

Dutchess BOCES



Spring 2010

Dutchess BOCES Highlights

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DUTCHESS BOCES
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Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
845.486.4800

We are pleased to once again share so many wonderful highlights and accomplishments! Dutchess BOCES offers exceptional programs and services! We welcome your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Best wishes!

Anna Marie Paolercio
Dutchess BOCES
Director - Communications and Grants Research

ADMINISTRATION



STUDENT CONVOCATION AT FDR SITE

Students from Dutchess BOCES, Orange/Ulster BOCES and Sullivan BOCES, as well as students from Middletown, Onteora, Red Hook High Schools and the Tabernacle Christian Academy recently attended a daylong educational event focusing on life sciences at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum. The keynote address "Epidemics in the 21st Century:

Influenza, Obesity and Other Plagues of the Modern Era" was presented by Dr. Shetal I. Shah. Shah is assistant professor of neonatal medicine at the State University of New York at Stony Brook School of Medicine. Dutchess BOCES District Superintendent Dr. John C. Pennoyer led the educational event, which included presentations from the March of Dimes and a life science researcher.

MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT ANNUAL REVIEWS

Business Administrator for Human Resources Matt Carr advises that annual reviews are currently underway for Medicaid reimbursements. Under this program, BOCES assists component districts with maximizing their Medicaid reimbursements and compliance with Medicaid reimbursement guidelines. This service maintains comprehensive records to support Medicaid reimbursement claims in the event of an audit, submits required claims for reimbursement and follows up on inquiries received from the Regional Information Center, state and federal offices. The service provides in-service training to district contact personnel on an ongoing basis and works with district personnel in the development of effective internal data collection and record keeping procedures.

KUDOS FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE

Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Linda Poleski announced that her office received all updates to the BOCES 2010-2011 Final Service Requests (FSRs). Poleski sends thanks to all BOCES staff who worked hard to finalize purchase orders for this year, stating that this has been the best year ever for the closing of purchase orders. In addition, Poleski commended her Business Office staff for

preparing the numbers needed for the 2010-2011 Annual Meeting and Budget Presentation that took place on April 7. Great teamwork ... very appreciated!

BOCES JOINS "THE BIG READ"

The Poughkeepsie Library District invited Dutchess BOCES to participate in the "Big Read", which is a national undertaking. BOCES administrators John Jeffrey, Doug Damiani and Kenneth Louis Jeune will work together with their instructional staff and the Poughkeepsie Library on the events that will be kicked off in October 2010. Books will be provided to students, along with guides for teachers. This year's Big Read book selection is a collection of short stories, essays and poems by Edgar Allan Poe. In addition, the Poughkeepsie Public Library donated several copies of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, which was the book used in last year's Big Read.



ENTERPRISE GROUP NEWS

The last Enterprise Group (EG) meeting of the school year was held on May 20. We discussed our final year-end recommendations on several items of interest including EG survey results, unresolved proposals and several new proposals. Any Dutchess BOCES employee is welcome to attend meetings to share views, and as always, encourage new ideas to be put into the proposal process. The process to submit a proposal is posted on our Web site at [The Enterprise Group](#). Simply complete the submission form for any new and innovative programs or services that would enhance Dutchess BOCES.

AHS STUDENT WINS \$500 ASBO SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Alternative High School student Jean Apolo (Pine Plains) who won the \$500 scholarship sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Association for School Business Officials (ASBO). Apolo and his family were invited to the May ASBO meeting at which the scholarship was presented.



ADULT EDUCATION

MTI STUDENTS EXPLORE AMERICAN TRADITIONS

In early April, our English language learners at the Manufacturing and Technology Institute (MTI) participated in a special Easter celebration. Students enjoyed learning about the traditional American customs and vocabulary surrounding this holiday. On another note, many of our literacy students come to our program with the goal of obtaining their GED diplomas. Of those students, 87 percent have accomplished their goal. Kudos to the students and teachers for a job well done!



COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS FOR TRANSPORTATION

Dutchess County Executive William Steinhaus, Commissioner of Dutchess County Department of Social Services Robert Allers, and Dutchess BOCES District Superintendent John C. Pennoyer announced that seven pre-determined families received donated vehicles from the Community Solutions for Transportation (CST) and Wheels for Work (WFW) programs at a presentation on April 29 at Lester's Auto Sales and Towing car lot in Poughkeepsie. Transportation services under CST and WFW in Dutchess County are administered by Dutchess BOCES and are funded by the Dutchess County Department of Social Services through an allocation from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Division of Employment and Transitional Supports.

