

# Highlights

WINTER 2006

of the Sayville School District

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 21.7  
<http://www.sayville.k12.ny.us>

## NEWSWORTHY

### Sharon Donnelly Social Studies Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Sharon Donnelly of Sunrise Drive has been chosen **NEW YORK STATE OUTSTANDING ELEMENTARY SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER OF THE YEAR**. Mrs. Donnelly was nominated for this honor by the Long Island Council of Social Studies Teachers and will be receiving this recognition at a Rye Brook conference in early March. Congratulations, Mrs. Donnelly!

**THE SAYVILLE PTA COUNCIL is currently seeking new members for positions on its 2006-2007 Board.** Anyone interested should attend the March 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting at the Administration Building, 7:30 pm.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and you are interested in a position, please contact Ken Kranz, PTA Council President at [KKranz@sayvillepta.org](mailto:KKranz@sayvillepta.org) or call 563-3478.

## REMEMBERING JIM LAWLOR HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA TEACHER

Jim Lawlor was one of those special teachers who truly had a gift for connecting with his students, fellow teachers, and the community. He brought an enthusiasm to his work that inspired in his students a desire to excel and a love of music. If what we do in our lives today will echo for eternity, then Jim Lawlor's work will echo in the sweet music that he taught our children. Jim was one of our finest, and he will be missed by all whose lives he touched.

DR. ROSEMARY JONES  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SAYVILLE SCHOOLS

## DEVELOPING THE SCHOOL BUDGET A WORK IN PROGRESS

Welcome to the beginning of the 2006-2007 School Budget development process. Over the next several weeks, the Board will have the opportunity to review, modify, and finalize the

2006-2007 budget that will be presented for community vote on May 16, 2006. As we proceed through the budget development process, we will review each function area within the budget and the associated changes to each. Once again, our collective goal will be to develop a budget that is educationally sound, fiscally responsible, and supported by the community.

The administrative staff has spent many hours analyzing, assessing, and evaluating current programs and the anticipated needs for the future. The draft of the Proposed budget presented to the Board is a comprehensive plan that includes various enhancements that are the result of District needs, new State mandates, and increased student growth at the High School.

This initial draft carries a



7.60% budgetary increase and a 9.40% projected increase on the tax rate. This is expected to change before the budget is finalized.

Posted on the web for review is a PowerPoint presentation of the General Support and Instructional sections of the Budget. In subsequent weeks, the other sections that will be presented at the Board Meetings will also be posted on the web. Keep in mind that this initial budget will be reviewed, discussed, and modified as part of the budgetary process during the Board of Education meetings.

The District encourages everyone to observe, get involved, ask questions, and become informed in the development of the Proposed School Budget. The "finalized" or Proposed Budget will be presented to the public on May 9<sup>th</sup> during the Budget Hearing. You may also contact the Business Office at 244-6530 if you have further questions.

### CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR AN UPDATED SCHEDULE OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

- March 2<sup>nd</sup> Instructional Report
- March 9<sup>th</sup> Transportation, Community, & "Undistributed" (i.e. benefits/debt service) sections of the Budget Report
- April 6<sup>th</sup> Further Budget development
- April 20<sup>th</sup> Finalizing the Proposed Budget
- May 9<sup>th</sup> Presenting the Proposed Budget to the public at the Budget Hearing, 7:30 pm at the High School
- May 16<sup>th</sup> Proposed Budget presented for community vote

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

KEVIN L. SPELMAN, PRESIDENT  
 DEBORAH VAN ESSENDELFT, VICE PRESIDENT  
 ALLISON J. CRUZ  
 NORMAN DEVENAU  
 MAUREEN DOLAN  
 RAYMOND J. NELSON  
 JOHN VERDONE



## BOARD NOTES

AT THE FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> BOE MEETING Board of Education Citations were given to:

- Retiring Sayville staff for their years of service (See right).
- Cherry Avenue students (See details below right.)

