Souper Bowl of Caring: a community effort

By Eileen Skrobacz

How does one young lady, a junior at Olean High School, raise over twenty-five hundred dollars for the Olean Food Pantry all by herself? She doesn’t! How does one young lady, a seventeen year-old, collect almost three TONS of canned goods all by herself? She doesn’t! Maria Skrobacz, National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean Event coordinator, seeks help from numerous people throughout the Olean area.

Her initial task is to speak to the Olean Board of Education members and Dr. Colleen Taggerty, OCSD superintendent, to request their permission to run the campaign through the district. For many years, the Olean Board of Education & superintendent have been on board! Maria then begins the many hours of work required to spearhead the event. She makes flyers for the OCSD staff members, prepares posters, gathers boxes, makes reminder bracelets for the elementary students . . . the list goes on and on!

Once the information has been supplied to everyone, Maria speaks from the pulpit at St. Mary of the Angels’ Parish requesting their support. She typically attends and speaks at the GOACC in order to obtain their continued support. There still is much work to be done, and Maria continues to get the word out to anyone who will listen! The Zonta Club of Olean has generously donated three hundred dollars to jump start the fundraiser! Mayor Witte and the city of Olean employees make contributions. The Olean boys’ and girls’ junior varsity and varsity basketball teams and their opponents contribute to the NSBoC Olean Event. This year basketball coaches and student-athletes from Olean, Gowanda and Falconer Schools participated. Banks, credit unions, even the Pines Rehabilitation Center and Nursing Home where Maria’s beloved grandmother, Bousha, lives all come together for the cause. Every single dollar collected and every single pound of food collected goes directly to the Olean Food Pantry.

In the past two years, Maria has worked to make the National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean Event a success, but she knows the tremendous success is only possible because the entire community in which she lives is willing to participate!
**Message from the Superintendent**

**Substantial challenges warrant difficult decisions**

By Dr. Colleen Taggerty  
Superintendent

The District entered the 2010-11 school year budget development with a gap of $1.2 million. The 2011-12 school year budget development is currently under way and with a State Aid reduction of an additional $700,000 over last year’s reduction; an increase in the Employee Retirement System of 5.5%; an increase in the Teacher Retirement System of 2.49%; an estimated increase in Health Insurance of 6-10%; and the loss of the American Recovery Reinvestment Act support, our gap this year will exceed $2.4 million.

Our Governor has suggested that school districts utilize reserves to account for the gap. Reserves are established by the Board of Education to ensure that the district is financially solvent against encumbered expenses, increases in ERS, unforeseen claims against the district, etc. By law, most established reserves can only be used for the purpose of which they were established. Regardless, if the district were to use all of its reserves permitted by law this year, we would have no reserves to support us into the future. The Governor’s solution is not a financially sound option for school districts.

While schools continue to struggle with reductions in State Aid, a property tax cap, and the loss of the Federal Stimulus funding, and new unfunded mandates associated with Race To The Top, we (the Olean City School District) look to the positive. Knowing first-hand how education and learning are valued within the Olean community, we elect to move forward assuring you that the District and our learners continue to be accountable to high academic standards even during this time of economic regress.

The Board of Education intends to present a fiscally sound budget to our community that will allow us to continue to deliver quality educational programming to our learners. The challenges we face are substantial and will require difficult decisions. These decisions may result in significant changes. Given that we are not in a financial position to continue to do what we have always done, I ask that we all prepare ourselves to embrace the efforts of this District that will reduce costs while allowing us to maintain our focus on student achievement.

---

**Karimah Rahman makes All-Eastern Choir**

OHS student Karimah Rahman (shown above in a theater performance) has been accepted into the renowned All-Eastern Choir. Through a long series of auditions and performances, she competed with thousands of other students throughout the Northeast to earn this great honor. Karimah will travel to Baltimore in late March to participate in this incredible experience. She plans to major in Theater and Vocal Performance in college, and is well on her way to success!

