



Whitesboro

"Home of the Warriors"

Central School District Newsletter | February 2016

www.wboro.org

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Calendar

For the complete district calendar, schedule of upcoming events and more District news, please visit www.wboro.org.

**WHITESBORO'S
LAUREN
LAPERTOSA
TO PLAY
COLLEGE
HOOPS
FULL STORY
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High School Teachers Present "Mad About Science" to Parkway Students

A student going for a ride on a saucer powered by a leaf blower, a pendulum stopping just centimeters shy of a teacher's forehead and laying on a bed of nails.

Slightly out of the ordinary, but just another day at the office for Whitesboro High School Science Teachers Mr. Buzz Putnam and Mr. John Bertrand.

Together, they put on a thrilling educational show called, "Mad About Science."

Designed to get younger students interested in and excited about science before moving up to middle school and high school, the show was presented by Putnam and Bertrand to Parkway's sixth graders in the school gym on December 23.

"We see it all the time, many students hit the 9th and 10th grade and aren't excited to study and learn about science," noted Putnam. "We are trying to do a little science and entertain at the same time."

Did they ever.

The show, which is adaptable for all levels, featured Mr. Bertrand as Sir Isaac Newton, who's widely recognized as one of the most influential scientists of all time. Not only did Bertrand play the part, he looked like it, too.

"Once you tell me we are going to do something like this, I always have to take it up a notch," said Bertrand, who wore a long, dark brown wig to look like Newton.

Mr. Putnam, who in his multi-colored lab coat was more of a host, started the show by reenacting Newton's discovery of gravity. Putnam and Bertrand - - playing the part of Newton - - then explained Newton's first, second and third laws of motion. A series of experiments and

demonstrations, coupled with music, not only added to the lessons, but kept the students zoned in and on their feet, while cheering and playing along.

"We enjoy doing it... it's fun interacting with the kids," said Putnam. "John is nice enough to be the persona, allowing me to play my role."

A strategy that relays a host of information to students.

"The sixth graders are studying Newton's laws this year, so our show is a great precursor," said Putnam, who, with Bertrand, put on the show for the first time ever in Whitesboro.

"If you want Newton, we will give you Newton. Same goes for Einstein and Galileo," added Bertrand. "Our show can truly be designed for any grade level."

Each show, Putnam and Bertrand try to save the best for last. Typically, each ends with Putnam laying on a bed of nails with a cinder block on top of his chest and Bertrand,

or "Newton," smashing the block with a sledge hammer. The act has the students nervous at first, but wildly cheering at the end.

"We are trying to clear up misconceptions by giving students a good taste of science right off the bat," said Bertrand. "Science is fun!"

Both Putnam and Bertrand say they are constantly tweaking their show, "Mad About Science," which was presented once before at Sauquoit Elementary School, so their audience can take even more away from it.

And although they don't have any plans to take the show on the road, both say "never say never."



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org.





A Message from the Superintendent

The Board of Education and staff have been working to prepare the budget for the 2016-17 school year. During the months of March and April, the Board of Education will be holding budget workshops at their meetings. One of the largest challenges school districts face each year is to match the requirements from the state and federal governments with available resources. Although higher taxes create a burden for everyone, it is always our goal to present a budget that provides a high level of educational opportunities to our students for a cost that remains as affordable as possible.

The State Education Department will soon be reviewing the plans for Phase B of our capital project. With an anticipated date of completion for that review process in the spring, the construction phase should begin during the summer months.

Grades 4 through 8 New York State testing for ELA and math are scheduled for April. Although standardized testing has come under great scrutiny the past few years, we still believe that the data we gather on student achievement from these tests provides value to the instructional program. We use this information for planning, instructional programs delivery, staffing, and to guide curriculum review and revisions. Also, we believe that it helps our students to prepare for mandated testing that they will invariably face at the secondary level and beyond.

