



The Beacon



Shining a light on the Baldwinsville Central School District

Issue 79

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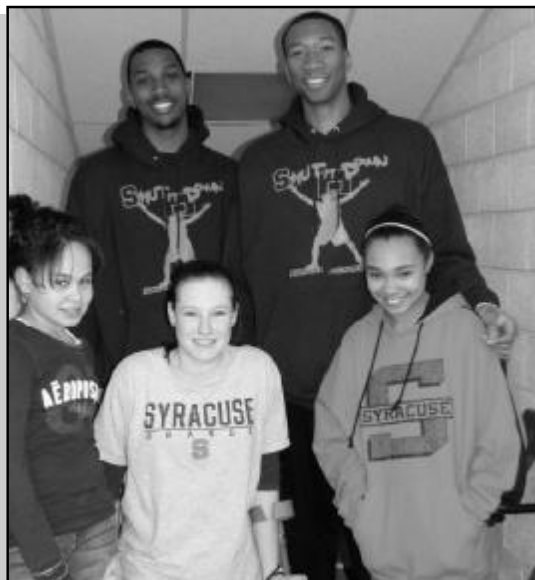
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NYS Senate Honors Fall Athletes; Assembly Honors Marching Band

Congratulations to the Baldwinsville boys' varsity volleyball team, girls' varsity volleyball team, varsity football team, and the boys' varsity soccer team! On March 4, Senator John DeFrancisco presented a resolution to the New York State Senate, honoring the teams for their achievements this past fall. Senator DeFrancisco invited the teams to be his guests in Albany for the day and to attend the reading of the resolution.

This fall the district's varsity girls' volleyball team won the regional championship and finished the state championship tournament in second place. The varsity football team won their regional championships and participated in the New York State semi-finals. The boys' varsity soccer team finished as co-regional champions and the boys' varsity volleyball team finished 5th in the NYS regional championship. All four teams won their Section II 2009 Championships to qualify for the regional and state tournaments.

Congratulations also to the Baldwinsville Marching Band! In February, New York State Assemblyman William Barclay presented senior band members with a proclamation from the Assembly, honoring the band for winning first place in the Large School 2 Division at the New York State Field Band Conference Championship Show, held at the Carrier Dome on November 1. The win at the Dome capped off the marching band's undefeated season.



Ray Middle School "Shut it Down" With Fundraiser in March

Syracuse University basketball players Kris Joseph (left) and Wes Johnson are greeted by (l to r) Mikayla Delgado, Colleen Hartman, and Tayah Carbonaro before a pep rally at Ray Middle School in March. The players, along with Coach Rob Murphy, visited Ray to thank the school for raising money for the Jim Boeheim Foundation with the school's "Shut it Down" fundraiser. At press time the school had sold 500 "Shut it Down" t-shirts, raising \$1,000 for the foundation. The fundraiser was coordinated by Team 6-1 and a committee of students and teachers.

President's Message



Victor Jenkins

2010-2011 Proposed Budget

As I write this (early March for printer deadline) the Board of Education is scheduled to adopt its proposed budget for 2010-2011 on April 5. You can view a PowerPoint presentation on the budget on the district's website at www.bville.org. On the homepage, click on the link to 2010-2011 budget documents. At the end of April, district residents will be mailed a special newsletter with detailed information on the budget and its components – program, capital and administrative. You will also be able to access the newsletter on the website.

Crafting a budget for 2010-2011 has been a daunting task for our staff, administrators, and Board of Education members. At all times we have kept one question in mind – “How do we protect instruction while keeping any tax increase to a minimum?”

On behalf of the Board of Education, thank you to everyone for your questions and comments on the budget. Community input is always essential to budget development. I hope you will attend the district's Public Budget Hearing, scheduled for May 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of Baker High School. The budget vote and school board elections will be held on May 18, from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the high school.

If you have any questions on the budget, please do not hesitate to contact me at vjenkins@bville.org, or any other Board of Education member. You can find members' email addresses on the Board's page on the district website.

Honoring Student and Staff Achievement

The highlight of every Board meeting is the President's Spotlight, because it provides the Board of Education with an opportunity to publicly recognize student and staff achievements. I, along with the entire Board and Superintendent Dangle, have been privileged to honor music students, art students, athletes and coaches, spelling bee participants, and Eagle Scouts so far this school year. Our students and staff are always striving to do their best, in the classroom and outside the classroom, as they represent the Baldwinsville Central School District. Of course, student achievement would not be possible without the support of dedicated staff members, parents and the whole school district community. Thank you for supporting the school district and its students. After each Board meeting you can review a list of the individuals honored at the meeting by visiting the district's website. At the top of the home page, under the Board of Education heading, just click on President's Spotlight.

