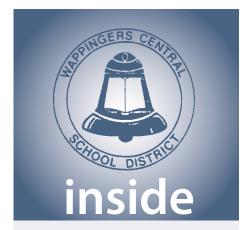




The Wappingers Central School District Newsletter

May 2016



- 2-3 Budget Information Candidate Biographies Savings Fund Playground
- 4-5 RCK to Perform at Honor Flight
  Best Community for Music
  Orchard View 90s Club
  One Giant Conversation
  WCSD Alumna Published
  SUNY Purchase for PAWS
  Community Spelling Bee
  John Jay Art "Takes the Prize"
- 6-7 Valedictorians & Salutatorians
  Merit Scholarship Winner
  Science Olympiad
  RCK Academic Excellence
  John Jay Exhibits in Albany
  WCSD FBLA Finish Well
  RCK Greenworks
- 8-9 VanWyck Civic Minded
  American Glass Eels
  WCSD Spelling Local/Regional
  WCSD Reads Across America
  DCMEA Honors WCSD Students
  Math, Physics, and Pi
  Skyhunters in Flight
  Kinry Rd Reads to Feed
  Penny Wars in WCSD
  A Day in Clay
- 10-11 VanWyck Wins at BOCES CTI Expo
  Oak Grove Reasches for the Stars
  Blood Drive at James Evans
  Math-A-Thon for St. Judes
  Four Seniors Sign for Soccer
  Boys Swimming Win Big
  Gymnastics Win 1st in League
  Athletic Scholars
  RCK Cheerleaders Go to Dallas
  Athletic Accolades
- 12 Summer Driver Education 66<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Arts Summer Camps Graduation Dates

Tuesday, May 17, 2016
7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Fishkill Elementary
Fishkill Plains Elementary
Gayhead Elementary
Myers Corners Elementary
Vassar Road Elementary
Wappingers JHS



"The mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions, and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community."

## 2016-2017 WCSD Budget

## **Message From The BOE President & Superintendent**

On Tuesday, May 17, 2016, the Wappingers Central School District (WCSD) community will vote on the Board of Education adopted 2016-2017 budget proposition as well as four other propositions identified below. The adopted budget supports the Mission Statement and Core Values of our District, and also ensures that we maintain our commitment to educational excellence and fiscal diligence. The 2016-2017 adopted budget provides for a 1.94% levy to levy increase and a 3.35% budget to budget increase from 2015-2016, thus staying within the allowable tax levy.

Since the 2009-2010 school year, the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) has been the source of significant financial constraint on school districts in New York State. The GEA reduced the amount of State Aid that schools would receive annually. After speaking and writing to local and NYS legislators, the District had been reassured that the GEA would be removed from the 2016-2017 NYS budget. For

that reason, the District will have additional funding this year to make repairs and purchases that we have not been able to make during the past seven years. Although the District was pleased that the GEA was removed in the 2016-2017 NYS budget, we will not stop advocating on behalf of the community for mandate relief and State Aid growth into the future.



To this end, a budget was developed with a focus on sustainable items for the coming years. This budget continues implementation of student programs and resources from the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 WCSD budgets, such as full-day Kindergarten, decreased class sizes, continued work on the District's long-term Strategic Plan, shared services with Dutchess County, \$100,000 quick capital project funding from NYS, savings in energy costs from conversion to natural gas from oil, facility improvements, newly improved weight rooms at RCK and JJ, iPads for nurses, Technology Plan purchases including mobile carts, district-wide copier and printing network, parental workshops, reinstated enrichment programs, and STEAM initiatives, as well as instructional and non-instructional staff. This direction will continue to improve the current STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) Program by creating Maker Spaces. Students will have more opportunities through elementary tutoring possibilities,

added interscholastic and intramurals sports options, high school marching band, classroom libraries, occupational education programs and recreational equipment to name a few. Additionally, all school vehicles will be equipped with tools to increase safety for all students and increase efficiencies. District facilities will continue to have preventative maintenance completed.

Provided below are descriptions of the five propositions. You can also view a full, detailed powerpoint presentation highlighting the five propositions along with the Board of Education trustee election by visiting the WCSD website.

Peggy Kelland José Carrión Board of Education President Superintendent of Schools

## PROPOSITION #1 – 2016-2017 School District Budget

The adopted budget was approved by the Board of Education on Tuesday, 4/19/16 for a total of \$221,199,261. New York State requires school districts to hold a Budget Hearing on 5/3/16 to allow taxpayers to provide feedback. Taxpayers have been provided ongoing opportunities to share feedback at Board of Education meetings since 1/1/16, in addition to sending specific questions using the budget@wcsdny.org e-mail address. This has allowed the District to respond to specific areas requiring feedback.

## PROPOSITION #2 – Capital Project

Based on the items noted in the most recent five year Building Condition Survey from the New York State Education Department, the Capital Project focuses on:

- Arts Improvements
- Sports Improvements
- American Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Updates (mandated and long overdue)
- Facility Improvements: District-wide repairs to various driveways, sidewalks and drainage systems (e.g. site work)

While the Building Condition Survey reported items in need of repair in excess of \$87 million, the District has made a decision to address the most critical items as a top priority in this project. The maximum estimated cost of this work is \$26,723,000 and it would be funded through long term bonding. New York State Aid on this project is 47.2%. The annual payment of principal and interest shall be paid for through the tax levy.

## **PROPOSITION #3 – Change in Scope** (Reallocation of Capital Project Funds)

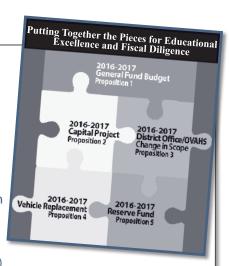
The funds approved by the voters in 2013 included language limited to construction or reconstruction, but not purchase of property. This language prevented the District from utilizing the already approved money allocated for District offices and Orchard View Alternative High School to purchase the property located at 25 Corporate Park Drive in Hopewell Junction, NY. Rather than continuing to pay rental expenses of \$390,000 per year, the community of taxpayers will save \$250,000 annually because the rental expense is higher than the annual principal and interest payments for the purchase of the building. For that reason, the Change in Scope will not require additional funds from the taxpayers, but through the change in language, it will authorize the purchase of the property.

## PROPOSITION #4 – Purchase of Student Transportation Vehicles

Each year several of the District's vehicles break down and are too costly to repair or do not pass inspection due to rusted frames, etc. These vehicles vary in age from 10 to 17 years. Annually the Transportation Supervisor and her staff review the District's fleet and make requests for purchases based on need. The vehicle purchases follow the District's Purchasing policy. The \$1,919,869 purchase would be funded through short term financing that allows for a level expense from year to year for the taxpayer.

## PROPOSITION #5 - Repair Reserve Fund

The District has an opportunity to place fund balance in a separate account specifically for repairs needed around the District. This repair reserve needs voter approval to fund and to be in compliance with NYS Comptroller regulation. This component of the reserve fund will serve as a financial resource for the District in the event of an emergency and will not exceed \$329,075.



## **Budget Information**

## Wappingers Central School District Budget Notice

OVERALL BUDGET PROPOSAL	Budget Adopted 2015-2016 School Year	Budget Proposed 2016-2017 School Year	Contingency Budget 2016-2017 School Year*
Total Budget Amount	\$214,032,128	\$221,199,261	\$217,928,950
Increase/decrease for the 2016-2017 school year		7,167,133	3,896,822
Percentage increase (decrease)		3.35%	1.82%
Change in the consumer price index		.12%	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	156,396,228	159,426,539	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	-	-	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	-	-	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	-	-	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy $(A + B + C - D)$	156,396,228	159,426,539	
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	2,712,400	4,628,384	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, Excluding Levy for Permissible Exclusion:	153,683,828	154,798,155	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, Excluding Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	153,683,828	154,798,155	
I. Difference: (G – H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval – See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	-	0	
Administrative component	\$17,293,784	\$18,089,054	\$17,848,119
<u> </u>	· · ·		
Program component  Capital component	\$168,148,241	\$179,517,313	\$177,887,839
Capital component	\$28,590,103	\$23,592,894	\$22,192,992

\*Statement of assumption made in projecting a contingency budget for the 2016-2017 school year, should the proposed budget be defeated pursuant to Section 2023 of the Education Law: Equipment, School Furniture, Café Upgrades JJ &RCK, Capital Projects, Special Projects, Teaching Supplies, Library Books, Marching Band, Elementary Tutorial, Co-Curricular/HS Intramural, Field Trips, Textbooks, Transportation Video Cameras, Assistant Athletic Coordinator, Math Manipulatives, Technology BOCES, Tech Integration Teacher, Technology Teacher, 4.0 K-6 Teachers, ESL Teacher, Administrative Clerical Consolidation, Health Aid Typist, Custodian 4th Shift, Maker Spaces, and Fuel Master Diagnostic Tool.

Separate List of Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with proposition not eligible for exclusion may affect property tax levy limit and voter approval requirements.)

Description	Amount
Capital Project	\$26,723,000
Change in Scope  – Reallocation of funds from 2013 Capital Project	\$2,550,463
Bus Proposition	\$1,919,869
Reserve Fund	\$329,075

Under the Budget Proposed for the 2016 -17 School Year

**Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings** 

\$714.29

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2016-2017 by the qualified voters of the Wappingers Central School District, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York, will be held at the following schools:

Fishkill Elementary, Fishkill Plains Elementary, Gayhead Elementary, Myers Corners Elementary, Vassar Road Elementary, and Wappingers Junior High on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 between the hours of 7:30am and 9:00pm at which time the polls will be open to vote by voting ballot or machine.

## Contingency Budget

contingency budget is prepared and adopted by the Board when the voters have rejected the proposed budget. The Board of Education may present a proposed budget to the community only twice.

