

A community newsletter from  
the Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES  
your educational partner of choice

June

# TOGETHER

2011



## Students gain valuable skills belonging to 4-H Club

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at Westside

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*A*mie Cressman, program leader from the Lake Plains 4-H Youth Development office, presented Jahaan Ross (inset) and the 4-H students Hunter Hooker (l-r), Mykla Binion, Tatianna Cunico, Madelyn Linderman and Austin Neva with certificates of participation and ribbons for their oral presentations based on the stories written in their weekly 4-H journals.

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## Mission

We provide quality, cost-effective educational services in partnership with school districts and the community in a manner that supports excellence and equity for all learners.

## Vision

The Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES is the educational partner of choice. We serve the diverse needs of our community, helping all students achieve their full potential.

**BOCES 2:**

- Provides service of unparalleled excellence
- Demonstrates expertise
- Encourages innovation
- Shows caring and respect for all
- Demonstrates integrity and accountability
- Is cost effective
- Is responsive and flexible
- Employs a quality workforce

We are committed to customer satisfaction, continuous improvement, and personal and professional growth.

# Bridging the gap between data and results

Over 200 educators and administrators are a step ahead of Race to the Top requirements thanks to a Collaborative Inquiry Teams Professional Development Series offered through the Monroe 2–Orleans and Monroe #1 BOCES Monroe/Orleans Accountability, Assessment and Reporting Services (MAARS). The series is designed for teachers and administrators, and is offered to component districts at no additional cost.

Last August, New York State received \$696,646,000 as a winner in the second round of Race to the Top, a competitive U.S. Department of Education (USED) grant. To meet funding criteria, districts across the state must develop common core standards, new annual professional performance reviews, and create and train collaborative inquiry teams by the summer of 2011.

The goal of Collaborative Inquiry Teams is to build a high performance data culture in a school district using results on state assessments, all the way down to the student's work in the classroom, said MAARS Staff Developer Lorena Stabins.

"There's a lot of data out there and many districts aren't sure what to do with it all; how does this translate into their instruction in the classroom?" she said. "The goal is to dig down deeper and have rich conversations about student learning."

Collaborative Inquiry aims to get teachers and administrators working together to identify common challenges, analyze relevant data, and test out instructional approaches to increase student performance.

"Many schools are already looking at student data," said Stabins. "The professional development series is aimed at giving them a structured experience with the collaborative inquiry process. It includes building data literacy, participating in a meaningful and purposeful data driven dialogue, developing proficiency with data analysis, and interpreting student data to develop action plans and monitor student progress."

Molly Corey, an enrichment specialist at Spencerport Central's Terry Taylor Elementary, said the series helped staff learn how to unpack data in order to make data-driven instructional decisions.

"It's just learning to go deeper with performance indicators, and using a variety of resources to get down to understanding how a student thinks," Corey said. "We think we're pretty good at data, but now we can say we're even better."

A Collaborative Inquiry team may take a question many students missed on an exam, break it down to all the skills and concepts a student would need to know in order to answer the question correctly, and then analyze students' answers to see where the misunderstanding might be.

"Do they have to go back and re-teach something, explain it a different way, or is it more of a need for a change in curriculum?" said Stabins. "Sometimes you might ask students more questions or ask them to explain how they solved a problem to tease out which part they don't understand."

Brainstorming why students may be having difficulty grasping a concept requires a collaborative culture based on a shared commitment to equity and trust.

"It's really a change in the school culture because it's more shared leadership and decision making based on the data," said Stabins.

Presenters Lorena Stabins and MAARS Director Michelle Ryan based the Collaborative Inquiry series on Nancy Love's "The Data Coach's Guide to Improving Learning for All Students: Unleashing the Power of Collaborative Inquiry" and Harvard Education's "Data-wise: A Step-by-Step Guide to using Assessment Results to Improve Teaching and Learning." Brighton, East Irondequoit, Honeoye Falls-Lima, Spencerport, West Irondequoit, Webster, East Rochester, Greece, Holley, Kendall, Penfield, and Wheatland-Chili have participated.