The seven families selected to receive donated vehicles were chosen based on specific program guidelines, including their work-related need for transportation. Over the past several months, they have been part of a Dutchess BOCES program that prepares them for car ownership. In addition, they have all displayed the perseverance and the commitment necessary to continually take steps towards financial independence. Having their own vehicle will help them to obtain and retain employment or gain access to higher education to increase their wage potential.

Since 2001, CST and WFW programs across New York State have assisted over 2,500 families with acquiring reliable used cars, repairing, registering, and insuring their own vehicles, and/or obtaining their NYS driver's license. Since inception over 650 families have received donated vehicles through the Dutchess BOCES program. As a direct result of this and other services provided by the Transportation Program, approximately 325 individuals have been able to obtain new employment and about 750 individuals have been able to retain their current employment.

Here are just a few testimonials from the program's recent recipients . . .

Vikki Harris:

Vikki is a substitute teacher. She found it difficult to get to work without a car. Many times she would receive offers to take a substitute position, but she would have to turn down the job because she depended upon public transportation to get to the work location, and often the school was not near a bus route. With a car of her own she can accept many more teaching job offers. She is so happy and thinks the program is wonderful. She found out about the BOCES program through word of mouth.

"During these difficult economic times, I feel fortunate to have been involved in this program in order to help me maintain employment."

Stacy Clarke:

Stacy already had her driver's license. She learned about the BOCES program through her sister. Stacy works in a nursing home and found it difficult to catch a bus or hitch a ride every day to and from work. Now she can just hop into her own car.

"I love it--it's an excellent program for single parent's. It's the best thing that could possibly happen to me. It's a breath of fresh air . . . I feel like a million bucks, and more!"

Louis Bailey:

Louis heard about the program from his caseworker and some friends. He was working as a driver for A&E Transport in Poughkeepsie, but was stuck in the same position with no opportunity for a pay increase. He wanted to obtain a CDL with passenger endorsement, but had no means of driving to Haverstraw, the only place in the vicinity that gives that test.

"I am very ecstatic. Now I can take my endorsement test! The instructors have the best knowledge. This program is great when you have children. It makes life easier. I encourage anyone who is working and needs transportation to apply. It's worth all the courses and effort!"



HOME HEALTH AIDE PROGRAM

Adult education is instituting a Home Health Aide (HHA) program, which will prepare students to work with patients in their homes. It will complement the successful Nursing Assistant program, which prepares students for the CNA examination and to work in facilities such as nursing homes. An HHA advisory group was recently convened. Its members represent all areas of Dutchess County and all aspects of the home health care field. They were enthusiastic in their support for the program, and emphasized the need and employment opportunities in the HHA field. We are in the process of getting the required approvals to offer the program and hope to have the program running in the near future. For more information contact [Sherre Wesley](#)

at 845.483.3640.

ADULT EDUCATION LITERACY STATS

MTI's Mary Fayne Simpson has been closely monitoring the Adult Education Literacy statistics for GED outcomes. The program is enjoying a 93% percent pass rate for the 2009-10 school year. Classroom practices such as targeting individual instruction in specific skill areas and requiring students to take and pass the GED practice test have been instrumental in helping our adult students attain their high school equivalency diplomas.



BILINGUAL TEACHERS ON BOARD

Two bilingual teachers recently joined the Adult Education literacy staff. Felipe Benitez is teaching an ABE/GED class to Spanish students incarcerated in the Dutchess County Jail and at the Martin Luther King Center in Beacon. Laura Barroso-Hazim is teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to a diverse group of non-native English language learners.



ADULT EDUCATION STUDENTS LAND APPRENTICESHIPS!

Two MTI adult education students from the HVAC spring course have been accepted into union apprenticeship programs. Congratulations to students and staff!

- International Union of Painters and Allied Trades Local 155
- Laborers' Local 1000

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION



AHS STUDENTS RECEIVE HIGH SCORES ON FINANCIAL CHALLENGE

Congratulations! Two of Kathy White's Alternative High School business class students scored in the top 20th percentile of students nationwide on the National Financial Capability Challenge (NFCC) at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and U.S. Department of Education. In addition, seven of her students beat the national average! Over 76,000 students representing every state completed the Challenge with an average score of 70% correct.

The Challenge is an initiative designed to engage educators in the teaching of personal finance, and to increase the financial knowledge and capability of high school youth across the United States so they can take control over their financial futures. All high school teachers (and other educators) are encouraged to sign up, prepare their students, and administer the voluntary online exam. Educators and top-scoring students in each school earn personalized award certificates and states with the highest participation rates are recognized. To learn more about this program, visit [National Financial Capability Challenge](#).