New Design for Website

Speaking of the website, have you seen the new design? It went live at the beginning of March. Staff members have redesigned the site to make it easier to find information.

On behalf of the Board of Education,

Victor Jenkins, President

BUDGET HEARING
May 11 - 7:00 p.m.
Baker High School Cafeteria

BUDGET VOTE
May 18 - 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Baker High School Auditorium

Notice of Availability of Asbestos Management Plans

As provided under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, (AHERA-EPA 40 CFR 763), the Baldwinsville Central School District hereby makes known the steps it has undertaken to comply with AHERA and the availability of asbestos management plans.

1. Beginning in 1989, all district owned facilities were inspected for asbestos and management plans were developed for each building according to the requirements of AHERA. Reinspections are conducted by the district every three years. OCM BOCES of Syracuse, NY completed the 2010 AHERA triennial inspection and update to the asbestos management plans.

2. Periodic surveillance of asbestos-containing building materials is conducted every six months.

3. All custodial and maintenance staff have undergone two-hour asbestos awareness training.

4. All response actions taken are within federal and state guidelines.

Management plans may be viewed at the district facilities offices from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, contact Steven Rosenberger, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, at 638-6100.

Summary Report of Pesticide Application

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year. Required notifications were sent out at the time of application.

The following pesticide applications took place at the marching band field during the 2009-2010 school year:

Application Date: July 30, 2009 and August 10, 2009

Application Location: Trees off Durgee parking lot and Field 6

Product used: Riverdale Razor Pro & Sulfometuron Methyl

EPA Pesticide Registration Number: EPA # 228-366 & DPX-T5648

As a reminder, the district is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list. If you have not yet registered to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete and submit the form on the district website.

For further information on these requirements, the school pesticide representative, Steve Rosenberger, Superintendent of Buildings and Ground, may be reached at 638-6100.

Update on Key Communicators' Network

The Baldwinsville Central School District's Key Communicators' Network met in January to review the district's accomplishments in expanding its communications with the Baldwinsville community since the network's initial meeting in September. Superintendent Jeanne Dangle explained that these accomplishments were based on suggestions from the Key Communicators regarding what the group viewed as important district issues that needed to be addressed and how they could be communicated to the community. She noted that the group had suggested making the district website more user friendly with additional information on the site regarding state test scores, population trends, and other historical data. Superintendent Dangle showed the group the new page on the website listing historical data. She also reviewed a new page that provides visitors to the site with a list of who in the district to contact to ask questions, make suggestions, and discuss any problems.

She then showed the group the new design of the website. It has a new online calendar for the district that will feature all of the events in the district. Each school also has its own calendar listing events.

The group had suggested that the district conduct more community meetings and presentations to discuss important issues such as the budget and student safety. Based on the network's suggestion, a community meeting on drug trends was held in November, and a community meeting on

Internet safety was held in January. The district also held several forums in February to receive community feedback on the academic component of the district's Long Range Plan.

In the fall, in response to Key Communicators' concerns, the district developed questions and answers regarding the H1N1 virus and its affect on the district. Superintendent Dangle said the district kept the community up-to-date on the virus through the district website, newsletter, and ConnectEd messages. Superintendent Dangle said she has been using the ConnectEd service more frequently to disseminate timely information to the school district community, and she is working to determine how best to create a balance for utilizing the service without overusing it.

Superintendent Dangle then asked the members for suggestions on what other issues the district should address. Suggestions included:

- a Incorporating driver's education back into the curriculum or inform parents where and how their children can sign up for this course in the community;
- a Ensure and increase parental involvement in students' selection of courses at the high school level;
- a Create a safer traffic flow at all schools, particularly during drop-off and pick-up times to ensure student safety;

a Provide opportunities for Participation in Government hours for community service; and

a Determine how to communicate better with community members who do not have Internet access.

The group currently consists of about 300 people who receive timely emails from the Superintendent with information to share with other community members. If you would like to be added to the group, please visit www.bville.org/emailregistration/ and follow the directions to be added to the email list serve. The group will meet next on June 15, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of Baker High School. The meeting's topic will be how to develop a tool to measure the district's communications with the community.