DR. ROSEMARY F. JONES,  
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,  
 REPORTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. **Department Chairpersons Report**
  - Math: Kathy Bernstein
  - Science: Brian Vorwald
2. **2006-2007 Preliminary Budget** (Dr. Jones/Mr. Belmonte)
  - Continuing Budget Development Process (*General Support*)
  - Upcoming Budget Discussions
    - \* Workshop Meeting: March 2, 7 pm
    - \* Regular Meeting: March 9, 8 pm
3. **BOCES Election**
  - Annual Meeting: Wednesday, April 5
  - Vote on Budget: Thursday, April 20
4. **Statistical Report: Parent-Teacher Conferences** (Dr. Sullivan Keck)
5. **Report on New York State Education Department: Review of the Child Nutrition Programs**

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION  
 • Board Reports

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 2 Board of Education Workshop Meeting, 7 pm, Admin. Bldg.  
 March 5 SMBA "Music in Our Schools Celebration," Sunday-2 pm  
 March 9 Board of Education Meeting, 8 pm, Admin. Bldg.  
 March 15-18 High School Musical "Grease!"  
 March 22 HS Winter Concert 7:30pm

## TRANSPORTATION OFFICE

Requests for transportation to private and parochial schools must be filed by April 1<sup>st</sup> and forwarded to:

Sayville Public Schools  
 Transportation Office  
 99 Greeley Avenue  
 Sayville, New York 11782

Transportation is provided to in-district and out-of-district schools to a maximum of 15 miles. State statutes and a referendum of Sayville voters have set this limitation.

This request must be filed for each school year.

## BOE Citations Awarded to Retiring Staff:

MARY ANSELMO, ANN DUNCAN, DENNIS FAGAN, DONNA GIST, RICHARD LEWIN, DENA ROCKWELL, SANDRA SCHMIDT, KENNETH TULLY, ELAINE VANCURA, AND ELLEN WELS. (Photo) Representing the Board of Education, President Kevin Spelman (right) congratulated retiring staff (l-r) Ellen Wels, Ann Duncan, and Dennis Fagan who were present for the photo at the meeting.



## BOE AWARDS STUDENT CITATIONS

Cherry Avenue Awards presented by Mr. Stimmel, BOE President Kevin Spelman, BOE Vice President Deborah Van Essendelft, BOE Trustees Maureen Dolan, Raymond Nelson, and Norm deVenau.



(above) BASKETBALL SHARPSHOOTERS Winners



(right) LOCKS OF LOVE Student donated 12 inches of hair to make wigs for financially disadvantaged children with long-term medical hair loss.



(right) THANKSGIVING ESSAY CONTEST (1st Place) and (3rd Place)



(above) WINNERS IN THE LONG ISLAND CHESS NUTS SCHOLASTIC TOURNAMENT (1st Place), (8th Place), (Medal winner)



(left) QUIZ BOWL WINNERS

# Highlights

of the Sayville School District

Sayville Players Theatre Laboratory Presents

## A Funny Pair of Productions



The Sayville Players as (left) a Shakespearean troupe and (right, below) *The Odd Couple*.



For two weekends in a row, the Sayville Players Theatre Laboratory experimented with entertainment that touched different parts of the funny bone. In fact, it was an odd coupling of Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple(s)* on one weekend with the comic wit in the Words of William Shakespeare the following weekend that demonstrated the elastic quality of comedy as a genre.

Minimalism was the setting for *The Odd Couple(s)*, played by one male and two female casts. A bare table, chairs, and a sofa asked audiences to imagine the pigsty apartment of Oscar Madison with its clutter of playing

cards, empty bottles, strewn laundry, and smoke-filled haze. Witnessing the classic clash between Felix Unger (*John Barrett*) and Oscar Madison (*James O'Connor*) were stalwart card-playing buddies Speed (*Kieran Siao*), Murray (*Joe Hailey*), and Vinnie (*Jared Linehan*), while the giggling Pigeon sisters (*Lauren Bilich and Meredith O'Connor*) boosted the clever dialogue with sight gags and levity that made this production of the original play a rewarding reenactment.