The total spending authorization imposed under a contingency budget is limited by the Property Tax Cap Legislation. The tax cap of a contingent budget cannot exceed the prior year's levy, thus representing a zero percent increase.

The contingency budget calculated for the 2016-2017 school year would be \$217,928,950. If the proposedbudget is defeated, the budget items listed below would be eliminated. The difference to the average homeowner, based on current assessment information, would be approximately 1.48 percent less than the 2016-2017 adopted budget..

## If the proposed budget is defeated, the budget will be reduced by the following:

- Equipment
- School Furniture
- Café Upgrades JJ &RCK
- · Capital Projects
- · Special Projects · Teaching Supplies
- Library Books
- · Marching Band

- · Co-Curricular/HS Intramural
- Field Trips
- Textbooks

- Transportation Video Cameras
- · Assistant Athletic Coordinator Math Manipulatives
- Technology BOCES · Tech Integration Teacher
- · Elementary Tutorial Technology Teacher

- 4.0 K-6 Teachers · ENL Teacher
- · Administrative Clerical Consolidation
- Health Aid Typist
- Custodian 4<sup>th</sup> Shift Maker Spaces
- Fuel Master Diagnostic Tool

WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT FOR THE MAY 17, 2016 BUDGET AND ELECTION VOTE				
YES BUDGETNO				
Shall a budget for Wappingers Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016, in the amount of \$221,199,261 adopted, and the necessary taxes to meet such expenditures be levied and collected?	Shall a budget for Wappingers Central School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016, in the amount of \$221,199,261 be			
YES CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSITIONNO				
Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District, Dutchess and Putnam Counties, New York, be authorized to construct improvements to and reconstruct various School District buildings and facilities, including original furnishings, equipment, machinery, apparatus, appurtenances, athletic field and other site improvements and other incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$26,723,000, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law, and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued?				
CHANGE IN SCOPE – REALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM 2013 CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSITION				
YES	NO			
Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of \$2,550,463 to purchase the real property and improvements it currently lease for school district central administrative offices and classrooms, which real property is located at 25 Corporate Park Drive, Hopewell Junction, New York, the cost of which purchase will be financed by lagistions that the qualified voters of the School District already approved and authorized to be issued at a maximum estimated cost of \$38,715,000 on May 21, 2013 to construct and reconstruct various School District facilities and sites?				
BUS PROPOSITION				
YES	NO			
Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District, Putnam and Dutchess Counties, New York ("District"), be authorized to purchase student transportation vehicles at a maximum estimated sum of \$1,919,869; and said amount or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by law, and for which obligations of the District may be issued?				
REPAIR RESERVE FUND PROPOSITION				
YES	NO			
Shall the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District appropriate the sum of an amount not to exceed \$329,075 from the 2015-2016 School Year General Fund Balance, which the Board of Education has been permitted to carry into the 2016-2017 school year, and deposit such monies into the Repair Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding repairs to capital improvements and equipment that do not recur annually or at shorter intervals?				
BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES				
(VOTE FOR 3 ONLY – PLACE AN X OR \( \sqrt{IN THE BOX OVER THE CANDIDATE'S NAME)} \) 1 2 3 4 5 Write-In Write-In Write-	In			
Paul Barbara Eddy A Roisin Stacey GALLETTA GOODMAN SLOSHOWER DRUTA ROGAN				

If you are unable to vote in person, you can vote by absentee ballot. Applications are available online or in the office of the District Clerk. Please call 298-5000, ext. 40145.

## **Budget Information**

-- If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000, ext. 40145. --

BOARD CANDIDATES  (as they appear on the ballot)  Vote for <i>only</i> three by placing a vor in the box under candidate's name.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Paul GALLETTA	Barbara GOODMAN	Eddy A. SLOSHOWER	Roisin DRUTA	Stacey ROGAN	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in

From Our Board Candidates: On May 17, 2016, the voters will be asked to cast their vote to elect THREE (3) trustees to the WCSD Board of Education. Five Board candidates are running for these THREE available seats. Each candidate was asked to write a brief statement. The candidates' statements appear in the order that they will appear on the May 17<sup>th</sup> ballot.

#### 1 Paul Galletta



I am a parent of two sons that are students in our school district. I graduated from Roy C. Ketcham in 1988.

I enlisted in the

military and served 5 years, active duty, in the U.S. Navy. I currently work as a Fire Captain in the Arlington Fire District where I have been employed for 21 years. I earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education/social studies from SUNY New Paltz in 2002.

When my oldest son started kindergarten at Myers Corners ten years ago, my wife and I joined the PTA and volunteered at many school events and met a great group of people. I decided to get involved at the District level and began attending Board of Education meetings on a regular basis. Over the past several years, I have been a member of our school district's Strategic Planning Committee, District Advisory Facilities Committee, Audit Committee, and a school Safety Team. I was also a panelist at our District's Common Core Forum where I advocated for improved implementation of the Standards.

As a member of our Strategic Planning Committee, I participated in developing our core values, objectives, and mission statement. I saw, first hand, the professionalism and dedication of the team members over the entire first year as we worked to develop the foundation of our strategic plan. But a strategic plan is only words on paper if we do not have the vision and will to support it. My goal is to achieve our mission with the guidance of our strategic plan. I know that is easier said than done and it's an ongoing work in progress. We will always face difficult decisions and challenges, but I intend to work toward that goal by contributing to an environment of cooperation, understanding, and respect.

## 2 Barbara Goodman

I am a homeowner in the Village of



Wappingers
Falls and have
taught high
school Social
Studies for 18
years for the
Newburgh
Enlarged
School District.

I am also a proud single parent of two children who are out of college and in careers, and step-mother to two Roy C. Ketcham graduates. I am running for the school board because as an experienced teacher I believe it's about time someone consulted teachers and parents about education.

We can maintain and even improve education without spending a great deal more money. We can start by improving communication between the board and members of the school community — the taxpayers, teachers, district employees and parents who together make education happen.

We should use the expertise of our teachers in making education decisions, because they are far more knowledgeable about our kids and our classrooms than outside "experts." We could appoint a board liaison to our teaching staff and hold forums for teachers, administrators, and school-related-professionals to speak directly to the board about issues they face. The district benefits from their experience and expertise. Our children will benefit from their input.

Maintaining school quality in order to protect the value of our homes in a challenging real estate market is smart. Investing in our children and our community now and for the future is more than smart — it's wise. I want to play a part in that. I hope you'll join me.

As a teacher, I know what works in classrooms. I have experience in successful grant writing, designing and teaching courses for teachers, school budget review, and communicating with parents, teachers, and administrators.

Residents, taxpayers, and parents can be proud of their support for Wappingers students. I'm running for the school board because that's where the focus of education belongs.

## 3 Eddy A. Sloshower

My wife and I have lived in East Fishkill for



the past 13 years and our daughter is in fifth grade at Fishkill Plains Elementary School.

I am currently an independent I business consultant.

insurance broker and a small business consultant. Before this, I spent over 25 years in the real estate, finance and mortgage industries working as an Area Sales Manager for such companies as AlG International and Bank of America. I was also elected six years in a row as Vice President/ Treasurer for a Coop Complex in Westchester County. During my tenure, I was instrumental in revitalizing an almost bankrupt complex to one that was financially thriving. As a result of my time with the complex, I am very familiar with capital improvement projects and how to best utilize funding.

For the past three years, I have attended 95% of all school board meetings. I am a member of the District Audit Committee, Smart Schools Bond Act Committee, District Strategic Planning Committee, Capital Improvement Committee—community participant and District Policy Committee—community attendee.

I am an active member of the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce. I have established relationships with community based organizations, local politicians and local government.

My wife has been a teacher and educator for over 25 years and a quality education is extremely important to my family. I want to ensure that our district maintains the highest of educational standards for all students while remaining within budgetary constraints. I want to make sure that our teachers and other district employees have access to the very best resources needed to successfully do their jobs. I support our teachers as professionals and want to move decision making back into the individual classrooms. Academics is only one part of a child's education; extracurricular activities help develop well rounded students and I will work to protect and maintain full scale extra curricular activities in sports, music, drama and the arts. Only working together can we guarantee the best education for our children. As a self employed taxpayer,

I am acutely aware of the need to be fiscally responsible. I want to spearhead the effort to restore financial accountability to this district. I will address current and future school tax burdens as a result of unfunded mandates and will make certain there is improved communication between the WCSD Board of Education and the district which it represents. I look forward to serving this community and hope you will support me on May 17th.

## 4 Roisin Druta, LMSW

I have lived in Wappingers Falls for most of my life. Both of my parents formerly worked



for the district and were union members for their respective positions. I am a graduate of Roy C. Ketcham High School. After earning a

Bachelor's degree at Eastern Nazarene College, I lived in Romania as a volunteer missionary. I worked with youth and their families, while also providing other volunteer aid and social work services in the town I resided in. Upon my return to the United States, I went on to earn a Master's of Social Work from Roberts Wesleyan College.

For the last nine years, I've worked as a Behavioral Intervention Specialist, specifically working with adults with intellectual disabilities and various psychiatric diagnoses. I earned my NYS licensure in February 2015. In my free time, I volunteer at the Veteran's Miracle Center in Albany. I also work with other grassroots organizations primarily focusing on constitutional rights.

If elected as a board trustee of the Wappingers Central School District, I'd like to assist with maintaining fiscal responsibility by way of reducing or eliminating unfunded mandates and working with the community on how their tax money is spent, assist in applying researchbased and tested education reform and remove Common Core with the high-stakes testing and APPR rating system. In doing so, our teachers will be able to better utilize their education and training to instruct our children in sound and developmentally appropriate curriculum. Finally, I'd like to help create a more transparent environment for community members, parents, and teachers in working closely with their school board.

