

# THE BOCES COMMUNICATOR



Spring 2014

## Looking Ahead

As we look ahead toward spring and summer, we should reflect on the busy months preceding—lots of energy and activity on behalf of many initiatives, especially those in the Long Range Strategic Plan. The Task Force work has been highly productive. Because of that work, we are in a stronger position as we build for the future. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the administrative team, we wish all BOCES staff members the very best for a restful and rewarding summer.

John C. Pennoyer  
District Superintendent

Edward L. McCormick  
President, Board of Trustees

## SNAPSHOTS

### of Student Success

Dutchess BOCES provides instruction and services to more than 1,000 students from all 13 school districts in Dutchess County.

At our Career and Technical Institute (CTI), we deliver customized, cutting-edge educational experiences to help prepare students to be college and career-ready upon graduation. We also tailor special education instruction and services for those who need them at the Salt Point Center (SPC) to assist each student in reaching his or her full potential. Small class sizes and unique opportunities, including work-based learning offered in partnership with local businesses, help students to thrive.

The BOCES Alternative High School provides individualized academic programs for students in a non-traditional setting to help them achieve their goal of graduating ready to move on to new challenges.

Our talented teachers and staff members also deliver high-quality instruction and offer specialized supports in many classrooms located in the component districts' buildings, directly partnering with school staff.

## Webutuck & Arlington Central School Districts

Shanique Rose, 18, and Alexis Shields, 19, recently practiced the skills they



will be tested on during the Certified Nursing Assistant exam this month. During class at CTI Shanique, an Arlington senior, checked respirations while the rest of the class looked on.

"They have great teachers here and we all get along and help each other," said

Shanique. "We don't only learn for our CNA, we learn physiology, which will help us for college. The biggest difference here, though, is that we get experience to help us get a job."

She plans to pursue her LPN studies at CTI next year. Alexis, who is from Webutuck, plans to jump into the work world and hopes to find a position with Sharon Health Care in Connecticut.

"I love it here," said Alexis. "It's the best decision I ever made. I have a step up from most kids leaving high school on getting a job."





## Beacon City School District

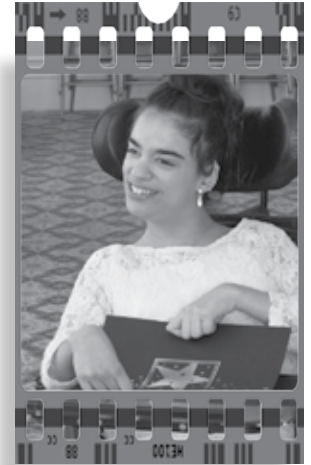
Andrew Stewart, 19, studies carpentry and plumbing at CTI. He and his classmates used the skills they learned to rebuild a run down kitchen used by the staff at BOCES. Cabinetry, plumbing, countertop installation and a fresh coat of paint moved the space from a barely usable tribute to the 1970s to a fresh and functioning culinary haven.

Andrew looks forward to graduating from Beacon High School in June and plans to enter the job market. He hopes to find work as a plumber for Metro-North Railroad.

## Pawling Central School District

Work-based learning provides students real life experiences to help them prepare for the future. For Alyssa Schuder, a Pawling student, it also provided a pathway toward being named Student of the Month.

"When I was in elementary school, I went through many struggles in my life" said Alyssa. "Now, I got my Student of the Month Award for working hard. This award really changed how I look at things. It showed me how to be more positive."



Alyssa works with her peers setting the tables at a local private school once a week. She places the items in the correct location on each placemat and then slides it over to her work coach who then moves them around the table until the complete table is set. "When she first came to the program Alyssa often became discouraged and would give up easily," said Martha Schultz, a BOCES teacher working in Pawling. "Now Alyssa faces obstacles with such a positive attitude. I am so proud of her."

## Dover Union Free School District and Pine Plains Central School District

Dover senior Aaron Borner, and Robert Bird, a Pine Plains senior, work on the cylinder of a client's commercial grade mower.

Students in the Small Engines Program work on clients' machinery in class and develop skills immediately transferable to the work world. "The best thing I've gotten from this program is being able to look at something and to figure out how to fix it," said Robert, who will be using his skills as a maintenance worker this summer. His future plans include attending the University of Ohio or enlisting in the U.S. Army.