Some concerns regarding state testing at the 4-8 level are:

- Use of results in teacher evaluations
- Use of results in principal evaluations
- Length of tests
- Time constraints
- Age appropriateness

The State Education Department and lawmakers have reacted to the public outcry. The following changes have been made:

- Test results will not count toward teacher and principal evaluations until the 2019-2020 school year
- All tests will be shorter in length
- The tests will be untimed, reducing the stress on students

I strongly urge you to support the involvement with your child(ren) in the state mandated testing program. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Dave Langone

Superintendent of Schools

School Safety Officers Now in Each School Building

The Whitesboro Central School District is dedicated to providing a safe and secure environment for our students, staff and community members. Last fall, the Board of Education approved the placing of a school safety officer in each of the District's seven buildings; the high school, middle school, Parkway and all four elementary schools. The safety officers started working in the District in December. Although our District has not experienced any serious violence, we want to take this precaution.

The school safety officers are employees of the Oneida County Sheriff's Office. Thanks to the support of Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, Oneida County Sherriff Robert Maciol and Oneida County Undersheriff Robert Swenszkowski, this program has been made available through the Oneida County Sheriff's Department and paid for by school district funds.

The program's role is to support and reinforce a safe and secure environment for our children, staff and community members in each school building. Every building principal has been working closely with the school safety officer assigned to their school to ensure all necessary safety measures are being implemented. Some of the daily responsibilities of our school safety officers include, monitoring entranceways and hallways, checking the perimeter of our school buildings and assisting administration, when needed.

We are happy to officially welcome the school safety officers as part of our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the District Office at 266-3303.



Left to right: Robert Swenszkowski, Anthony Picente and Robert Maciol.



Whitesboro Students Discuss, Solve Real World Problems at Model UN Conference

The United States, France, Iran and Syria -- those were just some of the countries represented by area students at the 42nd Annual Upper Mohawk Valley Model UN (UMVMUN) Conference held on December 12 at SUNY Polytechnic (Poly) Institute.

The daylong conference brings 11 area schools and more than 200 students together to form a mock United Nations, so the many issues facing the world can be discussed, debated, analyzed and, hopefully, resolved.

More than 20 students from Whitesboro High School participated by acting as delegates, with each representing a different nation. Two of Whitesboro High School's very own also held leadership positions. Senior Steven Gassner acted as the Co-Secretary General and senior Robert Wenner acted as the Undersecretary General of Finance.

"Some of the brightest and most dedicated students from across Central New York simulated debates on the very same issues the actual United Nations faces today," said Gassner. "Each delegate attempted to work together to create cooperative solutions, all while keeping in mind the culture and foreign policy of the nation they represented."

The Model UN Conference took place in SUNY Poly's Kunsela Hall. It kicked off in the morning with an hour long opening ceremony featuring guest speaker Doctor Ellen Kraly of Colgate University. Kraly serves on the Utica Refugee Center's board of directors, which received a donation of more than \$1,300 from UMVMUN.

After the opening ceremony, participants, or delegates, broke out into eight different committee rooms where the real work took place. While in committee, each delegate represented a nation that they had researched in advance, and discussed how to address the many international and domestic problems plaguing our world today.

The mock conference concluded with a closing ceremony and awards.

This year, Whitesboro High School co-hosted the Model UN Conference with New Hartford, Hamilton, Clinton and Proctor. Together, the schools make up UMVMUN.

Great job to all of the Whitesboro students who participated!



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org. 

Whitesboro High School Students Continue to Show Consistent Academic Improvement

Students at Whitesboro High School are continuing to show academic improvement.

The percentage of students on both the 85+ and 90+ honor rolls has, yet again, gone up.

The latest increase marks the 26th straight marking period, over the last six years, that the percentage of students on the 85+ and 90+ honor rolls has surpassed the previous year's percentage. During the same time period, the percentage of students failing one or more courses has also decreased.

According to High School Principal Jeff Kuhn, a variety of changes have been made to course offerings in order to increase rigor with new college course offerings and to sustain this level of excellence. Over the last six years, Whitesboro High School has added 14 new dual credit courses, as well as Syracuse University Project Advance (SUPA) courses in Economics and Public Policy. Other improvements include the addition of math labs, AP World History, Introduction to Nanotechnology and a Credit Recovery Program to assist students in danger of falling behind or not graduating.