## **5** Stacey Rogan



Stacey Rogan
has been a
resident of
Wappingers
Central School
District (WCSD)
since 2000.
She lives in
Wappingers

with her husband and three children, all of whom attended or attend WCSD schools.

Stacey attended WCC in Valhalla, and Fairleigh Dickinson University with a concentration in Business Administration, Marketing. Stacey is founder of Moxee Social, a social media agency. Her experience includes sales, administration, real estate, and healthcare. Stacey prides herself on sound business decisions and strong ethics.

Family is Stacey's priority. Time is spent with her children watching football; watching RCK cheer capturing the national title. She's been a coach, a Girl Scout leader, a PTA President, PTA Council Rep; as well as a classroom mom. The well—being of the students should be the unquestioned focus of the BoE. But that has not been the case over the last several years. Schools should pursue innovative strategies, but also preserve programs with a winning history. A challenging and safe environment is expected. The Board of Education should demand that our schools be nimble and quick to respond to the learning needs of all children; and direct all administrators to make that effort a priority.

Lately, the performance of this Board has become disturbing. They are dismissive of parents and disrespectful of those who voice legitimate concerns. The BoE should never be the antagonist. We need to replenish the good will between the BoE and the community. We need responsive administrators as well. And most of all, we need a commitment from every adult, parent, teacher, administrator and Board member; that children come first. Our children live here in favored circumstances. We are fortunate to have these wonderful schools and committed teachers. But we must remain attentive to the details. Our schools must sail straight and true into the important years ahead.

## Savings Fund Playground Equipment

By saving money through an innovative technology project, the District is able to move ahead and replace playground equipment at four elementary schools. The District has had to condemn playground equipment at a number of schools in recent years because some playgroup pieces have shown signs of wear and were aging out of safe and effective use.

A \$40,000 savings was a result of a installing a new phone system in 2011 that provided improvements in District communications, and significant savings. At the time, the backup portion of this new system was installed at Arlington High School in hopes that the ACSD would agree to implement the same system. This unique strategy would allow both districts to realize further savings in charges once both districts were up and running on the same system.

In the summer of 2015, Arlington switched to this system. As soon as the new ACSD phones came online, the WCSD realized savings of approximately \$40,000 in the 2015-16 school year budget. Because we had not anticipated this savings during the 2015-16 budget year, this now allows us to direct the funds to a project need this school year.

The money saved, and assistance from the Myers Corners ES "Playground Savers" club, allows the District to move ahead with the purchase of new playground equipment for James S Evans, Kinry Road, Myers Corners, and Sheafe Road Elementary Schools. We are very excited that this new equipment will be installed in the near future.

## **Strategic Planning**

Our community-created Strategic Plan drives decision making in the Wappingers CSD, and our Core Values guide us in the work that we do. We continue to work on the action items that have been designed to achieve our Strategic Objectives and our Mission.

Below are some progress updates:

- A new Program and Course Evaluation Plan
- The redesign of the District website and the inclusion of social media outlets
- The EdCamp model for professional development
- The "InFocus" newsletter

Our Strategic Planning work will continue into the 2016-17 school year. The Board adopted budget includes funding for "Maker Spaces" in our secondary buildings and Human Resources will be implementing a new online employment application system We look forward to sharing more information about Strategic Planning as we progress through this very important work.

# RCK Wind Ensemble to Perform at Hudson Valley Honor Flight

The Roy C. Ketcham Wind Ensemble has been invited to perform at Hudson Valley Honor Flight's Mission #12 on Saturday, May 14th, at Westchester County Airport. The Wind Ensemble will perform at the pre-flight ceremony at 7:30 a.m. at the JP Morgan Chase Hangar.

The Hudson Valley Honor Flight (HVHF) is a local hub of the National Flight Network. They honor American Veterans for all of their sacrifices

by transporting them to Washington, D.C. to visit their memorials at no cost to the Vets. HVHF flies multiple times a year out of Stewart International Airport and Westchester County Airport. They serve veterans from Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Orange, Sullivan and Ulster Counties in New York, as well as counties in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Top priority is given to veterans of the Greatest Generation, that of World War II, and terminally ill veterans from other wars.

"We are honored to have our students invited to participate in this worthwhile event," said Lori Orestano-James, District Coordinator for Fine & Performing Arts and LOTE. "It's a testament to their understanding of community service, their dedication, and talent, as well as that of their director, Richard Holod. This is a wonderful way to give back to those who have served."

## **New Website Launched**

In a continuing effort to improve communications with our community, the District launched a redesign of its website in December. Months of study and programming have produced a crisp, more intuitive website. "The goal was to make changes that were not only visually appealing, but that made it easier to locate the information that people need," said Amy Watkins, Coordinator of Public Relations & Evaluations. The district has also dramatically increased its presence on Twitter in an effort to share the good news about academics, sports and enrichment opportunities enjoyed by students and students across the district. 

@WCSDEmpowers

## WCSD EdCamp: Empowers One Giant Conversation

A dramatic shift in the delivery of professional development is having a positive impact in the Wappingers Central School District. EdCamp is a new direction for the District and every member of the school community is involved in setting the agenda.

"It's very different than the professional development that normally takes place," said Dan Roberto, technology integration specialist. "This is not bringing people in to train staff, but using the strengths, talents, skills that our faculty have to enhance the experience for everyone. After all, we know what's working in our classrooms. We know where we need to go because we have our mission statement, our core values, and our strategic objectives." The EdCamp model allows for professionals who find exciting and innovative ways to engage students to share those methods with colleagues.

# WCSD Named Best Community for Music

Congratulations to WCSD for being recognized as one of 476 school districts in the nation as a Best Community for Music Education in the US for 2016 by the NAMM Foundation! This is a prestigious accolade from a nationwide non-profit foundation, WCSD is demonstrating its commitment to innovative learning

opportunities for all children as outlined in the new federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) which lists music and the arts as recommended subjects as important for a well-rounded education for all students.

## **Orchard View 90s Club**

Seven of our students obtained a GPA of 90 or above, and



were invited to a catered lunch to honor their academic efforts. The Orchard View students were asked to invite an adult to who has enabled them to achieve this

success. Guests included former teachers and the RCK School Resource Officer.



EdCamp is a participant-driven conference where sessions are developed and facilitated by those who attend. Technology and social media are leveraged to connect participants and develop Personal Learning Networks. According to the EdCamp Foundation, since the original EdCamp Philadelphia in 2010, the Foundation has lended its support to over 700 conferences in 25 countries. The EdCamp movement has been recognized by the US Department of Education,

the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), the TEDx program and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for its ability to bring high quality, personalized professional development to all educators. "The National EdCamp Foundation was instrumental in helping to adapt the process to fit the needs of our District," said Roberto.

In planning for the District's March Superintendent's Conference day, all teachers, teaching assistants, administrators and other professional support staff were surveyed to provide input about topics to help

improve the learning environment. They also identified successful practices they would like to share.

Sessions were created based on the responses, and participants were able to choose the sessions that met their professional development needs.

One benefit is the connections established between teachers from different buildings and different positions. The use of Twitter has enabled these relationships to thrive and the information exchange continues using #edcampwcsd. "We're having a gigantic conversation as a faculty and staff about how to do our jobs more effectively," said Paul Rubeo.

staff about how to do our jobs more effectively," said Paul Rubeo.

The District is beginning to see evidence of how EdCamp is having a direct impact on students. Two ideas that have gained momentum are Genius Hour and

Maker Spaces. Both are founded in the belief that doing hands-on, independent work helps students learn and become actively engaged as members of their communities.

"Genius Hour allows students to pursue a self-directed passion project—whether it is writing a play, raising money for veterans, or learning how to cook healthy," said Roberto. Maker Spaces are places of innovation

and inquiry. Students are provided with opportunities and resources to investigate, explore and integrate ideas from science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics (STEAM).

According to Rubeo, "The Innovation Room established at Van Wyck is that space, and it's changing the thinking."





Educators in the Wappingers District see EdCamp as a positive development. Both Rubeo and Roberto agree that, "The conversations about instruction has become richer, and that type of engagement will ultimately benefit all students."

## **WCSD Alumna Published in a Local Magazine**

Senora Beiner recently learned of the accomplishments of one of her former students. Maria Scrudato. She was selected to design the front cover of the Bard College's magazine La Voz! This is a Spanish-language magazine distributed all over the Hudson Valley to the entire Hispanic/Latino community. It has received many awards. Senora Beiner's students have submitted articles and have been published in this magazine for a few years now, however, this is the first time that a student made the cover!

Ms. Scrudato studied art and Spanish at John Jay High School. She was very successful in both. Ms. Scrudato was the president of the Spanish Honor Society, recipient of the Senior Scholarship from the National organization, and recipient of many arts awards. She was accepted into the Cooper Union School for the

Advancements of Arts and Sciences.

Senora Beiner took the liberty of translating the article below.

About the cover: (by Maria)

Inspired by the theme for this month, the 3rd Annual Spelling Bee in Spanish, I created a small but extravagant work of art representing a group of bees that participate in their own spelling bee. On the background there are some bees seated, waiting for their turn to spell. And perhaps there is one that has even fallen asleep! The bee in front of the stage is spelling the word PRIMAVERA (spring) because spring is around the corner and it is worth getting excited about it. This painting was made with watercolors because

I wanted it to be striking and colorful and, at the same time, related to the theme of the month.

