

# Highlights

SPRING 2007

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER  
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of the Sayville School District

## DATA ANALYSIS via Web Conference Sayville science students on vanguard of research technology

### NOTEWORTHY

• Congratulations to Sayville Senior **CONRAD JONES**, who took his famous trumpet and musical skills all the way to Carnegie Hall where he performed with other young, extraordinarily talented musicians for the taping of a PBS show **From the Top**. This popular national radio program, heard on WQXR, has become a PBS television show produced by WGBH-TV and taped in Zankel Hall at Carnegie. The PBS show featured Conrad performing Herbert Clarke's *Carnival of Venice* and aired on both WLIW/21 and WNET/13.

• Sayville Senior **PALAK PATEL** teamed up with another student, Aman Sarup from Westchester County, in a research project that was submitted to the **Progenics / Regeneron / Siemens Westchester Science & Engineering Fair 2007** at Pace University.

Congratulations, Palak, for earning the **WESEF 2007 Finalist status**. At Intel ISEF, Palak and her teammate will present their research in a competition with more than 1,500 other students from 50 countries. Over three million dollars in awards are given annually at ISEF!

### Now's the Time to Process Your Absentee Ballots for the May 15<sup>th</sup> Budget Vote

**The Absentee Ballot process is time consuming, especially if done by mail.** Community residents who will be out of the district during voting hours on May 15<sup>th</sup> are advised to apply for absentee ballots **two weeks prior** by contacting District Clerk Maribeth Demetres at 244-6510 or download the form from the website (see [scrolling Featured News Story](#)). Residents must complete the required form and return it either **by mail seven days prior to the vote** OR **in person no later than the day before the vote**.

It appeared like a NASA transmission. Rather, it was a successful web conference from a Sayville High School science classroom in which Sayville students, enrolled in the SBU Geology 121 course, accessed the **National Synchrotron Light Source X27A beamline** at **Brookhaven National Labs** for data analysis.

An advantageous partnership between the *Center for Environmental Molecular Science (CEMS)* [funded by NSF] at Stony Brook University and BNL's *Office of Educational Programs* and *Department of Environmental Science* [funded by the DOE] resulted in this landmark event.

The Sayville science students, along with "Earth Smart" Ninth-grade students from Gelinus JHS, Three Village, had been involved in the environmental molecular-science research project: *"Implications of Environmental Weathering—Bioavailability of Arsenic in CCA-Treated Wood."* Although the analysis of the soil samples was the focus of the students' project, it was coupled with a more extraordinary achievement.

Secondary-level students were being given the unique opportunity to have their data-analysis performed on the internationally famous beamline of the NSLS at Brookhaven National Laboratories—*without stepping foot in BNL!* Scientists worldwide reserve beamline time months (sometimes years) in advance for their research. Once on the beamline, the scientists usually work with the NSLS nonstop over a 24- to 48-hour period (*depending on the research*), because the beam time is so coveted.

CEMS Environmental Education Specialist Mirza Beg, who organized and implemented this program, explained the web conference process. "Using the web-based **Virtual Room Videoconferencing System (VRVS)** installed at a beamline at NSLS and in science classrooms at Sayville and Gelinus schools allowed the students to view and participate in experiments performed by their own



teachers with the assistance of beamline personnel, SBU and BNL educators, and graduate students."

During the web conference, Sayville Earth Science teacher Janet Kaczmarek was situated at the NSLS X27A beamline and led her students with beamline scientists Dr. James Ablett, Dr. Paul Northrup, and CEMS graduate students Jason McDonald, and Yuanzhi Tang. Assisting with the VRVS transmission at the beamline were Scott Bronson and Jen Clodium from OEP at BNL. Meantime, back in Sayville, Science Dept. Chairperson Brian Vorwald led the students in the classroom, while Technology Chairperson Mike Taber assisted with the school transmission.

CEMS Specialist Beg was pleased with the outcome. "This was one of the most successful web conferences that had *two schools* involved at the same time. Everyone was ready and well prepared. The data acquired at the light source made students think smart and ask very intelligent questions."

Expressing his appreciation for all who participated, Mr. Beg also acknowledged the collaboration between CEMS SBU E&O, BNL OEP, BNL NSLS, and the Sayville and Gelinus schools. Through this amazing partnership, the CEMS SBU project was an educational experience that generated student interest in scientific research.



# Highlights of the Sayville School District



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN VERDONE, PRESIDENT  
 NORMAN DEVENAU, VICE PRESIDENT  
 ALLISON J. CRUZ  
 MAUREEN DOLAN  
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 DEBORAH VAN ESSENDELFT

## BOARD NOTES

### At the April 19<sup>th</sup> BOE Meeting

Board Citations were awarded to the following students (right).