BETA TEACHER RUNS MARATHON

Congratulations to BETA's Sam Rivera for his recent participation in a ½ marathon in Flushing Meadows, Queens. Rivera completed the race (his first ever) in two hours, eight minutes, two seconds! The race was sponsored by Team World Organization-Schools in Africa.

AHS PRESENTS CREATIVE ARTS SHOW

The Alternative High School Creative Arts Show took place on May 6. Once again, this year's show was extremely successful, receiving rave reviews from all students and staff. Congratulations to all students and staff members who organized and participated in this year's show!



BROADWAY DANCE MOVES-BROADWAY SHOW!

What a day they had! Lisa Slagle's class took a train trip to NYC. Their first activity of the day was *Broadway in the Classroom*. This was a session in a real Broadway dance studio taught by one of the actors from Broadway's



The Lion King. Derrick, one of the dancers from the show, taught the students some dance moves. He led our students through different parts of the choreography while teaching them some crazy moves! Students enjoyed seeing *The Lion King* later that afternoon and identifying the dance steps they had learned. After the show, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal at Dean's Italian Restaurant before heading back to Dutchess County.

AHS STUDENT ART WORK ON DISPLAY AT VASSAR

Inspired by the movie *Shadowlands*, Alternative High School Art Teacher Jeanette Straebler was pleased to announce that several pieces of artwork created by her students were recently on display at the Vassar College bookstore.

BETA'S INTERACT CHAPTER RECEIVES PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

On May 22, Rotary International awarded Dutchess BOCES Alternative High School with a Presidential Citation for the numerous Interact initiatives accomplished this past school year. At a complimentary luncheon, the district governor presented the award and citation. In addition, AHS Business Teacher Kathy White and AHS student and Interact Chapter President Richard Conner were honored. BETA's



Roger Risko presented a keynote address at the Rotary Leadership Conference in Southberry, CT. All past district governors, past and current presidents, and guest Rotarians were in the audience. Roger's topic was "Bridging the Generation Gap," a special presentation on how Interact, Rotaract, and Elderact work together to bring about community service projects and thereby create respect and understanding for all ages that come together under Rotary's motto of "service above self." Congratulations on these excellent achievements!

RADIO ROTARY

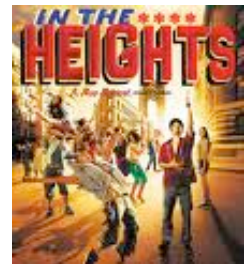
BOCES Interact Advisor and BETA Business teacher Kathy White, along with Roger Risko, District Interact Adviser, were recently interviewed on Radio Rotary, a weekly radio show hosted by Rotary Clubs in the Hudson Valley. This interview was broadcast worldwide on the Internet on Friday, April 23. You can listen to this segment by accessing [Rotary International District 7210 Radio Rotary](#).

YOUTH SUMMIT TARGETED FOR FALL 2010

Director of Alternative and Special Education Norah Merritt received a letter from Dutchess County Executive William Steinhaus about the Dutchess County Youth Summit. Last fall, Dutchess BOCES developed a partnership with the county and held a youth summit where over 200 students attended from schools across the county. Steinhaus spoke to the students and several youth leaders presented to other youth. Plans are underway to continue this partnership to hold another forum (summit) this fall.

BROADWAY TRIP - IN THE HEIGHTS!

On April 28, twenty-five students and five staff went to see the Broadway production of *In the Heights*. The trip was an incentive for exceptional behavior and work output. The show was fantastic . . . a great hit with our teenagers! They were lucky to see Corbin Bleu in the starring role, well known for his role in *High School Musical 1, 2, 3*. They also got to visit Times Square and took some awesome pictures on the square's new bleachers. The entire day went off without a hitch and everyone had a great time!



CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

CTI TOP STUDENTS HONORED

The Career and Technical Institute (CTI) has named its 2010 Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Our top scholars are Victoria Stagias (Pine Plains/Culinary Arts) and Alysa Robinson (Hyde Park/Early Childhood Education). Both students were invited to attend the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents' Scholastic Achievement Dinner in Tarrytown on May 26. In addition, the students were offered full scholarships to Dutchess Community College through the Conklin Scholarship.

SKILLS USA STUDENTS DESIGN GRADUATION SASH

SkillsUSA students approached their home school high school principals and received their permission to wear a Career and Technical Institute sash at their graduation ceremony. The SkillsUSA students designed the sash and those students will be acknowledged at their graduation ceremony.



