



Churchville-Chili school administrators, students, and officials from SEI Design Group Architecture and Campus Construction broke ground on a \$55.9 million Capital Improvement project on Tuesday, November 30.

News & Views

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Letter from the Superintendent



Dear Community,

Once again it is time to begin the budget preparation process for the 2011-2012 school year. Over the next several months the Board of Education will work closely with my executive cabinet and me to develop a fiscally responsible budget to present to you, our taxpayers, on May 17, 2011. This is always a difficult process, but as we look at the financial

condition of the state and federal governments, this year looks more challenging than ever.

As a district we take our fiscal responsibilities very seriously and continually look to find efficiencies while maintaining the programs and services that our community and students deserve and have come to expect. We work closely with building principals to monitor the needs of their students and make sure staffing and class sizes are at acceptable levels.

There will be no easy way to make up for the \$2.1 million less money we will be getting from New York State in the form of state aide. While aid is being reduced our expenses continue to increase. As we make the tough decisions to fill this budget gap we seek input from our staff and community for their ideas on reducing costs. The district is in the process of developing an online survey to solicit input from the school community. This survey will be accessible by the end of this month at www.cccsd.org.

While striving to do more with less, I remain committed to making our school environment one that fosters teamwork and creative problem-solving in a way that helps us weather the fiscal storm with the positive attitudes and steadfastness that is engrained in the Churchville-Chili culture. Your support during this process will be essential for our students' futures.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela Kissel
Superintendent of Schools

Inspiring future nurses

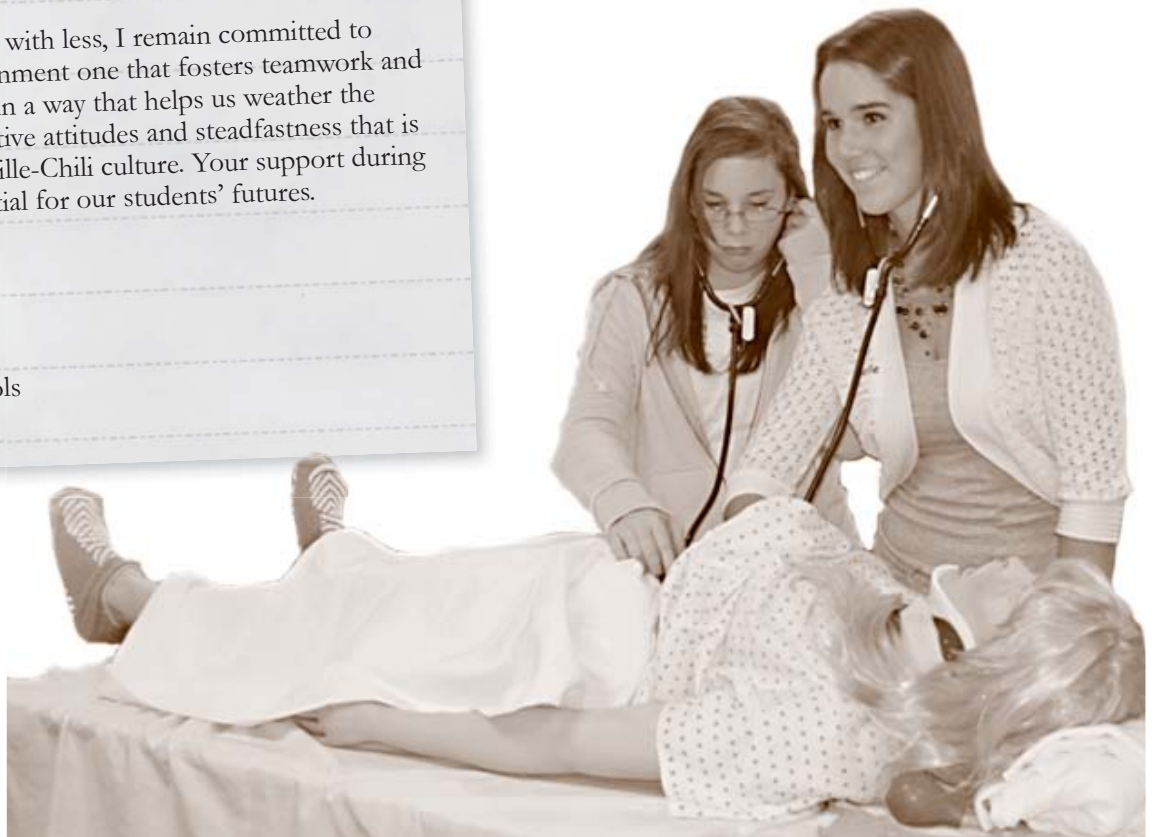
From talking to nurses in the field to using a programmable dummy to replicate various health care scenarios, high school students from Churchville-Chili joined students from other local districts to explore a career in nursing at a BOCES 2 Project ADEPT workshop on November 23. The seminar, held at BOCES 2 in Spencerport, provided students with an overview of the profession, and helped them understand the trends that are impacting both the preparation for nursing and the daily practice of nurses.

