

## Key Club Partners with Kiwanis

"Readers From Birth" is a delightful story hour tailored for our littlest learners, ages 0-5, in the Solvay-Geddes-Camillus community. Launched in 2018, this collaborative initiative brings together the SHS Key Club and our supportive Kiwanis partners. Each month, children from the surrounding area gather at SHS for a themed story hour led by our very own high school students. This special event not only combines storytelling and hands-on creative activities, but also provides a safe and welcoming environment for young children and their parents to connect and interact. We enjoy Readers every month and look forward to continuing this shared effort for years to come.



## SHS Artists Receive CNY Scholastic Art Awards

Congratulations to SHS artists Emma Rutkowski and Jason Davis for receiving Honorable Mention distinctions in this year's CNY Scholastic Art Awards. Emma's "One-Two Step" and Jason's "Cascade Fresh" (pictured below left to right) are featured in the Ceramics and Glass category at the Scholastic Art Show hosted at Onondaga Community College.

Students from 14 counties and 87 schools around Central New York submitted over 4,000 pieces of artwork for judging. A panel of professional artists, educators and photographers judged the pieces and selected nearly 1,300 works for Gold Key, Silver Key and Honorable Mention awards in 17 categories.



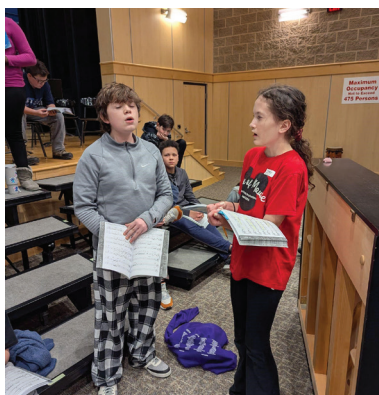


## Family Engagement Night at SMS



Over 200 families attended family engagement night participating in crafts and enjoying pizza. The ENL teachers also hosted an informational session for our ENL families. Thank you to everyone that volunteered their time to make this a special night.

## SMS Presents *Frozen, Jr.*



“For the first time in forever”, Solvay Middle School is excited to present *Frozen, Jr.* Performances are scheduled for March 28 at 7:00 p.m. and March 29 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for each show. A

portion of the proceeds from Saturday night’s performance will be donated to a charity chosen by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade cast members. Contact [dhelinger@solvayschools.org](mailto:dhelinger@solvayschools.org) for presale ticket information.



## Kindergarten Feast





## NYSSMA Stars

Congratulations to Vincent Fragola, Elizabeth Plouffe, Evangeline Roebig and Andrianna Van Slyke on being selected to participate in the 2024 NYSSMA, Jr. High Area All-State Chorus. These students were selected based on a very rigorous audition process last Spring and represented Solvay so well to our greater central New York community. Vincent and Elizabeth were members of the Mixed Chorus and Evangeline and Andi were members of the Treble Choir. We are very proud of their musical accomplishments and wish them well as they continue to grow and develop into very fine young musicians.



Pictured above L/R: 8<sup>th</sup> grade students - Elizabeth Plouffe & Evangeline Roebig & 9<sup>th</sup> grade students - Andrianna Van Slyke & Vincent Fragola.

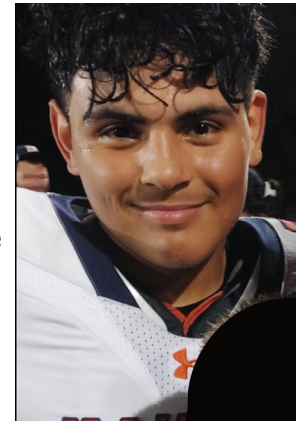
## Student Exhibit Appreciation

Christine Miczan, SES principal, invited students who exhibited the character trait of appreciation to have lunch with her. Pictured are 4<sup>th</sup> students.



## James Webber Scores a Perfect 100

SHS junior, James Webber, has been selected to participate in the 2024 NYSSMA Conference All-State Mixed Chorus under the direction of Dr. Andrea Ramsey. James earned his place in this honors ensemble after earning a perfect 100 on his NYSSMA solo and sight-reading last year.



At Solvay, James participates in every single musical ensemble available, including Concert Chorus, Vocal Jazz, Chamber Choir, Symphonic Band, and Jazz Ensemble. He is also an active member of Drama Club and plays football.

This is the highest honor for a singer in New York State to receive - congratulations, James!

## BUDGET REMINDER

**Budget Hearing @ SHS Aux. Gym**

**May 12 - 6 p.m.**

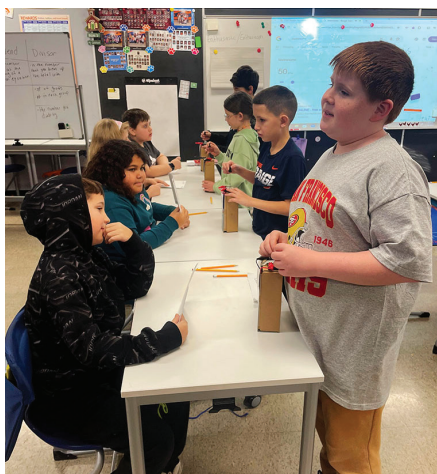
**Budget Vote @ SHS**

**May 20 - 12-9 p.m.**

## How can fireflies communicate to attract a mate?

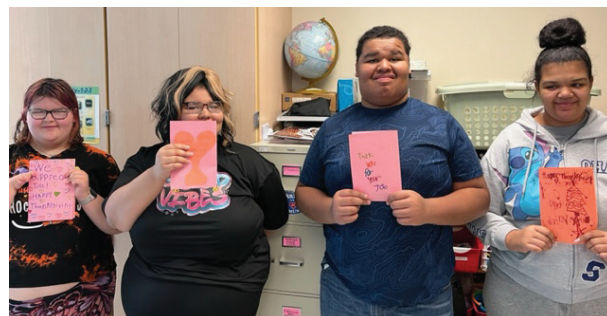
Firefly flash patterns vary from species to species in multiple ways, including the number of pulses, the durations of pulses, the time before the female responds, and the time when the male starts the pattern again.

