• The Fall Harvest Festival was held October 8th at Helmer Nature Center and the Irondequoit community turned out to support the 40th annual event that included crafts, games and of course, pony rides!

• Ten students from IHS and Dake attended the first ROC with Your Hands event on October 4th. The fun, hands-on program was designed to expose students to careers in fields such as skilled trades, manufacturing, auto technology and heavy equipment.

• Aaron Johnson was a panelist with three other local school leaders for an Act For Education roundtable discussion focused on safety and security in schools today.

• Homecoming Week at IHS included tons of Spirit and “Wear Pink Day” was a popular new addition. The new Tug-of-War event between classes was also a hit at the pep rally. Congratulations to the Sophomores who won the Golden Eagle! The Juniors were runners-up followed by the Seniors and Freshmen.

• IHS music teacher Patty Welch performed with the Greater Rochester Women’s Philharmonic on September 24th as part of the National Women’s Hall of Fame Induction Weekend in Seneca Falls. Michelle Obama was among those inducted.

• The Class of 1971 presented the West Irondequoit Alumni Association with a check for $500. Members donated during their 50-plus-1 reunion last summer. The Alumni Association now works in collaboration with the West Irondequoit Foundation.

• Board of Education member Rosa Vargas-Cronin was featured in a “Staff Spotlight” by Monroe One BOCES, where she is a bilingual speech and language pathologist. She is also the subject of a developing documentary by the Our Voices Project on her roots growing up in the Dominican Republic.

• Congratulations to Listwood third-grade teacher, Karen Jablonski. She was presented with the prestigious Golden Apple Award by WROC-TV, Channel 8. She was nominated last spring by one of her students, Derek Wixson. The video story is scheduled to air on Tuesday, October 25th.