



LEAN

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"

February-March 2012

Volume 7, Issue 4

OMS Winterfest: No snow ... no problem!

On Friday, January 27th, eighth grade students at OMS participated in Winterfest 2012 with the theme of "Healthy Choices". The half-day activity kicked off in the morning with three guest speakers: Mrs. Tara Leonard from the Cattaraugus Co. Health Dept., Mrs. Marianne Kahle from Bradford Regional Medical Center and Mrs. Ann Wright from the Olean YMCA. The presenters covered a range of topics such as nutrition, fitness and goal-setting to tie into the day's theme.

Due to the lack of snow on the day of Winterfest, students then proceeded to the OMS gym where they participated in a series of team competitions such as the "snowball on a spoon" relay, chariot races, the human pretzel challenge, and the clothing relay. The atmosphere in the gym was electric as students and faculty alike cheered, laughed and enjoyed the friendly camaraderie provided by the day's events.

The last session of the day took place in the OMS cafeteria where students snacked on veggies and fruit provided by a generous donation from the City of Olean Youth Bureau.

Winterfest 2012 was a success despite the fact that the weather made it seem more like "Springfest"! Eighth grade students and faculty agree that a new tradition has been started at OMS. A big THANK YOU to all who helped to make the day a success!



Above, Ky Andreano, Abbey Bailey, and Aliessa Kadlec enjoy some of the snacks provided by a grant from the Olean Youth and Recreation Board for the Winterfest 2012. Below right, Payton Murphy readies herself to make a lay-up during the "Clothing Switch - Make a Bucket" game.



OMS 8th grader, Adam Moore (left photo), races with a cotton ball on a spoon during Winterfest 2012: Making Healthy Choices. Mrs. Anastasia (center photo), OMS CAI Instructor, helps middle school eighth graders prepare for the Winterfest contests.



Korzeniewski awarded tenure

Eric Garvin, president of the Board of Education, presents a tenure certificate to Chris Korzeniewski, Special Education teacher at the Middle School.

Start your morning off right in the OHS cafeteria

By Margaret Pearce

Why stand out in the cold when you can come to the cafeteria at 7 a.m.?

Use the High School ramp door and go directly to the cafeteria where you can catch up on homework or visit with friends, watch some TV or read the paper before the day begins.

While there, check out breakfast to help open those eyes in the morning. Check out our special menu that changes daily with features like breakfast pizza and ham, egg and cheese on an English muffin. Our yogurt with berries and granola and hot maple apple cinnamon oatmeal will start the day off for you. Besides our daily special we also have every day a variety of cereal and toast, fresh baked muffin or toasted bagel you can top with cream cheese or peanut butter or jelly.

To finish off your morning meal, check out our selection of both fresh and canned fruit, variety of juice and choose either cold milk or hot chocolate w/marshmallows for your tray. Still need that extra pick me up? How about a cup of coffee for only 75 cents that you can fix to your preference with flavored creamers.

Hope to see you there!

Message from the Superintendent

Difficult decisions in the wake of an economic storm

"Now is no time to think of what you do not have. Think of what you can do with what there is."

- Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961)

By Dr. Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent

Tides are changing, uncertainty is in the air, pressure is building and the Olean City School District has found itself in the middle of a powerful, almost paralyzing, economic storm. With most storms comes a form of devastation. The aftermath for the Olean City School District equates to a \$3,400,000 budget deficit and if we do not take drastic measures the amount will compound over the next several years. Therefore, each of us must ask ourselves: do we have the fortitude to reinvent our school district as the storm continues to grow in power?

Merger, annexation and consolidation discussions have been a topic for decades, with few becoming realities. Shared services with aid reimbursement is provided via BOCES, consolidation of services among districts and shared academic programming have now emerged as a possible saving grace. While each has possibilities of cost savings, none will afford the District to reduce the deficit by May of 2012.

As revenues continue to dwindle, the Board of Education has been forced to make difficult decisions in an effort to reduce expenditures. When given a choice between buildings and quality programs for our learners, quality programs emerged as the only option. It is now incumbent upon us to ensure a smooth transition for our students.

With your support, strength, courage and compassion I know our students will find success under the new configuration. Forced change can bring great opportunity. Collectively, it is our responsibility to ensure that we take this opportunity to improve upon the educational programming available to our youth.

