



**The Hagedorn Little Village School**  
*Jack Joel Center for Special Children*

**May 2023 Newsletter**

**Playground Enhancements  
Continue!**

Over the this past April break, Little Village continued it's playground enhancements. New artificial turf and fencing was installed to create new maintenance free sections allowing multiple classes to enjoy the outside playtime and Physical Education classes at the same time.

Additional pictures follow inside!



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# *Playground Enhancements Continue!*





# *Playground Enhancements Continue!*





# MacArthur HS - *Pitching in For Autism*

Vin and Dawne Causeman are alumni parents who have had two children attend Little Village. Both children, Ryan and Hailey, now attend MacArthur High School where Vin is a Social Studies teacher. On Saturday April 15, MacArthur and Plainview Old Bethpage played their annual autism awareness and acceptance game which was founded by Vin Causeman in 2016. In Vinnie's own words:

Today is one of my favorite days of the year, our annual Autism Awareness baseball game. A lot of people put hard work into making this a great day. Thank you to Steve Costello and the MacArthur baseball team and JJ Gee and his Plainview baseball team. These two teams have joined together since 2016 to play this game for our cause. Huge thank you to John Theissen for his amazing donation which included sponsoring the amazing jerseys created by Jared WalkOff. It was extra special since they were sponsored by The Skip Fund, a fund created in memory of Anthony Mariano, one of my former MacArthur teammates who was tragically killed in 2020 by a drunk driver. It was great to have Anthony's family there today and have his dad throw out one of the honorary first pitches. A tremendous thank you to the MacArthur Dugout Club led by the Marrino and Malozzi families. They put together great raffles that helped to raise money for **The Hagedorn Little Village School**. And of course to my wife Dawne Causeman who continues to be the huge support that she always is with all of these events. Today is another day that helps to create a world where our children, and all those living with autism, are accepted for who they are. It truly was an amazing day!

## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

# Pitching in for autism



Vin Causeman watches as his daughter Hailey, who is on autism spectrum, throws first pitch before the Hawks-Generals game.

Hawks, Generals play game to help raise awareness

BY BRIAN HEYMAN  
brian.heyman@newsday.com

The players from MacArthur and Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK took their places along the first- and third-base lines for Saturday's pregame ceremony. The words on the front and back of their special colorful jerseys told the story of this day being about more than just baseball.

On the front, the words were the same for all: "Strike Out AUTISM." On the back, above the numbers, well, it varied from "AWARENESS" to "KINDNESS" to "ACCEPTANCE" to "SUPPORT."

Plainview-Old Bethpage JFK then ended up scoring four in the sixth to come back and win, 6-4, in this annual autism awareness and acceptance game at MacArthur between these teams from different

### SCORECARD

POB JFK	6
MACARTHUR	4

Nassau conferences.

"It's special," Hawks coach John Givargidze said. "I always tell our guys we're lucky. We don't have any issues that we have to deal with on top of everything else that the world throws at us. So it's a good eye-opener for them."

This is Vin Causeman's cause. The former all-county shortstop for MacArthur, who's now a social studies teacher there, founded the game in 2016.

His son, 16-year-old Ryan, and his daughter, 14-year-old Hailey, are on the autism spectrum. They were among those throwing out ceremonial first pitches.

The Skip Fund, created in honor of Causeman's late former teammate, Anthony Mariano, donated the jerseys. The Wantagh-based John Theissen Children's Foundation also donated toward the event. Proceeds from raffle sales at the game are going to

Seaford's Hagedorn Little Village School for kids with developmental disabilities.

"It's so important for the community to come together and continue to spread awareness and acceptance for people living with autism," Causeman said. "We've made great strides."

Pinch hitter Peter Bounoungias capped the sixth-inning rally for the Hawks (5-2) against reliever Ryan Tam with a two-run single, making it 6-3.