Bravo and congratulations!

---

**Ms. Jan Rhody conducts All-County Choir**

Ms. Rhody received the honor of guest conducting the Chautauqua County All-County Women’s Choir on February 11th in Silver Creek. The concert was a great success! Way to go, Ms. Rhody!

---

**School Board petitions available**

Two five-year positions on the Olean City School Board of Education are up for election. Petitions may be picked up from the District Clerk’s office beginning March 16th. Petitions must be returned to the District Clerk’s office by April 27, 2011 by 5 p.m. The District’s budget vote and board election will be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Olean Middle School, 401 Wayne Street, Olean.
Court reigns over OHS Winter Weekend

Congratulations to these OHS students selected for Winter Weekend Court (l-r) Luke Hennessy, Zanaid Marra, Kayla Henning, Emily Dodge, Lauren Bowser, Logan Bowser, Catrina Miller – Queen, Chris Douglas – King, Miguel Narvaez, Amanda Bright, Brianna Spears and Corey Kane.

OHS holds ‘Singing Valentines’ fundraiser

Olean High School students delivered “Singing Valentines” to students and staff to celebrate Valentine’s Day. Above, Jeffrey Andreano, Assistant High School Principal, is shown enjoying the musical harmony of (from left) Emily Bantelman, Jaclyn Hitchcock and Janelle Shaffer. For a small fee, students delivered candy and a heartfelt musical message for the annual fundraiser. Proceeds will benefit the Cattaraugus County SPCA and the Food Pantry.

WANTED: 2011 After-Prom Party volunteers

We need parental involvement to help plan this event. Are there any freshman and sophomore parents who would like to support a safe alternative on prom night for your children? This worthwhile activity has been available to students for over 10 years. All juniors and seniors are welcome, and attendance at the prom is not necessary.

Please consider getting involved now to ensure that the After-Prom Party can continue as a tradition in the Olean City School District. Parent attendance at the after-prom party at the OMS on Saturday May 7, 2011, from 1-4 a.m. is not necessary, but we welcome you to chaperone if you’d like. Other areas to consider helping are: set-up, clean-up, food, fund raising, and community relations. With many hands this project can be an easy task.

If this is an activity that you would like to be involved with please contact me at East View 375-8920, or email mullman@olean.wnyric.org

Thank you,
Maureen Ullman
Level 2 & 3 sex offenders living in District listed

The Olean Board of Education has approved a policy that requires all parents be notified of any level 3 sex offenders who are living in our school district. A level 3 offender is the most serious and the “risk” to the community is considered high. Therefore, the District will be using this newsletter to publish the names, addresses and other pertinent information related to the nature of the offense committed by such sex offender.

For the public’s convenience, we have established a “link” on the front page of the District’s web site www.oleanschools.org with the NYS neighborhood Predator Report. This link takes you to the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services where you can find additional information and the picture of any Level 3 sex offender living in our school district. We believe you have a right to know and we will continue to notify you annually.

Steven M. Allen
aka Steven Clemons
603 East Highland Avenue
1st degree sexual abuse, 2nd degree rape
Female 13

Robert Burlew
1542 Olean-Portville Road, Apt. 2
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 6

Frank B. Cole
927 ½ Buffalo Street, Apt. 4
Forcible Touching
Male 9

Frederick (Freddy) Crawford
2nd degree sexual abuse
Male 11

David M. Crum
Course of Sexual Conduct
Against a Child – 2nd degree
Female 5

Jack Denning
314 South 3rd Street
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 11