#### About the artist: (by the Editor of the magazine)

Maria Scrudato is an art student in The Cooper Union School for the Advancements of Arts and Sciences located in New York City. Scrudato wrote in her artist's letter of invitation for the cover of La Voz: "I should be considered for this great opportunity because art and Spanish are my true passions. In high school, my favorite classes were Advanced Placement Spanish and Advanced Placement art. I showed my enthusiasm for Spanish as president of the John Jay Spanish Honor Society and every day I learned more about the culture and the language." Thank you to the La Voz's selecting committee (Pablo Shine, Fawn Potash, Pilar Roca, and Mariel Fiori) for selecting Maria Scrudato to design the cover for La Voz's April 2016 edition. It is important to note that the committee was comprised of accomplished artists, curators, and Spanish scholars.

# **C**OMMUNITY

## **SUNY Purchase** for the PAWS

ELA & Theatre teachers Megan Cooke and Tanya Clifton received a grant this past fall for a field trip from the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley.

This grant covered all of the costs associated with our trip to SUNY Purchase for the PAWS event (Performing Arts Workshops for Secondary Students). Students experienced the creative energy of PAWS during this unique opportunity to participate in a variety of performing arts workshops throughout an exhilarating day. Students learned skills and techniques not commonly taught in highschools, such as Latin dance, stage fighting, improvisation, and directing.

Members of the Theatre classes (Theatre I & II), as well as members of Proscenium and Masque & Mime attended free of charge. John Jay and Roy C. Ketcham each received just over \$1,500 for a total of just over \$3,000 in grants to the district.

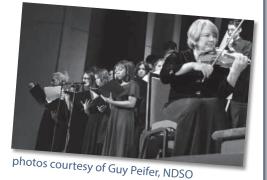
## **WCSD Chamber Choirs to Perform with** Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra



The John Jay and Roy C. Ketcham Chamber Choirs performed with the Northern Dutchess Symphony Orchestra (NDSO) at The Culinary Institute of America in the Marriott Pavilion Auditorium on Saturday, February 6th.

The NDSO presented A Night of "Brits on Broadway,"

featuring the works of Lloyd Webber and Gilbert & Sullivan. The chamber choirs performed during the second half of the concert with Conductor Kathleen Beckmann and the NDSO.

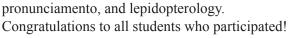


## 25th Annual Community Spelling Bee Literacy Connections

Meila Xiao and Gabby Watson were the student winners in the annual spelling bee, sponsored by the Literacy Connections of the Hudson Valley at Marist College. Asher Fisher and Samantha Yen also made it into the final elimination round. RCK teams competing included:

Letter Righters: Laura Brito, Highway to Spell: Samantha Yen & Asher Fisher, Don't Stop Beelievin!: Gabby Watson & Meila Xiao, Beeyond Beelief: Jessica Matos & Delia Pineda

Some of the words from the final round: troika, ayatollah, cordillera, trinitrotoluene, chimopelagic, flagitious, carpaccio, culgee,





# 

## John Jay Students "Take the Prize"

John Jay art students have been participating in Grace Smith House's "Love Shouldn't Hurt" art contest since its inception in 2011. In this year's contest two students won top honors: Senior Victoria Robustello won grand prize for her drawing "The Aftermath." Senior Melissa Diakantonis won 1st place for her drawing entitled "Let Go."

This is the second time Victoria has won grand prize in this contest. Her first grand prize win two years ago had a big impact on her, and she has become involved with Grace Smith House in meaningful ways. Last year she organized two food drives and a dress drive. She also organized a fundraising walk

to fight domestic abuse, creating promotional materials and paintings to raffle off at the fundraiser.

The photo entitled "ROBUSTELLO" is the grand prize winning drawing by Victoria Robustello entitled "The Aftermath."



The photo entitled "DIAKANTONIS" is the first place winning drawing by Melissa Diakantonis entitled "Let Go."

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 7:30 a.m. – 9:00p.m.

**Fishkill Elementary Fishkill Plains Elementary Gayhead Elementary Myers Corners Elementary Vassar Road Elementary Sheafe Road Elementary Wappingers JHS** 

If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000 ext. 40145

#### WAPPINGERS SCHOOLS

#### Elementary Schools Brinckerhoff ...... ..227-1770 Fishkill Plains ..... Gayhead. Kinry Road .... .463-7322 Myers Corners ...... Oak Grove.. .298-5280 Sheafe Road..... .298-5290

#### Secondary Schools Van Wyck JHS .... Wappingers JHS ......298-5200

Vassar Road....

..897-6700 John Jay HS ...... Roy C. Ketcham HS .... 298-5100 **Orchard View** Alternative HS.

#### WCSD OFFICES 298-5000

25 Corporate Park Drive Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

Superintendent José Carrión

Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations **Dwight Bonk** 

**Assistant Superintendent of Compliance and Information Systems** Daren Lolkema

> **Assistant Superintendent** for Curriculum and Instruction Michelle Cardwell

**Executive Director for Finance and Business Development** Kristen Crandall

**Executive Director of Special Education** Richard Zipp

**Director of Facilities and Operations Ronald Broas** 

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**President** Peggy Kelland

**Vice-President** Colleen Hardiman

Karen Mauhs Karath

Anne LaValle John Lumia Tracy Pelton

Seema Rizvi **Robert Rubin** Somaiah Soma

## InPrint: WCSD Newsletter

**Editor:** Amy Watkins Designer: Désirée Ferrara

Produced by Dutchess BOCES Office of Communication and Grants Research Genevieve Kellam, Director; Désirée Ferrara, Eileen Scholes **Public Information Officers** 



## John Jay and Roy C. Ketcham Top Seniors, Class of 2016

JOHN JAY HIGH SCHOOL

## **Ashna Gupta - Valedictorian**



Ashna Gupta is the kind of student who has a beat on what is happening both in the building and within the community. She will often spearhead a movement to set things in motion. While many students are involved, Ashna takes things to a whole new level. Ashna is currently a vital member of the National Honor Society and Math Honor Society.

Ashna is president of the Science Olympiad team and a member of the girls' varsity tennis team here at JJ. She is an active member of the math club, a peer tutor at Fishkill Plains Elementary School among other activities. Musically, Ashna is a member of the JJ Pit Orchestra as well as Area All-State Band just to name a few.

In matters of the classroom, Ashna is self-reliant and has been in an accelerated mathematics and science program since 8<sup>th</sup> grade. As a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society she has participated in many prestigious local and state competitions. Through the Science Olympiad she has won many medals at the regional and state level. Ashna had the amazing experience participating in the Science Honors Program at Columbia University two years in a row.

As to where she will be attending in the fall Ashna is undecided between Yale and Columbia. With so many options available to her she is sure that her undergraduate work will be focused in Chemical Engineering.

## Isabel Wu - Salutatorian



Isabel Wu is the salutatorian of John Jay's class of 2016. In recognition of her academic excellence, she was named a National Merit Scholarship Winner and an AP Scholar with Distinction. Along with her continued focus on success in the classroom, she also busies herself with an array of extracurricular activities.

Isabel has studied ballet for more than ten years, performing the principal role of the Sugarplum Fairy for two years in Dutchess Dance Theatre's production of The Nutcracker. She has attended many prestigious summer dance intensives, including American Ballet Theatre and Exploring Ballet with Suzanne Farrell. In 2014, she received the Dutchess County Executive Arts Award for Student with Exceptional Promise in the Arts, awarded by Arts Mid-Hudson. Isabel has taught a children's dance class at the Mid-Hudson Huaxia Chinese School and she has choreographed and performed multiple routines for its annual Chinese New Year celebrations. Isabel has also shared her love of dance with the community, performing at local nursing homes and veterans' hospitals.

As co-president of the Math Honor Society and co-captain of the math team, Isabel has exhibited excellence in mathematics throughout high school. She is a three-time qualifier for the New York State Math League state competition and serves as a peer tutor for all levels of math. On weekends, she attends the Columbia University Science Honors Program. Isabel is also vice president of the Science Olympiad team. Over four years, she has earned ten medals at the regional level and another six at the New York State competition, including a 1st place state medal in the Wright Stuff event. Isabel's ability to maintain a demanding academic load is a testament to her willingness to challenge herself, and this trait is obvious in her extracurricular pursuits as well.

In the fall, Isabel will attend Harvard University, with plans to study Applied Mathematics. She thanks her parents, teachers, and classmates for continued support and encouragement throughout her high school experience.

#### ROY C. KETCHAM HIGH SCHOOL

## Stephanie Shum - Valedictorian



Stephanie Shum is very thankful for all of the opportunities she has had to be a part of her school community. She is extremely grateful to have been the President of the National Honor Society, President and Editor of the Odyssey Literary Magazine, Captain of the Tennis Team, Captain of the WorldQuest Team, Founder of the National English Honor Society, Secretary of the

Math Team, and Historian of Science Olympiad. She would like to thank the members and advisors of every club and activity she has been in, as well as all of her teachers, for inspiring her with their hard work and beautiful personalities. She has loved getting to work with and laugh alongside so many amazing people.

Stephanie has taken an active role in raising money for her school clubs. Stephanie enjoys volunteering at the local cat-shelter, Mid-Hudson Animal Aid, where she has volunteered over 250 hours of service. She also enjoys volunteering through her Girl Scout troop. Stephanie also hosts and organizes environmental workshops, where she teaches participants how to make environmentally friendly projects, such as "Invasive Reindeer" and cat scratching boxes made of reused cardboard. She has taken her workshops to the New York World Maker-Faire and the Woodstock-New Paltz Arts and Crafts Fair.

Stephanie also creates videos for how to make these projects on her YouTube channel, GreenLuckyCat. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys making artwork. She has worked as the graphic design artist for the Masque and Mime Society. Her designs have been used for the t-shirts, posters, and program covers of 6 shows, and in each design, she playfully hides her signature. Stephanie has earned both the Congressional Award Gold Medal and the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Stephanie hasn't decided on a college yet, but is currently planning to study both business and computer science in Cornell University, NYU Stern, or Boston University. She would like to continue organizing and participating in community service and environmental activities while in college.