"Our goal has been to prepare our students to be college, career and citizenship ready," said Kuhn. "Staff and students have bought in completely. In today's educational world, college representatives have repeatedly told us that they want students who attain high academic averages with evidence of rigor in their student coursework."

Kuhn adds, "Our students have improved their performance with the addition of more rigorous coursework. These improvements will continue to be our focus."

Keep up the great work, Whitesboro High School!



Annual Black Tie Restaurant Offers Fine Dining Experience

As in years past, The Black Tie Restaurant was open for business in "The Pit" at the high school -- for one night only -- on January 14.

Around 100 students, all belonging to Mrs. Gallagher's Food and Nutrition classes, brought the mock restaurant to life. Some cooked and prepared the food, while others waited on and bussed tables. More than 200 guests were served.

"The restaurant offers my students the opportunity to showcase their talents in both culinary arts and hospitality service," said High School Food and Nutrition Teacher Mrs. Gallagher. "The students have been learning a different culinary skill and nutrition concept each week."

This year's menu featured four entrees -- Chicken Riggies, Sweet and Sour Chicken, Stuffed Shells and Stuffed Pork Roast. The four course meal also included a homemade buttery crescent roll, salad and dessert. For dessert, dinner guests also had four options -- Apple Pie a la Mode, Strawberry and Kiwi Cream Torte, Cheesecake and Black Forest Cake.

As always, the dining area included tables draped with linen table cloths and decorated with flowers and candles to create a restaurant-like atmosphere. There were also ornamental trees with lights and live entertainment, courtesy of the High School Music Department. All servers were dressed in a white shirt, black pants and a black bow tie.

"For most students, this experience provides a wonderful high school memory and an opportunity to try out a career area that may entice them to explore, in more detail, what the food service and hospitality field has to offer," said Gallagher. "Also, for some, it's the first time they have had the opportunity to be

involved in a school event that their parents and families can come witness -- it's their big game, their concert, their class theater production."

The Black Tie Restaurant offered two seatings, one at 5:15 p.m. and another at 6:30 p.m.

Food and Nutrition is a half-year course offered at



Whitesboro High School. The Black Tie Restaurant is the end-of-the-course assignment.

Great job to Mrs. Gallagher and all of the students who made the restaurant a reality!

To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org.

High School Science Teacher Presents at Conference in Texas

Mr. Dwight "Buzz" Putnam, a physics and nanotechnology teacher at Whitesboro High School, was a headline presenter at the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching (CAST) in Fort Worth, Texas, in November.

Putnam presented five workshops to Texas physics and physical science teachers during the conference: "The Magic of Science; Using Discrepant Events to Energize Your Students," "The Science of Light and Color," "Cool Tools for Force and Motion," "The Science of Sound and Waves" and "Cool Tools for Electricity and Magnetism."

In July, Putnam headlined a physics workshop for physics teachers at the KIPP College Prep School in the Bronx. The day-long workshop featured physics teaching modalities, demonstrations, labs and physics-related activities for the classroom.

Putnam has been a teacher in the Whitesboro Central School District for more than 25 years, and has chaired the High School Science Department since 1997. Every June, he appears on the annual Regents Science Live! program -- a live student call-in televised Regents exam review show on Time Warner Cable. Additionally, he has been a member of the Physics Laboratory Development Team with the Center for Nanoscience at Cornell University, a presenter at the National Science Teachers Convention (NSTA) in Boston and a facilitator/instructor for the Semi-High Tech U STEM educational seminar for teachers.

Congratulations, Mr. Putman! You are a great asset to the Whitesboro Central School District and an outstanding educator for our students!



High School Holds 8th Annual Fashion Show

With prom season lurking, students at Whitesboro High School are wasting no time getting ready for the big day. On January 21, more than 30 students took part in the high school's 8th Annual Fashion Show, which shows off all of the very latest prom styles, trends and accessories. Proceeds were donated to a local charity.

