The EES Eighth-grade advisor is Allicia Mitchell. Mitchell is also the Shead student senate advisor. Junior class advisor is Tara Poole. Senior class advisor is Catherine Lee, assisted by Jennifer Simmons.

Eastport Schools hold annual dinner and open house

On Thursday, September 7th, the Eastport School Department held its annual parent/student/teacher dinner, sponsored by Shead High School's grant from the MELMAC Education Foundation. The dinner, prepared by cafeteria manager Dana Bowen and his staff, included roast chicken with all the fixings and blueberry cake for dessert.

After dinner, Eastport Elementary School held an open house for parents. Parents of the freshmen and of some seventh and eighth graders attended a presentation by principal Paul Theriault and technology coordinator Nathaniel Moore. Theriault introduced the standards-based grading system and diploma that the freshmen and subsequent classes will be working with during high school. In addition to showing precisely where all students are in meeting core academic standards, the new system was adopted because of a change in state law, which states that all students in the class of 2021 and later will graduate under the standards-based process.

Theriault also presented information about using the Web2School portal, which shows current and past grades, attendance, and progress towards graduation. Moore introduced parents to the one-to-one iPad process at Shead, including rules for usage.

Seniors and their parents attended a workshop by Nicole Vachon of the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) about applying for financial aid for college and completing the FAFSA financial aid forms. Following the FAME presentation, senior class advisor Catherine Lee and guidance counselor Leah McLean discussed senior-class activities, fund-raising, and yearbook with the seniors and their parents.

Shead is a multi-year recipient of the "Connect Aspirations to a Plan Grant" from the MELMAC Education Foundation. The grant supports activities such as the dinner, the annual trip to the National College Fair in Boston, college campus visits, and other career and college identification activities.



Shead students look at colleges

Thanks to Shead's "Connect Aspirations to a Plan" grant from the MELMAC Education Foundation, 23 freshmen, sophomores, juniors and their chaperones were able to attend the New England Association for College Admissions Counseling (NEACAC) College Fair on Tuesday, September 26th, at the New Balance Field House at the University of Maine in Orono.

College admissions counselors from all over New England, the Maritimes, New York, New Jersey, and beyond were in attendance. Shead students were provided a list of relevant questions to guide them in their conversations with the colleges that interested them. Some students were excited to find colleges they felt would be a perfect fit. In addition, the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME), the Maine Air National Guard, and the New England Board of Higher Education, which helps students with tuition breaks, were available to talk to interested students.

Students also visited the New England School of Communications (NESCom) at Husson University for a tour of its facilities. The students and their chaperones spent some time at NESCom's WHSN-89.3 FM radio station for a tour and demonstration. Shead music



teacher and WSHD radio advisor Robert Sánchez and WSHD DJ Roney Buskirk met the group at WHSN. Some students expressed interest in working for Shead radio, Maine's only high school radio station, after the tour.

Thanks to ever-patient and cheerful Robert Patterson for driving the bus!



JMG students volunteer for Suddy race

Every year, Shead Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) students kick off the school year volunteering at the Suddy 5K Walk/Run and 1-Mile Fun Run for Kids. JMG students spread out along the route assisting runners, passing out water, and tracking finish times.

This annual event is held in memory of Jay Michael Suddy, a 1991 Shead graduate and former athlete. Suddy, who graduated with honors in sports medicine from the University of Maine at Presque Isle and worked as fitness director at the Boston Athletic Club (BAC), was killed in a motor vehicle accident in Charleston, South Carolina, in 2005.

The race that Suddy established at the BAC continued after his passing, and moved to Eastport for the 2010 Pirate Festival. Organizers noted that the race was very successful, with a large number of participants, observers, and sponsors. Funds raised by the race are used to award scholarships for the post-secondary education of students graduating from high school in Jay's hometown of Eastport.

In the years since the race was established, 44 Shead graduates have been awarded \$42,250 in scholarships from the Jay Michael Suddy Foundation.



JMG students to attend NSLA 2017

Among the four students from Maine who will attend the Jobs for America's Graduates (JMG) 20th Annual National Student Leadership Academy (NSLA) in Washington, DC, this November are two from Shead High School. Juniors Roxanna MacGregor of Eastport and Keegan Miller of Pembroke will join more than 400 other Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) students from across the United States to participate in an intensive series of leadership development workshops, team-building activities, and competitions. In addition, students and their school's specialists will have the opportunity to participate in some sightseeing excursions, including a twilight tour of several monuments and Arlington National Cemetery. Participants for the NSLA were selected through a competitive internal application process.