"We need nurses and the best way to get nurses is to get out there and share our stories and spark their interest," said Presenter Sandra Brzoza, associate professor of Nursing and Director of the RN to BS program at Roberts Wesleyan College.

Nursing requires a variety of skills, including science, math, people skills, and problem-solving Brzoza explained to students at last week's workshop.

Project ADEPT (A Diversified Enrichment Program for the Talented) is an offering of the Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Department of Gifted and Talented Education. More than two dozen students attended the nursing seminar.

Churchville-Chili high school students Tori Sietmann and Danielle Fox listen to the vital signs of a programmable dummy at the recent nursing seminar



Greetings from Washington, D.C.

Eleventh and twelfth-grade AP History high school students got an up close look at history during a trip to Washington, D.C. where they took in the sites, met with a member of Congress, and even caught up with a 2006 Churchville-Chili graduate whose career has led him to the nation's capital.

The 43 students were accompanied by Social Studies teacher Elizabeth Hoelper and chaperones Mary Kay Maslanka and Kathy Buckley. Among the many highlights, the trip included a tour of the U.S. Capitol Building and White House, which was decorated for the holidays, and a visit to the Washington Monument and Arlington Cemetery, where students got to witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Students visited the National Museum of American History, the Smithsonian Institute National Museum of Natural History, and the National Archives where they saw the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. They also visited the Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Jefferson, Lincoln, World-War II, Vietnam and Korea veterans' memorials.

For fun, students visited the Hard Rock Café, spent an afternoon on the National Mall, and had dinner in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. During a meeting with Congressman Chris Lee at the Capitol Building, students got to talk with 2006 Churchville-Chili graduate Ryan Hosie who works in the Congressman's office.



Psych students visit MS

At the end of November students from the high school psychology class took a trip to the Middle School to read with the sixth-graders in Mrs. Previte's reading extension group. High school teacher, Ms. Carl, had her students use an activity they did in class interpreting children's dream books to create lessons on reading comprehension and turning story boards into game boards for the sixth-graders. The high school students then taught the lessons they created at the middle school library.



Kudos to Santa's helpers

On December 4, seven Churchville-Chili high school students volunteered to help out at Heritage Christian Services' "Breakfast with Santa" event at Springdale Farms in Ogden. Student helped set-up and break-down tables, serve breakfast, and they sang when Santa arrived.

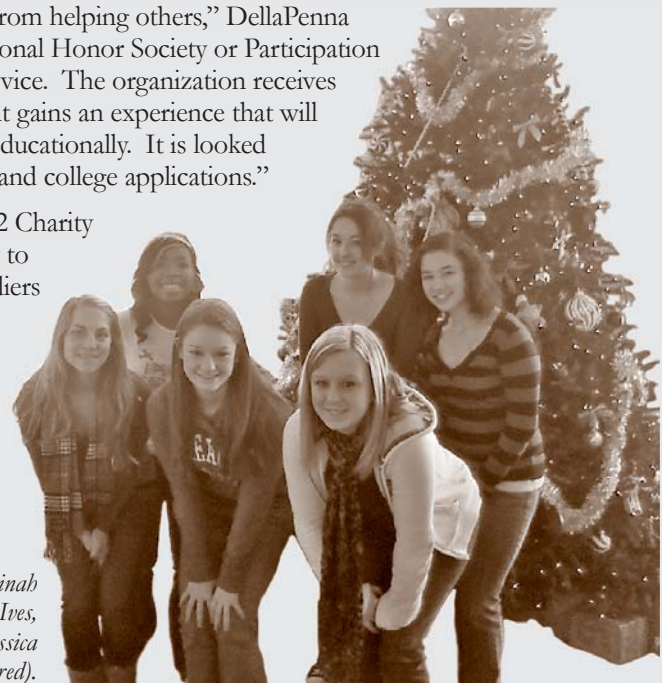
Kim Kennedy, volunteer coordinator for HCS, said the students did an excellent job and received numerous compliments from families and farm staff. The "Breakfast with Santa" fundraiser supports educational programming at the farm.