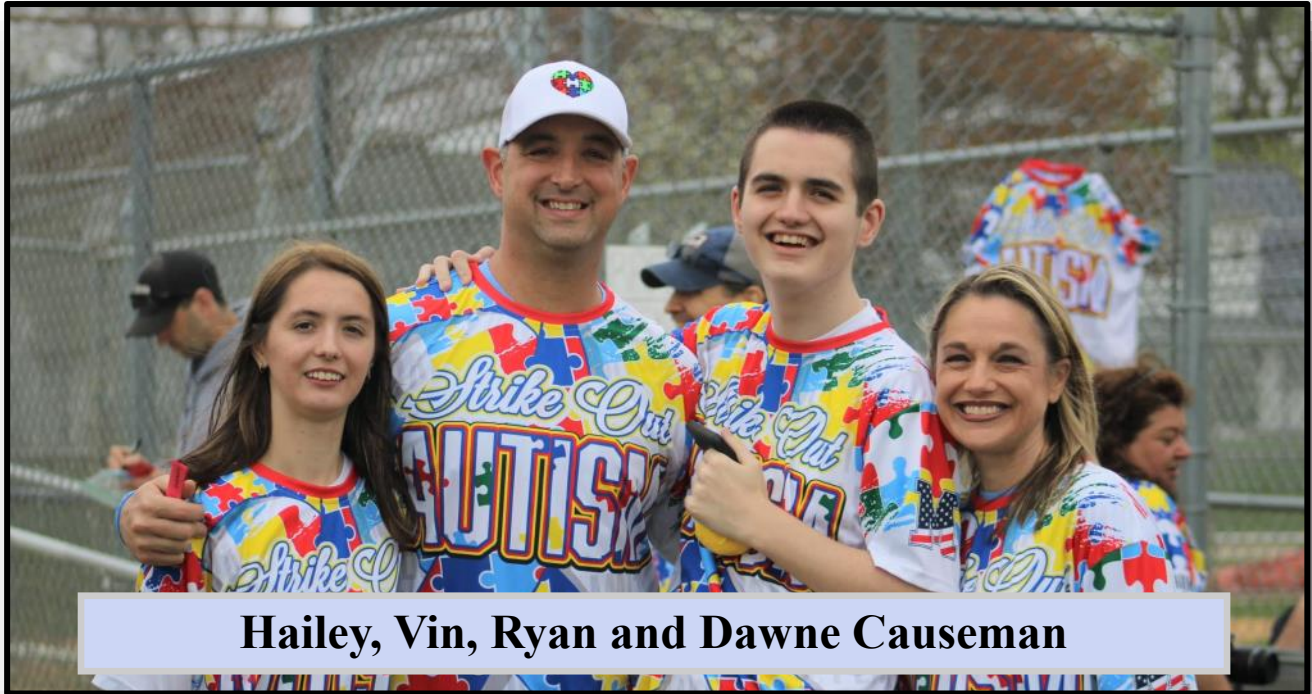
Reliever Logan McGrath allowed two runs and struck out seven over the final four innings to earn the victory in his varsity debut. The junior lefty yielded a run in the seventh, but he fanned the last two batters, stranding two in scoring position.

"It means a lot to me to help the team win," McGrath said.

Tam delivered three RBIs and James Eden rocked a solo homer among his three hits for MacArthur (6-1-1). "It's a great day," Generals coach Steve Costello said. "I think both Coach Giv at Plainview and myself were also using it as a way to kind of audition pitchers."

See next page for more pictures

## MacArthur HS - *Pitching in For Autism*



Hailey, Vin, Ryan and Dawne Causeman



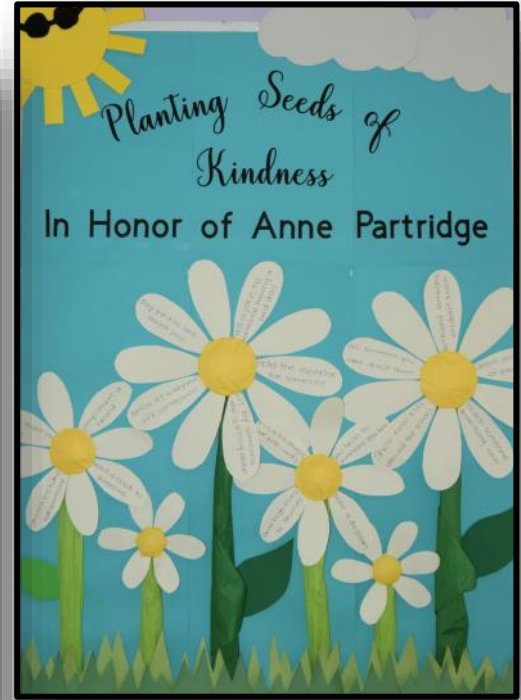
## Parent Association Board Member Elections

The 2023 Parent Association Board Member elections are being held in May. We are very grateful to our current Board Members for all that they have done! All current or lifetime members of the PA are welcome to take part in our Board elections. If you are a parent of a student attending HLVS and have not yet joined our Parent Association, there is still time to join and take part in this process.