Around 20 dresses and 15 tuxes -- of all kinds -- were modeled by the students, who trotted across the stage of the high school auditorium in front of fellow students, parents and community members.

Picker's Elegant Occasions in Clinton and A. Vitullo Inc. in New Hartford generously provided all of the formal wear worn by the students.

Fashion, Marketing and Business Teacher Febronia Murphy helped organize the show.

"It's never too early to start thinking about prom," said Murphy. "We like to have the fashion show every January to unofficially kick off prom season and to give all of our students an idea of

what's out there to purchase. And, of course, we have fun doing it!"

The fashion show is part of Murphy's fashion marketing class. The one-semester course, which is just one of the many classes offered by the High School Business Department, introduces students to the exciting world of fashion. Students learn about new technology and fashion innovations, textiles, design, retail/business operations and merchandising. The course also explores the history of fashion, as well as prospective careers in the fashion industry.

Based on the dresses and tuxes modeled at the show, this year's prom is destined to be another great one!



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org. 

National Honor Society Inducts 77

Whitesboro High School held its annual National Honor Society (NHS) Induction Ceremony on November 17 at Hart's Hill Inn in Whitesboro. Seventy-seven students were inducted. Congratulations!

The following seniors were inducted:

Rena Collandra
Anthony Coppola
Mitchell Dewey
Dale Dodge
Tyler Tripp
Nicole Vasco
Allison Warmuth

The following juniors were inducted:

Jerrad Bartczak
Alexandria Belmont
Kaitlynn Belmont
Audra Benincasa
Noah Britt
Taylor Calhoun
Alexia Canarelli

Samuel Celia
Constantino Cirusuolo
Benjamin Collis
Andrew Cook
Haley Craig
Alexa DeCarr
David DeCola
Dominic Della Posta
Jessica Drager
Nicole Duegaw
Kathryn Edic
Tori Emery
Gwenyth Evans
Mackenzie Evans
Danielle Fanelli
Ryan Furmanski
Patrick Galer
Bethany Geary
Christina Geddes
Hailey Gerling
Alexis Gordon

Carina Haden
Bryce Hartnett
Meghan Herrmann
Danielle Hughes
Jessica Husnay
Stephanie Husnay
Riley Hyatt
Jacob Hyer
Kyle Kelly
Bohdana Kicha
Sylvia Kryszczuk
Michael Le
Jordan Lee
Desiree Madore
Celena Moulton
Alexis Nassar
Erin Oakley
David Opozda
Alaina Palmieri
Sarah Petronella
Gabrielle Piccione

Gabriella Pladocostante
Jessica Pollard
Kory Pollicove
Paige Porta
Autumn Riesel
Jordyn Robison
Katrina Sadler
Sydney Scaccia
Lindsey Schultz
Robert Scofield III
Marilynn Sergott
Jamie Sharpe
Matthew Sitts
Carissa St. Germaine
Alaina St. John
Taylor Szatko
Aiden Uvanni
Valerie Velardi
Paige Warmuth
Cayla Wright
Sydney Yocum



Utica Comets Players Tell Sixth Graders What it Takes to be Successful

They may only be sixth graders, but it's never too early to start envisioning where you want to end up some day.

That -- and what it takes to be successful in the future -- was the reasoning behind the Utica Comets' special visit to the Parkway School on January 4.

Comets players Brendan Gaunce and David Shield spoke to Parkway's sixth graders on goal setting, hard work and what it takes to thrive -- and be happy -- in life.

"The players pointed out that when they were in sixth grade, yes they played hockey, but that's not the only thing they focused on," said Sixth Grade Teacher Peggy Lonczak. "Even when they left home during the 10th grade to pursue hockey, they had to balance both school and their aspirations."

And, even though both Brendan and David have made it to the American Hockey League (AHL) and have aspirations to play in the National Hockey League (NHL) on a regular basis, they are still working hard to prepare themselves for life after hockey.