Petitions due April 25th for two seats on OCSD Board of Education

Two five-year positions on the Olean City School Board of Education are up for election. Candidate petitions may be picked up from the District Clerk's office beginning March 20th. Petitions must be returned to the Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on April 25th.

A public hearing on the District's 2012-2013 budget and expenditure of funds will be held on May 1, 2012 commencing at 6 p.m. in the Olean High School Auditorium, 410 West Sullivan Street, Olean.

The District's budget vote and board election will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Olean Middle School, 401 Wayne Street, Olean.

Understanding the Tax Cap Law: Part III

In the third part of the three-part series on the tax cap, changes to a contingency budget will be discussed. Before discussing the contingency budget requirements, a recap of how the tax levy limit works is at right:

Can the District raise my taxes by more than 2% and still be in compliance with the new law? - YES
(Please see example in box at right)

If the taxpayers do not pass a budget, does the District still follow the contingency laws that were followed last year? - No

What will happen if the budget does not pass? –
The Board of Education may opt to follow one of two options: Option 1 – The District may resubmit the original or a revised budget that voters would vote on June 19, 2012. Option 2 – The Board of Education could adopt a contingency budget with no vote required.

What would the tax levy be under a contingent budget? – The tax levy would have to be no greater than that of the prior year (or a 0% increase in the tax levy).

If the tax levy is zero, what happens to the budget? - The original amount of the tax levy increase would be reduced to zero. Additional expenses would have to be cut in the amount equal to the original tax levy.

What programs are required by law to be cut in a contingent budget? - Specified programs cuts have been eliminated under the new tax levy limit law. Expense reductions would be at the Board of Education's discretion.

Should you have any questions on the tax levy limit or contingent budget, please call the Business Administrator at 375-8020.

AS AN EXAMPLE, a tax levy increase of 3.45% (or \$444,167) would be in compliance under the following set of circumstances:

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE LEVY PROJECTION PER STATE REQUIRED FORMULA

2011-12 Tax Levy	\$ 12,869,356
Times Tax Base Growth Factor	X 1.0069
	<u>\$ 12,958,155</u>
Plus 2011-12 PILOTS	\$ 55,636
	<u>\$ 13,013,791</u>
Minus Prior Year Exemptions (taxpayer portion of capital project)	\$ (84,413)
Adjusted Prior Year Levy	\$ 12,929,378
Times Allowable Growth Factor (lesser of CPI or 2%)	X 1.02
	<u>\$ 13,187,965</u>
Minus 2012-13 PILOTS	\$ (63,006)
	<u>\$ 13,124,959</u>
Plus Available Carryover	0
Tax Levy Limit	<u>\$ 13,124,959</u>
Plus 2012-13 Exemptions (taxpayer portion of capital, ERS and TRS over 2% rate increase)	\$ 188,564
	<u>\$ 13,313,523</u>
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TAX LEVY	<u>\$ 13,313,523</u>

Level 2 & 3 sex offenders 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
Sexual Abuse-1st degree; Rape-2nd degree
Female 13

Robert Beckman

Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 4

Robert Burlew

1542 Olean-Portville Road, Apt. 2
Attempted Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Female 6

Frank B. Cole

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

Frederick (Freddy) Crawford

Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Male 11

Jack Denning

314 South 3rd Street
Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Female 11

Clark Follett

Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Female 13 and 14

Lee Gates

Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 10

John M. Goodwill

Rape-1st degree; Forcible Compulsion-1st degree
Female 12

Stephen Hamer

1700 Olean-Portville Road
Rape-2nd degree
Female 13

Christopher Hollister

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

Richard M. Kline

346 W. Highland Avenue
Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Female 4

Bruce Knavel

2850 McDuffy Road, Apt. 7
Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 5

Buddy Langdon

Sexual Misconduct
Female 16

Arthur Link

1700 East State Street, Apt. 3
Sexual Abuse-2nd degree; Rape-3rd degree
Female 16

Arthur Nelson

Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 10

Frank O'Dell

Sexual Abuse and Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 4 and 7

Damon O'Hara

Rape-2nd degree
Female 14

Joseph Pittman

1542 Olean-Portville Road, Apt. 82
Sexual Abuse-1st degree; Rape-3rd degree;
Sodomy-3rd degree
Female 14

Shawn Rees

Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female 7

Mark Remington

Non-NYS Felony Sex Offense
Female 13

Robert Smith

aka Robert T. Smith Baker
1542 Olean-Portville Road, Apt. 6
Aggravated Sexual Abuse-2nd degree
Female 3

