



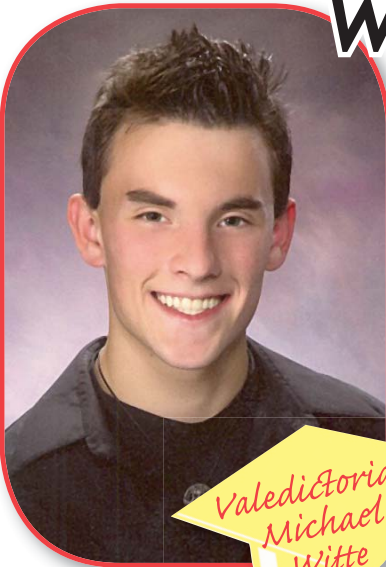
# LEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*"Home, School and Community Educating for Life"*

June-July 2009

Volume 5, Issue 6

## Witte, Skrobacz top Class of 2009



*Valedictorian  
Michael  
Witte*

**Michael S. Witte** has been named Valedictorian of the Class of 2009, ranking 1<sup>st</sup> in a class of 125 students with an average of 98.112. He is the son of Gilbert and Linda Witte. Graduating with an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors, Michael's academic program included many advanced and college-level courses: Calculus I and II, Economics, French, English, US History, Psychology, and Sociology.

He is the Recording Secretary for the Model United Nations. He has participated in Knowledge Masters for four years and in the Model United Nations for three years. He is a member of the National Honor Society. He has been a member of the JV and Varsity Soccer Teams for three years. Michael plays the bass clarinet for both concert band and orchestra, and has attended the Houghton College String Festival. Michael has also participated in French Club and the Enchanted Mountain Traveling Soccer Club.

Michael was named a Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau Student of the Week, Business First Special Mention, All-WNY Scholar-Athlete for soccer, and a member of Area All-State Band. Scholarships Michael has won include the 2009 Robert C. Byrd Scholarship for Academic Excellence, the University of Rochester Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Scholarship, and the UVM Presidential Scholarship.

Michael has been accepted into the Class of 2013 at the University of Vermont. He has not yet declared a major, but tentatively plans to study pre-law.

**Ann Elizabeth Skrobacz** has been named the salutatorian of the Olean High School Class of 2009. She is the daughter of Frank and Eileen Skrobacz. Annie ranks 2nd in a class of 125 students with an average of 98.097 and will graduate with an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Her challenging course-load included: Introduction to Engineering and Design, Digital Electronics, Civil and Architectural Engineering, Principles of Engineering, English 1530, U.S. History 1530 and 1540, Spanish IV, Anatomy and Physiology Courses I and II, and New Visions.

She has volunteered for the National Souper Bowl of Caring and was one of 19 teens across the U.S. to serve on its National Youth Advisory Board. She also volunteers for St. Mary of the Angels' Youth Rally, Parish Festival and Christmas Dinner, YMCA Corn Festival, Harvest Hope Food Bank in South Carolina, Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center, OHS Alumni Football Game, Olean General Hospital, St. Joseph's Maharajan and Cadillac Dinner, March of Dimes Chiefs' Auction, OHS Up All Night and Blood Drive, and the Warming House.

She attended the Franciscan University of Steubenville Summer Youth Conference, the Future is Now Conference and the NYS Youth and Government Leadership Program in Albany, and served as co-president of St. Mary of the Angels' Youth Board and vice-president of her sophomore class.

She is a member of National Honor Society, BOCES National Technical Honor Society, Interact Club, St. Mary of the Angels' Parish Youth Group, Girls' Varsity Swimming & Diving (six years, senior co-captain), JV Basketball (two years, sophomore co-captain), and was recognized as a Scholar-Athlete all four years of high school.

Her honors include BOCES New Visions Student-of-the-Quarter, UPB Woman of Promise Outstanding Community Service Honorable Mention, Outstanding Community Service Award – Olean Food Pantry, Exchange Club Student-of-the-Month, Diocese of Buffalo Manus Christi Award and Bishop McNulty Buffalo Diocese Youth Spirit Award, Catt. Co. Youth Citizenship Award, ADPRO/Section VI Scholar Athlete All-WNY for Girls' Swimming & Diving, OHS Fall Female Scholar-Athlete, OHS Swimming & Diving Coach's Award, OHS 20-Point Award, Excellence in Earth Science, Global Studies, and Spanish III awards. Recently, she received the GOACC Youth Award and was named a Big 30 Academic All-Star.

Ann plans to attend Daemen College and pursue a career as a physician assistant.



*salutatorian  
Ann  
Skrobacz*

# Rounding out the 2009 Honor Grads...



*Kerianne Bellamy*



*Kayla Branch*



*Abigail Bretzin*



*John Capitani*

The following students of the Olean High School Class of 2009 have excelled in their studies, citizenship and extra-curricular activities, maintaining a 90 or above average throughout their high school career. Listed alphabetically are:

**Kerianne Bellamy** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Her challenging course load included advanced English, JCC English, AVCC U.S. History, AVCC French, AVCC Sociology and AVCC Psychology. Aside from this difficult schedule, Kerianne was active in many extracurricular activities throughout her high school career, including Select and Women's Choir, OHS musicals, Interact Club, First priority, Homeless Huskies and Up All Night. She is the recipient of the Dean's Scholarship from Alfred University and a member of the National Honor Society. Kerianne plans to attend Alfred University to major in Cultural Anthropology and World Religion, with a minor in Theater Arts. She also hopes to study abroad.

**Kayla Branch** will receive a NYS Regents Diploma. Her career in high school included challenging herself with advanced courses in French IV, U.S. History, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Calculus and JCC English courses I, II. Aside from her high honor roll status, Kayla also kept busy as a Varsity tennis player and softball player. She was a member of the French club, Interact club and ski club; and, a talented musician in both Band and Orchestra. Kayla, a member of the National Honor Society, has also received the 20/40 Point Award, Sportsmanship Award, MVP Award and the Coach's Award for tennis. She plans on attending the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and eventually transferring to the main campus to major in Nursing and minor in Psychology. She hopes to become a Nurse Practitioner.

**Abigail Bretzin** will receive her Advanced NYS Regents Diploma. Her heavy courseload in high school included U.S. History I and II, Spanish 2510 and 2520, Calculus I and II, English 1530 and 1540, and Economics 1510. Abby was a member of Interact Club and the National Honor Society; and played both Soccer and Track throughout high school. She plans to attend SUNY Cortland in the fall to study Athletic Training.

**John Capitani** will receive his NYS Regents Diploma. He has maintained his high honor role status while challenging himself in courses such as Psychology, Sociology and Spanish IV and V this year. He has been a very active and talented member in the OHS music program in Orchestra, Band, Jazz Band and Choir. John has received the ACE Award, and a USA Grant. He is a National Honor Society Student and awarded an Academic Letter twice in his high school career. He plans to attend Jamestown Community College in September to major in the Social Sciences or History.