## **Emma Sampugnaro - Salutatorian**



Emma Sampugnaro would like to be remembered as "nonstop". She has attempted to make every moment of her high school career count. She was proud to lead Ketcham's Math League and Science Olympiad as President. She medaled at State Science Olympiad her junior year for Disease Detectives and received many

awards at Regionals over the years. Emma can also be found at Debate Society, where she serves as Vice President and attempts to gather support for her political movement, "Veritas". She is an accomplished student-athlete who has twice qualified for Junior Olympics in Women's Épée Fencing. She fences for the Phoenix Center in Poughkeepsie, and hopes to soon see a fencing club at Ketcham. Emma participated in karaoke night, which brought together her interest in National Honor Society and Chorus and her love for late 2000s pop music. Emma is currently designing "FlameCheck", a free Android app to promote home fire safety. It will soon be available in the App Store.

Emma expects to study neuroscience at Dartmouth College in the fall, intending to become a neurosurgeon and then perhaps the Surgeon General.

## National Merit Scholarship Corporation

## John Jay HS's Isabel Wu is a **National Merit Scholarship winner!**

In late September of 2015, more than two-thirds (about 34,000) of the approximately 50,000 high scorers on the PSAT/NMSQT® receive Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. Although Commended Students do not continue in the competition for National Merit® Scholarships, some of these students do become candidates for special scholarships sponsored by corporations and businesses.

## **Commended Students**

Antionette M. Acbo Devin Koenig **Grace L. Cham Ashna Gupta** Sarah M. Holan

**Justin Lee** Sahana Natesan Richard W. O'Keefe

Seo-Lin Oh Airika Yee

Winners of Merit Scholarship® awards (Merit Scholar® designees) are chosen from the finalist group based on their abilities, skills, and accomplishments. A variety of information is available for NMSC selectors to evaluate: the finalist's academic record, information about the school's curricula and grading system, two sets of test scores, the high school official's written recommendation, information about the student's activities and leadership, and the Finalist's own essay.

# SCIENCE OLYMPIAD



# John Jay Students Win Best New School Award at Yale Invitational and place 7<sup>th</sup> at NYS Science Olympiad Competition!

John Jay's Science Olympiad Team excelled in 2016, finishing seventh at the New York State Science Olympiad competition in March. More than 400 schools participate in Science Olympiad and only 54 earned a place at the state event. This is the highest ranking John Jay has ever earned.

2016 John Jay Science Olympiad Team

Student Name	Grade	Student Name	Grade
Antoinette Acbo	12	Karthik Ledalla	11
Iris Benjamin	12	Melinda Lee	10
Salil Chandra	11	Ananya Parlapalli	11
Nicholas Fan	12	Maryam Soomro	12
Ashna Gupta	12	Joshua Sudijono	10
Gaurav Gupta	10	Dayi Ting	10
Brent Kohl	11	Crystal Wu	10
Sri Drishaal Kumar	10	Isabel Wu	12

Earlier in the year, the team participated in the prestigious Yale University Invitational where they finished 13<sup>th</sup> out of 48 teams. There were eight teams attending the Invitational for the first time and John Jay earned the Best New School Award.

#### **Individual Medals Won**

Nick Fan and Brent Kohl for Bridge Building-3<sup>rd</sup> place Karthik Ledalla and Josh Sudijono for Cell Bio -5<sup>th</sup> place Ashna Gupta and Crystal Wu for HydroGeology - 6<sup>th</sup> place



## Roy C. Ketcham's NYS Scholarships for Academic Excellence

**Recipients of the 2016 Scholarships for Academic Excellence** awarded by the State Education Department/The University of the State of New York in Albany, New York State Board of Regents:

\$1,500 Scholarships: Stephanie Shum, Emma Sampugnaro \$500 Scholarhsips: Charles Cortesi, Claire Marino, Soren Beck, Ellen Reifenberger, Taylor Parrella, Joseph Giancaspro, Alexander Milliken, Emma Maurer, Alvin Zhang, Mitchell Mahoney, MacKenzie Laird, Rachel Cacace, Stephanie Zielinski, and Erin Broussard

## WCSD Future Business Leaders of America

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is a business oriented organization with a goal of preparing members for careers in business related fields. FBLA participates



in school and community events, fund raising activities, and FBLA sponsored events.

Membership in the FBLA is open to students in grades 9-12, enrolled in a business or business-related course, who accept the purpose of FBLA, subscribe to its creed, demonstrate willingness to contribute to meaningful school-community relations, and possess qualities for employment.

Students from WCSD attended the district competition in February, which includes Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties, coming away with their hands full of awards.

Subsequently fourteen WCSD students traveled to the NYS FBLA competition on April 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> in Rochester, NY to compete with schools from across the state. We are extremely proud to report that an unprecedented eleven students made it all the way to the finals in a variety of public speaking and business related events. Congratulations to Camille Secor, Joe Torres, Madisen Sturm, Jack Bott, Joe D'Annibale, Amy Zhou, Tanvi Athavale, Jeevenjot Bhinder, Shakim Williams, Charles Gray, Joe Rabasco, Aaron Roberts, Ruby Miller, and Devin Walsh for a great showing! FBLA is a great opportunity for our students to put what they are learning in the classroom into action.

**Congratulations to the team.** Four months of academic preparation produced fantastic results – John Jay now proudly boasts a Top 10 New York State Science Olympiad team!



The team won seven medals in 25 events, including 1<sup>st</sup> place medals in Air Trajectory by Nick Fan and Aydin Wells and in Cellular Biology by Ashna Gupta and Karthik Ledalla.

#### Other medals include

2<sup>nd</sup> place in Chem Lab (Ashna Gupta and Salil Chandra); 4th place in Invasive Species (Iris Benjamin and Isabel Wu); 5<sup>th</sup> place in It's About Time (Nick Fan and Isabel Wu); 6<sup>th</sup> Place in Wright Stuff (Ashna Gupta and Isabel Wu); 10<sup>th</sup> place in Wind Power (Josh Sudijono and Gaurav Gupta).

## John Jay Exhibits in Albany

During the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday observance, students were invited to submit essays and artwork based on Dr. King's Six Principles of Nonviolence. The display aimed to encourage students to learn more about Dr. King, his non-violent philosophy and its application to



current issues. At last year's observance, more than 4,000 pieces, representing entries from 240 schools statewide were submitted and displayed.



Photography III students in Mrs. Talbot's class at John Jay HS had their work exhibited on the Concourse of the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY. The students created unique images that illustrated their research and utilized their skills in digital photography and various editing techniques. Displayed from mid-January through February, the submissions have now become part of the State of New York collection.

## **RCK Greenworks Wins Regionals**

On Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, the RCK Greenworks club competed in the Hudson Valley Regional Envirothon, and performed very well, winning Dutchess County and making them eligible for the NYS Envirothon.

An Envirothon is a hands-on environmental education competition where a team of five high school students work together to compete in five different environmental categories (i.e., soils/land use, aquatic ecology, forestry, and wildlife) and this year's current environmental issue:

"Invasive Species – A Challenge to the Environment, Economy and Society".

Congratulations to RCK Greenworks Envirothon Team: Mark Heyer Dylan Jorge

Grace Mei Sandra Hernandez Thea Bjornson



# **Aware & Civic Minded**

## **Van Wyck Participates in Mock Presidential Election**



Who will be the next President of the United States of America? It's a question that the country won't answer until November, but recently, Van Wyck Junior High School students participated in a mock election to choose the nominees for the next election.

This event is part of an ongoing effort at the school to get students civically involved in issues that affect their lives.

There was a crowded field of presidential hopefuls at the time on the Republican ticket with two on the Democratic ticket. More than fifty percent of the students participated in the mock election with Donald Trump winning the nomination on the Republican side and Hillary Clinton winning the nomination on the Democratic side. A mock presidential election is planned for September 2016.

#### **Van Wyck Debate Club Going Strong**

This year, the Van Wyck Debate Club invited local elected officials to help moderate their debates. Students discussed many important topics during the club meetings including:



- Should the minimum wage be raised?
- · Who should choose the next United
- States Supreme Court Justice to replace Justice Antonin Scalia? • Should the United States curtail immigration in light of terrorist
- threats across the globe?

It was truly an honor to have **Dutchess County Legislator John** Metzger and County Clerk Brad Kendall visit our school and lead Debate Club discussions.



## Van Wyck Students Politically John Jay HS & WJHS Students Research **American Glass Eels**

Wappingers Junior High School students are researching migrating juvenile American eels in Hudson River tributaries as part of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) American Eel Research Project. "This is real science, real field research, for a real environmental agency, giving our students first hand experience as well as a better understanding of why science fluency is important," said Patrick Hancock of the John Jay Science Department.

The research involves students checking a ten-foot cone-shaped net specifically designed to catch tiny eels. They count and release the glass eels back into the water and record weight and environmental data on temperature and tides.





The eels are born in the Sargasso Sea north of Puerto Rico and after a year arrive in estuaries like the Hudson River each spring as translucent, two-inch long "glass eels." The eels live in freshwater streams and lakes for up to 20 years before returning to the sea to spawn and die.

From mid-March through May, approximately 250 students, teachers, college interns and community

volunteers check nets daily at 13 different sites including several Dutchess County sites. The newest location, Hunters Brook at Reese Park in the Village of Wappingers Falls, was added in April.

"The American Eel is currently being heavily studied, not only in the interest of pure science just learning more about these amazing creatures- but also due to a concern and desire to develop sustainable fishing regulations for this important global food resource," said Rosellen Harat. "Our students are very privileged to have, along with their teachers, such a hands-on scientific experience before they even enter high school."