Terrance Duncan
aka Terry Cromwell
3rd degree sodomy
Female 8

John Eccles
2nd degree sodomy
Female 13

Clark Follett
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 13 and 14

Mathew T. Fox
Sexual Abuse-3rd
Female 14

Lee Gates
Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 10

John M. Goodwill
Rape-1st: Forcible Compulsion
Female 12

Christopher Hollister
127 North 13th Street
Non-NYS sex felony
Female 5 and 8

Richard T. Hurtle
Non-NYS sex felony
Female 8 and 9

Richard M. Kline
346 W. Highland Avenue
2nd degree sexual abuse
Female 4

Bruce Knavel
2850 McCuffy Road, Apt. 7
Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 5

John Link
1700 East State Street, Apt. 3
Sexual abuse-2nd degree
Female 16

Arthur Link
1542 Olean-Portville Road, Apt. 6
1st degree sexual abuse
Female 10

Kenneth Werts
633 S. Union Street, Apt. 6
1st and 2nd degree sodomy
Male 12

Arthur Nelson
Attempted sexual abuse-1st degree
Female 10

Shawn Rees
1st degree sexual abuse
Female 7

Robert T. Smith
aka Robert T. Smith Baker
1542 Olean-Portville Road, Apt. 3
Aggravated Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Female 3

Michael L. Stiegem
Attempted sexual abuse-1st degree
Female <11

Clifford Thompson
1281 Old Rock City Road
1st degree attempted rape
Female 7

Mark A. Thompson
Criminal Sexual Act-2nd degree
Female 13

Maurice E. Turner
aka Ed Turner
1542 Olean-Portville Road, apt. 6
1st degree sexual abuse
Female 10

Varsity Girls hold free basketball clinic

On Saturday, January 29, the Girls’ Varsity Basketball team, along with Coach Scholla and Coach Estes, hosted a free basketball clinic for girls in grades 4-6. The varsity athletes worked individually with the younger girls on basketball drills and fundamentals.
Melanie Napoleon, Olean High School and College Connections French instructor, was awarded the Teacher-of-the-Year award at the program’s annual fall training at JCC. She was nominated by her JCC faculty liaison, Linda Heppler.

“Upon entering Melanie Napoleon’s classroom, a visitor feels the lure of a foreign country. Full of boundless energy, creativity galore and a true love of all that is French, Melanie inspires her students to feel the same way about language learning,” explained Ms. Heppler.

Melanie has been a French and Spanish teacher in the Olean City School District since 1994. She resides in Allegany with her husband Chris and three children Roman, Gustave, and Angelina.

Mrs. Napoleon was chosen from among 135 program teachers from 40 partner high schools and BOCES centers. The relationship between JCC and its partner high school and BOCES teachers is critical to the program’s success.

“We partner with experienced, highly qualified teachers dedicated to creating a college environment in the high school setting,” explained Marilyn Zagora, JCC’s vice president and dean of academic affairs. “We rely on teachers like Melanie to provide students with an authentic college experience – one that meets the rigors of a college classroom.”

College Connections, now in its 12th year, offers 58 different college courses in 26 disciplines to students across its service area. Many schools offer a full array of courses allowing students to graduate from high school with up to one year of college completed.

“Students are able to earn free college credits while enhancing their high school experience,” maintains JCC assistant dean Roz Newton. “Completing general education courses in high school affords students greater flexibility once they reach the college campus. They may choose to experiment with other courses of interest, complete study abroad or internship programs, pick up a second major, or graduate early. College Connections provides tangible benefits.”

**National French Week: Les Vitraux, les T-shirts and, of course, great food!**

**By Tom Skudlarek**

During National French Week, Madame Napoleon’s French classes crafted les vitraux; otherwise known as stained glass windows. These projects are made to mime the appearance of stained glass windows seen all over France in its numerous cathedrals. Each well-crafted design comes with a motivational French quote. For example “La parfaite valeur est de faire sans témoins ce qu’on serait capable de faire devant tout le monde.” “True valor is to do in secrecy what you could just have easily done before others.” The students put a lot of time and effort into crafting and formulating the quotes and Les Vitraux. We hope you come up to the third floor and view these spectacular objets d’art (works of art)! Students also created French T-shirts bearing some of these quotes. Lastly, delicious specialties of France and Quebec were prepared and tasted.