The volunteer effort was coordinated by the Class of 2012 Charities Committee, headed up by class vice-president Melissa LaCelle. According to Class of 2012 co-advisor Linda DellaPenna, the charity committee has organized one activity each month aimed at giving students volunteer opportunities.

"Many students gain pleasure from helping others," DellaPenna said. "It can count toward National Honor Society or Participation in Government community service. The organization receives the needed help and the student gains an experience that will benefit them emotionally and educationally. It is looked favorably upon in scholarship and college applications."

In November, the class of 2012 Charity Committee organized an effort to make homemade cards for soldiers in Afghanistan. In January, the junior class will sponsor a dance and, in conjunction, a collection of children's books for charity. Students who donate a book will receive a glow in the dark necklace in return.

Student volunteers included Shekinah Vaughn, Alexa Dunlap, Jane Ives, Lindsay Lupiani, Sarah Daniels, Jessica Bray and Braidie LeClair (not pictured).



Churchville-Chili Girls Lacrosse celebrates milestone

Churchville-Chili Girls Varsity Lacrosse Players Kristin Boland and Kristi Korn signed letters of intent to play at the college level next fall. Boland will play Division I Lacrosse for Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia and Korn will play Division II Lacrosse for Pfeiffer University in Charlotte, North Carolina.

According to Athletic Coordinator Chris Daly, Korn and Boland are the first female lacrosse players to sign letters of intent since Churchville-Chili's program began six years ago.



On Monday, December 6, Churchville-Chili Girls Varsity Lacrosse players Kristin Boland, flanked by her parents Gary and Nancy, and Kristi Korn, joined by her parents Amy and Dave and her younger sister Kelly, both signed letters of intent to play college-level lacrosse.



"It speaks highly of the quality of kids in our program and the coaches," he said. "It's rewarding to see the fruits of their hard work and dedication paying off."

Boland, 17, has played Lacrosse for Churchville since seventh grade. The upcoming season will mark her second year playing at the varsity level. As the team's goalie, Girls Varsity Lacrosse coach Robert Dunham said Boland is determined, hard working, fearless, and a team leader.

"She's the general on the field," Dunham said. "She's someone who's not afraid to take charge in the back and get her teammates where they need to be, when they need to be there."

Boland said being a goalie is not the most glamorous position on the team.

"It's kind of a bittersweet position," she said. "You enjoy it, but it's still not the most fun position to be in. The thrill of making a save kind of sticks with you and motivates you."

Boland was on 1st team All-County and was voted Most Valuable Player by her Churchville-Chili teammates last year. Her parents are Nancy and Gary, and her siblings Ryan, Jennifer and Nate all graduated from Churchville-Chili.

Korn, 17, has played on the Churchville-Chili varsity team since she was a freshman. She's played lacrosse in the district and on the Lady Roc Lacrosse travel team since seventh-grade. A center midfielder, Dunham said, when Korn puts her mind to it, she can take over a game.

"She has great vision on the field and her shooting is always on point," Dunham said. "She's got a very good game awareness. She knows where to be and when to be there. She's a real dependable stick."

Korn scored 53 goals last season. She was captain of the Churchville-Chili team and also played on 1st team All-County. She said lacrosse appeals to her because it is fast-paced and competitive.

"I'd always hoped I could get a scholarship for lacrosse," she said. "I feel very accomplished that I have reached my goal."

