

# Junior Journal

AMHERST CENTRAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Vol. 8, No. 6

SNYDER, NEW YORK

JUNE 1963

## POLARIS OUT!

The 1963 Polaris, our school yearbook, will make its proud debut today, climaxing Moving-Up Day exercises and adding a pleasant, informal touch to the close of the school year: the signing of yearbooks.

Polaris editor Nancy Masters could not reveal the theme of the annual but she did say that it was a most unusual one. In fact, she remarked that she didn't think any other school in the country would dare to use it!

From the day school started about fifty Freshmen have been busy working on the yearbook, from selling subscriptions to executing the countless editorial and artistic details that are necessary to put out a quality publication. This hard work pays off. Last year's Polaris was awarded a Second Place rating in the national yearbook competition sponsored by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association at Columbia University in New York.

The Polaris is slightly larger this year with the addition of four more pages. As our school grows in size our yearbook has to reflect the increased size of classes and activity

According to Janet Halavin, Polaris Treasurer, all bills have been paid and the yearbook account is in the black.

### ELECTION FEVER EXCITES AMHERST

by Rhonda Garliner

Campaign buttons were passed out and excitement had reached a fever pitch. The candidates for school and student council offices had been announced. Loyalty and favoritism ran high, although there also seemed to be a feeling of brotherhood and fellowship among the would-be officers.

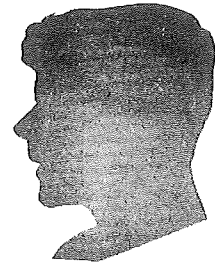
Students were nominated for office by their fellow-pupils during homeroom period.

A week after the nominees were announced, voting took place. The candidates felt that their job was done and it was now up to the voters. Posters came down, buttons were thrown away, and the school returned to normal.

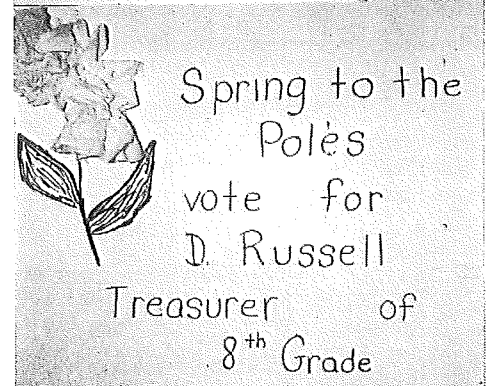
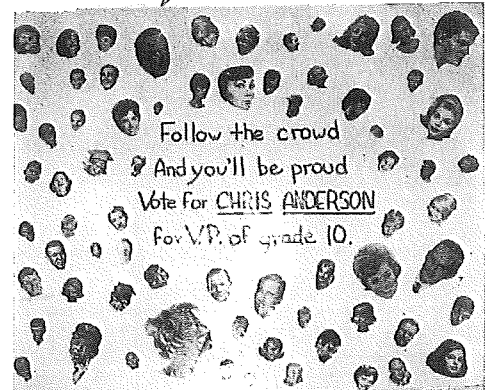
Votes are now in and the winning officers have been announced. The excitement is all gone now but while the campaign was on it was

LEADER

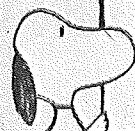
ATHLETE



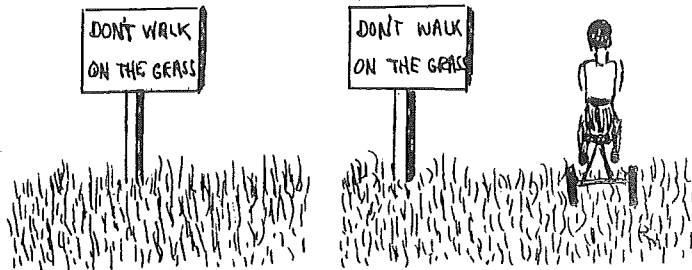
NAGIEL  
LETTERMAN PRESIDENT 10<sup>th</sup> GRADE SCHOLAR



CLAIRE  
9<sup>th</sup> grade secretary



# IT'S NOT EVEN SNOWING!



IT'S NOT EVEN SNOWING!  
by Nancy Mosher

As you walk out of the East Wing, have you noticed a snow fence bordering the lawn? Some may believe this is kind of unusual because the month is June, and chances of snow are rare. However, a few Amherst pupils have caused the school's action to be a little out of season.

The custodians are seeding that part of the lawn. Heedlessly, some boys rode their bikes over it, and groups of girls casually strolled across it. Consequently, the custodians have been forced to put up a fence. This doesn't say much for our school spirit or for the pride we should have for our school. Let's prove to Amherst, by respecting property and lawns, that we are good school citizens.