**Angelica Carlson** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Her advanced and honors classes included Spanish IV and IV, U.S. History I and II, Psychology, Sociology, Calculus I and II, College English I and II and Advanced Economics. Throughout high school, Angelica was active in JV and Varsity Soccer, Indoor and Outdoor Track; as well as the music program as a member of mixed chorus, using her talents in the chorus for the musical, *The Sound of Music*. She was also a member of band and orchestra where she was Treasurer. Her talents were exhibited in the Pit Orchestra for the musical, *Oklahoma*, and she wasn't afraid to "get her hands dirty" on the stage crew for the musical *Anything Goes*. Angelica was class Secretary sophomore year, and stayed active in school fund-raisers such as Up All Night and Homeless Huskies. This National Honor Society member has received the 20/40 Point Award, the Scholarship for Academic Excellence, the St. John Fisher College Trustees' Scholarship, OHS All Sportsmanship Team Award and Most Improved Award for Indoor Track. She plans to attend St. John Fisher College to study Communications and Journalism with a minor in Peace and Social Justice Studies.



*Angelica Carlson*

**Matthew Carucci** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma, after four years in Advanced Math courses including Calculus I and II, as well as SUPA Chemistry. Matt will be





*Matthew Carucci*

remembered most for aiding the Varsity Basketball Team to win the State Championship in the 2007-08 Season as a junior. His efforts as a senior were no less spectacular. Aside from Basketball, Matt was also a member of the Varsity Tennis team for four years and the Varsity Baseball team in his senior year. Matt will receive an IAABO Scholarship. His future plans include attending SUNY Fredonia to study Political Science and eventually attend Law School.

**Bridget Cooney** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma. Bridget has been a member of the Interact Club where she has served as Vice President. She has also been an active member of the Principal's advisory. In sports, Bridget has been on the girls' varsity tennis team and varsity track and field. She has received the MVP Award for tennis, the Athletic Director's Choice Award for sportsmanship, the Harold Dutton Spotlight Award, and Excellence in Social Studies Award. Bridget plans to attend SUNY Brockport this fall to study Biology and Secondary Education.

**Megan Dwaileebe** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Her advanced studies at Olean High have included Accelerated Math A and B, Accelerated Pre-Calculus and college level Spanish, Economics, History, and English from Jamestown Community College; and Critical Thinking and Composition from St. Bonaventure University. She has received many honors and awards including the George Eastman Young Leader Award, the Harold Dutton Student Spotlight Award, the Scholar Athlete Award, 60-Point Award and MVP for Volleyball. Megan,

who is a member of the National Honor Society, has been an active leader throughout her high school career. She has been the Student Activities Council Secretary, the Interact Club Vice President for two years, and class President for three years. Megan has participated in the Principal's Advisory Board, played JV and Varsity volleyball; and been an active participant in Up All Night, Homeless Huskies, yearbook staff, homecoming committee and winter weekend committee. This fall, Megan plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh and have a double major in International Business and Spanish.

**Jocelyn Huselstein** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Her heavy course load included Spanish IV and V, English 1530 and 1540, Advanced US History, Economics, and two courses in Calculus. She has been an active member in the music program here at Olean High School playing both in band and orchestra as well as in the Jazz Band. Her sports activities included both JV and Varsity Soccer and Track. She is a National Honor Society member who has served as NHS President and Spanish Club treasurer. Jocelyn has received the Sportsmanship Award and the Scholar Athlete Award. She will attend Jamestown Community College and move on to a four-year university.

**Kristen M. Jedrosko** is receiving her NYS Advanced Regents Diploma. Her challenging curriculum has included Advanced/College Credit History, French, Chemistry, English and Sociology. She has participated in JV Soccer, Band, and Orchestra; and is a National Honor Society member. While she has not committed to a university as of yet, she does plan to major in Accounting.

**Matthew Johnston** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Matt has chosen a challenging course load throughout his high school career, which included French IV, Advanced US History, Advanced Economics, Civil Engineering, Principles of Engineering, Advanced English and Advanced Calculus. His sports participation at OHS includes JV and Varsity soccer, Indoor and Outdoor Track. He has been active on the Principal's Advisory Board, Knowledge Masters, Interact Club and Ski Club. Matt served this year as Co-President of the senior class and is a member of the National Honor Society. He has received the Chemistry Award, Interact of the Year Award, OHS Male Scholar-Athlete of the Season (Winter '09), ADPRO/Section VI Scholar Athlete

*(continued on page 4)*

## Rounding out the 2009 Honor Grads...



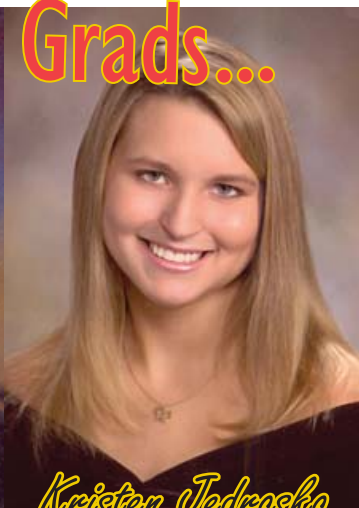
*Bridget Cooney*



*Megan Dwaileebe*



*Jocelyn Huselstein*



*Kristen Jedrosko*

# Rounding out the 2009 Honor Grads...



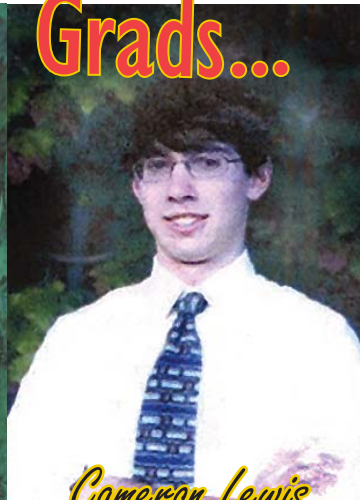
*Matthew Johnston*



*Ryan Joyce*



*Sarah Lehman*



*Cameron Lewis*

All-WNY for Boys' Track & Field, and is a recipient of a Scholarship to the University of Buffalo, where he will attend school in the fall to study Mechanical or Industrial Engineering.

**Ryan S. Joyce** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. His advanced courses included four years of advanced Math, three years of advanced English, AV/CC Spanish and Sociology. He has been a member of the band and has played JV and Varsity soccer, track and tennis. Ryan, a member of the National Honor Society, has received the Scholar Athlete Award for both Track and Soccer. His other Achievement Awards include those for Academics including Earth Science, Global History and Geography. Ryan will attend St. Bonaventure University this fall where he will major in Mathematics.

