# June 2015

As we come to the end of the 2014-2015 school year, join us in celebrating our graduates and enjoy a few highlights from this vear's achievements.

### NOT AFRAID TO TAKE THE PLUNGE!



volunteered many hours, and established a new Special Olympics team for Salt Point Center students.

Six athletes participated in

basketball skills at a Special

Olympics event held at Marist

For the second year, a BOCES team jumped into icy waters at the Special Olympics Polar Plunge, raising more than \$5,500 to support the organization. The team was awarded a trophy for being the top school fundraiser.

College this spring. They came away with medals, honor certificates, and joy. Under their nurturing coaches' watchful eyes, the athletes practiced basketball skills every other day for four months before the competition.

The brave team included: Erin Scott (4<sup>th</sup> year) Al Berti (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Eric Hirsch (2<sup>nd</sup> year) CJ Kelly (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Mitchell Shron (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Joanne Williams (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Ray Campanaro (1st year) Jim Fitzmaurice (1st year)

for the day," said teacher Erin Scott. "It was a really nice home-to-school out in the community. The families

All money raised directly supports the athletes in the Hudson Valley Region. This year, the event was even more rewarding because several Dutchess BOCES educators received training,

"The families all came and staved contact and it was great to see the kids loved watching the students succeed."



The hope is to expand the program next year to include bowling and to have more students participate. Anyone interested in joining the Polar Plunge team for the next jump on February 21, 2016 should contact Erin Scott.

### **SPC Athletes**

Niomi Gold Medal

DeMari Clarke 5th Place Honor

Hayden Maegerle Two 5<sup>th</sup> Place Honors

Tristin Moe Silver Medal

Malcolm Lewis 4th Place Honors

### Special Olympic Coaches

Eric Hirsch Sam Rivera Erin Scott Maria Sita Tracey Smith Lisa Wilson

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## raduation 2015

The Alternative High School (AHS) honored 35 students at its 2015 Commencement held June 12th. Graduate speakers Shannon Kelly and James Zenette offered their classmates

**AHS GRADUATION & HIGHLIGHTS** 

inspiring remarks during the ceremony. AHS students experienced rich learning experiences both inside and outside of the classroom during the 2014-15 school year. Volunteer activities and academic projects augmented more traditional classroom instruction to provide students with challenging, enjoyable opportunities.

Teacher Dion King served on the school's Incentive Committee with many others, which coordinated the end-of-year school trip to Lake Compounce in Connecticut. Students and chaperones enjoyed a fun, sunny day at the amusement park. Earlier in the year, students stayed closer to home, but also enjoyed the outdoors and breathtaking views when they visited the Walkway Over Hudson State Historic Park.

In the classroom, AHS welcomed a new teaching tool, Reading Plus, to enhance English language arts instruction. Art teacher Caroline Van Wagner collaborated with Mr. Coleman on an art project that was included in his Global 1 unit on geography and culture in Africa. Students were assigned to use their creativity to make African masks.



Mary Lynn Valis, teaching assistant, and many other staff members spent many rewarding hours coordinating the Helping Hands Committee. The group completed many charitable efforts to benefit the community including knitting lap guilts for the Lutheran Care Center residents,

stuffing envelopes for a Dutchess Outreach fundraiser and volunteering to serve at the Lunch Box, a soup kitchen in Poughkeepsie.

Shakespeare came to life in Jim Fraser's class. The culminating project of the Shakespeare unit was the performance of famous scenes and the recitation of well-known lines from "Hamlet." Students created props, choreographed scenes and demonstrated a deep understanding of the play. There was a greater appreciation for the lines "To be or not to be" and "To thine own self be true" after the performances.

"The entire staff is very proud of all of our students for their hard work and accomplishments," said AHS Principal John Jeffrey. "It has been a great year."

### CTI RECOGNITION NIGHT

The Dutchess BOCES Career and Technical Institute (CTI) held their 2015 Recognition Night on June 17<sup>th</sup>, honoring 230 seniors for completing a range of career and technical education training programs.

Valedictorian Francesca Zani, a Culinary Arts student from Spackenkill High School, will be attending the Culinary Institute of America this fall. Co-Salutatorians Deydy and Jeydy Acevedo, both cosmetology students from Spackenkill will be attending Dutchess Community College in the fall on full scholarships from the Charles and Mabel Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence.

The Friends of CTI Community Recognition Award for 2014-2015 was presented to the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce for their excellent work in the community and their support of education throughout the county.