Originally rewritten by Neil Simon in the 1980s for Rita Morena and Sally Struthers, the female *Odd Couple* offered the basic story with a few appropriate twists. Olive Madison (*Jill McManus/Alexandra Van Horne*) and Florence Unger (*Lorelei Schreiber/Emily Hepding*) regularly hold a Friday night Trivial Pursuit game with girls Sylvie (*Lorraine Rilling/Christine Carniaux*), Mickie (*Christina Hesse/Julia Jasuta*), Vera (*Lara Schmitt/Jenna Hansbe*), and Renee (*Elizabeth Green/Sarah Bartlett*). The attractive Costazuela brothers Manolo (*Brian Ellison/Edward McLoughlin*) and Jesus (*Drew Sellitti/Andrew Vall*) were comical foils to the love-starved Olive and the lovelorn Flo. Like one of Flo's famous prepared meals, the Sayville Players Theatre Laboratory delivered the female version, honking sinus

noises included, with a sense of timing and devotion to detail—sans the annoying obsessions.

From *that* to Shakespeare in a period of a week, and yet, the SPOTLIGHT ON COMEDY was an enjoyable sampling of Shakespeare's most famous comic passages. Delivered in a chamber theatre style, the student actors recited the dialogues from such works as the *Comedy of Errors*, *As You Like it*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Tempest*. In the background, a movie screen captured stills from professional productions of famous actors portraying the characters speaking. Coordinating the screen to match the speaker helped the audience better visualize the characters.

Both delightful productions provided the small but appreciative audiences with theatrical experiences usually found in university or Off Broadway venues. Congratulations to everyone involved on stage and/or backstage for another successful "experiment" in the Theatre Laboratory.



### NATIONAL RECOGNITION

#### Awarded to Seventeen SAYVILLE SENIOR DRAMA STUDENTS

This year, seventeen Sayville Senior Drama students who had been nominated for the United States Achievement Academy\* awards in various categories (see parentheses) have been recognized. Congratulations to:

- John Barrett, Gillian Bialer, Lauren Bilich, Michael Ellison, Jeff Manno, James O'Connor, Meredith O'Connor, Carolyn Ruggiero, and Elizabeth Schonig (Theatrical Performance)
- Cathleen Cook, Jennifer Hoek, Mianna Molinari, Stephanie Morgan, Heather Rickard, and Kurt Stoeber (Theatrical Production)
- Jill McManus and Lorelei Schreiber (both Theatrical Performance and Theatrical Production)

\*The USAA Official Standards for Selection of Academic Performance are based upon the characteristics of Dependability, Citizenship, Leadership, Enthusiasm, Dedication to Self-Improvement, Attitude and Cooperative Spirit, and Responsibility.

## WHAT IS A SITE-BASED TEAM? WHAT IS A SITE-BASED TEAM? WHAT IS A SITE-BASED TEAM?

Each of the five Sayville schools has a Site-Based Team. The SBT holds its monthly meetings to further the interests of academic excellence.

The Site-Based Team is a group of individuals which consists of school administrators, faculty members, and parents who meet "on site" at the school building to:

- Develop goals for improving student achievement
- Set goals for the building that are consistent with District goals and Regents goals
- Build goals that should focus on student achievement and/or enhancing the school environment.
- The teams are also involved in the interview process for teaching positions.

To be a parent team member, you must have a child in the school to which you are applying, be able to make a two-year commitment, and attend the monthly meetings.

Not only are *all* parents invited to attend the monthly meetings, they are encouraged to get involved.

### SITE-BASED TEAM APPLICATION

Site-Based Team Parent Members Needed:

Your Site-Based Team has parent-representative openings for the 2006-2007 school year. To be a team member, you must have:

- A child who will be attending the school to which you are applying;
- Be able to make a two-year commitment;
- Attend the monthly meetings.

(Employees of Sayville Public Schools are not eligible to serve as parent representatives.) Names will be picked at the PTA Council Meeting, 7:30 pm Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Administration Building. All are welcome to attend the meeting. You will be called when your name is received by the District Steering Committee Parent Representatives.

Cut and return to: District Steering Committee Parent Representatives, 99 Greeley Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782.