"Both players are currently taking online courses so they have something to fall back on when their hockey career is over," said Lonczak.

It's the first time this school year that outside members of the community visited Parkway School to discuss goal setting.

All of Parkway's sixth graders would like to thank Brendan and David for their time and inspiration!



Middle School Faculty Meeting Encourages Team Building

Middle School Campus Principal John Egresits had a different idea in mind for December's faculty meeting.

Instead of the normal sit-down gathering, Mr. Egresits decided to move the meeting to the -- gym!

The entire 6th, 7th and 8th grade faculty met in the Parkway gym on December 7 for about an hour. There, they participated in three, very unique team building exercises -- the human train, human trap and key punch.

For the human train, two groups, each with around a dozen or so faculty members, hopped on a pair of giant wooden skis. They had to work as one to move forward together. The group that completed the objective first then helped the other group.

For the human trap, several faculty members stood on a small plastic tarp. They had to turn the tarp completely over without one person stepping off the tarp or touching the floor.

Finally, for the key punch, a group of faculty members attempted to put back together a "broken" numbers board in the shortest amount of time. The numbers were placed within the three-point arch on the gym floor. Only one person could be inside the arch at a time. That person had to touch every number, 1-34, in order, using only their hands.

"This is the first time we have done something like this with the entire faculty," said Egresits. "It's difficult having two separate buildings on the Middle School Campus, so we are constantly looking for ways to improve the climate and culture of the whole campus. It was very entertaining to watch, too!"

In addition to having more team building exercises, Egresits

formed a climate and culture committee at the beginning of the school year. The committee is made up of around 20 faculty members from both the 6th grade and 7th/8th grade buildings. The committee's motto is, "One Campus, One Team."

Moving forward, Egresits says that theme will be the center of the Middle School Campus and will be placed on things like school planners and pens. Also, in the very near future, male faculty members will be able to purchase a Middle

School Campus tie, featuring Whitesboro's warrior logo. Female faculty members will be able to purchase scarves.

The entire faculty at the Middle School Campus looks forward to forming an even stronger bond!



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org.





Elementary School News

Hart's Hill's Third Graders Learn How Math Applies to Real Life

According to Mrs. Huther, a third grade teacher at Hart's Hill Elementary School, math isn't limited to just worksheets, quizzes and tests.

It's a part of life.

To prove it, Mrs. Huther had her son, Nolan, visit the entire third grade class at Hart's Hill on December 11.

Nolan, 18, is a Whitesboro graduate and a freshman at Clarkson University, where he's studying to become an engineer. He's also an avid hiker and, now, a rock climbing enthusiast. In addition to showing off and talking about his gear, he explained to the students how force, velocity and acceleration - - all common math concepts - - tie in with something like rock climbing.

"Math ties in with physics, which ties into rock climbing," said Nolan. "For example, you can use a simple equation to determine the distance traveled up or down a rock just based on your weight."

Nolan solved and explained several practice equations with the students. He also played a short video on rock climbing.

Nolan started hiking four years ago, shortly after going on his first snowshoeing trek with his dad. It didn't take long for him to fall in love with mountains, which led him to start rock climbing six months ago.

Although Nolan spends a lot of time rock climbing these days, he still hikes, too. He's just one peak shy of completing the "46 High Peaks of New York State" with his dad - - something they started four years ago when they first started hiking together. They hope to climb the remaining peak soon.

Thank you, Nolan, for visiting with Hart's Hill Elementary School's third graders and bringing math to life!



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org.



Technology Rocks at Deerfield Elementary School

One of Deerfield Elementary School's many goals is for its students to develop and foster skills necessary to navigate the 21st Century world.

It's safe to say that in school and at home, Deerfield Elementary School is doing just that, by immersing its students in technology on a daily basis.

For example, in the Deerfield Elementary School Media Center, students learn about digital citizenship and become mindful of their digital footprint. In fact, during recess, students can choose to visit the media center for "Technology Rocks" time, which allows students to enhance various technology skills, rather than go outside or participate in other classroom activities.