**Want to receive
informational
emails from
Superintendent Dangle?**

**Sign up at
[www.bville.org/
emailregistration/](http://www.bville.org/emailregistration/)**

District News

B'ville Mayor Speaks at Reynolds Elementary

Joseph Saraceni, the mayor of the Village of Baldwinsville, speaks with third-graders at Reynolds Elementary School about his role in local government. Students had been studying government, and the mayor's visit helped to reinforce the information they had learned about the purposes of government and laws. Mayor Saraceni told students the most important way for them to participate in government is to vote when they are old enough.



Illustrator Visits Van Buren

At Van Buren Elementary School, award-winning illustrator James Ransome autographs a copy of "Under the Quilt of Night," which he illustrated. (Left to right) Justin Johnson, Robert Soutar, Briannah Olney and Nicole Morrow patiently wait for him to autograph their books. Ransome recently spent a day at the school, talking with students about his work and the process of illustrating a book. His visit was sponsored by the school's PTA.



McNamara Students Embrace Character Education

At the start of this school year, McNamara Elementary School revised its character education program by adding an academic component to support learning while reinforcing positive traits for students to emulate. Principal Jane Nadolski said students and staff have embraced the school's new approach to character education, which now provides students in kindergarten through fifth grade with more opportunities to hone their writing skills and creates a connection between learning and community service.

Each month, Nadolski visits as many classrooms as she can and reads students a book that highlights the character education trait of the month. She calls it the Principal's Book of the Month. Due to the generosity of McNamara's PTA, every classroom has each book of the month in its library so that all students have easy access to the book should they wish to read it themselves or should the teacher wish to review it with the class. "We're one big book club at McNamara," Nadolski said.



Principal Jane Nadolski reads to kindergartners at McNamara Elementary School.

Every month students in all grades at McNamara are asked to create a response to that month's featured book. Nadolski said responses have included essays, posters, charts and graphs. The purpose of the response

is to have students use their critical thinking skills to evaluate the literature, which strengthens their reading comprehension skills. Then students use their writing skills to interpret the story and make a connection between the literature and real life. This activity supports the district's kindergarten through fifth-grade writing program while simultaneously reinforcing positive character traits.

The school displays student work on a dedicated bulletin board in the main lobby, as well as in the hallways outside classrooms and in the classrooms. Nadolski said that before the Principal's Book of the Month, not all of the school's classrooms had a connection to the character trait of the month the way they do this school year. Previously, a different grade level would be responsible each month for creating statements reflecting on the monthly character trait and sharing these during morning announcements to inform the school of the trait. With the Principal's Book of the Month, all grades actively participate in the program. "The whole school embraces the trait each month," said Nadolski.

The character education program is extending beyond the school walls as McNamara's character education committee develops and implements service learning projects for each grade level. The committee's vision is to provide community service opportunities for each grade level by collaborating with agencies in Baldwinsville and the Syracuse area. The main goal of partnering with agencies is to connect community service to learning while filling unmet needs in the community. Class projects for the agencies would require students to use their skills in planning, teamwork, math, writing, technology, social studies, and critical thinking to serve community needs. For example, the second grade has partnered with the Golisano Children's Hospital. Planned projects include decorating book bags for the children who attend school while in the hospital, as well as using computer and technology skills to create bookmarks for the children.

District News

Middle School Students Learn Internet Safety

School Resource Officer Christine Weeks, right, speaks with seventh-graders at Ray Middle School about Internet safety. For the last two years Weeks has been giving a similar presentation in all of the health classes at Durgee Junior High School. Because students have access to Internet social sites and cell phones at a younger age, Officer Weeks and Ray's principal, Geoffrey Morton, felt a presentation outlining the dangers students face would be appropriate for seventh-graders.

During her presentation, Weeks explained to students that any information they share over the Internet will be there "forever," so it's particularly important for them to consider how the information may affect them in the future before they hit the send button. Is it something they would not want their parents to see or read? Is it something that may embarrass them in the future when they are applying to college or for jobs? Could their messages ever be considered harassment? Do they know who they are communicating with at social sites?

Weeks also discussed sexting, which is the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photos electronically, primarily between cell phones. Possessing or disseminating this material is a felony when the photos are of individuals under the age of 18. Many students are not aware that this is a crime. Weeks said they view it as another form of flirting.

At Baker High School, School Resource Officer Martin Knaul speaks to students periodically about Internet safety as well as cell phones and sexting. He visits classrooms upon the request of teachers.

Officers Weeks and Knaul are available to answer any questions or concerns you may have about Internet safety and sexting. You can reach Officer Weeks at cweeks@bville.org and 638-6086. You can contact Officer Knaul at knaul@bville.org and 638-5610 with your questions.