MUSIC IS SWEET  
WHEN WE WIN!  
by Dona H. Ritter

"You're kidding!"  
"No!" "Really?" These were some of the reactions when the students who make up our orchestra were told May 18, 1963, that they received an A3 for their performance in a contest. It was well worth the tension, excitement, and nervousness of everyone to receive such a rating. The contest was held at the Lackawanna High School in Lackawanna. The band also visited Lackawanna May 17. Their rating was A5. Besides seeing interesting people from other schools, we enjoyed the refreshments which were sold in the cafeteria. I'm sure everyone will agree that Lackawanna High is a fine school. But we love Amherst

STUDENTS RECEIVE HONORS  
IN MUSIC AND SCIENCE  
by Sheila Richardson

The fact that Amherst Junior High has many students who maintain a high standard of achievement, leadership, and knowledge has been clearly demonstrated in the number of recent awards presented to students in the fields of music and science.

In the Assembly on May 24th awards were presented to the outstanding members of each musical group at Amherst. The following students received recognition:  
7th and 8th Grade Boys Glee Club--Jon Poag  
1st Hour Girls' Chorus--Kathy Rarog  
7th Hour Girls' Chorus--Andrea Lapey  
9th Grade Girls' Chorus--Sue Schuele  
9th Grade Mixed Chorus--Steve Hunt

Orchestra--Betsy Behnke

These students were chosen for this honor by the members of the individual groups on the basis of contributions to the group.

Science students have also been the subject of many awards this Spring. Science Congress Awards were presented to Diane Chapman and David Bell, both Gold Medal winners, to Mike Wolfson, a Silver Medal winner, and to Bruce Minsley, a Bronze Medal winner.

Recently Biology students at Amherst had the opportunity to enter the Ford Future Scientists Awards competition. Some 6,000 students from all over the nation were represented in the competition. A silver plaque was awarded to Diane Chapman for her project on "The Effects of Radiation on Radish Seeds". A \$50 Bond was presented to David Bell for his project on "(Radio Isotopic) Tracers in Goldfish". Honorable Mention went to Chuck Beitz and Mary Walser for their projects.

I'm sure you'll agree with me that all of these students deserve special recognition from all of us for their superior contributions to Amherst.

## STAFF

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Sheila Richardson  
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Dodie Beiter  
Circulation Manager...  
Gale McClellan  
Feature Writer...  
Dona Ritter  
Photographer...  
Richard Borkowski  
Cartoonist...Ruth Mattern

# SPACE DAY AT AMHERST ALTERS ROUTINE

SPACE DAY AT AMHERST  
by Rhonda Garliner

A dark silhouette against a blue sky. There is tension in the air; nerves are taut. Countdown: 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, ... 2, 1, blast off! The "Faith 7" was in orbit. "All O.K." reported Gordo (Gordon Cooper).

The youngest of the astronauts, he is also the lightest. He was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, where his father served as a District Court Judge. He has an attractive wife, Trudy.

He was in orbit thirty-two hours and he made twenty-two orbits. His flight was what experts call a "textbook flight". He did, however, have some trouble with the landing controls and he had to bring in the ship manually.

His capsule carried many instruments which could take pictures and gather valuable information.

In flight he slept about seven hours. He was one of the first to doze in flight.

As the whole world waited in suspense, I got these quotes from our Faculty and students. Mrs. Blechinger said, "I always feel a great excitement in the air. Will there be a success or failure? This gives me a feeling of terror because you can't possibly have all successes." Mr. Russell stated, "I think it will be successful. I am, however, disturbed by the reaction

of the people. The people are basically ignorant. They know it's important but they don't know why." A student remarked, "I think it will be helpful in our studies of science. I think it must give Cooper a great thrill to go up. He must be very proud."

After almost one and one-third days in orbit, Cooper was recovered at about 7:23 p.m. Eyes had been glued to TV sets, fingernails had been bitten off, but when reports came that he was safe and on the Carrier Kearsarge, smiles broke on watchers' faces and they relaxed. One of the greatest flights in history had been completed successfully.

Experts are now talking of a two-man space flight in the near future. Soon we will be witnessing a flight to the moon. Little did our ancestors dream that the future of the Universe would be so spectacular.

NEW FAD FOOLS FOLKS!  
by Dona H. Ritter

Recently, if you've had a picture shoved in front of your nose with an awkward, gawky-looking figure on it, you've been subject to a fad. Girls, especially, have been bringing their baby pictures to school, showing everyone what a gawky little creature can produce -- a ravishing beauty. Silly as it may seem, it is amusing to see what your classmates looked like ten or eleven years ago. A puny or pudgy little baby could turn out to be a slender blue-eyed, blonde girl or a tall, dark, handsome boy. Could you recognize some of your friends 10 or 11 years ago?