Ty Zinkiewich, Principal at Spencerport High School and soon to be Assistant Superintendent for Instruction in the Spencerport School District, said the MAARS training came at a perfect time.

"I think all of us will be required to do this, and I believe we're further ahead through these workshops BOCES provided," he said.

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# Team building at Westside Academy creates a learning community for all

Building a community within their school is the reason Westside Academy Teachers Eileen Gibbons and Mary Ann Rzeszutek decided to pitch their idea of team teaching, for one day a week with a concentration on one subject, to Westside Principal, Maureen Viel.

“I thought this was a fantastic way to connect our community,” said Viel. “This is another innovative way that staff at Westside Academy strive to meet the academic and social needs of our students.”

Westside Academy offers a smaller school setting for students in grades 7 through 12 to ensure that students receive individual attention to enhance their academic success and to instill a sense of belonging. Staff members work closely with students and their families.

“We began by meeting with a small group composed of teachers, student behavioral assistants, and social workers,” said Gibbons, “to come up with ideas to structure one day each week to focus on team building and group activities all while team teaching.”

Their idea became *Wednesdays at Westside* with a concentration on the central theme of Egypt. In various classes, the students learned about mummies, hieroglyphics, and propaganda and

created their own clay canopic jars (used in ancient Egypt to hold the mummy’s organs). There was a lesson on the recent revolution in Egypt, the role of social media in the revolution, and a PE class with a team building exercise of tug-of-war, which is an ancient Egyptian game.

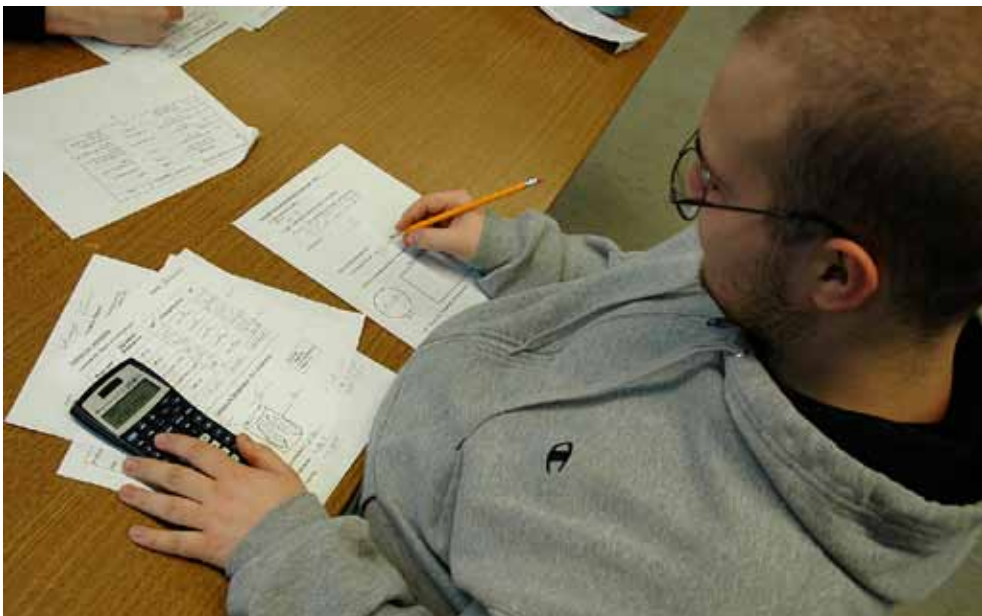
“Students learned that subject matter can cross over from math to art, and science to social studies,” said Gibbons. While creating the clay canopic jars, the students first had to determine the volume of the jar.

Staff from Camp Stella Maris gave a school wide team building session to start the day so students could learn more about each other and work together to problem solve.