**Classes join to make Bûches de Noël**

**By Matt Witte**

The JCC 251 French IV students made their annual trip to Mr. Zyck’s room in December where they joined together to create beautiful festive Bûches de Noël. A Bûche de Noël is a French word for a Yule log Christmas cake. Together the students created four delicious cakes using teamwork and collaboration to come up with their individual group ideas. The cake made by Matt Witte, Tom Skudlarek, Miguel Narvaez, and Steven Jackson was eventually voted the best by Madame Napoleon’s level II and III French classes. A grand time was had by all who participated.
February 2011

Dear Mr. Buckles,

After recently hearing about your 110th Birthday (Feb. 1, 2011), the history students at Olean High School and Olean Middle School, in Olean, New York, wanted to add our best wishes to the many you have received from around the country and the world.

Although we have not met you, we feel we have a connection to you and through you, from studying our nation's history. By thanking you for your service and honoring you, we have the opportunity to symbolically thank all our ancestors and veterans for their gifts of service…we owe you all!

Please accept our birthday gift to you. It is a $400 donation to the World War I Memorial Foundation in your honor. When our Congressman, Thomas Reed (29th Congressional District), visited our schools on Monday, February 7th, we presented him with a petition of 1,000 signatures to encourage the passage of the Frank Buckles Memorial Act (111th Congress H.R. 482 and S. 2097). Additionally we have sent copies of this petition to the Honorable Charles Schumer (US Senate, NY), and the Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand (US Senate, NY).

We agree with you. The Americans who served in World War I deserve a NATIONAL monument in our nation’s capital ... and you have been their voice.

... And if I should live to be
   The last leaf upon the tree
   In the spring,
   Let them smile, as I do now,
   At the old forsaken bough
   Where I cling.

- The Last Leaf
   by Oliver Wendell Holmes

As Americans, we “smile” ... and in gratitude ... remember.

OHS donation marks Frank Buckles’ birthday

The teams of Brad Nenno, Emily Kayes and Samantha Huselstein (Olean Red) and Matt Witte, Brandon Jones and Jessica Swetland (Olean Gold) traveled to Portville Central School to compete in the 2011 Scholastic Challenge Competition.

The Red Team defeated the Gold Team in the quarterfinals of the consolation bracket. Both teams were quite successful with the Red Team finishing 3rd over all.

And the winning pizza crust is ...

The cafeteria presented a contest to the student body to help choose their favorite pizza crust between a self rising and a parbaked. A ticket was given to those participating for their vote after they sampled the competing crusts. The winner was the parbaked crust which the cafeteria now uses.

High School teams successful in Scholastic Challenge
Students show support for National WWI Memorial

Students at Olean Middle School and Olean High School recently learned about the last surviving veteran of World War I. His name is Mr. Frank Buckles and on February 1st he turned 110 years old. During his lifetime, Mr. Buckles has seen national memorials built in Washington, DC to honor veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam but none to honor veterans of WWI. Last year, Mr. Buckles was named the honorary chairman of the National World War I Memorial Project. To honor his birthday and show their appreciation for Mr. Buckles’ service to our country, OMS students made birthday cards to send him while students from both schools signed a petition supporting the World War I Memorial. Also, a hat day and staff dress down day was held to raise funds for a donation to this memorial project. On February 7th, Congressman Tom Reed visited both OHS and OMS to accept our donation and discuss the bill facing Congress, aptly named the Frank Buckles World War I Memorial Project.

Pictured in the upper right photo are (l-r): Claudia Wyant, Connor Prizel, Alexa Schultz, Congressman Tom Reed, Dylan Ensell, Mrs. Wolfgang, Nick Bloovsky and Jamel Burney.

Shown in the photo at right are (l-r): Monica Moses, Ally Rakus, and Rachel Painter making birthday cards for Mr. Buckles.