All replies must be received by March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

- I wish to become a SBT parent representative.
- Please call me with information about the SBT.
- I am interested in future subcommittees.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone - Daytime: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening: \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren)'s Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School to which you are applying: \_\_\_\_\_

### Lincoln Site-Based Team Report

The Lincoln Avenue Site-Based Team reports that its current goals and initiatives have been met by subcommittees in the following ways:

- The school's kindergarten and new entrants brochure has been revised.
- A Reader's Response Journal for Third, Fourth, and Fifth-grade students is being developed, using commercial products as models. Teachers are collaborating to make the product specific to the needs of our students.
- Our Annual Science Fair is being planned as an Evening Expo where, for the first time, all the students' projects will be set up for display. In

#### SBT Members

##### PRINCIPAL

Michele Gunther

##### TEACHER MEMBERS

Christine Longobardi

Cathy Burtless

Kateri Volpe

Nicole Baryk

Erin Duffy

Heather Gonzalez

##### PARENT MEMBERS

Franny Bavaro

Laurie Barry

Kathy Acierno

Kristen Thayer

Sharon O'Halloran

Patricia Stockert

addition, the Science Fair Expo will also showcase students' works in other curricular areas, as space allows.

- The idea of a Parent Resource Center is being explored. A parent survey has recently been developed to determine the needs and interests of the Lincoln Avenue community.

The Site-Based Team is continuing

- its work to bring "Career Day" to Lincoln Avenue. A letter has been sent home inviting volunteers to share their career with students at our expo on April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- to discuss ways in which they may provide assistance in addressing issues surrounding bullying.
- to facilitate the student government, which meets monthly.
- to organize the display of a monthly bulletin board, which is designed to highlight and celebrate cultural diversity. The bulletin board often "spills" over into the library, where students can find related readings, and additional three-dimensional displays.

### Cherry Site-Based Team Report

Cherry Avenue Site-Based Team got off to a great start for the 2005-2006 school year.

- New parent and teacher members were welcomed to the team.
- Parent and staff members attended training provided by the District.
- The SBT has recently finished a project to completely revise Cherry Avenue's Student Handbook. This new edition is a positive document that embraces the principles of character education and is entitled "The School Citizenship Handbook."

Our next initiative is to identify and provide resources to promote poetry instruction. The school results from State Assessments have indicated that our students can benefit from more instruction in this area. The Cherry Avenue SBT looks forward to working with the faculty to support this initiative.

**SBT Members:** PRINCIPAL: John E. Stimmel  
TEACHER MEMBERS: Christine Duggan, Richard Mari, Dena Rockwell, Valeria Hester, and Amy Lobacz  
PARENT MEMBERS: Kim Sparacio, Kathy Pelletier, Therese Ebarb, Tracey Maddy, and Kathy Ryder

## Sunrise Drive Site-Based Team Report

### SBT Members

#### PRINCIPAL

Rose Castello

#### TEACHER MEMBERS

Joanne Hamilton  
MaryBeth Dieterle  
Claudia Carpenter  
Diana Heidenreich  
Toni Fabian

#### PARENT MEMBERS

Elizabeth Read  
Emily Geiger  
Marian Farese  
Laurie O'Donoghue  
Vincent Novak

Sunrise Drive's Site-Based Team arranged two workshops for parents on the New York State Assessments. Parents of Third through Fifth-grade students, who wanted to know more about the New York State ELA and Math Assessments, attended the evening workshop held in October. Mrs. Dieterle, Sunrise Drive's Remedial Reading Teacher for Grades Two through Five, presented information on the English Language Arts Assessment, classroom instruction that supports lifelong ELA skills, and what parents can do at home with their children to help them become better readers and writers.

In January, the second parent workshop on the New York State Mathematics Assessment was conducted by Mrs. Debbie Abrams, the District's Math Facilitator. Mrs. Abrams explained how teachers prepare students for this assessment and presented ways parents can support mathematical growth and understanding at home.

After each of the workshops, parents completed surveys as feedback on the effectiveness of the workshops. Survey says: Parents who came to the workshops were pleased, finding them informative and helpful in preparing their children. The SBT hopes that more parents would avail themselves of this information at future workshops.