During "Technology Rocks" time, students use desktop computers, laptops, iPads and Chromebooks to support learning. Students work with QR codes, create posters in Microsoft Publisher, make photo booths in Pixie and practice online coding and digital storytelling.

Teachers also take part. They attend monthly mini-sessions offered by the media center specialist, which helps incorporate basic computer skills into the classroom.

Technology sure rocks at Deerfield Elementary School!



Westmoreland Road Elementary Second Graders Donate to Stevens Swan Humane Society

The less fortunate aren't the only ones who need help during the holiday season. Our furry friends need help, too!

After the Stevens Swan Humane Society put out a plea for new and used blankets, Westmoreland Road Elementary School's second graders answered the call.

During the month of December, Mrs. Maggiolino's, Miss Hollenbeck's, Mrs. Carlson's and Mrs. Johnson's students, along with staff members, collected around 100 new and used blankets for the Stevens Swan Humane Society's many dogs.

The humane society gives a blanket to each of its dogs to stay warm, and its supply was critically low.

Teachers from Westmoreland Road Elementary School delivered the blankets to the Stevens Swan Humane Society on December 17.

Thank you to Westmoreland Road Elementary School's students, parents, staff and administration for your kindness and compassion!



Marcy Elementary School Receives a Brand New Digital Piano

Marcy Elementary School Music Teacher Mrs. Giardino and her students have been using the same digital piano - - a Yamaha Clavinova - - for around 20 years. Thanks to Rick Zuccaro, Marcy Elementary and its music classes have a brand new digital piano to play for years to come.

Zuccaro is Vice President of Sales for the Carbone Auto Group and is the lead performer in the local Billy Joel Tribute Band, an eight-piece band. Every year, Zuccaro and the band donates around three digital pianos to different area elementary schools. This time, Marcy Elementary was the lucky one.

On November 24, Zuccaro presented Marcy Elementary

with a brand new Yamaha DGX-650 digital piano. But, before he handed over the piano for good, he performed a concert for Marcy Elementary's students in the school gym. Students clapped and sang along, and some were even allowed to make a song request.

"Music has been such an integral part of my life that I feel compelled to do everything I can to encourage children to take an active interest in learning to play an instrument," said Zuccaro. "There is a direct mathematical correlation between all the musical notes, as well as vocabulary skills, creative writing and freedom of expression that is achieved through learning, performing and writing music."

Zuccaro and the rest of the Billy Joel Tribute Band performs at various local venues three to five times a year. The group's most recent concert took place on October 10 before a packed house at Valentino's Banquet Hall in New Hartford.

At every concert, audience members fill out a form naming an elementary school they would like to see receive a piano and kids from the audience draw the winning name(s).

The digital pianos are purchased and donated from the concerts' proceeds.

Marcy Elementary School would like to thank Rick Zuccaro and the entire Billy Joel Tribute Band for their generous donation. The band's next show will be sometime this spring.





Whitesboro's Lauren Lapertosa to Play Division II Basketball

It didn't take long for the Lapertosa sisters to find each other again on the basketball court.

In less than a year, Lauren, a senior on the Whitesboro Girls Varsity Basketball team, will be joining her big sister, Maria, on the Mercyhurst University Women's Basketball team.

Lauren announced that she will be playing for the Division II Lakers next year during a brief ceremony in the high school library on December 2. Maria, also a Whitesboro basketball product, is a freshman on the team.

Lauren has played on varsity for four years and is a three-year starter. According to Whitesboro Girls Varsity Basketball Coach Todd Scott, Lauren has over 500 career rebounds, with some of the 2015-16 season still to be played.

In addition to all of her personal accomplishments, Lauren, along with the rest of the Whitesboro Girls Varsity Basketball team, has played in three straight Section III Class A finals.

Mercyhurst University is located in Erie, Pennsylvania. The Women's Basketball team is a member of the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

Congratulations, Lauren, and best of luck!



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org. 