DECA members show talent in regional competition

By Sue Frentz and Christine Stavish

On January 5, 2011, OHS DECA members participated in the NYS Regional DECA competition. These members competed against DECA members from Hornell, Wellsville, Southwestern, Salamanca, Cattaraugus-Little Valley, and Whitesville schools. All DECA members are tested on their business knowledge and are judged in the presentation of a business role-play scenario. During this timed event, each member is given a business situation or problem they need to resolve. They are judged on their business presentation, knowledge and professionalism.

On behalf of OHS, we would like to congratulate all of our members for their great performance and representation of Olean High School. Good Luck at the next level of competition Gina, Zanaid, and Chelsea!

Pictured are DECA competitors: (front, l-r) Zanaid Marra, Gina Snyder, Chelsea Sutterlin, Ashley Maynard, and (back, l-r) Katie Douthit, Destin Sweeten, and Katie Fox. Missing: Jake Rickey.
Gray Team Students ‘Jazz Up’ Social Studies

Gray Team students in Mrs. Wolfgang’s social studies classes learned first-hand about famous figures of the 1920’s by participating in a “1920’s Talk Show” during class. Students had to research someone from the Jazz Age and then portray them in a talk show setting. To make the talk shows even more authentic, costumes were borrowed from Theater Workshop (Thanks Mrs. Patrone!). Babe Ruth, Charles Lindbergh, Charlie Chaplin, Greta Garbo and others came to life for a day at OMS! Kudos, Gray Teamers!

Pictured are (l-r): Megan Shumway, Maddy Hamed, Mary Pezzimenti and Julian Roulo.

Purple Students ‘Chilling Out’

Students were recently treated to a presentation by Mr. Joe Higgins where they learned about liquid oxygen and nitrogen and the science of Cryogenics. Pictured are (back, l-r) Katie Ludden, Andrew Nasuta, Mr. Higgins, Jeff Evans, Annette Marcellin and (front) Nick Provorse.

Ski Club Having Great Season

The OMS Ski Club has been enjoying a terrific season so far. Members ski or snowboard every Thursday night at Holiday Valley with advisors Mrs. Wolfgang and Mrs. Dexter. We love winter! Pictured (l-r) Jacob Bartlett, Kayin Oyer, Domenic Carucci and Tyler Allen.
The Olean Middle School Spelling Bee was held on Thursday, January 6th. Twenty spellers took place in this annual showdown. This competition is the first step toward a possible trip to the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC, to be held this spring.

This year’s winner, Maija Klute, an 8th grade student on the Purple Team, competed on February 2nd for a place in the Western New York Regional competition to be held in March. This second step consisted of a written test where Maija had to identify 100 spelling mistakes in random sentences. The top scorer in each Western New York county plus the next ten highest scorers will compete in Buffalo. The winner of that contest will then be invited to compete in Washington.

Pictured above congratulating Maija and Julie Mulryan, who was this year’s runner-up, is Mr. Trietley.

By Sheila Jackson, Spelling Bee Advisor

Michaela McCall, 7th grader at OMS, won the Five Star Bank Wants YOU to be Our Movie Star contest. Michaela qualified for the drawing by receiving “A’s” in any of her core subjects for the 1st quarter. She received a gift certificate to Carmike Cinemas, as well as a popcorn bucket full of snacks. Congratulations, Michaela!

Pictured at left are Principal Mr. Trietley, winner Michaela McCall, and Amy Schneggenburger of Five Star Bank.