CTI'S GREENHOUSE CONTINUES TO CULTIVATE

The Career and Technical Education greenhouse is being reinvigorated! A strong partnership has developed with community member Joe Baldwin entitled *Earth to Table*. Baldwin is working with

plumbing, electrical, welding, and construction to make the greenhouse viable in a curricular sense. Baldwin is also working with staff and students throughout CTI, developing a section of the hill near CTI where a kitchen garden is being planted. It is anticipated that the greenhouse will be open all summer.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS

Congratulations to several CTI teachers who received *Fund for Excellence in Education Grants* through the Community Foundation of Dutchess County. The selection committee reviewed thirty-one requests, of which twelve were funded. An awards ceremony was held on May 27 at the Poughkeepsie Grand.

- Catherine Kelly - Career Literacy/Workforce Competency Project: \$733.95
- Harrison Barritt - Career Literacy/Workforce Competency Project: \$733.95
- Tracy Gartelmann - Career Literacy/Workforce Competency Project: \$733.95

COMOLLI WINS AMAZON GIFT CERTIFICATE

We have a winner of a \$200 Amazon Gift Certificate! CTI's Michele Comolli received an email message from Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins (LWW) asking for her participation in their online survey about LPN education, textbooks and the needs of LPN educators. And out of all the entries received by LWW, Comolli was chosen as one of eight winners of an Amazon gift certificate. Comolli based her answers on her familiarity with the program and her personal preferences with educational resources, particularly in relationship with offering test banks, PowerPoint presentations, and online supportive technologies that are both student and educator friendly. In addition, she offered feedback on textbook organization and layout, and offered suggestions with textbook illustrations, charts and tables. Comolli also completed textbook chapter reviews for LWW and was awarded two honorarium certificates in 2008 and 2009. Comolli stated, "I never won anything before so for me, this was pretty exciting."



SKILLS USA FUND RAISER!

Order a beautiful summer canvas bag with a wooden handle and support CTI's Skills USA! Only \$20 - pink, blue and green. To place an order or for additional information, contact Sharon Myers at 845.486.8001, extension 380. Cash or check made payable to Dutchess BOCES.

OFFSITE CLINICAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE IS A+

CTI's Early Childhood Education teacher Melissa Greig is very proud of CTI student Lauryn DelBiondo! Shannon Venditto, a kindergarten teacher at Arlington's Overlook Primary School who has supported the Dutchess BOCES CTI Early Education Program for years, holds high expectations for CTI seniors enrolled in Greig's program. Venditto states in a letter to Greig that DelBiondo (Hyde Park) has done an incredible job meeting those expectations! Without the collaboration of seasoned teachers like Venditto, students like DelBiondo would not be able to shine! Thanks to the hard work and efforts of both staff and students. These partnerships make all the difference for our students!



COSMETOLOGY STUDENTS ASSIST WITH ARLINGTON'S PRODUCTION OF GREASE!

Several cosmetology students from Marcy Grady and Madeline Balog's CTI Cosmetology class gained practical experience of hairstyles and makeup from the 1950s. Our students worked backstage, preparing the actors for the Admiral Players' spring musical production of *GREASE*. The production, which took place on April 16, 17 and 18 at Arlington High School, was a huge success. This is another example of a great partnership between Dutchess BOCES and one of our component school districts!



COMMUNICATIONS AND GRANTS RESEARCH

DUTCHESS BOCES RAISES \$2,315 FOR AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION!

The Dutchess-Ulster Heart Walk has raised over \$325,000 and the number is still climbing! A huge THANK YOU to all those Dutchess BOCES employees, family, friends (and pets!) who assisted, participated and donated for the AHA Walk and for Go Red for Women. In total, Dutchess BOCES collected \$2,315. A special recognition goes out to BETA Print Shop Graphic Aide Kathleen Gibson Ferris. This year, Kathleen collected \$1,091 for the heart walk! Way to go, Kathleen!



THE CHAMBER FOUNDATION, INC.

Sowing the seeds of leadership.

PAOLERCIO COMPLETES LEADERSHIP DUTCHESS

Director of Communications and Grants Research Anna Marie Paolercio recently completed the nine-month long Leadership Dutchess program. Leadership Dutchess is the signature program of The Chamber Foundation, Inc. (the educational foundation of the Greater Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce) and for over twenty years has been dedicated to educating and motivating