### SPC AWARDS & MOVING UP CEREMONY









all who heard her.



their scholastic and personal achievements. Andrew Popovic led the Pledge of Allegiance, and four students: Shaday Caudle, Cassidy Madison, Mallory Orlando, Michael VanAnden read excerpts of their original writing prior to the certificate awards. Shaday Caudle also presented a lovely song inspiring

on a successful year that included the achievement of many personal milestones. Danielle Knapp, one of the student presenters, said that BOCES truly helped her to reach her full potential and she encouraged everyone to always keep a positive attitude. "Saying hello to BOCES led to a million things. I experienced so much help from teachers and counselors. Never give up on yourself," said Danielle. "When it rains, look for rainbows. When it's dark, look for stars. Never give up. That's







The Salt Point Center held its Awards Ceremony on June 16th and students and staff looked back



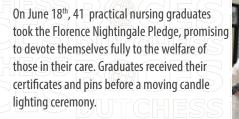


my goal in life, to succeed." Danielle, pictured with her mother, and SPC teacher A. J. Riehl, will be returning to the Arlington Central School District

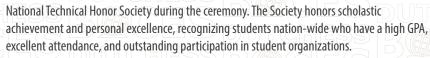
### SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL NURSING GRADUATION



















### ALI STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Anne-Marie Mauricette-LaMontagne was selected as the Dutchess BOCES Adult Learning Institute's student of the year for 2015 due to academic excellence



and dedication. After completing the literacy program and passing the nursing assistant vocational training at ALI, she is now enrolled in the Career and Technical Institute's Practical Nursing Program.

Ms. Mauricette-LaMontagne began her studies after moving to the Hudson Valley from the Caribbean and has been careful to balance, school work and family obligations. Faculty praises her

for her focus, participation, and clinical skills. She looks forward to completing her studies and having a long, successful nursing career in the community.



## Champions at Work®

Two students from Dutchess BOCES Career and Technical Institute took two first place finishes in the 49th Annual SkillsUSA State Conference and Skills Championships. The first place contestants are Wyatt Kelly (FDR) in the Photography contest and Deyry Acevedo (Spackenkill) in the Job Demo (Open) contest.



Top students from

every part of New York State competed in their respective areas. Thirty-six students from 12 area high schools competed in areas such as culinary arts, cinema production, computer technology, crime scene investigation and other careers that represent the courses offered at CTI.

Both students will represent New York State in

the National SkillsUSA Competition this June, to be held in Louisville, KY. CTI's SkillUSA club and competitors plan to raise extra funds to help offset the costs to send these students to Louisville.

SkillsUSA is a professional society run at all levels: in the school, in the state associations, and in the national association. SkillsUSA prepares students to enter the work force by teaching leadership and professional development skills and by providing opportunities to put these skills to work. The Career and Technical Institute at Dutchess BOCES is committed to providing students with the latest technologies needed for their future success in their chosen career path and/or higher education.

### **EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

The STLE-2 Grant has allowed Educational Resources to assist in efforts to improve teaching and learning in five component districts: Beacon, Hyde Park, Dover Plains,



Pine Plains and Webutuck. A by-product of this funding has been increased and diversified professional development offerings for all Dutchess County teachers and leaders. Educational Resources has compiled digital toolkits of professional development offerings and strengthened professional relationships with community partners. Institutions of higher education, renowned speakers and Academy members will continue to influence future efforts of Dutchess County educators to develop into highly effective professionals.



The STI F-D Grant has allowed its participants to share in the remarkable work that has come to fruition as a result of STEP-Up and Lead the STLE-2 Grant. Five component districts

(Millbrook, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck, Spackenkill, and Wappingers) have had leaders participate in a cohort, sharing in successful STLE-2 practices. This cohort, led by two successful STLE-2 principals, has collaborated to develop leadership practices that will influence teaching and learning in their component districts. A showcase of their vision was presented June 9th.

### RSE-TASC CDOS & PBIS

The Dutchess BOCES Regional Special Education Technical Assistance Support Center (RSE-TASC) worked to boost the skills of educators by providing targeted professional development and technical assistance to help improve outcomes for students with disabilities

The RSE-TASC hosted 88 regional workshops in four counties serving a total of 1,725 participants. Educators took away new skills and strategies to help improve the delivery of special education services and supports back in their districts. Regional training, as well as embedded professional development and technical assistance in classrooms, are offered to school districts throughout the school.

The division also hosted two large events for educators, The New York State Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential Conference in November and the 1st Annual Mid-Hudson PBIS Showcase in May. Both events were held at the Samuel F. B. Morse Estate in Poughkeepsie and each supported more than 130 participants.

Attendees of the CDOS Conference learned more about a new credential designed to provide students with disabilities valuable skills and experience that will help them succeed after graduation. The credential, first implemented in the 2013-14

school year can supplement a Regents or local diploma, or in some cases be the exiting credential for students who do not meet graduation requirements.

The PBIS Showcase included a keynote address on cultural competence and its connection to behavioral supports. Additionally, educators were honored for demonstrating PBIS leadership and creating more positive school and

district climates. Positive reinforcement, character education, reward systems, celebrating student success, and shared core values were discussed.

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