Michael Stiegman

Attempted Sexual Abuse-1st degree
Female <11

Mark A. Thompson

Criminal Sexual Act-2nd degree
Female 13

Gerald Tullar

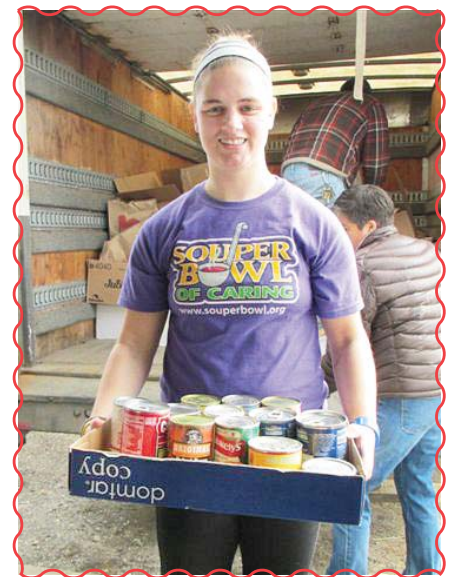
Forcible Touching
Female 46

Kenneth Werts

633 S. Union Street, Apt. 6
Sodomy-1st and 2nd degree
Male 12



All of the district's school buildings joined forces to make this year's drive another success, including Washington West students (above) who collected over 980 food items for the event.



OHS senior Maria Skrobacz, coordinator for the National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean event for the past three years, helps unload the trucks at the Olean Food Pantry.

OCSD rallies for another 'Souper' drive

"It takes all the Huskies to pull the sled." During the week of January 30th, Olean City School District staff and students loaded the huskies' sleds with over three tons of food and thousands of dollars in donations in conjunction with the National Souper Bowl of Caring Olean

Event. This year's event was led by OHS senior Maria Skrobacz and Mrs. Rakus, OHS freshman class advisor and members of the freshman class.

The annual food drive benefits the Olean Food Pantry, and according to volunteers at the pantry, the Souper Bowl

helps supply hundreds and hundreds of Olean residents with much-needed food. Young and old alike visit the Olean Food Pantry during these difficult times. In January 2011, 30 senior citizens sought help from the Olean Food Pantry. In January 2012, those needing food jumped to 76.

In our community, we all band together to make life easier or manageable for others: that's what living in Olean means. We take care of each other. And this year's National Souper Bowl of Caring was no different. In the elementary schools, the classes which brought in the most nonperishable food items were rewarded with a pizza luncheon donated by Mrs. Tina Stetz from Seasons in the Olean Center Mall. The top class at Ivers J. Norton was Mr. Samuelson's class, at Washington West, Mrs. Lori Lewicki's class received the pizza party, East View's top class was Mr. Charles, and Boardmanville's top class was Mrs. Gabler. Congratulations to everyone for a job well done.

Throughout the community, banks and credit unions, the mayor and city employees, churches, and a nursing home, Zonta Club of Olean, and the entire Olean City School District worked in unison to support the annual food drive.



Kindergarten students at Washington West really got into the hat & jersey day while supporting the food drive, and Mrs. Matejka's 3rd grade students lended a very helpful hand in rounding up the donations to go over to the food pantry.

SBU professor shares Civil War expertise

As part of the OHS History Department's efforts to recognize the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War, juniors in the JCC College Connections (HIS1530) *US History to 1877* class were recently treated to a visit from St. Bonaventure University associate professor, Chris Mackowski. Professor Mackowski teaches in the SBU



school of Journalism/Mass Communication and has just published the third in a series of books commissioned by the National Park Service on the Civil War.

Invited to speak to the classes by Mrs. Scholla, Professor Mackowski emphasized the human costs of the War. Professor Mackowski peaked student interest with stories of Stonewall Jackson and his child, and encouraged student empathy for Civil War soldiers facing possible peer pressure to enlist.

Students were very attentive and appreciative of Professor Mackowski taking the time to share his passion for the Civil War. Thank you Professor Mackowski and St. Bonaventure for being such a great resource!

Published by Thomas Publications, Professor Mackowski's three-book series includes: "*Chancellorsville: Crossroads of Fire*", "*The Last Days of Stonewall Jackson*", and "*The Dark, Close Wood: The Wilderness, Ellwood, and the Battle that Redefined Both.*"

New business class organizes Dessert Theatre

**By Christine Stavish,
Business Education Teacher**

The Hospitality and Tourism class is a new class at Olean High this year. This half-year course allows the students to organize and plan an event. The event for the first Hospitality & Tourism Class was a "Dessert Theatre".