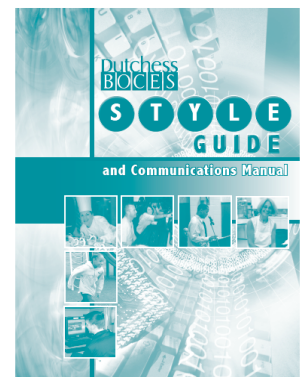
aspiring citizens to serve in leadership roles within our community. This program was designed to foster the development of a group of professionals who grow and learn together over a nine-month period through a variety of experiences that include lively discussions, interactive exercises, experiential roles, community service and ongoing feedback. Leadership Dutchess classes were held once per month September - May and all course work contributed to the knowledge and understanding of leadership. The class covered topics such as leadership styles, stress management and dealing with difficult people, valuing diversity, communications, project management, team building, county government and tourism, and roles and responsibilities of serving on a board. As part of the program requirements, the class completed two major projects:

Rebuilding Together - On April 24, classmates worked on minor renovations and clean-up on a house in Beacon owned by a WWII veteran

Red Carpet Rendezvous - Classmates organized a major fund-raiser held at the Grand Hotel on May 6 to benefit The Chamber Foundation with a net profit of \$12,348

STYLE GUIDE AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP

On May 17, the Communications and Grants Research (CGR) Division put together a 90-minute workshop for our office support staff addressing the Dutchess BOCES Style Guide and Communication Manual. To achieve consistency in Dutchess BOCES written and oral communications, CGR developed an editorial style guide for the Dutchess BOCES community. Using a standard, consistent style throughout Dutchess BOCES helps serve our clientele with clear, coherent communications and further ensures that all Dutchess BOCES communications adhere to a high level of quality and attention to detail. Updates to the guide will be sent out in the future, as needed. For those individuals who were not able to attend the session on May 17, a makeup session is being scheduled for the near future.



CGR OFFICE COMPLETES SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET NEWSLETTERS

During the past several weeks, the staff in the Communications and Grants Research (CGR) Division worked feverishly to complete several school district budget newsletters. These newsletters are critical as they carry important budget information back to the taxpayers about the various components of their local school district budget for 2010-2011. Kudos to CGR staff members Jackie Cardascia, Paige Flori, Kathleen Gibson-Ferris, Genevieve Kellam, Maria Hoskins, Todd Leland, Robert Patterson, Peter Perricci, Diane Volk Sommer, Barbara Slocum, and Eileen Scholes for their part in getting these newsletters prepared for our participating school district communities!



PEACCE TEACHERS USE MOODLE

Staff Specialist for Web Services Jeffery Rouse recently assisted the PEACCE teachers with using an online learning environment called Moodle. Using Moodle, these teachers can easily share information about their classroom activities with their parents and provide additional resources and support to their students any time of the day. To get an idea of how they are using Moodle to accomplish this, you can view [Cindy Kirtland's Web page](#). BOCES Administrator for district classes Kenneth Louis Jeunne sincerely thanks Jeff for his assistance in getting their Web pages off the ground.

SCHOOL THEATRE TICKET PROGRAM

Special Offers are available from the School Theatre Ticket Program! Check out the [School Theatre Ticket Web site](#). There's many great shows at discount prices. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact [Jackie Cardascia](#) in the Communications and Grants Research office at 845.486.4840, extension 3070.



DISTRICT-BASED CLASSES and COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING



LOCAL RADIO STATION VISITS CLASS

Disc jockeys (better know as DJs) from WRWD radio visited several BOCES classrooms at Arlington High School and Unionvale Middle School. Students have been invited to participate in WRWD's classroom program. The DJs talked about what they do and then answered student questions. Afterwards, they students recorded the

Pledge of Allegiance, which aired on one of their Friday morning programs. The students were very excited to actually hear themselves on the radio!

DANCING TO NIGHT AWAY AT THE BOCES/ARLINGTON PROM

The Dutchess BOCES/Arlington High School Prom was held at the Arlington High School Gym on Friday, May 14. Students and staff (and some retirees!) had a wonderful time dancing and enjoying a light meal, snacks and desserts! Many thanks to all the staff and students who helped make this prom a huge success!



NASSAU CELEBRATES MOTHER'S DAY

Nassau Elementary/BOCES Special Education Teachers Jennifer Frankovich and Marie Manteria celebrated Mother's Day with a beautiful luncheon on Friday, May 7. What a wonderful way to recognize the amazing things that all the moms do ... not just on Mother's Day ... but also on every day!



"P" IS FOR PENNIES, PEACE, PAWLING

The Dutchess BOCES class at Pawling High School completed a multi-disciplined module on Afghanistan and Pakistan. The students read "Listen to the Wind," which tells the story of Dr. Greg Mortenson's mission to "promote peace, one school at a time." In addition, they tasted various foods of the region. With the help of art teacher Caroline Van Wagner, they created a six-

foot collage depicting a scene from Mortenson's book. Under the auspices of the Interact club, the class collected \$60 in contributions for [Pennies for Peace](#).