This winter, the district held an Internet safety presentation for community members. The presenter, Detective Shanna Martin of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department, recommended that parents visit the following websites for information: www.netsmartz.org, www.connectsafely.org, and www.netling.com/acronyms.php. If you'd like to speak with Detective Martin, contact her at 435-2351, or smartin@ongov.net.



District Adopts Concussion Management Policy

Currently New York State is reviewing legislation regarding student athletes and brain injuries. If passed, this legislation will require school districts to establish guidelines for concussions, and it will require mandatory training on brain injuries for coaches. Because the Baldwinsville Central School District believes in the importance of being proactive to protect student health and safety, the district recently adopted a new concussion management policy that reflects current international standards and ensures that athletes return to play only when it is safe to do so. The district recognizes that a concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury that can last for days, weeks, or even months, and returning an athlete to play before his or her brain has healed can lead to serious complications.

The district has created a protocol for district coaches, trainers, physical education teachers, and nurses to follow to determine when an athlete (or any student) can return to play after exhibiting the signs or symptoms of a concussion. The district's supervising medical officers, Kaushal Nanavati, M.D., district physician, and Julie Carpenter, FNP, school nurse supervisor, as well as a committee of school nurses, trainers

and coaches and Bruce Quimby, director of athletics, developed this protocol in conjunction with concussive experts in Central New York, including Brian Rieger, Ph.D., director of Upstate Medical University's concussion clinic. The protocol was effective as of November 2, 2009, and will be followed in all cases of suspected concussion or head injury, not just those sustained in athletic events.

According to the protocol, when a student displays signs or symptoms of a concussion, or is suspected to have a brain injury after an evaluation by medical personnel or an athletic trainer at the time of the incident:

1. The student will not be allowed to return to play/activity in the current game or practice.
2. The student should not be left alone, and regular monitoring for deterioration is essential over the initial few hours following injury.
3. Following the initial injury, the student must follow up with his or her primary care physician or an emergency department within the first 24 hours.
4. The student must have the "Initial Concussion Checklist by Athletic Trainer or Coach/Nurse" and the "Concussion Checklist Physician Evaluation"

signed and dated by the primary care physician or hospital emergency department. These forms must be returned to either the athletic trainer or school nurse.

5. Return to play must follow a medical clearance and successful completion of the "Return to Play Protocol."
6. The athletic trainer will supervise and document the "Return to Play Protocol." The school district's appointed physician has the final determination for a student's return to play status.

These guidelines will be implemented in the district in all cases involving head injuries or in cases for which staff members observe symptoms related to concussions. All district coaches, athletic trainers, nurses, physical education teachers, and club advisors will follow the "Return to Play/Activity Protocol" to ensure our students' safety and well-being. The district will review the protocol annually and make changes to it when necessary. The district has reached out to youth sports coaches in the local area to provide them with information on the district's concussion policy as well as the latest information and recommendations on concussions from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

District News

Department Spotlight - School Nurses

The role of the school health office has changed dramatically over the years. Gone are the days of the doting nurse doling out bandages for minor scrapes and giving comforting hugs to tearful children. Baldwinville's school nurses do this and so much more. The scope of a school nurse's responsibilities has evolved to include:

- 4 Providing first aid and nursing care to students and staff as needed;
- 4 Management of health appraisals including assisting with physicals, sports physicals and work permits;
- 4 Providing insight to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) on challenges a student may face;
- 4 Providing state reporting on immunizations and weight status;
- 4 Tracking communicable diseases, such as the incidence of the H1N1 virus in our district;
- 4 Screenings for vision, hearing and scoliosis;
- 4 Medication administration and management;
- 4 Staff training on emergency medications;
- 4 Developing care plans for students with more complex medical problems;
- 4 Providing wellness information to staff, students and families;
- 4 Assisting families in obtaining health care and insurance;
- 4 Maintaining safety standards within the school; and
- 4 Providing a safe atmosphere and someone to talk to if a student is hav-

ing a difficult time.

So far this school year, visits to the health offices in our schools have increased by nearly 2000 visits over last year's visits, for a total of over 24,000 visits so far this year. The H1N1 virus accounts for some of this increase, but according to Julie Carpenter, FNP, the district's school nurse supervisor, in general the offices are seeing more students with medically complex issues, such as juvenile diabetes, asthma and food allergies. Carpenter oversees the district's nurses, ensuring state regulations and mandates are met in the health offices, and she serves as a clinical consultant for the nurses. She performs about 1,000 physicals for students and staff each year. Each school building has a registered nurse staffing the health office every day, and Ray Middle School, Durgee Junior High School and Baker High School have a health aide on staff as well to meet the needs of students.