**Sarah Lehman** is receiving a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Her numerous advanced studies in high school included Arabic 101 and 102, Calculus I, Composition and Critical Thinking, Spanish 201 and 202 History 1530 and 1540 and Advanced English. A member of the National Honor Society, she has served as Interact Club Treasurer and Freshman Class Secretary. She was also a member of DECA and played varsity tennis. She has received a Tuition Exchange Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship. Sarah plans to attend Gettysburg College this fall where she will major in Political Science and Economics.

**Cameron Lewis** will receive his NYS Advanced Regents Diploma. His advanced high school coursework includes Project Lead the Way – Engineering program, AV/CC US History, Calculus I and II, AV/CC Spanish, English and Economics. Cameron's extracurricular activities throughout his high school career included track, tennis and band. He was a leader in the First Priority Bible Study Group, a member of the National Honor Society where he served as Vice President and a member of the YMCA Youth and Government. He was also a participant in Moody's Mega Math Challenge. Cameron has received the National Merit Scholarship Award, the National Exchange Club Youth of the Month Award, an Outstanding Honor Society Member Award, the Angelo Melaro Author's Award and is a USA (Unified Student Assistance) Scholarship recipient. Cameron will attend Jamestown Community College for a year and then plans to move on to a four-year school to study Media Arts and Communications as well as film and video production.

**Kara McGonnell** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma. She has taken advanced sections in English, Studio Art, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish and even participated in extra advanced art classes offered at BOCES. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has participated in Varsity Swimming, the Tell-O-Scope school newspaper, NYSATA Annual Art Portfolio Adjudication, the Principal's Writing Contest and Knowledge Masters. Kara has achieved many awards in her varsity swimming career, including the Coach's Award, High Point Award, and the CCIAC Swimming Championship. Aside from her achievements in swimming, Kara has been as successful in her artistic endeavors winning awards such as Excellence in Studio Art, Excellence in Painting and Design, and third place in the Annual Arts and Writing Contest sponsored by the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo. Her future plans include attending Lycoming College in the fall where she will major in Art and Creative Writing.

**Elizabeth Mahar** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors, after completing studies in AP U.S. History, Advanced Spanish IV and V, Calculus I and II, AV/CC English and Sociology. Her extracurricular activities include Varsity Cross Country, Interact Club, Knowledge Masters; and volunteering at Olean General Hospital. She is the treasurer of the National Honor Society and the recipient of the John Frederick Oberlin Scholarship. Her other awards include Excellence in Spanish, Studio Art, History and Science. Elizabeth plans to attend Oberlin College this fall where she will study Neuroscience and either Pre-Vet or Pre-Med.

**Christa Nianiatius** is receiving a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. A well-rounded student, Christa has taken such challenging college level and honors classes as Anatomy &



*Kara McGonnell*





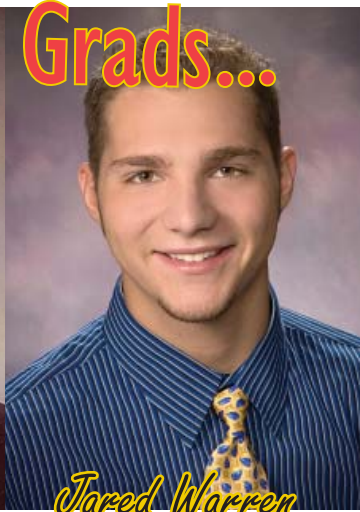
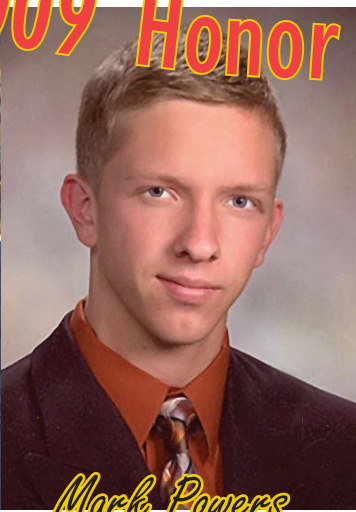
Physiology I and II, Calculus I and II, English Composition I, French IV, US History I and II and is a part of the New Visions Health Professions program. She has been active in OHS sports including Cross-Country, Indoor Track and Outdoor Track and Field. Christa also has been involved in the OHS music program as a member of Select Choir, Bel-Canto, playing violin in the orchestra, and having roles in the school musicals *Beauty and the Beast*, *Anything Goes*, and *The Sound of Music*. Her leadership qualities have been exhibited through Model UN, in which she was President senior year; Interact Club, Knowledge Masters, National Technical Honor Society and a student committee member of CDEP (Comprehensive District Educational Plan). Christa has also taken part in the fund-raising activities Homeless Huskies and Up All Night. Her awards include Area All State Chorus, All State Chorus, All Eastern Chorus, Excellence in Global History, Excellence in English, and the OHS 20 & 40 Point Awards. Other honors include OHS Female Scholar Athlete of the Season (Winter '09), Indoor Track Coach's Award, ADPRO/Section VI Scholar Athlete All-WNY for Girls' Track & Field, Cattaraugus County Youth Citizenship Award, UPB Woman of Promise for the Creative and Performing Arts Honorable Mention; and she is the recipient of the Bobby Cartner Memorial Scholarship and the Clarkson University Leadership Award. She plans to attend Cornell University where she will major in Biology and Society/Pre-Med.

**Michael V. Powell** is receiving a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Michael challenged himself in high school by taking college level course and honors classes in Psychology, Sociology, Calculus US History and Economics. He was a star soccer player for four years, bowled for two years and was a Big 30 Scholastic Team Nominee. Michael is a member of the National Honor Society, First Priority, and Knowledge Masters. He has also been active in the music program at OHS utilizing his talents not only in Bel-Canto and Select Choir tenor section leader; but also as in Olean High theater productions *The Sound of Music* and *Oklahoma*. Michael has also been involved with the Enchanted Mountain travel soccer club and has been a Diocesan Vicariate Representative for the past two years. His awards and achievements include the NHS Scholastic Scholarship and the Presidential Scholarship to Loyola University. He has also been the OHS Ambassador at the HOBY Leadership Seminar and the Rotary Club exchange student first nominee. He was recognized as the *Olean Times Herald* Student of the Week, was awarded the 20/40 Point Award and is a two-time Varsity Letter recipient in both bowling and soccer. Michael is also a Manus Christi award winner. His future plans include attending Loyola University in the fall where he will study Theology and Psychology as a double major.

**Mark Powers** will receive a NYS Regents diploma with Honors. His repertoire of advanced coursework includes Civil Engineering, Principles of Engineering, Calculus I and II, Physics, Advanced English, Spanish and Economics. He has been a member of the JV and Varsity Baseball team and Soccer Team as well as Varsity Indoor Track. His leadership participation is seen through his active participation in Knowledge Masters, Interact Club, Meeting of the Minds and most especially as SAC (Student Activities Committee) President. His is a member of the National Honor Society and the recipient of the 20/40 Point Award. Mark plans to attend either the Rochester Institute of Technology or Bucknell University in the fall to study Engineering.