Korn said she hopes to bring "a lot of fun, energy, and a powerful force in the midfield" to Pfeiffer.

Young writers get a lesson in Flash Fiction

Over 30 middle school students from Churchville-Chili, Wheatland-Chili and Brockport schools learned how to tell a story in a page or less at a Discovery Project ADEPT workshop on Fractioned Fiction recently at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES in Spencerport. Storyteller and writer Judy DeCroce, a former educator in the Gates Chili school district, helped students develop a character, setting, plot, hook and an unexpected twist to leave the reader wanting more. In writing their own Fractioned Fiction pieces, students analyzed the power of words and learned how to be concise by saying more with less. In addition, students had an opportunity to edit and share feedback about their stories. Project ADEPT workshops are offered by Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Department of Gifted and Talented Education.

The Churchville-Chili students who attended were: eighth-graders David Smith, Brianna Starr, Katrena Lawrence, Rachel Lintz and Olivia Thimm and seventh-graders Molly Domkowski and Madie Santangelo.



Lacrosse Player signs with Bryant University

Surrounded by family, friends, teammates and current and former sports coaches, Churchville-Chili senior Ryan Yunker signed a letter of intent in November to play Division I Lacrosse at Bryant University next fall. Former Boys Varsity Lacrosse coach and a physical education teacher at Churchville-Chili Middle School, David Childs said playing in Division I sports in college is something many student athletes dream of, but few accomplish.

“It is a combination of hard work, talent, passion for the sport, as well as a dedication to reaching one’s potential,” said Childs. “It is a commitment to excellence in academics and athletics.”

Ryan began playing Lacrosse in fifth-grade. In eighth-grade, Ryan played on Churchville-Chili’s JV team, earning a spot on Varsity when he was just a freshman. Since then, the attackman has scored at least one point in every Churchville-Chili Varsity game he’s played. With 178 points since his freshman year, Ryan holds the record for career points at Churchville-Chili. He has also ranks second all-time in the number of assists (66) and goals (112) in a season.

In the off-season, Ryan plays with the Rochester Blaze, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes National High School Team, and he also played with the Western Team in the Empire State Games this year. He was a member of Team Rochester, which brought home the 2010 Brogden Cup Champion, and has also volunteers his time as a youth coach and referee in the Churchville-Chili Lacrosse Club.

His academic achievements are just as impressive. Childs said Ryan has kept a 90 or above GPA for three years, helping the team earn the New York State Scholar Athlete Award.

“I’ve learned that if you want something, work as hard as humanly possible and your goals are more easily attainable than you would ever imagine,” Ryan said.

Ryan’s father Todd is a principal at Fairbanks Road Elementary school, his mother Renée is a speech pathologist in the middle school, his sister Kaeli is a sophomore at Churchville-Chili High School, and his brother Corey is a fifth-grader in the district.

Bryant University is located in Smithfield, Rhode Island. In 2011, the Bulldogs Lacrosse team is eligible for the NCAA tournament. The team is led by coach Mike Pressler.

Churchville-Chili Senior Ryan Yunker signed letter of intent to play Division I Lacrosse at Bryant University. He was joined by (l-r) his mother Renée, brother Corey, sister Kaeli, grandmother and grandfather Angelin and Angelo Furioso, and father Todd.



Operation “Sweet Tooth”

Chestnut Ridge Elementary recently sent seven boxes of candy to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and they’ve still got three more to send. Students and families were asked to donate candy from October 28 through November 4. The response was overwhelming, said fourth-grade teacher and a member of the CRS Social Committee, Anne Edelman.

Three boxes of candy were shipped to special education teacher Carolyn Fafinski’s nephew Colonel Thomas Fafinski who is serving in the Air Force in Afghanistan, four boxes were shipped to Air Force Airman Mark Van Kooten who is serving in Iraq, and one box was donated to Sharon Arthur, whose granddaughter is a former Chestnut Ridge student. A member of the Chili American Legion Women’s Auxiliary, Arthur does a presentation for all the fourth grade classrooms each year on Veterans’ Day and Flag Day. There are three more boxes to be shipped to Edelman’s son-in-law Dennis Koenig who is stationed in Iraq. The Parent Teacher Organization paid for the postage to send the candy.