Carpenter says the district's health care staff is dedicated to ensuring student health and safety to support the learning process. She and her staff would like parents to know that they are there to assist students and their families. She encourages parents to call their child's school nurse if they have any questions or concerns regarding their child's health needs at school.

Baldwinsville Public Library Budget Vote Set for April 29

Baldwinsville Central School District residents who are 18 years old or older and have resided in the district for at least 30 days prior to April 29 are eligible to vote on the Baldwinville Public Library budget for 2010-2011. The library's annual budget vote and trustee election will be held on Thursday, April 29, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the library at 33 East Genesee Street. Details will be available in "The Post-Standard" and the "Messenger" in April and printed copies of the budget will be available at area banks, village and town offices, and in the library prior to the budget vote. Voters will also have an opportunity to cast their ballots for one trustee: the five-year term for the seat of Susan Downey is open.

The Library Board of Trustees meets regularly once a month and is responsible for policy and general supervision of library finances. Trustee candidates must also be U.S. citizens and 18 years of age or older and have been Baldwinville School District residents for at least 30 days. Current Board members are Barbara Aitken, President; Nelson Butler, Vice-President; Donna Arseneau, Susan Downey, Bruce King, Jacqueline Olmsted, and Robert Manning.

DARE Program at Elden

School Resource Officer Christine Weeks is surrounded by Elden Elementary School fifth-graders (left to right) Lauren Hummel, Abigail Monica, Maddy Kaye and Joshua Racha. The teaching staff chose these students to read essays they wrote about drug and alcohol abuse at the fifth-grade D.A.R.E. graduation held in January. D.A.R.E. stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. Officer Weeks visited the fifth-grade classrooms for ten weeks to teach students about the dangers of substance abuse as well as how to avoid violent situations.



A Musical Tale at Van Buren

Third-graders (left to right) Cydney MacConaghy and Candace Kim play bears, Owen Bauer plays the Tortoise, and Maddy Butchko is the Hare in Van Buren Elementary School's musical production of "Race to the Finish." The students performed a musical version of the classic tale of the tortoise and hare for family and friends in February.



Students Spend Break Helping Others

Baker Students Travel to Central America

Sisters Hannah and Nora Murphy, students at Baker High School, spent their winter break in the sunshine of Central America, but not sunbathing. The sisters were too busy helping to build a school for two communities in El Salvador. As the temperature soared to 100 degrees on some days, they schlepped buckets full of dirt to the construction site in order to build up the base of the school. Later they helped put a roof on the building.

The Murphy sisters traveled to El Salvador with a group from Holy Cross Church in Dewitt. Hannah, a senior, said they wanted to go to simply help out. "Even though we were going to a small community every little thing we did helped," she said. This was her second time making the trip and the first time for Nora, who is a junior. Both sisters are studying Spanish, so they were able to converse with members of the communities they were helping. Hannah said when the group arrived this year, many community members were waiting with signs to greet them and thank them for coming back. Hannah said that, after traveling to another part of the world, she and Nora realize how much Americans take for granted, particularly educational opportunities.

Durgee 8th Graders Rap for the Red Cross



Four Durgee eighth-graders donated a day of their winter break to make a video to promote the American Red Cross of Central New York's retail products. (Left to right) Chelsea Gell, Tessa Minardi, Jamie Robinson, and Annie Simmons performed a rap for the video, which is now on YouTube. On the site, search for Red Cross Rap to find the video. Jamie's mother, Patrice, a marketing assistant with the Red Cross, pitched the video project to the girls and wrote the rap.

B'ville Winter Scholar Athletes

Eight of Baldwinsville's winter athletic teams qualified for recognition from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) for outstanding academic achievement. In order to qualify a team has to have a team composite average ranked above 90%. Congratulations to the following teams that qualified:

- 4 Girls' varsity indoor track;
- 4 Boys' varsity indoor track;
- 4 Girls' varsity basketball;
- 4 Girls' varsity bowling;
- 4 Boys' varsity ice hockey;
- 4 Boys' varsity swimming;
- 4 Boys' varsity basketball; and
- 4 Boys' varsity wrestling.

Although NYSPHSAA does not recognize all the sports that Baldwinsville offers, based on our local criteria, the winter varsity cheerleaders qualified for the award as well.

Winter Athletic Achievement

Wrestlers Win Championship

Congratulations to the boys' varsity wrestling team and Coach Ken Brown! The team finished its season as the Section III, Class A Champions in February, and Coach Brown was named the Class A Wrestling Coach of the Year. The team also won the Division I Team Sportsmanship Award.