**Jared Warren** will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. For all four years in high school, he has been involved in the Project Lead the Way. He has also challenged himself with advanced college level courses in English, Economics, Mathematics including Calculus I and II, History and French. He is a member of the Olean Varsity golf team, Interact Club, Knowledge Masters and is an National Honor Society member as well as SAC (Student Activities Committee) President. Jared has received the RIT Presidential Scholarship and the RIT Computing Scholarship. He will attend the Rochester Institute of Technology this fall where he plans to study Mechanical Engineering.

## Rounding out the 2009 Honor Grads...



# CLASS OF 2009 FUTURE PLANS



**Paul D. Ash** - Undecided

**Joseph C. Baird** - Essex Community College,  
Veterinary School

**Brianna M. Baker** - West Virginia University,  
Chemistry

**Thomas W. Bastow** - Marines

**Keriann N. Bellamy** - Alfred University, Cultural  
Anthropology & World Religion

**Holden R. Bernstein** - Jamestown Community College,  
English & Music

**Jillisa M. Bey** - Massage Therapy

**Ethan M. Bird** - Alfred State, Heavy Equipment Operation

**Amber L. Boula** - Undecided

**Daniel L. Boutwell** - Houghton College, Vocal Performance

**Antonio M. Bowers-Marietta** - Army

**Kayla E. Branch** - University of Pittsburgh at Bradford,  
Nursing & Psychology

**Abigail C. Bretzin** - SUNY Cortland, Athletic Training

**Kevin D. Brook** - SUNY Brockport, Business  
Administration

**Felisha M. Buchinger** - Undecided

**Shane M. Campbell** - Bryant & Stratton, Graphic Design

**John R. Capitani** - Jamestown Community College, Social  
Sciences or History

**Matthew J. Carey** - Jamestown Community College

**Amanda R. Carlson** - Jamestown Community College,  
Business

**Amber M. Carlson** - Jamestown Community College/  
Virginia Commonwealth University, Dental Hygiene

**Angelica M. Carlson** - St. John Fisher College,  
Communications & Journalism

**Taylor L. Carney** - California University of PA, Athletic  
Training

**Matthew D. Carucci** - SUNY Fredonia/Law School

**James E. Chatmon** - Barber School/College.

**Shawn D. Chatmon** - Niagara University, Criminology

**Elizabeth M. Colarusso** - Ithaca College, Exploratory  
Program/Speech Pathology

**Bridget E. Cooney** - SUNY Brockport, Biology & Secondary  
Education

**Brandy J. Crawford** - Jamestown Community College

**Krista Dann** - Undecided

**Justina M. Derx** - Niagara County Community College,  
Sports Management

**William J. Dombrowski** - Jamestown Community  
College, Criminal Justice

**Daniel I. Duhan** - Alfred State College, Welding  
Technology

**Rachel C. Duhan** - Jamestown Community College

**Megan A. Dwaileebe** - University of Pittsburgh

**Alexandra E. Edwards** - Undecided

**Vanessa A. Finch** - Undecided

**Steven M Firkel** - Jamestown Community College/DeVry  
Institute, Video Game Design

**McKenzie O. Forrest** - Undecided

**Julianna M. Fuentes** - Undecided

**Shelby M. Gadsden** - Alfred State College, Sports  
Management

**Jessica L. Gardner** - Jamestown Community College &  
SUNY Cortland

**Jasmine M. Gayton** - Jamestown Community College

**Amanda S. Giermak** - Undecided

**Elizabeth A. Grigsby** - Bradford Regional Medical Center  
School of Radiography Technology

**Amber M Grimes** - Undecided

**Dustin A. Gutknecht** - Undecided

**Jon P. Hanigan** - Undecided

**Joshua G. Hendryx** - Undecided

**Sean J. Hennessy** - California College of the Arts, Media Arts

**Katelyn M. Holly** - Undecided

**Matthew D. Hopkins** - Alfred State College, Architectural  
Engineering/Architecture

**Jennifer L Howard** - Undecided

**Jocelyn L. Huselstein** - Jamestown Community College

**Kristen M. Jedrosko** - College Undecided, Accounting

**Matthew S. Johnston** - University of Buffalo, Mechanical or  
Industrial Engineering

**Ryan S. Joyce** - St. Bonaventure University, Mathematics

**Rachel M. Kasperski** - Undecided

**Richard B. Kennedy** - College, Graphic Design

**Elizabeth L Kiffer** - Undecided

**Richard T. Knott III** - Jamestown Community College/  
University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, English