## Middle School Site-Based Team Report

### SBT Members

#### COCHAIRS

Dr. Walter Schartner  
Dawn Lloyd  
Lori Muscara

#### TEACHER MEMBERS

Lynn Alessi  
Annamarie Martin  
Kate Redmond-Eubanks  
Marie Amella-Pesko

#### PARENT MEMBERS

Samantha Rodriguez  
Kate Taylor  
Joanne DiNovis  
Terry Czachor

#### RECORDER

Mr. Amato

Middle School  
Site-Based Team  
"Excellence is  
the Goal"

The Middle School Site-Based Team had on its agenda *The New York State "Schools to Watch"* program. The self-evaluation requirement was reviewed in September by a task force of the Site-Based Team. The application for national recognition as a "School to Watch" was submitted in October. We were selected for a visitation by three representatives of the NYS Education Department. The visitation will take place March 1 and March 2, 2006. After the visitation, the NYS "Schools to Watch" Committee will make their decisions regarding selection.

From the self-evaluation, two of the weakest areas were:

- preparing students for a diverse society and
- receiving input from students.

**Preparing Students for a Diverse Society:** The Site-Based Team has worked on an exchange program with Weldon E. Howitt Middle School in Farmingdale. Approximately forty Seventh graders will travel to Howitt MS and spend time with the students there. They will then report to their advisory on the similarities and differences in the school. The Howitt students will then come to Sayville MS for the day. Ms. Martin has coordinated this program. The entire

LOTE department has invited parents to come in and talk to foreign language classes regarding different ethnic traditions and culture during National Foreign Language Week, March 6-10<sup>th</sup>.

**Receiving Input from Students:** Dr. Schartner has established a Principal's Advisory Board for each grade level. The five or six students meet every other month during lunch to discuss with Dr. Schartner how the school can be improved.

#### Other SBT Agenda Items:

- The SBT has discussed supporting the Rachel's Challenge program at the MS for fall of next year.
- The SBT has planned the second Parent Evening with the continuing theme of parents being involved in planning their child's future. Teachers will give workshops on the curriculum that students will have the following year. Dr. Schartner will talk to parents about monitoring student computer use with an emphasis on knowing what is on the MY SPACE website. He will instruct parents on how to sign onto the website and check if their child or any of his or her friends has a page.

**SBT Meetings are listed on the school calendar and open to all parents of MS students.**

## High School Site-Based Team Report

### SBT Members

#### ADMINISTRATION MEMBERS

Ronald Hoffer  
Thomas Murray

#### TEACHER MEMBERS

A teacher from each department attends on a rotating basis.

#### PARENT MEMBERS

Tara Patin  
Nancy Dasaro  
Bob Quarte  
Rhonda Saltzmann  
Karen Murphy  
Kathleen Keeney  
Laura Hanshe

#### STUDENT MEMBERS

Emma Levy  
Kieran Siao  
Roxy York  
Lauren Bilich  
Stefi Dier

The **2005-2006 GOALS** for the High School Site-Based Team are as follows:

- Identify ways to enhance student involvement in extracurricular activities while striving for academic excellence.
- Encourage, enhance, and support our academic program to achieve academic excellence.
- Address health and safety issues, (i.e., promote awareness to enhance the educational environment regarding Internet safety).

The **ACCOMPLISHMENTS** are as follows:

- The Site-Based Team has reviewed and discussed the benefits and detriments of fundraising protocols.
- The Team has worked collaboratively with our districtwide Wellness Committee to develop and distribute a newsletter regarding Internet safety and cyberbullying.

- The Team has discussed the initiation of a districtwide educational foundation. A subcommittee was formed and goals and protocols are in the process of being developed.
- The Team analyzed Regents and AP results. The Accreditation for Growth goals were also reviewed to ensure a correlation between the proposed action plans/goals and our students' achievements.
- Our Team engaged in an extensive discussion regarding the need for remedial and/or enrichment opportunities for students who are in danger of, or have failed a course(s). The initiation of Saturday course offerings was discussed to provide additional opportunities for our students.