# HOUGHTON COLLEGE HOST TO CHORISTERS

A TRIP TO HOUGHTON  
by Gale McClellan

At 8:20 a.m., on a rainy May morning, five buses left on a two-hour drive to Houghton, New York. The occasion was the journeying of the Choruses and the Glee Club, to compete against various schools from other parts of New York State in a Music Contest. On the way the students sang, talked, read and slept.

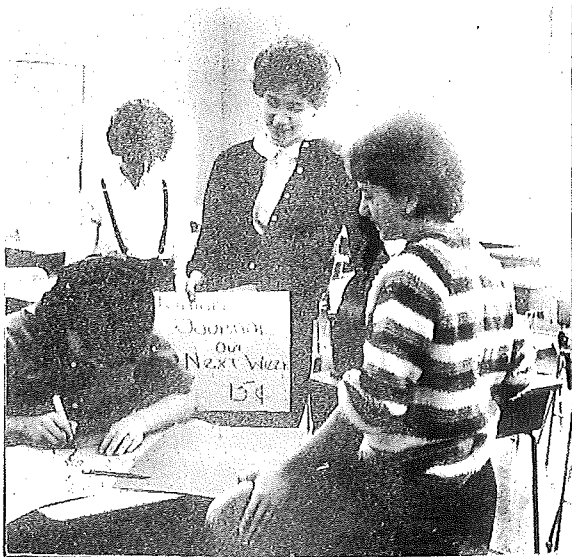
Houghton is a small town. It contains one or two gas stations, a tiny department store, several restaurants and a few churches. One resident of the town was asked, "Where do you buy your Christmas presents?" The reply given was: "What's Christmas?" Houghton is a peaceful town and very scenic.

The contest went on from early morning till late afternoon. Each member of the choruses and Glee club had an adjudication sheet. They were to give each chorus (other than ours) a letter grade in various topics, such as diction and tone. Some choruses were excellent, some were not.

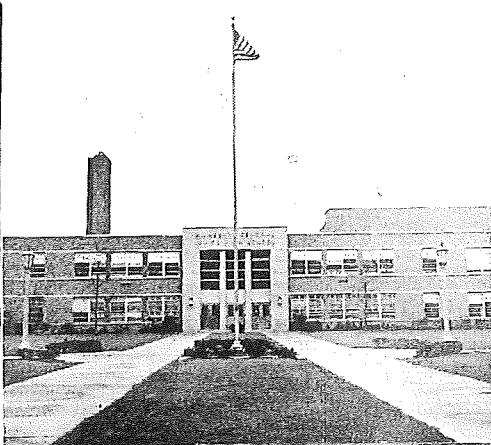
The day was exciting and I'm sure every student enjoyed it.



Waiting for the Last Trip



BE BRIGHT  
DON'T FIGHT  
VOIE RIGHT  
ON SIGHT  
FOR CHRIS  
VICE PRES.  
GRADE 10



Pack your trunk with votes for Sue Thorp for 8th Grade President



DO NOT DISTURB

Beth Brown  
8th grade Treasurer

(She's voting for BETH BROWN  
You should too !!)



We all agree that Claudia Swanson is like a marbled, or the insant blanked and I'll be dog-goned if I don't vote for her. Vice President 8th grade



1954



JUBILANT YOUNG "INVESTORS"  
DISPLAY "EDUCATIONAL  
PROFITS"

## CLASS BUYS STOCK; NETS 50 PER CENT PROFIT

INFORMATION AND STUDY  
PAYS OFF!

by Gary Berner

Early in the school year, 23 members of our 9th Grade Unified Class, under the direction of Mr. Robert Holder, undertook a project in the field of investments. The members of our class decided, after a thorough discussion, to invest 50¢ each in a share of Admiral Corporation stock. When we purchased the stock it was worth \$11.50. We received various pamphlets in the mail concerning our stock, such as annual reports, newsletters, etc. We also learned about the many types of refrigerators, televisions and other appliances manufactured by the Company. Mr. Holder gave us many lectures and led us in numerous discussions on the various aspects of the stock market to try to give us a better idea of this important phase of our American Economy. The financial section of the newspaper was now read at home regularly by the students, watching the rise and fall of our stock. During the course of the school year, our class constructed graphs showing the progress of our stock through the weeks. Finally, last month, after a lengthy discussion, our class decided to sell our share, which now had risen to \$17.50. Each member of the class received 76¢ when the stock was sold and ended the year with a much better understanding of the Stock Market along with a 50% profit!