**Alyssa G. Kranock** - Jamestown Community College,  
Photography

**Joshua J. Kwiatkowski** - Jamestown Community College

**Randall T. Kyser** - Undecided

**Bridget C. Lamb** - University of Buffalo

# CLASS OF 2009 FUTURE PLANS



**Amy L. Lamont** - Undecided

**Sarah L. Lehman** - Gettysburg College,  
Political Science & Economics

**Anthony R. Letts** - Monroe Community College,  
Sports Management

**Heather L. Levia** - Jamestown Community College, Nursing

**Cameron D. Lewis** - Jamestown Community College,  
Media Arts & Communications

**Paige M. Lipka** - Undecided

**Tiffany L. Livingston** - Undecided

**Elizabeth A. Mahar** - Oberlin College, Neuroscience

**Scott A. Maine** - College Undecided, Graphic Arts &  
Education

**Sonya M. Maine** - Monroe Community College

**Keshia L Major** - College Undecided, Music/Dance Arts

**Cody B. Mangalsingh** - Undecided

**Chelsea L. Marcellin** - Broome County Community College,  
Dental Hygiene

**Corey R. Marshall** - Undecided

**Courtney M. Martin** - Two-year college/Houghton, Graphic  
Design

**Darbi L. Maynard** - Undecided

**Callahan J. McBride** - University of Albany, Dental Hygiene

**Matthew R. McClelland** - Jamestown Community College

**Christopher S. McGonigle** - Jamestown Community College,  
Chemistry

**Kara J. McGonnell** - Lycoming College, Art & Creative  
Writing

**Andrew J. Mehmel** - Army National Guard

**Gina G. Melaro** - St. Bonaventure University, Elementary  
Education

**Thomas C. Mikowicz** - Undecided

**Isabel L. Mosquera** - Return to Ecuador (exchange student)  
to study Culinary Arts

**Megan M. Murphy** - Monroe Community College, Nursing

**Clarissa M. Myszka** - Finger Lakes Community College,  
Massage Therapy

**Kimberly B. L. Neumann** - Chattanooga State College,  
Criminal Justice

**Christa M. Nianiatus** - Cornell University, Biology and  
Society/Pre-Med

**Jolanna L. Nobles** - Clark Atlanta University

**Coty J. Olick** - Undecided

**Christopher M. Ozogar** - Jamestown Community College,  
Veterinary School

**Jennifer L. Pearson** - Santa Fe Community College, Zoo  
Animal Technology

**David J. Pierce** - SUNY Canton, Construction Management

**Michael V. Powell** - Loyola University, Theology and  
Psychology

**Mark C. Powers** - Rochester Institute of Technology or  
Bucknell University, Engineering

**Thomas E. Quinlan** - Niagara County Community College,  
Business

**Nicholas A. Reed** - SUNY Fredonia, Music Education

**Samantha R. Reed** - Undecided

**Christopher M. Rhinehart** - Undecided

**Kaylin J. Rodkey** - Undecided

**Lorenzo J.G. Rodriguez** - Jamestown Community College,  
Physical Education

**Joshua E. Sallie** - California University of PA, Criminal  
Justice

**James A. Scanlon** - Air Force

**Ariel K. Shoemaker** - Edinboro University of PA, Speech  
Pathology

**Avery D. Shoup** - Undecided

**Ann E. Skrobacz (Salutatorian)** - Daemen College,  
Physician Assistant Studies

**Carleigh J. Spiller** - Moving to California, Undecided

**Alicia N. Stebbins** - Jamestown Community College,  
Accounting

**Lauren E. Tesch** - Jamestown Community College/SUNY  
Fredonia, Speech Pathology

**Elijah T. Tilly** - Jamestown Community College

**Nicholas A. Veno** - Erie Community College, Overhead  
Electric Line Workers Program

**Angelle L. Villarroel** - Undecided

**Nicholas J. Walsh** - Undecided

**Jared C. Warren** - Rochester Institute of Technology,  
Mechanical Engineering

**Mark A. Weber** - Undecided

**Michael S. Witte (Valedictorian)** - University of Vermont  
College of Arts & Sciences

**Aubree M. Worth** - University of Buffalo, Spanish &  
International Business

**Lei Wu** - Fashion Design (exchange student)

**Jia Bin Zheng** - Jamestown Community College/University of  
Buffalo

**Kira M. Zink** - Undecided





## MARTIN LUTHER KING MEMORIAL

At the conclusion of Mrs. Perry's civil rights unit, students created memorials in honor of Martin Luther King and his contributions to society. The students were extremely creative and no two memorials looked alike. Jared McCarthy created a memorial made out of wood and clay. He thought of every detail, even including stone steps and grass. Jordan West added a water feature to his memorial and included a picture of Barack Obama to show how King's "dream" had come true. Chelsea Gergel was extremely creative as she wrote a poem in honor of King and then aged her poem with a burning process around the edges. Josh Blanchard had big ideas with his memorial as he created an integrated playground with both white and black children. Lastly, Justice Crouse used doves on her memorial to represent King's message of non-violence and peace. Each student who participated created their own unique commemoration of an amazing historical figure.



## HANDBOOK C

Pictured above are the wi Levi Armstrong, showing the As part of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trans their guidance counselor to c The students are given an O requirements for high school and organizations they could participate. The covers of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade technology class. T the guidance departments. T by Levi (front cover) and Ky savings bond for their efforts

## GRAY TEAM STUDENTS CREATE ARRAY OF PROJECTS

Eighth grade students read the drama *The Diary of Anne Frank* as part of the curriculum. Students on the Gray Team also took the time to study and research World War II and the Holocaust. As a culminating activity students were able to create a variety of projects centered on this theme. Some students chose to create a diorama of the Anne Frank's secret annex either as shown on stage or in real life. Pat Brown created a mural of two scenes from the play. Matt McClelland created a poster displaying the impact of war on people's lives and connected this information to Anne Frank in his written description. Kelsey Stimlinger (pictured at right) baked cakes for her class that represented Peter's room, Anne's room, and also Anne's diary notebook. Projects that are not shown also included creating a rucksack of items that students' would take into hiding with them, diary entries of a character from the play, and research papers on a related topic of their choice.



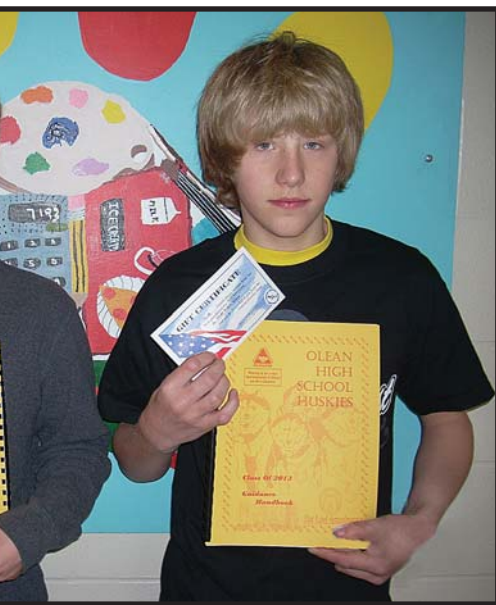
## HONOR ROLL ST

On May 6, 2009, over 180 OMS students who made Honor Roll for the third quarter were treated to breakfast from Burger King and a prize drawing. Mr. Trietley, Principal, and Mr. Whitcher, Assistant Principal, were both on hand to present award certificates to the students.

To make Honor Roll, students must achieve an overall average of 91% with no grade below 75%. Pictured in this photo are eighth grader Francesca Bartimole from the Purple Team and Mr. Whitcher. Congratulations to all of the Honor



## and the 'Middle'



## COVER DESIGN WINNERS

Winners for the Class of 2013, Kyle Crandall and his designs for the OHS guidance handbooks. In the selection process, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students meet with Mr. Zambanini to discuss their four-year plan for high school. The OHS guidance handbook, which consists of the various classes available to them, clubs, and sports programs in which they can join. These designs are then judged by members of the OHS guidance handbook. This year's winning designs were produced by Kyle Crandall (back cover). The students received a \$50 prize.

## STUDENTS RECOGNIZED



Roll students. Keep-up the good work!



Mr. Zambanini's eighth period academic enrichment class is in the process of completing a full-scale construction project. Throughout the first half of the year these students successfully designed and constructed a scale model of a utility shed. This model was used to teach construction procedures and identification of the structural members found in a residential structure. Students also used this model to accurately complete a material list for the full scale construction project.

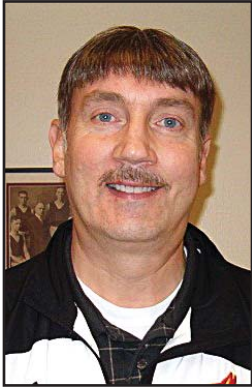
The second half of the year was geared to the full scale construction of a 10' x 16' utility shed. Students used various construction tools and machines to fabricate the floor and walls for the shed. The group also designed and built a jig for the fabrication of the roof trusses. A future date will be scheduled for the "on site" assembly and completion of this project. Students are gaining first hand knowledge and experience with the construction aspect of technology.