## Original Aboriginal Art at Lincoln

Are you familiar with a duck-billed platypus, a wallaby, or a dingo?

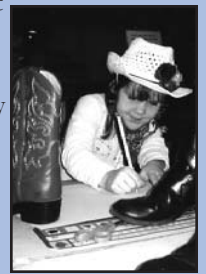
If you are a Third-grade student at Lincoln Avenue, you know that these names belong to animals from Australia. After studying the history and culture of the Native Australians or Aborigines, the Third-grade students in Miss Closs' class created their own Aboriginal artwork. Art Teacher Mrs. Podlas taught the students how to model their designs after traditional bark and rock paintings. This type of tribal art uses numerous dots and lines to create a pattern around a figure from nature. The results were fantastic originals!

(Photo) Lincoln Avenue Third-grade Teacher Miss Closs admires the aboriginal artwork her students created in Art Teacher Mrs. Podlas' class.



## Giving Art the Boot at Sunrise

Sunrise Drive students in Ms. Denise Philp's First Grade studied Jan Brett, author and illustrator made famous by the book *The Mitten*. The students learned that not only does Jan Brett love to write about animals and nature, she also is distinguished by her amazing detailed illustrations. Inspired by her latest work, *Armadillo Rodeo*, Ms. Philp let the class wear their own cowboy boots and hats to school. "We propped those boots on our desks," Ms. Philp explained, "to study the details closely, just like Jan Brett does when she researches for a new book." The results were tremendous pieces of boot-art!



## Bee-ing a Spelling Champion

The competition lasted three days, but the winner of the LI Jewish Spelling Bee was Eighth-grader Nicole Micelli, and Runner-up was Sixth-grader John Faresse. Nicole will now take the written spelling bee on March 7<sup>th</sup> to compete against other Long Island school champions.

Congratulations and good luck!



## Taking their Act on the Road



The Sayville Middle School String Ensemble has volunteered to play for the elderly on weekends.

It was the brainchild of Middle School Sixth-grader Kyle Tieman-Strauss, a devoted music student who found a way to combine his love for playing music and his desire to perform community service. When Kyle approached Ms. Karen Savage, the Sixth/Seventh-grade orchestra teacher at the Middle School, she loved the idea and said it was a dream of hers to have her students play for the elderly. Choosing the appropriate music, Ms. Savage organized four afterschool rehearsals, but the dedicated students also practiced at home.

On a Saturday in February, the Sayville Middle School String Ensemble held their first gig at the Island Manor Assisted Living Facility. Led by Ms. Savage, twelve Sixth and Seventh graders played for fifty residents on the afternoon of the oncoming Blizzard of 2006. Their hours of practice made

such favorites as "Beauty and the Beast" and "My Favorite Things" perfect. Occasionally, select students performed solos to loud applause. As the enormous community room swelled with their music, the faces of the musicians and the audience reflected joyful appreciation for the mutually rewarding opportunity.

"You may come back at anytime, you were fabulous!" boomed Jerry Bornschein, the Recreation Director at the facility. One resident remarked to her friend, "This brings back memories," while another said, "These kids are terrific!"

The students left with a big thank-you for Ms. Savage and all her help. Even better, they booked another performance for March 25 at Sunrise Assisted Living in Medford.

## A D.A.R.E. to Make Healthy Choices BY SAYVILLE STUDENTS

There is a sense of renewal every year during the D.A.R.E. Graduation. Sayville's Fifth-graders make a genuine commitment to the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program and their instructor, Officer Ralph Clinton. Although each of the three elementary schools celebrates its D.A.R.E. graduations in different ways, the message is the same. Resisting abuses in drugs, alcohol, and violence is a lifelong lesson that doesn't stop with the graduation ceremony.