Anthony Finocchiaro, a sophomore on the team, participated in the State Wrestling Championships at the end of February, making it to the quarterfinals.

Runners Compete at States

Congratulations to Brian Kane and Rudy Sapp, members of the boys' indoor track team! Both competed in the New York State Indoor Track Championships, held at the beginning of March at Cornell University. Sapp competed in the 55 meter dash and came in 22nd in the preliminary round. Kane competed in the high jump and won 2nd place in the NYSPHSAA Championships and 3rd place in the New York State Federations. He was also the recipient of the Section III Boys' Sportsmanship Award.

Student Achievement

Durgee Students Win Essay Contest

Three Durgee Junior High School eighth-graders have received awards in the local portion of the Elks Americanism Essay Contest. The contest was sponsored by the Liverpool Elks Lodge 2348. Students had to answer the question, "The American Dream - What is It?" Katie Grabowski received first place in the contest. Sean Barron placed second, and Steven Li placed third. Their essays were entered in the Elks' district level of the contest. At this level, the students all placed again. Sean Barron received first place, Katie Grabowski received second place, and Steven Li was the third place winner at this level. All of the students' essays have moved on to the state level of the competition.



Durgee students (l to r) Steven Li, Katie Grabowski and Sean Barron with their teacher Tim Morgan

Ray Hydroponics Team Grows Lettuce

At Ray Middle School, (l to r) seventh-graders Rachel Miller, Jeremy Schutz, and Cicely Ekross make up the technology department's hydroponic/aquaponic team. Since the beginning of the school year the trio has been maintaining Ray's hydroponic and aquaponic systems during their studyhalls. On a daily basis they clean fish tank filters, feed the fish and care for and harvest plants. They're growing hydroponic lettuce to sell to the school's staff members to raise money that will fund an educational summer trip to Oswegatchie Camp in the Adirondacks.



Photo by Maurice Lepine

Palmer's Top Readers

During Palmer Elementary School's PARP program, students who read the most minutes for each grade were (l to r) Cameron Brennan, kindergarten; Taylor Collins, first grade; James Andren, second grade; David Teska, third grade; Jonathan Bond, fourth grade; and Madelyn Walikis, fifth grade. The theme for the three month PARP program was "Reading is Out of This World." Palmer students read a total of 434,709 minutes, which is roughly 7,245 hours!



New Service Club at Ray

Ray Middle School has a new service club for students to join. The school established a chapter of the Kiwanis Builders Club, and 25 members have been busy this school year performing projects to benefit the school and the community, including a food drive, making cookies for staff members during the holidays, and donating activity books to the Golisano Children's Hospital. As students build up the community with their activities and help others in need, they are learning valuable leadership skills that they will carry over into junior high school and beyond.



This February, the club spent two weeks collecting change to donate to the American Red Cross for the Haitian earthquake victims. They also sold paper hearts for their classmates to decorate with Valentine messages for friends. Students displayed the hearts on Ray's library windows. Above (l to r) Jordan Meyer, Ashley Walton, and Nicole Spinella purchase hearts from Kiwanis Builders Club members Warren Babcock and Andrew Reith.

Engineering Workshop at Baker

Angelina De Sain, left, an eighth-grader at Durgee Junior High School, works on soldering components of a reaction tester with the help of Baker High School



student Amanda Ingersoll. De Sain was participating in the seventh annual Girls in Engineering Workshop held at the high school in January, and Ingersoll was one of several high school students acting as mentors. The high school's technology department designed the workshop to encourage female students to think about pursuing engineering courses when they enter high school, as well as to consider a career in engineering or another field in math or science.

Student Achievement

Helping Haiti

Students across the school district demonstrated their compassion this winter as they raised money for the victims of the earthquake that rocked Haiti in January.

Palmer Elementary School collected \$1,196.86 in loose change to donate to the American Red Cross. The school's fourth grades created signs and announcements to promote Palmer's fund raising efforts.

At Van Buren Elementary School, fifth-graders established a Help Haiti Council, made up of a representative from each fifth-grade classroom. Using their leadership skills, the group coordinated a school-wide penny drive, as well as two Hats for Haiti days.

A group of Elden Elementary School students got the ball rolling at the school to raise money. At right (l to r), Gabrielle Blais, Alyssa Jenkins, Ellyn Gibbs, Mason Smith, and Mackenzie Bruen (not pictured) developed the slogan "Help Haiti Smile," and it was the group's idea to collect loose change in a large jug during lunches. They also coordinated a Hats for Haiti day.