In return, the CRS community received letters and framed certificates signed by Mark Van Kooten and the troops he’s stationed with in Camp Fernandez Long Plank, Iraq. The donation, dubbed “Operation Sweet Tooth” by the camp members, was a huge success, Van Kooten wrote.

“You should be proud of your efforts and that you touched so many Airmen, Marines, Seabees and soldiers,” he wrote. “I think we’ll all need to visit the dentist in the near future.”

Chestnut Ridge has been supporting the troops with similar efforts for years, Edelman said. Students in the school recently helped decorate cards and make ornaments for trees which were donated to families with members serving overseas through Stokoe Farms “Trees for Troops” program.

Having connections to individuals serving in the military allows the school to send their support directly to those on the frontlines, said Edelman, whose own son and nephew who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“When you have a soldier in the family, colleagues, children, or relatives serving, it brings it home,” she said.

What a sweet story...only qualm...no chocolate. Apparently it doesn’t hold up in the heat in the Middle East.

Career Day helps students “frame their futures”

Churchville-Chili’s Ninth Grade Academy students interacted with more than 40 experts in over a dozen different career fields at the third annual Career Day on Friday, December 10. Students had the opportunity to sit-in on four career workshops throughout the day. Topics included arts and humanities, business and information systems, engineering and technology, health services, human and public services, natural and agricultural sciences, skilled trades, and marketing and communications.

Ann Marie Maher, career education coordinator at the high school, said the goal of the Ninth Grade Academy Career Day is to get students thinking early about their career so they can decide which classes and activities to get involved with.

“Our goal is to spark interest in our students in a career and help them see the linkage between their academics and the future,” she said.

Shannon Lapin, a public relations specialist with Eric Mower and Associates, advised students interested in pursuing a career in marketing and communications to get hands-on experience through activities like the school newspaper or yearbook. She also suggested students start building a network of people who can help them meet their future career goals.

“It’s never too early to start building your own personal network,” she said. “Those

people can help you connect to jobs or internships.”

This was Physical Therapist Amanda Piatek’s second year volunteering for the Ninth Grade Academy Career Day. The Churchville-Chili alumna said she thinks the activity shows students that the decisions they make and skills they learn in high school do have an impact on their future careers.

“It’s not just learning for a test,” she said, “it’s learning for the future.”

Student Dino Labbate said the information provided at the health services panel discussion was very useful.

“I’ve always thought that doctors and medical stuff was interesting, but it’s a lot of hard work and you have to get good grades in high school” said Labbate. “I got a ton of information and they really let me know what the job entails.”

The Career Academy is the result of a partnership between the Ninth Grade Academy, the Senior High School College and Career Center and Parent/Teacher Organization, and the Monroe County School-Business Partnership, coordinated by Jeff Dillon of Monroe #1 BOCES. Gayle Jagel, CEO and founder of The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), an entrepreneurial educational program for middle and high school students, was this year’s keynote speaker.

Churchville-Chili alumnae Mary Beth Dillon, and twins Amy and Amanda Piatek talked to students about pursuing a career in health services. Dillon is a registered nurse who works at Highland Hospital. Amy and Amanda Piatek are working as physical therapists.



Shannon Lapin, a public relations specialist with Eric Mower and Associates, talks to students during the Ninth Grade Academy Career Day on Friday, December 10.

A lesson on Native Americans

Fourth-graders at Churchville-Chili’s Chestnut Ridge Elementary School recently got a hands-on lesson centered on the Iroquois tribes who used to inhabit New York State. Students made a dreamcatcher, a paper canoe, a mask, a ceremonial turtle rattle, wampum belts, and they had a chance to play Native American games in school on Monday and Tuesday, November 22 and 23.



Construction project kicks-off

The Churchville-Chili School District embarked upon a three-year \$55.9 million Capital Improvement Project with a ground-breaking on Tuesday, November 30. Voters approved the project in December 2008. In late-November, district administrators, Board of Education members, and officials with SEI Design Group Architecture and Campus Construction dug shovels into the ground and smashed a brick wall in the Middle School gym C to kick-off the next phase of the project.