*Dr. Rosemary F. Jones, Superintendent of Schools, reported on the following:*

- Proposed 2007-2008 School Budget
- 2007-2008 Contingency Budget
- Parent Alert System
- Status of 2007-2008 School Year Kindergarten Registration  
Mrs. Lamanno
- Budget Vote and Election Dates  
May 8 Voter Registration, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., High School  
May 8 Budget Hearing, 7:30 p.m., High School CAFETERIA C  
May 15 Vote and Board Election, 7 a.m. - 9 p.m., High School

### BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION:

- Annual BOCES Budget Vote and Election - April 25

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAY 3 BOE WORKSHOP MTG, 7 P.M., ADM BLDG,  
 MAY 5 SMBA "Evening in Celebration of the Arts", 6 P.M., MIDDLE SCHOOL,  
 MAY 8 VOTER REGISTRATION, 4:30-7:30 P.M., HIGH SCHOOL  
 MAY 8 BUDGET HEARING, 7:30 P.M., HIGH SCHOOL  
 MAY 9 H.S. SPRING CONCERT II, 7:30 P.M.  
 MAY 10 LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE 9 A.M. - 3 P.M., ADM BLDG  
 MAY 10 BOE MTG, 8 P.M., OLD JR. HIGH SCHOOL,  
 MAY 11-12 DRAMA FEST 07, 7 P.M., HIGH SCHOOL  
 MAY 14 CHERRY AVENUE SPRING CONCERT, 7 P.M., OLD JR. HIGH SCHOOL  
 MAY 15 BUDGET VOTE & ELECTION, 7 A.M. - 9 P.M., HIGH SCHOOL LOBBY,  
 MAY 16 MS SPRING CONCERT II, 7:30 P.M.  
 MAY 17 SUNRISE DRIVE SPRING CONCERT, 7:30 P.M., MIDDLE SCHOOL  
 MAY 17 LINCOLN AVENUE SPRING CONCERT, 7 P.M., OLD JR. HIGH

## BOE Citations AWARDED TO STUDENTS

Awards presented by Sunrise Drive Principal Rose Castello, Lincoln Avenue Principal Michele Gunther, and BOE Trustee Keith Kolar.



Sunrise Drive Grade 5 Girls Sharpshooter Contest Winner Danielle G.



Sunrise Drive Quiz Bowl Winners & 2nd Place in County  
 Timothy C. Nicole D.  
 Lucas B. Jennifer O.  
 Emma P. Richard S.  
 Haley A. Matthew S.



Sunrise Drive Spelling Bee Winner Richard S. and Runner-Up Julia H.



1st Place Winners of the Disney's Wide World of Sports Soccer Tournament  
 Nicole F. Erin L.  
 Madison G. Jessica O.  
 Kimberly M.



(left) Collected 208 coats for Sunrise's Annual Coat Drive Jaclyn & Alexandria R.



Lincoln Avenue Science Fair Winners:  
 Kamryn N. K.  
 Katherine G. First  
 Batsheva A. Second,  
 Cory L. Third,  
 Anthony P. Fourth,  
 Stephen C. Fifth

## Evening in Celebration



Come early to enjoy our literary and visual art displays. Stay late to be dazzled by the Dramatic and Musical ability of our talented Sayville students!

ADMISSION \$5-adults & \$3-students

MAY 5 • DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM • MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mark Your Calendars

"Drama Fest 07" May 11-12  
 SHS Little Theatre 7 pm



Corrections to the

## List of SCMEA FESTIVAL Students

Pardons and congratulations to the four Sayville Middle School Division I Orchestra students (below) whose names were omitted from the list of SCMEA Festival Concert Performers:

Kelly McElroy-violin  
 Rebecca Monastero-violin  
 Craig Davidson-violin  
 Greg Nyman-violola

# Highlights of the Sayville School District

## Hearts A-Beat With Dancing Feet

CLICKETY-CLICK, CLICKETY CLACK,  
CLICK CLACK, STOMP, STOMP, TAP, TAP!

### in **42nd Street**



Sayville High School's musical production of **42nd Street** was an energizing and irresistible song and dance extravaganza. The musical showcased—in two casts over four nights—the enormous orchestral, acting, singing, and dancing talents of student performers on stage and in the pit, while offstage crews kept the production smooth, “miked,” and in the spotlight.