At Reynolds Elementary School, the school's Caring Kids group organized a penny drive in March for the Haitian relief efforts. The group is made up of students in grades third through fifth.

Jill Gravante's earth science students at Durgee Junior High School collected \$89 in change for the American Red Cross and the school's freshman council held a school-wide fund raiser. Ray Middle School's Builders' Club collected loose change and Baker High School's French club sold chocolate lollipops to raise money (please see related articles on page 8 and below).



Palmer fourth-graders (l to r) Alec Williams, Jocelyn Pond, Claudia Fuller, and Addison Hornsey present Marie Madero, Assistant Community Ambassador with the American Red Cross, with the change the school collected for Haiti.



McNamara Fourth Graders Publish Book



Students in teacher Jessica Ancona's fourth-grade class at McNamara Elementary School are now published authors with a book of their personal narratives in print. The book is the result of a writing unit in which the students were studying personal narratives. Ancona's students wrote several pieces as they were learning the genre and its different elements such as dialogue, descriptive detail, and the editing and revision process. She had each child pick his or her favorite narrative and draw an illustration for it. Ancona then compiled the narratives into one classroom book, which she had printed as hardbound books for each child through the company Student Treasures. When the books were delivered to McNamara, students couldn't wait to take them home to show their families. The book publishing was a celebration of their hard work and writing talents.

Baker French Club Active in Community Service

The 80 members of Le Cercle Français, Baker High School's French club, have been actively involved in several service projects this year, most recently two to benefit Haiti. At right, (l to r) Emily Brissenden, Tom Honsinger, Colleen Murphy, Erin Lawlor, Mike Cariglio, Calee Wilson, Shelby Squire, Frankie Libbon and Sarah Mitchell make chocolate rose lollipops to sell for Valentine's Day in order to raise money for Haitian earthquake victims. In March, the club also hosted a concert for the Central New York Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French, featuring Québécoise singer Josée Vachon. Le Cercle Français donated all profits to Partners in Health, a Haitian relief organization.



Photo provided by Le Cercle Français

Student Achievement

Ray & Palmer Students Selected for Music Fest

Eleven sixth-graders from Ray Middle School and two fifth-graders from Palmer Elementary School were selected to perform in the OCMEA Elementary All-County Music Festival, held at Corcoran High School on March 5 & 6.

Students selected from Palmer are Julie Abbott and Elisabeth Goulding. They performed with the All-County Chorus. Students from Ray are: Morgan Shibel, Julia Goodwin, Marcus Grabowski, Marina Maddaloni, and Colin Talty, chorus; Kathryn Terasaka, Brianna Root, and Eugene Kim, orchestra; and Isabella May, Brittany LaRock and Kevin Niedzwecki, band.



Elisabeth Goulding (left) and Julie Abbott, fifth-graders at Palmer Elementary School, were selected for the Elementary All-County Chorus.



Ray students (back, l to r) Eugene Kim, Kathryn Terasaka, Brianna Root, Kevin Niedzwecki, Isabella May, (front, l to r) Marina Maddaloni, Julia Goodwin, Morgan Shibel, Colin Talty, and Marcus Grabowski

Chorus Students Selected for Jazz Ensemble



Five students from Baker High School were invited to perform with the all-county vocal jazz ensemble in the OCMEA Jazz Festival, held March 26 and 27 at Skaneateles High School. They are (back, l to r): Nicholas Augello, tenor; Brian Scott, bass; Marissa McLean, alto; (seated, l to r) Ashley Squairs, soprano and Emily Gell, soprano.

Band Students Attend All-State



Six band students from Baker High School performed in the NYSSMA Senior High School Area All-State Music Festival, held February 5 & 6 at Ithaca College. They are (l to r) Kaitlyn Allen, clarinet; Ezra Kim, trumpet; Benjamin Bardenett, trombone; Brianna Hoige, percussion; Jeremy Bossert, tuba and Timothy Richards, trumpet.

Winners in Reynolds Art Competition

In February, Reynolds Elementary School honored students who received awards in the school portion of the National PTA Reflections Program. Students created works in literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts, and film production, based on the theme, "Beauty Is..."