“This activity allowed the students to interact with students other than their friends,” Rzeszutek said. “It was good for the younger students to interact with older students, and I noticed behavioral improvements.”

Teachers also learned a great deal during *Wednesdays at Westside*, and are already planning for future classes and projects.

“I learned how other teachers teach and deal with behaviors that I see in my classes,” said Rzeszutek. “I really enjoyed working with the entire staff at Westside. Everyone’s ideas and efforts made it all work!”



Tom Timmons figures out the volume of the canopic jar he will create out of clay.

## Progress Monitoring helps students become successful learners

“The Department for Exceptional Children has implemented Progress Monitoring to help educators better understand our students’ learning and more importantly to help students understand themselves as learners,” said Sue Pratt, assistant director for the Department for Exceptional Children.

Progress Monitoring promotes thoughtful and reflective instruction making teaching and team planning even more strategic. All team members (teacher, speech teacher, assistive technology specialist, occupational and physical therapists) working with a student and their family are responsible for setting goals and identifying areas of improvement in the skill areas of literacy and math to ensure the students advance in their learning by finding the point of their difficulty and working on a solution.

The Department for Exceptional Children at BOCES 2 has been designated a Progress Monitoring Best Practice site by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) through the Supporting Successful Strategies to Achieve Improved Results (S3TAIR) Project. The designation was awarded based on information and data provided around the effort as well as on site observations by the SED evaluation team.

“We received high scores in the evaluation areas including: Use of Data to Inform Decisions, Fidelity of Implementation, Evidence of Impact, Evidence of Systemic Support for the Practice and Evidence of Sustainability,” said Pratt. A NYSED comment was, “this is an exciting model to replicate for BOCES, as well as providing a working model for secondary programs.”

# Elementary Science Program is on the road



Parents got a glimpse into their children's science classrooms during Kendall Elementary School's Family Fun Night, as representatives from Monroe 2—Orleans BOCES Elementary Science Program (ESP) were on hand with a number of fun and educational activities. ESP has a hands-on, interdisciplinary curriculum that converts the classroom into a science laboratory, and Kendall has offered a variety of units from ESP.

BOCES 2 Science Resource Teachers Antonietta Quinn and Nancy Shellenberger presented activities from several of the units. Parents and students were invited to use the Galileo scope used in the grades 5 through 8 Astronomy unit. The ESP booth featured a popular third-grade Buoyancy activity involving three balls (rubber, Styrofoam, and clay) of the same size and shape. Students were challenged to predict which would sink and float in a container of water, and then test their prediction.

Two circuits from the Grade 4 Electrical Circuits unit were on display. Another activity involved students sorting 10 buttons into two groups based on properties such as size, shape, color, and texture. As part of the first grade unit From Seed to Plant, students were invited to plant tomato seeds in cups to take home.



Teacher Nancy Shellenberger (left) and Brianna Drennan try an experiment.

Students and parents could view earthworms with a hand lens, and test earthworms' preferences by shining a flashlight into their plastic container to observe how they behaved. The earthworms responded by moving to the dark part of the container because that is the environment they prefer. Lastly, there was a sampling of rocks and minerals from the Rocks and Minerals unit for grades 5-8 on display for students to ask questions and observe with hand lenses.

## BOCES 2 Retirees honored



On May 20, Superintendent Jo Anne Antonacci together with Board members, past retirees and department directors honored new retirees for their years of service to the students of BOCES 2 and our component districts at a luncheon created by WEMOCO Culinary Arts and Baking students.

The retirees are: Joan Brown, Carol Hopson, Michael Walsh, David Bachman, Irene Cavallaro, Bruce Clark, Sophie Dentlinger, Barbara Flavin, Joyce Foos, Barbara Grady, Jean Grammatico,

Peggy Grape, Virginia Hand, Janet Herman, Mary Horst-Kotter, Ishrat Hussain, Gail Iacovangelo, Karen Keck, Candace Kent, Lynne Knight, Eileen Lamb, Mary McColleston, Toni Mignemi, Veronica Plovovich, Stella Ponticello, Mary Rodgers, Mary Lou Schloss, Sandra Seehafer-Dziok, Gail Stiles, Lee Ann Timmons, Maureen Veil and Deborah Worden.