In addition to preparing all the promotions (commercials, flyers, invitations, and ticket sales), the hospitality and tourism students created centerpieces, prepared tables with runners and napkins, designed floor plans of the facility, made a variety of the desserts and performed clean-up duties. Also, they were all excellent hosts and hostesses.

This special evening was on Thursday, January 26, 2012. During this time, Mrs. Rhody had various students sing and there were various art pieces displayed from both Mrs. Heinz's and Ms. O'Brien's art classes.

Students successfully demonstrated how to be front-line personnel and how to properly serve customers. In addition



Students who organized and planned the dessert theatre are: (front, l-r) Sydney Allen, Kelsey Stimlinger, Susan Kamery, Jessica Richardson, Hailey Foster, Sara Ziegler and Alicia Henning; and (back, l-r) Nicholas Reiller and Zanaid Marra. Absent for the photo was Alex Marra.

students learned how to organize an event from the planning and budgeting to the proper closing of a facility. OHS should

be very proud of these students and their hard work that was displayed on this very special evening.

April's Red & Gold Rumble to benefit Sports Boosters

Olean High School Sports Boosters will host the 1st Red & Gold Rumble – a USA Boxing sanctioned event -- at the high school on Saturday, April 21, 2012.

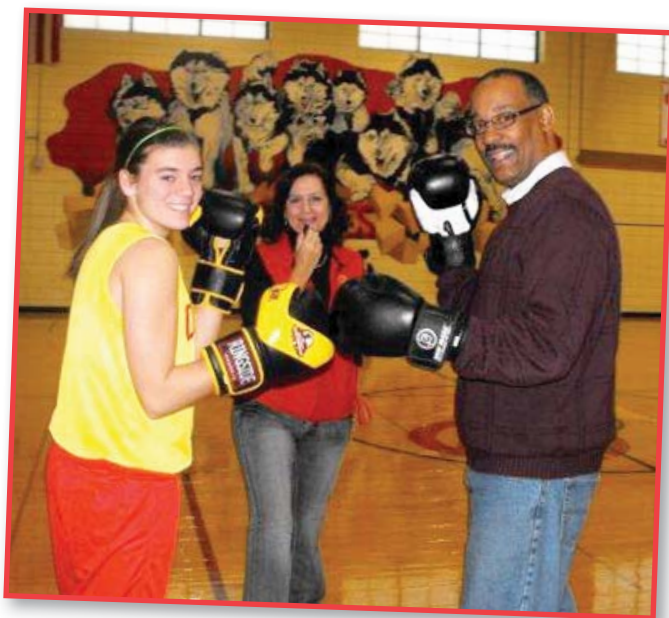
John Elmore has been involved in boxing since his youth. In the 1970's, the Olean YMCA was a training site for the Southern-Tier Boxing Club, which was run by the late Larry Twitty. The late JoJoe Redeye and Jim Terrion of Salamanca trained club members in Salamanca. Several guys from Olean who participated in the program including John were City of Olean Police Chief Terry Schnell, Rev. Van Gayton, Stanley Parks, "Jolten" Joe McBride, Jeff Becker, Vince Marra, Tony Labella, Tommy Wilson, Robert Elmore, Tony Wilson, Rick Samuelson, and James Brooks. John is now a USA Boxing certified referee and boxing coach. In fact, Olean High School hosted a boxing event back in 1973.

The Red & Gold Rumble's card will feature between 12 and 15 amateur bouts with members of boxing clubs from Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Erie: St. Martin's Boxing Club; St. John International Boxing Club; Casal Boxing, WNY MMA, University of Buffalo Boxing Club, and the Bomb Squad. This event, which is sanctioned by USA boxing, will feature boxers from the clubs ranging in ages from 11 to 24 years old. Many of the boxers have won state and national amateur titles.

"Boxing is a sport that requires dedication and discipline as well as superb conditioning," stated Mr. Elmore. "My hope is the values taught in boxing will carry over to other aspects of their lives," he added. The goal of the Red and Gold Rumble is to raise \$10,000 dollars for the Olean High School Sports Booster Club as well as money to send Western New York Boxers to national tournaments. John is a Buffalo attorney, and a proud member of both the Olean High School Athletic and its Academic Wall of Fame. He credits much of his success to the values and education that he received at Olean High School and this effort is a small way of giving back. John's company, Brown Chiari Attorneys LLP has signed on as one of the rumble's initial sponsors.