The Japanese Eel and the European Eel, once common, are no longer a viable commercial food source due to irresponsible fishing practices. The American Eel is on the decline and its commercial fishery is closed in all east coast states except for Maine and South Carolina. A one-pound bag of glass eels can sell for more than \$2,000. They are sold and raised in tubs, mainly in China, until they are large enough to be sold and used as food.

## **WCSD Annual Spelling Bee**



The 12th Annual Spelling Bee was held on Wednesday, January 6th. Twenty students, ranging from grade 4 to grade 7, participated in the event held at Myers Corners Elementary School. This year's competition included not only a spelling round, but a vocabulary round as well. Including the vocabulary round meant the District was in alignment with the format of the regional

and state competitions. Congratulations to all of the participants. The top four finalists in each category went on to compete at Regionals.

**Grades 4-5** 

Nathan Leobandung, Gayhead Elementary 5 1st Place **Hamid Tipu, Myers Corners Elementary 5** 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Eric Ihekwaba, Oak Grove Elementary 5 4th Place **Trevor Ackerly, Fishkill Elementary 4** 

**Grades 6-7** 

1st Place **Justin Tullo, Kinry Road Elementary 6** Samuel Thomas, Sheafe Road 6 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Jenna Grossi, Fishkill Plains Elementary 6 Allan Vinod, Myers Corners Elementary 6 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Justin Tullo placed 7th, Hamid Tipo placed 16th, and Allen Vinod placed 30th out of 116 competitors at the regional competion. Job well done!

## **WCSD Elementary Students Read Across America!**



Read Across America is held annually on March 2, Dr. Seuss' birthday. All across the nation, students celebrate reading by highlighting fun, rhyming works like "One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish," and "Horton Hears a Who."

Another classic, "Green Eggs and Ham," inspired Mr. Neevel to scramble up some green-tinted eggs for his wife's kindergarten class at Brinckerhoff ES.

At Vassar Road, Read Across America coincided with a week of celebrating PARP (Parents as Reading Partners). Staff members pulled out their best Seuss fashions and a Lorax mustache adorned numerous faces.

The Myers Tigers even had rhyming sock pairs hanging on a bulletin board to highlight "Fox in Socks", a book full of fun tongue twisters. Thanks to Target for donating Dr. Seuss books and to the volunteers from Target who read books to our Myers Tigers.

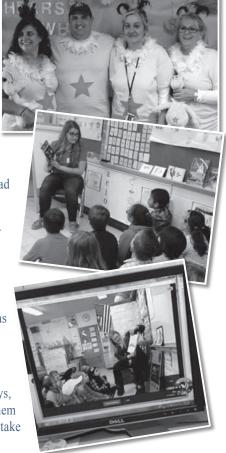
And at Fishkill Plains, Mrs. O'Dell used technology to read "What Pet Should I Get" to the entire building at once. All of the classrooms could view her storytelling by displaying the Google Hangout on their screens.

James S. Evans Eagles participated in many student-centered and engaging activities during "Read Across America". From a "Read Across America" oath to inviting parents in to read to the class, Evans was filled with knowledge, fun, laughter, and spirit. Not once, but twice, the entire school went



into the hallway and sang their hearts out at the same time to unite the school! In order to prepare and excite the students, every single classroom door was decorated with a different literature theme as well as pictures of every student reading their favorite book.

Each day of the week featured a new event for the children. The older students read to the younger students to promote the enjoyment of reading. Parents came in to guest read to remind students of all ages how storytelling can never get old. Children wore shirts and hats that could be read on different days, signed and recited an oath that was hung in the hallway, and filled in a reading log each night that had them "Read Across America", which students were able to color in states on a map. Not only did the students take on the challenge, but so did their teachers!



## WCSD Music Students Honored

Forty-seven music students from the District were selected to participate in the Junior High All-County Music Festival on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Arlington High School. This annual event, sponsored by the Dutchess County

Music Educators Association, features performing ensembles comprised of the most talented 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students from various school districts in Dutchess County.

Congratulations to music teachers: Ryan Banda, Melissa Barrett, Dina Cupano, Rebecca Daniels, Nancy Eccles, Matthew King, Matthew Orwick, Candice Ruffalo, Gina Stephens, James Trainor, James Weinrich, and the following students:

## ORCHESTRA

Tanvi Athavale **Emily Benson** Sara Byrnes Amelia Chen Jenny Kang Ethan Kwong Emilio Eileen Liang Abigail Ngowe Hannah Nohai Kimberly Orwick Amanda Qiu Kevin Rodriguez Georgia Sampugnaro Hailev Shepheard Johanna Skinnider Adam Smart Daniel Susman Michelle Tang Sebastian Velasquez EunChan Yoon

Allison Yu

## CONCERT BAND

Michael DeRobertis
Ryan Greco
Janelle Humphries
Dylan Jones
Brielle Miano
Morales-Cruz
Sora Park
Aakarsh Sahay
Keertana Talla
Kevin Torhan
Lukas Vera

#### **CHORUS**

Richmond Addae Andria Camporese David Frego Ashley Gallaher Lucas Moody Alyssa Paulo Christopher Scanlon

#### WIND ENSEMBLE

Brandon Carlough Kiyan Daneshvar Michaela Dropkin Megan Finnigan Matteo Rizzi Andrew Scheck Benjamin Sziklas Campbell Wellman

# Fishkill Plains Participate in Math & Physics Exploration and Pi Day



Students from all over Duthcess County including Fishkill Plains ES and Gayhead ES celebrated Math Recognition Day with local leaders on March 14<sup>th</sup>,  $\pi$  Day. The number  $\pi$  represents the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. It is a non-repeating decimal that never ends, valued at approximately 3.14159.

In total, 48 Dutchess and Ulster county students were honored for their under-

standing and enjoyment of math. Fishkill Plains participates in Math Counts, an after-school program developed by Dr. Irvin Miller, director of the Math and Physics Exploration Center. First piloted in other districts, the program teaches selected 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders the five basic postulates of arithmetic with applications.

Supervisors from the towns of Beekman, LaGrange, Poughkeepsie and Wappinger all signed proclamations declaring March 14<sup>th</sup> Math Recognition Day. They joined U.S. Representative Chris Gibson to encourage academic excellence.

Sydney O'Connor, a fifth-grade Fishkill Plains student said she had been introduced to amazing things in mathematics. Erika Huston, a sixth-grader, felt fortunate to be given the opportunity to participate in an "amazing" math enrichment program. Her favorite topic was the binary number system, which sparked her interest in coding and computer science.

Principal Eric Seipp and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Michelle Cardwell have been impressed by the brilliance of the students and are report the results have been well beyond the initial expectations for the program.

## Skyhunters in Flight

Students at Sheafe Road, Myers Corners, and James Evans had the opportunity to appreciate the majestic beauty of falcons, hawks, and owls during visits by Skyhunters in Flight in March.



The educational program about birds of prey included live demonstrations and discussions about the strength and speed of the birds. Master falconer Brian Bradley of New Paltz also described the ways falcons, hawks, and owls improve their hunting skills.

## Kinry Rd ES Reads to Feed



Kinry Road Elementary School Literacy Committee is promoting literacy through Heifer International's Read to Feed® (K-6) Reading Incentive/Global Awareness Program.

The Read to Feed program encourages reading, while heightening students' awareness that their actions make a

difference in the lives of others. As students read more books, they improve their reading abilities and more families receive gifts of

livestock and training, which serves to give the students an understanding and appreciation for connections between people, their actions and the environment.

Students secured sponsors for each book, chapter, or page they read from October 19<sup>th</sup> through December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. The Kinry Road Elementary School's students raised and donated \$525 to Heifer International, helping Heifer assist families around the world feed themselves and reach self-sufficiency.



## **Penny Wars in WCSD**



Vassar Road students embraced the power pennies and other loose change to help the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The

Penny War pitted grade levels against each other to collect coins for JDRF. It was a spirited competition that raised \$280. The school also

held a Lip Sync Night which was a tremendous success, rocking the building and raising an additional \$1,200 for JDRF.



## Fishkill Students Experience a "Day in Clay"

Fifth grade students at Fishkill Elementary School recently had the opportunity to observe the work of professional artist Cliff Mendelson. During his "Day in Clay" program, Mr. Mendelson shared his expertise and talent as he demonstrated the art of creating multicultural ceramic masks and faces. Students enjoyed learning about the process and effort involved in creating ceramic pieces and gained an appreciation of the skill involved in making any work of art. Through this excellent program, students were exposed to seeing an artist create original works of art in an atmosphere that encouraged their inquiry and involvement.

Students created their own individual clay vases using the style and techniques of the Native American culture. The various symbols, patterns, and imagery were utilized in their own works to explore this tradition, rich in history. A display of the students' ceramic pieces, with photos taken during the workshop, were exhibited in the main lobby showcase throughout March and April. This program was sponsored by the Fishkill PTA through the BOCES Arts-in-Education Program, with help from art teacher Carly Fletcher.