Each retiree received a frame covered jewelry box engraved with their name in thanks for their dedication and commitment to BOCES 2.

## Student artwork sells at art show

Students of Art Teacher Bryce Doty in the BOCES 2 Alternative High School and Therapeutic Day Program received some exciting news at the *ArtPeace Shakedown 2011*, an exhibit of student artwork, at the Village Gate in the city of Rochester. "A local business man purchased all thirty pieces of their artwork," said Doty "to let our students know they should continue to use art as a form of expression."

"It was an investment in the future, as I fully expect to see these names in the Memorial Art Gallery some day," said Eric Loyd, President and CTO of Bitnetix Incorporated.

## Work study students thank employers

The BOCES 2 Work Study Program welcomed more than 200 students, staff, and special guests to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Employer Appreciation Breakfast. The ceremony included a presentation of awards and recognition of students and their employers.

The work study program for transition students, ages 18 to 21, provided work and training opportunities with area companies.

Three employers were recognized with a framed certificate of appreciation for going above and beyond to support the students and the program. The Exceptional Sheltered Employer Award went to Rochester Rehabilitation Center Out-Source, The Exceptional Enclave Employer Award went to Unity Health System, St. Mary's; and the Exceptional Community Employer Award went to Jackson Welding.

Outstanding students were also recognized for their extra efforts, strong work ethic, maintaining positive relationships, using manners, and being prepared.

"Never give up on anyone, no matter where their hard times have put them," said Neal Peck, transition student. He said the program has taught him to keep moving forward.

Also recognized was retiring BOCES 2 Job Coach Peggy Grape for her years of dedication and service to the program and its students.

The breakfast was dedicated to Joseph Kelly, BOCES 2 assistant superintendent for Instructional Programs. Kelly has advocated for students and allowed the program to provide services for students with a variety of disabilities as they gain the work skills needed to successfully transition to competitive employment.



Rochester Rehab Center Out-Source, St. Mary's, and Jackson Welding, respectively, accept Exceptional Employer Awards for sheltered, enclave, and community employer.

Photo by Ashley Riviere

From the cover

## Students gain valuable skills belonging to 4-H Club

The students of BOCES 2 Teacher Diana Dooling and Speech Teacher Marina Fery enjoy participating in their award winning 4-H Club each week at Neil Armstrong Elementary, and they have certificates and ribbons to prove it.

"We have a themed activity every week that complements English Language Arts, science, and current events topics," said Fery. She has led the official 4-H club for 20 years.

Being part of a club enables students to practice turn taking skills and expressive and receptive language skills through the group participation. "The students also experience belonging to an after school club while in school," said Fery.

They work on an experience book all year long and the book is entered in the Monroe County Fair and the New York State Fair. Over the last few years, their entries have won ribbons at each of the fairs.

The students also create individual 4-H books that they take home at the end of the school year. The book includes experience stories written as a group at the end of every 4-H meeting. "Over the years I have met parents of past students who tell me that their child still has their 4-H book and reads it often," said Fery. "The language that is in the stories is the students' ideas and words. They have ownership of this weekly activity."

## CWD and the city of Rochester — a partnership that's working

At a recent breakfast meeting, the Center for Workforce Development (CWD) Advisory Group had the pleasure of hearing Phil LaPorta, manager of Training and Safety for the city of Rochester, talk about the city's Comprehensive Employee Training Plan, which includes a partnership with CWD.