With the explosive sound of tap dancing feet, the opening “Audition” number set the stage for country girl Peggy Sawyer (*Amanda Lowth, Allison Bohman*), starry-eyed for Broadway during the Great Depression. It was even hard times for brilliant director Julian Marsh (*Drew Sellitti, Kieran Siao*) who was struggling to produce his biggest show, “Pretty Lady,” by soliciting waning actress Dorothy Brock (*Roxy York, Lauren Edwards*) and her financial backer Abner Dillon (*Evan Martel, Brian Ellison*). Along with a host of comic supporting characters and

famous show tunes that included *Young and Healthy*, *You're Getting to Be a Habit with Me*, *Dames*, *Quarter to Nine*, and *Shuffle Off to Buffalo*, the production was punctuated by spectacular dancing showstoppers such as the lively *We're in the Money*, and the seductive *42nd Street Lullaby*. As the lighthearted story drew to its satisfying conclusion, audiences were left awed, mesmerized, and a tad breathless.

Congratulations to Director/Producer Steve Hailey, Musical Director Fred Diekmann, along with Orchestra Conductor Peter DeSalvo, Choreographer Ms. Penny Hough, and all the phenomenal actors, musicians,

singers, dancers, as well as the production staff and crew for an entertaining production. Special kudos to the amazing “Featured Dancers” whose pounding feet gave **42nd Street** its invigorating heartbeat.

# Highlights

SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER  
Linda A. Mittiga, mittiga@sayville.k12.ny.us  
Past Winner of NYSPRA Awards

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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SAYVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

99 Greeley Avenue School Tax Code 566  
Sayville, New York 11782  
DR. ROSEMARY F. JONES, SUPERINTENDENT OF SAYVILLE SCHOOLS

\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

## Designs on BETTER COMMUNICATION



With May designated as **Better Speech and Hearing Month**, the Long Island Speech and Hearing Association annually sponsors a poster contest. After Sayville Middle School students discussed in their speech classes what communication means, the elements of good speech and language skills, ways technology influences communication, how to be a better communicator, and hearing conservation, they tried their hands at poster design. Keeping an eye on the prize—literally, each poster winner receives an invitation to the awards ceremony and a cash prize—the students submitted their illustrations with the hope that their great ideas translated into winning designs.

### Accepting the Clean Energy Challenge

Congratulations to the following Sayville Middle School students who were listed among the winners of the Long Island Schools “Clean Energy Challenge.” In the “Clean Energy Challenge” contest, cosponsored by the Long Island Power Authority, USA Today, and the New York Islanders, students across Long Island were invited to share their ideas about clean energy and efficiency in presentations they designed.

Kelsey Clair	Maggie Verspoor	Kaitlyn Slavik	Alexandra Russell
Andy Latto	Kristi Troha	Andrew Clarke	Ariel Durosly
Nicholas Petrella	Josef Stewart	Chris Doon	Kelly O’Sullivan

## SSBAB SPONSORS CAREER CAFE



The annual Career Café introduced Sayville High School students to an array of professionals in the exciting fields of Education, Business, Health and Medicine, Human Services, Arts, Communications Technology, Engineering, and the Sciences.

At this event, sponsored by the SSBAB (Sayville Business Advisory Board) with the help of HS Dean Tamar Muscolino, students sat with professionals around café tables to chat, question and receive answers, or learn more about careers they may never have imagined themselves pursuing. The lively banter and animated mood of the Career Café successfully inspired students to think further ahead while planning higher education and careers.

## Sayville Mathletes SCORE BIG AGAIN!

Of the 156 papers submitted to the 2007 Moody’s Mega Math (M3) Challenge, the solution paper of Sayville Mathlete’s team (comprised of seniors Trevor Caverly, Matt Santoro, Matt Otto, and Joe Catapano) has been selected to receive one of five Honorable Mention awards. This is an especially distinguished feat given each paper endured rigorous and intense judging and underwent many readings and evaluations. The Moody’s Foundation makes it possible for teams, named as Honorable Mention winners, to receive scholarship prizes in the amount of \$1000 per team, divided equally among the team members.

## decorating with NAHS

Sharing the joys of spring, members of the National Art Honor Society, Brigid Shaughnessy and Megan Silverberg, along with Advisor Kim Kamensky, spent a day during their spring break helping the residents of the Petite Fleur Nursing home decorate Easter eggs and make origami baskets.



## Caring to Send the Very Best

The Middle School Community had a successful *Caring Hands and Hearts* campaign, collecting supplies for soldiers overseas.



Thanks to the generous support of so many who showed they cared, the students filled over 30 packages with goodies, letters and mementos, which were brought to the 106<sup>th</sup> Air Force Base, West Hampton. In the above photo a cross section of Middle School students, along with teachers Mrs. Lynn Alessi, Mrs. Shannon McCann and Assistant Principal Thomas Murray, hold the hand-stamped American Flag banner upon which are printed two precious words of appreciation: “Thank You.”