As well as recognizing outstanding JAG students, the academy provides them a unique opportunity to expand their skills, network with their JAG peers, and experience the nation's capitol. Students and their school's specialists will gather on Wednesday, November 29 through Saturday, December 2. The topic question for NSLA 2017 participants is, "How has JAG helped you own your future?" Four competitions will take place during the NSLA, including Math Skills (identify, solve and apply mathematical principles), Public Speaking (organize and present facts or information about a specific topic), Project-Based Learning (create a presentation highlighting a unit of study in JAG competencies or Career Association activities), and Employability Skills (demonstrate ability to secure employment through proficiency in the job application process and interview situations).

Shead's JMG specialist, Tara Poole, will accompany MacGregor and Miller. She says, "We are proud to have these students representing Shead High School and the state of Maine in Washington, D.C. We know you will make us proud."

**Remember to
VOTE!**



Tuesday

November 7th

in the Shead gym



Shed students staff annual Turkey-a-thon

Friday the 13th turned out to be a lucky day for many area families who weren't sure whether they'd have a turkey for Thanksgiving. That day the annual Turkey-a-thon was held throughout Washington County—coincidentally, the 13th year for the event, which is organized by WQDY Classic Hits 92.7/95.3, The Border 102.9, Healthy Acadia, and Dunkin Donuts.

A \$12 donation buys a turkey for a local family in need, and 100% of the money raised goes to food pantries in Washington County in the form of gift certificates for local grocery stores. Eastport's goal for this year was to surmount last year's total of money raised for 391 turkeys—and Eastport did! Funds were donated to purchase 491 turkeys; 2501 turkeys will be going out to Washington County families.

At Raye's Mustard Mill, Shedd students representing classes, sports teams, and organizations, and their teachers, coaches, and advisors, braved a day that started off cloudy and chilly but later warmed and brightened. Among the groups volunteering to hold signage and collect donations during the school day were Shedd's Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) students and the soccer teams. All agreed it was another satisfying day of community service.

Students to participate in Gallup Poll

Eastport students will be among those taking part in the national Gallup Student Poll (GSP) during the last two weeks of October. The GSP is a 24-item survey available on the web for students in grades 5 through 12 provided at no cost to schools, and is part of Shedd's MELMAC grant requirements. It includes the following themes: Engagement (the student's involvement in and enthusiasm for school); Hope (the ideas and energy students have for the future); Entrepreneurial Aspiration (the talent and energy for building businesses that survive, thrive and employ others); and Career/Financial Literacy (the information, attitudes and behaviors that students need to practice for healthy participation in the economy).

As well as giving students a voice in building great schools, results provide schools with important, actionable information beyond standard measures (grades and test scores) to help schools prepare students for the future. The GSP is anonymous and voluntary. Students can opt out, and a form has been emailed from the guidance department for that process. Students and their parents can visit the GSP homepage on the web at <http://www.gallupstudentpoll.com> to view the survey items and learn more.

Shead High School calendar

October

- 19 1:30 pm release for students
- 20 Freshman Reception
- 25 Deadline for November SAT registration (with fee waiver)
- 26 1:30 pm release for students
- 27 Senior class: Yankee Candle sales begin
First term ends
- 31 Senior class: November cash calendar sales end

November

- Daily Cash calendar drawings
- 2 Presentation, University of Maine at Presque Isle
- 3 ASVAB testing
Deadline for December SAT registration (without fee waiver)
- 5 SAT testing
- 8 Parent-teacher conferences 3:00 - 7:00 pm
- 9 Lunchtime release
Senior class: Yankee Candles sales end
- 10 Veteran's Day, no school
- 13 Senior class: Yankee Candles orders due
- 16 1:30 pm release for students
- 22 Deadline for December SAT registration (with fee waiver)
Lunchtime release, Thanksgiving break begins
- 28 School resumes
- 29 Josten's at Shead to take senior orders
- 30 1:30 pm release for students

December

- 6 Lunchtime release for students
- 14 1:30 pm release for students
- 21 Lunchtime release, Winter holiday break begins

Dates to be announced:

- Basketball schedules
- Holiday concert
- Christmas dinner

October 27th to
November 13th

The Shead Class of 2018
will be taking orders for
YANKEE CANDLES
with delivery in time for
Christmas.

Please see any senior
to place an order.



Peas in the EES garden!

The View From the Hill is published by the Eastport School Department
with support from the MELMAC Education Foundation.

Thanks to Stephanie Allard, Samantha Cottone, Allicia Mitchell, and Tara Poole for this issue's photos.

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The Shead High School community liaison is Catherine Lee.