This event is also being coordinated and assisted by OHS students in Mrs. Chris Stavish's Sports & Entertainment Marketing class. "I had presented to her students in another class early this year on marketing Olean. When this event came along, I thought it would be a great idea to get the students involved from the first step – promoting, securing sponsors, ticket sales, etc. With guidance from John, Mrs. Stavish, and I, we are giving the students the go ahead on this event," added Meme Yanetsko, Sports Boosters Treasurer.

For more information on the Rumble, please contact Meme Yanetsko at 716-372-4433 or by email to meme@oleanny.com.



Rachel "The House" Painter, a student-athlete at Olean High School, Superintendent Dr. Colleen Taggerty, and OHS Alumni John Elmore.



Chelsea Gergel

Advanced OHS art students study Cubism

**By Theresa Heinz,
Art Teacher**

Students in Advanced Art Painting and Drawing are creating acrylic paintings based on their recent exploration of the Cubism movement of the early 20th Century. Artists such as Picasso and Cezanne served as the inspiration for these students' paintings. Line drawings of a landscape or seascape were slightly distorted, transferred to canvas boards and then painted using acrylics. Students discussed the Cubists' use of shape, value and color as they incorporated these elements into their paintings.



Sydney Allen



How Do You SPELL W..I..N..N..E..R?

By Sheila Jackson, Spelling Bee Adviser

The Olean Middle School Spelling Bee was held on Wednesday, January 11th. Twenty-three 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, Sachita Barua (*above left*), a 6th grader on the Orange Team, also took a written test on February 1st to compete for a place in the Western New York Regional competition to be held in March. The winner of that contest will then be invited to compete in Washington.

This year's runner up is Nicholas Sanders (*above right*), an 8th grade student on the Gray Team.



Tyler Straight is working on his clay project. Mrs. Heinz's 8th grade students are translating their two-dimensional drawings of vessels into three-dimensional clay. Students are hand rolling the clay, referring to drawing earlier in this quarter.



'SELL AN ELEMENT' SCIENCE PROJECT

By Mrs. Carrie Samuelson

Students in Mrs. Samuelson's 8th Grade Science classes recently completed the "Sell an Element" project in which each student presented a poster of a chemical element describing the element's discovery, its properties, and its uses. The students were also required to create a slogan to help advertise their element's uniqueness.

Pictured above are: (front, l-r) Callista Bendinelli, Lalita Bulusu and (back, l-r) Emily Allen, Olivia Mucke and Luke Earl.

'ART AS MATH' EXHIBIT

Students from the Olean Middle School had art projects on display at the Saint Bonaventure University Quick Arts Center. There were also art projects on display at the Center for the Arts for friends and family. The following are the artists: Corri Proctor, Sophia Garvin, Katie Allen, and Emily Allen.

The Arts Education Program at Saint Bonaventure University is displaying 8th student artwork to be displayed in the Mezzanine of the Saint Bonaventure School students, as well as students from other schools. Art projects on display. Stop-in and support our OMS artists.



and the 'Middle'



seen above
project in
de art class
learning to
dimensional
into
lay pieces.
olling coils of clay to construct their vessels,
s they created in sketchbooks that were made
er.



BIT AT QUICK CENTER

projects accepted into an "Art as Math" exhibit at St.
as an opening on Monday, February 13th, at the Quick
wing students were selected for the exhibit: Mia Rog-
Karino Wada. Congratulations to these artists!
re is organizing an exhibition of Middle School (gr. 6 -
Gallery March 8 though April 4, 2012. Olean Middle
ol districts in the surrounding counties, will have
sts!