"You are the most precious things to us in the whole world," Cherry Avenue Principal John Stimmel told his Fifth-grade students, so as to underscore why the students had spent twelve weeks working with Officer Ralph and why their parents and the guest dignitaries had assembled for their D.A.R.E. graduation. Sayville District Administrators, Board of Education Trustees, Senator Caesar Trunzo, Assemblywoman Ginny Fields, and Legislator Bill Lindsay, or their representatives, as well as Police officials were among those who bore witness to the ceremony. Similarly, Sunrise Drive Principal Rose Castello and Lincoln Avenue Principal Michele Gunther remarked on the valuable tool of the D.A.R.E. program at their graduations and encouraged their healthy-minded students to continue resisting the lure of drug and alcohol abuse.

Officer Ralph listed for the parents and guests some of the

topics discussed in the classroom during the D.A.R.E. program, which included: "Rights, consequences, peer pressure, choosing the right friends, what's really cool, being assertive about saying no, self-esteem, stress and violence, positive alternatives, and the D.A.R.E.

Decision-Making Model: *Define Assess, Respond, Evaluate.*" As usual, the required class assignment, the D.A.R.E. essay, helped the students focus on what they had learned and how it might shape their lives. From each class, one student's essay was selected to be read at the graduation.

Yet, the topics themselves would not have been so engaging if the D.A.R.E. messenger—Officer Ralph—hadn't developed a special bond of commitment with all his students. This bond, that could help them when life's challenges tested their resolve, was most obvious in the students' D.A.R.E. essays, posters, skits, and graduation ceremonies. At Sunrise, the students sang a popular song to Officer Ralph written years ago by a former D.A.R.E. student, and at Lincoln an *Apprentice* Skit (with a moustached student-actor as Officer Ralph, presiding like Donald Trump over the choice of the most capable candidate from some D.A.R.E. officer wannabes) were testimonials to Officer Ralph's influence.

Once again, congratulations to the current graduates and all past D.A.R.E. students who continue to abide by their commitment to be drug and alcohol free.

**Cherry Avenue Essay Winners**  
Peter Hayes (Mr. McLaughlin), Claire Luceri (Mrs. Denton), Dylan Murphy (Mrs. Duggan), Denise Natoli (Mrs. Hitner)



**Lincoln Avenue Essay Winners**  
John Burns (Mrs. Baryk), Nicole Sala (Mrs. Wels), Amy Dean (Mrs. Guinaw), Harrison Cassetta (Mr. Bombara)



**Sunrise Drive Essay Winners**

Caroline DeLuca (Mrs. Van Cura); Olivia Coley-Bishop (Mrs. Burton); Jacqueline Christensen (Mrs. Carpenter); Travis Villez (Mr. Frank); Curran Boyce (Mrs. Donnelly)



- ways**  
TO BE A DARE
- A. Avoiding the situation.
  - B. Strength in numbers.
  - C. Walking away.
  - D. Cold shoulder.
  - E. Saying "NO".
  - F. Giving a reason or fact.
  - G. Changing the subject.
  - H. Repeated refusal, or keep saying no (Skipping CD).
  - I. Use humor.

99 Greeley Avenue  
Sayville, New York 11782

School Tax Code 566

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

Dr. Rosemary F. Jones, Superintendent of Schools

## Accolades for Ongoing Athletic Accomplishments

### ● Girls Track and Field Suffolk County Champions Again!

The Varsity Girls Track and Field team won the Suffolk County Small School Championship for the third straight year with a score of 103 points. Kate Dulmovits won the 55 meter and 300-meter dashes. Kristy Longman won the 1000- and 1500-meter runs. Lauren Paciorek, Michelle Quirk, and Katie Yusko finished first, second, and third, respectively in the 55-meter hurdles. Also, the 4x200 relay team of Yusko, Dulmovits, Paciorek, and Dranoff, and the 4x800 relay team of Clark, Kaste, Llobell, and Longman captured gold. Bayport/Blue Point finished second with a team score of 56, and Shoreham-Wading river finished third with 42 points. The 103 points marks the highest number of points scored in this three-year county championship run. Great job, ladies!