Please contact **Lainie Hochman** at [Helaine.Hochman@littlevillage.org](mailto:Helaine.Hochman@littlevillage.org) or **Jennifer Kirincic** at [Jennifer.Kirincic@littlevillage.org](mailto:Jennifer.Kirincic@littlevillage.org) on or before Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> with any questions. Personal statements of all prospective candidates for Board Member positions will be distributed to our PA members prior to the election.

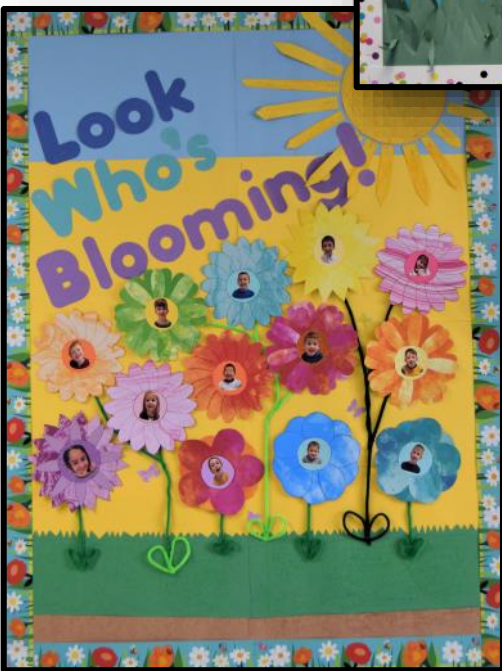
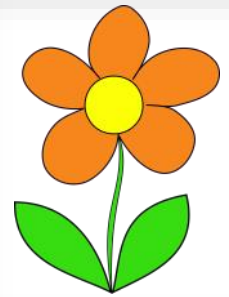
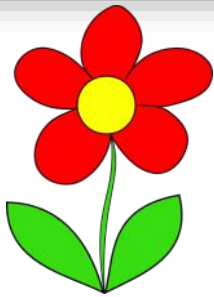
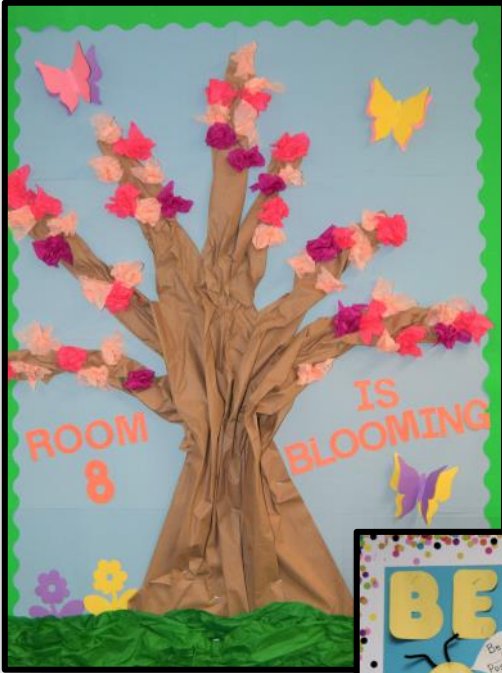


*Spring Has Sprung in the Hallways of Little Village*  
*Enjoy Some of the Artwork From Our Very Talented Classroom Teachers*  
*and Staff*





# Spring Has Sprung in the Hallways of Little Village!





## Guest Readers in Room 82!

The students in Room 82 have had many guest readers visiting this year. Two alumni students, **Noa** (a cousin of one of our current student) and **Denis** (a friend of a current student) came in and read to the children. It was so much fun to have them visit and read their favorite stories. We are so proud of both **Noa** and **Denis**. They are working so hard in their elementary schools!







# The Hagedorn Little Village School

*Jack Joel Center for Special Children*



*Save the Date!*

Honoring  
Joe Mollica II,  
CEO  
LNK International, Inc.

**31st Annual  
Golf Classic  
June 12, 2023**



*Cold Spring Country Club •  
22 E Gate Drive, Huntington,  
NY 11743*

Look for future mailings!

Contact Jennifer Kirincic  
516-520-6043 or  
Jennifer.kirincic @littlevillage.org  
For more information



*The 2022  
Little Village  
Golf Classic!*





# Sensory Fun in Room 6am!