REALITY CHECK ACTIVITIES

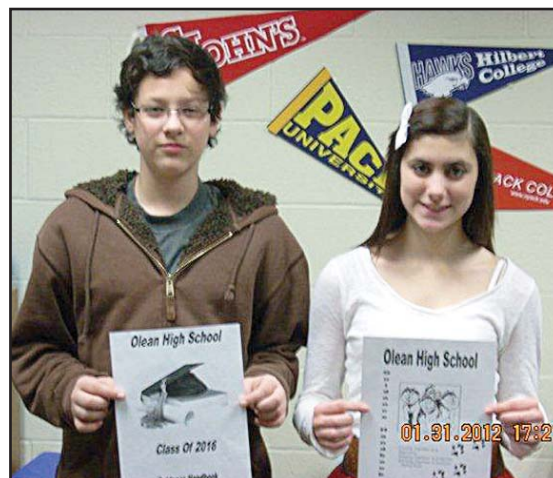
Two eighth grade Reality Check members were chosen to attend a two-day training session in Syracuse on January 15- 16th. Tyler Richmond and Dakotha Murphy participated in team building activities (*left photo*), increased awareness of marketing, and sales tactics used by the tobacco industry.

The OMS Reality Check group hosted our third annual free skate night (*right photo*) at the Olean Recreation Center on Friday, January 27th. The Center was packed with people of all ages. RC Coordinator, Jon Chaffee, provided a display with advertising statistics. Reality Check is a movement made up of OMS students who want to tell the tobacco industry that if they think they can keep targeting NY teens without any resistance, they need a "reality check!"



GUIDANCE HANDBOOK COMPETITION

Every year the guidance department, in conjunction with Mr. Bush's 8th grade tech classes, hold a design contest for the Olean High School Guidance handbook. We are pleased to announce this year's winners as Ivy Cammarata, whose design will be the front cover of the handbook and Charles Bennett whose design will be the back cover. The OHS Guidance handbook will be given to all 8th grade students when they complete their 4-year plan with guidance. The handbook contains varied information about the high school to help the students with the transition process.



2ND QUARTER ATTENDANCE AWARDS



Congratulations to our 2nd quarter attendance winners Zayba Chauhdry (left), Distinguished Attendance Award (\$25), and Michaela McCall (right), Perfect Attendance Award (\$50). They are being congratulated by Tim Houseknecht, Assistant Middle School Principal.

DECA competitors advance to state level

By Sue Frentz
and Christine Stavish

On Wednesday, January 4, 2012, several OHS Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) students participated at Jamestown Community College for a regional DECA competition. Other schools that are involved in this regional competition are: Hornell, Wellsville, Southwestern, Salamanca, and Whitesville.

OHS students all performed exceptionally well. Four of our DECA members did so well that they are invited to compete in Rochester, NY on March 7th, 8th, and 9th. These four students that are competing at the state level are: Destin Sweeten, Gina Snyder, Zanaid Marra, and Katie Wintermantel. Over 3,000 students across NYS will be at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center ready to compete and represent their schools. If these students place in the top five (overall) at States in their test



DECA Club members include: (front, l-r) Alex Marra, Destin Sweeten, Nick Hamed, Lucas Barta; (middle, l-r) Advisor Mrs. Frentz, Courtney Meyers, Kelly VanBrunt, Gina Snyder, Alexis Menter, Ashley Maynard, Advisor Mrs. Stavish; and (back) Katie Wintermantel. Missing is Zanaid Marra.

area, they can qualify to go to Nationals in Utah which is the International Career Development Conference.

Good luck goes to Gina, Zanaid, Destin, and Katie as they are preparing for their State Competition!

Annual District Wellness Night set for March 7th

The Olean City School District will be hosting a Wellness Night on March 7th from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Olean Middle School. All are welcome! There will be stations from Reality Check, Health Department, YMCA, Angee's, Massage Therapist and More! We will also have Can Jam, Zumba, Martial Arts, swimming and Minute to Win it competitions! Please join us for an evening of wellness and fun!

Order your yearbook today

OHS Students - don't wait, order your yearbook today! It's that time of year again to order your yearbook. For your convenience, you can place your order at www.jostens-yearbooks.com. Contact Mrs. Frentz at sfrentz@olean.wnyric.org with any questions.



Class says, 'Show us the money!'

By Mrs. Frentz

Audra Stevens, Sales & Marketing Manager at Olean Area Federal Credit Union, presented banking information to Mrs. Frentz' Money Management classes. Students learned how to open checking and savings accounts, properly use a bank debit card, and the proper way to write a check. Students in Money Management completed a two-week banking simulation called *Mad City Money* where they had to properly maintain a checkbook, pay bills, and manage a strict budget.