CWD courses being offered to city employees include: Emerging Leaders: A Middle Manager Program taught by Robert Belmont; Business English and Communications taught by Beth Cimo; Time and Task Management taught by Vivian Cook-Johnson; Computer Software Training taught by Dianne Madore; Communicating with Tact and Diplomacy, and Test Taking Strategies both taught by Linda Rabjohn; Customer Service Techniques taught by Tracy Hinkley and Critical Thinking for Effective Decision Making taught by Ginny Rizzo. Partnering with CWD makes quality training more affordable for the city. "Our goal is to make people a success at what they do regardless of the economy and deficit," said LaPorta.

The city's Strategic Training and Development Process begins with a development plan for each employee that includes the individual's profile, mandatory requirements for training, a list of general skills and competencies, and short, midterm, and longterm goals. The Office of Training and Safety, part of the Bureau of Human Resource Management, has an extensive catalog of services and schedules training sessions semi-annually.

Employees benefit from the process by being able to participate in training that helps them track their progress toward goals, use their talents and acquire skills, and discuss and develop keys to their success.

Management gets an overview of the talent available to them, and is able to perform needs assessments and align their departments with the city's vision. It's a win-win with the city and CWD.

# BOCES 2 Ceremonies Honor

*These images are of BOCES 2 students, their families, and staff from the ceremonies for WEMOCO/CTE, Therapeutic Day Program, Alternative High School, Westside Academy, Special Education Moving On, Preschool, and Project SEARCH.*

*Photos by Jackie Finn*



# Student Achievement

# 2011



## WEMOCO student inducted into *Youth Hall of Fame*

Senior Jared Wilson, in Digital Communications and Media Production, was one of two students inducted into the Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce 2011 Youth Hall of Fame.

The Youth Hall of Fame award recognized those young adults who have demonstrated, through contributions to the community and outstanding achievements, their personal growth and development.

Churchville-Chili School Counselor, Margie Rudy, wrote in her nomination letter, "What makes Jared worthy of this honor is his incredible kindness, his maturity, his ability to connect with the people in his life. Here is a young man who has every reason to be bitter about what life has thrown his way, yet I have never heard him speak a harsh word about anyone nor have I ever witnessed him trying to use his situation as an excuse as to why he cannot do something. Jared is compassionate, extremely respectful, and grateful to anyone who has helped him along the way." Jared, who is legally blind, plans to attend Monroe Community College in the fall and then hopes to attend SUNY Purchase to pursue a degree in studio recording.

He received awards and recognition from Churchville Mayor Nancy Steedman, Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks, Churchville-Chili Superintendent Dr. Pam Kissel, Churchville-Chili Board President Sheryl Johnson, Monroe County Legislature Robert Colby, Greater Churchville-Riga Chamber of Commerce President Sue Davis, town of Riga board members, and the village of Churchville board members.



Jared holds up one of his awards with staff members from BOCES 2 who attended the ceremony. They are Arlene Covella (l-r), Debbie Breese-Garelick, Shawna Gareau-Kurtz, and Mary Kay Appleby. Also attending the ceremony was BOCES 2 Digital Communications and Media Production teacher Rob Linton.

## Center for Workforce Development *celebrates the success of 37 GED students*

In a touching ceremony, 37 graduates walked across the stage at the BOCES 2 Educational Services Center to receive their General Education Diplomas (GED). Each graduate had taken his or her own special journey to get to that proud moment, and several shared their stories.

Janice Snipes said she didn't even finish the ninth grade. Her son and her mother inspired her to begin studying for her GED test with the help of Center for Workforce Development (CWD) instructors. "My mother told me that I had great potential, so I decided on Mother's Day to begin the program here," said Snipes. "Ray Marks was my favorite teacher. He helped me conquer my fears."