## Wappingers Central School District

"I've gotten so much out of this program in two years," said Katie O'Mara, 17, a senior from John Jay HS. "Here you get two and a half hours of learning without changing classes." Katie said she entered the Graphics Arts Program as a shy person who wanted to stay in the corner. "This is not just graphics knowledge, it's much more" she said. "I've met so

many people and have had so much real world learning. It's great." She plans to attend DCC and eventually graduate from SUNY Purchase with a well-rounded arts/graphics degree.



## Poughkeepsie City School District

Sharmaine Cox, a PCSD senior, remarks, "I learned a lot. It's a great opportunity. I was able to do something I love during the school day instead of only reading text books." She feels the Culinary Arts program prepared her for entering the Culinary Institute of America next fall and provided an excellent taste of the work world.



## Hyde Park Central School District

Collin Broadwright, 18, is looking forward to graduation and may choose to attend Dutchess Community College in the fall. While he has enjoyed the Culinary Program, he is not committed to entering the field. "I wanted to try something that you do at home," he said. "And while I may pursue other things, from the first day the program opened my eyes to choices I didn't know about, such as the management path."

## Webutuck Central School District



Many things make teachers smile, but none more than a student who develops a true love of learning. Denise Malstom is making people smile at the Salt Point Center (SPC). These days, she's smiling, too. But that was not always the case.

When Denise first came to SPC in fourth grade, she faced some challenges. She struggled with her academic work and often felt frustrated.

Things have certainly changed. Now in seventh grade, Denise walks the halls confidently and her success is the talk of the town. Her attendance is outstanding and her desire to learn rivals that of any fellow student.

Denise often volunteers to do the morning announcements. Before this school year, she would practice and memorize the scripts before speaking over the intercom. This year, she reads the scripts directly when she makes the announcements. Principal Doug Damiani immediately noticed the difference and congratulated her on her success.

Denise feels her greatest academic achievement has been improving her reading skills. She credits the Reading Plus Program and says all the help she gets at BOCES really makes a difference.

Her hard work and academic accomplishments have helped to change her view of school. In a recently completed video project, "Wish for the World," Denise proclaimed her wish to be a longer school day. Now that is success to smile about.

## Rhinebeck Central School District

Ryan Cimorelli, 17, a senior from Rhinebeck, is enrolled in the Criminal Justice program at CTI and was chosen to represent Dutchess BOCES in the New York State SkillsUSA competition in Syracuse. He placed second after responding to a simulated call where he was judged on his decision making and the investigative skills learned in the program.



Ryan plans to join the Army Military Police after graduation and is presently serving as a patrol sergeant supervising other students as they patrol the Salt Point campus on the look out for any security related problems. "I love it," he said. "I was interested in criminal justice and wanted to learn more, this was great."



## Millbrook Central School District and Red Hook Central School District

James Dignan, a Millbrook HS senior and Patraic Orsulich, a senior at Red Hook HS, work on a kiosk for the Mills Mansion during their carpentry class.

"The experience here is really good," said Patraic. "You are not stuck at a desk all day, you meet new people and make connections that can provide jobs." After graduation he will either attend Columbia/Greene Community College or seek employment.

"I hope to follow a career path in carpentry and thanks to this program, I will also bring skills in plumbing and electric," said James.



## Arlington Central School District

Jerron Barbaro, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, has been in Maureen Moloney's BOCES class at Arlington's Union Vale Middle School since 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Through much effort, Jerron is having great success and is following the routines and structure of the school day.



After school, Jerron runs track on the school's team. When he first joined the team last year, he was excited to be riding the bus to away meets and home from practice. This year, he is planning to try his hand at shot put in addition to his 100 and 200-meter races.

"Jerron has been asking me about track since September 5<sup>th</sup>," said UVMS Coach Matt Reilly during a recent practice. "It's great he's using it to stay focused on his work in school and is enjoying running and being part of the team."

## Spackenkill Union Free School District

Francesca Zani, 17, is a junior from Spackenkill High School in her first year of studies in the two-year Culinary Program at CTI. "It's giving me a lot of experience. I'm looking to go to the Culinary Institute or Johnson and Wales for my advanced culinary education," said Francesca. "The instructor, Chef Sala is wonderful. She's a graduate of the Culinary Institute and really brings a lot to the table."

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