# VOTE

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fishkill Elementary
Fishkill Plains Elementary
Gayhead Elementary
Myers Corners Elementary
Vassar Road Elementary
Sheafe Road Elementary
Wappingers JHS

If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000 ext. 40145

## **Athletic Accolades**

## Roy C. Ketcham Achievements (Spring 2015 and Fall, Winter 2016)

**League Champions:** Baseball **Section Champions:** 

Olivia Frederick (Wappingers Gymnastics)

#### **Individual All-State Athletes:**

Olivia Frederick, Jessica Healy, Sabrina Sura (Wappngers Gymnastics)

#### **Individual State Qualifiers:**

John Andersen (Track)
Heidi Simpfenderfer (Swimming)
Isaac Mathews (Wrestling)
Olivia Frederick (Wappingers Gymnastics)

#### **Individual All-Section Athletes**

Tim Zehnbauer, Nick Simmons (Baseball) Andrea Bombace, (Softball) David Siriboe, Daniel Ioos, Noah Robinson (Soccer) Kelsey Mulligan (Field Hockey)Rosella Graniero, Elizabeth Roscino (Soccer) Olivia Frederick, McKenna Farrere, Jessica Healy, Zoe Markou, Sabrina Sura (Wappingers Gymnastics)

#### **Individual All-Section Honorable Mention Athletes:**

Justin Squarzini (Baseball) Taylor Travis, Kyra-Lee Scianna (Softball), Jasmine Pesante (Soccer) Dana Dockery (Girls Basketball)

#### **Individual All-League**

Tim Zehnbauer, Dylan D'Anna, Jonathan Cepeda, Jeremy Lopez, Nick Simmons, Justin Squarzini (Baseball)Carissa Della Vecchia, Jessica Roe (Softball)Nicholas DiMarco, Ryan Racca (Golf) Daniel Veleiz, Erick Naula, Eddie May, David Siriboe, Daniel Loos, Noah Robinson (Soccer) Tai-Sean Dodd, Aiden Folster (Football) Gabriella Nunez, Heidi Simpfenderfer, Kimmy Simpfenderfer, Sabine Smith (Swimming) Maggie O'Connor, Patrice Ciardullo, Kelsey Mulligan (Field Hockey) Rosella Graniero, Jasmine Pesante, Elizabeth Roscino, Natasha Fowler (Soccer) Dana Dockery (Girls Basketball) Zaahir Woody, Tim Reilly, Matthew Seidner (Boys Basketball) Olivia Frederick, McKenna Farrere, Jessica Healy, Zoe Markou, Sabrina Sura, Danielle Bethel (Wappingers Gymnastics)

## **Individual All County Athletes**

Tim Zehnbauer, Jonathan Cepeda, Matt Seidner, Dylan D'Anna, Nick Simmons, Justin Squarzini Jeremy Lopez (Baseball) Zaahir Woody, Tim Reilly (Basketball)

## Poughkeepsie Journal All-Stars

Andrea Bombace, Kyra-Lee Scianna (Softball) John Andersen (Track) Andrea Bombace (Softball) Tai-Sean Dodd, Aiden Folster, Zaahir Woody, Jesse Pascale, Darryl Sullivan Jr. (Football) Heidi Simpfenderfer (Swimming) Kelsey Mulligan (Field Hockey) Tim Reilly, Zaahir Woody, Matthew Seidner (Boys Basketball) Dana Dockery (Girls Basketball), Aiden Folster, Brandon Carroll, Jesse Pascale, Isaac Mathews, Liam Wilson, Riley Wilson (Wrestling) Oliva Frederick, Jessica Healy, Sabrina Sura (Wappingers Gymnastics)

## Poughkeepsie Journal Player of the Year

Olivia Frederick (Wappingers Gymnastics) Tim Zehnbauer Dutchess County Pitcher of the Year (Baseball)

## Poughkeepsie Journal Coaches of the year

Linda Edgar (Tennis) Stephanie Sambuco (Wappingers Gymnastics)

## **Individual Highlights:**

Nick Simmons League Player of the Year (Baseball)

Tim Zehnbauer League Pitcher of the Year (Baseball)

Coach Pat Mealy 300<sup>th</sup> win vs Mahopac

Linda Edgar 2015 USPTA Eastern Award Winner Coach of the Year

•

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Fishkill Elementary Fishkill Plains Elementary Gayhead Elementary Myers Corners Elementary Vassar Road Elementary Wappingers JHS

If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000 ext. 40145

## Van Wyck Wins 1st at BOCES CTI EXPO



On Saturday, April 9, 2016, at the Career and Technical Institute (CTI) Spring Expo'16 Community Open House, middle school student teams from various Dutchess County area schools participated in the middle school skills challenge contest. Students were

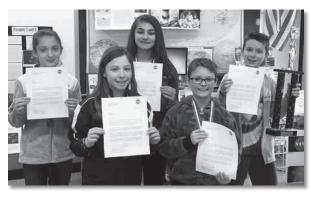
required to test their skills in a number of key areas, such as auto body, electrical/construction trades, small engines, and graphic arts. From all the area schools

participating in the event, the team from Van Wyck Junior High School came home with the 1<sup>st</sup> prize trophy. The Van Wyck team competed under the able tutelage of Anne Bogen



# Guilino Guilino Guilino Guilino

## Oak Grove Reaches for the Stars



About a month ago each child in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade gave a persuasive presentation on a planet or innovation in space. Their instructions were to persuade their classmates to vote for their project to get the Stellar Award for space innovation or aspect of the solar system. This is a real award that is given out each spring by NASA. Students nominated projects to be sent to NASA for review. NASA engineers looked over the projects and chose the top 5 projects. Each student received a personalized letter from NASA. The project was designed to get girls thinking about career opportunities in science, math, and technology

## **Blood Drive at James Evans ES**

On March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Student Council and Peer Mediation groups at James S. Evans Elementary collaborated to run their very first Blood Drive. The New York Blood Center worked closely with these two groups in order to educate and run a smooth and successful blood drive. The members of these groups, as well as the 6th graders of the school, were educated about the different types of blood, importance of donating, and the misconceptions many people have about donating. The members of Student Council and Peer Mediation created signs and posted them around the



school and grocery stores, such as Hannaford's and Stop and Shop in Wappingers Falls. Our "little doctors" ran the snack station and kept our patients feeling well and hydrated. Some welcomed patients and escorted them to the drive, others waved to cars while dressed as a blood drop, and others handed out personal thank you cards to everyone who attempted and those who did donate. What a show these "little doctors" put on!

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®

## Fishkill Plains Raising Money for 13 Years

More than 120 second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students at Fishkill Plains Elementary School participated in Saint Jude's Math-A-Thon to raise money for Saint Jude Children's Hospital. During the



Math-A-Thon, students sign up sponsors who will donate money for each math question they get correct. There are about 200 problems in each book. After they finish answering the math questions in the book, they collect the money and turn it in to school. This year the students raised \$7,541 for Saint Jude Children's Hospital through the Math-A-Thon program.

In the last 13 years that Fishkill Plains Elementary has participated, they have raised \$103,983 for the hospital. We are so proud of our students. Miss Bitting's class raised the most money, with a grand total of \$794. Joseph Grassi in Miss Scalzo's class raised \$445 which was the most money for this school. In addition, Henry Boshart in Mrs. Wessel's class raised \$300.

# Senior Soccer Stars Sign with Schools

Congratulations to four teammates from the Roy C. Ketcham boys' soccer team who have signed letters of intent to play for four separate colleges next fall.

David Siriboe will be attending Marist College while teammate Eddie May will head to Bloomsburg University. Noah Robinson has signed to play at St. Jospeh's College while Dan loos has committed to SUNY Oneonta.



## Wappingers Boys' **Swimming Wins Big** at Beacon!

The Wappingers Boys' Swim team earned their second consecutive Conference 1 League 2 title Saturday, January 30th, at Beacon High School, scoring 513 points. Runner-up Lakeland/Panas scored 507.



Wappingers was led by two first place finishes. Jonathan Nunez won the 200 yard Freestyle (1:54.61) and Thomas McCaffrey won the 200 yard Individual Medley (2:04.28).

Thomas McCaffrey also placed second in the 100 yard Freestyle (50.79). Other second place finishers for Wappingers included Dylan Jorge in the 100 yard Butterfly (57.05), Brandon Vasquez in the 500 yard Freestyle (5:33.90) and Justin Lee in the 100 yard Breaststroke (1:07.43).

Jonathan Nunez placed third in the 100 yard Butterfly (57.71). Other third place finishers included Ian Koenig in the 200 yard Freestyle (2:02.58) and Jarrod Rizzi in both the 100 yard Freestyle (53.61) and 100 yard Breaststroke (1:08.37).

Congratulations to our players for their hard work and an amazing accomplishment!

# Wappingers Gymnastics Wins 1st Place in the League! Vau

The Wappingers Varsity Gymnastics Team took 1st place in the Divisional Championships on Monday at Odyssey Gymnastics in Mahopac scoring a 163.45. The team will advance to the Section 1 Championships to compete against Lakeland/Panas and Mahopac for the team title.

A very special congratulations to our individual qualifiers Cheylene Sura, Zoe Markou,

Cheyenne Attanasio, Sabrina Sura (Bronze Medalist All around); Jessica Healey, McKenna Farrere and the Vault (9.45); and All Around champion (36.125) Olivia Frederick.



Olivia Frederick (1st) Cheylene Sura (5<sup>th</sup>)

## **Uneven Bars**

Olivia Frederick (3rd)

#### **Balance Beam** Olivia Frederick (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Sabrina Sura (4th) Jessica Healey (5<sup>th</sup>)

#### **Floor**

Olivia Frederick(2<sup>nd</sup>) Sabrina Sura (4th) McKenna Farrere(5<sup>th</sup>)

#### **All Around**

Olivia Frederick(1st) Sabrina Sura (3<sup>rd</sup>)

## **Athletic Scholars**



At the end of each sports season, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) honors those teams that excel in the classroom. John Jay and Roy C. Ketcham high schools had several teams meet the requirements for receiving the honor of the Scholar/

Athlete Team Award for the 2015-2016 Winter Sports season.

Kurt Jesman, District Coordinator of Physical Education & Athletics February to compete in an All-Star said, "I would like to take this moment to congratulate and recognize our coaches and student-athletes for receiving the honor of the Scholar/Athlete Team Award for the 2015-2016 Sports Season. As we are all aware, a student-athlete must balance the roles of being a full-time student and a full-time athlete. They put a great deal of time into their studies and in their respective sports which is evident Bailey Hutchison Convention Center before in their grades and their success on the field.".