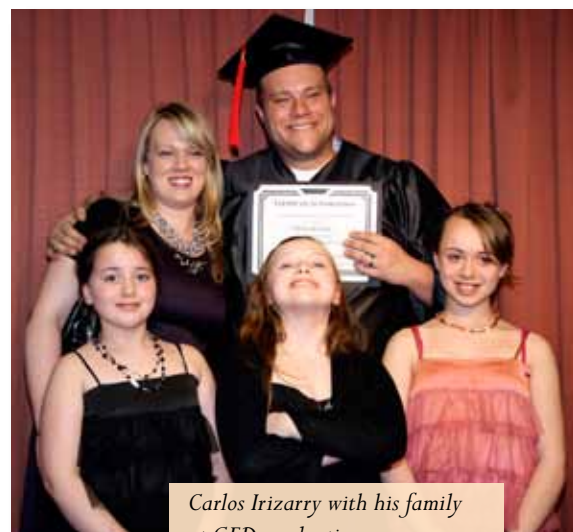
"Each of you honored graduates has had the foresight to take advantage of this pathway to achieving this important credential," said Joseph Kelly, assistant superintendent for Instructional Programs. "As unique as your stories might be, it is readily apparent that there are some important unifying and common similarities among you. You all have displayed great character, courage, persistence, commitment, and fortitude."

In addition to awarding 37 diplomas, the ceremony featured recognition for graduate Houston Daniels, who was named Student of the Year at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education held in Latham, NY earlier this year.

Concluding the ceremony was a special presentation to CWD teacher Kay Schneider, who is retiring after devoting 20 years to helping students obtain their GED.



Steve Elliott with his wife at GED graduation.



Carlos Irizarry with his family at GED graduation.



## Project SEARCH students transition to work

BOCES 2 Teacher Kim Zingaro together with staff members Cheryl Hamilton, Lana Wolcott, Sue Rizzo, and Julie Christensen, of the University of Rochester presented students with certificates of graduation from the Project SEARCH career development program.

Project SEARCH is a partnership between the BOCES 2 Department for Exceptional Children, Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong, the University of Rochester's Institute for Innovative Transition, and the Arc of Monroe County to provide training and education that will lead to employment, for students 18 to 21 with developmental disabilities.

Many of the Project SEARCH 2011 graduates have already obtained employment and all shared in their graduation speeches what they learned along with their thanks for the training and support from their teachers, parents, and hospital staff.

Congratulations to Cody Alvito, Sarah Andrew, Sean Kruse, Kellen Martin, Lindsay McCafferty, Jessica Measday, Katherine Phillips, and Joshua Sakulich.

*Ann Costello and Jim Murray of the Golisano Foundation congratulate Joshua Sakulich on his graduation from Project SEARCH.*



## A rite of passage happens, thanks to dedicated staff

For approximately 25 years, BOCES 2 teachers and staff members hosted dinner dances for students in BOCES 2 special education programs. Thanks to the teachers and staff members for all the memories and for helping to provide the students with this end of school rite of passage.

*Andy Rhodes, Kathy Knapton, Lenny Ruggles and Fred Parks have their photo taken as a remembrance at a dinner dance in the 1990's. Lenny who has passed away was the brother of BOCES 2 teachers Laura Maxon and Linda Ruggles.*



*Photo provided by Marilyn Cubitt, retired BOCES 2 teacher.*



*Kathy Phillips, special education supervisor, and Kristen Reynolds dance up a storm at the May 2011 dinner dance.*

*Photo by Mary Mort, BOCES 2 teacher*

## A moving lesson creates deeper understanding

Literacy partnered up with dance and made for an energetic English lesson at Kendall Elementary. Certified dance instructor Sarah Elizabeth Bennett led 40 kindergarteners and first-graders in Choreographed Connections, an offering of the Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Gifted and Talented Department Project ADEPT, a Diversified Enrichment Program for the Talented. The goal of the enrichment workshop was to show how language can be expressed in movement, how prepositions can influence the meaning of a sentence, and that dance can be used to express ideas and emotions.

"Stand on top of the hula hoop," Bennett told students. Then Bennett directed students to move around the outside of the hula hoop, and to work together with their partner to go under, then inside the hula hoop.

"When children learn words through movement and physical activity, it creates more stimulus and engages more of their synapses, which triggers a deeper understanding," said Bennett.