DEBBIE ZORKOS RECEIVES  
HER SHARE OF FIFTY PER  
CENT PROFIT, NETTED BY  
CLASS IN STOCK PURCHASE  
PROJECT INITIATED BY  
MR. ROBERT HOLDER, NINTH  
GRADE UNIFIED PROGRAM  
TEACHER.



## Jessel, Patton Win Top Prizes in Poster Contest

Two Amherst Central Junior High School students won top prizes in the 1963 Traffic Safety Poster contest sponsored by the Buffalo office of the American Automobile Association and the Buffalo Courier-Express. Both students also won high awards in the National Contest of the A.A.A., in which their posters were entered.

Robert Jessel won First Prize in the local contest for the best poster on the theme, "Walk on Left Facing Traffic" and Second Prize in the National Contest.

Krista Patton won Second Prize in the local contest on the theme, "Watch for Turning Cars," and was awarded a commendation for her poster entry in the National Contest.

Mr. Sery J. Marasco is the Art Instructor for the students at Amherst Central Junior High School.

Awards were presented May 17 at the Auto Club.

TO ALL EIGHTH GRADERS  
by Dodie Beiter

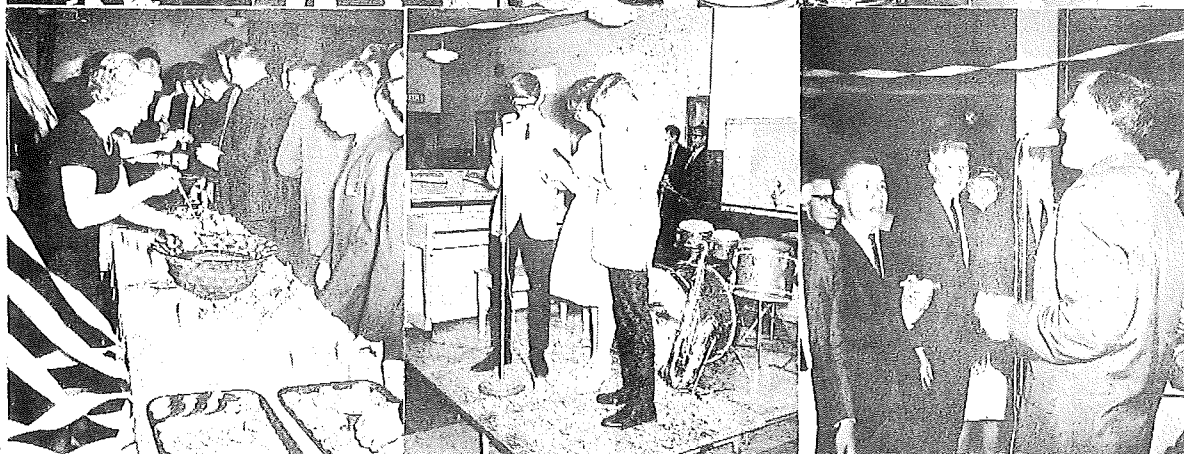
About this time of the year, when exams are beginning to bring a bit of doubt into your minds, and summer vacation seems to be a refuge from all unpleasant thoughts, don't forget where you'll be a few months from now. All this year you've seen the Freshmen "towering" above you in rank, but don't forget that you yourselves have been slowly and unconsciously gaining the seniority you have been anticipating for two long years.

Along with this right of being the "tall ones" goes certain duties that you must willingly perform. You must see to it that the spirit of citizenship continues to grow within the walls of Amherst Junior High. You must set an example of leadership that those younger than you would be proud to follow. These and other things are now your responsibility.

It is with great confidence that we, the Class of 1966, hand down to you, the Class of 1967, the task of keeping the flag of high standards flying proudly at Amherst Junior High School.



# FRESHMAN FAREWELL FARES WELL



**FINAL NIGHT  
OF MERRIMEN  
TO BE LONG  
REMEMBERED**



**FRESHMAN FAREWELL**  
by Cathy Cotter

As you entered the front doors of our school you suddenly became aware of the music coming from our cafeteria. May 17th was the date and as you ascended the stairs the volume increased. When you reached the top of the stairs you could see Freshmen dancing across the floor. Others were seated at the tables

along the side. The decorations were done in pastel colors and very imaginative. Refreshments were delicious, thanks to the hardworking committees.

The Freshman Farewell had the largest attendance of all of the preceding dances. The Will and Prophecy were read by the committee members present. This was the highlight of the evening.

Entertainment was furnished by Mr. Clements and his combo. He and his combo played everything from the surplus to a slow dance. Nancy Glaser charmed us all with her singing. Many of her selections had been sung previously by Peter, Paul and Mary.

The dance was a big success and we would like to extend our appreciation to all who helped.

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