The winners were:

Literature

K – 2

2nd place - Sydnie Bartkowiak (2nd grade)

1st place - Gwen Madden (1st grade)

3 – 5

3rd place - Madison Vanelli (3rd grade)

2nd place - Mikaela McGivney (5th grade)

1st place - Graisa Madden (4th grade)

Art

K – 2

3rd place - Sydnie Bartkowiak (2nd grade)

2nd place - Joe Rogers (2nd grade)

1st place - Tanner Lotito (K)

3 – 5

3rd place - Ryan Nelson (4th grade)

2nd place - Carly Patrick (5th grade)

1st place - Kati Herbs (5th grade)

Student Achievement

2010 CNY Scholastic Art Awards

Congratulations to the following students from Baker High School, Durgee Junior High School, and Ray Middle School who received awards in the 2010 CNY Scholastic Art Awards Competition, sponsored by M&T Bank:

GOLD KEY

Baker High School

Rachel Beneway - Film & Animation
Christine Clifton - Photography
Victoria Connor - Photography Portfolio
Lydia Darling - Film & Animation
Anthony Newkirk - Fine Arts Portfolio & Sculpture
Morgan O'Donnell-Curry - Fine Arts Portfolio
Elizabeth Sawyer - Photography

Ray Middle School

Rachel Dibble - Mixed Media



Baker High School students who received Scholastic Art awards are (back, l to r) Christine Clifton, Erica Miller, Morgan O'Donnell-Curry, Sharon Wolff, Michael Alexander, Alexandra Catalino, Francesca Libbon, Ayden Karn-Waite, Alexa Vecchio, Dustin Beauchene, Melinda Davis, Matthew Zarzecki, (front, l to r) Kelly Novak, Elizabeth Sawyer, Rebecca Roach, Brianna Stewart, Lana Vecchiarelli, and Carrie Hack. Missing are Anthony Newkirk and Victoria Connor.

SILVER KEY

Baker High School

Michael Alexander - Photography
Alexandra Catalino - Photography
Victoria Connor - Fashion
Anthony Newkirk - Sculpture
Alexa Vecchio - Photography
Nicholas Welch - Film & Animation

Durgee Junior High School

Molly Makowiec - Drawing

Ray Middle School

Rachel Dibble - Sculpture



Durgee Jr. High student Molly Makowiec received a Silver Key Award for her drawing.



Ray Middle School students Rachel Dibble, left, and Caitlin Barron, received awards for their artwork.

HONORABLE MENTION

Baker High School

Dustin Beauchene	Morgan O'Donnell-Curry
Christine Clifton	Rebecca Roach
Melinda Davis	Brianna Stewart
Carrie Hack	Lana Vecchiarelli
Ayden Karn-Waite	Alexa Vecchio
Francesca Libbon	Nicholas Welch
Erica Miller	Sharon Wolff
Anthony Newkirk	Matthew Zarzecki
Kelly Novak	

Ray Middle School

Caitlin Barron

Art Competition continued from pg. 10

Photography

K - 2

3rd place - Sydnie Bartkowiak (2nd grade)

2nd place - Maya Taisey (K)

1st place - Grace Yerdon (K)

3 - 5

3rd place - Carly Patrick (5th grade)

2nd place - Carly Patrick (5th grade)

1st place - Cooper Pyle (3rd grade)

Dance

K - 2

1st place - Allison Hunt (2nd grade)

Film

3 - 5

3rd place - Catharine Ficarra (5th grade)

2nd place - Laura Kick (4th grade)

1st place - Erica Monaco (4th grade)

Calendar

April 2	NO SCHOOL - Good Friday
April 19 - 23	NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
April 26	ELA Testing - Grades 3, 4 & 6
April 27	ELA Testing - Grades 3-8
April 28	ELA Testing - Grades 4-8
May 5	Math Assessments - Grades 3 & 4 and 6-8
May 6	Math Assessments - Grades 3-8
May 7	Math Assessments - Grades 4 & 5
May 11	PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING 7:00 p.m., Baker Cafeteria
May 18	BUDGET VOTE 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Baker Auditorium
May 24 - June 1	4th Grade Science Performance Test - check with your school for the date
May 28	1/2 DAY OF SCHOOL - Professional Development Day

Winter & Spring Break, 2011

The district has scheduled winter break for the 2010-2011 school year for February 21 -25, 2011. Spring break is scheduled for April 18-22, 2011. Visit the district's website at www.bville.org and click on calendars to see the entire school calendar for 2010-2011.

Class of 1957 Scholarship

SUNY Canton announces the Baldwinsville High School Class of 1957 Scholarship, which is offered only to Baker High School students who are entering the air conditioning engineering technology program at SUNY Canton. The scholarship will provide full tuition for two years. For more information, contact the admission's office at 800-388-7123.

BALDWINSVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Baldwinsville Central School District

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School News For
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