### ● Middle School Basketball and Volleyball Boasts Two Teams

The Middle School Basketball and Volleyball programs this year for the first time have two teams. In an attempt to get more boys and girls involved in these sports Sayville's athletic director, Charlie DeLargy, enlisted the help of Dawn Lloyd, Kevin Kelsey, Jim McLoughlin, and Brian Decker, all Middle School teachers at Sayville, to jump-start the program. "For the past few years the number of kids trying out for these sports

has increased to dramatic proportions and something needed to be done to accommodate the kids. We all believe that kids need sports in their lives because of the valuable lessons they teach, so the more kids we can reach out to the better," says Jim McLoughlin, Girls and Boys Volleyball coach. To follow the successes of these teams, go to the Middle School's site and click on the school sports link in the navigation bar.

### ● Boys Swimming and Diving has three members going to the states.

Three members of the swim and dive team qualified for the States on Saturday, February 11th at the County championships. Michael Murphy placed third in the diving while Paul LaPorta and Christian Cremer qualified based on qualifying times. The State meet will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Erie Community College in Buffalo. **The combined team of Sayville and Bayport-Blue Point placed Fifth in the team scoring.** Good luck at the States!

### ● Pole Vaulters take 2nd and 3rd in State Qualifier

Michelle Quirk and Ally Rofrano placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the pole vaulting State qualifiers at Longwood, and they both will be competing at the State Championships at Cornell University on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Good luck, girls!

### ● Ten Wrestlers make it to County Championships

Sayville had four champions: Maier, Hass, Grimm, and Gallo, in the League V Wrestling Championships. Three other wrestlers, Pitre, Rodriguez, and Bachy finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their weight classes and Pelligrini, Mazzarone, and Zimbaro with 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishes, also competed in the counties. Ten student-athletes in the County Championships is one of the largest numbers of representatives in this school's history. The team finished second in League V behind Islip, the #1 ranked team in New York State.

### Grease is the Musical!

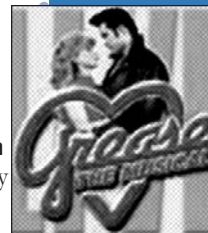
PRESENTED BY THE HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC AND DRAMA DEPARTMENTS

WHERE? High School Auditorium

WHEN? March 15-18

ADMISSION

- Wednesday/Thursday \$6-All Admission
- Friday and Saturday \$8-students; \$10-adults (over 18); FREE-Senior Citizens with Gold Card



All seats are reserved.  
For additional information, call 244-6600.

### Mark your Calendars for these Music Events

Wed. April 19

**JAZZ NIGHT 7:30pm**

@ HS Auditorium. "Don't Miss the Night Everyone Talks About!"

To reserve your Tickets either:

1. Call 244-6634
2. Pick up at HS Main Office between 11am-1:15pm OR
3. Ask members of Jazz Choir/Ensemble

With guests Hilary Kole & Richard DeRosa performing with Sayville High School Jazz Choir and Jazz Ensemble.

#### Tickets:

FREE for Seniors with District Gold Card  
\$10 Donation (Adults)  
\$4 Students Advance Sales/\$5 Students at the door

### HIGH SCHOOL SPRING CONCERTS

**April 5** Spring Concert I Symphonic Concert Band, Jazz Band, Sayvilletes

**May 10** Spring Concert II Wind Ensemble, Orchestra Period 4, Chorus

**May 25** Spring Concert III Chorale, Jazz Choir, Orchestra Period 5, Finale in memory of Mr. James Lawlor

### The Third Annual High School Alumni Recital

is scheduled for

Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006

7:30pm - High School Auditorium

If you are interested in performing, please return the tear-off below before May 5th, 2006 and send to Mr. Bernstein, Sayville High School, Music Department, West Sayville, NY 11796, or email [bernsteinn@sayville.k12.ny.us](mailto:bernsteinn@sayville.k12.ny.us) or Mr. Hoffman at [hoffmani@sayville.k12.ny.us](mailto:hoffmani@sayville.k12.ny.us)

**RETURN THIS SECTION BEFORE MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2006**

PERFORMER \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS OF \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SELECTION \_\_\_\_\_ COMPOSER \_\_\_\_\_

Will Mr. Hoffman accompany you? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name of other accompanist: \_\_\_\_\_