According to Rae Pica, an internationally recognized children's physical activity specialist, when children demonstrate the meaning of words

physically, their understanding of the words is immediate and long-lasting. For instance, when children depict words such as stomp, pounce, stalk, or slither, the words have more relevance than they would as part of a vocabulary or spelling list.

During the Project ADEPT Choreographed Connections workshop, students worked in groups of four to select the best preposition to complete a sentence. For example, The dinosaur stomped \_\_\_\_\_ the trees. Once the students settled on a word to fill in the blank, Bennett had them share their sentence with the rest of the class and then act it out with movement. The workshop also helped students understand how a team depends on each member to give their best.

Choreographed Connections supports several New York State learning standards including the Arts and English Language Arts. A dancer since the age of four, Bennett attended the School of the Arts in Rochester, has taken classes with Garth Fagan's Bucket Dance Company, and has also performed with the Brighton Theater Guild, among a long resume of accomplishments.

# SEPTO Fair is Fun for All

BOCES 2 Special Education Parent Teacher Organization (SEPTO) held the annual year-end Fun Fair. Students accompanied by their teachers were invited to play games for prizes, enjoy a picnic lunch, and share in outdoor activities. Students danced with clowns, participated in crafts, visited with therapy animals, and had their faces painted.

Director of the Department for Exceptional Children Barbara Martorana said students and staff look forward to this event each year, whether they are participating in games at the booths, or volunteering with younger students. She said the main purpose of the SEPTO event is to provide students with a rewarding year-end social experience and to celebrate their successes and hard work during the school year.

“This event is crucial for us, and is only possible with the support of parents and the community,” Martorana said.

SEPTO is an organization of parents and staff from the BOCES 2 community formed to address the concerns and need of students and their families.



*Justin Cruz, a third-grader, shows off his face paint and great smile.*



*Vinny DiLucia, a first-grader, tries a game at the fair.*

Photos by Ashley Rinzier



*Ready to play and explore at the fun fair are students and staff Christine Pisaturo-Pursel, Myles Stefl, Deb Brooks, Toni Harmer, Sophia Delaney, Andrew Schofield, Rose Liberi, Aaron Guiste, David McCann, Lynette Cliff, Taylor Rapke, and Adam Mattice from the 6:1:1 PDD class at Florence Brasser Elementary. Not picture are Barb Mason and Karen Braun.*

# Internship program provides students insight into careers

Students enrolled in the Career Education Internship Program (CEIP) shared their accomplishments at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual mentor appreciation and final presentations. CEIP has allowed high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to explore and learn about fields of their choice in a constructive environment with the help of area employers and BOCES 2 staff.

The students, collectively, from Wheatland-Chili and Holley High School gave presentations about their internship experience with their mentors and parents in the audience. BOCES 2 Program Coordinator JoAnne Placito said the students may choose up to four opportunities to intern in CEIP. Each session totals 108 hours of observation and interning along with employment and college prep classroom seminars.

“Most students really like the field they have chosen,” Placito said. “However, they may explore a different one and realize a whole new path that is even more fitting to them.”

Summer Smith, of Wheatland-Chili, has completed internships in both photography and the medical field. Smith discussed her experiences at Strong Memorial Hospital where she gained valuable knowledge that increased her interest in becoming a future pediatrician.

“I have a love for kids and medicine,” Smith said. “I learned a lot by observing.”

Placito said she is extremely passionate about CEIP because it provides students with the chance to learn skills and earn educational requirements. She said the students engage in meaningful learning experiences and become familiar with their particular area of interest.

“I have had the wonderful opportunity to watch the students develop into confident, responsible young adults,” Placito said.