## Congratulations to the following John Jay teams:

Congratulations to the following John Jay teams:			
Fall:	Winter:	Spring:	
JJ Girls Volleyball	JJ Boys Basketball	JJ Baseball	
JJ Boys Cross Country	JJ Girls Basketball	WCSD Girls Golf	
JJ Cheerleading	JJ Boys Bowling	WCSD Boys Lacross	
JJ Football	JJ Girls Bowling	WCSD Girls Lacross	
JJ Field Hockey	JJ Cheerleading	JJ Softball	
JJ Girls Cross Country	JJ Boys Indoor Track	JJ Boys Track	
JJ Girls Swimming	JJ Girls Indoor Track	JJ Girls Track	
JJ Girls Soccer	WCSD Boys Swimming	JJ Boys Tennis	
JJ Girls Tennis	WCSD Gymnastics	JJ Boys Golf	
	JJ Wrestling		

#### Congratulations to the following Roy C. Ketcham teams: 2015-2016 Varsity Team Scholar Awards

**Boys Basketball** 

Girls Basketball

**Boys Indoor Track** Girls Indoor Track **WCSD Gymnastics** 

2013-2010 Varsity Tealii Scholar Awarus		
Baseball	Girls Swimming	
Softball	Cheerleading	
Wappingers Girls Lacrosse	Field Hockey	
Boys Tennis	Football	
Boys Track	Volleyball	
Girls Track	<b>Boys Cross Country</b>	
Boys Soccer	Girls Cross Country	
Girls Soccer	Tennis	

Roy C. Ketcham Cheerleaders Go to Dallas Roy C. Ketcham's cheerleading

team traveled to Dallas, Texas in National Championship. They placed 14th out of 23. More than 1,200 of the country's top cheerleading and dance teams participated.

The elite competition took place at the Kay more than 50,000 spectators.

The 25,000 cheerleaders and dancers who participated were from 35 U.S. states and eight countries. These teams have spent many months training and were judged on athletic skills, such as stunting and tumbling, along with their overall performance.





## **Athletic Accolades**

John Jay's Athletic Achievements (Spring 2015 and Fall, Winter 2016)

League Champions Teams: Softball, Girls Tennis, Field Hockey, Girls Soccer, Boys Bowling, Girls Bowling, WCSD Boys Swimming

**Section Champions:** Girls Soccer, Cheerleading, Boys Bowling

Individual All-State Athletes: Ryan Schumacher, Frankie DiFusco (Football) Randy Earl (Wrestling)

**Individual State Qualifiers:** Randy Earl, (Wrestling); Nicholas Pagan, John Bald, George Pacacha, Peter Cannizzo, Joseph Ginese, Tyler Krell (Boys Bowling); Victoria Pacacha, Jillian Burns, Alyssa Rubeo (Girls Bowling)

Individual All-Section Athletes: Samantha Fitzgerald, Jaimie Harvey (Softball); Antonio Pragana (Baseball); Travis Ventura, Jack Decker (WCSD Boys Lacrosse); Marissa Bennett (WCSD Girls Golf); Ryan Schumacher, Frank DiFusco, Andrew Anthony, Travis Contreras (Football); Ellie Reck (Field Hockey); Kevin Turi (Boys Soccer); Erin Thieller, Deanna Lomino (Girls Soccer); Samantha Fitzgerald, Maddie Barberan (Volleyball); Ryan Schumacher (Boys Basketball); Samantha Fitzgerald (Girls Basketball); Nicholas Pagan, John Bald, George Pacacha (Boys Bowling); Tyler Albis, Randy Earl, Eric Wakefield, Andrew Anthony (Wrestling)

#### **Individual All-Section Honorable Mention Athletes:**

Erika Flemmig, Bridgette Rooney, Tori Dixon (Softball); Brianna Durland (Girls Soccer); Andrew Anthony, Dashawn Greene, Josh Barr, Tyler Levene, Josh Edwards, Dylan Krycerick (Football);

Individual All-League Athletes: 52 Athletes for Spring 2015, 42 Athletes for Fall 2015, 41 Athletes for Winter 2015-16

**Poughkeepsie Journal All-Stars:** Kyle Hover (Boys Golf) Marissa Bennet, Allie Fischer, Brianna LoVerne (Girls Golf); Antonio Pragana (Baseball) Aaron Hamilton (Boys Track); Samantha Fitzgerald (Softball); Pia Krishnamurti, Likitha Kumar, Joelle Grady (Girls Tennis); Jessica Lasaponara, Dana Volk, Jessica Lasaponara (WCSD Girls Lacrosse); Jack Decker (WCSD Boys Lacrosse); Khiara Young, Deanna Newman, Alexandra Gusmano, Samantha Mosca, Erin Theiller (Girls Track and Field); Frank DiFusco, Travis Contreras, Ryan Schumacher, Andrew Anthony, Paul Bernasconi, C.J. D'Andrea, Danny Diedrich, Sal Ferrara, Logan O'Donnell, Jai'von Reynolds, Bailey Rodriguez, John Ryan, Bristol Smith, Anthony Wray (Football); Kevin Turi, Mike Ciardullo (Boys Soccer); Erin Thieller, Brianna Durland (Girls Soccer); Sean Murray (Boys Cross Country) Maddie Barberan (Volleyball); Aaron Hamilton (Boys Indoor Track); Khiara Young, Deanna Lomino, Erin Theiller, Rachel Williams (Girls Indoor Track); Tyler Albis, Randy Earl, Andrew Anthony, Paul Bernasconi, Marcus Andre, John Berbarian, Brendan Cullen, Matthew Fleischer, Ronny McCabe, Jack Ninos, Eric Wakefield (Wrestling); George Pacacha, John Bald, Joseph Ginese, Nick Pagan (Boys Bowling); Victoria Pacacha, Jillian Burns, Alyssa Rubeo (Girls Bowling); Marion Dietz, Samantha Fitzgerald, Alana Kroner, Claire Mosca. Samantha Mosca (Girls Basketball); Ryan Schumacher (Boys Basketball); Thomas McCaffrey, Christopher Allen, Dylan Jorge, Justin Lee, Craig Leslie, Jonathan Nunez, Jarrod Rizzi, Brandon Vasquez (WCSD Boys Swimming)

**Coach of the Year:** Christopher Greenwood (Girls Soccer); Kristen Perry (Field Hockey); Tim Kermani & Donde McIlwee (Boys and Girls Bowling)

## **Individual Highlights:**

Marissa Bennet Poughkeepsie Journal Girls Golfer of the Year **Ryan Schumacher** 

Section One Football overall Co-Offensive Back of the Year **Frank DiFusco** 

Poughkeepsie Journal Defensive Football Player of the Year Section One Football overall Co-Defensive Lineman of the Year Randy Earl Poughkeepsie Journal Wrestler of the Year **Victoria Pacacha** Poughkeepsie Journal Girls Bowler of the Year **George Pacacha** Poughkeepsie Journal Boys Bowler of the Year

# Driver Education

Two Summer Sessions
First Session Starts – June 27, 2016
Second Session Starts – July 25, 2016

This 48 hours of instruction leads to a NYS driver education certificate (MV285). This certificate, in most cases, assures students a reduction in their auto insurance for three years which practically covers the cost of the program. Students are also then eligible to receive their senior license at 17. **Applications are now available on the Wappingers website.** The cost is \$400

and is open to WCSD students. Students must be 16 years of age by the start of the first class and have a valid learner's permit. Applications are processed on a first registered, first served basis. **You must pre-register for these sessions.** Deadlines for acceptance of applications are listed on the website.

## Look for Driver Education Summer Class Schedule on the Wappingers website NOW!

Go to www.wappingersschools.org and click on the Driver Ed link or for more information call 298-5000, ext. 40130 or ext. 40137.

#### The

**Wappingers Central School District** 

Fine & Performing Arts Department presents



Saturday May 14, 10:00am-4:00pm Mesier Park, Wappingers Falls



# Offered through Wappingers Continuing Education

#### **FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES K - 12**

For complete details of each camp view our online Continuing Ed brochure.

Any questions call 298-5000, ext. 40130 or 40137

Last year we offered 50 weeks of summer camps. This year we are offering 80 weeks of camps.

## **Camps offered this summer include:**

More computer camps More weeks of Lego Robotics

Foreign Language Camps Sports Camps

More Music Camps More camps for 1st-3rd graders

More Art Camps Food, Crafts
Summer SAT/ACT STEM Camps
review classes

www.wcsdny.org click on Continuing Ed link- summer camp listings

For additional camps, specific times, locations, costs and grade levels, go to www.wappingersschools.org and click on Continuing Education

# Important District Announcement Regarding Megan's Law

"... From time to time local law enforcement officials will notify the District when an individual with a history of sex offenses against a child is being paroled or released into the community. Upon written request to the principal, notification will be provided by the principal to the community members who have made the request of the fact that such

an individual has been paroled or released into the community. Requests for particulars about the individual being released will be referred, at the request of local law enforcement, to the hotline number or the website provided . . "

1-800-262-3257

(www.criminaljustice.state.ny.us/index.htm)

NON-PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEWBURGH, NY PERMIT NO. 934



## GRADUATION DATES

**John Jay High School** 

Friday, June 24 — Mid-Hudson Civic Center, 6:30 p.m.

Roy C. Ketcham High School

Saturday, June 25 — Mid-Hudson Civic Center, 11:00 a.m.



## Tuesday, May 17, 2016 7:30 am – 9:00 pm

Fishkill Elementary • Fishkill Plains Elementary

Gayhead Elementary • Myers Corners Elementary • Vassar Road Elementary

Wappingers JHS

If this newsletter was mailed to you, please check the address label for your polling location or call 298-5000 ext. 40145