Kindergarten Registration Information For September 2012

The Olean City School District will be conducting Kindergarten registrations for the 2012-2013 School year from March 20-23, 2012. If you have a child who will be 5 years of age by December 1, 2012, **please complete the form below and return it to your neighborhood elementary school, or call the school at the number below.**

SCHOOL	PHONE
East View Elementary	375-8920
Ivers J. Norton Elementary	375-8940
Boardmanville Elementary	375-8900
Washington West Elementary	375-8960

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 currently attending:

PTA offers parents' guide to student success

Recently, New York State has adopted new learning standards for students - the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics for Pre-Kindergarten through 12th Grade.

Common Core Standards have now been adopted by more than 40 states across the country to ensure that what students learn in Pre-K through 12 will

prepare them for what they are expected to know and be able to do for college and career readiness.

Our teachers and administrators have been learning about and preparing for the new learning standards across the district in all content areas. The National PTA has developed useful guides to help parents understand the key ideas that children

should be learning at each grade, activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning, and suggestions for helping parents to communicate with their child's teacher.

A link to these guides can be found on our school website: www.oleanschools.org. Click on Academics and then click on Curriculum.



Doughnuts for Dad: Students in Mrs. Stephens', Mrs. Chudy's, and Mrs. Knight's kindergarten classes invited their dads to the "Doughnuts for Dads" breakfast celebration in honor of Letter D week.



A Volcanic Reaction: Third Graders created volcanoes as they studied about natural disasters and the country of Italy. As you can see from the children's expressions, this unit of study created a lot of excitement!



Imitating Emperor Penguins: During Literacy Lab Mrs. Bushnell's second grade students have been studying Emperor Penguins. The students have used the internet to research facts, read stories and participated in activities that have allowed them to learn more about these amazing birds. Students dressed like a penguin - big belly and all - to hold the egg on their feet (middle left photo). They also used clay to make a model of the penguin they are studying (bottom left photo).

Boardmanville Elementary School



Learning About Culture and Countries: Third grade students have been working with informational text, reading to learn about different countries and cultures. The students from Mrs. Grandusky's class, pictured at left, are looking for answers to a crossword puzzle in a book about China.



i-Pads Being used in 5th Grade: 5th Grade students in Mr. Talbot's class are using i-Pads to enhance their learning. So far, they have used the i-Pads for research projects, and using an app for converting fractions to decimals as well as an app for determining weight and mass on other planets.



Computer Lab is Used Throughout the Day: The computer lab at East View is used throughout the day by a variety of classes. The lab is used by the 4th and 5th grade students for research, a program called Study Island, and learning keyboarding skills. Other grades use the lab to have the students work in a variety of programs to improve reading and math skills, such as Starfall and Reading Eggs. Pictured are Kindergarten students working in the computer lab.



Students Interact with Smartboards: East View has 16 classrooms (out of 19) that are equipped with Smartboards. Through the use of this technology, students are able to interact with a variety of programs in subjects such as reading and math. Pictured are students in Mrs. Obenrader's pre-Kindergarten class working at the Smartboard.

Video Conferencing with Students in Texas: Using technology called a polycom, 1st and 2nd grade students in Mrs. Rogozinski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Bowser's classes are video conferencing with students in Texas, comparing the weather in their areas. The polycom gives the students the opportunity to see each other and speak with each other in real time. The East View students shared a powerpoint and showed the students in Texas what a snowball looked like and what kinds of clothes they needed to wear during our winter.



Dental Health Month: To help celebrate Dental Health month, Donna Kahm, the CEO of Southern Tier Health Care System, visited IJN on Thursday, February 9. She presented every student with a toothbrush and a Children's Advocacy Center Read to Succeed bookmark. The students were very excited to receive a new toothbrush and enjoyed learning that Donna was a former IJN student.



Incredible Asian Art: Mrs. Jean Nickel's 3rd grade Art classes at Ivers J. Norton and Washington West have been working on art projects based upon Asian cultures. They learned Japanese Ink Painting also known as The Art of Sumi-e. They also learned how to create a Notan. A Notan is the interaction of light and dark spaces, or as we know it, positive and negative space. You can view some more terrific art work at: <http://www.artsonia.com/schools/IversJNorton1>, or www.artsonia.com/schools/washington53.

Jumping into a Great Assembly:

4th and 5th grade students performed their Jump Rope routines at a school assembly on Friday, January 27th. Students names were drawn from a hat to make 4-person teams and asked to create a routine. They picked their own music, team name, and some also coordinated their outfits! Students worked together to create outstanding routines this year. Miss Morey was very proud of everyone!