NEW WORK-BASED LEARNING SITES

There's a new 50s retro restaurant called *All Shook Up* located on Raymond Avenue in Poughkeepsie and the owners have signed on to be a job site for our Work-Based Learning Program. In addition, *Kessman Farms* in Pawling has agreed to add a BOCES/Pawling student as a job intern. This is not only a new site for work-based learning, but it is also the first nursery. Compliments to Martha Schultz and her students at Pawling High School! These sites join an already long list of excellent businesses that offer job training and experience to many BOCES students.

STUDENTS STAY INVOLVED!

The BOCES class at Stissing Mountain High School donated wheel chair bags to the Lutheran Care Center. Thanks to Andy Crispell and his students for this great donation!

Our BOCES district class students not only stay busy in the classroom with their academics, they are also involved in various school activities: school plays, track team, chorus, after school fitness program, a clothing construction project, and the basketball team ... just to name a few! It's great to get involved - congratulations to all the students!



BOCES/UNION VALE STUDENTS VISIT THE BRONX ZOO

On April 15, BOCES/Union Vale Middle School teachers Christine Collins, Maureen Moloney and Lindsay Paolercio took their students on a field trip to the Bronx Zoo. While at the zoo, the students had the opportunity



to visit many exhibits such as the Congo Gorilla Forest, Madagascar, African Plains, and the World of Reptile. Students also enjoyed participating in a zoo-wide scavenger hunt and had the opportunity to take camel rides. After the trip, students from one class created dioramas of their favorite animal's habitat that they observed at the zoo. The trip was a hit with both the students and the staff!

RED OAKS MILL COMMUNITY-BASED CLASSROOM

- The Red Oaks Mills Community-Based classroom had a picnic on April 23 to celebrate Earth Day, while the students looked for garbage to help clean up Bowdoin Park.
- As part of an Interact club activity, Erin Scott's class is assisting the local fire department with a mailing that consists of 10,000 pieces and involves a four-step process to complete.
- In the classroom, the students have been working on learning about various jobs. They completed a unit on restaurant jobs and had lunch at the Orient Buffet, where they observed similar jobs that were part of the unit. The next unit of study concentrates on jobs in the hotel and motel industry. In order to better understand what these jobs entail, the students will take the LOOP bus to the Poughkeepsie Grand for a tour.
- May is Emergency Medical Services Month. Scott's class studied basic first aid, what to do in an emergency, and how to call 911. To supplement this curriculum, the Red Oaks Mills Fire Department brought their ambulance to the satellite classroom on May 7 to explain what to expect when an ambulance is called and when you should call for help.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (ER) PROGRAM NEWS

Under the guidance of Coordinator of Educational Resources Jodi DeLucia, the ER Division was once again happy to facilitate the NYS English Language Arts (ELA) Regional Scoring for seven of our component school districts.

ER's School Library Systems recently hosted a Book Banquet. ER is pleased to report that over thirty-two Dutchess County school library specialists and educators were in attendance.

Kudos to the many staff who assisted in providing information to update the APPR and PDP documents! Also, sincere thanks to Jeff Rouse for incorporating the student art awards on the Dutchess BOCES Web site.

Watch for the *Dutchess BOCES Educational Resources 2010 Summer Catalog!* We are excited to continue to learn with you and from you!

ER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

What great PD opportunities are available? Here's just a few to wet your appetite! For further information, visit [ER's Professional Development](#).

- Analyzing Data to Drive Instruction
- Critical Thinking
- Introduction to Assessment for Learning
- About Teaching Mathematics

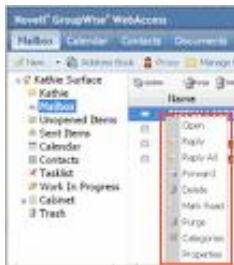
DEWALD HONORED BY ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

Educational Resources Maria Dewald was recently honored by her alma mater, St. John's University. Dewald, along with four others, was recognized for leadership in the field of education on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of St. John's University School of Education. St. John's University prepares students from across the U.S. and around the world for success as ethical leaders in today's global society. Congratulations Maria on this very prestigious recognition!



BOCES REPORT CARD COMPLETED

Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services Linda Heitmann reports that the 2008-2009 NYSED Annual Report Card for Dutchess BOCES has been completed, and sincerely thanks Pat Horgan and Jeff Rouse for their hard work on this project. If you are interested in viewing a PDF of this publication, you can access it at [BOCES Report Card](#)



GROUPWISE UPDATED

According to Coordinator of Learning Technology Daren Lolkema, GroupWise has been successfully upgraded to the latest version. With this new version comes several enhancements including a more robust and user-friendly web interface.

