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# Sachem's Best



## SACHEM EDUCATOR NAMED "PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR"

Congratulations to Michael A. Lewis, a fourth-grade teacher at Nokomis Elementary in the Sachem Central School District, who has been named "Professional of the Year" by Cambridge Publishing and will be inducted into the "Who's Who Among American Teachers" publication.

Prior to his involvement in education, Mr. Lewis served as a communications specialist with the United States Air Force from 1978 to 1982. He graduated from Dowling College in 2002 with a master's degree in education, and earned certifications in social sciences, elementary education and business administration. He is a former post commander for the American Legion and is a member of his local historical society, Kappa Delta Pi and Sachem's Sports and Scholarships Committee.

## SACHEM STUDENT'S ARTWORK HITS THE ROAD

Hiawatha Elementary School in the Sachem School District held a special assembly on October 2 to applaud students Madeline Kirchoff and Kaitlyn Lauro, who were recognized as winners in the New York Association for Pupil Transportation bumper sticker contest.

Madeline, a second grade student, was awarded first place in the statewide contest. Her winning bumper sticker design has been used on bumper stickers that will be distributed throughout New York State. Kaitlyn, a third grader at Hiawatha, was awarded third place for her bumper sticker design.

Madeline's award-winning bumper sticker design reminds drivers to follow the law and stop for school buses. The Sachem School District also encourages community members to be aware of school speed zones and abide by safe driving practices - school is in session!ommittee.



(left to right) Hiawatha Principal Dr. Anthony Mauro congratulates Kaitlyn Lauro, art teacher Mrs. Heather Paul and Madeline Kirchoff on their successful participation in the NYAPT bumper sticker contest.

## SACHEM MARCHING BAND PLACES FOURTH IN STATE COMPETITION; LEADS LONG ISLAND SCHOOLS IN DIVISION

On Sunday, November 1, the Sachem Arrows Marching Band traveled to Syracuse to participate in the 36th annual Championship Show of the New York State Field Band Conference (NYSFBC). In a very tight competition where the top groups were separated by only a few points, Sachem earned fourth place honors with a score of 81.7 in the Large School 3 Class.

Sachem has led all Long Island schools in their division throughout this season and was the highest-placing Long Island school at the championships. The team has garnered much success this year, despite the poor weather which hindered many of the opportunities to perfect the show and receive comments from field band adjudicators.

The Sachem Arrow Marching Band is comprised of 20 dedicated students. The staff and performers begin planning and preparations for the fall marching band season as early as March of the previous year, with regular rehearsals taking place over the summer. This year's repertoire of selections from Cirque du Soleil's "La Nouba" featured "Distorted," "Reve Rouge," "A La Lune," and "Urban."

The band is directed on the field by student Drum Majors Caitlin Yovino and Casey Keenan. The professional staff includes: Band Director George Macchio (Sequoia Middle School); Assistant Director Michael Carroll (Sachem High School East); Show Coordinator Jason Macy (Tamarac and Waverly Elementary Schools); and Colorguard Assistant Jennifer Fischer (Sagamore and Samoset Middle Schools). Additional staff includes: Percussion Instructor Michael Macchio; Colorguard Instructor Kelly Demato; Colorguard Assistant Designer Robb Normandeau; and Visual Designer Eugene Bennett.

Congratulations to the Sachem Arrows Marching Band on another award-winning season!



(L-R) Jason Macy, George Macchio, Michael Carroll, Michael Macchio, Kelly Demato, Jennifer Fischer, Robb Normandeau



Drum Majors Caitlin Yovino and Casey Keenan march the band off the field after receiving the fourth-place award