Congratulations to the 2nd Quarter Perfect Attendance Award winner, 6th Grader, Josh Wheeler ($50 award) and to Distinguished Attendance Award winner, 7th Grader, Clara Hendrix ($25 award). Both students are shown at left with Mr. Houseknecht, Assistant Principal.
By Eileen Skrobacz
Can you just imagine your middle school principal jumping in the school pool in all of his clothes? How about letting students throw whipped-cream covered sponges at him? Or maybe painting his toenails and fingernails hot pink, wearing flip-flops and parading around school for the entire day? What would you think if your principal dressed like a clown for an entire day? Just ask any OMS eighth grader why their principal, Mr. Jerry Trietley would consider doing one, let alone all of the aforementioned crazy schemes, and you will hear a resounding: “National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean Event!” scream from everyone.

When asked how OMS students and staff could be encouraged to donate more canned goods than in the past, Mr. Trietley was quick to say, “I’ll do anything, absolutely anything to inspire my staff and students to do more for our community, especially those in need.”

There were some brainstorming sessions with OMS students who hit upon some fun, yet harmless activities they might challenge Mr. Trietley to do. Mr. Trietley promised the eighth graders, Vice-Principal Tim Houseknecht promised the seventh graders, and School Resource Officer Jay Hlasnick promised the sixth graders to do each of the activities as follows. If all of the eighth graders combined their efforts and donated 250 canned goods, Mr. Trietley would jump in the OMS pool in all of his clothes! Collect a total of 500 canned goods and Mr. Trietley would jump in the pool and allow students to throw whipped-cream covered sponges at him. If 750 canned goods were collected by eighth graders, Mr. Trietley would jump in the pool in his clothes, allow students to throw whipped-cream covered sponges at him, AND paint his fingernails and toenails hot pink and wear flip-flops throughout the school! And if the eighth graders collected 1,000 canned goods, Mr. Trietley would do everything AND dress like a clown for the entire day!

Mr. Houseknecht challenged the seventh graders to follow suit to bring in the canned goods’ donations. And Officer Jay challenged the sixth graders to do the same. Both Mr. Houseknecht and Officer Jay will do everything Mr. Trietley promised to do at the same intervals. This was quite an interesting week at OMS as students were informed of the total canned goods collected at the end of every day!

Mr. Trietley fulfilled his part of the deal February 11th. What a good sport!

For many years, the Olean City School District Board of Education and superintendents have been more than willing to be the preliminary supporter of the National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean Event! And this year was no different. Dr. Colleen Taggerty, OCSD Superintendent, and the Olean Board of Education designated Friday, February 4th, as OCSD Staff Dress Down Day & Hat Day.

The Olean community has been involved in the National Souper Bowl of Caring for many years; and it has grown leaps and bounds over the past four years! High school students can earn class points, and elementary students have a chance to win a pizza party sponsored by Seasons of the Olean Center Mall. The giving, however, comes from many different groups and organizations. The Zonta Club is typically the official kick-off with its annual monetary donation. Five-Star Bank, Community Bank, Olean Area Federal Credit Union, Olean Teachers & Postal Workers Federal Credit Union, the Dionne Family, the Pines Healthcare Rehabilitation Center, area churches, the mayor’s office, and city employees work together in order to make the National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean Event a huge success!

Student-athletes at Olean High School hosted two home games with the Gowanda boys’ basketball team and the Falconer girls' basketball team respectively, where the players, coaches, and fans from both teams donated canned goods before the basketball games!

On February 4th, many of the donations were delivered by OCSD employees to the Olean Food Pantry. That Sunday, the final donations from the area churches and 40 dozen farm-fresh eggs were dropped off. The grand totals have been tabulated and almost THREE tons of canned goods and over $2,500 were donated to the Olean Food Pantry!
Kindergarten Registration Information
For September 2011

The Olean City School District will be conducting Kindergarten registrations for the 2011-2012 School year at each elementary school in March 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>DATES—2011</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East View Elementary</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivers J. Norton Elementary</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardmanville Elementary</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 23</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington West Elementary</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have a child who will be 5 years of age by December 1, 2011, please complete the form below and return it to your neighborhood elementary school, or call the school at the number above.