Interns – a “Bona” Adventure! Last month, 11 St. Bonaventure students arrived at IJN to begin a semester-long internship. All of these students are education majors and they are at IJN to learn from the amazing classroom teachers and support staff. Each intern is assigned to a teacher and during the semester they will learn about teaching, not only by observing what goes on in classrooms, but also by teaching lessons to the IJN students. These interns are technologically savvy and bring lots of great new ideas to their classrooms. The teachers and interns will be learning together, sharing ideas and particularly trying out some new uses for technology -- especially the SMARTBoards and iPads at IJN.

Ivers J. Norton Elementary School

Souper Can Drive – IJN Delivers! Congratulations to the students and staff of IJN for their generous contributions to the Souper Bowl of Caring! 1,590 items were collected and added to the District's effort, which resulted in over three tons of food and hundreds in monetary donations. IJN wants to thank coordinator OHS Senior Maria Skrobacz for her leadership over the last three years! Thanks for the 'super souper' job!!



Electricity and Magnetism: The fourth graders have been studying electricity and magnetism. Through hands-on experiments, they have tested the effects of static electricity, as well as the principles of magnetism. In one experiment, the students discovered how Rice Krispies can stick to a record.



Practicing Good Virtues: Second graders in Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Lewicki, and Mr. Martin's classrooms have been working hard at practicing good virtues in their daily lives. A few of the character traits we have been working on are love, generosity, compassion, responsibility, and respect. Each week we focus on a different virtue. We talk about what the virtue means and what it should look like. We discuss how it's better to see students with good virtues rather than "bullies" in our school environment. Every Friday, our students get to vote for one classmate who best displays the virtue trait of the week. The winner earns a "Husky Buck". The Second Grade Team has noticed an improvement in their students' relationships with their peers and are very proud of their "Husky Pups".



Learning about the Weather: Mrs. Brooks' student teacher, Miss Morse, has been teaching second graders about weather. They have been enjoying many weather activities and projects. The class made their own weather vanes to measure wind direction. The students also made cloud flip books to tell about the different types of clouds. On Groundhog's Day, the class read *Groundhog Weather School* by Joan Holub. The students then made their own groundhog snack from an English muffin, peanut butter, raisins, crackers, and Twizzlers.

Washington West Elementary School



Take Me to Mexico: Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Monroe's Social Studies classes teamed up to work on a Mexico Unit. The students were differentiated in three groups with three teachers, including student teacher, Ms Frate. The students were taught the history, geography, culture, foods, Mayan Math, and Mexican yarn art. Mrs. Betsy Cashing from St. Bonaventure taught 4 Spanish lessons to all students. As a culminating activity, a Mexican fiesta was held on Tuesday, February 7. The fifth grade students really enjoyed our unit and said it was interesting, exciting, and fun to learn about another country.



Building a Snowman, One Book at aTime: Students in Grades 3, 4 and 5 worked together to build a snowman display with WW Library Aide, Ms. Miller. Each snowball added to the black background represented one book read by a student. The students read enough books in one month to fill in the snowman and cover the ground! Great work!



Pre-K's Furry Friends: Students in Mrs. Chamberlain's Pre-K classroom have had an exciting winter. With our lack of snow, we are lucky to have a "Magic" Mrs. Volz to help us make snow in the classroom. We want to extend a special thank you to Mr. Gaylor for visiting us with his 9 little fury friends. They helped us to see how animals change and grow after reading our story "Growing Like Me" for Early Reading First. We are having fun learning and growing together in Pre-K.

OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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OHS students deliver singing Valentines

Vocal students of Mrs. Jan Rhody presented singing Valentines Day messages to several staff members at Olean High School. Students delivered approximately 40 of the vocal-grams as part of a fund-raiser for the Music Department. Receiving a special rendition of "You Are My Sunshine" is Mrs. Fran Clawson, secretary to OHS principal Mrs. Barbara Lias. The song from the heart was delivered by (from left) Janelle Shaffer, Emily Bantelman and Jaclyn Hitchcock.



OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mission ...

"Home, School and Community
Educating for Life"

Values ...

- Excellence
- Honesty/Integrity
- Learning
- Mutual Respect
- Resourcefulness
- Responsibility & Accountability
- Sensitivity to Diverse Needs
- Teamwork

Strategic Themes ...

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Facilities & Learning Environment
- Finance/Resource Management
- Building Relationships