Students in Theresa Goehle's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class use an electric firefly model to test how effective different flash patterns are for identifying mates of the correct species.



## Notes of Appreciation

Kathleen Klier's class made notes of appreciation for their school bus drivers and attendants. The students included miniature Hershey bars as an added treat.



## Solvay Tree Team

With a grant from the NYS Urban Forestry Council and guidance from Solvay resident and Cornell Cooperative Extension arborist Leanna Nugent, two chinkapin oaks and one American elm tree (Dutch elm disease resistant variety) were provided from a local nursery.

The SHS Tree Team headed by Meghan Morral and the Science Club planted the trees behind the school in honor of Arbor Day. With a little luck and under the watchful eye of the Tree Team, these native species will grow tall on our campus.



## Annual Transportation Request Notice

Requests for transportation to private, parochial, or charter schools for the 2025-2026 school year must be in the Solvay Union Free School District Transportation Office, 399 Beach Road, Syracuse, NY 13209, by Monday, April 1, 2025. All requests must be made in writing. Even if your child is being transported to a private, parochial, or charter school this year, we must have a new request for next school year. If you have any questions, please call the Transportation Office at 315-487-5842.



## Students Visit Senior Apartments

Students in Sue Collins, Davianna Blasi, and Pat Halpin's Community Service BEST After School Program visited the seniors at Solvay Senior Apartments. Making their holiday a little bit brighter, they presented them with handmade ornaments, cards, and decorations. They also had the opportunity to sing to them songs they had learned in chorus with Jonathan Benn. A favorite was *Edelweiss*, which the seniors joined in on.





## Athletic News

### Fall Scholar Athlete Teams

At the conclusion of each sport season, the New York State Athletic Association honors varsity teams that excel in the classroom. Each team must have an average of 90% or higher with the required amount of team members eligible. This fall, we had the volleyball, cross-country and boys soccer teams qualify. Congratulations!

### Bliss Earns D3football.com All-Region Accolades

Jaimen Bliss class of 2020 was named Liberty League defensive player of the year from Hobart College. Bliss is a three-time All-Liberty League selection, earning first team honors in each of the past two seasons. Congratulations!



### Upcoming Athletic Dates

- 3/17/25 - JV/Varsity Sports Begin
- 4/7/25 - Modified Sports Begin
- 5/29/25 - Varsity Athletic Celebration
- 6/11/25 - Modified Athletic Celebration

### Where Are They Now?

If you have any Bearcat alumni news, please contact the Athletic Office at 484-1400.

### Website

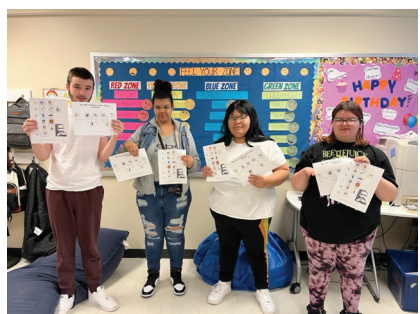
Visit our Athletic Department website at <http://www.solvayschools.org/athletics> for important announcements. For the most up-to-date schedules and directions to other schools, visit [www.schedulegalaxy.com](http://www.schedulegalaxy.com).

### X & Facebook

Solvay Athletics is on X! Please be sure to check daily for contests, score updates, and other athletic office news. Follow us @SolvayAthletics on both platforms.

## Timeline & Poem for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Kathleen Klier's students created a timeline



and an acrostic poem of Dr. King's life. They also read "To Kill A Mockingbird", which provided background

information on how individuals of color were treated in the Southern United States in the 1930's. Dr. King was born in 1929 and in Atlanta, GA and spent his life working for equality.

## Changing Your Address and/or Contact Information

Have you moved or changed your contact information? If you move during the school year or if you are planning on moving during the summer, you are required to notify your school principal of that new address as soon as possible. If your new address is not within the boundaries of the school district, you will need to register with a school in the district where your new residence is located. Also, remember to keep your student(s)' school(s) informed of all changes especially the contact information including phone numbers and email addresses.





**2025-2026**  
**SOLVAY SCHOOL DISTRICT PRE K**

JOIN US FOR AN  
**INFORMATIONAL OPEN HOUSE**  
 ON **MAY 7, 2025 AT 6:00 P.M.**  
 SOLVAY MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA



- For children 4 years old by December 1, 2025
- Pre K program operates Monday - Friday, for 6 hrs.
- TWO LOCATIONS:
  - In district at Solvay Middle School
  - At Learn As You Grow on North Orchard Road in Solvay
- Transportation is provided for students once they are 4 yrs. old

Kindly **pre-register by May 24** for the 2025-2026 Pre K program  
[www.solvayschools.org!](http://www.solvayschools.org!)

**SOLVAY UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**





# **SOLVAY** *Sentinel*

Solvay Union Free School District  
PO Box 980  
Syracuse NY 13209

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Syracuse, NY 13220  
Permit # 799

## **Board of Education**

**Joseph Barnello, President**

**Elizabeth Schmidt, Vice President**

**Lena Rose Orlando, Assistant Clerk**

**Stephen P. Zalewski, Member**

---

## **Veterans Celebration - Thank you for your service!**