Child’s name:________________________________ Date of Birth:________________________________

First Last

Parent/Guardian Name:________________________________

Address:__________________________________________

Street
City State Zip Code

Phone Number:____________________________________

Names of other school age children and the school attending:

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

From the Nurses’ Office: Is your child getting enough calcium?

Studies show that by the age of 18, children have built almost all of their bone mass for life. And yet, less than 1 out of 10 girls and only 3 out of 10 boys ages 9-18 get the recommended amount of calcium in their diet to promote bone development. This is not surprising when you consider how many children now drink sodas, flavored waters or sport drinks instead of milk. In addition, teens that smoke or drink soda, caffeinated beverages or alcohol may get even less calcium because those substances interfere with the way the body absorbs and uses calcium.

During childhood and adolescence, the body uses the mineral calcium to build strong bones. Teens, especially girls, whose diets don’t include adequate amounts of calcium are at greater risk of developing osteoporosis which increases the risk of fractures from weakened bones.

Milk is one of the best and easiest sources of calcium in your child’s diet. But other foods are good sources of calcium, too. These include enriched cereals, calcium fortified orange juice, cheese, yogurt, cottage cheese, soy, green leafy vegetables like collards and chard, broccoli, and white or red beans.

At every age, calcium is one nutrient that children cannot afford to miss. Offer calcium rich meals and snacks to your children. Be a good role model and include these foods in your own diet. If you have questions about whether or not your child is getting enough calcium, discuss this with your physician.
Building a School of Readers: Boardmanville Elementary School promoted reading through a reading incentive program called “Building a School of Readers”. Throughout the two weeks, the students were asked to read every night and participate in various theme days at school. On School Spirit Day, the OHS Girls’ Varsity Basketball team visited as guest readers. Other theme days included Construction Worker Day and Hawaiian Day.

Remembering Martin Luther King Jr.: During a recent Friday Morning Program, Mrs. Smith’s fourth grade class honored Martin Luther King Jr. with a skit titled “I Have a Dream.” Students took turns reading about various events in Dr. King’s life that influenced his development as a Civil Rights leader.

PJs, Hot Cocoa and Reading: Mrs. Chudy’s kindergarten class enjoyed a hot cocoa night of fun and reading. Parents and students arrived in pajamas and students read to their parents.

Valentines for Soldiers in Iraq: Mrs. Pelton organized the kindergarteners in Mrs. Stephens’ class to send Valentine messages and gifts made by the children to soldiers in Iraq.
2nd Grade Scientists & Explorers: Mrs. Schreiber’s scientists and Mrs. Rodman’s explorers got together to learn about Science and Social Studies. From learning about the classification of animals, experimenting with the states of matter and the water cycle to discovering what is special about our continents and oceans, these second graders enjoy putting on their scientist lab coats and explorer T-shirts to learn about the world around us.

Packages for Soldiers in Afghanistan: Mrs. Sorokes’ 1st Grade students have gathered items to be sent to the soldiers in Afghanistan. The students have made crafts, written peace poems, and collected snack items for the soldiers as well as collected art supplies to give to the children in Afghanistan. This class has a special connection to a soldier in Afghanistan. Mrs. Gail Chernish, a Foster Grandparent who works in Mrs. Sorokes’ classroom has a son, Calib who is presently stationed in Afghanistan.

Students Receive Dictionaries: Recently, each of East View’s 3rd Grade students received their own dictionary to use at school and home. This generous gift to our students was made possible by donations made through the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation. The students were very excited and thankful to receive their very own dictionaries.

UNO Game Night Collection: The East View PTO sponsored an UNO Game night to collect food for the Olean Food Pantry. Students and their families were invited back to the school on a Friday evening to play UNO. To be able to participate, each student had to donate a food item that was included in the whole school’s food collection for the Olean Food Pantry through the Souper Bowl of Caring project. Everyone had a great time while helping others.
2nd Annual Valentine’s Dance: Friday, February 11th was a very special evening! The IJN PTO sponsored a Valentine’s Dance for all students! Everyone had a ball as they danced to the music of DJ Dan LaCroix. Our students donated dental care items as their ‘ticket’ to the dance! Many thanks to those who worked to make this event such a great success and to our families for their generous donations!