# Past and present coaches honored

The BCANY (Basketball Coaches Association of New York) recently recognized Jeff Anastasia and Don Scholla as the 2009 Section VI Class B Boys' and Girls' High School "Coach of the Year" respectively. The OHS boys' team was NYS Western Regional Finalists, Section VI Class B Champions, CCAA Division I Champions and finished the season with a



**Jeff Anastasia**

20-5 record. The OHS girls' team went to the NYSPHSAA Final Four, and was NYS Western Regional Champions, Section VI Class B Champions, CCAA Division I Champions and finished with a 22-4 record. Congratulations Coach Anastasia and Coach Scholla on this outstanding honor!

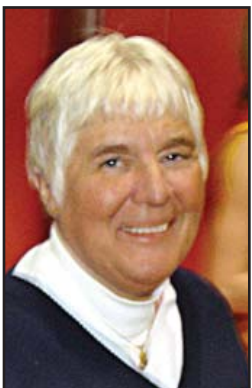
On April 25, former Girls' Basketball Coach and Physical Education teacher Martha Altmire was inducted into the Butler Area "Sports Hall of Fame."

The Butler Area includes Monticou High School where Coach Altmire graduated in 1967. After college, Ms. Altmire spent 35 years as a teacher/coach at Olean High School, retiring in 2006.



**Don Scholla**

She coached the Girls' Varsity Basketball team to 484 career wins, 19 League Championships, 7 Section VI Championships and two trips to States. Congratulations Coach Altmire on this well deserved honor!



**Martha Altmire**



Above Marisa Burrows (left) and Bethany Chesebro (right) surprise the OCS D Superintendent Dr. Colleen Taggerty at her last meeting with their class in May.

## Class keeps superintendent connected to students' needs

Imagine, if you will, being a fourteen-year-old freshman at Olean High School; you are beginning what everyone tells you are "four of the most important and best years of your life!" Perhaps you feel as nobody listens to you, understands you, or wonders what you are thinking. Those thoughts would weigh heavily on most of us.

Envision, however, that the most powerful figure in your school district listens to your concerns, asks you how you're doing, and sits directly across from you working for an understanding of your worries, joys, and fears. In fact, the superintendent visits your English 9 classroom on a regular basis. She brings snacks, asks questions, and listens to your ideas. A thought comes to mind, and you share it with her.

The aforementioned scenario occurs on a regular basis in Mrs. Skrobacz's English 9 class during fifth period. Last September, Dr. Taggerty approached Mrs. Skrobacz and asked if there might be a class she could connect with, meet with at least once a month, and work collaboratively in order to meet the needs of the students at OHS. The fifth period students welcomed Dr. Taggerty with open arms.

At first, the students were a little apprehensive about speaking their minds, but soon they found that Dr. Taggerty was going to listen to them. Issues ranged from cell phone usage to the cafeteria offering pizza every Wednesday. Students talked about the possibility of changing the cell phone policy at OHS: they wanted to be able to prove to the staff that the students could be more responsible. They were happy to share that there are healthy lunch choices available. Dr. Taggerty and the freshmen considered the idea of having coffee, hot chocolate, bagels, and more available for the students to purchase before school in the near future. The students envisioned this as sort of a high school café and were very excited about all of the possibilities. The high school café is a consideration which Dr. Taggerty is currently investigating for OHS.

Dr. Taggerty also introduced students to the FISH Philosophy: Be There! Choose Your Attitude! Play! and Make Their Day. The freshmen watched a video about the FISH Philosophy which is based on a group of people who work in a Seattle fish market and incorporate their philosophy into their work day. As a result, they make their jobs fun not only for the employees, but also for those who come to shop at their market! Students were challenged to incorporate the FISH Philosophy into their school lives and at home. Most importantly, the students saw a change in the "Choose Your Attitude" foundation. If you choose to be happy, school can be a little easier; but if you choose to be unhappy, your day will be more strenuous than it needs to be.

For their last meeting, the students surprised Dr. Taggerty with a FISH cake. They thanked her for listening to their thoughts and ideas, providing them with the opportunity to meet with her, and taking a genuine interest in their first year of high school.



# Eighteen district employees receive tenure

The last few years have brought many new faces to the Olean Schools. We are proud of the many new teachers that have been hired by the district and look forward to supporting and working with them for years to come.



The district welcomed recognized 18 teachers at the May 19<sup>th</sup> Board of education meeting for completion of their tenure period.

Pictured are (front, l-r) Marie Rakus, Amy Anastasia, Linda Nottingham (IJN Principal), Cheryl Vecchio (WW Principal), Laurie Murray, Susan Frentz, Heather Billings, Jennifer Rodman, Mary Magro, Joelle Perry, and (back, l-r) Dave Olson (EV Principal), Arthur Wentz, John White (BV Principal), Tim Kolasinski, Amanda Bess, Leslie Morey, Ira Katzenstein (BOE President), Colleen Taggerty (OCSD Superintendent), Ryan Talbot, Jerry Trietley (OMS Principal) and Matt Perry. Missing from photo: Jennifer Crawford, Christine Gaylor, Suzanne Kallenback, and Ryan Nawrot.



## Freshmen earn writing honors

Students in Mrs. Skrobacz's English 9 classes were faced with a unique challenge: write a short story incorporating a hair dryer, snow shovel, and bookmark in a creative manner for the Olean Public Library's Annual Short Story Writing Contest. Writers are traditionally required to use three given objects in their stories. (Former OPL Short Story Contest chairman, Dr. Dan Brislane, had explained that his high school English teacher had used the three objects' method when teaching him to write. Sadly, Dr. Brislane passed away before the short story contest was completed.)

Students were required to brainstorm, write, edit, and re-write their stories in order to enter their best writing pieces. Five of the freshmen placed in top positions. John Forrest took first place, Kimberly Seaward placed second, Ashley Murphy, Michelle Wang, and Jimmy Dombrowski received Honorable Mention awards.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the students were recognized at an awards' presentation at the Olean Public Library.

## District very grateful for community's support

**By Dr. Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent**

As the 2008-09 academic year comes to a close, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the students, faculty, staff, administrators, parents, business and industry partners, and the entire community for providing me with ideas, guidance, and support as I complete my first year as Superintendent. The year has been one of economic turmoil, yet one of great hope because of you!