*CEIP students Sierra Mendes (1-r), Mary Elliott, Melody Li, Summer Smith, Kim Lewis, and Valerie McCartney at the final presentations.*

## Spennacchio-Wagner appointed to NYACCE Board

Mary Ellen Spennacchio-Wagner, Center for Workforce Development (CWD) director, has been appointed to the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education (NYACCE) as a Finger Lakes regional coordinator. However, due to the geographic location of the BOCES 2 in western Monroe County and eastern Orleans County, she will be providing advocacy support for adult literacy, career education, and workforce initiatives at the New York State level for both the Finger Lakes and Western Regions.

“Adult Education embedded in the BOCES systems - at the NYS level – is finally being recognized as providing viable alternatives for life-long learning opportunities in literacy, short term job training, and community enhancement programs for both traditional and non-traditional adult students,” said Spennacchio-Wagner. “I look forward to serving this adult community to advocate for these much needed adult programs.”

NYACCE is a state-wide association which lobbies for adult literacy and career education programs rooted in the local educational communities, such as the BOCES and school districts.

Spennacchio-Wagner is in her 22nd year at BOCES 2. Before her current position as CWD director, she served as the supervisor in Adult Education, assistant to the director of Adult Education, and evening school coordinator.



Mary Ellen  
Spennacchio-Wagner

## STAFF NOTABLES

### Condolences to:

**Kathy Hoppe (EC)** on the passing of her husband; **Cindy Syrocki (EC)** and **Hugh Hogle IV (EC)** on the passing of their mother and grandmother respectively; **Clem Barkley (EC, retired)** on the passing of her husband; **Martha Buseck-Fischer (EC)** on the passing of her mother-in-law; **Janice Alaimo (EC)** on the passing of her mother-in-law; **Donna Clookey (EC)** on the passing of her stepfather; **Barb Martorana (EC)** on the passing of her stepfather; and **Suzie Gilliland (EC)** on the passing of her mother.

### Congratulations to:

**Traci Torrey (EC)** and husband, Tim, on the birth of daughter Teaghan Joy, **Maureen O'Connor-Maulfair (EC)** and husband, Richard, on the birth of son William Connor; and **Carrie McKain (EC)** and husband, Joe McKain, on the birth of their son Jayce Ryan.

## WEMOCO Precision Machining students place in competition



WEMOCO Precision Machining students placed in the annual Precision Machining Competition held at Monroe Community College's Applied Technologies Center. Jake Minaku (Greece CSD) placed third in the second year competition and Kyle Jenks (Holley CSD) placed third in the junior first year competition. “The competition is open to all machining students in New York State,” said BOCES 2 WEMOCO Teacher Len Hall. “Jake and Kyle will receive a plaque and a Kennedy tool box valued at \$250.00.” WEMOCO precision machining students Kyle Jenks (l-r), Jake Minaku, and Jeff Baker posed for a photo at the competition.

## WEMOCO Culinary Arts students win scholarships



Three BOCES 2 WEMOCO Culinary Arts students win scholarships. Nikkia Frongetta (second from left) has received the Wegmans Scholarship of \$2,000 for every semester she attends college. Nikkia is planning to attend Genesee Community College. Frank Carroll and Alana Nisbeth have each received a scholarship of \$1,000 from the New York State Restaurant Association, Rochester Chapter. Frank will attend Johnson and Wales College, and Alana will attend the Art Institute of Atlanta and both will study culinary arts. The scholarship winners are students of Culinary Arts Teachers Chef Kevin Bedard (left) and Mike Mirabella (right).

# Westside Academy staff give it their all

“A tug-of-war challenge between students and staff at Westside Academy was added to the annual track and field meet,” said event organizer Aida Kuhlkin, PE teacher. Out of the three challenges, the students won once and the staff members won twice. Here, JoAnn Russo, student behavioral assistant (SBA); Tom Carpenter, art teacher; Mary Ann Rzeszutek, math teacher; Ed Mongold, English teacher; Elena Bernard, English teacher; Sandy Cocilova, SBA; Jeff Cook, history teacher and Jon Carrigan, SBA; give it their all at the tug-of-war.



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Photo by Aida Kuhlkin