SUMMER SCHOLARS AT VASSAR

The 2010 Summer Scholars Program begins June 26 at Vassar College. Two programs will run simultaneously, *Writing, Reading, Blogging and Podcasting* and *1968: A Pivotal Year in American Politics and Culture, and in America's Role in the World*. Forty-three students from Dutchess County school districts will participate.



SALT POINT CENTER

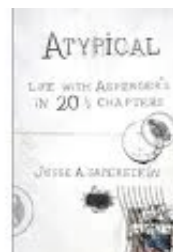


SALT POINT CENTER STUDENTS CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

On April 22, Salt Point Center (SPC) students participated in the Earth Day celebration by cleaning up the SPC grounds. Wearing protective gloves, several students walked the grounds and picked up debris and garbage. The Academics, Behavior and Community (ABC) classes sorted through the collection and separated the recycled items from the trash. Thanks to all for beautifying our SPC campus!

AUTHOR SAPERSTEIN PRESENTS AT SPC

On Tuesday, May 18, Jessie A. Saperstein spoke to parents and members of our community about his experiences as an individual with Asperger's syndrome and provided insights about supports children with autism need to be integrated into their communities (work, school, and day-to-day living). A local resident, Saperstein is sought after in the autism community. He is dedicated to demystifying Asperger's syndrome and autism in our culture. Saperstein authored a book entitled *ATYPICAL: Life with Asperger's in 20 1/3 Chapters*. (Perigee Trade Paperback ISBN 978-0-399-53572-7, [Penguin Books](#)).



AUTISM MONTH CELEBRATED

April is designated as Autism Awareness Month. This year, the PEACCE program staff decided to have T-shirts to wear at the Autism walk that took place on Sunday, April 25. The shirts may also be used for any future field trips and other PEACCE related events. If you are interested in purchasing a T-shirt, please contact SPC's Leah Pollack. Once again this year, several teachers participated in the Autism walk. The Autism Walk and Expo of the Hudson Valley Region collected more than \$100,000, and more than 1,800 participants attended in support of the event. The fundraiser was held at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck. The focus of this event is to educate parents and teachers; to help spread the awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder in the Hudson Valley community; to raise funds for local respite, recreation and educational programs, including a small portion for research of this affliction which has no known cause or cure; and to support families recently receiving the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder. Many thanks to everyone for your support!



SALT POINT CENTER'S GUITAR CLUB BECOMES INTERACT CHAPTER

A new chapter of BOCES Interact at our Salt Point Center is now official. This chapter is unique in New York in that it not only has members who are not yet the usual high school age, but also is THE FIRST to do so



under the new lowered-age Rotary International guidelines. As if this were not enough, this SPC Chapter is also THE FIRST to incorporate a guitar club, a chorus, and a student senate as primary components of their mission to bring leadership through representation and service

through music! The guitar club is under the direction of Barbara Mauer and Chris Shamkin, who meet with two groups of students one to two times each week for approximately thirty minutes. There are presently fifteen students who are learning the basics of playing guitar from how to hold it ... to learning how to place their fingers on the strings to make a chord. Many thanks to the staff who donated their guitars for the club. In addition, with the help of Roger Risko, the club received a new guitar compliments of the Arlington Rotary. This Interact chapter is unique in that they perform community service using music as their tool. Congratulations to the students and staff!

SPC STUDENT SPELLING BEE WINNERS!

Congratulations to the following first and second place winners in this year's SPC Spelling Bee!

- K-2: Steve L. and Anthony E.
- 3-4: Max K. and Jacob A.
- 5-6: William C. and Alana C.
- 7-8: Justyn Q. and John K.

Many thanks to Amparo Clemente and Quinn Jackson for organizing this great event and sincere appreciation to the judges ... Pat Dolan, Phyllis Cabbibo, Fern Wolf, Matt Carr, Carol Hess, and Linda Kilpatrick!

NYS ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT SCORING

Salt Point Center's Denise Traver, Leah Pollack and Tracey Smith, along with fourteen district and SPC teachers, scored the NYS Alternate Assessment for the 2009-2010 school year. There were a total of 200 data folios that were scored, both for Dutchess BOCES and our component school districts. Once scored those data folios are returned to their school districts.



SALT POINT CENTER SCIENCE FAIR

On Wednesday, May 12, Leah Pollack and Daniele Rimaldi hosted a school-wide science fair at the Salt Point Center. We were fortunate to have two former employees of Dutchess BOCES, Nan Eidle and Linda Kilpatrick, judge this event. We had many participants at the elementary and middle school level with creative projects and demonstrations. The Science Fair was well attended and considered a great success! We hope to continue this tradition in the future.