American writer, Elbert Hubbard once said; "The line between failure and success is so fine that we... are often on the line and do not know it. How many a man has thrown up his hands at a time when a little more effort, a little more patience, would have achieved success. A little more effort and what seemed hopeless failure may turn to glorious success." As I reflect on this year, I believe we held on to discover the courage that exists within each of us. We never threw up our hands in defeat. We continued to work through the issues that came our way for the end result, improving student achievement, was and continues to be, our most important mission.

I see this District continuing to grow its legacy of excellence despite the economic decline that we see nation wide. Our students test scores continue to rise, our student scholarships continue to increase, our athletes continue to win, our music and art students continue to receive awards, and we continue to offer a variety of courses with rigor at both the local and college level. This type of greatness can only happen when the entire community works in partnership with the District. We are very grateful for your continued support as we find the 2008-09 school year coming to an end.





**Boardmanville Students Show They Care!** Again this year the students at Boardmanville have been active in helping to raise money for the children at St. Jude Children's Hospital. Students collected tabs which were turned over to the Big Pig and Smitty in April. Smitty let us know that across the Southern Tier over 3,000 pounds of tabs were collected! In addition, several students participated in the Math-a-thon for St. Jude's, collecting pledges and solving math problems to help raise money. Boardmanville is proud that our kids care about other kids!

## Boardmanville Elementary School



**After School Builders:** Students in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade After School Program are involved in building projects. Mrs. Metler has challenged them with a variety of building materials to create structures or interesting objects. Materials included straws, toothpicks, decks of cards, and newspaper. A product was not the only thing the students were building, they were also building communication skills and learning to work with a group.



**Pizza Hut Book It Program:** The children in Mrs. Stephens' class all participated in the Pizza Hut Book It Program that ran from October through March. Five children completed all 6 months of the program: Evan, McKenzie, Alyssa, Delaney, and Joe. We celebrated with a pizza party. Each child was able to pick out a free book. Congratulations to all the students and parents for their commitment to this worthwhile program!



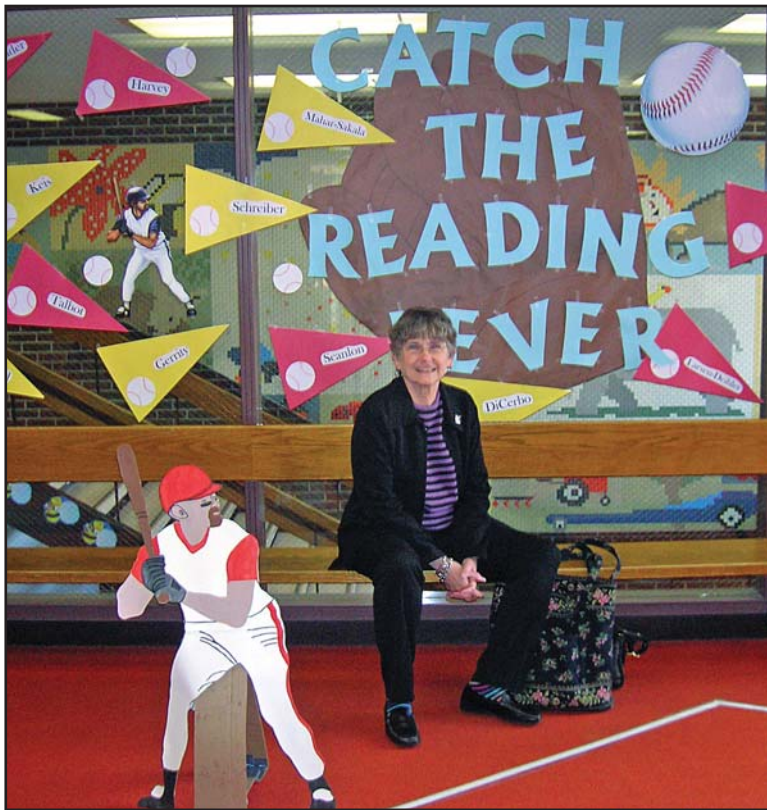
**Students Write Play about Firefighters:** Some students in Mrs. Bushnell's class adapted a play from their reading program about firefighters. After rewriting the play the students invited Chief Bell and firefighter Gonska in to watch a performance of the play. After the play the firemen answered questions about their jobs.



**Students Staying Fit:** Students in grades 3-5 at Boardmanville pushed themselves to the limits taking the President's Fitness Challenge in Physical Education. Students receiving a certificate had to finish in the top 15% in all of the following; running a mile, doing as many push ups as possible, doing as many sit ups in a minute and by completing the sit and reach. The top three scores received Presidential Champion Medals. Now's the time to start practicing for next year's challenge.



# East View Elementary School



**Children's Author Visits East View:** Johanna Hurwitz, the award-winning author of more than 60 popular books for young readers, recently spent the entire day at East View Elementary School. Ms. Hurwitz made presentations, answered questions from the students, and had lunch with a select group of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. These students were chosen to have lunch with the author based on their winning entries in a writing contest. The students thoroughly enjoyed the lunch and their conversation with the author. In addition, every student in the school received an autographed copy of one of Ms. Hurwitz's books. Grades K-2 students received the book, "New Shoes for Silvia," and grades 3-5 received "Class President."

A former librarian, Johanna Hurwitz has won many child-chosen state awards and her book, "Rip-Roaring Russell" was selected as an American Library Association Notable Book. Some of her other titles include: "The Adventures of Ali Baba Bernstein", "Class Clown", and "Baseball Fever."

A huge thank you to our East View PTO for making all of this possible. They funded the author visit along with purchasing a book for every student. Also, thanks to our librarian, Ms. Billings, who facilitated the visit, the writing contest, and the lunch with the author. Finally, thanks to Title I Reading teachers, Ms. Havens and Mrs. Swetland, who coordinated a PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) program along with the author visit, using the book, "Baseball Fever," as inspiration for the theme – "Catch the Reading Fever."

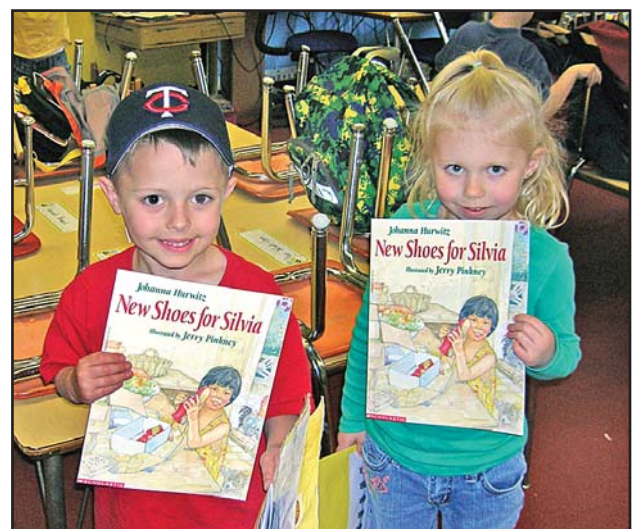


**Above, Author, Johanna Hurwitz and our PARP theme – "Catch the Reading Fever."**

**At left, the author making presentation to students.**

**Below left, a group of students who participated in "Lunch with the Author."**

**Below right, students received their very own autographed copy of a book written by Johanna Hurwitz.**





**We Love Our Foster Grandparents:** The Foster Grandparent Program is a valuable asset to our IJN family! Students benefit from our grandmothers' extra attention. We are fortunate to have Judy Stark, Rosemaine Green, Ann Hilton, and Pat Chwala (not pictured) as our favorite grandmas! Please call us at 375-8941 if you are interested in joining these ladies in support of our students.