Ivers J. Norton Elementary School

Harlem Wizards Rock the House: On February 8th, the Harlem Wizards entertainment basketball team visited IJN Elementary School in Olean, NY. Two players represented the team at an afternoon assembly which took place in the gymnasium. The two members performed various tricks to act as a preview for the game that was slated later that evening at the Olean High School. Various students were able to participate during the assembly, getting a taste of the skills necessary to be a Harlem Wizard. Students, faculty and administrators, alike, thoroughly enjoyed this performance.

3rd Grade Dictionaries: We continue to be thankful to be in a community that truly cares about its students. Students in Mrs. Hamed’s and Mrs. Straight’s third grade class were the focus as the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation purchased dictionaries and graciously presented them on Monday, January 31st. Thank you CRCF!

American Heart Association: IJN staffers proudly wore their Red Shirts in an effort to support the American Heart Association’s drive to promote heart health and the dangers of heart disease! Thank you staffers for purchasing the Red Dress Pin and donating to such a worthy cause!

Olean Public Library Announces … Students from grades K-5 were acknowledged for their efforts in creating bookmarks for the library’s annual contest! The contest is sponsored by the Friends of the Library of Olean, Inc. and the Literacy Volunteers of Cattaraugus County, Inc. Congratulations to the students pictured and to our overall IJN winner who will be treated to a special award presentation and reception.
Celebrating 100 Days: The students in Pre-K celebrated the 100th day of school in a very special way. We invited their parents to come in and take part in our 100th Day center celebration. Students brought in a collection of 100 objects and glued them onto the number 100. They also made their own snacks – you guessed it … 100 items in each goodie bag! It was an awesome day to spend with mom and dad and celebrate the number 100!

SMARTBoard Learning: Mrs. Woodring’s first graders were lucky enough to recently get a SMARTBoard in their classroom! Students have been able to use the SMARTBoard throughout the day, providing them with hands-on learning experiences. One student said, “This makes math even more fun!” Another student said, “It’s awesome, we love it!” It has been wonderful to see how this technology has increased the students’ enthusiasm for learning!

Talking with an Astronaut: Miss Saxton, St. Bonaventure student teacher with Mrs. Martin’s 5th Grade, conducted a lesson where she contacted Mr. Cecil (NASA employee who worked on space shuttles and visited us in the Fall) to have our students interview him about the space shuttle, the Kennedy Space Center, and his travels to schools all over the US to talk about the space program. Miss Saxton got the idea from a story in our Reading Series, “Talk with an Astronaut.” The story was an interview, so she taught the students the proper way to conduct an interview. It was a huge success, and the students learned a lot from Mr. Cecil.

Sweetheart Centerpieces: Student learning buddies in Mrs. Charles’ fourth grade and Mrs. Robinson’s kindergarten worked together to make centerpieces for the tables at OHS’ Sweetheart Pasta Dinner that benefited the OHS Interact Club. The 4th/5th grade and kindergarten learning buddies will be having a special “Pirate Night Out!” This activity will take place on Tuesday, March 29th, from 6-7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Washington West.
Mrs. Matejka’s 5th Grade class at Washington West Elementary School completed a comprehensive project in Social Studies called Our Place in the World. The students studied everything from geography to state records, and even completed state reports featured in our own class almanac and made 3D clay maps. With this, students also wrote letters from Flat Stanley and sent him off to France. They had a photography contest with Flat Stanley - and Mourece Gayton won. At the finale of learning about where we live and what surrounds us, students invited their parents to watch them compete in a Quiz Show. Daunte Jeter won, but the entire class worked hard!