AND EVEN MORE BOCES ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

BOCES STUDENTS RECEIVE YEA AWARDS

Several Alternative High School students have been recognized by Dutchess County and will receive Youth Excellence Award (YEA). The Dutchess County Youth Board seeks nominations on a countywide basis for public recognition of youth and of adults in the youth development field. Each spring, the awards are presented at an annual luncheon. YEA Awards are for youth in middle school, high school or alternative educational programs whose performances would otherwise be overlooked. These awards are not intended for traditional students who have effective support systems and have always excelled. All students and youth nominated receive a framed certificate and small gift. The Youth Board also presents scholarships to Dutchess Community College for graduating seniors or youth who have recently completed a GED. Congratulations to the following CTI and AHS students:



SUCCESS DESPITE DIFFICULT ODDS

- Jean Apolo
- Kristen Arndt
- Angeles Castellanos
- Michael Lynch
- Amanda Spatta
- Christopher Williams

MOST SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN OVERALL PERFORMANCE

- John Bergfels
- Michaela Gray
- Meggan Arden Schulhoff

VOLUNTEER

Eugene Tebordo



BEE HAPPY FOR A GOOD CAUSE

The 19th Annual Community Spelling Bee was held at the Marist College Student Center on March 18 to raise funds for Literacy Connections, a volunteer-based literacy organization serving Dutchess, Columbia and Greene Counties. Among the spellers were high school and college students, teachers, social service agency employees, and adult community members with an aptitude for spelling.

This year there were fifty-eight teams of two partners each who participated in the Spelling Bee. Teams were divided among four rooms, with approximately fourteen teams competing against each other in each room. Each team had a sponsor that donated money

for the event. There were three rounds of oral competition with teams earning points for words spelled correctly. Winners from the second round competed with the other groups for the third round competition.

The Arlington Rotary Club was represented by two teams from Dutchess BOCES Interact Club: Michael Szymczak and Missy Sekul on Team A, and Elizabeth Burns and Matthew Bush on Team B. Szymczak and Sekul made it to the final round. This is particularly impressive since they only signed up a few days before the Spelling Bee, leaving not much time for which to prepare. This is the first time these alternative high school students participated in the event, but they enjoyed it so much they hope to come back next year! Two WCSD students from John Jay High School, Christina DiDonato and Blake Rodriguez, won the competition. The real winners though are the adults and children in our community who benefit directly from literacy services. Success in literacy changes lives by helping people obtain a GED, become US Citizens, get better jobs, and do well in school.

STUDENTS HONORED AT ROTARY LUNCHEONS

At special bi-monthly Rotary luncheons, the Arlington Rotary honors high school students who have demonstrated outstanding performance in the classroom or at job-based programs. Students are chosen based on their attitude, attendance and teacher or job coach recommendations. Congratulations to Dutchess BOCES students Yadira Galvez, Alejandra Wedaa, Andrew Donnelly, David Vega, Walter Pierce, Michael LeSelva, and Vondre Hankerson, who were honored at the May 13 Arlington Rotary luncheon.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

Coming sometime in November 2010, the United Nations Day will include a panel of BOCES INTERACT students who will have the opportunity to participate in networking with students from all over the globe. Transportation to NYC will be provided by the Arlington Rotary. This will be the fourth year that Rotarian and BOCES teacher Roger Risko will present and take a select number of students with him to this worldwide event!



GRADUATION AND RECOGNITION DATES

Alternative High School Graduation

June 11 - 12:00 p.m.

BETA Campus Lawn/Tent, 900 Dutchess Turnpike, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Career and Technical Institute Recognition Night

June 15 - 6:30 p.m.

CTI Lawn (Conference Room 301 if inclement weather), 5 BOCES Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

LPN Graduation

June 17 - 7:00 p.m.

Beacon High School Auditorium, 101 Matteawan Road, Beacon, NY 12508

Salt Point Center Moving Up Ceremony

June 18 - 10:00 a.m.

Salt Point Center Multi-Purpose Room, 5 BOCES Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Adult Education GED Graduation

June 22 - 7:00 p.m.

Family Partnership Center Auditorium, 29 N. Hamilton Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Summer Scholars Closing Ceremony

July 9 - 7:00 p.m.

Spackenkill High School Auditorium, 112 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

QUOTABLE

We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today."

~ *Stacia Tauscher*

Dutchess **BOCES**

5 BOCES Road

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

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Dr. John C. Pennoyer, District Superintendent

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