**Best Wishes Retiring Staff!** Please join us in thanking our staff members who will be retiring in June. The staff, students, and parents of IJN wish all the best to: Rose Newton, food service; Gail Cross, resource room; Jim Lapallo, 5th grade; Colleen DaPolito, 2nd grade, and Helen Procacci, UPK aide.

## Ivers J. Norton Elementary School



**Furry Friends Contest Winners:** This year's "Furry Friends Fundraiser" was a lot of fun! The kids at IJN raised money for the SPCA by doing lots of fun things during the week of May 11th. Students were bringing in change to help benefit the SPCA. We had a hat day, dress up day, popcorn day, guess the number of dog/cat treats day and vote for your favorite teacher's pet day. The winners of the "Guess the Number of Treats" contest were awarded a prize and the animals of the SPCA were given the treats inside!

**100th Anniversary Monument:** The Parent Teacher Organization of Ivers J. Norton supports many programs and events. Throughout the years, this partnership has been an asset to our students and staff. In recognition of the 100th anniversary, the PTO arranged for a monument to be placed in front of the building. The heartfelt inscription, written by PTO board members, reads: *"For 100 years people have come and gone from this building. Many teachers, students, friends, family, and staff members have touched the lives of those who enter here. We thank you for your dedication to our children. For all those who have gone before us, your memory lives inside these walls forever."*



**Learning to Make Stone Soup:** On Wednesday, May 13, Ms. Benjamin's Pre-Kindergarten class enjoyed a special visitor. Mrs. Bunny Porter, grandparent, came into our class to share the book *Stone Soup*. She also brought vegetables for us to cut up and a stone to make our own *Stone Soup*. The next day we enjoyed eating the soup.



**Paint the Halls:** Thanks to Nora O'Harra (center) for her time and effort she put into our "Welcome Tree." What a beautiful addition to the halls of Ivers J. Norton. Our staff (Deb Kwitkowski and Harry Button) enjoyed her enthusiasm!





**Sweets for Our Sweeties:** Mr. Graves, father of Madalynn from Mrs. Murray's Pre-K class, recently demonstrated how his family makes maple syrup from the sap of maple trees. He also brought samples of his delicious maple syrup for everyone to enjoy.

### **Fiesta, Sombreros, Piñata & Cinco de Mayo:**

Mrs. Johnson's kindergarten class had great fun learning about and celebrating Cinco de Mayo! These very young students learned about the holiday and some Spanish words, such as fiesta, sombrero, Buenos dias, adios, Cinco de Mayo and abuela. They donned their hand-made paper sombreros and celebrated with a piñata!



### **Students Share Art-work with the World!**

Mrs. Jean Nickel, our Art Teacher, has teamed up with Artsonia, [www.artsonia.com](http://www.artsonia.com) -- the world's largest on-line kids' art museum to display students' artwork. Anyone can view the school gallery on-line at: [www.artsonia.com/schools/washington53](http://www.artsonia.com/schools/washington53).

Visitors can browse the artwork in the school gallery by grade level, or by specific exhibits. WW students join thousands of students from over 100 countries whose artwork is showcased on Artsonia. "This program is a wonderful way to get parents and family members more involved in Art Education," said Jean Nickel. Artsonia integrates technology in the classroom, develops multi-cultural understanding through art and increased family involvement in children's education.



**First-Graders Dream of Ice Cream:** The students in Mrs. Chamberlain's class have been learning about money. They learned about the values, coins and how to add it all up. While working with our student teacher, Miss Luty, first-graders earned \$1 in one week in order to participate in an ice cream party! Students earned money for demonstrating good behaviors, showing good character and doing well on work in class. EVERY student earned enough money to buy their own ice cream--the catch was that the students were able to make their own ice cream at school! Some students even had left-over money so that were able to visit the classroom store.

## **Washington West Elementary School**



**Planting "Seeds" of Kindness and Respect:** Mrs. Monroe's, Mrs. Martin's, and Mrs. Matejka's fifth-grade classes recently took a field trip to SubCon Industries. Our Husky Pups toured the building, met employees and learned in detail about each job. Our students also watched a puppet show and a short video about people with disabilities. For a spring activity, the classes helped plant flower boxes and flower pots. Then our students went outside and created a flower project for their new friends at SubCon. The flowers were a reminder to treat each other with respect and kindness.



## OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

410 W. Sullivan St.  
Olean, NY 14760  
[www.oleanschools.org](http://www.oleanschools.org)

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ORGANIZATION

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Permit No. 73  
Olean, NY 14760

### ADMINISTRATION

Colleen Taggerty, Superintendent of Schools  
Ann O'Brien, Business Administrator  
Barbara Lias, High School Principal  
Jeffrey Andreano, Assistant High School Principal  
Gerald Trietley, Middle School Principal  
Joel Whitcher, Assistant Middle School Principal  
John White, Boardmanville Elementary Principal  
David Olson, East View Elementary Principal  
Linda Nottingham, Ivers J. Norton Elementary Principal  
Cheryl Vecchio, Washington West Elementary Principal  
Lynn Corder, Director of Personnel/Reading First Coordinator  
Judith Creeden, Director of Curriculum (K-5) & Testing, & C.I.O.  
Marcella Richmond, Director of Special Education  
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## OHS art student news ...

**Regina A. Quick Center Art Show** - The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts is hosting the first annual Middle and High School Art Show May 27 to June 21. An opening event was held June 3. Five OHS students had work selected by a jury to participate in this show. They are (*top photo, l-r*) K. McGonnell, K. Hustak, K. McKeown, K. Frisina and H. Hughes.

**NYS Art Teacher's Association Portfolio Adjudication** - OHS art students (*lower photo, l-r*) K. McGonnell (senior), K. McKeown (junior), H. Treaster (sophomore), and K. Frisina (sophomore) were selected for the NYS Art Teacher's Association Portfolio Adjudication held May 14 at St. Bonaventure University. Students were required to select and mat six pieces of work and write an artist's statement, as well as a written response to a piece that was created in reference to a particular artist or artistic period. All four students earned a numerical score resulted in the awarding of a "Distinguished" category designation, the highest grade a student can receive.



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