“This project is the result of hundreds of hours of planning and preparation to create the kind of 21st century school our students need and deserve,” said Churchville-Chili Superintendent Pam Kissel. “This is not just construction; it is an investment in the future of our children and the entire Churchville-Chili community that is needed now more than ever.”

As part of the project, the sewage system on the district’s main campus has been connected to the county’s system resulting in the district-run treatment plant being decommissioned and removed from the premises.

Now work begins on additions, renovations and new construction at Churchville-Chili’s Middle and High School. The project is expected to take place in phases over the next three years.

The Middle School will see the addition of several new classrooms, a new hallway, a new gym, and a second connecting bridge. Upgrades to parking and roadways on the main campus will start March 2011 and go through the summer.

At the High School, the auxiliary gym will be renovated into a new fitness center, the

gym A locker rooms will be renovated, more classrooms will be added, and the exiting fitness room will be renovated into new instructional spaces. Approximately half of the existing High School classrooms will be renovated next summer. Plans also include a new main entrance and auditorium at the High School, among other renovations. For more information on the Capital Improvement Project, visit the district website at www.ccsd.org.



Churchville-Chili Superintendent Pam Kissel takes a sledgehammer to a wall in the Middle School gym



Third-graders help high school students solve the puzzle

Students from Brian Young’s Design and Drawing for Production class recently paid a visit to Tina Jones’ third grade class in an effort to get feedback on wooden cube puzzles that they made as part of a class assignment. The students were given a hypothetical task: come up with a toy to entertain and teach geometry to Mrs. Jones’ students in a short period of time. The ninth and tenth-graders in Young’s class paired up with third-graders in Jones’ class and ran several three-minute trials to see whether their puzzles were too hard or too easy to solve. The data will be analyzed in class to determine what changes should be made in the Design and Drawing students’ puzzles. Meanwhile, students in Tina Jones’ class got to keep the puzzles.



Varsity hockey team raises money for breast cancer research



On Sunday, November 21, members of the Churchville-Chili Varsity Hockey team raised more than \$1,300 for the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester. They will present the check at the December home game. This is an annual fundraiser that the team does each November.

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Jingle Bell “rocks” Fairbanks Road Elementary

Fairbanks Road Elementary School students learned how to “Jingle Bell Rock” from Churchville-Chili’s High School Dance II students in physical education classes on Friday, December 17. In October, the Dance II class visited Fairbanks Road to teach students the “Monster Mash.” Third-grader Sarah Huffman said she has

really enjoyed dancing in gym class.

“They really get your energy out,” she said of the Dance II students.

The dancers used advice like “make it snow, sugar your cookies and ride your horse” to describe the choreography to the elementary school students.



Information for 2011 Kindergarten Registration

The district is gearing up for the registration of our incoming 2011 Kindergartners. Any child who reaches their 5th birthday on or before December 1, 2011 is eligible to attend kindergarten for the 2011-12 school year. We have a listing of eligible children based on the census that was taken last fall. Kindergarten registration paperwork will be mailed to those homes by Friday, January 28, 2011.

If you did not complete a census form last fall indicating children in your family who are pre-school age, or if you are new to the district and have a child who is eligible to attend kindergarten in September 2011, please contact our district registrar, Geri Pehta, at 293-1800, ext. 2041, or email gpehta@cccsd.org. Please be prepared to provide: your name, address, phone number, along with your child’s name and date of birth. Once the information is received, registration paperwork will be mailed.

Churchville-Chili’s 2010 National Honor Society Induction

Churchville-Chili Senior High School saw 85 new juniors and seniors inducted into the National Honor Society on Monday, November 8. To meet NHS requirements, students must have an overall average of 88 or above, demonstrate leadership in or outside of school, have two letters of recommendation from faculty, and must complete 10 hours or more of volunteer work each year of high school. This year’s ceremony included a message from National Honor Society Teacher of the Year Ms. Mimi Rague. Officers for the year are President Sarah Wooton; Vice-president Shannon Conheady; Treasurer Kate Cox, and Secretary Vicki Baum. Teacher Paul Glor is the club advisor.