Wilkinson Places Third at USA Track and Field National Junior Olympic Cross Country Championships

Justyna Wilkinson wanted to do more than just run - - she wanted to do well.

She did exactly that.

The Whitesboro High School senior who just wrapped up her final season on the Whitesboro Girls Varsity Cross Country team, came in third place at the 2015 United States Track and Field (USATF) National Junior Olympic Cross Country Championships.

The Championships took place at Balloon Fiesta Park in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on December 12. Wilkinson finished her 5K race with a time of 20:06.1. She competed against 56 other girls - - from all over the country - - in the 17-18 year-old division.

The top three finish comes as no surprise. Wilkinson had an impressive season for the Whitesboro Girls Varsity Cross Country team. In September, she won the girls large-school varsity race at the 73rd running of the E.J. Herrmann Cross-Country Invitational at Proctor Park, in Utica, with a 5K time of 20:12.8. She followed that win with a 1st place finish at the Tri-Valley League (TVL) Cross Country Invitational on October 30 with a time of 18:47.

At sectionals, she placed 3rd overall in Class B with a time of 19:22.9, good enough to qualify for states - - the only Whitesboro runner to do so. At states, she finished in 6th place in Class B and 32nd place overall with a time of 19:08.1.

Wilkinson also competed at the New York State Federation Cross Country Championships on November 21 in Wappingers Falls. She finished in 44th place out of 255 runners with a time of 19:31.1.

In addition to her running success, Wilkinson won the Section III Class B Sportsmanship Award this fall.

Congratulations, Justyna, on your great performance in New Mexico!



Congratulations to the Varsity Football and Varsity Gymnastic teams on winning Section III titles!
More Athletics on page 10!

Girls Varsity, J.V. Volleyball Teams Play in 7th Annual Pink Game

Both the Whitesboro Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity (J.V.) Volleyball teams were decked out in special pink uniforms for their home game against VVS on January 11. The 7th Annual Pink Game raises money for the fight against breast cancer.

According to Varsity Coach Kelly Entwistle, both teams raised \$300, mainly from a Chinese auction.

The following baskets were donated:

- Whitesboro Girls Varsity Volleyball Team: Camping Basket
- Whitesboro Girls J.V. Volleyball Team: Candy Basket
- VVS Girls Varsity Volleyball Team: Self-Pampering Basket
- VVS Girls J.V. Volleyball Team: Coffee Basket
- Porta Cabling: Movie and Candy Basket
- Borza Recreation Center: Two Hour Gym Rental
- Mr. and Mrs. Parisi: PINK Basket
- Coach Entwistle: Lottery Board

All of the money raised will be donated to someone in the Whitesboro community who is currently battling cancer.

As for the games, both the Whitesboro J.V. and Varsity teams were victorious. J.V. beat VVS two sets to none. Varsity beat VVS three sets to none (25-21, 25-19, 25-19).

Congrats to both the Whitesboro Girls Varsity and J.V. teams on the wins and for being a part of the fight against breast cancer!



Alumni News

www.wboroalumni.org

Whitesboro Alum, Soccer Player Recognized by National Soccer Coaches' Association of America

Another former Whitesboro athlete is being recognized for outstanding play at the collegiate level.

Mary Pastorelli, a 2013 graduate of Whitesboro High School who just wrapped up her junior season on the Wentworth Institute of Technology's Women's Soccer team, was named to the 2015 All-New England Team by the National Soccer Coaches' Association of America. Pastorelli earned second team recognition.

This past season, Pastorelli, a defender, helped Wentworth shutout a program record 12 opponents and give up just 12 goals in 22 games. In 59 career games (51 starts), she has four goals and two assists -- good enough for 10 career points. She also takes the bulk of the team's free kicks.

Pastorelli was also named the 2015 Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Defensive Player of the Year and CCC Defensive Player of the Week on October 5.

The Wentworth Women's Soccer team finished the 2015 season with a program record 17 wins (17-3-2). The team advanced to the semifinals of the CCC Tournament for the third straight season and made its first-ever appearance in the ECAC semifinals.

Wentworth Institute of Technology is a Division III college located in Boston, Massachusetts.

Congratulations, Mary, and best of luck next season!



*Photo courtesy of
Wentworth Athletics*



Warriors in the Community

22nd Annual Pie Drive Donates 500 Pies to Local Charities

Thanks to Whitesboro High School's family and consumer science classes, hundreds of people in need were able to enjoy a tasty dessert on Thanksgiving Day.

For the 22nd consecutive year, Ms. Gallagher's food and nutrition classes spearheaded a pie drive. The classes spent two days making apple and pumpkin pies - - from scratch - - leading up to Thanksgiving. The pies were then donated to Utica's Rescue Mission and First Presbyterian Church. Representatives from both organizations picked up the pies on November 24, two days before Thanksgiving.

"Most of our students love to cook and look forward to the Pie Drive as an opportunity to demonstrate what they can do to help those in the greater community who need our support," said Gallagher. "Harnessing the energy of our teens and putting that energy to productive humanitarian use is wonderful to



To view a photo gallery, log onto www.wboro.org. 

witness and be a part of."

For weeks, the classes collected monetary donations from fellow students, parents, teachers and other school clubs and organizations to purchase the ingredients necessary to make the pies. Once everything needed was in stock, the classes held a "pie making relay" on November 20 and 23. Both days, from the first bell to the last bell, each food and nutrition class spent at least one period making and baking the pies. Some students even spent their study hall or time after school working tirelessly to make as many pies as possible.

"Since this isn't the first time we have done something like this, we were very prepared," said Gallagher. "Each student was assigned to a different station. Some made the pie crust, while others rolled the pie crust, made the filling and did the pinching and placing into the oven."

According to Gallagher, each class produced around 30 pies per period. In the end, they made 500 pies!

All of the students learned the art of pie making by taking Food and Nutrition.

The family and consumer science classes would like to thank everyone, including local businesses, who made a monetary donation, ensuring that the 22nd Annual Pie Drive was, yet again, a major success!



Middle School's Friends of Rachel Club Visits Buck Apartments, Sings Holiday Favorites

The Middle School Campus Friends of Rachel (FOR) Club encourages good deeds and wise actions, both in and out of school.

On December 17, more than two dozen of its members - - sixth, seventh and eighth graders - - lived up to the club's motto. For the second year in a row, they sang several holiday carols for the residents at Buck Apartments in Whitesboro, many of whom are senior citizens.

Middle School Music Teacher Mrs. Sedgwick prepared the students for the concert, which took place after school, and played the piano. She and the students were joined by several other teachers and advisors to the FOR Club.

After the concert, FOR Club members passed out Christmas cards to the residents. The cards were made by students in Mrs. Nichols's and Mrs. Cardamone's classes. Everyone also munched on cookies and refreshments, which were provided by the FOR Club's advisors.

The FOR Club is greatly involved in the local community. In October, the club walked in Whitesboro's Blue and White Parade and celebrated World Day for Bullying Prevention. In November, the club participated in the Safety Run at the Masonic Care Community in Utica and made and delivered holiday cards to the four police departments which serve the Whitesboro Central School District.

The FOR Club is advised by Middle School Campus staff members Diana Durso, Anne Gates, Nick Gerace, Bridget Kuhn, Dawn LaScala, Liz Militano, Deb Tomkins and Julie Venezia.

For more information on the FOR Club, visit www.wboro.org.

Thank you, Friends of Rachel, for striving to create a positive atmosphere in our community!



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WHITESBORO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

65 Oriskany Blvd.
Whitesboro, New York 13492

Superintendent of Schools

Dave Langone

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The Whitesboro Central School Board of Education typically meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month during the school year, and once each month in December, July and August. Meetings are held at the Administration Building at 65 Oriskany Blvd. in Whitesboro, or at one of the school buildings in the District. Please refer to our website, www.wboro.org, for updated information regarding the Board of Education meeting schedule.

Warrior Photo Gallery

